



RIVERLEA

environment society

Newsletter 30
August 2023
ISSN 1178-4393

From the Chair

The changes to RESI are coming thick and fast. Our conservation coordinator, Gabrielle Woodd, finished in her role in July and we have decided to disestablish this role for the time being. Bruce Winders is standing down having been our treasurer for around 15 years, and our secretary, Shubha Parulekar, is taking a break to take up family commitments overseas.

We desperately need new blood on the committee. We are a friendly and interesting bunch who have formed strong connections with one another. The treasurer and secretary roles should only require a few hours per month and attendance at a bi-monthly committee meeting.

We continue to liaise with Hamilton City Council regarding issues arising from the Te Awa River Ride passing through Hammond Park, and have stepped up our trapping efforts to combat increasing pest numbers in the area.

Restoration is a group effort requiring many hands. Have you thought about doing your bit to sequester carbon in our little piece of paradise? A big thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who share with us a common vision of beautiful, biodiverse bush filled with bird song, bats and insects.

Jane Landman

Please join us for our 2023 AGM

Date: Thursday 31 August

Time: 7-9pm

Where: Riverlea Theatre lounge, 83 Riverlea Road

Presentation: Guest speaker Michael Pingram, freshwater ecologist with Waikato District Council

Supper afterwards

RSVP by Tuesday 29 August to

Riverlea.soc@gmail.com



Outgoing treasurer and staunch supporter of Hammond Park, Bruce Winders, with the new sign design way back in the day.

Bruce Calls it Time

Our treasurer, Bruce Winders, one of RESI's longest serving committee members is calling it a day. Bruce attended the initial meeting that gave birth to RESI back in 2007, when more than 300 residents gathered in opposition to a proposed asphalt plant for Riverlea. Soon after that Bruce took up the role of treasurer, providing a steady hand on the tiller of RESI's finances ever since. He has managed the treasurer's tasks with consistent efficiency through the many challenges RESI has faced: navigating issues arising from Te Awa River Ride and Amberfield subdivision across the river, together with management of contractors and ongoing weed control and planting of native plants in the park. We have been the envy of many organisations to have a treasurer of Bruce's caliber and dedication and he will be greatly missed. We wish him well with the next chapter of his life and hope he'll now get to put his feet up occasionally!

Plant subsidies still available

There are still funds available for plant subsidies so please keep on planting and restoring. Clare Beet has been appointed as part-time Gully Restoration

Advisor by Hamilton City Council and she is available to support gully owners for advice and supply plants from council. She can be contacted on 027 1800 2682 Email: Clare.Beet@hcc.govt.nz

Te Awa River Ride

Te Awa River Ride has attracted large numbers of cyclists since it opened late last year. While many users are courteous and safety conscious when passing through Hammond Park, a disappointingly stubborn proportion are refusing to dismount which is dangerous and distressing for other boardwalk users. The RESI committee has been in ongoing discussions with HCC personnel on how to address this problem. In the meantime, the boardwalk is closed for 3 months through July to September while remedial work is undertaken by contractors to replace the decking and side rails. The boardwalk will remain the same in other respects and will not be widened.



RESI RULE CHANGES

The RESI committee has recently undertaken a review of its rules which has resulted in some proposed changes. These changes will be put to a vote at our upcoming AGM. To view the proposed changes please go to <https://tinyurl.com/RESIRULES>

Pest Control

Pest control in the park is back! RESI has recently serviced existing A24 rat traps and installed five new Flipping Timmy possum traps. The rat population is definitely taking a hit as a result, and the possum traps are also proving scarily successful with six catches reported over the past two weeks.

RESI encourages individual property owners in Riverlea to keep up their trapping efforts to protect our native fauna and flora. Anyone wanting assistance in this regard can contact RESI by emailing Riverlea.soc@gmail.com



To register your trap and enter catch data go to the website (also available as a mobile app) and search for 'Pest Free Riverlea' as the project. Follow the instructions to register your trap location and record your catch

Donate to RESI

I would like to support the Riverlea Environment Society Inc. with a tax-deductible donation

Name(s)

Address

Phone

Email

Suggested donation per household: \$40 per year, or any other amount of your choosing. *Our bank account is 03 1559 0110053 000. To donate online, please use your surname as the reference, and email us stating the amount, your name and address so we can issue a receipt. Thank you for your support.*