

Environment Group Report on the Wetland Project  
Ngakuta Community Association AGM. 9 January 2021

With a long dry summer in 2020 we were very thankful to the Forest and Bird Society for lending us a water pump that enabled us to pump water from the creek to the flaxes etc that were planted in 2019. As a result, we have had a very high survival rate.

July 2020 saw the completion of the planting in the wetland area. This was carried out by a team of 15-20 industrious volunteers whose help was greatly appreciated. To date we have had regular rain events that have given these plants a very good start and all are growing well. These conditions also brought rampant growth of grasses and weeds so it has been quite a battle to prevent our plantings from being smothered. Thanks again to those people who have assisted with this. We are also thankful to the Birkenhakes for allowing us to have the mulchings from their prunings to spread around the plants to help suppress the weeds.

It was a joy to be in the area last spring and to watch the birds in flight and feeding in the mature flaxes. We look forward to the time when these new plantings are providing food and cover for the birds.

Judith Andrews