

SoTM Summer Studentship Programme 2017-18



The Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi (SoTM) are sponsoring a student project over the 2017-2018 summer period. This student project will be similar to those sponsored by the Auckland Council.

It is expected that the student will take approximately eight weeks to complete their project, four-six weeks for the fieldwork on Tiritiri Matangi and two or three weeks for analysis and writing up the final report. Our expectation is that the fieldwork would largely be completed on day trips to the Island. SoTM will cover the cost of the ferry to the Island.

The student will need to adhere to the *SoTM Health and Safety Plan* and to work in accordance with the *Code of Conduct for Researchers and Volunteers on Tiritiri Matangi*. They will also need to follow the Island's strict biosecurity measures.

This project is suitable for a senior student looking to gain experience in the setup of a project, fieldwork, analysis and final write up. It is expected that the project will be carried out from late November, through December 2017 and into January 2018.

The successful applicant will receive a grant of \$2500 to be paid in instalments, the final payment being due upon satisfactory completion of the report.

The project proposed, pending approval by the Department of Conservation, is:

A survey of trees surrounding vegetation plots; this is part of a larger project to measure the effects of creating light wells in stands of pōhutukawa.

An outline of the project is attached.

The deadline for applications is **8 September 2017**.

Applications should be sent to Kay Milton at: research@tiritirimatangi.org.nz

Each applicant should send:

- A letter indicating why the project interests them and what they think they can offer to the project.
- A *curriculum vitae* indicating all relevant qualifications and experience (see below).
- A University transcript indicating their course marks/grades to date.
- The names and contact details of two *academic* referees.

Please give this document and project outline to any students you think might be interested and suitably qualified.

A note on curricula vitae

When preparing a CV, many applicants misjudge what we need to know; most CVs are too vague and general to be really helpful. It is important to provide detail on what they have done rather than making general statements. For instance, 'Two years' volunteering at Shakespear Regional Park' is not sufficient. We need to know exactly what they have done there: 'planting trees, checking tracking tunnels and setting bait stations, helping with robin monitoring,' etc. The same applies to other relevant experience, such as university field trips and summer jobs. Self-descriptions such as, 'I am confident, outgoing and work well under stress', are of little value unless they are backed up by evidence, in the form of detail on what the student has done, or in statements supplied by a referee.