



FLORAL GROUP VISIT AREA

Marlborough Floral Art Group were in the area on Wednesday 14th Sept. Their Tutor Helen Jackson (*extreme right*) had chosen the driftwood enclosures as a challenging setting for the group. Most of the floral arrangements seen in the photo were found on the foreshore.

ENQUIRY ABOUT OUR GROUP

Southern Institute of Technology student Saran Tirawongpaisal contacted us in September regarding information on our project for his research assignment. We were later contacted by his Tutor Peter Maynard who said he would send on the findings. It all sounded very interesting and we look forward to hearing from them.

NATIVE FORESHORE PLANTS & INSECTS

The chosen subject for this issue is an insect species endemic to the area found nowhere else in the world.

CLOUDY BAY MAT DAISY JUMPER (*Kiwaia* sp cf *jeanae* Philpott, Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae).

This flightless, blue-grey, jumping moth is similar in size (ca 3mm body length + wings), colour pattern and time of emergence to *Kiwaia jeanae*, but differs in the male having short dark grey scales dorsally on the hindwing and a short buff fringe. It differs from *K. glaucoterma* in having short hindwings, and long, saltatorial (jumping) hindlegs. Adults though flightless, can achieve leaps to a height of about 4 cm., and are concolorous with the coarse grit surrounding the mats.

Habitat—**Scab weed** (*Raoulia australis*) as pictured opposite.

Source: *Entomological Values of the Foreshore and Associated Inland Habitats* by J.S. Dugdale.



Supported by:



For information about the group contact:

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*A special thanks to Outward Bound for their continued help and support in 2005.
 Wishing you all
 A very Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year*



RARANGI LANDCARE GROUP INC.

**LANDCARE UPDATE
 Summer 2005/2006**

CLOS HENRI VINEYARD SHOW COMMUNITY SPIRIT BY LENDING US A HAND

When the call came through from the Department of Conservation in August that a vineyard was offering their labour for an environmental project it was like mana from heaven. There were 700+ foreshore plants, being grown on for our group at the nursery, which would be ready for planting out in late September. Thanks to their help they are all in the ground.

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LANDCARE GROUP NETWORKING DAY



On Saturday 10th of September a Networking Day, organised by NZ Landcare Trust & Tasman District Council, took place in Council Chambers. The purpose of the day was a get-together for Landcare groups to hear what others were doing and share their experiences.

The day got off to a flying start with the following three Key Note Speakers:

Todd Hamilton, from Whangarei Heads Landcare Forum (Northland), had the audience enthralled about his work with kiwi monitoring and predator control on private land in the Whangarei Heads area. He said that the Northland kiwi take 4 years to be fully grown and can live for 40 to 50 years adding the recovery programme has had promising results.



A SUCCESSFUL SEPTEMBER WORKING BEE THANKS TO CLOS HENRI VINEYARD STAFF

An impromptu working bee took place prior to the 28th of September planting day. Landcare member Gabriella Martin & family together with other members cleared another area in readiness for the major planting operation a day or so later. It was truly an international effort as 16 multi-national staff from the French-owned vineyard Clos Henri and locals arrived at 9am for the start of a very productive day. Several planting areas were enlarged, new areas were established, 432 sand tussocks (*Austrofestuca littoralis*) & 336 Native



Gabriella and young helpers (L/R) Francesco, Sam and Lucas in weed clearance operation.



Enlarging enclosure area.

Daphne (*Pimelea urvileana*) were planted and a pathway around the driftwood enclosures was established. Our thanks go to Clos Henri Vineyard and staff for all their hard work. They made not only our task a lot easier on the day, but their effort will go a long way to ensure the survival of the unique insect species living in the area and struggling to survive on the foreshore. So a big 'THANKYOU' from Rarangi Landcare. We hope your Vineyard's generous policy to give 1% of your workforce time, ie 3 days per year, to environmental projects will inspire others to do the same.



Creating a pathway



Days end—Vineyard staff relax in front of Landcare sign.

Networking Day—continued from front page

DOC Officer Matt Maitland gave a brief report on the St. Arnaud Mainland Island Project to control wasps.

Dr. Peter Williams from Landcare Research gave a very informative talk on understanding the process of weed invasions. He fielded a considerable number of questions from group members in attendance seeking advice on their particular difficulty with weed control.

When all the Speakers had ended their talk representatives from the nine environmental groups in attendance, including Rarangi Landcare, gave a brief outline of their project.

Most groups were involved in some form of pest control for rats, stoats, wasps and possums. Discussions took place around the success of various types of trapping devices etc. One group was involved in cleaning up 19 acres of stream which included a trout spawning area. Another group in Golden Bay was carrying out a native planting programme not dis-similar to our own. Planting 2,000 native species annually and trying to control willow.



(L/R) Claire Webster, Tasman District Environmental Education Officer looks on as NZ Landcare Trust Co-ordinator Barbara Stuart gives support and encouragement to river cleanup project.

Lunchtime discussions were most informative leading to a suggestion by one of our members to Marlborough District Council asking them to consider organising a Marlborough District Networking Day for local environmental groups sometime in the not too distant future. It's being considered and we'll keep you posted.

Our thanks to NZ Landcare Trust and Tasman District Council for including our group in their Landcare Group Networking Day.

ERADICATING BONESEED PROGRAMME



Boneseed fruit ripens from green to black, and is very hard with a thin fleshy covering. (Pic: Rob Richardson)

Marlborough District Council Biosecurity Officer Ben Minehan and his Team were in our area on 28th August. Their task the eradication of Boneseed from the area.

Boneseed is a fast-growing plant that can quickly transform open landscapes into an impenetrable shrubland, impeding human access and excluding native vegetation. It has long been a problem controlling in this coastal area. Now a new determination by both Council and DOC to get rid of it once and for

all is taking place. You can help by reporting any boneseed you see growing in the area.

What to look for

The easiest way to identify boneseed is by its flowers, which appear from August through to February. Flowers are bright yellow and daisy-like, with 5-7 florets. They grow up to 3cm in diameter. Leaves are smooth and Leathery, and measure up to 7cm long by 3.5cm wide. The leaf margins are irregularly toothed. Fruit appear from October onwards. They ripen from green to black, and are very hard with a thin fleshy covering. (Information extracted from MDC brochure on Boneseed).



Biosecurity Officer Ben Minehan shows another problem plant 'Smilax' to residents discovered growing undisturbed in their garden while searching for 'boneseed'.

If you think you have seen boneseed, please contact Marlborough District Council tel. 578 5249 or the Department of Conservation tel. 572 9100.