

# Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust/Te Poari Koro Tui Newsletter

July 2024



## Our Vision:

The forests and beaches of Abel Tasman are once again filled with the birdsong that awakens and delights visitors.

*Kia whakaoho te mauri o te Ata-hapara. Kia rongo, Kia Kite, Ki te reo koro tui o Te Tai tapu*

Kia ora and welcome to the July edition of the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust's newsletter. This is produced to give an update on our recent activities.

## Education and Advocacy

### Predator Free NZ workshop

We recently attended a very worthwhile workshop facilitated by Predator Free NZ. All the guest speakers were so knowledgeable and there are some exciting new developments in the predator control space! There were plenty of tips on how to best utilise our existing hardware and we'll be implementing some of them over time.

Abby, our Operations Manager, and Jenny, our Awaroa trapping line leader, were on a stall during break times to chat with attendees about our current A24 trap configuration trial. There were lots of groups and organisations present so it was a great opportunity to network and learn new things.



Abby and Jenny were the friendly faces of ATBT. (Photo credit – A McCall)

### 3 F's - Fun, Fish and Fungi!

Biff, a Trustee and volunteer, and Abby recently joined the current Project Janszoon Abel Tasman Youth Ambassador group on a visit to Tinline.

On the way students from Lower Moutere School talked about their adopted section and all the special things about it. We found fish in the streams and fungi in the leaf litter.... all while having fun!

We spoke to the tamariki and kaiako about the work of the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust and our focus on upgrading the Tinline Nature Walk.

It's great to be able to strengthen the relationships with other people who have such a vested interest in the Abel Tasman.



Brooke (Project Janszoon) and the tamariki checking out some footage before our walk. (Photo credit – A McCall)

### Signage

We have a fancy new sign! This is designed with a whiteboard section on either side so we can use it at various events – switching out our message as we need to.

We thank 'Towards Predator Free 2050 - Tuia Te Taiao' for funding this and Josh Preston from DOC Motueka for sorting the successful application for us.



Josh and Abby with our new sign (Photo credit – L Everett)

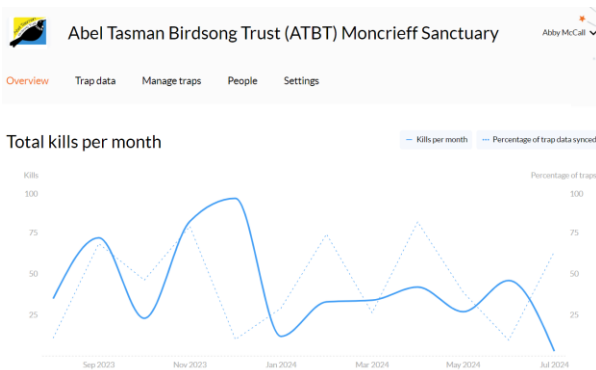
## Predator Control

### Trapping Update

Volunteers have been busy trapping with a total of 588 mustelids and 13,880 rats removed from our wooden box traps since October 2010.

We also have a network of Goodnature A24 traps in place. We are starting to utilise some technology to properly record the strikes from these traps. Some traps are fitted with '[Chirps](#)' and these record the detailed strike/kill information which uploads via bluetooth when a trap location is visited. This uploaded data, accessible via the Goodnature app, indicates there was 96 strikes recorded on our chirps over December 2023!

We are always learning about these traps and optimising our processes.



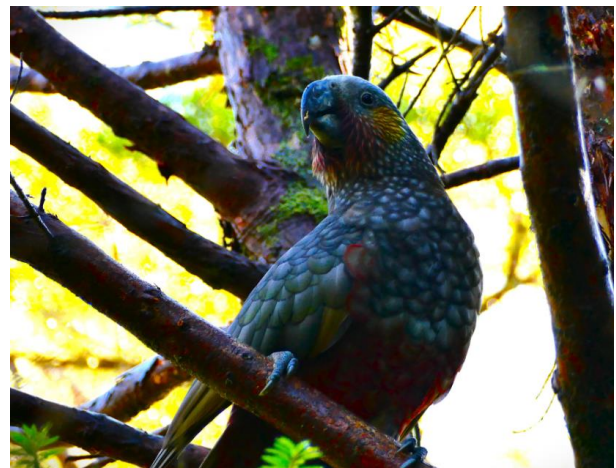
Goodnature Chirp data (Image credit – A McCall)

We give a huge thanks to those who have transported volunteers into the park over the last few months. There are a lot of passengers to move at times! This includes [Aquataxi](#), [Sea Shuttle](#), [Wilsons](#), and DOC.

## Biodiversity News

### So much to see!

We've been getting photos of all sorts of lovely things as our volunteers and visitors spend time in nature. Please let us know if you spot any South Island Robin / Toutouwai as these are of particular interest to us. Here is a selection of other colourful things spotted in the Park:



Kaka at Torrent Bay (Photo credit - T Chignac)



Flowering rata near Awaroa in April (Photo credit – B Hill)





Orange pore fungus near the Pou Whenua of Ngamamaku-Wi Parana (Photo credit – A McCall)

## Restoration

### Our Planting Project

We have had another planting maintenance day and our trees are looking fantastic. The growth from previous years is becoming really visible as you walk this part of the coastal track.

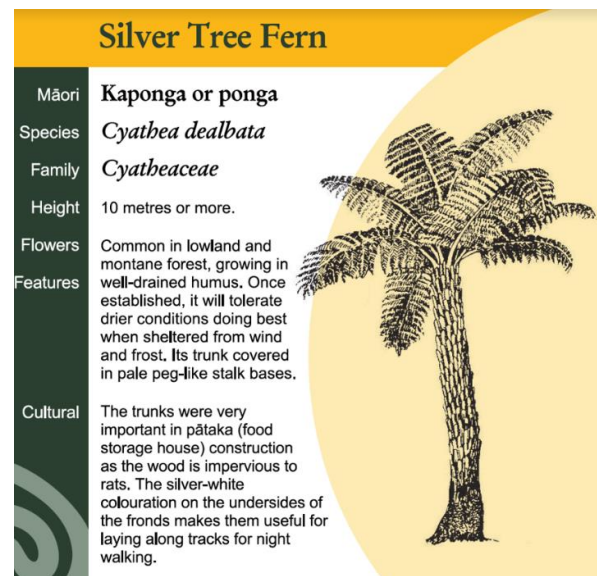


It wont be long before the trees can out compete the bracken (Photo credit –A McCall)

Thanks to [Trees that Count](#) for funding the native trees for this project. The trees we plant are all grown from eco-sourced seed which is very important for the Abel Tasman ecosystem.

### Tinline Nature Walk

Our goal is to enhance the Tinline Nature Walk so that it becomes an educational feature for families, school children and day visitors to the Park. Our project team has started on the first phase working with partners DOC and mana whenua to upgrade the plant ID signs.



An example of the signs that will be located around the Tinline Nature Walk. (Image credit – B Kitson)

## Our Volunteers

Check out this happy bunch of hi-vis wearing volunteers cruising into the Abel Tasman!! We are so fortunate to have such a committed team.



Happy volunteers heading into the Park to check traplines (Photo credit –P Lucas)



## Volunteer Voice

We have an incredibly diverse team of volunteers and this 'Volunteer Voice' section gives us an opportunity to celebrate them.

Volunteer Voice – Ollie Madigan

*My name is Ollie Madigan and I usually work as a GP in Motueka. I check the trapline on Adele Island. There is a well-maintained track around the island with 20 odd traps. Fortunately, there is never any predators found in the traps as Adele is predator free. I did find a pair of Weka at one point who were promptly caught by DOC and moved back to the mainland. There's nothing quite like the feeling of being alone on an island! I am very grateful to the Birdsong Trust and DOC for providing me with this opportunity to be involved.*

Thanks for your contribution to both our mahi and the Motueka community Ollie!



Not a bad view back to the mainland (Photo credit – O Madigan)

## Social event

We recently hosted the quiz at the Motueka Sprig and Fern. This was a great way to celebrate ATBT, its volunteers, and raise awareness of all the conservation work we're doing in the Park. This is always a super fun night out and our own volunteer and Trustee Biff was the quiz master extraordinaire. We raised more than \$950 so a success all round.

## Donate to make a difference

Please go to the ['Give-a-Little'](#) website, search 'Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust' and follow the instructions. Pass this on to friends you think might like to donate to our cause! Every contribution assists us greatly.

## Acknowledgments

Our positive conservation gains wouldn't be achievable without support from the following groups, so we give them heartfelt thanks:

- The local business operators who support us with our annual Birdsong Levy and volunteer transport into the Park
- The visitors to the Park who always show an interest in what we do and contribute a small part of their ticket fare to our restoration work
- All our full and associate members
- Pic's Peanut Butter for our A24 lure
- All recent donors
- DOC and Project Janszoon for their excellent partnership support
- Trees that Count.

The biggest thank you is reserved for our amazing volunteers – with their assistance we are removing pests, restoring ecosystems, and giving our native species a fighting chance!

*Whakarongo ki te tangi a te kākā*

*Whakarongo ki te tangi a te pāteke*

*Ka tangi hoki ahau*

*Tihei mauri ora!*

*No reira kia ora tatou katoa*