



## 2015 Green Ribbon Awards entry form



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### Section 1: General Information

#### 1. Are you entering

another person, organisation or community group?

#### 2. What is the name of the person, organisation, group or project you are entering?

Peter Reimann - Trelissick Park Group

#### 3. Choose which category best reflects your nomination

Protecting our biodiversity

4a.

Title Mr

First name: Peter

Surname: Reimann

Position: Chairman (and volunteer Ranger)

Organisation: Trelissick Park Group

Project (if applicable)

Address line 1: 51 Heke Street

Address line 2: Ngaio

City: Wellington

Postcode: 6035

Phone: 04 938 9602

Mobile:

Email: peter.reimann@paradise.net.nz

5a.

Title Mr



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First name: Bill

Surname: Hester

Position: volunteer (predator control and other)

Organisation: Trelissick Park Group

Address line 1: 6A Trelissick Crescent

Address line 2: Ngaio

City: Wellington

Postcode: 6035

Phone: 04 934 1404

Mobile: 022 367 5851

Email: billinnz1@gmail.com

**6. Please provide a summary of the entry in three sentences. What has the person, organisation or group achieved and what makes it special or unique?**

Peter Reimann is dedicated to protecting and enhancing the biodiversity in the Wellington area. He has played a prominent role over the last 14 years in organising the restoration of Trelissick Park in the Ngaio Gorge area with the Trelissick Park Group. He is also involved with servicing mustelid traps along the East Whakanui Ridge in the Orongorongos and re-vegetation of the surrounds of the new SPCA premises above Newtown.

**7. Please describe your relationship to the person, organisation or group you are entering. Please limit your response to around 300 words**

I have known Peter and worked with him for more than a decade, primarily in his Trelissick Park Group (TPG) role. My relationship with Peter has involved working bees (plantings and weedings), predator (animal and weed plants) control, rubbish collection within the Park, & looking after the TPG website and TPG Facebook presence. This has given me unique perspective on Peter's huge efforts in coordinating all TPG activities. As a neighbour of Trelissick Park I see Peter working multiple days each week on his own working at multiple locations within the Park, coordinating twice monthly work bees for the TPG, organising and running corporate work bees, producing a "Gorge Gazette" 3 or 4 times each year, running the TPG Committee, participating in numerous community & civic information activities, documenting the 24 year history of TPG to date in "The Onslow Historian", running a home nursery for endemic native plants, and similar.

There are many others who can confirm his diligence and dedication to biodiversity. These include

Amber Bill  
Manager, Community Engagement & Reserves



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Parks & Gardens  
Wellington City Council  
101 Wakefield Street, PO Box 2199  
04 803 8150 / 021 2278150

Myfanwy Emeny  
Team Leader  
Urban Ecology  
Wellington City Council  
Myfanwy.Emeny@wcc.govt.nz

Illona Keenan  
Pest Management Officer  
Wellington City Council  
P 04 803 8357 | M 021 227 8357  
E illona.keenan@wcc.govt.nz

also from Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association  
Mary Munro  
04 479 3363  
mary.munro@xtra.co.nz

Julia Williams  
04 479 2292  
drakeford.williams@xtra.co.nz

**8. Is the entry being supported by any external funding sources? External funding could be from the government or charitable donations.**

No, not the the best of my knowledge

### Section 2: Significant environmental benefits

**9. What environmental issue(s) or project is the entry enhancing? Please be specific, eg, 'establishing monthly beach clean ups in my community to address excess rubbish'. Please limit your response to around 300 words**

Environmental enhancements:

- Improving the ecological corridor between Wellington Harbour and the Outer Green Belt in Trelissick Park by helping with and organising restoration planting, fishpassage improvements, animal and plant pest control and 'trouble-shooting'. The park has suffered from interferences from early logging and farming, rail, road and sewer developments, rubbish dumping and garden escapes. Weed problems abound and slips and stream sedimentation/pollution often occur.

- Advocating in submissions for developments in the urban catchment area of the Korimako and Kaiwharawhara Streams to have neutral effect on stormwater. All the stormwater ends up in the streams and the fast run-off



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from hard surfaces causes stream bank collapse and stream bed sediment build-up, affecting fish life.

- Advocating in submissions on Council plans, guidelines, policies and District Plan changes, in cases where they influence Trelissick Park.
- Assisting the Rimutaka Forest Park Trust introducing kiwi and improving biodiversity in the Orongorongos, by helping with mustelid trap servicing.
- Providing advice and assistance on restoration planting of the surrounds of the new SPCA premises above Newtown.

**10. Please tell us how the person, organisation or group is helping to address the environmental issue identified. You can include in addition to your statement any comparative facts and supporting documents. Please limit your response to around 500 words**

For Trelissick Park, unless otherwise mentioned - increasing involvement since 2001.

- Organising volunteer working bees adoption of restoration 'spots' and visits by corporate and school groups.
- Liaising with City and Regional Councils (WCC/GW) for supply of plants and pest control.
- Liaising with WCC and contractors prior to road/rail/sewer infrastructure upgrades.
- Clearance of stream obstructions to aid fish passage.
- Home nursery propagation/maintenance (yearly average about 1,000 plants).
- Weed-eating some open grassy areas.
- 'Trouble-shooting' - eg dealing with fallen trees, stream pollution, slips and scouring, clearing patches of tradescantia, cutting/poisoning weed trees and smothering climbers.
- Infill planting.
- Organising publicity, including newspaper articles, brochures, displays for Conservation Week and Wadestown Fair, some inputs to website [www.trelissickpark.org.nz](http://www.trelissickpark.org.nz) and writing newsletter Gorge Gazette (see <http://www.trelissickpark.org.nz/gazettes.htm>), widely circulated 3-4 times/year.
- Talks and visits for Ngaio and Crofton Downs schools, Wellington East Girls' School, Onslow Historical Society, Youth Environment Forum, Friends of Waikanae River and later this year: Otari Wilton's Bush Trust, Wadestown Horticultural Society.
- Managing the Ministry for the Environment Adopt a Spot coordinator recruitment, implementation and reporting, under their Sustainable Management Fund (2006-7).
- Managing the DOC Community Conservation funded work to clear, plant and maintain an adjacent railway land riparian strip in 2009-10.
- Chairman of Trelissick Park Group since 2006.



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- Secretarial work and contact person for all park matters from 2008 (submissions, minutes, emails, letters, funding applications, distribution of information, filing/archiving).
  - Writing the History of the Trelissick Park Group for The Onslow Historical Society.
  - Writing an article An Urban Park - Desecration and Restoration for The New Zealand Biosecurity Institute publication Protect, Winter 2009.
  - Writing and lodging submissions (written and oral) on Council plans, guidelines, policies, District Plan changes, Environment Court appeals, also on the 2009 RMA revisions (with Select Committee appearance) - see <http://www.trelissickpark.org.nz/current.htm>.
  - Liaising with WCC on a Memorandum of Understanding and writing/updating the Group's Five-Year Plan (see <http://www.trelissickpark.org.nz/projects.htm>).
  - Liaison and/or surplus plant exchange with Bell's Track Group, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, Friends of Central Park, Friends of Owhiro Stream, Otari Wilton's Bush nursery, Manawa Karioi Society, Woodridge Planters.
  - Participation in Project Kaiwharawhara (catchment) meetings, the Kaiwharawhara Revegetation GW "Take Care" project (with Otari Wilton's Bush Trust), various talks/workshops.
  - Liaison with GW on subsequent "Take Care" project work for the park.
  - Updating website [www.naturespace.org.nz](http://www.naturespace.org.nz).
  - Organising earlier Kaiwharawhara estuary annual clean-up sessions and assisting with later ones.
  - Advice on bird-friendly plant species for the Body Shop to order for their riparian strip on the lower Kaiwharawhara Stream, followed by working bee there.
  - Liaison with WCC on new tracks, map, map-boards and signage.
  - Ngaio School arboretum upgrade assistance.
  - WCC Volunteer Ranger from 2001
  - Servicing 76 mustelid traps in the Orongorongos - two of us about once every 4 - 6 weeks - 8 hours, 15 km and 1,300 m of climb (2009 - ongoing).
  - Two of us advise SPCA on suitable plant species and help with weeding and planting the surrounds of their new premises above Newtown, helped by Periodic Detention workers and corporate volunteers (2014 - ongoing).

### **11. Will the person, organisation or group continue to provide environmental benefits indefinitely, or will it and/or its benefits end in the future?**

Benefit will continue



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### Section 3: Measurability

#### 12. Can the entry's environmental benefits be measured or proven?

Yes

**If yes, please provide details of the visible or tangible outcomes of the nomination and evidence to support these.**

There are numerous before and after pictures. There are 25 Gorge Gazettes available on-line (<http://www.trelissickpark.org.nz/gazettes.htm>) which document much of the progress and benefits. These are also cataloged by the National Library. The 25 on-line Gorge Gazettes were written by Peter Reimann.

Volumes 39 and 40 of The Onslow Historian provide more than 80 pages outlining the tangible outcomes of the benefits of the TPG in pictures and words. These two documents are available in support of this nomination. They were written by Peter Reimann. While the Trelissick Park Group cannot afford to purchase 4 copies of each of the two volumes, I will provide one copy for the Ministry for the Environment to keep. The two volumes contain pictures and much history of the Park - and as mentioned the volumes were researched and written by Peter Reimann.

The TPG website provides a stable reference point indicating the benefits of having Peter Reimann involved during the past 14 years. Much of the information on the website is information written by Peter. It includes the Gorge Gazettes, committee meeting minutes, current projects, submission to the City and Regional Councils and similar. The website link is <http://www.trelissickpark.org.nz/>

The TPG Facebook page provides a more transient recording of improvements in the Park and is another means of communication and indirect education with information provided by Peter.  
<https://www.facebook.com/TrelissickParkGroup>

### Section 4: Innovation

#### 13. Is the entry a new idea or innovation, either in New Zealand or the world?

No, not to the best of my knowledge

#### 14. Please describe the innovative and/or creative aspects of the entry. (Please limit your response to around 300 words)

Over the last 14 years the applicant has helped to transform Trelissick Park into a 'gem', by working with both City and Regional Councils, community organisations, corporate and school groups and volunteers, as outlined in question 10 above. The park is now one of the most popular in Wellington. with visitors enjoying the forest, open areas, streams and increased bird life. Plantings during that period are approximately 50,000. Predator (possums, rats, mustelids) control continues with monthly replenishment of bait across the entire 20 hectare Park.

An implicit strength of Peter is his ability to sustain the volunteer efforts of others across all aspects of his work. The sustainability of the volunteer efforts would have suffered immensely without his continued attention to detail at all levels.



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### 15. Does the entry provide a model that could be repeated elsewhere?

Yes

**If yes, briefly explain how this could occur OR briefly describe the process/initiative. Please limit your response to around 300 words**

An on-going sustainable volunteer effort depends often on one or two key individuals with the vision to coordinate activity in a wide range of physical efforts, organisational efforts, documentation efforts, educational efforts .

A simple, but telling, example is the Committee Meetings of the TPG - now having had 171 meetings over the last 24 years. Recent meeting minutes available on-line. <http://www.trelissickpark.org.nz/meeting.htm>

See answers to question 10. Using Peter's listed efforts as a check list would provide a model for other groups with similar intentions. Follow-up, coordination, communication and education are essential elements - as are using public forums, websites and facebook - to have a public presence and to attract support from city, regional and national agencies as well as corporate groups, schools and the general public.

## Section 5: Awareness and education

### 16. Does the entry raise awareness or educate others about environmental issues?

Yes

**If yes, briefly explain how the entry raises awareness or educates others and (if known) how many people have been reached. Please limit your response to around 300 words**

Peter has run numerous community education activities and spoken to various groups. He has also coordinated multiple corporate work bees during the past 14 years in Trelissick Park which helps educate individuals and corporations about biodiversity and restoration efforts.

Several times a year school groups (usually primary level) are introduced to Trelissick Park using a morning work bee where the children are made more aware of native plants, pest weeds, planting and weeding. They often return with their parents to demonstrate their work in the Park.

The general public using Trelissick Park often stop to inquire about the volunteer work in the Park especially on the twice monthly work bees organised by Peter.

### 17. Does this project involve others beyond your group or organisation?

Yes

**If yes, please provide further details and examples of who was involved. Please limit your response to around 300 words**

See Item 10 for an indication of the wide range of others (groups and individuals) with whom coordinated efforts, communication and education occur with Peter Reimann as the main focal point for the Trelissick



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Park Group..

There is constant involvement with Wellington City Council at the individual level and with submissions as they arise. Likewise involvement with the Greater Wellington Regional Council on predator issues and on water quality and flow.

And constant interactions with other groups in the area with similar objectives - particularly our up-stream neighbours (Otari/Wilton, Cummings Park, etc) as Trelissick Park is a vital link in the WCC's Northern Walkway for walkers, the WCC's "Sanctuary to the Sea" corridor for wildlife, particularly birds. It is also part of the national walkway "Te Araroa".

**18. How did you find out about this year's Green Ribbon Awards? Newspaper advertisement**

### Declaration

**Signature: William (Bill) F. Hester**