

A network of volunteers prepared to help maintain and enhance the historic and indigenous natural features of the reserve and adjoining slopes.

Coordinators:

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## Newsletter Number 14: Xmas 2024

1. *New Co-coordinator – Martin Ryan*
2. *Welcome to new members.*
3. *Updated website*
4. *Track maintenance – December Working bees*
5. *Track maintenance – impromptu digs*
6. *Pest control – GW volunteers*

### 1. **New co-coordinator – Martin Ryan**

Martin made contact a few months ago asking if it was ok to do some maintenance on the Whites Gully Track. After meeting up over coffee he has adopted that track, offered to update the website (see next item), made contact with some trappers & mountain bikers, become co-coordinator and help reinvigorate some working bees. Thank you, Martin.

2. **Welcome to new local members:** John Downs, Kev Baker, Rachel Tallon, Hazel Barrett, Robin Pene, Bill Emmens, Dirk Naish, Caroline Kenndy, & Stefaan Janssens.

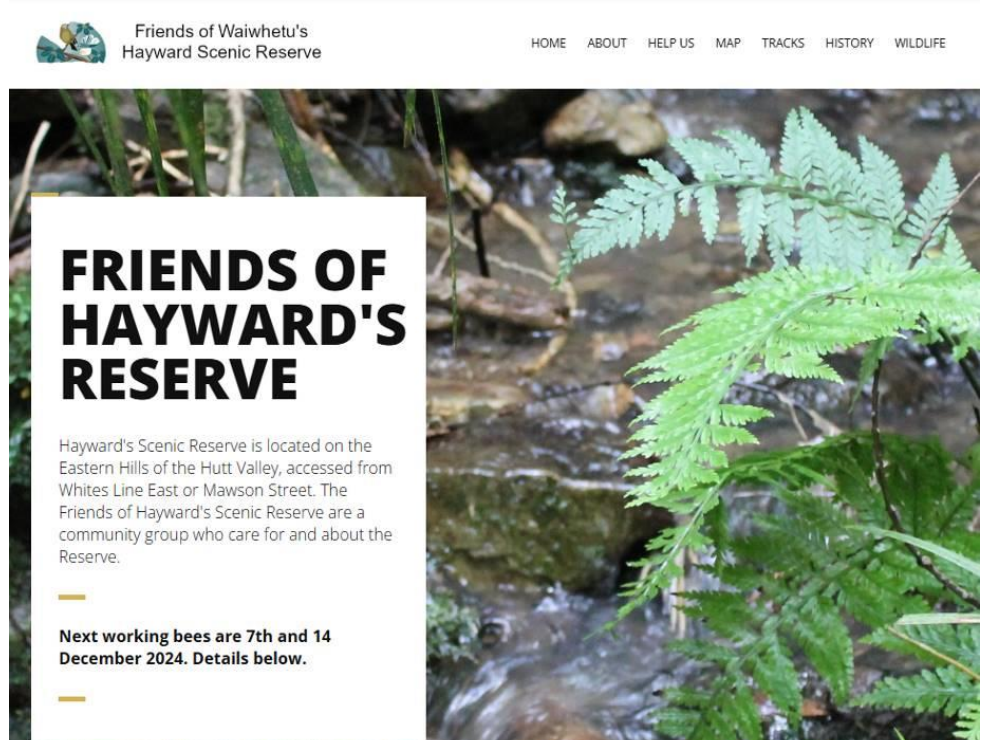
### 3. **Updated website**

Martin has done a refresh of the website hosted by long time member James Cross.

It is looking great, check it out at:

[www.waiwhetu.org/](http://www.waiwhetu.org/)

Martin can update item or post new content.



#### 4. Track maintenance - Working bees

❖ We just had two working bees 7<sup>th</sup> (~12 attendees) & 14<sup>th</sup> (~8 attendees) December. It was great to see a number of old members as well as many new people new to the neighbourhood. The two main tasks were re-benching tracks (removing slipped material or growth) and cutting back growth over the tracks. The “Old farm track” is almost runnable and the “Mawson catchment track” has been reopened all the way to the “Leightons gully link track” these are important tracks for the volunteers that maintain the GW trapping lines (see below). Check out the photos below.

❖ Working bees are a great way to connect with the community and help keep our reserve accessible. I’m always amazed at how a lot of little contributions add to a significant achievement.



**Saturday 7 & 14 December 2024**  
**10:30am to 12:30pm**  
**Meet at the end of Mawson Street**

**WORKING BEE**  
**HAYWARD RESERVE**  
**WALKING TRACKS**

Come and help us on the Mawson Catchment and Old Farm Tracks, maintaining the tracks, re-benching and pruning overgrowth.

Bring gloves, a pick/mattock/grubber and hedge clippers or loppers. A spade, rake and hand saw are also handy. Don't forget water and sun/rain protection.

If you don't have any tools you're still welcome, we'll bring some spares.

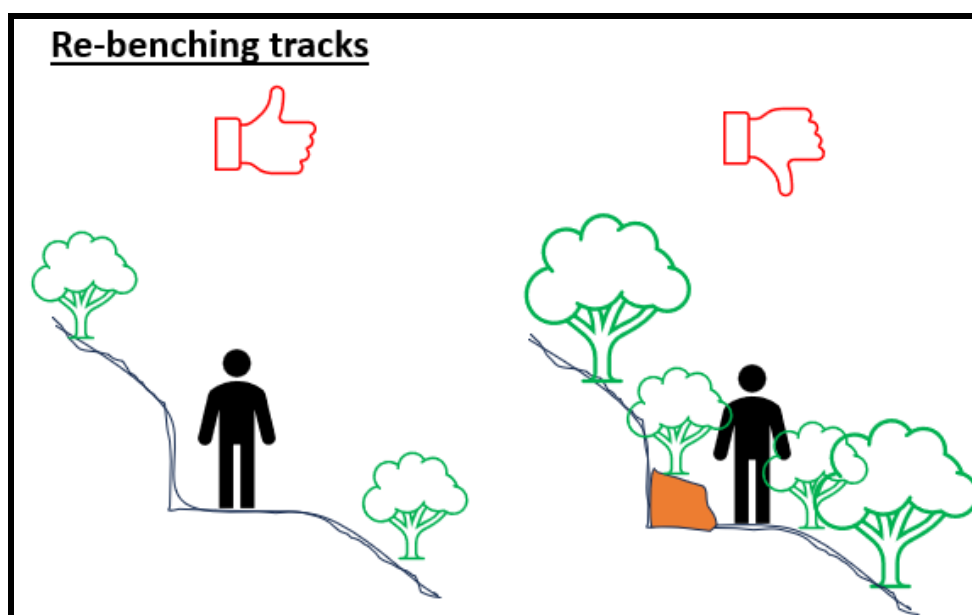
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Run by the Friends of the Reserve. For more information visit [waiwhetu.org](http://waiwhetu.org) or text Bill 022 363 2055 or Martin 022 6539 527

**See you there!**

❖ Thank you to the Wainuiomata Trail Park bikers for loaning us the tools.

❖ Thanks to all the volunteers including reps from the Friends of Waiwhetu Stream and the trapping group.





*“Old farm track” is now almost runnable*



*“Mawson catchment track” reopened all the way to the “Leightons gully link track”*

❖ **There will be 2 more working bees in Feb-March – details to come in New year.**



## 5. Track Maintenance – Impromptu Digs

To complement the public working bees, Martin is creating a What's App group for those who are open to doing smaller, impromptu maintenance trips. The idea is that if anyone feels like popping up to do a bit of work they can message the group to let them know and others can join if they wish. There's no commitment or expectation though. If you're interested in being on the group, message Martin on 022 6539 527.

## 6. Pest control

It's been great to make contact with a group of 8-9 volunteers that maintain a series of bait stations on the reserve for Greater Wellington Regional council.

We had both John Downs and Kev Baker from the group also helping on the working bees.

The map shows the extensive network of bait station that the group regularly check and maintain. Access on the tracks like the "Old farm track" and the "Mawson catchment track" are important for these volunteers that maintain the GW trapping lines.

