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enm

Environment Network Manawatū

June Pānui

In this issue: ENM submissions, ENM Winter Solstice Hui, Biodiversity Hui, Wildbase Recovery Centre, Natural Burials Manawatū, Repair Cafes, website updates, Every Bite launch event, Rethinking Kai, Food Futures, and our events calendar.



ENM Winter Solstice Hui



Interested in having an inspirational, local environment centre? Then this event is for you! Open to all, we'd love to hear from our members to help us articulate a firm vision and plan practical steps toward achieving this long-held dream.

Hold the date **23rd June 5:30 - 8pm** and register your interest using the button below.

Winter Solstice Hui

ENM SUBMISSIONS

Input from our network helps ENM make strong submissions that encourage environment-focussed decision making. [Let us know what you think](#) ENM should highlight to our local government bodies in these upcoming consultation/s.

In the last few months, ENM has responded to four consultations. Summaries and our full submissions can be viewed on our advocacy page here.

Advocacy

The draft PNCC Stormwater Strategy is now open for public consultation. Use this button to have your say by the 15th of June

Have your say



FUNDING

PNCC Resource Recovery Fund

PNCC still has funding available through the Resource Recovery Fund, with grants from \$2,500 to \$15,000 to support practical, community-led projects.

If you're looking at doing something that helps reduce, reuse or recycle, whether it's a small pilot, an event, education programme, or even some research, they'd really like to hear from you.

More information and how to apply can be accessed through this link.

[Click here](#)

Horizon's Funding List

Horizons provides a range of funding to support biodiversity and the environment. Please use this link to see the full list of current grants and sponsorship opportunities.

[Click here](#)

Restoring Wetlands Fund

Fonterra has partnered with NZ Landcare Trust (NZLT) to support wetland restoration across rural Aotearoa, committing \$250,000 per year to fund community restoration projects. Grants of up to \$60,000 are available in 2026. For more information, please [click here](#) below.

[Click here](#)

The Loder Cup

The Loder Cup acknowledges outstanding achievements in flora conservation work. The Cup is awarded by the Minister of Conservation each year to a person or group of people who best represent the objectives of the Cup, to celebrate their outstanding conservation work in Aotearoa New Zealand. You can find out more about the history of the Cup and its previous winners on the Department of Conservation's website below.

[The Loder Cup](#)

VOLUNTEERING

Our network is always looking for passionate volunteers to help make a real difference in our community. There are a variety of opportunities available, with time commitments starting from as little as 2 hours a month—perfect for any schedule. Whether you're lending a hand at working bees or offering your skills behind the scenes, every bit of help counts. Interested in joining us?

Creative Crafter

Location: Roslyn Library, 1 Kipling St., PN

Organisation: Upcycling Club One

Commitment: 2:00 - 4:00, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month

Also looking for people who could make Origami cranes at home to give away to the users of the Library.

Tree planting volunteers

Keen to get fit in the fresh air and make the world a little bit greener? We need you! It's tree planting season and ENM is looking for volunteers for native reforestation projects in Manawatū. If you'd like to be notified of opportunities to volunteer on native planting projects, please email Mark at biodiversity@enm.org.nz

[See the rest of the list here](#)

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

A collection of stories, updates and events broken down into our **four pou**.



Biodiversity Protection & Enhancement

Biodiversity Hui: Nurturing Life from Source to Sea

On the 19th May we held our Biodiversity Hui at the Wildbase Recovery Centre here in Palmy and what a day it was!

Firstly, everyone received a brilliantly informative and inspiring tour of the centre by the team - Chris, Brittany and Amy. Seeing our amazing native fauna was a helpful reminder of the “why” behind our mahi and it was fascinating to hear about the shelter and care the centre provides to wildlife

in need. More about the centre and what they do can be included within this newsletter.

We then moved into the education centre and after introductions and morning tea (thank you so much to our fabulous volunteers who prepared delicious kai for the day), we heard from eleven speakers who presented a fascinating variety of conservation projects happening within the Manawatū.

There was a strong theme of pest trapping and data collection from many of the presentations, which is the key element of conservation in Aotearoa. The idea of a trapping workshop was raised so please contact Mark Strachan if you are interested in meeting again to discuss: biodiversity@enm.org.nz

Here is a list of speakers in order of appearance, and their organisations/ topics so that you can connect if you didn't get a chance at the hui.

- Keith Joblin - Ahimate Reserve Community (Geopark)
- Mark Strachan - ENM / Trees for Survival
- Keith Young - C.T. Keeble Memorial Trust
- Rosemary Gear - Green Corridors Range to River
- Janet Wilson - Ruahine Whio Protectors
- Margaret McKenzie - Forest and Bird Manawatū
- Kathryn Lane - Manawatu Estuary Trust
- Karin Eaton - Pest Free Summerhill
- Peta Larsen - Foxton Wildlife Trust
- Tania Bramley - NZ Landcare trust
- Robert Gibb - Southern Ruahine Kiwi

Other reminders from the day:

Beth Tolley would like you to know that the Pit Park AGM is coming up in June. This will feature a fascinating talk from Chronobiologist Phillipa Gander about the impacts of light pollution on the rhythms of nature.

7pm on the 22nd of June at the Marion Kennedy Centre - 3 Elliot Street Palmerston North.





June Monthly Meeting 2026

Tuesday 9th June from 7.00.pm.

PN City Library, George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

The talk will be streamed

Talk: Oroua and Pohangina Whio (Blue Duck) Protection Project - Update

Speaker: Janet Wilson, Oroua and Pohangina Whio Protection Project Leader



Janet has been leading the Oroua and Pohangina Whio (Blue Duck) Protection project for 15 years. She will give an update on how this local project is going and will include a quick look at the bigger whio picture throughout the Ruahine.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

If you would like to stay in touch, please sign up to our Mailing list on our website: www.naturesvoicemanawatu.org.nz

Planting Day
Volunteers Needed !!!!!
Come celebrate Arbor Day with us planting
in our estuary
Saturday 6th June at 10am
Pinewood Road Foxton Beach
BYO Spades, Gloves, etc.

horizons
REGIONAL COUNCIL

PINEWOOD FOXTON TRUST
Education by Example

A Rocha have free native plants available (koha appreciated)! Please contact Christine 06 3536820 for more details, or visit their membership page on ENM [here](#).



**GREEN
CORRIDORS**
RANGE TO RIVER



Wildbase Recovery Centre

Central Energy Trust Wildbase Recovery is a specialist centre providing shelter and care for native wildlife as they rebuild strength after treatment at Massey University's Wildbase Hospital.

The centre is a partnership between Palmerston North City Council and Massey University and offers a visitor experience that's unique in Aotearoa.

Visitors can explore the walkthrough aviary and meet native species including tuatara, kākā, red-crowned kākārīki and kererū. Captive breeding aviaries house the endangered whio (blue duck) and pāteke (brown teal), supporting their national breeding programmes.

Alongside the aviaries, is the interactive Powerco Education Centre – where more than 13,000 tamariki have taken part in a fun, onsite education programmes.

Entry is free, and everyone is welcome.

If you are interested in helping native wildlife, you can volunteer today!

Wildbase Recovery Centre

Natural Burials Manawatū

The group visited the Otangaki-Ashhurst Domain in April to choose the three possible natural burial ground sites (as approved by Council last year).

Within the group were PNCC's Kathy Dever Tod (Manager Parks and Reserves) and David Evans (Parks Operational Manager), Rangitāne representatives Warren Warbrick and Monique Anderson-McDonald, and our Natural Burial Manawatū and RECAP community representatives.

It was agreed by all that the original lower site is our preferred option (see photo).

The next steps are for soil testing and associated work by Council, and a community proposal as to how we want this to work.

This proposal was requested by PNCC and will be developed by Rangitāne in partnership with Natural Burial Manawatū.

A working group has formed with a meeting date in June. Our plan is to work with Mark Blackham (Natural Burials NZ) as well as PNCC to achieve natural burial certification standards.

Kathy Dever-Tod has outlined that the consultants have been commissioned for the soil testing. They expect those results back at the end of June. PNCC would then look to finalise a preferred site and the proposal by mid-August, so that they can make the agenda for the Sustainability Committee of Council on 16th September.

If this timeline is met, then Council will consider any recommendations from the Committee for inclusion in the first draft of the 2027 Long Term Plan. Separately [an article](#) has been published that captures the essence of the mahi that we are trying to achieve.





Circular Economy



Repair Cafes are free pop-up events where local people bring in their broken and damaged belongings and local volunteer experts do their best to repair them.

Feilding Repair Café

June 20th, 2026, 10:00 AM - 11:45 AM
14 Bowen St, Feilding, 4702

Palmerston North Repair Cafe

June 13th, 2026, 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Palmerston North Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson Street, Terrace End

[Repair cafe Facebook](#)

Palmerston North

Repair Cafe

Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson Street

2026 Dates

31 January
28 February
28 March
2 May ← Updated
30 May
13 June
25 July
29 August
19 September
31 October
28 November
No December



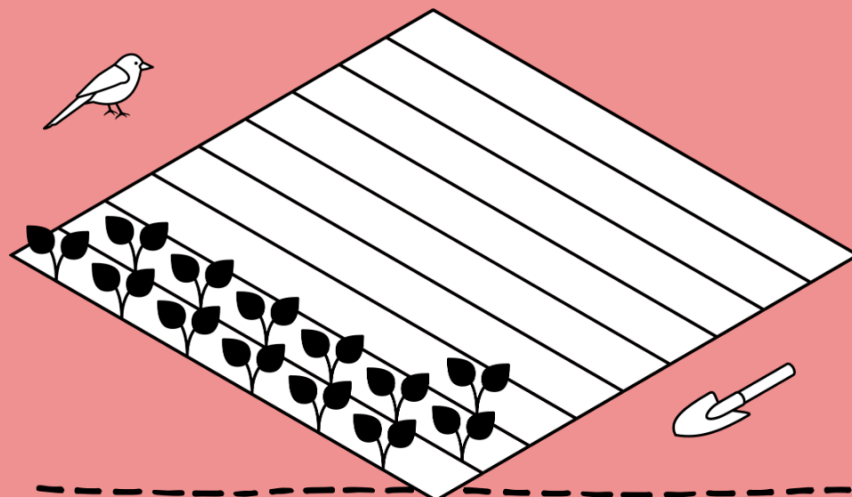
A 'hidden' gem

Big thanks to PNCC who featured the Palmerston North in their May 'Palmy Matters' newsletter as a 'hidden gem'.



**We've saved 794 kg of CO₂e
by repairing broken stuff.**

That's like growing about **13**
tree seedlings for 10 years.*



*medium growth coniferous or deciduous trees, planted in an urban setting and grown for 10 years
generated by restarters.net

It was a great reminder to share the achievements of our last Repair Cafe on the 2nd May. For more information on how repair cafes are doing around the world, check out the fantastic Restarters [website](http://restarters.net).



Climate Action

ENM website updates and new resources

Our goal here at ENM is to raise awareness about climate issues and their interconnected nature with our other pou. We respond to local and national consultations on behalf of our members, seeking to hold both local and central governments accountable.

We also recognise the power of small, local actions. Not everyone can do everything, but everyone can do something.

As we continue to develop our work in this pou, we have been busy building a library of resources on this topic which can be found [here](#).

We have published a [glossary](#) of commonly used sustainability terms to guide your understanding of what can be a confusing vocabulary.

AND, we have started to collate and share accessible summaries of academic research within the sustainability discipline. This can be seen [here](#).

RECAP have a number of events taking place in June. For more details, please visit their website which can be accessed [here](#).

 **RECAP**
Solar Seminar
w/ local expert Phil Stevens of Slow Farm



Take control of your household electricity
& get charged up on sunshine.

Saturday June 6th 1:30-3:30
Village Valley Centre, Ashhurst
\$10 waged, \$5 unwaged
register at: recap.org.nz

Greasy Chain AGM

Meeting

5.30 - 6.30pm
Tuesday 14th July, 2026

This meeting is a platform to explore the economic value of recreational cycling in Manawatū and encourage discussion about what would be required to build momentum across the region

Speaker one: Pete Masters, Bike Taupo – recreational cycling can generate economic benefit.

Speaker two: CEDA – connecting cycling to wider economic and community outcomes

Panel discussion: partnerships, local strengths, and the conditions needed for progress

Peter Wells [MMBC / Horizon Councillor] & Alice Williamson [GCCT / C2SRT]

AGM

6.45 pm - 7.30 pm Tuesday 14th July 2026

venue: Globe Theatre, Main Street, Palmerston North

You can read more about the work of Greasy Chain by checking out their [website here](#) or reading more about their AGM [here](#).



Community Food Sovereignty

May was Food Appreciation Month! And what a busy month it has been.

Firstly, we had our Every Bite Manawatū launch event.

Over 30 people turned out on Tuesday the 5th May at All Saints church. Thanks to our local Chef Aaron Freeman, we were able to hold a special “Pasifika desert edition” that involved attendees each getting an amazingly delicious authentic Pasifika dessert.

The dessert was a “sweetener” to get people in the door for the main kaupapa of the evening which is about supporting people to reduce the amount of food waste produced at home. Why?

Because:

- Homes in Aotearoa New Zealand are throwing away over 157,000 tonnes of edible food every year - that’s enough to feed everyone in Dunedin for almost three years!
- Wasting this kai is expensive too, costing the average kiwi household \$1,326 a year.
- Food waste has a significant environmental impact and contributes to climate change. When food ends up in landfill, it breaks down and releases methane—a greenhouse gas that is far more potent than carbon dioxide. By reducing food waste, we can help lower emissions, conserve resources, and protect our climate for future generations.

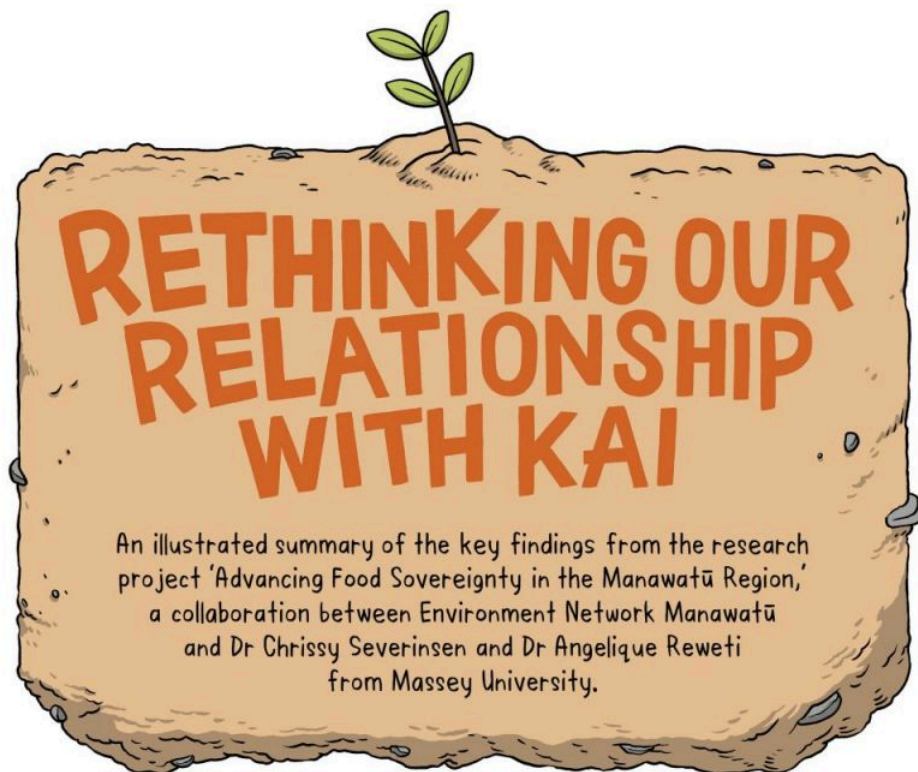
Even if you didn’t attend this event, you can still play your part and reduce food waste at home. Check out the [Every Bite Website](#) for ideas on how to get started in your home!



We also published an illustrated summary of the key findings from the research project '**Advancing Food Sovereignty in the Manawatū Region**' which is a collaboration between Environment Network Manawatū and Dr Chrissy Severinsen and Dr Angelique Reweti from Massey University.

Rethinking Kai is a creative resource developed through a collaborative research project exploring food sovereignty in the Manawatū region.

You can see this resource in full through our website [here](#).



Kai o Ngā Tau Ki Mua
Food Futures



Building Climate-Resilient Food Systems
21 July 2026 | 9:00am–5:00pm | Palmerston North Conference & Function Centre

A conference grounded in place, partnership, and diverse knowledge systems, recognising the role of tangata whenua, primary producers, and communities in shaping resilient food futures.

- Explore the interconnected relationships between food production, climate change, and resilience in the Manawatū and wider Aotearoa context
- Share practical, locally grounded solutions across farming, policy, science, and community sectors
- Foster collaboration that leads to collective action for more resilient, low-emissions, and equitable food systems
- **Less than 10 early bird tickets available so get in quick!**

[Register Your Interest](#)

Manawatū Food Action Network
& Growing Gardens and Communities

LET'S GROW PALMY!

TERM 2 2026

FORTNIGHTLY
11.30AM-12.30PM

DATES:	LOCATIONS:	LEAD:	SESSIONS:
13 th May	Awapuni Library	Beth, Georgie	All about Garlic - how to grow (demo), recipes, health tips
27 th May	Awahuri Forest walk	Niki, Beth	Visit ancient native forest close to Feilding
10 th June	Roslyn Library	Niki, Beth	Winter Crafting - bring dried plant material and make your own candle decorations
17 th June	Te Pātikitiki Garden	Niki	Planting in the garden: grape vine, herbs, vege
24 th June	Te Pātikitiki Library	Beth	Winter recipes Bring kai to share

Te Pātikitiki Maara - working bee:
Alternative Wednesdays ph: 021362873

Email: letsgrowpalmy@gmail.com

Facebook: [Lets Grow Palmy](https://www.facebook.com/LetsGrowPalmy)



EVENTS CALENDAR

Save the Dates - ENM Events

Tuesday 23 June – Winter Solstice Hui: Dreamtime for an Environment Centre

Tuesday 21 July – Kai o Ngā Tau Ki Mua. Food Futures: Building Climate-Resilient Food Systems.

Thursday 13 August – Circular Economy Hui: Education and Advocacy toward Waste Minimization

Thursday 15 September – Food Sovereignty meets Circular Economy: All about Composting

Thursday 22 October – ENM Donate to ENM Meeting & Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 3 November – Biodiversity Hui: Rewilding from Back Garden to Back Block

Want to change how you receive these emails? [Unsubscribe from this list.](#)

Thursday 1 December – Community Food Sovereignty Summer Hui:
Celebrating Impacts of Volunteer-Led Environmental Action

[See all events here](#)
