



# TRAVIS WETLAND

January 2005

A newsletter from Travis Wetland Trust and the Christchurch City Council

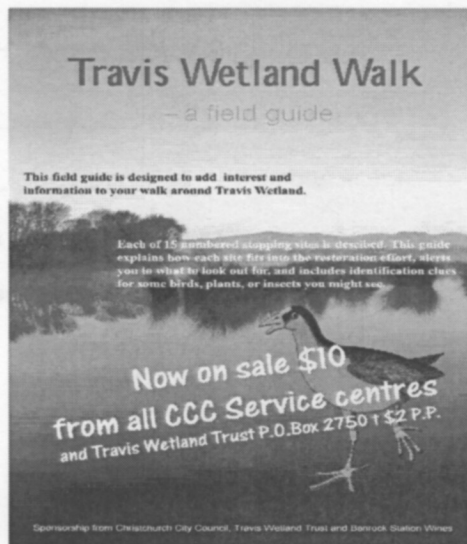
## PARK NEWS

### World Wetland Day - Travis Field Guide Book Launch Open Invitation

Wednesday 2nd February is World Wetland Day and from 5pm the Travis Wetland Trust will be hosting a book launch of the new Travis Wetland Field Guide to be held at the Travis Wetland Education centre off the Beach Road entrance. The event is open to the public and invited guests. Travis Wetland Trust members and Council park rangers will be available to talk about the wetland. We need as many trust members as possible to come along and chat with interested members of the public, many of whom we hope are neighbours of the wetland. There will be refreshments, some of which will be supplied by the principle sponsor of the new guide booklet - Banrock Station Wines.

The new Field Guide is an exciting new chapter in the development of Travis Wetland. It is an informative booklet and will make the walk around the new circuit walkway much more interesting. The guide will be very useful for visitors who have no knowledge of wetlands, and Travis Wetland in particular.

If you wish to attend, please RSVP to Chrissie Williams, Phone (03) 388 0798 or (021) 330 789, [chrissie.williams@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chrissie.williams@xtra.co.nz)



### Wildlife

During the breeding season from August to December a number of nests of a range of bird species are being monitored as an indicator of predator impact and a measure of the effectiveness of the trapping programme. Last year's results were inconclusive due to it being the first year of monitoring and a small number of nests. This year we started monitoring earlier and monitored 30 nests of a number of species including pied stilts, mallard ducks, pukeko and Canada Geese. We have recorded instances of removal of eggs and killing of chicks by predators.

A brood count of waders and water fowl was completed on the 18<sup>th</sup> November. This gives us a snapshot of the importance of Travis Wetland as a breeding area within the city. Total chick numbers recorded were; Paradise shelduck 89, Shoveler 10, Scaup 2, Pukeko 4, Pied Stilt 16, Canada geese 64, Mallards 8. Next year we plan to carry out these surveys at least twice a month during the breeding season from August to November.

### Community, Volunteers, and Training Groups

The Travis Wetland Trust AGM held in October 2004 was an opportunity to reflect on the partnership between the Christchurch City Council and the Travis Wetland Trust, to recognise the achievements of the past year and to acknowledge the efforts of every one involved with the restoration of Travis Wetland Nature Heritage Park.

Volunteers, work training groups and individuals contribute almost 2000 person hours per year to the Travis Wetland project. Community work schemes such as the IHC and Wai-Ora Trust contribute nearly 7500 person hours per year. With out this input the project would not have achieved the state it has this year. A big THANK YOU to everyone for your involvement.

### Mairehau Road Carpark

The car park on Mairehau road has been sealed and grit paths added to link it to the Anne Flanagan walkway. The new edges will be planted up next year but have been sown with grass in the meantime.

### Dates to Remember!

#### Travis Wetland Trust Work Days

All welcome! Workdays are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month from 9.00am to 12.30pm. Meet at the Beach Rd carpark, bring gumboots or boots. The workdays are an opportunity to become involved in and learn about the restoration of Travis Wetland.

- 15 January 2005
- 19 February 2005
- 19 March 2005
- 16 April 2005
- 14 May 2005
- 18 June 2005

## Become a Travis Wetland Trust Supporter

Supporters of the Trust receive regular newsletters which report progress, upcoming events and general news, and a discounted cost for the Field Guide.

Supporters Fees: Individual - \$5 unwaged, \$10 waged; Family - \$15

Donations and bequests are welcome.

A receipt for donations will be issued on request.

**Please enrol us/me as a Travis Wetland Trust Supporter:**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

☐ I/we prefer newsletters by email only.

☐ I would also like to purchase the new field Guide at the members discounted price of only \$7.50.

**Enclosed:**

Field Guide: \_\_\_\_\_

Fees: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

We are/I am interested in helping with:

☐ Workdays

☐ Upcoming Events

☐ Other ways we/I could assist: \_\_\_\_\_

**Post to: The Secretary, Travis Wetland Trust, PO Box 2750, Christchurch**



### Hillmorton Upland Unit

A large group of 40 people and their caregivers visited Travis and presented a wonderful collage art work of the wetland. The group took part in an education programme, some also completed the Wetland Walk circuit. They finished their visit with a barbecuelunch at the education centre.

### Travis Wetland Contacts

- **John Skilton**  
Coastal Parks Ranger -  
Travis Wetland  
Phone: 941-7540  
Email - john.skilton@ccc.govt.nz
- **Eric Banks**  
Chair, Travis Wetland Trust  
Phone: 332-0111  
Email: eric.banks@ccc.govt.nz
- **Helen Braithwaite**  
Secretary, Travis Wetland Trust  
Phone: 328-9958  
Email: helenrob@actrix.co.nz