

Trelissick Park adopt-a-spot news

Kia Ora Volunteers,

As you know, I am finishing up with Trelissick Park at the end of this week. Our funding from the Ministry for the Environment has run out – but hopefully we are now able to run smoothly without this extra support. I really appreciate all that you have done to help me give the adopt-a-spot scheme the boost it needed! I have been really impressed with the commitment and enthusiasm of the various communities surrounding Trelissick Park.

Since the last newsletter we have found a new Volunteer Coordinator. Harry Barton will be continuing some of my position in a voluntary role. This continued support will be invaluable to all the spottees working in Trelissick Park. Harry is available on email and by phone during business hours.

Contact Harry Barton
Volunteer Coordinator
021 493 000
04 907 0054
trelissickpark@nzparkfinder.com

Harry and a friend have adopted a spot near the Hanover St Bridge, so he has spent some time in the Park. Harry is looking for experience in project management and thought this would be a great opportunity to work for such a positive cause.

Greater Wellington and Wellington City Council are still around to support you. Contact Kate Mackenzie on 803 0367 or Steven Peters on 499 4444.

I am currently putting together a report outlining each of the Adopt a Spot sites and some lessons learnt from the Project. This will be available for you to browse on Saturday at the mid season function (12.30 at 51 Heke St, Ngaio). If you would like a copy of this report please let me know.

It has been a real pleasure working within such a great community and environment. Thanks again for all your hard work and commitment over the past twelve months. I look forward to hearing really positive things about what you have managed to achieve. If this newsletter has been your only contact with the park, please remember to visit our web page regularly to see what is going on. This will be my last newsletter.

There are still a number of trees left which need to be planted this season. If you are interested in helping plant them in Trelissick Park please contact Peter Reimann on 04 938 9602.

Plant of the month

Clematis Paniculata
Puawananga



In spring the cliffs of the lower Ngaio Gorge turn white with the large droops of star shaped flowers of the native clematis. This native vine will grow up to 30ft long and up to 6 inches thick at ground level. Leaves are similar to Old Mans beard, but grow in threes.



The Maori had a great love of the clematis flower, and used the stem for medical reasons. A broth of Clematis, Kowhai and Ngaio was used to cure toothaches. The sap of clematis was blown on wounds. Shavings of clematis bark was used like eucalyptus to clear head colds.

Weed of the month

Old Mans Beard
Clematis vitalba L

A noxious, perennial vine with woody stems that can climb the tallest trees. It forms a dense, light absorbing canopy which suppresses all vegetation below it. Vines climb smaller branches and growth can be so vigorous that the weight of the foliage and stems breaks the supporting tree. This can be detrimental to understorey trees and shrub species. The leaf arrangement is opposite. The leaves are pinnately compound (like a palm). Flowers appear in Summer and are white to greenish white, about 2cm in diameter, and grow in bunches of individual flowers.



Vines running along the ground can set new roots so these need to be completely removed from the site. To control Old Mans Beard, cut at ground level, paste with vigilant and leave the vines in the canopy to die off. Control Old Mans Beard before seeds start to set in January.