

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

Coordinators:

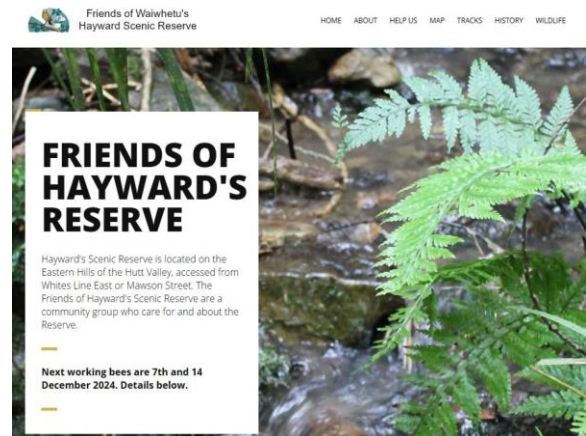
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Newsletter Number 15: Feb 2025

1. *Welcome to new members.*
2. *Meeting with HCC*
3. *Track maintenance – February Working bees*
4. *Track maintenance – impromptu digs*
5. *Track maintenance – next Working Bees*
6. *Wanted*

1. Welcome to new local members: Ellie, Tom, & Richard.

2. Meeting with HCC

In late January, Martin and Bill meet up with Hutt City Council's Daniel Donoghue (Planning & Ecology Officer) and Claudia Eustace (Biodiversity and Community ranger).

It was great to meetup and make contact. Daniel is updating the track signage around the reserves to make tracks more clearly signed and wanted our input. Claudia is happy to support our activities and is funding our group with 4 new Trail Tool Hilty Hoes which are fantastic for our work – thanks. The council is also working on refreshing the lapsed maintenance contract for the main tracks.



3. Track Maintenance – February Working Bees

- ❖ We just had two more working bees 8th (~7 attendees) & 15th (~7 attendees) February. This time we targeted the “Mawson Ridge Track”, re-benching tracks (removing slipped material or growth) and cutting back growth over the tracks.
- ❖ We completed all of the Mawson Ridge Track up to where the stream crosses the track at the very top and made a start on the Tyndall Ridge track. The top section is heavily overgrown, very steep, wet, and a bit unstable. There is a rope for safety but we will look to redo this section on the next working bee as well as complete the Tyndall Ridge track.
- ❖ Check out the photos below.
- ❖ Thank you to the Wainuiomata Trail Park bikers for loaning us the tools and we look to get new tools from the HCC.
- ❖ On our last working bee, Hazel took this great photo when she spotted a Morepork (Ruru) watching us work on the Tyndall ridge track.



Saturday 8 & 15 February 2025
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 Ridge and Tyndall Ridge Tracks, maintaining the tracks, re-benching and pruning overgrowth.

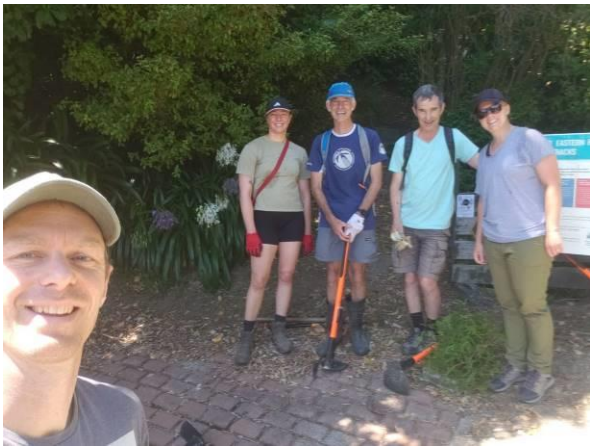
Bring gloves, a pick/mattock/grubber and hedge clippers or loppers. We'll bring some spare tools if you don't have any.

Don't forget water and sun/rain protection.

Run by the Friends of the Reserve. For more information or to join the mailing list visit waiwhetu.org or text Bill 022 363 2055 or Martin 022 6539 527

See you there!





Re-benching and cutting back growth on the “Mawson ridge track”,

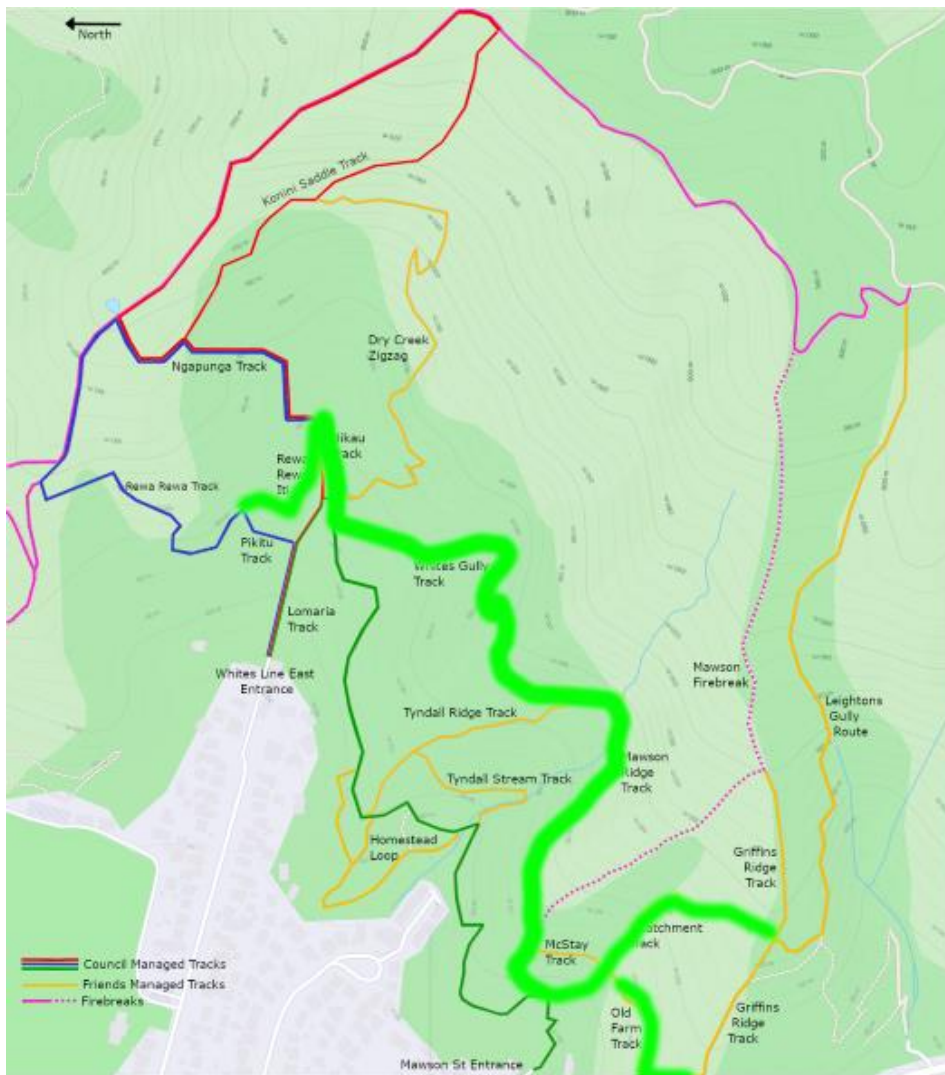


“Cutting back the heavy growth at the top of the Mawson catchment track



The steep wet steps to be addressed on the next working bees

The green highlight on the map below shows paths our group has worked on over the last year. Mostly collectively at working bees but also some individuals working on adopted tracks.



4. Track Maintenance – Impromptu Digs

To complement the public working bees, Martin has created 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.

5. Track Maintenance – Next Working Bees

The next working bees will be in March or April. Details to come. We'll keep setting them up, just come when it suits! Thanks to everyone who has attended a dig. We're getting 7+ each time and it's incredible to see how much work a group this size can get through in a couple of hours.

As you're chatting with friends and neighbours, please encourage them to check out the website (waiwhetu.org) and join us for a dig once in a while. Kids are welcome too, we have a couple of tools their size.

6. Wanted

- ❖ A few of the tracks are in need of some steps. If you have some treated timber available and/or rebar (or similar) we'd be interested in taking it off your hands.
- ❖ If you own a drill press and would be happy to pop a few holes in that timber we'd love to hear from you too.