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**Tāmaki
Estuary
Protection
Society**
EST. 1969

**TEPS
Newsletter #61
March 2023**

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TEPS News from Your Chair



It's been a very difficult start to 2023 for many. Our thoughts are with all those who have been adversely impacted by the flooding from January's heavy rains, followed by Cyclone Gabrielle.

We hope lessons have been learned by our civic leaders and real change happens.

On a better note, a huge vote of thanks goes to **Steel & Tube Ltd** for their kind donation which enabled TEPS to buy two wheelbarrows, an event flag, and develop educational material. Thank you.

TEPS committee members have been working hard since our October 2022

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Local Board about erosion at Wai-o-Taiki Bay and to Watercare on their future programme. An exciting project to test the Environmental DNA (e-DNA) in the Estuary has also started.

Welcome to two new committee members Nici Paynter and Jim Sheffield.

TEPS committee meetings are usually monthly, and TEPS members are very welcome to attend. Prospective committee members are welcome. Please email me at Chair@TEPS.org.nz or text 021 2044118 for information.

Dr Julie Chambers PhD
TEPS Chairperson

TEPS Annual General Meeting 2023

2pm to 4pm on Sunday 11 June 2023

St Matthias Church Hall 5 Thompson Road,
Panmure

Speaker to be advised.

E-DNA – Learning About The Estuary.

TEPS is supporting this exciting project to begin to identify what lives within the Tāmaki Estuary and river. This information will be of huge value for future Estuary management.

Many thanks to Life Member **Beth Evans** for initiating and overseeing this amazing project, and to the **Hauraki Gulf Forum, the Environmental Protection Agency and Wilderlabs** for their support. Thanks also to the **Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum (TEEF)** where this project was first presented. For more information click on these links:

wilderlab.co.nz/explore <https://teps.org.nz/2022/12/e-dna-testing/>

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CUTE Clean Up Tāmaki Estuary



Images above: TEPS members walked across the fields beside Omaru Creek and enjoyed the early morning beauty of the location.

Ōmaru Creek, Point England was once described as one of the most polluted waterways in Tāmaki Makaurau. TEPS members are working hard to change this and bring this lovely waterway back to its former beauty and vitality.

Three clean up events were held this year, in September, October and March. On 12 March 2023, a beautiful Sunday afternoon, 15 volunteers turned up and with them came three young children as well. The site covered was part of the Omaru Creek.

After signing up and a health and safety briefing, a volunteer commented on how professional this project was run. Equipped with pincers, gloves, hi viz vests, waders, and brand-new wheelbarrows, enthusiastic volunteers set off to the location. In groups of two and three, they made sure that they collected as much rubbish as they could and in the safety of a watchful partner.

Within an hour, a one cubic metre bag was nearly full and in addition, two rusty supermarket trolleys, a baby seat and a large aluminium frame door complete with glass intact. The sense of satisfaction of a mission accomplished was shared by all and the kids looked forward to their ice cream.

Thanks to Chris for organising all the equipment, reconnaissance, disposal of rubbish and the smooth running of the event, making this such a success.

Future CUTE events are advertised on the TEPS Facebook Page (events) and are open for everyone to attend. Please join in.

Images below: A lot of rubbish was picked up by the team. Well done!

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Panmure Basin Fun Day

TEPS was pleased to again take part in the Panmure Basin Fun Day after its many necessary cancellations. We all had a nervous wait for the day, and it was wonderful to once again take part in this community event. Thanks to the **Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board** for supporting the day.

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It's Membership Renewal Time

TEPS membership is \$5.00 for one year, from the 1st of April 2023 to the 31st of March 2024. Please renew by transferring \$5.00 to **TEPS account: 12 3057 0634462 001**

Please remember to include your last name in the 'Particulars Field'.

Please pay your membership subscription for one year only as this helps our administration. Addition sums are welcome as a donation.

TEPS renewal/donation form is at <https://teps.org.nz/join-renew-donate/>

We accept membership renewals at our AGM.

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