

Orokonui Ecosanctuary

Volunteer Update – Jan 2019



New volunteer lounge and operations office



View from inside volunteer lounge

Whats up?

Hi Everybody,

I hope you all enjoyed the silly season? Orokonui has been bustling during the holiday period with visitors from all over the world, many of whom have had a unique experience while visiting lately..

As you may recall, late in 2018 we noticed a pack of juvenile kākā making frequent trips beyond the fence and this, coupled with the death of three kākā outside the fence saw us come up with a plan whereby we would lure them home with special treats in the aviary..

We are happy to announce that this has been a success! We have had many reports from visitors that groups of kākā are loitering in and around the aviary all day awaiting or enjoying their treats!

A great opportunity to see these stunning parrots up close if any of you are visiting, they are fed around 11am!

New Volunteer Lounge!

A great big 40 foot shipping container split in two is now housing both the volunteer's lounge and operations office!

This process has seen a complete overhaul of the operations sheds, and will see the bird feeding station heading into the old office, which has had a beautiful lick of daisy yellow paint! Thanks Susan!

Please make use of the volunteer's lounge, make yourself a cuppa, fling open the rear doors and soak in the summer sun!! I

hope to be setting up an office in that area at some stage which will allow me to meet and see you all.

Upcoming Opportunities

Bird-Feeding

Currently there are six Haast Tokoeka living with us in the Kiwi creche! With feeding these little ones, and the sugar water/hopper filling for all the other birds at Orokonui we have a constant need for help!

We would love to hear from anyone that would like to train in both of these duties and act as an on-call back-up volunteer as and when needed?

This would involve pairing up with one of our current bird-feeding volunteers to learn the ropes, until you feel confident that you could do it on your own.

This would suit anyone living locally or willing to travel, with a moderate level of fitness.

Fence Checkers

Did you know that anyone is able to walk around the outside of the ecosanctuary fence, which is accessible from the upper carpark or via the creek walk from the Orokonui estuary?

The fence is made of wire mesh - tiny holes that mice can sometimes sneak through! We need people to regularly walk around the perimeter of the fence and check for any mice-sized holes...

You can do this in your own time, armed with a pencil a notebook and some bright coloured ribbon or fabric! If a pencil fits through the holes in the fence it means a mouse can!

Tie a piece of fabric or ribbon to the hole, mark down the number on the nearest post and let me know!



Lounge with rear doors open

Plaque Shiner!

There are plaques attached to posts and seats all through the ecosanctuary indicating individuals or groups who have donated to Orokonui. Over time, these have tarnished and are now in need of a good polish.

This would involve coming up in your own time, possibly with a friend or as a group and walking around polishing all of the plaques. There would be some bending involved in this task, though most of the plaques are located on our public tracks so this should not be an otherwise strenuous task.

Operations All-Rounders

The operations team are keen to recruit between 5-10 weekly volunteers to come up on either Tuesdays or Thursdays and give them a hand with whichever task is the priority for that day. A good level of fitness would be required.

These tasks change as the year rolls around but can include:

- Track maintenance & Monitoring
- Trapping line management
- Bait station management
- Construction work i.e. Kaka boxes
- Fence monitoring & Maintenance

**If you are interested in any of these opportunities
please email me on: volunteer@orokonui.nz
Thank You!**