

# NZ Bumblebee Conservation Trust

[View this email in your browser](#)

## NEWSLETTER

Summer 2024

### **Garden and Art Festival**

Around 2000 happy garden visitors came to our garden in Tauranga during this recent festival, where the Bumblebee Trust had a live, see-into hive. Geoff gave 8 talks with 30-70 people each time. It was wonderful exposure for the Trust with very high interest.

Our competition to guess how many bees were in the hive was won by Lyn and Leanne, both from Tauranga. They each won a home garden hive that will be couriered right to their doorsteps. The estimated number was 394. Many thanks to all the participants.





### Your Own Bumblebee Hive

If you are interested in a hive, you can now order one direct from our website right [here](#). You will be supporting the Trust as well as starting bumblebee colonies in and around your own place. Full information is provided on our website [here](#). Information is also sent with the hive that comes direct from Zonda Beneficials in Auckland. Last orders before Christmas are 14<sup>th</sup> December.

(Note – hives must be opened as soon as they arrive – you cannot save them until Xmas)



## Summer Flowers

December is a vibrant month that celebrates the start of summer. The longer days and warmer weather make it an ideal time to be outdoors enjoying nature. The abundance of blooming flowers in December provides bumblebees with much a needed food source, while gardeners benefit from the increased free pollination service! Flowering herbs are an absolute favourite of bumblebees! They are also one of the easiest things you can grow, add tonnes of flavour to your plate, and are great for containers and small spaces. Overall, they get our vote as 'must have' plants!

Many herbs have leaves you can pick regularly throughout the year, so don't forget to leave some stems alone to produce flowers for bumblebees. Some herbs also have edible flowers, so pick a few for you (if you like) and leave the rest for your buzzing visitors!

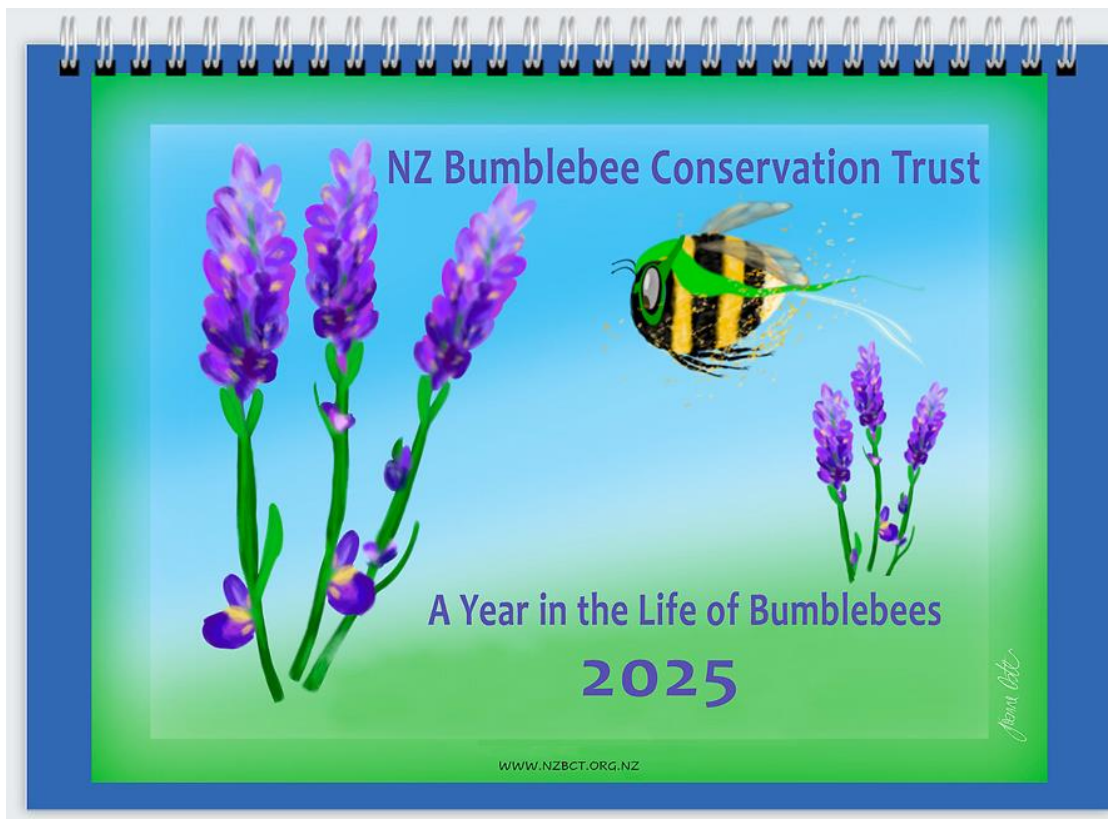
Some suggestions are: Chives, Lavender, Rosemary, Mint, Thyme, Oregano and Sage. Have fun and enjoy!



Bumblebee on chive flowers

## **Bumblebee 2025 Calendar SPECIAL**

NZ Bumblebee Trust has created a 2025 calendar with gorgeous graphics. Each month the calendar depicts a wonderful picture with information on what is happening to bumblebees at that time of year. In addition, each month has a fun and interesting message. This is suitable for both for kids and adults to follow the year in the life of bumblebees. We are very grateful to Joanne Ostler who has created all the graphics especially for the Trust. The cost has been reduced to just \$15.00 and you can buy them on our website right [here](#). There is very limited stock left so be quick!



As we move towards Christmas, we wrap up another year of fantastic support from our members and supporters.

Thank you all so much for helping our cause, for we all are truly 'Saving the Sounds of Summer'!

All the best from the trustees of NZBCT

## Help Support our Bumblebees

**The future of bees in NZ is under threat. Bees are dealing with disease, battling changing environments, reduced green space and increasing use of toxic pesticide sprays.**



**JOIN**

Become a member 

**YOU CAN HELP - Click on the bee and become a member today.**

A small donation will go towards our education and conservation programmes.

[www.nzbct.org.nz](http://www.nzbct.org.nz)

*Copyright © 2024 New Zealand Bumblebee Conservation Trust. All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

14 Freeburn Road, Tauranga

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

