

Keas In Action – Inaugural Manukau Zone Kea Hike

The Tui, Kereru, Piwakawaka and Riroriro (grey warbler) at Totara Park must have been very surprised to be joined by nearly 100 Keas last Sunday! Zone Kea Leaders, Donna Bagley and Helen Rutledge, were delighted with the turnout of Keas to this family activity – the first Manukau Zone Kea Hike.

Keas and their families from Howick, Bucklands Beach, Te Puru, Papatoetoe East, St George’s and Ormiston Kea Clubs joined together on the hike which took them through 4km native bush and forest. The playground stop in the middle of the hike was a welcome respite for some of the Keas and their siblings, as the Puhinui Stream Forest Trail is not a “walk in the park”... there are some steep climbs including one section of 107 steps! Keas also enjoyed reading the jokes and information cards that had been strategically placed along the track.

At the end of the hike Keas were presented with certificates of participation and some goodies kindly donated by Nestle. Family/Kea groups then enjoyed a picnic lunch before heading home tired but having enjoyed a fantastic event. A special thanks to Donna for putting in so much preparation to make it so successful. *Helen Rutledge Zone Kea Leader*



Buckland’s Beach Sea Scout Group Keas having a rest



Howick Keas at the Totara Park Kea Hike after climbing 107 steps



Birthday Keas Ben and Genevieve after the hike