

Introducing the Trelissick Park/Ngaio Gorge wilderness area

Within Wellington City, a large expanse of hillside, valley, stream and parkland that encompasses Trelissick Park and Ngaio Gorge is being restored to create a beautiful wilderness area.

The goal of the people engaged in this transformation of part of our city is to create a safe habitat for native fauna and flora which will also serve as a freely accessible place of recreation for all who value New Zealand's natural environment.

The people at work in the 'wilderness'

The main driver behind this wilderness restoration is the Trelissick Park Group whose members are drawn from seven community agencies, Highland Park Progressive Association, Ngaio Progressive Association Inc, Private Landowners Group, Onslow Historical Society Inc, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, Wellington Botanical Society and Wadestown Residents Association, who are all dedicated to the enhancement and protection of the environment.

Wellington City Council has supported the group financially and by undertaking structural work such as strengthening stream banks, building bridges, maintaining and upgrading walking tracks, erecting signs and information boards, and also by supplying native plants for forest restoration.

Greater Wellington Regional Council has provided support with funding for plants and pest control.

Main activities of the group

- Monitoring and reporting on indicators of environmental health in the Park and adjoining areas.
- Liaising with local authorities on the control of pests such as possums, the eradication of weeds and the reduction of pollution in the Kaiwharawhara Stream and its tributaries.
- Organising working bees to clear weed-infested areas of the park and replant them with native trees.
- Making representations to local, regional and central government agencies on environmental policy and planning initiatives relevant to the wilderness status of Trelissick Park, as well as the catchment of the Kaiwharawhara Stream.

Adopt a spot scheme

This is to encourage more people to help restore the character of the park by providing them with their own spot to tend. This can be done at any time rather than on a set working bee. The size and location of the "spot" will be your choice.

If you are interested, contact **Peter Reimann** on **04 938 9602**.

Adopt a spot tasks

If you decide to participate in the scheme you will be given a briefing by the group and a familiarisation tour of the spot you have chosen. You will then be free to establish your own work schedule and pace for a variety of satisfying tasks.

- Removal of pest plants such as honeysuckle, Australian wattle, Darwin's barberry and fennel.
- Clear weeds and grass from around newly-planted native trees.
- Replant areas cleared of pest plants. You will be supplied with suitable trees.
- Check tracks to see if ruts from rain run-off are being formed, parts are falling away or slips are blocking access.
- Remove rubbish.
- Make suggestions for improvements.

Trelissick Park and Ngaio Gorge

Adopt-a-spot scheme and working bee programme 2020

Organised by the Trelissick Park Group
trelissickpark.org.nz

