

Spring Newsletter

What's happening in Spring





New Bumblebee Trail

It's been a wonderfully busy spring filled with inspiring talks and visits. One of the highlights has been the launch of our brandnew Bumblebee Trail. The trail features five interactive stations, each packed with fascinating bumblebee facts and questions. Kids get to stamp their answers on a special trail sheet as they go, turning learning into an adventure.

We recently ran the trail at the beautiful Elms | Te Papa Tauranga Historic House and Garden, and the response was fantastic! Families wandered through the lush gardens and the kids eagerly hunted for clues. It was a day full of smiles, learning, and great appreciation for our fuzzy pollinator friends. A huge thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make it such a success. We're already buzzing with ideas for another trail next January. Check our Facebook page for the dates. Pictured is Cat McLeod, our wonderful new Volunteer, and a family on the Trail.

Our New Science Advisor - Nelson Pomeroy





Nelson's life has revolved around bumbles, right from a teenager through to graduate theses on how bumblebee colonies grow and decline. He developed observation hives for unimpeded observation of a colony's growth cycle and designed a commercial rearing system that has been used internationally for crop pollination.

Education is Nelson's strong passion. He looks forward to working with the NZBCT to further understanding of our local species and assisting with resources so school children can observe and work with these amazing insects.

Read more about Nelson on our website – Who We Are

Insect Decline in The UK

A recent declaration backed by over 60 organisations has reported that flying insects have fallen by 63% since 2021 and bumblebees declined by 22.5% in 2024.

Insects are essential for our world to function. They pollinate crops and wild plants, recycle nutrients, maintain healthy soils, control pests, and form the base of the food web for birds, bats, fish, and other wildlife.

Unfortunately, we do not have similar surveys here in NZ, but the issues and awareness are the same.

So how can this be fixed?

- Restore insect-friendly habitats
- Cut harmful pesticide use
- Protect key species and ecosystem
- Invest in science and education

More info can be found on the UK Bumblebee Conservation site here

Will you join us in being part of the solution? Become a <u>member</u> today for just \$30.00 a year. Plant a pollinator friendly garden.

Planting for Pollinators

We can help pollinator populations, and particularly our bumblebees, by planting pollinator friendly gardens and promoting floral and insect conservation and biodiversity.

A pollinator garden can be small or large – just choose whatever space you have.

Check out our list of ideas and flowers suggestions on our website here





2026 Calendar

2026 Calendar with fun and interesting graphics and a message about the life of bumblebees.

\$20.00

Shop Now



Bumblebee Home Garden Hive

These hives are perfect for the home gardener or home orchardist. A Home Garden Hive will contain approx. 50 worker bees and a Queen.

Its best to use a home ...

\$130.00

Shop Now

Become a member of the NZ Bumblebee Trust and help by promoting the conservation of our bumblebees. An annual subscription will ensure you continue to help our very worthy cause. JOIN here

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