



# Friends of Oakley Creek Te Auaunga

WINTER 2022

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Community Outreach p2
- New pollution sensor p4
- Volunteer profile Sarah Woodfield p7
- Copper skink translocation p9
- Tony Nyberg photographs p10

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- News 1-4
- Volunteers 5-8
- Features 9-10
- Seasonal gallery 11
- Notices 12

## Editorial

The rising of Matariki heralds a new year in the Māori calendar and a new cycle of sowing, planting, growing and harvesting, and we have been busy planting! This issue is full of stories about the great work our many volunteers and volunteer groups have been doing to put hundreds of plants in the ground, to restore the awa. We also profile one of our star volunteers – our outgoing treasurer, Sarah Woodfield. We update you on privet removal and water quality monitoring on the creek, and our Community Outreach Coordinator updates you on the work in the Waterview Heritage Area. There's a feature article on photos from Tony Nyberg – a photographer with a penchant for Oakley Creek; another on a night out spotlighting for critters and tuna in the creek, and a piece about the translocation of copper skinks to our area – very exciting! The seasonal gallery serves

up a feast of flowers, fruits and fungi on the creek at the moment, and you can find out how to get involved in the notices section.

Finally, this is my last newsletter as editor. I've really enjoyed this role, and many thanks to the newsletter team (Wendy, Marin, Linley and DataNZ) but it's time for me to do new things. I'll still be around, and I look forward to reading all about creek antics in the newsletter going forward. Please welcome Gina Hefferan who joins us on the committee as the new newsletter editor, and another big welcome to Matt Hill, our new treasurer.

Enjoy!

*Cate Ryan, Editor*

## Friday Working Bees

**By Wendy John**

Fortunately, the rain arrived just in time for the start of the planting season. So, these past three months we've been busy getting plants in the ground at our monthly working bees.

Our Friday volunteers have been busy with a range of activities, including weeding their way through some of our recent plantings as well as doing some infill planting. To date we have put

in approximately 2500 plants. It's always rewarding to see our volunteers being innovative and taking the initiative to do something different. On one particularly steep site regular volunteer, Martin Brown, cut up some dead māhoe trunks and laid them across the slope as terracing, to help hold the soil in place, and make it easier to move around the site.



Photo (above): Friday working bee volunteers



Photo (above): Makeshift terracing with māhoe trunks

# An Update from our Community Outreach Co-ordinator

By **Sandra Maclean**

*“Every Tuesday we learn a new whakatauākī together, work on our te reo pronunciation and native tree and weed ID, so we get a bit of mental as well as physical exercise.”  
Sandra Maclean*

Progress is continuing at a pace at the Waterview Heritage Area. Our Tuesday sessions have been buoyed up with support from corporate groups through Volunteering Auckland, including Ernst Young and Crombie Lockwood, and the Chinese Conservation Education Trust. Auckland Council contractors have also been busy spraying to support our work. It's going to take a lot more work to rid the site of Madeira vine, but we are definitely winning. Privet control and removal of pampas and moth plant have given the surviving bush a bit more breathing space, and it's starting to look a lot more 'matomato' (lush,

green and growing vigorously). Volunteers have also mulched and planted up some areas near the connecting paths.

And further up the catchment, Mt Roskill Police have been restoring the stream on their premises on Stoddard Road. Planted in 2013 this site had become swamped with weeds. Staff from the community team have made a great start in clearing the worst of the weeds, with contractor support from Auckland Council, and they are looking forward to planting some of the easiest sections this winter.



Photo (above): Ernst Young volunteers (Sandra Maclean)



Photo (above): CCET - Chinese Conservation Education Trust helping out at the Waterview Heritage Area (Sandra Maclean)



Photo (above): Mt Roskill Police team (Sandra Maclean)



Photo (above): Crombie Lockwood volunteers

# Waterview Heritage Area Predator Control

**By Sandra Maclean**

A new trap line was set up in the Waterview Heritage Area at the end of May. Timms (possum) and Victor (rat) traps were set up at four locations. At each location a possum wax tag and a rodent tracking tunnel were also set up for monitoring, to give us a baseline against which we can measure progress with the predator control. No signs of possum were found on the wax tags, but all four tracking tunnels showed rats to be present and three of them also had mouse footprints. Over our first four weeks of trapping we have caught two possums, eight rats and one mouse. We'll continue to check these traps weekly. Get in touch with Sandra 021 166 7647 if you would like to help out with this exciting new project.



Photo (above): Robin, Wendy and Freya putting out monitoring equipment (credit: Sandra Maclean)

# Two Men and Two Chainsaws this Time!

**By Wendy John**

The only good privet tree is a dead privet tree! Thanks to our Treescape 'privet busting' team who were back with us again recently, we continue with transitioning an area in the south end of Harbutt Reserve from 'privet to native'. This area is really starting to take shape, with the community recently putting in 600+ plants.



Photo (above): A stack of chain sawed privet – we call it an 'Eco Stack'

# Annual Bird Survey

**By Wendy John**

Volunteers undertook the annual bird survey again at our 10 sites along the creek, to coincide with the national Annual Garden Bird Survey week. Overall numbers were good – this is only the second time that more than 300 birds have been sighted since we started monitoring back in 2009, which is encouraging. The highlight of the surveying must surely have been in Phyllis Reserve where committee member, Gina Hefferan, observed 18 tui having a party in a tree.



Photo (above): Tui (credit: © Cheryl Marriner <http://www.glen.co.nz/cheryl/>)

# New Water Pollution Sensor on the Creek

**By Cate Ryan**

Building on the success of citizen science programmes, Auckland Council - Healthy Waters, and Innovate Auckland have started an exciting Stream Sensor Programme. A new sensor that measures electrical conductivity, as well as water level and temperature has been installed on the creek at Harbutt Reserve. Essentially, the cleaner the water is the lower the conductivity, since salts and other chemicals break down in water into positively or negatively charged ions that conduct electricity.

The idea is to empower environmental groups and schools to monitor their waterways with real-time, accessible data, so they can track and react to pollu-

tion events as they happen. Once groups are alerted to possible pollution, they can investigate them with a Wai Care kit, inform the Pollution Hotline, or record visual observations of stream health.

You can see the real time data records for **Oakley Creek Te Auaunga here**. If you see spikes in the level of conductivity, firstly visit the creek at Harbutt Reserve to investigate and then call the Auckland Council pollution hotline on 09 301 0101 (24 hours a day, seven days a week).

Thanks to Bianca Lilley from Healthy Waters for the information for this article.

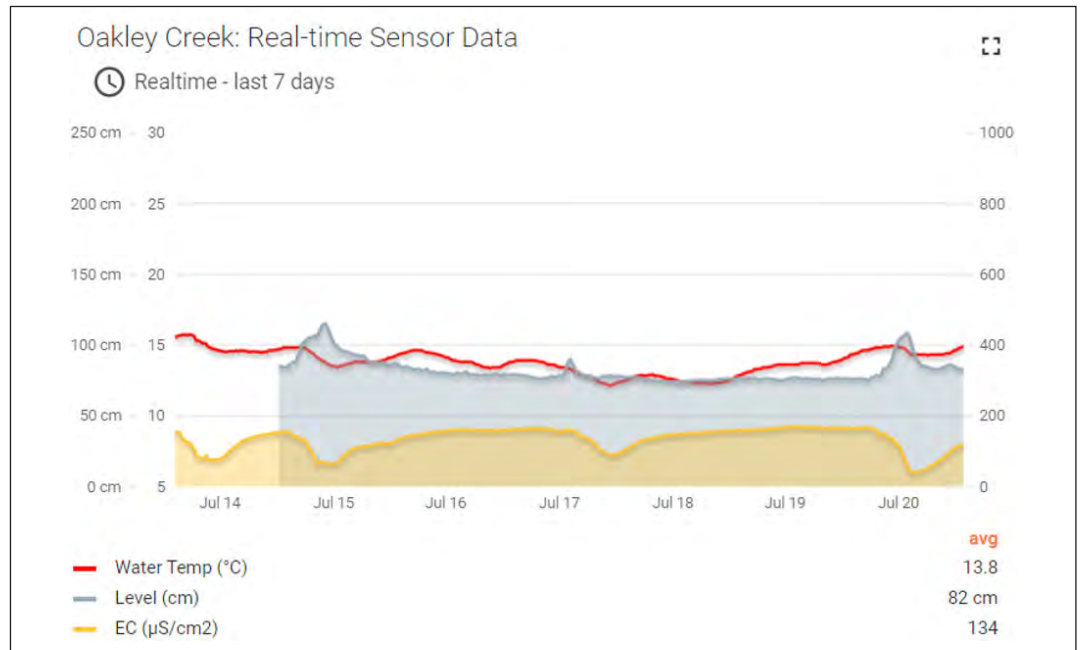


Photo (above): Water quality records at Oakley Creek Te Auaunga, for the seven days prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, 2022. Note the peaks in water level, this is when we've had a lot of rain. Conductivity drops away at these times since the extra water dilutes salts and chemicals in the water.

## Water Monitoring

**By Wendy John**

Our quarterly monitoring was done during the months of June / July at the seven sites across the catchment. We have been monitoring since as far back as 2003, and results are entered onto Auckland Council's Wai Care website. It's exciting that we have young people involved in learning how to do the monitoring and connecting with the creek.



Photo (above): Campbell, Harguun and Jagjeeta enjoy water monitoring



Photo (above): Water Monitoring at St Judes Scouts Den - Clare Brown & daughter, Anna

# Mulching to Mitigate Against Less Rainfall

By Trevor Crosby

For the last six and a half years daily rainfall has been recorded at the Sanctuary Mahi Whenua (SMW), located close to Te Auaunga. The nearby Grey Lynn weather station records the rate of evapotranspiration, which is probably very similar to those experienced at SMW. Evapotranspiration is the quantity of water evaporated from soil and other surfaces, and transpired by plants over a certain time, due to sun and wind. It's important because it affects how much water is retained in soils.

When rainfall is less than the evapotranspiration, there is a 'rainfall deficit', and watering as well as mulching is usually required to maintain or optimise plant growth. Mulching makes a big difference in evapotranspiration rates and can reduce water use by more than half. For example, January this year was a very dry month with a large water deficit: to optimise plant growth, about 170 litres of water per square metre was needed when there was no mulching, but this reduced to about 85 litres of water per square metre with effective mulching.

Excess rainfall over evapotranspiration is more likely in our cooler months of the year. Rainfall replenishes the ground water at this time and soil acts as a store for the coming warmer months. When planting tree seedlings, effective mulching can help in both their estab-

lishment as well as increase the number of months in which planting will be successful.

The graph in Figure 1, below shows that a rainfall deficit for summer and autumn months at Oakley Creek has been more frequent and

longer in recent years. The deficit has extended later into the year (into April and May) in 2019, 2020, and especially 2021 and 2022. For the last few years there have been few warm month northerly rain events.

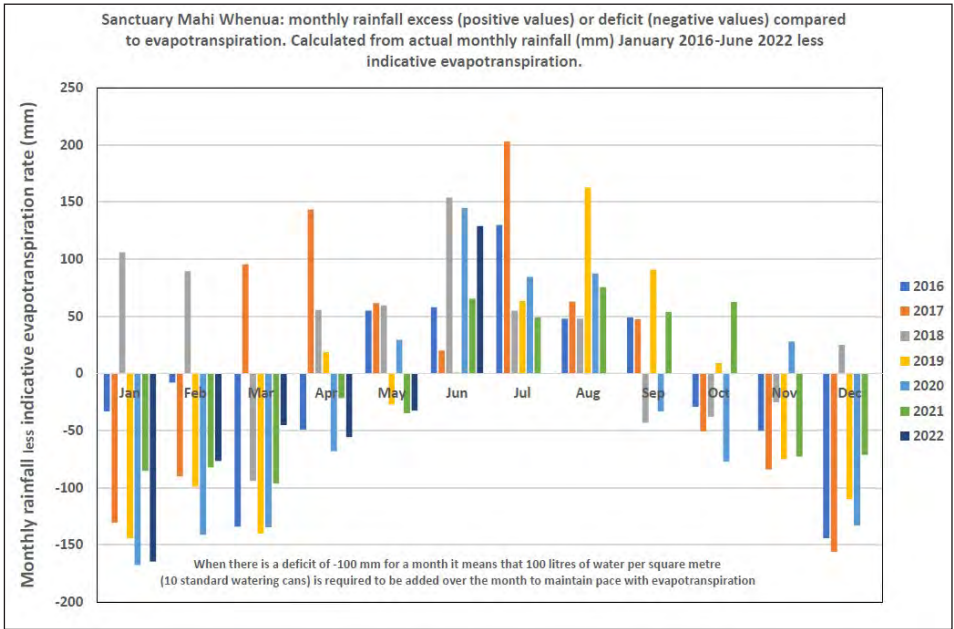


Figure 1: Showing rainfall deficit and rainfall excess over the period 2016-2022.

# Te Auaunga Community Group Activities

By Wendy John

Lots of other groups have been giving a helping hand including Conservation Volunteers who did a sterling job recently, of clearing privet seedlings at Howlett Reserve. They also filled a huge weed bag with *Tradescantia*. No mean feat!

Volunteers from one of our long-term partners, A Rocha, joined us to plant up another area around the Cradock Street Bridge – an area they have been working on for many years.

Our lovely young 'eco warriors' from Collectively Kids enjoyed another Matariki planting by the fallen oak tree and new boardwalk. They are such a joy to work with.



Photo (above): Conservation Volunteers (credit, CVNZ)



Photo (above): A Rocha Working Bee



Photo (above): Collectively Kids

## Mt Roskill Grammar Matariki Planting

**By Wendy John**

Mt Roskill Grammar students, together with a small number of intermediate students, spent a morning on the awa next to the school planting the next section of the stream bank. It was a challenging site, with steep banks and thick kikuyu in some areas, but, with support from teachers and the Te Ngahere team they got 300 plants in the ground. The occasion culminated with a hāngī. Thanks to MRG teacher, David Symes, for his enthusiasm and effort, yet again.



Photo (above): Te Ngahere team with MRG teacher, David Syme (right)



Photo (above): Mt Roskill Grammar students get stuck in to planting



Photo (above): A post planting hāngī was enjoyed by all

## Guided Tours on the Creek – Asian Network

**By Wendy John**

Over the past month we have had three guided tours along the creek. These walks are a way of showcasing our wonderful creek and all of the work that is happening on it. The first one was a group from the Asian Network. The other two were organised as part of Tony Nyberg’s photographic exhibition at the Pah Homestead so that people could enjoy the creek ‘in real life’ (see separate article).



Photo (above): Asian Network co-ordinator, Samuel Cho, and team having lunch after the guided tour



Photo (above): Asian Network strolling the creek



Photo (above): The Asian Network team

# Volunteer Profile – Sarah Woodfield

**By Marin Adams**

I Love Numbers, Birds and People!

In my experience, it is not often that you find people who love numbers, just as much as tiny, fluffy baby pukeko, green ferns and the call of the morepork. Sarah lives in Cradock St, very near to Te Auaunga. She has been the Friends of Oakley Creek treasurer since 2016 and has reliably kept and reported on our finances. She is able to explain a spreadsheet in such a way that holds the attention of mainly green fingered committee members.

I wondered what led to her sterling commitment to Te Auaunga when she is very involved in her church and does not have a lot of spare time. She believes it is her basic values: Respect, Responsibility and Connection. Planting, weeding, picking up rubbish, organising working bees or updating the financials all provide opportunities to connect with other people in her local community. She shows respect for the environment and knows she will leave the world a better place than she found it.

Sarah regularly makes a point of taking visitors to her home, for a quick walk to savour

the beauty of the creek. She loved being able to go for walks down there during lockdown. She likes the way native birds come into her garden from the bush. She treasures the connection with the people who work on the creek and though she is stepping down as treasurer, she will continue to organise A Rocha working bees at the bottom of Cradock St. (A Rocha is a Christian organisation that focuses on conservation and environmental education, internationally).

When asked about the future of Friends of Oakley Creek, Sarah spoke about the viability and success of the organisation being dependent on the people involved. There is increasing pressure on funds for conservation work and funders want to be sure their grants are well spent. A hard working, positive, skilled community of volunteers will get observable results and attract funding. We are fortunate to have people like Sarah who have provided significant leadership within our community of volunteers and always with a wonderful smile. We will miss her warmth and mastery around the Committee table.



Photo (above): Sarah Woodfield

## Ōwairaka Ratbaggers

**Stefan Rüegg as told to Gina Hefferan**

Five years ago Stefan's young son encountered a rat at their home on the slopes of Ōwairaka. It seemed unethical to despatch just one rat and ignore the wider problem – thus Ōwairaka Ratbaggers (or Pest Free Ōwairaka) was born. The area around the maunga was, at that stage, under the control of Auckland Council, and they were doing a fine job of controlling the rabbits, but possums and rats were running riot.

Five years on, the Ratbaggers are working with the Tūpuna Maunga Authority and Watercare to control rats and possums on the maunga, and they supply subsidised rat traps to neighbours in an area that includes much of Mt Albert.

Ratbaggers has a core group of seven or eight members and includes roughly 250 Mt Albert households who each have one of their rat traps, which they do their best to set every day in the four target months of August, November, January and April (ANJA). This programme is designed to fit with rats' reproductive cycle. Ideally Stefan would like to see 1500 of these traps in operation in the Mt Albert area.

The Ratbaggers are also part of our extended Te Auaunga community, as their area also includes that part of Te Auaunga - Oakley Creek which flows through the Alan Wood Reserve. In this area they have traps and bait stations for dealing with the rats. However, there are lots of unwanted possums in the reserve. Traps are available if anyone feels inspired to take this job on.

In the past five years Stefan has seen a dramatic reduction in rat numbers, a positive result that he stresses lots of people have contributed to. "A recent sighting of a kakariki on the maunga makes it all worthwhile."

If you'd like to be involved contact Stefan on [rats@owairaka.nz](mailto:rats@owairaka.nz)



Photo (above): Ōwairaka maunga (background), in a rare moment of winter sunshine (credit: Gina Hefferan).

## Corporate Volunteers - Dentsu

**By Wendy John**

Since we joined Volunteer Auckland a number of corporate groups have been directed our way, which is wonderful. They included Dentsu, an international company, whose staff were out and about volunteering all around the world on the same day recently, including on our awa. Our Friday working bee was joined by a cheerful group who did a wonderful job of helping us to plant trees and spread a large pile of mulch.



Photo (above): Volunteers from Dentsu

## Spotlighting at Night on the Awa

**By Lorna Doogan,  
Experiencing Marine Reserves (EMR)**

Luckily the rain held off, allowing us to explore this special urban stream in the heart of Tāmaki Makaurau. Our first stop was the spectacular waterfall, at an impressive six metres. Then Wendy John from Friends of Oakley Creek shared some of the creek's history and the restoration work that the Friends have been undertaking. As we meandered along, Whitebait Connection shared tips for spotting freshwater critters, and they had set a couple of fish traps that we could check. We were able to get a close up look at a beautiful native inanga, which is one of five whitebait species found in Aotearoa. They also shared fun inanga facts like their migration from freshwater to saltwater to complete their life cycle, and some of the challenges they face on their treacherous journey. Further downstream, at a spring fed tributary an eagle-eyed participant spotted a tuna (eel) hid-

ing under sedges. Brendan from Whitebait Connection demonstrated how to sample freshwater critters using a kick net and helped participants identify what we found, including damselfly nymphs, freshwater snails, oligochaete worms and amphipods. As we returned back upstream

Wendy shared a few more stories from her many years being a kai-tiaki of the awa.

A big thank you to our event partners Whitebait Connection-Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust and Friends of Oakley Creek Te Auaunga.



Photo (above): Spotlighters identify their finds (Lorna Doogan)



Photo (above): Brendan from Whitebait Connection demonstrates sampling with a kick net (Lorna Doogan)



# Roll out the Red Carpet – There are some New Kids in Town

By Kelly Hayhurst – Ecology New Zealand

In March 2022, seventeen copper skinks (*Oligosoma aeneum*) were introduced into a new home at Oakley Creek's Harbutt Reserve. This is their story!

Copper skinks – background

Copper skinks are one of New Zealand's smallest skinks, reaching lengths of up to 76mm when measured from snout to vent. This skink species is considered threatened and is categorised as At-Risk – Declining<sup>[1]</sup> by the Department of Conservation (DOC). They are often the skink that we see around our houses, in warm, humid retreats such as piles of woody debris and under mats of *Tradescantia* and other weedy ground covers. Not to be confused with the Australian plague skink (*Lampropholis delicata*) – which are abundant and often found in similar habitats (see tips on how to tell the difference below!). Copper skinks are generally insectivorous, eating prey such as small beetles, spiders and caterpillars. They also occasionally eat coprosma berries, other similar fruits and take nectar. Copper skinks give birth to live young, typically producing litters of between one and seven in January/February. They get their name 'copper skink' from the coppery coloured tail some have (Figure 1).



Figure 1: One of the new kids showing off their stunning copper tail (credit: Kelly Hayhurst, 2022)

Is this a Copper Skink?

To determine the difference between a native copper skink and the Australian introduced skink, look at the head! There is a diamond shaped scale that is whole in the Australian skinks and broken into two scales in our indigenous skinks (Figure 2). Also, the plague skinks tend to be more slender in body shape with a longer tail. The underbelly of a copper skink is generally light brown to yellow, whereas the plague skinks are pale/silvery grey, and due to their ability to reproduce prolifically (they lay eggs) they are often present in large numbers.

Rescue Time

Working as an ecological consultant, involves working with indigenous lizards in a range of



Figure 2: Differences in head scale between a plague skink (left) and indigenous copper skink (right). (Credit, Kelly Hayhurst, 2022).

different situations. We work under permits authorised by the Department of Conservation, which is required in New Zealand to undertake any work with indigenous lizards.

The start of the new kids' story, is that a development in suburban Avondale required an ecological impact assessment. Cue the consultant! The site was originally a dwelling with an exotic garden and inorganic debris. During our initial site surveys, we detected several copper skinks. As a result, management of the copper skinks was required. This included the relocation of the skinks to a new pad!

The development site was not near any native vegetation or bush fragments. So, working with the Department of Conservation, Auckland Council staff and Friends of Oakley Creek, we identified an area in Harbutt Reserve that had suitable habitat, and pest animal control was being undertaken. The relocation of these critters involved a mixture of techniques, including pitfall and gee minnow trapping prior to vegetation clearance and vegetation clearance supervision. Overall, we salvaged 17 copper skinks from the site – a mixture of ages and sizes.

Relocation Time

The 'new kids' were welcomed into their new homes with the provision of additional habitat placed strategically within the release area (in the lizard world we call these habitat piles or eco-stacks, which are piles of woody debris, placed in a manner that gives the skinks shade, substrate to live in and habitat for their invertebrate food). Given the number of skinks, we created multiple new stacks, in prime locations (Figure 3). When releasing the new kids, we were lucky enough to have a few Instagram worthy posers – see below! (Figures 4 and 5).



Figure 3: An example of the five-star lizard hotel created for the new kids on the street (credit: Kelly Hayhurst, 2022).



Figure 4: This copper is looking pretty comfortable in its new habitat (credit: Kelly Hayhurst, 2022).



Figure 5: Another copper stopping for a photo opp (credit: Kelly Hayhurst, 2022).

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Department of Conservation (2022). – Interacting with wildlife. <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/interacting-with-wildlife/>

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Plague skink / rainbow skink (*Lampropholis delicata*) (2021). The New Zealand Herpetological Society. <https://www.reptiles.org.nz/herpetofauna/non-native/lampropholis-delicata>

<sup>[1]</sup>Hitchmough, R.A.; Barr, B.; Knox, C.; Lettink, M.; Monks, J.M.; Patterson, G.B.; Reardon, J.T.; van Winkel, D.; Rolfe, J.; Michel, P. 2021: Conservation status of New Zealand reptiles, 2021. New Zealand Threat Classification Series 35. Department of Conservation, Wellington. 15 p.

<sup>[2]</sup>Department of Conservation – Interacting with wildlife. <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/interacting-with-wildlife/>

## Tony Nyberg - Photographer

**By Marin Adams**

*"Doing so is to step through a portal to a corridor of imperfect beauty. The path is broken but the land is being healed."  
(Robin Kearns, 2022)*

Tony, with his camera, is a frequent visitor to Te Auaunga and recently had an exhibition at the Pah Homestead as part of the Auckland Festival of Photography. His photographs tell a story from the past, right through to the present. Over a three year period he captured a great variety of images of the creek, portraying the environmental and cultural changes, and highlighting the richness of life around the creek. Tony's photographs are available to view on <https://www.photoforum-nz.org/blog/2021/2/22/tony-nyberg-featured-portfolio>

We can see the old fire box rusting brown amongst the undergrowth on the side of the creek. Another photo is of the beauty of the heritage area at the mouth of the creek where once Maori fished, a whale stranded (1883) and then Europeans set up commercial enterprises including a tannery, flax mill and flour mill. Then there are children leaping off the waterfall oblivious to possible injury.

To accompany Tony's images, Robin Kearns, Professor of Geography at the University of Auckland, has written, in poetic style, of his personal response to Te Auaunga.

*"I often exit the shared cycling and walking path that runs along Great North Road and walk onto the trail that skirts Te Auaunga/Oakley Creek. Doing so is to step through a portal into a corridor of imperfect beauty. The path is broken but the land is being healed. Here, for almost two decades, volunteers have weeded, planted and cared for this place. Gradually its mana is being restored. I too have planted and plucked rubbish from the riverbank. But more commonly I have just walked.*

*The waters of Oakley Creek have become part of my place. I know each bend and I am not alone. A friend tells me he cannot stay away: the Creek has become his Walden Pond. In its presence,*

*the stream speaks to those who listen.*

*We are drawn to water if we allow it to beckon us. It is as if we are attracted by a centripetal force. The stream forges a curvature to serve its gushing artery. There is a pulsing energy from the heart of the isthmus, contesting attempts to contain its course. Straight lines, by contrast, are the city's motif: lines mark the middle of roads, edges of buildings, the geometries of boundaries. But streams have their own reasoning, carving a course of least resistance; passing mossy rocks and through gaps between them. The flow knows its own compass, seeking out the sea.*

*It's a place of the unexpected. Kawakawa, karaka, kahikatea: is there a shade of green ab-*

*sent in the palette of this ravine? Suddenly there can be a pair of ducks, struggling upstream over tiny rapids to rest within a pool of their own; next moment the deep-throated rasp of a heron high in a pine tree is a sentinel to the setting sun.*

*Between the ominous brick of the former asylum on one side and the newly widened Great North Road on the other, the tree-filled ravine dulls the city's sounds. There are remnants of gentler times: rock walls crafted from basalt lava flows and rusted artefacts of early industry. Parts of a boiler lie on the riverside suggesting the Japanese idea of wabi sabi, that poignancy of passing of time and inevitability of decay."*

*(Robin Kearns)*



Photo (above): A selection of photographs of Oakley Creek Te Auaunga from Tony Nyberg

# Seasonal Gallery



Photo (above): Tauhinu (*Pomaderris amoena*), credit: Melissa Hutchison

Tauhinu (*Pomaderris amoena*), is flowering at the moment and you may have seen its masses of tiny white flowers opening around the creek (image left). It's a small shrub (up to 1m) that grows on sites that have been recently disturbed. Not to be confused with the

other tauhinu (*Ozmothamnus leptophyllus*) which grows on sand dunes!

Other finds on the awa at this time of year include prolific puriri flowers; the male inflorescences of kawakawa - which always seem to stand out...; nikau berries -

loved by kererū; the classic red fruiting body of the fungi *Amanita muscaria*; the strange coral like antler and spindle fungi - *Clavaria corallinosacea*; the bright orange flowers of taurepo (*Rhabdothamnus solandri*) and the flowers of the elusive native tree fuchsia.

From left to right and top to bottom: puriri flower; male inflorescence of kawakawa; nikau berries; *Amanita muscaria*; antler and spindle fungi, taurepo (*Rhabdothamnus solandri*), and kōnini (*Fuchsia excorticata*).



## Notices

**Monthly Community Working Bees:** As per normal, our monthly working bees are held on the first Sunday of each month. During the summer months (November – February) the time is 9.30am-11.30am, and for the rest of the year it's 10.00 am-12.00 noon.

**Tuesday Working Bees:** Tuesday mornings 9.30 am to 12.00 pm. This exciting new project is well underway and is looking for some regular

volunteers. For more information contact Sandra - 021 166 7647.

**Friday Working Bees:** Friday mornings 9.00am to 12.00pm. We work in different locations on Friday mornings, depending on the need at the time. If you're interested let us know and we'll include you in the Friday email list so that you can join us when you are free.



*Photo (above): One of the photographs from the Tony Nyberg photo exhibition of Oakley Creek.*

# Friends of Oakley Creek Te Auaunga

**Chairperson:**

David Bowden

**Treasurer:**

Matt Hill

**Secretary:**

Marin Adams

**Committee:**

Wendy John, Adrienne Stanton, John Stevenson, Cate Ryan, Chris Brown, Gina Hefferan

**Newsletter Editor:** Cate Ryan



**Newsletter Photos:** Unless otherwise credited, all photos are by Wendy John

**Newsletter contributions** and comments are welcome – email [info@oakleycreek.org.nz](mailto:info@oakleycreek.org.nz)

We welcome more members (\$10.00) and/or donations towards the work we are doing to protect and restore our wonderful urban 'taonga' – Oakley Creek Te Auaunga. Donations over \$5.00 are tax deductible.

Contributions can be made directly; our bank account number is 38-9003-0978224-00.

You can also find us at <http://oakleycreek.org.nz/> and <https://www.facebook.com/OakleyCreek>

We gratefully acknowledge the support of Foundation North, The Trusts Community Foundation, Auckland Council, Albert-Eden, Puketāpapa and Whau Local Boards and the Community Organization Grants Scheme (COGS).

