

Redzone

The red zone and its future continues still to loom large for Travis. This has been a recurring theme in end of year statements since the red-zoning took place.

But - This time around a recovery plan for the land has been approved by the Minister – and changes directed and made to the District Plan. Those changes are provided in a package for the new zone the Specific Purpose (Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor) Zone. This provides for a wide range of activity as permitted, and most noticeably in relation to TWT and Travis itself does not preclude eco-sanctuary activity, arguably including it under activity like Conservation activity, and/or Rural tourism activity.

Notwithstanding this change to planning instruments there is still a lot of work to do by all parties involved in setting out proposed land uses for the various parts of the red zone area.

The provisions in the District Plan so hopefully by next year we may even see some implementation of ecological restoration projects in the wider red-zone area commencing.

Planting

Planting has again, as always been a feature of the years' work at Travis – the areas at the matai totara forest and the back dune area adjacent to the Beach Road car park are really starting to establish. This is in no small part due to efforts at public plantings and trust workdays in terms of planting and establishment maintenance, of course also heavily supplemented by the Rangers and contractors.

The public planting day in September with Trees for Canterbury was again a great success. A great turnout, reasonable weather, and a significant volume of planting despite the rather damp conditions underfoot.

The day was again very ably managed by our rangers (thanks Kenny and John), and really had a positive feeling to it. Once again the BBQ was well received (special thanks to Al)

Other highlights

Charlie Catt's memorial seat

Need for vounteers

As always the Trust needs volunteers both at physical events like plantings and workdays, and also to stand for and sit on the board. At present we have a minimum compliment of 10 board members, there are potential vacancies for up to four more should anyone be interested in stepping forward. We would be happy to have additional members and the input and perspective they bring.

Thanks

Lastly and most definitely not least some thanks are again due to various parties

- To our wonderful rangers John and Kenny – fabulous work and always a friendly and positive approach. The park is fortunate to have such great stewards as the two of you.
- Denise and Dave – for ALL the work that goes on behind the scenes organizing and directing the secretarial and financial functions of the trust. Again I think we are extremely fortunate to have you both.
- Workday attendees – thanks a million – as above your input is very much valued, and needed to ensure positive outcomes in the wetland.
- The Manuka Group – thanks to all members for ongoing work with rare and vulnerable species here in the botanical realm.

A continuing thanks also to Grahame Bell, for his ongoing energy and input into the newsletter, community involvement days, and documenting of flora and fauna at Travis.

Lastly a thanks to donors for their generosity of both time and money to a range of projects at Travis.