



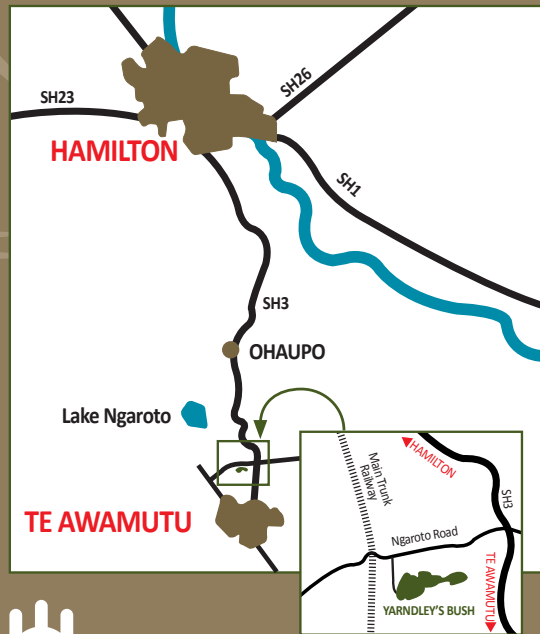
Yarndley's Bush

TO GET TO YARNDLEY'S BUSH FROM:

HAMILTON - Take State Highway Three heading to Waitomo Caves, continue through Ohaupo. At the Te Rahu tennis courts intersection turn right onto Ngaroto Road. After one and a half kilometres there is a signpost at the entrance to the reserve.

TE AWAMUTU - Take State Highway Three for approximately three kilometres towards Hamilton. At the Te Rahu tennis courts intersection turn left into Ngaroto Road. After one and a half kilometres there is a signpost at the entrance to the reserve.

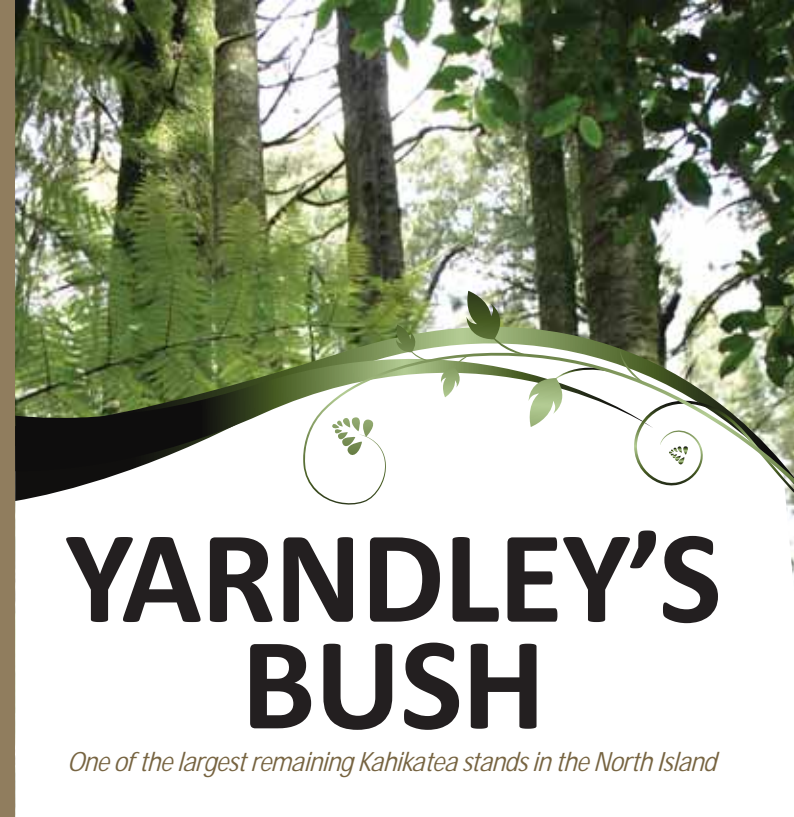
CAMBRIDGE - Travel to Te Awamutu, take State Highway Three for approximately three kilometres towards Hamilton. At the Te Rahu tennis courts intersection turn left into Ngaroto Road. Or take Kaipaki Road onto State Highway Three, turn left into Ohaupo, continue through Ohaupo. At Te Rahu tennis courts intersection turn right onto Ngaroto Road. After one and a half kilometres there is a signpost at the entrance to the reserve.



Waipa
DISTRICT COUNCIL

109 Bank Street, Te Awamutu
Phone: 0800 924 723

Limited car parking is available at the roadside entrance.
Wheelchair access requires a gate key.
Please phone Waipa District Council on 0800 924 723.
Street footwear is suitable for this short walk. Please keep to the boardwalk to help protect this forest for future generations.



YARNDLEY'S BUSH

One of the largest remaining Kahikatea stands in the North Island



Yarndley's Bush

Nestled among lush farm valleys, just four kilometres from Te Awamutu, Yarndley's Bush is one of the Waipa district's most precious environmental assets. At more than 14 hectares, Yarndley's Bush is believed to be one of the largest remaining Kahikatea stands in the central North Island.

New Zealand's tallest native tree, the Kahikatea (sometimes known as white pine) once covered much of the Waikato region. In the 1900s many Kahikatea stands were cleared for agriculture. Its odourless timber was milled to make butter boxes which were exported by ship to Europe.

Isolated trees and the odd stand can still be seen in farm fields, but they are often unfenced exposing the buttressed roots and forest understory to damage from grazing.

None of the Kahikatea in Yarndley's Bush, which can live for more than 500 years, are fully mature. The trees are expected to thrive for many years to come.

PROTECTING A UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT

While this stand was fenced in 1980 by the then owner Sandy Yarndley, its significance to the Waipa district and future generations justified greater recognition and protection. Waipa District Council, with assistance from the Government's Forest Restoration Fund, purchased the stand in 1992. The Council then worked with Te Awamutu Kiwanis Club volunteers to interpret the many ecological features within the stand and construct a boardwalk and raised viewing platform for visitors to enjoy and learn more about this unique environment.

Since fencing and protecting the stand, its undergrowth and fauna have flourished and thrived. Kahikatea stands are generally less diverse than other forest types favouring species that like wet soil conditions. Our changing climate has seen the stand's ground water table slowly transitioning from swamp land to a drier environment. This has seen the appearance of species like tawa and an increasing array of weedy pests. An active weed control programme is in place.

ENTER A DIFFERENT WORLD

Under towering canopy the sights and sounds of the forest are reminiscent of times when much of the region was covered in thick native bush. The Kahikatea, some 35 metres high, create a natural sunshade. As you walk along the wooden boardwalk the air around feels several degrees cooler than in the open fields outside. Huge root buttresses swell from the ground and delicate ferns vie for space among the crowded foliage of the forest floor. Midway along the looping boardwalk, a raised timber viewing platform provides a unique bird's eye view of the forest below. The railed platform is an excellent study area for schools and other groups to observe the eco-system of the stand.

Birds like fantail and grey warbler follow as you flush moths, beetles and flies from leaves and branches. Regular and abundant kahikatea fruit attracts tui and pigeon along with finches and rosellas. The small stream running through the stand supports populations of native trout, eel and koura.

