

# PIGEON POST

Newsletter of the Otatara Landcare Group

**Issue 56, June 2019**

Hello folks, welcome to Pigeon Post, **the newsletter of the Otatara Landcare Group**. In this newsletter we bring you news of the latest happenings in our area and snippets of information about our past and ideas about improving our environment

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Please contact the Otatara Landcare Group if you have any questions, ideas or problems relating to the Otatara and Sandy Point areas: [otataralg@gmail.com](mailto:otataralg@gmail.com)

## **Chairspeak - a message from the Chairperson Barry Smith**

Oh dear, a few contentious issues seem to have arisen since our last publication and none more contentious than 'Cats', and I don't mean the musical. Every time the question comes up I recall a cartoon in the Southland Times many years ago, it was 'Hagar the Horrible'. Hagar's son was



Panda, our cat, enjoying a short snooze in the empty bird bath

holding a cat and asked his father "What's that noise, Dad?" Hagar's reply "That's the sound of the cat manufacturing cuteness." Of all the creatures on this planet the cat is the one that can ingratiate itself into human life and society and make you feel loved, even if it is 5am, you're sound asleep and the furry interloper jumps up on your bed and begins a purring and attention-demanding session... just because it feels like it. For repayment the cat expects to be let in and out of the house on a minute by minute basis, fed, watered and warmed on demand.

However cats are mean little beggars. No doubt you have seen them torment a mouse for anything up to an

hour or so before it bites its head off, eats most of it, then makes its way inside, sits on the bed washing its paws and face before dozing off for a couple of hours. This is the envied life of the companion cat.

However there are some people around who do not accept the responsibility for what their cat or multiple cats do. They let them breed, then dump the unwanted kittens in the bush, at Sandy Point and Otatara. They convince themselves that they won't do any harm, they'll just kill mice and rats, our little moggies wouldn't kill any native birds. On the one hand we have the well fed domesticated cat and on the other we have the feral cat. It is fighting for survival and anything is fair game when it is hungry. Maybe 10% of the cats around are feral, but they probably do 99% of the environmental damage and give the pet moggy a worse name being tarred with the same brush. It is time we accept that those who dump cats as being crass, selfish and environmental terrorists. If you are one of those people who do this then consider yourself verbally berated.

Fortunately there are other things around designed to help you relax a bit more and enjoy life that isn't contentious.

Robyn and I have, during the past few months, taken up attending the 'Parkrun' event held in Invercargill's Queens Park on a Saturday. Parkrun was started up a few years ago in London by a gentleman who was feeling the effects of loneliness in a very large city, he got depressed about it and tried to think of a way to counteract the effect, hence the event was born. At the latest count it is now in 20 countries around the world and hundreds of towns and cities with Invercargill being the most southerly on the planet.

Parkrun is a 5km circuit that you do at your own pace. The sprinters get around in 17 or 18 minutes, then come the joggers, the jog/walkers, the pace walkers and finally those out for a stroll because they know it will do them good and they have set themselves a challenge come rain or shine. The last lot take about an hour or a little more to complete the task. Parkrun in Invercargill starts at 8:00 am during the summer, daylight saving time and 9:00 am during the rest of the year.

There is good companionship with this event, people chatting along the way and meeting at the end for a further chat, a cuppa at the Cheeky Llama and the talk about next week. Is it ever cancelled? Invercargill has hosted 55 parkruns in the last 55 weeks and only four have been wet!

Oh, just one last thing, it's addictive!

[www.parkrun.co.nz/invercargill](http://www.parkrun.co.nz/invercargill)

Have Fun, Live and Love life

**Parkrun** Every Saturday at 8am (Summer months) & 9am (Winter months).

The event takes place at Queens Park meeting at the Southland Cricket Association grounds, 150 Gala Street, near Burt Munro.

Free but please register before your first run. 5km. You can run, jog or walk. Join the crowd and get fit. More information: [invercargilloffice@parkrun.com](mailto:invercargilloffice@parkrun.com)

**Bamboo free for garden stakes.** Cut your own. Contact Lloyd Esler 15 Mahuri Road 2130404 There is a thicket of bamboo which needs to be thinned out. Secateurs and loppers provided.

## A mystery solved

by Geoff Dembo

At dusk on a still, muggy evening in January, Chris Rance and I set out from the Community Nursery in Grant Road with torches and what looked like TV remotes. Our route would take us on a 4km loop across the Bushy Point planting area and back via quiet Otatara roads. There were plenty of moths fluttering around, so we wouldn't have a better chance to find bats.



There are two species of bat in this country: short-tailed and long-tailed. They are small and harmless, feeding on flying insects, and are the only native land mammals. Harried by introduced predators such as rats, and with fewer forest trees around to roost in during the day, they have become much rarer over the years. Local people around the country are being recruited to do bat surveys, in the hope that the number of bats can be monitored and their roosting trees found and protected.

The devices Chris and I carried were our newly acquired bat detectors, which would enable us to hear the sounds made by bats as they hunt. These are above the range of human hearing, at a frequency of 40 KHz for the long-tailed bats we were after.

As we ambled slowly through the darkness, a gentle hissing coming from the detectors, we came across some hedgehogs on the path but no bats yet. Coming out of the trees, we passed the Bushy Point pond and headed across open ground. Nearing the mound, the detectors went off! Woo hoo!

The sound continued, on and off, as we walked across the long grass to the Bryson Road end. Something was wrong, though. The buzzing sound from the detectors was unlike the chirps which we had heard on a recording of bats we'd listened to on the internet. What could it be? Were there other creatures out there making ultrasonic sounds? Or was it from something man-made, like cell phone signals or electric fences?

The next day we got in touch with Catriona Gower of Dunedin, who is organising the bat surveys in coastal Otago and Southland. She didn't know what the sound was either.

Determined to solve the mystery, I went back during the daytime and wandered around Bushy Point with a bat detector. The sound was still there, so definitely not bats. It seemed to come from little areas of the long grass. As I leaned over to look closely at one of these areas, I saw a bumble bee. Was that it? But no, the bumble bee flew off and the sound stayed. I poked the detector towards the grass, and the sound from it got louder. Up popped two wee crickets, clamped together in mating position. After a couple of seconds, they sprang away and the sound stopped. Mystery solved!

## Seals on the beach

Lloyd Esler

There are three reasonably common seal species around the New Zealand coast and three others whose appearance is rare. The rare ones are the Crabeater seal, one of which was found at



Banks Peninsula recently, the Elephant Seal, and the Subantarctic Fur seal, a rare visitor from further south. The common ones are the New Zealand Fur seal, Sealion and Leopard Seal.

The commonest on Oreti Beach is the Fur seal with one there every couple of weeks, lolling in the shallows or parked up in the driftwood. Dead seals are quite common, particularly pups which will have been born around Omaui Island and the Bluff coast.

Tagged sealion pup



Leopard seals turn up several times a year. When sleeping they look like driftwood and are vulnerable to fast-moving motor-vehicles. Fur seals will flee from humans but Leopard seals and Sealions don't and can be dangerous. There is a general ten metre rule for avoiding seals but this is often not adequate. Last year we were visited by Sealion pup with a flipper tag. It had been caught and tagged on Auckland Island and for some reason migrated north instead of hanging around in the Subantarctics until it was more mature. Unfortunately it died within a few days – starvation and exhaustion probably.

Fur seals are one of the good news conservation stories. One and half million at least were killed during the sealing era and numbers dropped critically low. They were completely exterminated from some of the Subantarctic islands and only a few thousand escaped the slaughter around the Stewart Island and Fiordland coasts. Now, fully protected, the numbers are growing well. Sealion numbers are declining as the population is hit by disease and as by-catch in the fishing industry. There is probably no reason to suppose the Elephant seal and the Leopard seal are in decline.



Fur seal pup

## **OLG guided walk through Otatara South Scenic Reserve**

26 March 2019

A lucky break in the stormy weather meant we had perfect conditions to walk through one of Otatara's largest and least known native forest remnants. With access from the end of Huruhuru Road, the reserve stretches to the New River Estuary and is characterised by a rare type of coastal totara on sand dunes that date from the Ice Ages.

When my family first moved to our neighbouring farmlet some 30 years ago, the forest was strangely silent. No longer. On Tuesday, our steps were accompanied by birdsong and groups of fluttering fantails. The turnaround appears to be thanks to a concerted effort to trap introduced predators which have previously decimated native forest birds. Volunteer Chris Bowen explained to the group how a variety of trapping devices have, in the last 12 months, accounted for 16 possums; 8 rats; 7 hedgehogs; 4 stoats/weasels and 2 ferrets. The result is a pleasure to see and hear.



Walk leaders (and Otatara Landcare Group committee members) Lloyd Esler and Brian Rance shared their specialist knowledge of fauna and flora – including the many ferns which carpet the forest floor. Infiltrating the many native plant species, however, are unwelcome invaders. Noticeable among them is the Chilean flame creeper. Its brilliant red flowers may be eye-catching but the introduced vine is thriving in more open parts of the forest, literally smothering native trees and shrubs.

While this forest is unfamiliar to many of us, it was once valued as a precious resource. Maori from the pre-European settlement of Oue at Sandy Point, came here for its resources; they hunted birds and prized totara to make waka (canoes) and bark containers to store muttonbird. We know they camped here from the tell-tale piles of shells which are occasionally exposed in the river bank; left-overs dumped after a meal (known as midden).

By the 1870s the township of Invercargill was emerging from the mud. Otatara's first sawmill operated nearby and some of forest's finest trees contributed to the infant building industry. The only evidence that remains is the timber slabs and posts that formed the wharf where lighters (flat-bottomed punts) tied up to load timber.

Today the forest is most valuable as a reminder of the rich native forest that once covered much of Otatara.



Ferret from a trap



Walkers in Otatara South Scenic Reserve





Note: The Department of Conservation manages the Otatara South Scenic Reserve solely to promote regeneration and biodiversity. The Otatara Landcare Group supports it through volunteer pest control initiatives. There are no DoC maintained tracks but locals have created informal paths through the reserve with markers to follow.



Birds in Cathy MacFie's garden by Arthur





# Pest Control in Otatara Reserves

Dallas Bradley

There are two main streams to Otatara Pestbuster activities, one being individual members controlling pests on their own properties, and the other being various members controlling pests in the local Otatara Reserves.

Both activities complement each other, but the purpose of this article is to raise awareness of the various reserves and the pest control undertaken within them.

The reserves range in size from in excess of 50 hectares to less than half a hectare but all contain significant remnants of bush habitat for native birds. Generally they are owned by the City Council or DoC with input from the QEII Trust as well.

The largest reserves are the Otatara Scenic Reserve on Dunns Road, the Bushy Point Reserve off the east end of Bryson Road and the Otatara South Reserve off the south end of Huruhuru Road. They are distinctively different and all are tracked and contain ample birdlife making them well worth a visit.



There are several smaller “neighbourhood” reserves that also contain tracks, pathways or open areas, those being Bowmans Bush, Taiepa Dune, Matua Road and John Street Reserves. The smaller reserves such as Grant Road and the Parnell Sanctuary are mainly small remnants of significant bush that add to the bush and birdlife values of Otatara.



Pestbusting activity in all these reserves focuses on the main threat to birds, mainly rats and possums and to a lesser extent mustelids (stoats, weasels and ferrets). There aren't many mustelids and over the years, possum numbers have been reduced to very low numbers but rats (and mice) are difficult to eliminate. However, we try to keep the numbers as low as possible to maximise the “sanctuary” value of the reserves to the birds.

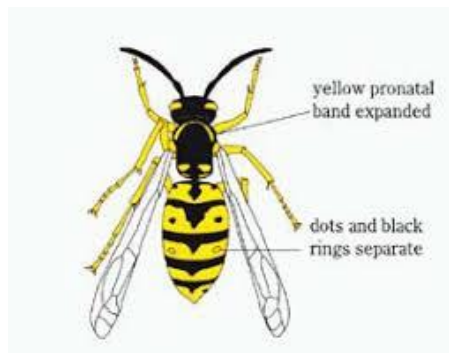


It is fantastic to have complementary pest control efforts on adjoining and nearby properties, bushy or otherwise as they almost all have rats from time to time. Collectively, this effort is making a difference with many anecdotal reports about increasing bird numbers, healthier bush and more

seedling germination. If you are not doing anything, I encourage you to consider adding to the collective effort – it all helps.

If your property is not big enough or pesty enough to satisfy your pestbusting bent, feel free to volunteer for some of our Reserve areas – we have some openings at the moment. Contact Chris Rance (213 1161 or myself, 021 784962) if you wish to help out.

I should add that while our main focus is pest animals, we do a certain amount of pest plant control as well. On that note, a big thank you to whoever regularly removes Chilean Flame Creeper from alongside the track in the Otatara Reserve – it all helps.



And finally, I should mention pest insects, wasps in particular. If you see a wasp nest in any of the reserves, let us know and we will arrange for someone to deal with it. Similarly, if you find one on your own property and are not sure what to do about it, contact us and we will try to help.



## Rodents are on the Move

Dallas Bradley

Rodents spoil food, spread disease and cause damage by fouling and gnawing. That's around the home and yard. In the bush and gardens, rats raid birds' nests and eat eggs and fledglings. They also eat a lot of seed that would otherwise germinate or be eaten by birds.

Rodents become more visible and annoying in Autumn when they are out looking for food sources and homes to escape the cooler temperatures. Otatara Pestbusters are already starting to notice increased rodent activity!

Rodents are prolific breeders, which means your home and out buildings, bush and garden could be overrun with rats and mice in the absence of any control. A long hot summer combined with an ample seed fall has created ideal breeding condition for rats and mice – all the more reason for undertaking some pest control.



For successful rodent control, it is best practice to use a suitable bait station or trap. A well designed bait station keeps the bait as dry and fresh as possible and attractive to the rodent. Rats and mice prefer fresh, high quality foods and will reject spoiled or low palatability foods when given a choice, so bait selection for traps and bait stations is important. Bait stations secure bait in place



and prevent rodents from removing it elsewhere. They also prevent your pets from accessing the bait. Pet proof trap boxes are also available.



The Otatara Pestbusters has bait stations and bait, and traps as well, for sale to Otatara residents at cheaper than wholesale rates. If you are not already actively undertaking rat control, join the 200 plus Otatara households that are already doing it to protect your home and our native birds. This collective effort has tremendous benefits to wildlife and can avoid costly damage to wiring and plumbing in particular.

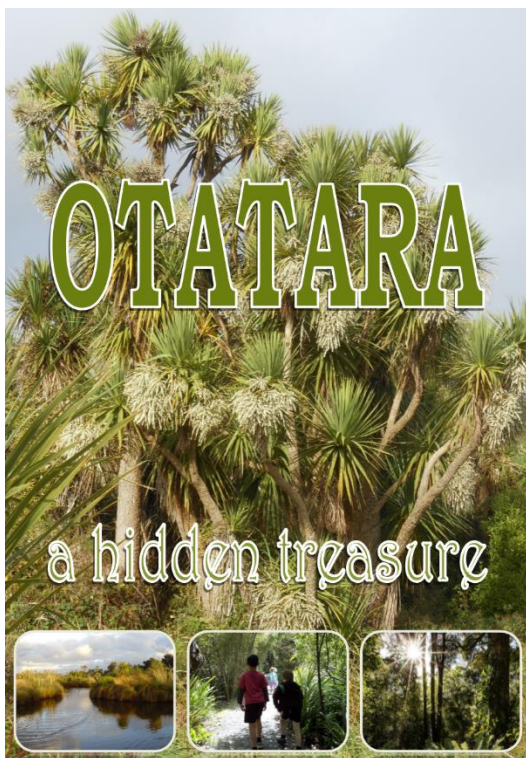
Tips for successful eradication:

1. Don't handle bait with bare hands as rodents are suspicious of human scent and may avoid baits that have been touched;
2. Ensure rodents don't have access to alternative food such as stock or chook food, food scraps or garbage;
3. Maintain fresh baits in traps and bait stations – discard mouldy bait;
4. Be particularly vigilant during Autumn when the first cold and wet weather arrives as this tends to drive rodents indoors to find food and shelter.

For your Pestbusting supplies, contact Dallas Bradley, Coordinator, Otatara Pestbusters on 021 784962 or call in at 120 Oreti Road, Otatara.

*Thanks to Farmlands and Bell-Booth for much of the information contained in this article.*

## Otatara – a hidden treasure



The Otatara Landcare Group is delighted to have published a second edition of “*Otatara – a hidden treasure*” for distribution free to all residents in our community.

The booklet is intended as a celebration of what we have achieved in preserving the unique habitat that is Otatara and serves as a directory for all our existing and new business enterprises.

Many thanks to Lois Caldwell who biked and walked her way around our roads and streets to ensure you had one safely deposited in your mailbox.

And to all our advertisers who made the production of the booklet possible.

If by some chance you did not receive a copy of the booklet, you can pick one up from the Southland Community Nursery or just ask one of our committee members, they know where spare copies are hidden.



## Habitat Heaven

Providing a safe haven around your home.

GROW CREATE ALLOW...

- Rock piles/brick heaps - skinks
- Water - birds, frogs, dragonflies
- Stumps/rotting logs - huhu beetles, critters
- Damp & shady spots - frogs, paradise ducks
- Tall trees - herons, owls, tuis, bellbirds
- Insects - kingfishers, swallows, ducks
- Open unmown grassland allowed to seed -  
- harrier hawks, skinks, kereru displays,  
great flocks of swooping birds
- Mix of flowering trees & shrubs, flaxes  
& whatever provides local native nectar,  
seeds & nesting materials. Select to provide  
over extended seasons; eg kowhai, fuchsia,  
flaxes, toetoe, mingimingi, manuka, tussocks  
- come check out Southland Community Nursery
- Nettles - yellow and red admiral butterflies

So... Relax.... don't springclean the section,  
mow the lawn, topiary the trees, tidy the  
dead twigs from under the bushes,  
weed the nettles or rake the leaves,  
at least not all of it, all the time.



## Southland Community Nursery News

We have had a busy start to the year with lots of school groups and workshops.

Check out all the activity at <https://www.southlandcommunitynursery.org.nz/news-and-events/>

The nursery will be closing for winter, last day **Friday 14 June 2019**, reopening end of August. In the meantime, get planning your planting project for spring.

Chris and Brian



# Ecological identity

## Knowing and loving the place that we live in

Bronwyn Graham

Otatara School have embarked on an investigation into their local environment, getting to know the area around them, visiting places regularly over the seasons to notice and observe, with the hope of knowing, understanding and connecting with their place.

With each class named after a NZ native plant, the classes have all visited the Southland Community Nursery during term 1, with a focus of getting to know their classroom plant better. Kōwhai, Miro, Mataī, Tōtara, Ponga and other tree ferns, Mānuka, Tī kōuka, Kahikatea, Kōtukutuku, Pōkākā and Tarata have all been looked at in depth with other tree species and plants, birds, insects, and fungi all noticed and learnt about. Learning where their plant lives, how to identify it and how forests work has been made fun.



Talking about how Otatara was almost totally forested before milling and fire highlighted that Otatara hasn't always looked like it does now. Many were surprised to learn that Otatara forests are very special for the whole of NZ because of the forest remnants that remain here in their special place. Learning that there are lots of things living in our forests and reserves, including pest plants and animals, and that at Bushy Point the forest is being re planted will lead to further inquiry by the different classes. Great questions were being asked. Noticing the seeds and fruit at this time of year and how the nursery grows plants has also meant some of the classes helped the nursery by collecting seeds. We have also seen that their learning about the classroom plant has been taken back to school and integrated into their maths, reading and art learning. Some challenges have also been set for classes so we look forward to seeing these and having the classes visit again.

It has been great to see the students really connecting with nature, walking through the bush, noticing and observing everything around them. By connecting with their local place the aim is that these students will be the future of conservation in Otatara.





# DIY Wasp Traps anyone can make

If you read the news article in the NZ Herald on March 6 about the monster wasp nest in Hamurana in Rotorua, you'll know that letting wasps go unchecked in your garden or backyard can have dire consequences. It's not just the cost of removal, it's also the cost in bees and honey, the primary prey of wasps in New Zealand.

With a little forethought and some minor craftsmanship, you can build a number of effective wasp traps that will keep you and your family safe from the pesky critters giving the bees and their honey a fighting chance while also making effective use of recyclables. If you are going to make one, make several and give them to your friends. Here's how.

## Step 1: Collect together the things you'll need



**Bottles:** Start by collecting together a number of drink bottles – the bigger the better. Those big mixer bottles are great and so are the larger water bottles.

**Wire:** Seek out any bits of wire you may have lying around. Recycled fencing wire is perfect.

**Tools:** Marker pen, craft knife and/or scissors, pliers, duct tape, corkscrew and cork or power drill, vegetable oil, paper towels

**Lure:** Depending on the time of year, you'll need one of two lure types: high sugar or high protein.

For a *high sugar lure*, you'll need: sugar, water (or any cola, fruit juices, diluted jams), cider vinegar and detergent.

For a *high protein lure*, you'll need: canned cat or dog food, water or bits of meat like sausage or mince.

## Step 2: Prepare your Bottles

Remove all the bottle caps and recycle or use for something else entirely.

Remove the labels from the bottles and discard in soft plastics recycling.

Mark on the bottle where you need to cut. Different bottles have different taper points, most though have a ridge you can use as a guideline.



Carefully cut through the plastic of the bottle along that ridge with your craft knife, and, if you find it easier, finish it off with scissors.

Turn the tops upside down and place them into the bottom part of the bottle.

Use a marker pen to mark on the side of the bottle where you want the holes to go. Mark on both pieces if the top fits neatly into the bottom. If it doesn't fit snugly, mark only the bottom half. Do the same on the other side.

Drill out your holes where you marked. If you have access to a power drill all good, but you can do just as good a job with a corkscrew and a cork (or an eraser – as long as it is soft enough for the corkscrew to go into). Hold the cork inside the bottle in line with the hole you have marked and press firmly while you carefully work the corkscrew through both layers of plastic and into the cork. Reverse the corkscrew out of the hole and repeat on the other side.

Finally take a length of wire and pliers, and prepare the handle for your bottles. As a rule of thumb I use a length that is just a little longer than the bottle is tall. Bend over the ends into hooks, and curve the wire into a handle. Make one for each bottle.



Your trap is prepared and now ready to assemble.

### Step 3: Prepare your Lure

There are a number of different recipes you can use to lure wasps into your trap. Some are more complicated than others but essentially you need one type of lure for the spring when the queen is out looking for a nest site and needs protein to make more wasps, and another in the summer and autumn when the wasps are after energy food to feed their growing colony.

**To make a protein lure** simply drop a bit of sausage or mince into the bottom of your trap. It'll need to be refreshed regularly for obvious reasons, particularly if you have a warm spring.

Alternately, you can mix up some canned cat or dog food with some water to make a gruel type paste or "gravy". This is less messy and easier to clean out of your trap as it is in liquid form. Just make sure there is enough meaty bits to attract the wasps.

**To make a sugar lure:** If you have some flat cola or lemonade, you can use that as the base for your lure. Or if you have any old jam or fruit juice or preserve juice, mix that with a bit of water to make your lure base.

Alternately you can dissolve a 1 cup sugar in a cup of water to make a sweet syrup as your base.

For every cup of lure base, add 1 tsp of cider vinegar – this is to repel any bees that might otherwise have been tempted, and add 1 tsp of detergent – this is to break the surface tension of the water so that the wasp will sink and drown.

Mix everything but the detergent together until well dissolved, then carefully stir in the detergent to avoid making too many bubbles.

### Step 4: Add the Lure to the Trap

First use the paper towel and oil to wipe out the lower part of your bottle. Rub the oil all around the base and up the sides. This will make it difficult for the wasp to climb out of the lure once it falls in.

Pour about a 1-2 cm layer of your prepared lure into the bottom of the bottle. Place your inverted top back on and line up the holes.

Hook in your handles through the aligned holes or through the single holes. Tape the top into place if it is not a snug fit. Your trap is ready to be set.





## Step 5: Set Your Trap

Hang your trap wherever you have seen wasp activity: in your garden, around your barbeque area, or in an area of bush where bees often forage for nectar. Where there are bees you often find wasps.



### How the Trap Works

The wasps will be attracted by the scent of the lure you have used and will fly into the trap through the inverted opening at the top and down through the narrow hole into the bottom of the bottle. When they land on the liquid lure expecting to be able to feed, they will sink and drown. If you use a solid food lure, the oil lining the bottle will make it difficult for them to climb out or to find the hole they came in by.

### Trap Maintenance

Check your trap regularly to see if it is working. If not, up the amount of sugar / protein in your lure solution. If it is working, first check for any live wasps – wasps get angry when trapped and it is best to wait for them to die before clearing the trap. At least once a week, carefully remove dead wasps from the trap and bury them, even dead wasps can attract their angry brothers.

Discard the old lure, wipe the bottle out again with an oily kitchen towel and reset it with some fresh lure.

And you are good to go again.

## Rain gauge

Lloyd Esler

While you are chopping up soft drink bottles, why not make a rain gauge at the same time.

Find a cylindrical plastic bottle and cut the top off. Fill the bottle until the water level reaches the smooth, even side of the bottle. Mark this as a line with a waterproof pen. This is your rain gauge. Sit it firmly in a bucket of sand or soil or between bricks in an open area to keep it stable.



Leave the bucket in an open space. You could sandwich it between bricks instead. Every day or every week measure how many millimetres of water there are above your original line. This is the amount of rainfall we have had. You could make two identical gauges keeping the second one open but with some sort of umbrella. This way no rainwater gets in and you can see how much

water is being lost to evaporation. Don't sit them side by side as in the photo or raindrops splash off the umbrella into the open rain gauge. Experiment with your rain gauge to improve this design. If you find that it works inside as well as outside, it's time for that new roof.

## And still with those soft drink bottles and continuing the weather theme.... Make a cloud!

You can make a cloud in a bottle. Find a clear plastic soft drink bottle. Put a couple of centimetres of water in the bottle. Light a match and hold it inside the bottle for a few seconds making sure there a bit of smoke in the bottle, then drop it into the water. Quickly put the cap on and give the bottle a vigorous shake, then give it a firm squeeze. As you release your grip you can see that a cloud has formed inside the bottle. Squeezing the bottle again makes the cloud disappear.

Can't guess what's going on? Ask Lloyd for the explanation.

## Otatara Landcare Group Membership

If you are not already a member and would like to help support the work of the Otatara Landcare Group, just fill in the form below and come join us. We appreciate all our members both for their contributions of time and financial support. We can't do it without you.

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### Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: (Hm) \_\_\_\_\_

(Mobile): \_\_\_\_\_

Email (for newsletters and events) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Subs** (please select)

☐ 1 year \$20

☐ Life Membership \$50

☐ Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email ([otataralg@gmail.com](mailto:otataralg@gmail.com)) or send this form with cheque to our treasurer Glenda Graham - 33 Rakiura Parade.

Subs or donations can be deposited directly into the OLG bank account

**03 1355 0805312 00**

Please make sure you use your **name** and "**olg subs**" as references with your payment.



# BUSHY POINT TRIPLE CELEBRATION

Celebrating 20 years of the Otatara Landcare Group,  
15,000 hours at Bushy Point and 30,000 native plants planted

## Conservation Week—Annual Planting Day

**WHERE:** Bushy Point, access and off-road parking from 5 Bryson Rd, Otatara

**WHEN:** Saturday, 14 September 2019

**TIME:** Gather at 9:30 am for the Kick-Off Competition \*

**BRING:** Family, friends, sturdy footwear, clothing for the conditions, gloves, spade and water

### JOIN US AFTERWARDS...

We'll have a place to wash your hands and a port-a-loo for your comfort. We'll crank up the BBQ for a snag (or two or three). There'll be games and competitions, spot prizes and giveaways, a mystery mascot and the cutting of the cake.



**Otatara  
Landcare Group**

### \*Kick-Off Competition

Decorate a commemorative stone (the bigger the better) to mark our triple celebration.

Bring it along at the start of our planting day and enter it in the competition.

Find the details at : [www.otataralandcare.org.nz](http://www.otataralandcare.org.nz)



For further  
information, contact

Barry Smith

03 213-1500

[bjsrdms@gmail.com](mailto:bjsrdms@gmail.com)

## “A Forest in the Making”