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September 2021

Here we are again in COVID-19 lockdown! As I write this (from my living room), all of the country apart from Auckland is moving from Alert Level 4 down to 3. Most in-person activities still cannot go ahead, and it's not yet clear how long we'll be at Level 3. We have some online activities for you in this newsletter. Some events happen monthly, so will be happening next month; some are being postponed till later in the year. Once we go down to Level 2, events can go ahead, if organizers are able to put safety precautions in place. Check the individual links for updated information, and as always, visit the government's **Unite Against COVID-19 website** for information on how to keep yourself and others safe.

We'd like to give a big shout out to all the people in the network who are continuing their mahi as best they can, amid the risks and uncertainty. Elbow-bump you soon!

Kai Security Squad

Food security organizations working together in the lockdown

The Kai Security Squad is the communications and collaboration group for food security organisations in Palmerston North. Rangitane, Te Waka Huia, Just Zilch, Palmerston North City Council, the Salvation Army, Manawātū Food Action Network, Civil Defence, Methodist Social Services, the Ministry of Social Development, and other groups are all working together to ensure our most vulnerable citizens have a continued supply of food during the COVID-19 restrictions. Food can be accessed through **Just Zilch**, **Te Pataka Kai 4412**, the **Salvation Army** and **Methodist Social Services**. If you know of anyone that is struggling to get food during lockdown, please refer them to one of these agencies.

The COVID-19 response is supported overall by the **Ministry for Social**

Conservation Week

4-12 September

Take a moment to celebrate nature

Conservation week is now in its 52nd year! When Papatūānuku thrives, we all thrive. This can be felt when we take time for ourselves in the outdoors - we give our minds a break and feel connected to nature. It can be as simple as stopping to listen to birdsong or taking a walk with the whānau, or something more energetic, like planting native trees in your backyard or joining a community conservation event. This newsletter has plenty of these activities. You can also check the above link for ways to explore and experience nature, from educational resources to citizen science, bird identification to nature photography. You can advertise any events your group might be holding that week on the Conservation Week website, for locals to come along to.

Employment

Senior Policy Analyst

Applications close 12 September

The City Council seeks a Senior Policy Analyst for a one year fixed-term position to complete a city-wide stocktake and needs assessment of community facilities. The ideal candidate has good knowledge of Palmy, excellent project management and communication skills, and experience in community needs assessment projects.

News

Calendars & Diaries

Photography by Potton & Burton

A beautiful gift, and a contribution to a good cause. Calendars, diaries and note cards with exquisite wildlife and conservation photography are available through Forest & Bird Manawatū, at their **monthly meetings** and by email:

manawatu.branch@forestandbird.org.nz

COVID-19 information

Community Toolkit

Ways to connect and support

This guide is designed to help you prepare and plan for how you support your friends, whānau, neighbours and members of your community groups through these challenging times. It contains community resources and tools compiled by ActionStation staff and volunteers.

Sharing Tables and Shelves

... must be closed in Level 3 & 4

Community food sharing tables and shelves are not allowed to operate at COVID-19 Levels 3 and 4. Food action work continues, with **Just Zilch**, **Te Pataka Kai 4412**, the **Salvation Army**, **Methodist Social Services** and others working together to rescue and distribute food. If you know of food that is going to waste, or anyone that is struggling to get food during lockdown, please contact one of these agencies.

COVID-19 Relief Fund

Support for community groups

This City Council fund assists community groups to survive the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Applications are open throughout



Environment Guide

Update now complete

The Environmental Defence Society has just completed a comprehensive update to its online guide to the Resource Management Act and other environmental legislation. This guide is written in plain language, for anyone wanting to participate in environmental decision-making processes, such as making submissions.

Envirohubs Map

Environment Hubs Aotearoa

EHA is a Charitable Incorporated Society whose members are independent local community hubs that provide practical support for people to look after themselves, their neighbours and their environment. ENM is one of these! Among the work EHA does to support us and other hubs around the country, they have produced an interactive map showing envirohubs, zero waste network, community energy, networking, social indicators, plus hydrology and conservation data.

For Community Groups

out if this fund is for you.

Events

Meetups & Public Events

All Welcome: Meet, talk, swap, connect

Sept 9 Green Drinks

Chill out, chat, get nourished and inspired.

Sept 15, 29 Let's Grow Highbury

Share food growing and cooking tips & ideas.

Sept 11 Crop Swap Awapuni

Bring what you have, take what you need.

Oct 2 Repair Cafe Levin

Don't throw it out - bring it in for mending!

Oct 30 Everyday Kaitiaki Festival

Learn and care about local plants and critters.

Every Friday Fridays for Future

Peaceful protest for climate action.

Every Friday Feilding Farmers' Market

Eat seasonally, buy locally and live well.

Seminars & Talks

Get the lowdown

Sept 2 Webinar: Biochar in Agriculture

From carbon capture to stock health.

Sept 2 Every Bird Sighting Counts

Get involved in the NZ Bird Atlas project.

Sept 3 Burnout and Mental Fatigue

How it happens, and what to do about it.

Sept 14 NZ's Native Bats

All about this fascinating, endangered critter.

Sept 30 Demystifying Solar Power

Confused by the jargon and claims?

Workshops

Learn new skills

Sept 7 Let's Love Cycling

Art-based projects for climate action.

Sept 11 Sharing the Kete

Tools for developing interactive experiences.

Sept 11 Sauerkraut

Learn the benefits of fermented foods.

Sept 14 Sustainability Action for Teachers

Create programmes and learning plans.

Sept 15 Let's Grow Highbury

Share food growing and cooking tips & ideas.

For anyone working in the local community and social services sector. Learn about the relationship between brain, mind and thoughts, how we can easily drain the energy from our mind and become prone to mental fatigue and burnout, and tools to recharge and refocus.

Conservation Week

4-12 September

This year's theme is "take a moment for nature". You can advertise any events your group might be holding that week on the Conservation Week website, for locals to come along to.

Writing Effective Submissions

7 September 1-2:30pm FREE

Do you want to be more confident in writing submissions to local or national government and having an impact? Submissions are an important tool for community groups to have our say and influence decisions.

Sharing the Kete

Saturday 11 September On Zoom

An online workshop which explores tools and strategies for developing successful interactive experiences for our community: Building the foundation, learning for purpose, and online tools. Click the link to register, or email learning@temanawa.co.nz.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi: Implementation

24 September 9:30-3:30 \$25-\$45

This workshop builds on an introductory workshop held in August. It will give participants a starting point from which they can consider how to embed Tiriti principles and bi-cultural practice in their organisation's policies and practices. It is preferred that attendees have attended the earlier session.

Pivot Conference

Sept 25 Sourdough

Make your own artisan bread.

Sept 23-Nov 5 Sustainable Living

Move towards a more sustainable lifestyle.

Working Bees

Create better places & communities

Sep 5 Ahimate Reserve, Awapuni

An urban wilderness park by the river.

Sept 11 Green Corridors Summerhill

Help maintain corridors of native trees.

Sept 12 Apollo Butterfly Park

Planting for Monarch butterflies, etc..

Sept 12 & 26 A Rocha Nursery

Growing natives from eco-sourced seed.

Sept 19 Pit Park Roslyn

A restored urban native bush habitat.

Every Tuesday & Wednesday Menzshed

Sharing tools, skills and friendship.

Every Sunday Timona Park Orchard

Growing fruit for the community.

Most Sundays Manawatū Estuary

Keeping exotic species out of the wetland.

Club Meetings

Interested people always welcome

Sept 6 Water & Environmental Care

Water quality in the Horowhenua & NZ.

Sept 7 Manawatū Estuary Trust

Caring for the Manawatū River Estuary.

Sept 14 Forest & Bird Manawatū

Expert speakers on conservation topics.

Sept 21 AGM: Volunteer Central

Supporting volunteering in our region.

Sept 23 AGM: Timona Park Orchard Trust

Community involvement in fruit tree growing.

Sept 23 Manawatū Beekeepers Club

Information, education and networking.

Oct 14 AGM: Environment Network

Manawatū

Catch up, network and plan for next year.

Timona Park Orchard Trust have a vacancy coming up for a trustee. The group exists to encourage community involvement in fruit tree growing for the benefit and enjoyment of residents and visitors: Sustainable, healthy eating, relief of poverty by making fresh fruit and nuts available, and protection of native

New Zealand's annual volunteering conference - connect with peers, share and learn together, be inspired by a range of practitioners and thought leaders, and leave with renewed optimism for the future of volunteering. This year, Volunteering New Zealand celebrates twenty years of championing the volunteer sector.

Nature Heritage Fund

Applications close 29 October

This fund helps private landowners, local government, community groups and others to protect high-value ecosystems.

Everyday Kaitiaki Festival

30 October Ashhurst Domain

Department of Conservation, Te Manawa and Horizons will host this family-friendly day. With the help of local guides, people will conduct mini environmental surveys of the plants and critters that call the Manawātū home, and some of the ways we can care for the environment so they can thrive. A range of activities and stalls will help share the message that we can all be Kaitiaki of our own environments.

Stallholders wanted

If you can provide relevant whānau-friendly activities and information, please email everydaykaitiaki@gmail.com.

Strategic Priority Grants

Applications close 1 November

Palmerston North City Council's Strategic Priority Grants programme is designed to help the community sector deliver on Council's vision, and provide solutions to local social, environmental and cultural issues.

Drop-in Sessions will be held

around Palmerston North in September and October, for community groups to receive one-on-one support with applications. Click

Have Your Say

Better Buses for Palmy

Submissions close 3 September

Whether you're a current bus user or not, Horizons Regional Council would like to know your preferences on two proposed options, balancing more frequent buses at peak times, with average walking distance to bus stops. Your feedback will help finalise the design of the future bus network in Palmerston North and Ashhurst.

Representation Review

Submissions close 6 September

Palmerston North City Council is currently reviewing how we are represented on Council. They propose to have 15 councillors and 1 mayor, with 13 councillors elected by general electoral roll voters and two by Māori electoral roll voters. Councillors would be "at large", ie. represent the whole city. One more drop-in session for this review is scheduled for 5 September in Summerhill.

Tips for Raising Funds

On our website we have a **set of twenty-one tips for raising funds** for your community group, from **raising your profile** to **building a relationship database**.

AN INSPIRED, CONNECTED COMMUNITY

CREATING A HEALTHY LIVING ENVIRONMENT IN THE MANAWATŪ CATCHMENT

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