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**Tāmaki  
Estuary  
Protection  
Society**  
EST. 1969

**TEPS  
Newsletter #59  
June 2022**

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## Society News

The TEPS committee is pleased to present our latest update of our activities.

Zoom has been a 'meeting lifesaver' over the past months and this report highlights other actions, also remembering our online work, with a submission to Auckland Council's annual plan and multiple emails to focus attention issues raised around the Estuary and river.

As our Annual General Meeting 2022 approaches, we wish to acknowledge the immense contributions of **Beth Evans**, by presenting her with TEPS Life Membership. After stepping aside as Chair, Beth has continued to support TEPS as admin of the Facebook Page and with contributions of sound advice and good ideas.

It is important to acknowledge the commitment and energy of all our TEPS committee members over the past year and we encourage you to attend the upcoming AGM to be held at St Matthias Church Hall, 5 Thompson Road, Panmure.

On behalf of the TEPS Committee  
Dr Julie Chambers PhD  
TEPS Chairperson

## TEPS Committee Update

In February 2022 Beth resigned from the chair of TEPS because of family commitments. For the past few years, Beth worked tirelessly and selflessly steering

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faced. Without her efforts, our society would not be what it is today. Words are not enough to express the gratitude that we owe her. We wish Beth all the best and we will be drawing from her experience and expertise when we need them.

**Paul Engles** also resigned from his vice chairperson position because of work commitments. Paul remains on the committee as the strong supportive member that he is. We thank you Paul.

Beth and Paul were ably replaced by Julie as chairperson and Dorthe as vice chairperson. Bruce remains our treasurer and Maureen becomes our secretary, a position previously held by Julie.

We welcome a new member of the committee who shares the TEPS vision and philosophy, **David Doleman**. David is a keen ornithologist. He is a volunteer trapper of possums and rats in the Wai-o-Taiki Nature Reserve. He is concerned about erosion and pollution in the Tamaki Estuary resulting in the lack of food for the birds. He pushes for the completion of sea wall of Wai-o-Taiki Bay and the clean up of Omaru Creek.

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Wai-o-Taiki Bay. Photo by Rolf Siggaard.

**Annual General Meeting 2022**

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## **TEPS AGM Notice**

### **Local Environmental talk & AGM**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2pm**

**St Matthias Church Hall**

**5 Thompson Road Panmure**

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#### **Agenda**

**Registration & Refreshment from 1.15pm**

**AGM at 2pm – 3 pm**

**followed by presentation from Wai-O-Taiki Bay  
resident David Doleman**

**Our Tāmaki Estuary Shoreline – seeking answers**

**Holding our ground or retreat?**

**All welcome**

**TEPS Membership Subscription \$5.00**

**Contact Dr Julie Chambers 021 204 4118**



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## Appreciation of Beth Evans



Everyone on the TEPS Committee have the highest regards of Beth's massive contribution to TEPS and in particular her leadership to 're-establish' TEPS over the past couple of years.

The Committee felt it was very important to find a way to recognise this and express our sincere thanks. We put our thinking hats on. We remembered that Beth had mentioned some time back that she would like to revive her vegetable garden at home. So it was decided that some keen growers from the Committee would help her to make it happen.

After three weekly meet-ups, Beth and her family now have a great looking and plentiful vegetable garden they can enjoy for the coming months.

## Bar-Tailed Godwits

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Bar-tailed Godwits. Many thanks to Adrian Riegen for use of this image.

### Poem by David Doleman

#### WHAT A RECEPTION!

My name is Kua mi.  
From Alaska.  
I am 5 months old. I weigh 500 grams.  
The weight of a full jam jar.  
My Mum and Dad simply left me on my own and told me to follow!  
No instructions except "Leave it to nature!"  
I had flown about a bit and my downy fluff had given way to feathers.  
It was time to go!  
Where?  
How far?  
I set off into the unknown and flew and flew. Sometimes with the wind, sometimes  
against it. Day and night. It was hot, cold, sunny and stormy.  
I just flew.  
12,000 kilometers.  
I was tired and had lost half of my body weight!  
I was starving!  
  
Land! Hurray! Food!  
I settled in the prescribed spot.  
Wai-o-Taiki Bay in the Tamaki Estuary.  
  
Yuck!  
  
I landed in contaminated mud! No food here!

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expected shellfish and marine worms! I was not putting my beak through that mud  
to find shellfish nor marine worms

The water tasted revolting!

Mum and Dad told me to keep away from humans. They said something about  
erosion and pollution.  
They were right. Humans aren't worthwhile. They pollute and care nothing about  
erosion.

I did hear Adrian Riegen is an excellent guy in Pukorokoro Miranda Naturalist Trust  
where shellfish abounds.  
I flew there and was happy.  
Fresh shellfish and juicy marine worms!

Clean yourself up Wai-o-Taiki Bay and I might just fly back your way!

Don't just wing it, do it! It's major!

Kua mi  
The Godwit or Kuaka in maori  
(meaning bird of mystery)

mi was an abbreviation at school for minor!

Please report any pollution you see to Auckland Council's **pollution hotline 377  
1707** (24hrs/7 days) and get a reference number (they can text it to your mobile  
number).



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*Tāmaki Estuary Protection Society - preserving, protecting and improving the waters, life and shores of the Tāmaki Estuary.*

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