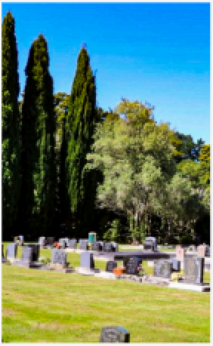
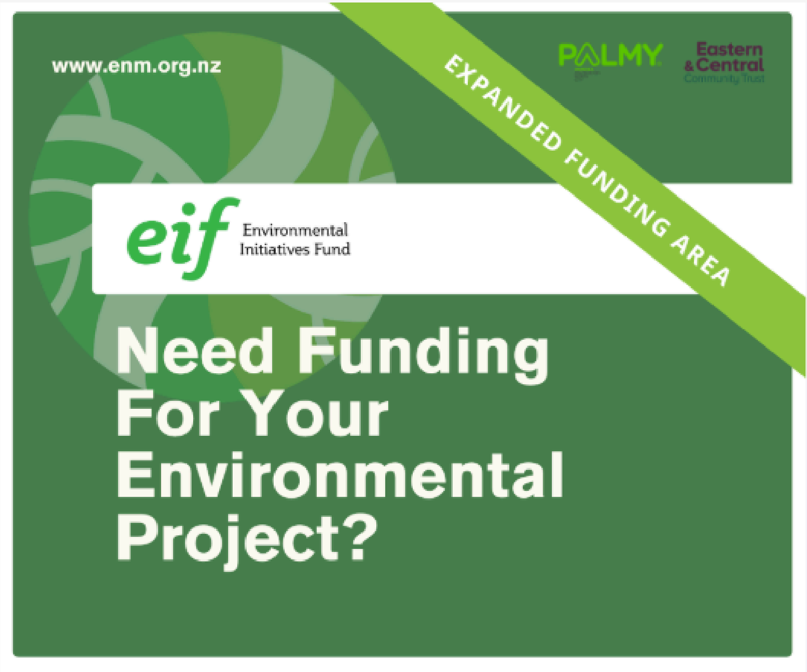
November
PĀNUI



In this issue: Share your ideas for the Environmental Centre, celebrate successes with Ruahine Kiwi, Natural Burials, and ENM events. Plus, get updates on the Ring Road, EIF funding, and much more!

GENERAL


www.enm.org.nz
EXPANDED FUNDING AREA
PALMY
Eastern & Central Community Trust
eif Environmental Initiatives Fund
Need Funding For Your Environmental Project?

We're here to help! The Environmental Initiatives Fund supports community projects that:

- ✅ Improve food resilience, security, and sovereignty
- ✅ Protect biodiversity and freshwater quality
- ✅ Reduce waste and support a circular economy
- ✅ Take action on climate change

📍 Projects must be within the Manawatū River catchment — from the source to the sea, including Tararua, Palmerston North, Manawatū, and Horowhenua.

💰 Small Grants (up to $1,000) – Open now!
📝 Quick and easy application for individuals and organisations
💰 Large Grants ($1,000–$15,000) – Open 1 Jan to 15 March 2026

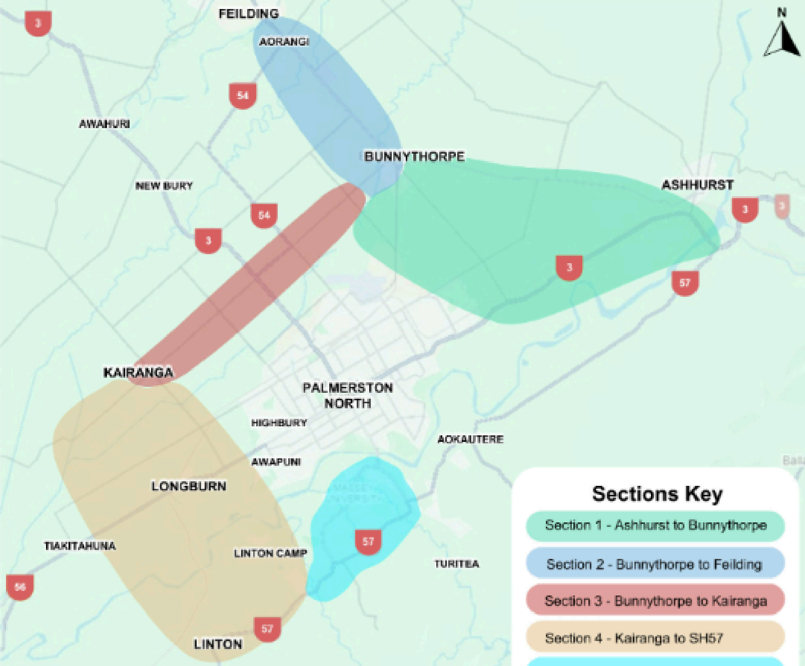
🧑‍🤝‍🧑 For organisations

Let's grow a better future, together 🌱

Learn more and apply here

Follow us on Facebook

Influence the potential routes for the Manawatū Regional Freight Ring Road



57
Section 5 - SH57 to Summerhill Drive

Rākau

Our Rākau training welcomed 28 participants (ENM staff, board and member groups) went to visit our local mare to learn more about the history of the Manawatū from the Rangitane O Manawatuū iwi perspective. Creating a shared space to learn, connect, and reflect on Rangitāne history and its place in Palmerston North.

"Warren and Virgina reminded the group that stories can be told with many different versions for different angles."

"I was inspired by the combination of energies, skills, communication, generosity brought by Warren and Virginia. Their skill sets, creativity, deep respect for each other and the mahi, all compliment the learning and build bridges. They create a space where people can come together and have perspectives opened, minds expanded and hearts tended."

"while Aotearoa was facing different challenges nationwide, our region had different struggles that were every bit as pertinent to the people involved. It was life or death. The resulting peacemaking efforts were equally interesting. As someone living in Palmerston North, it was a good reminder that local stories shouldn't be overshadowed by the national ones."

New Editions to the ENM Board

We are excited to announce the election of Dave Mollard, Nelson Harper, and Sivee Chawla to the ENM Board.

Sivee is passionate about building stronger, sustainable communities. She is a founding member of Eco Rescuers Foundation (ERF), an environmental organisation in India. Sivee holds a PhD in Environmental Science and currently works at Horizons Regional Council.

Dave brings extensive experience in food sovereignty. He has been the Kaitiaki at Awapuni Community Gardens for 11 years and helped write the 4412 Kai Resilience Strategy during his time at ENM. Dave has served on several boards and has a deep understanding of governance and how it supports operational success.

Nelson is the founder and CEO of Precycle NZ. He previously worked with ENM in the circular economy space and has served on multiple boards. Nelson brings a systems-engineering approach to sustainability and a strong passion for connecting innovation with community.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteer of the Month

Harvey Jones received a well-deserved Civic Award.
He has spent decades working in Ashhurst for the benefit of both the community and the environment. Harvey served as a member of the Ashhurst Ward Committee and was a founding member of the Ashhurst Action Group, Environment Network Manawatū, and RECAP.
Among his many accomplishments, Harvey contributed to projects such as the Olsson Community Orchard and the library community gardens. He currently chairs the Village Voice committee, writes regular columns, and is often seen hand-delivering each edition around the village.
Harvey has also been a vocal advocate against changes that could negatively impact the area, including the proposed Hiwinui landfill site and the recent move to the Wairarapa electorate.
Alongside his community work, Harvey dedicated 23 years to the Tertiary Education Union at Massey University, advocating for both staff and students—a commitment that earned him life membership in May of this year.

Start 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?

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

Ashhurst Domain Reserve Management Plan

2025

Congratulations for everyone who put work into getting a natural burials into the Otgangaki-Ashhurst Domain RMP 2025 that was adopted by full Council on October 8.

Full plan here

ENM's first colab with Trees for Survival

We are excited to be partnering with Trees for Survival to facilitate their unique program across five schools in the Manawatū. Our Biodiversity Lead, Mark, has been busy facilitating the potting up of just under 5000 native seedlings, which will grow on in the purpose-built shade house at each school, then be planted out in riparian areas across the catchment next winter. This is an ongoing nation-wide program which recently celebrated planting its millionth tree!

We'd like to thank Awapuni Nursery for their collaboration in supplying the Trees for Survival Manawatū program with seedlings and bulk materials. Thanks to this pioneering arrangement, we will avoid using about 120 large plastic bags and pallet wrap every year! It is our hope that TFS facilitators in other parts of the country can make similar arrangements with their local nurseries to reduce plastic waste across Aotearoa. Thanks also to the team at Menzshed Manawatū for their excellent work in assembling and installing the shade houses at the schools.

Pictured: Ōpiki school potting-up day.

Big steps forward for the Ruahine Kiwi project

Southern Ruahine Kiwi Project has just received its Pest Management Plan (PMP), thanks to the great team at Save the Kiwi. This plan marks a major milestone as it sets the foundation for operations from now onwards.
The Mauri Oho crew on the eastern side of the ranges has already been hard at work, while dedicated volunteers continue clearing traps on the western side. Since mid-winter, there have been over 775 catches, including 46 mustelids.

Image used from DOC.

Forest & Bird
Manawatū
BRANCH

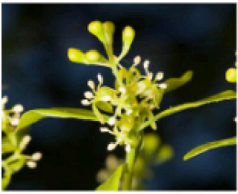
December 2025 Annual Social

Please bring some Christmas Treats to share

Tuesday 9th December 2025 from 7.00.pm.
PN City Library, George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

Talk: Research into Green and White Mistletoe
Speaker: Benjamin Wright, Victoria University Wellington

Green mistletoe (Ileostylus micranthus)



White mistletoe (upeia antarctica)

New Zealand has nine native mistletoe species. New Zealand's mistletoes are hemiparasitic plants which make their own energy through photosynthesis but get water and minerals from their hosts. Mistletoes have undergone large declines or local extinctions in many parts of the country and most species are now threatened. Because of this there is a growing interest in propagating and translocating these species.

However whilst there is some colloquial knowledge on how to propagate these species few empirical studies have been conducted. My study aimed to improve knowledge on best practice techniques for growing mistletoes through propagation experiments using green mistletoe and white mistletoe seeds. I also conducted a review on the status of mistletoes in the Wellington region which involved both literature research and field surveys

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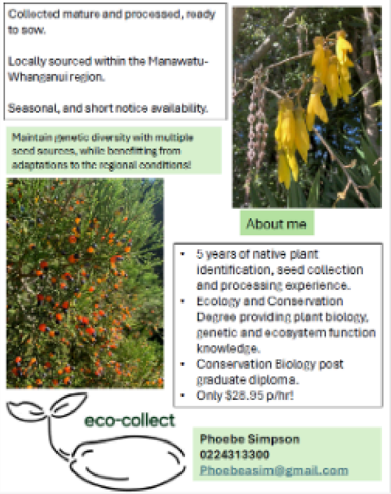
The service was recently launched by Phoebe Simpson, who has just

Eco-sourced native seed

completed her Postgraduate Diploma in Conservation Biology at Massey University. With a focus on sustainable seed collection, Eco-collect aims to support restoration projects and native plant conservation. Phoebe is also a former employee of MDC and I can attest she knows her stuff!

Email Phoebe Here



Collected mature and processed, ready to sow.

Locally sourced within the Manawatu-Whanganui region.

Seasonal, and short notice availability.

Maintain genetic diversity with multiple seed sources, while benefiting from adaptations to the regional conditions!

About me

- 5 years of native plant identification, seed collection and processing experience.
- Ecology and Conservation Degree providing plant biology, genetic and ecosystem function knowledge.
- Conservation Biology post graduate diploma.
- Only $28.95 p/hr!

eco-collect

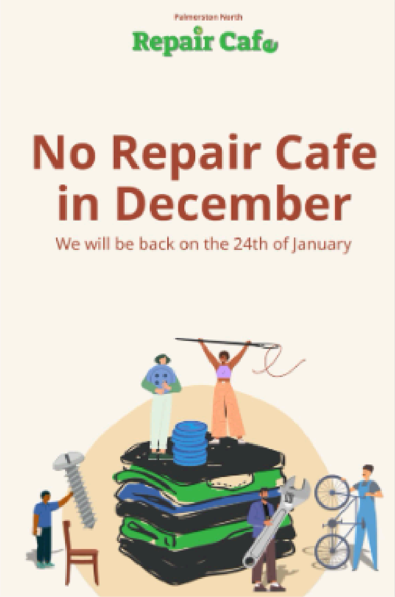
Phoebe Simpson
0224313300
Phoebeasim@gmail.com

Circular Economy

Upcycling Club 1

Create a Christmas Scene at Our Next Craft Sessions!
Join us on **Tuesday, 25 November** and **Tuesday, 9 December** from 2:00–4:00 PM at Roslyn Library, 8 Kipling St, Palmerston North.

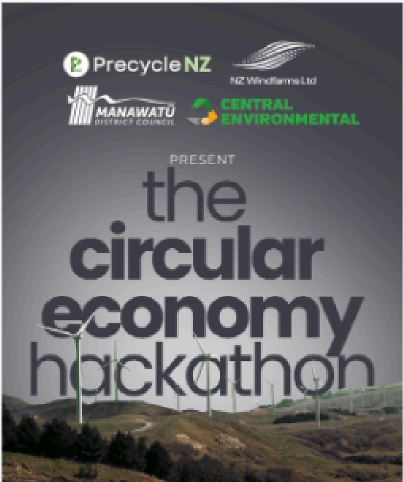
A free kit will be provided to help you craft a festive scene, but for a fun twist, you'll need to make your own reindeer out of playdough!


Palmerston North
Repair Cafe
No Repair Cafe in December
We will be back on the 24th of January

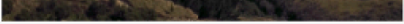
Thank you for a wonderful year of repairing! We will see you all on the 24th of Jan 2026!

The Circular Economy Hackathon! This is a 24 hour event, designed to spark innovation, creativity, and develop business skills. 95 wind turbine nacelles. No recycling solutions in NZ. 24 hours to change that.

What will you do?
On Friday you'll visit the actual nacelles at Central Environmental. By Sunday evening you'll have pitched a validated business case to expert judges. The winning team



gets commercialisation support and real mentorship to build it.



Who do we want?
✓ High school + uni students
✓ Young professionals
✓ Engineers + tech enthusiasts
✓ Retired Experts

When is it?
27-28 February 2026, Feilding, Manawatū

How do I get involved?
Send your expression of interest to info@precycle.co.nz - Sign ups open mid-January

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Climate Action

Free climate change course from University of Canterbury

Climate Change Course:
Empowering Communities for Action

Get ready to make a difference with this free online climate change

More Info Here

course, built in partnership with Christchurch City Council and Future Curious. Deepen your understanding of the various perspectives on climate change, and explore practical strategies to take meaningful action.

Community Food Sovereignty

Community Foos Sovereignty Spring Hui

It was wonderful to see so many amazing people at ENM's final hui of the year. We heard from inspiring groups who shared what has been achieved and what's ahead in the food gifting space. The kaupapa of the day was "food is a gift," and we made sure to walk the talk by spending the afternoon enjoying a crop swap.

Tamariki on the Tools - North St Workshop

We will be holding a workshop focused on protecting and supporting climbing plants such as peas, beans and tomatoes at the communal gardens at Whare Manaaki, 26 North St. The tamariki will have a chance to get on the tools, putting up support posts and wind breaks, as well as creating plant supports.

Food Waste In Aotearoa

RNZ have just written an article to say that 122 million tonnes of food wasted in New Zealand every year! The amount is equivalent to 237 kilograms of waste per person.

Nearly a third of the waste comes from households, with processing and food production making up the remainder.

The authors found 18 percent of all food wasted goes to landfill, where it creates methane, one of the gases contributing to climate change.

Get your community involved with MFAN or another of the likes to help reduce food waste in the Manawatū

Read More Here

EVENTS CALENDAR

<
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today
December 2025
month
week
day
Sun
Mon
Tue
Wed
Thu
Fri
Sat
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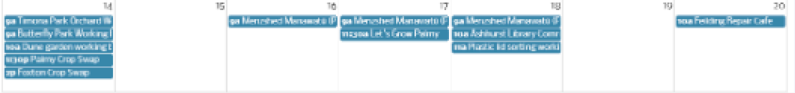
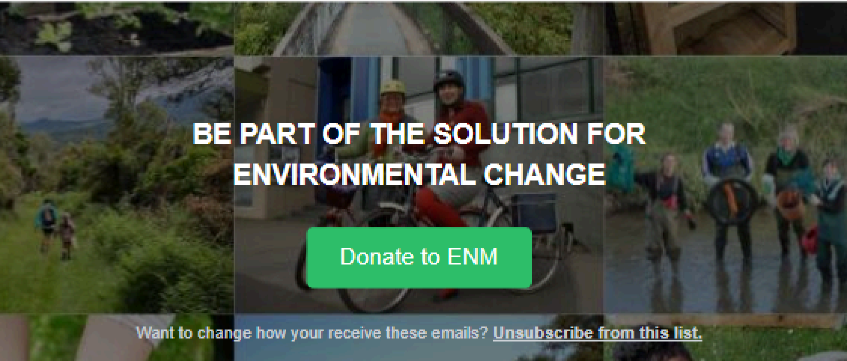


14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9a Timona Park Orchard W 9a Butterfly Park Working I 10a Dune garden working t 11:30p Palmy Crop Swap 2p Foxton Crop Swap		9a Menzshed Manawatu (P	9a Menzshed Manawatu (P 11:30a Let's Grow Palmy	9a Menzshed Manawatu (P 10a Ashhurst Library Com 11a Plastic lid sorting work		10a Feilding Repair Cafe

See all events here



BE PART OF THE SOLUTION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

Donate to ENM

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