



**KAURI
2000**

April 2018

***Kia Ora and
Greetings from us
all at Kauri 2000***

At our last meeting we had a good discussion about how best to keep in touch with our wide network of loyal and generous friends and supporters. The electronic networks are great – efficient and inexpensive. But this form of contact is not always right for everyone.

We have come up with a trial of sending you a letter to keep you up to date with our summer activity, followed later in the year with a much fuller newsletter about our planting events and other activities in the world of kauri.

This last summer on the Coromandel Peninsula has been extremely hot and we had grave concern about our trees especially for those on northern slopes. But the tropical storms that came out of the Pacific provided welcome moisture for our little trees and fortunately did no damage to our sites. Thankfully our small trees have survived well and continue to thrive.



Preparation to get this year's tally of 2,500 trees in the ground is well under control on our three current planting sites - in Coromandel, behind Matarangi, and on the Black Jack Road beyond Kuaotunu. Access tracks are cut ready for our planters to get where they need to be and existing seedlings have been released from the undergrowth.

A big effort is being made to fell wilding pines on all our sites. These trees are major weeds which smother the landscape and suck vast amounts of water from the land preventing the growth of other plants. Of course, there's never an action without a reaction and working bees are now part of our schedule to pull out seedlings and halt re-growth as much as we can.

With the Kauri Dieback Disease continuing to be of great concern especially in the Waitakere Ranges of West Auckland we need to assure you that we keep an eye on our small plants to make sure our sites are free of the pathogen. Creating a new generation of healthy forest is even more important now that we know how devastating this disease really is.

On a happier note, however, we have some news to share with you! Thanks to a generous legacy from one of our long-time supporters, we were able to assist the highly professional Coromandel Film Collective produce a film on the kauri of New Zealand. This production is still a work in progress with just a few bits and pieces to complete but we saw some snippets at our last meeting and it is stunning. This film is going to be a beautiful, highly informative documentary. We can't wait for it to be completed as it will be an immensely valuable resource to be shown in film

festivals, TV, and available for schools. We'll keep you posted on progress.

It's time for us to sharpen the spades and get ready to welcome our wonderful volunteers for another year of planting kauri. In a world where we are often faced with bad news, it's a good feeling to send you a note of positive actions creating worthwhile results.

Thank you for supporting us so that we can continue to plant forests for our future generations.

Ka kite ano

Warmest good wishes.



Alison Henry

Chairperson

*PS – Public Planting Day | Saturday June 9th | 9am to 12 noon | Matarangi Reserve
Join us if you can!*

