



Our treasured
friend Shred
RIP 11/1/2013



THE WONDERFUL WETLAND AT DRAGONFLY SPRINGS...



There was a good turnout once again on November 25th when the latest open day was held for the public at Dragonfly Springs wetland sanctuary in Whangarei.

This marvelous conservation project in the Onerahi suburb is the brainchild of private landowners Jeremy Busck and Pamela Winter. The couple have used their own funding and spent thousands of hours since 2008 transforming this former rubbish infested swampy wasteland into the wildlife haven it is today.

Wetlands throughout New Zealand include a wide variety of swamps, bogs, lakes, rivers, lagoons and estuaries that play a crucial role in capturing and purifying water runoff, as well as providing an ideal home for wildlife.

It's inspiring to see people like Jeremy and Pam giving of themselves to make the world a better place for us all... one swampy wasteland at a time.



GO DAD!

It's not just for kids... Dad's can have a go too!

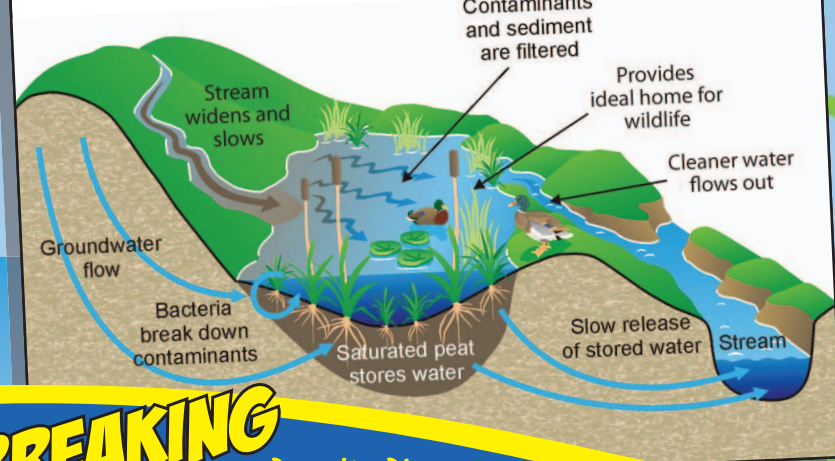


Mr Mac helps to build a "fish hide" at Dragonfly Springs.



Click here to read a recent story about Dragonfly Springs from the Northern Advocate...

HOW DO WETLANDS WORK?



**BREAKING
NEWS!**

Doug the Digger
will be at MoTAT
in Auckland on
Sunday, 3rd March



CHRISTMAS EVE IN RUSSELL

Santa Claus and his able helpers Darcie (Elf Claus) and Barbara (Rudolph) were once again on hand to help spread some Christmas cheer in Russell on Christmas Eve. This is the 12th year the Claus family have given out a trolley full of presents (kindly donated by the community and local businesses) to everyone they come across around the streets of Russell.



THANKS!

Special thanks to the folks at **MINDS** (Midway in Northland Day Services) for providing magnets for handing out as gifts.



DISABILITY DAY

Tiaho Trust put on a highly successful Disability Day at the Town Basin in Whangarei on December the 3rd last year. The event gave people with a disability an opportunity to "Get out there and have a go" at a range of recreational and sporting activities, including sailing, juggling, patting miniature horses, paper making, and, of course... driving a digger!

[Click here to read the Whangarei Report article about the day...](#)



[Click here to see more photos from the event...](#)

the Whangarei Report
What matters to you

Thursday, December 20, 2012 ■ ph 470 2840 ■ fax 430 5686

Tiaho Trust disability day a success

A recent disability day hosted by the Tiaho Trust at the Town Basin had an unprecedented number of people with disabilities visit and join in. The event gave people with a disability the opportunity to "Get out there and have a go" at a range of recreational and sporting activities, such as sailing, juggling and driving a digger.

The Tiaho Trust chose to have the event at the Town Basin not just because "it is such lovely spot, but because it is also very accessible", according to trust operations manager Gail Stacey.

"The Whangarei District Council has made a number of improvements that make this area easy for everyone in our community to enjoy."

"There is lots of accessible parking, toilet facilities and those in wheelchairs could get around most of the exhibitions with little effort," she said.

Activities included sailing with the Whangarei Sailing Club, juggling with Carina Karamell, driving a digger with Doug the Digger, patting miniature horses and trying out a hand-cycle with Paralel Northland. Some of the children who came along also enjoyed the library and a swing designed to hold a wheelchair so that they can feel the joy of swinging through the air like other children, she said.

The guest speaker at the event was Whangarei Paralympic swimmer gold medalist Cameron Leslie, who said: "There are a lot more sporting opportunities available to young people today and here is your chance to try some of them out."

Tiaho Trust volunteer Nicholas Day to said: "The fact that this event was held somewhere that was flat and had the facilities needed for someone in a wheelchair made it all the more enjoyable for myself and others in a wheelchair, not having to worry about how to get around to the activities I wanted to see."

We were delighted to recently present TOP DOG Awards to **Elemoni Moana** (left) and **Reece Bermingham** (right).

Both students went to Whangarei Boys High School.

The TOP DOG Award, in memory of Truck Stop's Jock Caldwell, is presented to the highest achieving Youth Into Industry student each year.



RIDES IN DA PARK 2012

over 90 registered vehicles joined forces to converge on Claudelands Park in Hamilton on December the 1st last year to take part in a special fundraising event for two brave kiwi kids battling cancer.

The convoy we were in heading down from Auckland sure was impressive! The event was a fantastic success, with 5 hours of live local talent on stage (including a kids' karaoke competition), lolly scrambles, face painting, a giant bouncy castle, digger operating and much more keeping everyone well entertained.

Best of all, the event raised \$3,100... which has been donated to the families of the two children to help make life a little easier for them at this very difficult time.



Click to see more...



CONVOY!

10-4 GOOD BUDDY.

Auckland

Hamilton



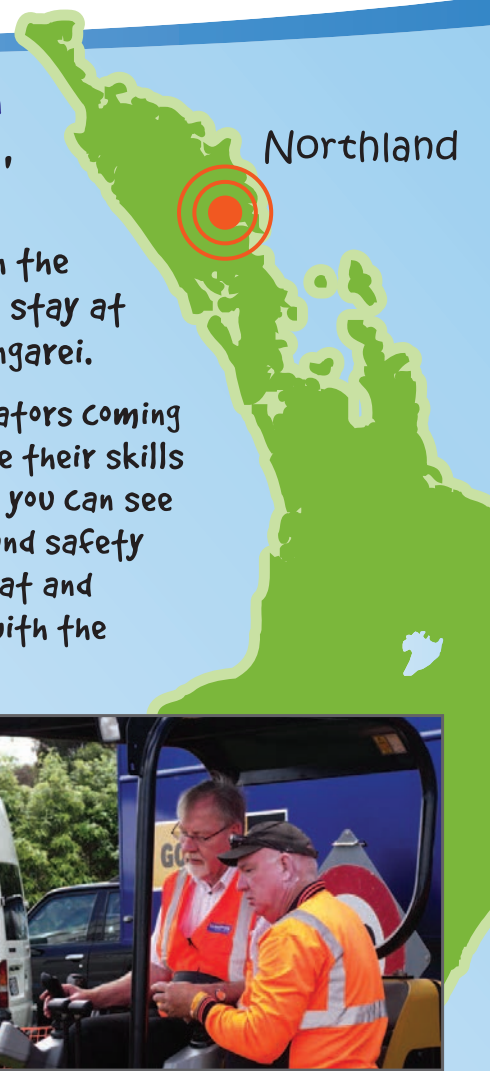
NZ Contractors' Federation

REGIONAL EXCAVATOR COMPETITIONS

We love to support the New Zealand Contractors' Federation in their mission to promote excavator operation as a skilful, respected and fulfilling career path.

Mr Mac travels to centres throughout the country to help out with the NZCF Regional Excavator competitions... but in December he got to stay at home when the Northland leg of the competition took place in Whangarei.

once again, we were there to help the younger generation of digger operators coming through by giving them an opportunity under instruction to demonstrate their skills behind the controls of our Gough CAT mini excavator, "Little Cutie." As you can see in the pictures, we also like to reinforce the importance of paperwork and safety checks... as there's a lot more to this career than just hopping in the seat and playing with a digger! Thanks to all the competitors for helping us out with the public as they experienced operating our mini excavator.



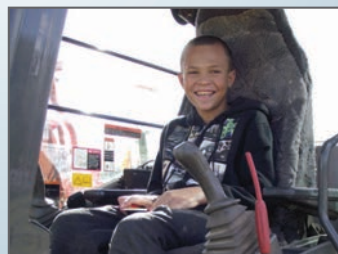
WELLSFORD COUNTRY SHOW

Thanks go to Gordon (aka "Foxie") and Deidre Fox of Fox Earthmoving in Wellsford, for giving us the opportunity to be involved in the Wellsford Country Show on Saturday, November 24th last year.

There was a great turn out on the day with lots of fun displays, rides and activities for the whole family. We had plenty of keen young visitors at our site ready to put pen to paper, and of course have a go at the controls of "Little Cutie."

Rangi Povey is shown here putting pen to paper before operating "Little Cutie"... then sharing time with Foxie and his bigger 12 tonne digger.

[Click here to see more great photos from the show...](#)

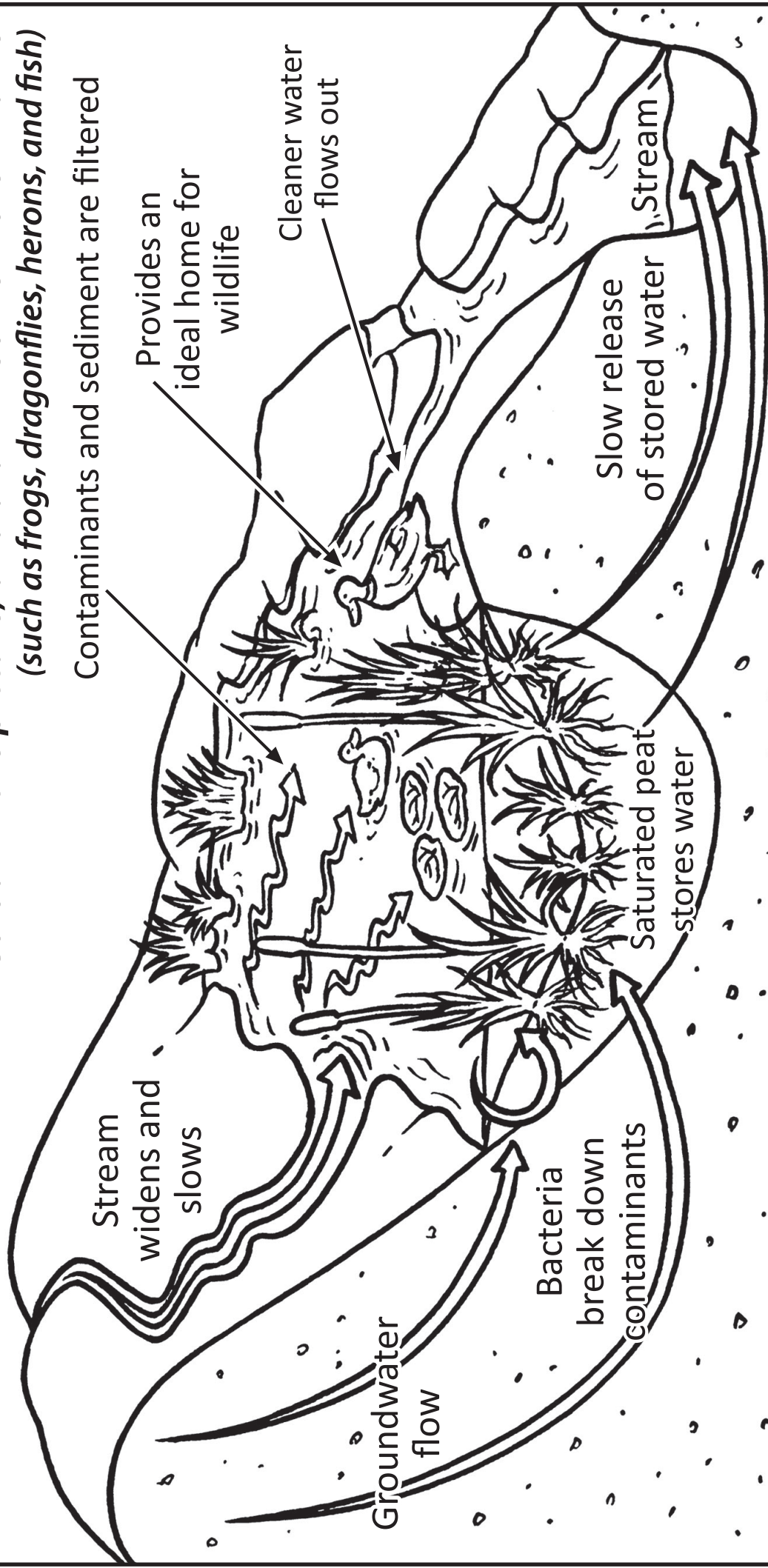


HOW DO WETLANDS WORK?

February 2013

www.doughthedigger.co.nz

Colour in the picture, and draw in some more wildlife
(such as frogs, dragonflies, herons, and fish)



GET READY TO LEARN!

Have an adult help you look up these words in the dictionary if you don't know what they mean...

Groundwater Bacteria Contaminants Sediment Filtered Saturated Peat