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## MESSAGE FROM CHRIS HAWKES TRUST CHAIR

In the previous edition of eNews I acknowledged the very significant contribution made by Sanctuary volunteers to the success for the Sanctuary itself, and to the sanctuary organisation. In a similar spirit, this month I would like to acknowledge the equally important contributions (financial and 'other') made by Sanctuary business supporters. This support, along with that made by individual supporters helps pay for daily operational costs, such as fuel for weed-eaters or chainsaws, materials to build or repair tracks, bridges, handrails, or to purchase tools, or cover costs such as telephones, power or signage. Running an operation such as the Sanctuary involves a myriad of costs that must be met every month to ensure we can achieve our purpose for being. "In-kind" support/contributions such as the supply of discounted goods and/or services, labour, or donated tools or equipment are equally important.

In short, support given to the Sanctuary by local businesses is significant to Sanctuary operations and is much appreciated. The contributions from the business community and our volunteer base, together with those from individuals and other donors flows through to improving the visitor experience and to furthering our conservation objectives. This in turn is leading to a trend of improving visitor numbers and growth in supporters (aka the membership).

Along with our conservation objectives to protect the Sanctuary ecosystem and reintroduce our native taonga, we are making education of young people a key objective. It's critical that we educate younger generations of value of preserving our national heritage through activities such as reintroductions. For the Sanctuary, this means the development of our education programmes for schools incorporating visits and projects. By extension, business support for the Sanctuary is assisting in the education work we do.

Along with introducing tīeke, powelliphanta and kākārīki karaka (which has been an outstanding success), there is a list of species we intend to introduce to the Sanctuary in due course including tuatara, kiwi and kākā. These are all under discussion with iwi and the Department of Conservation. The vital role business support plays in Sanctuary operations is recognised by these partners for the future development and nurturing of taonga species translocated into the Sanctuary.

We in turn try to support those who support us, when we need a contractor – we first offer the work to our Business Club members and business supporters. All Business Club supporters and sponsors/donors are acknowledged in signage at the Visitor Centre, and/or through profiling them in our newsletters and on the Sanctuary website.

So to close, on behalf of everyone involved with the Sanctuary, I like to acknowledge and thank our business supporters – your contribution to the Sanctuary is vital and highly valued.

Ngā mihi, Chris Hawkes

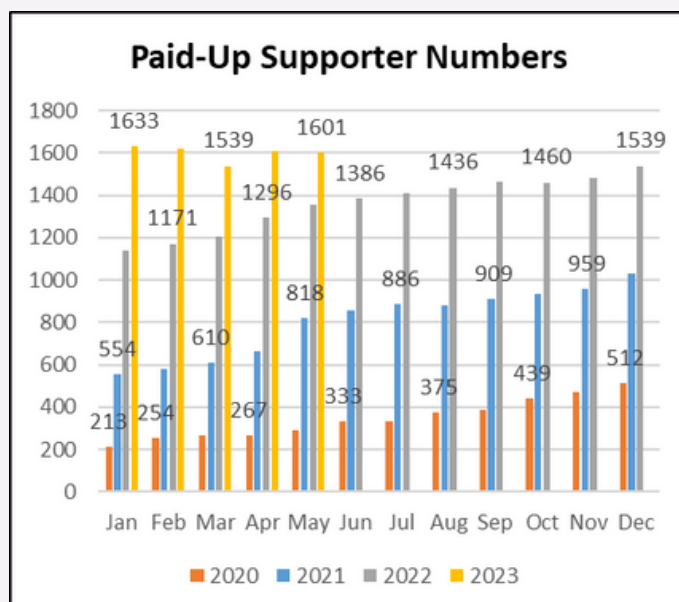
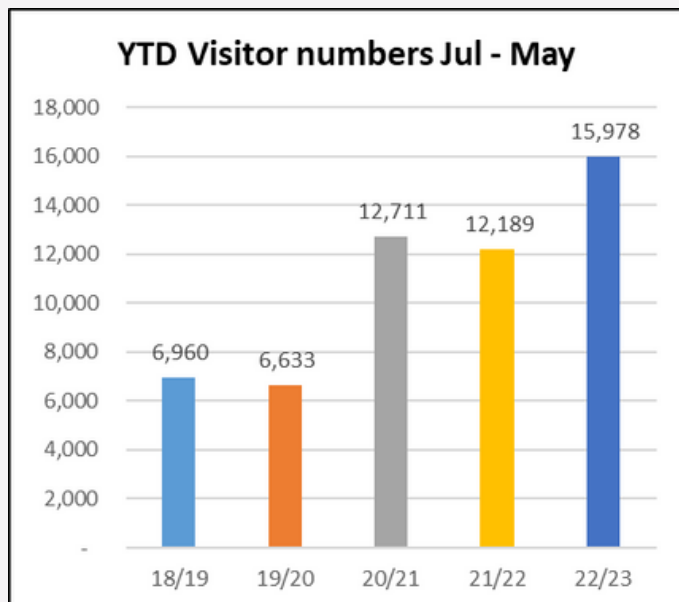
## NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK: 18-24 JUNE

The Big Shout-Out is a new government campaign for June, encouraging people to give a shout-out to volunteers.

New Zealand is a nation of volunteers – more than a million of us volunteer, giving our time and energy to make a difference in our communities. Our vision is for volunteering to be valued and celebrated as a vital part of society.

Look out for a series of Facebook posts profiling our teams and next time you visit the Sanctuary see a new sign installed at the Visitor Centre recognising and thanking our volunteers - and encouraging others to sign-up!

## STEADY GROWTH AT THE SANCTUARY



*Get Involved in volunteering!*



Just some of the many faces volunteering at the Sanctuary, our sincere thanks to all our volunteers.

## VOLUNTEERING WITH THE SANCTUARY

We are always looking for new volunteers.

Join the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary volunteer community and be part of conservation in action! We currently have a variety of volunteer roles available including track cutting and maintenance, wildlife monitoring, fence line monitoring, weed control, events and fundraising, visitor centre hosts, tour guiding and more!

If you'd like to know more about volunteering with the Sanctuary, please get in touch with Sabrina at [volunteerconnector@brooksanctuary.org.nz](mailto:volunteerconnector@brooksanctuary.org.nz) or visit our website, [click here](#)

## 10.30AM SUNDAYS GUIDED SANCTUARY WALKS

Pre-booking is essential (to ensure volunteer guides are arranged), [click here](#) to book your guided walk.



## NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO VOLUNTEER/PARTICIPATE



### THE AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND GARDEN BIRD SURVEY IS BACK 24 JUNE TO 2 JULY!

This is the 17th year of the Garden Bird Survey – the longest running citizen science project in the country.

The survey acts as a backyard barometer for our nation's garden birds - it's an early warning system to highlight any health issues, as well as evidence that our birds are thriving.

Pictured above is last year's photo competition winner, kererū in a cabbage tree by Rowan Nicholson.

#### How does it work?

Participants go into their gardens for one hour on one day during the 9-day period and count all the birds they can see and hear.

Every sighting is recorded on a tally sheet that is returned to Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research, who processes the data through a super-computer.

The results are then published in the [State of NZ Garden Birds | Te Āhua o ngā Manu o te Kāri i Aotearoa](#) report.

To date, more than 44,000 surveys of gardens and parks have been undertaken by individuals, schools, and community groups. If you want to participate, download and print the tally form, click [here](#).

Visit [gardenbirdssurvey.nz](https://gardenbirdssurvey.nz) for more info and resources to help you take part.



## DOC'S 10 TIPS FOR ATTRACTING NATIVE BIRDS TO YOUR GARDEN

1. Plant nectar producing flowers and native fruits
2. Encourage insects
3. Don't put out bread for birds
4. If you put out sugar-water ...
5. Plant trees away from windows
6. Keep birds safe from rats and stoats
7. Plant flowers that provide food in winter
8. Make sure they have something to drink
9. Reduce risk from cats
10. Encourage your neighbours to plant native-friendly plants too

You can read more details for each of these 10 tips by clicking [here](#)



## HELP WANTED

We're looking for people to help our fence maintenance team with the mouse exclosure fence (see story on next page). The fence needs to be built to a high standard to keep mice out, so we are looking for people with good handyman skills who are available between the end of June and September. Most of the work will take place on weekdays, but we could run a weekend group if there are people who aren't available in the week. If this interests you, please contact: [nick.robson@brooksanctuary.org.nz](mailto:nick.robson@brooksanctuary.org.nz)

## OLD PHOTOS WANTED

We are looking for high quality images and photos of foliage on both sides of the pest fence, we're especially interested in obtaining imagery that helps to compare the flora before and after the grazing animals were removed for the Sanctuary - when the fence was completed. For any queries or assistance please email [ru.collin@brooksanctuary.org.nz](mailto:ru.collin@brooksanctuary.org.nz)

## MOUSE EXCLOSURE AND TUATARA TRANSLOCATION

The pest eradication in 2017 removed all mice from the Sanctuary and we were able to keep them out for 18 months. Mice invaded the Sanctuary in 2019 following the mega beech mast of 2018. With no rats to compete and no threat of predation by weasels, stoats and cats, mice are now abundant inside the Sanctuary. At high densities mice can significantly interfere with the ecosystem by eating invertebrates, fruits, seeds and other foods that would otherwise be available for native species to consume. At high densities, mice are likely to pose a significant threat to species such as wētā, lizards and especially skinks. They also make our biosecurity work harder by triggering traps, eating lures and spoiling tracking cards. With technological progress it may be possible to remove mice from the Sanctuary again in the future.

In the interim, the Sanctuary is building a 3.7-hectare mouse enclosure, located inside the Sanctuary close to the Visitors Centre. It will allow existing invertebrates and lizards to thrive and will also enable the reintroduction of species affected by mice including tuatara. Although tuatara eat mice, mice can attack and potentially harm young tuatara.

The work to install the fence is involving many of the Sanctuary volunteer teams;

- The asset team are preparing the fence bench by installing retaining walls and mouse-proof stormwater culverts
- The fence inspection team have checked the existing Sanctuary fence for any issues that will let mice through and will inspect the new mouse-proof fence when it is constructed
- The fence maintenance team are constructing the new fence and a mouse-proof gate system
- The weeding team are scouring the area for weeds before any reintroductions take place
- The track maintenance team are installing new monitoring lines in the area
- The pest monitoring team will be involved in the mouse eradication and the ongoing monitoring and removal of mice.

Once the fence is completed, we will be eradicating mice within the area and then working to ensure we can keep it mouse-proof before releasing tuatara. This will, in time, enable visitors to look over the low mouse proof fence as they walk along the loop track and see tuatara sunning themselves in front of their burrows.



The volunteer Asset Team working on the tuatara mouse enclosure

## SANCTUARY OPENING HOURS JUNE - AUGUST

Open Fri - Sun, 10am - 4pm



Trial mouse-exclosure fence



## NEW TRUSTEES APPOINTED

### BRIAN OLORENSHAW

Brian Olorenshaw, a Sanctuary volunteer has been co-opted onto the Trust Board at its meeting held Monday 22 May.

Brian has enjoyed a successful career in marketing, from larger corporates to smaller enterprises. He currently assists small to medium sized businesses with business advice and marketing strategies. Brian is a member of the Institute of Directors and is an active volunteer at the Sanctuary as part of the pest detection team.



### JOANNE HOLDAWAY

The Trust is delighted to welcome Joanne Holdaway as the newest trustee on the Sanctuary Board, Joanne attended her first board meeting as a Trustee on Monday 17 April.

Joanne was born and bred in Palmerston North (great place!), and a lawyer by trade having done her tertiary studies in Law and Commerce at Victoria University of Wellington. Since graduating Joanne has done a mixture of work in private practice and business management, latterly having been in a hybrid legal and business governance role with Perpetual Guardian for just short of 5 years. Outside of work Joanne enjoys getting up into the hills either trail running, tramping, or on a mountain bike.



Maurice Woodhouse, Trustee

### TRUSTEE PROFILE - MAURICE WOODHOUSE

Trustee Maurice Woodhouse (Treasurer) has had a long career in the accounting industry and was a founding partner of one of Nelson's most respected accountancy firms, RWCA. Maurice has been a BWST trustee since 2017, and he is a trustee for a number of other not-for-profit organisations in the region.

Maurice provides the Trust with good guidance and valued oversight concerning audit and risk. Maurice chairs the Finance Committee, and his regular inputs help us with monthly accounting and with the preparation of the annual accounts.

## VISITOR CENTRE UPGRADE IS (ALMOST) COMPLETE

The project to improve the Visitor Centre building as the ticketing office, volunteer and operational staff base is now complete. We have created more floor space for visitors and staff, provided better facilities for volunteers with a separate 'smoko' room and storage facilities and have improved our presentation to visitors.

We have also changed the front entrance to the Sanctuary in a way that can cater for increasing visitor numbers and to present visitors a Sanctuary rich in wildlife. We have almost completed the third and final stage of the project, the external landscaping and signage, if you haven't yet visited to see all these changes, we encourage you to visit sometime soon!



## WE'D LIKE TO THANK... PROJECT FUNDERS

- Platinum Asset Management
- Simplicity Trust
- The Lion Foundation
- The Mainland Foundation
- Pub Charity
- The Sargood Bequest
- A number of private donors

## PROJECT MANAGERS

- Tom Brett and Neil Johnstone

## PROJECT VOLUNTEERS

- The many many volunteers who put in hundreds of hours work into the upgrade the project

## PROJECT CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

- Absolute Energy
- Advanced Access
- Allied Concrete
- Bays Joinery
- Berkett Contracting
- Blair Ferguson Plumbing
- Brightwater Joinery
- Brown & Syme Holdings Ltd
- Cutting Edge Signs
- Downing Design
- Elite Floor Sanding
- FFP Nelson Marlborough Fire
- Flooring Xtra
- Harrison's Solar
- inSite
- ITM
- J&M Contracting
- Laser Electrical Nelson
- Lee Woodman
- Metalcraft
- Motueka & Nelson Bays Flooring Xtra
- Nelson Bays Roof Repairs
- Nelson Pine Industries
- Nelson Safety Nets
- P J Simpson Builders
- Placemakers
- Planscapes
- Redbox Architects
- Richmond Carpet Court
- Rollos Locksmiths
- Stainless Concepts

Our apologies to any contractors/suppliers we've accidentally left of the list above!

## BROOK BUSINESS CLUB PROFILES



Richmond Glass Service is a family-owned glazing firm based in Gladstone Road, Richmond. We service the region with 3 franchises. We are a Smith & Smith authorized dealer and the region's largest repairer/replacement of vehicle windscreens.

We are a Homeplus agent. Check out our product range on [www.homeplus.co.nz](http://www.homeplus.co.nz) and of course are Richmond Glass Services.

Repairing and replacing anything glass.

Web: [www.richmondglass.co.nz](http://www.richmondglass.co.nz)

Facebook: RichmondglassNZ

Tel: 03 544 8189

## SMALL INCREASE IN SANCTUARY ENTRY FEES

From 1 July, the cost of entry to the Sanctuary will rise by \$1.00 for all visitors, the new entry fees are shown here.

There is no change to supporter subscription fees which have remained at the same level for three years.

Admission to The Brook Waimārama Sanctuary		
Your admission fee goes directly to our conservation work - thank you		
Public Charging	Visitors	Nelson and Tasman Residents
Per Adult	\$19	\$11
5 - 15 years	\$11	\$6.50
Under 5's	FREE	FREE
Family (2 adults and up to 3 children)	\$47	\$24
Community Services, Gold Card and Student ID holders	\$12 ID required <small>Does not apply to international visitors</small>	\$7 ID required
BECOME A SANCTUARY SUPPORTER		Quarterly newsletter plus
Per person	\$50	12 Months FREE entry
Per household	\$100	12 Months FREE entry
Koha and donations welcome		



UpShift designs, develops and delivers digital solutions to human questions. We care about, and specialise in, projects based in science, the environment, health and infrastructure.

We've been building business system applications, designing websites, and creating e-commerce solutions in Nelson, NZ for over a decade.

With combined expertise in development, branding and communication, the UpShift team uses our extensive knowledge base to collaborate with you, and deliver the best solution for your business.

Web: [www.upshift.co.nz](http://www.upshift.co.nz)

Tel: 03 928 0130

## GRANT RECEIVED



### COMMUNITY TRUST

We would like to acknowledge NZCT for a grant of \$10,827 received in early June for (some of) the costs associated with the development of an ecological restoration plan.

About NZCT, "NZCT gives out around \$40 million in grants every year from funds raised by our gaming venues. Our grants support all kinds of important causes from rescue and life-saving services, arts and community groups to poverty reduction, education, sport and great causes like Brook Waimārama Sanctuary. We are proud of the difference we make to the lives of New Zealanders through organisations like the Sanctuary and are immensely grateful for the support and hard work of our venue operators, like the Ocean Lodge Hotel (in Tahunanui) who make each grant possible."

By way of thanks, the Sanctuary has sent the Ocean Lodge Hotel a number of family passes for entry to the Sanctuary for them to use/distribute as they wish.



## RECENTLY SEEN IN THE SANCTUARY

If you have some great photos taken in the Sanctuary that you'd like to share in future issues of eNews send them to: [info@brooksanctuary.org.nz](mailto:info@brooksanctuary.org.nz)

*Entoloma hochstetteri*  
© Chelsea Haley



Pīwakawaka | fantail  
*Rhipidura fuliginosa*  
© Chelsea Haley



Fungi sp. seen on  
Toutouwai Spur  
© Shane Mills



Fischer's Egg fungi  
*Claustula fischeri*  
© Chelsea Haley



*Hydnum crocoidens*  
© Deb Corbett



*Mycena interrupta*  
© Deb Corbett



*Corybas cheesemani*  
© Deb Corbett



*Urula campylospora*  
© Rebecca Bowater





## SALES ARE UP THANKS TO NEW DISPLAY

Our sincere thanks to Brian Pollock, Sanctuary Volunteer, for his efforts creating new display cabinets/shelving for displaying our sales merchandise - they're terrific!

We've had a noticeable increase in the sales of merchandise since the new shelves and cabinet went in. Jane's Jams, Pam's cushions and the honey donated by FSL Foods have been flying off the shelf with ~\$2,500 in jam sales alone in the 12 months ending 31 March.



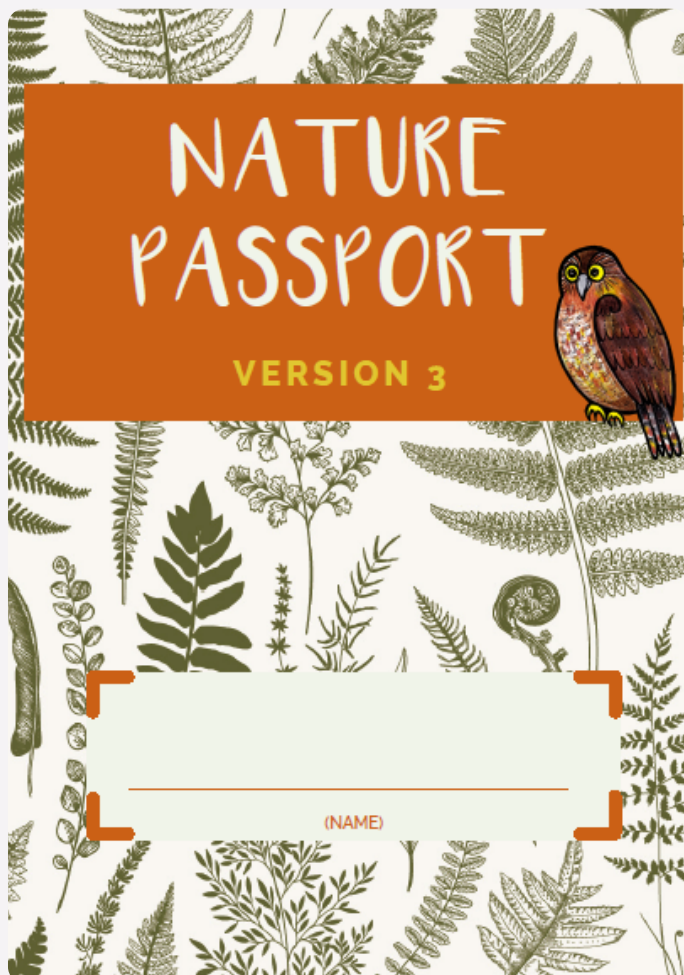
Brian's work displaying sales goods at the NBS Visitor Centre

## DONATIONS

Our thanks to everyone who has made a donation to the Sanctuary in recent times, including donations for species reintroductions, for repairs to the fish ladder, and several donations in memory of supporters who have passed away. Our thanks also NBS for the \$1,000 'Hoops for Charity' from the Nelson Giants Home game 6 May.

## NOW SELLING TRAPS

The Visitor Centre and the town office are now selling DOC200 traps \$98 (stoats, rats), Trapinator traps \$58 (possums) and rat traps \$35.



Limited numbers of Rebecca Bowater's 3rd edition New Zealand Fungi: A photographic celebration are now for sale in the Visitor Centre and the town office in Morrison Square, we're selling these at \$60 each. Visit soon to grab your copy.

## SUPPORT FROM



Our thanks to the Harcourts Foundation for a recently received grant of \$2,550.41 which is to pay for the printing of our "Nature Passports" for young visitors to the Sanctuary. The grant enables us to do a large commercial print run (2,000 copies) of the passports. If you're visiting the Sanctuary with your mokopuna or tamariki - make sure you pick up copies of the nature passport as they've lots of fun and a great way to engage the imagination!

# 5-MINUTE BIRD COUNTS

WRITTEN BY KATHERINE CHAMBERLAIN

Five-minute bird counts (5MBC's) measure bird activity, which provides a relative measure of abundance. Since 2009, 5MBC's have been and continue to be conducted quarterly from the ends of February, May, August and November by a team of volunteers at 20 count sites within the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary. The count sites are spaced ~200m apart as the tui flies. Most are situated on E-line around 400m altitude.

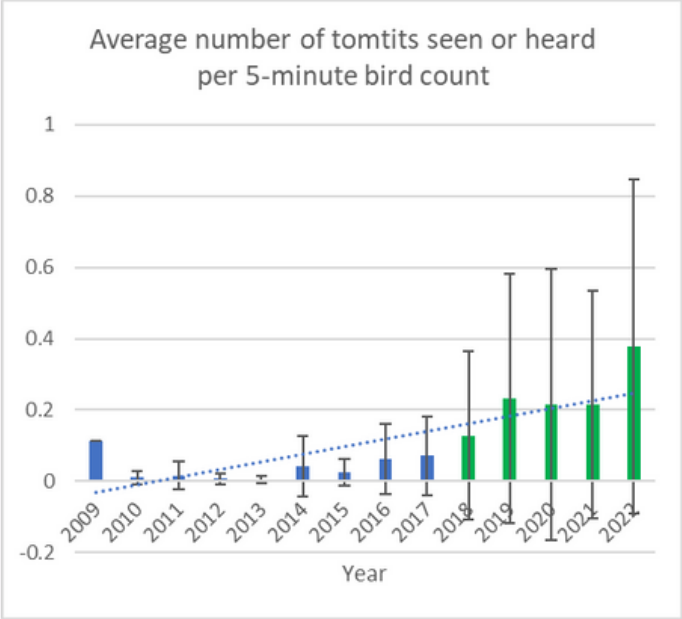
During a 5MBC, a monitor counts all the birds seen or heard during a five-minute period, taking care not to count the same bird twice. Monitors conduct surveys individually and on separate days, allowing for multiple counts at the same sites over a period of ~7-10 days each quarter. Monitors record their data on a standardised form and send their results to the team leader (me) for entry into an Excel spreadsheet.

The activity of tui and more recently robins increased following the pest eradication in late 2017. The most dramatic increases in activity, however, were detected in bellbirds and tomtits. The two graphs below show the average number of bellbirds and tomtits seen or heard per 5MBC per year. Error bars are standard deviations, which is a measure of the spread of the data. When calculating averages and standard deviations, count sites within each quarter were weighted equally. Quarters were also given equal weight. This helped to dampen the effect of variable sample sizes on averages, which can bias an average, especially for species that are detected less often, such as tomtits.

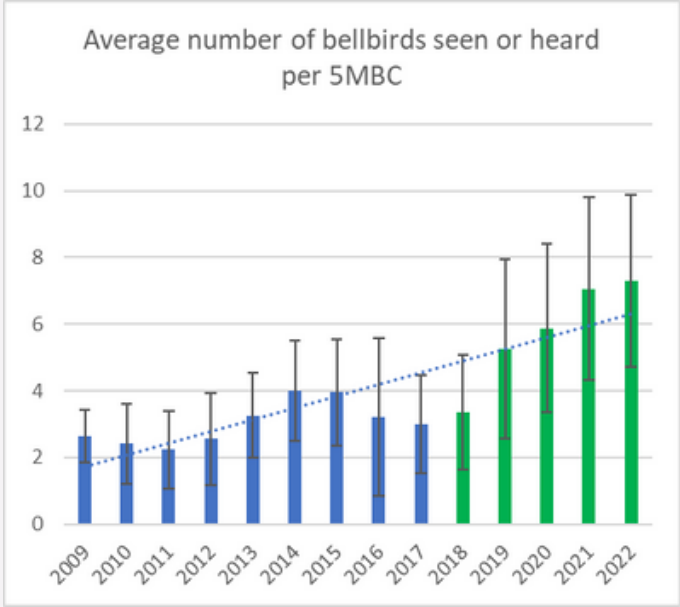
Bellbirds/korimako are widespread across the sanctuary. Being highly vocal, they are easy to count. Their activity and presumably their numbers have roughly doubled since the pest-eradication (green bars).

There was little increase from 2021 to 2022, which may suggest they are approaching carrying capacity.

Tomtits/ngirungiru activity also increased substantially following the pest eradication. Counts in 2022 were more than 5 times that of the years prior to the pest eradication and almost double that of 2021. While an average of just under 0.4 tomtits per 5MBC may sound small (and you may be wondering where the other 0.6 went), bear in mind this effectively means almost 4 tomtits were seen or heard for every ten 5MBC's, which is not bad for a small bird with relatively large territories.

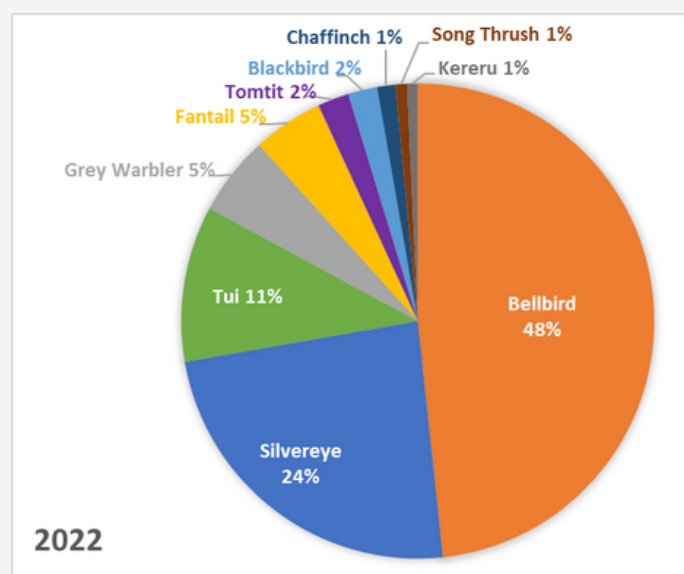
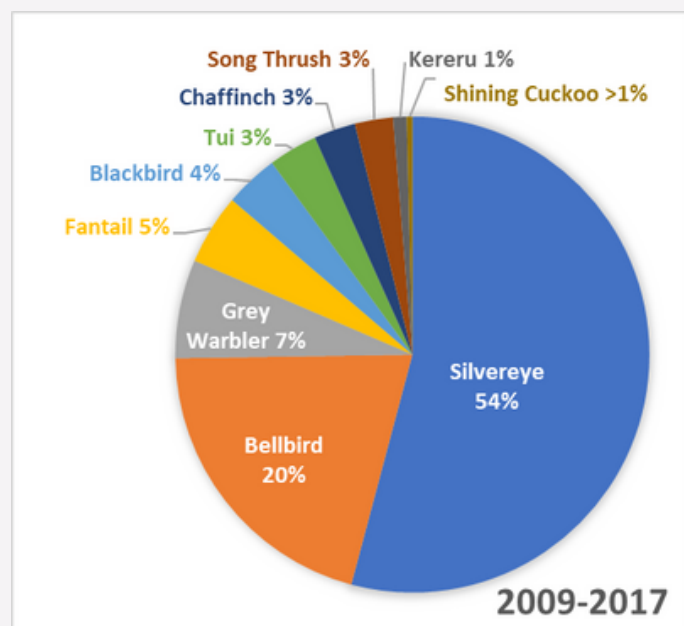


Lastly, the following pie charts (see next page) show the relative ratios of the 10 most commonly counted bird species during 2009-2017, the period prior to the pest eradication, and 2022, the fifth year following it. As you can see, in the years leading up to and including 2017, of the top 10 species counted, 54% were silvereyes while 20% were bellbirds. In 2022, these ratios largely reversed with bellbirds the dominant species at 48% and silvereyes a distant second at 24%. Also of note, tomtits, absent among the top 10 species between 2009-2017, ranked number 6 in 2022.



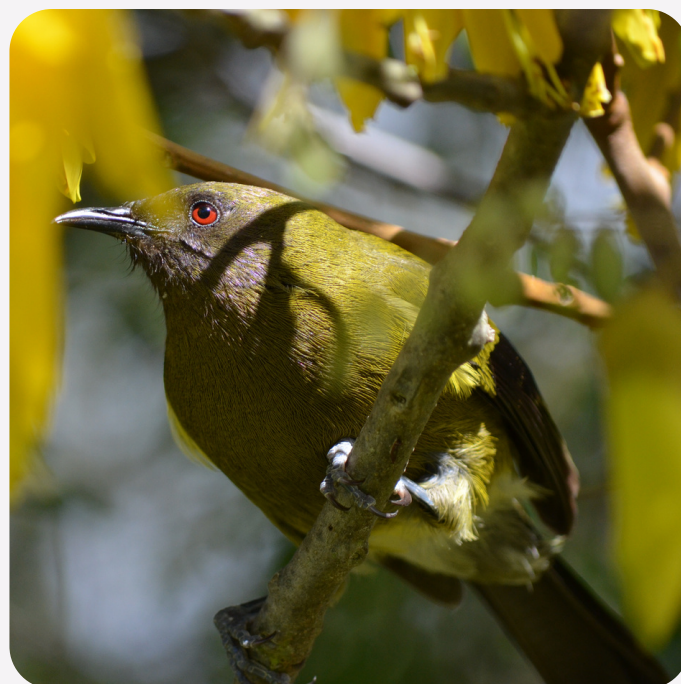


## RATIOS OF TOP 10 SPECIES DETECTED DURING 5-MINUTE BIRD COUNTS



The growth of populations of endemic species such as bellbirds, tui, tomtits and robins is consistent with findings in other fenced sanctuaries, such as Zealandia. In the absence of introduced mammals, endemic species thrive and appear to outcompete many non-endemic species.

Many thanks are owed to the 5MBC monitors, past and present.



Korimako | Bellbird

Photo credit: Nancy Holden



Riroriro | Grey Warbler

Photo credit: Rebecca Bowater



Male tomtit. Photo credit: Dave Curtis