

Working bees to plant 1991 trees

WORKING bees will be held on site at the proposed 1991 Founders Plantation in New Plymouth during the next two weekends.

Merrilands Lions Club, its sponsor club Egmont Lions and the New Plymouth District Council's parks division have combined to create the park in the Pembroke-Huatoki valley as part of the city's sesquicentennial celebrations.

Project director Dan Horsley said there was still a lot of work to be done on site and he would welcome any help people could give.

In the creation of the park it was planned to plant 1991 native trees — totara, kauri and kahikatea — and the public had been invited to buy a tree that they could plant on June 8.

But Mr Horsley said people had been slow to respond to the opportunity to be part of a living memory of the 150th celebrations and only a few hundred trees had been sold so far.

However, those who had decided to adopt a tree had been from as far away as England, he said. "A lot are people who have had connections with New Plymouth in the past and look upon it as their second home."

The working bees were scheduled to start at 1.30pm tomorrow and next Saturday. An earlier start of 10am was planned for the two Sunday working sessions.

And those willing to give up some time were asked to bring along their garden tools.