







Celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and 35 years of open space covenanting in New Zealand Focus on Gisborne I Kauri dieback I Magpie control I Hanging gates

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COVER PHOTO

View from Omarama Station's covenant at the top of Mt St Cuthbert. See article page 5. *Photo: Tom Barber.*

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Happy 35th Anniversary QEII

The Queen Elizabeth 11 National Trust was established in 1977 and named to commemorate the 25th jubilee of HRH Queen Elizabeth II in the same year. Now in 2012, we jointly celebrate the Queen's 60th jubilee and the Trust's 35th anniversary.

New Zealand has highly unique and valuable biodiversity that is at the heart of our cultural heritage and our social and economic wellbeing. However, our biodiversity is also vulnerable to the impacts of human activity. This led a handful of farmers in the 1970s to search for a way to protect biodiversity values on their land. It was through their initiative that the QEII Trust and open space covenanting was born. Landowners now had a way to permanently protect natural and cultural places on their land if they wished. In the past this level of protection had only been possible on Crown land.

QEII's model is simple and robust and has proven to be a very practical way to integrate sustainable land management practices and achieve enduring conservation outcomes on working farms and other privately-owned land. This year, as we celebrate the Trust's 35th anniversary, we salute the vision and drive of QEII's instigators. The concept of a flexible, adaptive protection mechanism that accommodates landowners' aspirations is unique internationally and has proved that production and conservation can be mutually beneficial. It has fostered and stimulated a new ethos in rural New Zealand and the country has gained enormously from the stewardship of thousands of QEII covenantors, who, through their generous goodwill and hard work, are protecting exceptional landscapes and threatened native ecosystems in perpetuity.







Eric Heath cartoon drawn for the Queen's 25th jubilee visit to New Zealand. During the jubilee tour the Queen and Prince Philip visited Plimmerton (Taupo) Swamp, located on State Highway 1, 26 km north of Wellington. Harakeke/native flax is a feature of the 30 ha QEII property.

Celebrating 35 years of open space covenanting

In the beginning...

The Trust's first covenantors were Gordon and Celia Stephenson. Their covenant document was signed in 1978 and their covenant was formally registered with the Trust a year later. Gordon Stephenson (together with the late Charlotte Wallace) was a key instigator in establishing the QEII National Trust, leading Federated Farmers in lobbying the Government to institute a way for farmers to protect special features on their land. He was inspired to do so because he knew there were many landowners who loved the bush and other natural places on their land, but there was no way for them to protect these places in perpetuity while retaining private ownership. This was at a time when the Government was offering loans to fell bush and develop land. Gordon knew that covenants that were tied to the property rather than to the owner would overcome the worry many farmers had that the areas they cherished would be developed once they sold the land. He firmly believed that covenanting had to be voluntary; people making the decision to covenant because "they believe it is the right thing to do and not because they're being paid to do it." (From Our Islands, Our Selves, A History of Conservation in New Zealand, David Young, 2004).

Thirty-five years on and Gordon says he is pretty happy with the progress QEII has made.

"QEII needed to establish itself and prove it could work," he said. "People now have confidence in the system and that is reflected in the growing number of covenants. It's wonderful that QEII can celebrate 3,500-plus covenants in its 35th year."

Gordon's vision and the conservation movement he and Celia triggered in establishing the first open space covenant has changed the way natural and cultural places on private land are valued and preserved in New Zealand.



Gordon and Celia Stephenson were the first people to covenant land with QEII. They have a 4 ha lowland tawa-podocarp forest covenant on their 21 ha retirement farm near Putaruru which bursts with birdlife including "flocks of kereru", bellbirds, fantails and tui.



Chris and Karley Amon.

Not only do Chris and Karley Amon have a wetlands covenant of great significance for the Taranaki region, they can also claim fame for having established New Zealand's 3,500th open space covenant.

Their 49 ha covenant borders Lake Waiau Wildlife Management Reserve, just south of Waverley. The reserve is a public conservation area which is listed as a significant wetland and key native ecosystem for the Taranaki region. The Amons' covenant makes a very important contribution to the ecological processes of the lake reserve and its swamplands by extending protection along its western boundary. Only 1 percent of the region's total wetland areas are found outside Egmont National Park, so the covenant is a note-worthy addition to habitat protection in the surrounding countryside. The Taranaki Regional Council has recognised this fact by covering the bulk of the costs to fence off the covenanted area and plant along the margins between the new fence and the wetland. Three years in the ground now and the plantings are coming along nicely, softening the fenceline around the covenant and blending in well with the existing native vegetation.

The Amons' wetland has an amazing array of native species including orchids, flax, raupo and carex grass, together with cabbage trees, mahoe, karamu and toetoe. The nationally endangered Australasian bittern, the spotless crake and the very difficult-to-spot fernbird, have all been sighted there.



Covenantors' event at Omarama





QEII Director Yvonne Sharp with Mackenzie District Council Mayor Claire Barlow and QEII rep Brian Molloy.

Richard and Annabelle Subtil. Insert: Omarama Station's woolshed which dates back to the 1860s.

Carmichaelia kirkii/ native broom

Richard and Annabelle Subtil welcomed over 70 QEII members and associates to a covenantors' event held at Omarama Station, located at the southern end of the Mackenzie Basin in the South Island.

Omarama Station has been farmed by the Wardell family since 1919. Dick and Beth Wardell's daughter, Annabelle, and her husband Richard Subtil now manage the station and its 16,500 merino sheep (supplying wool for the famous Icebreaker brand amongst other things) and 1,000 head of beef cattle. Eight thousand hectares of the 12,000 ha property is Crown pastoral lease land.

Omarama Station has two covenants. The larger covers 865 ha and is located at the top of Mt St Cuthbert, the highest point on the station at 1,558 m. The other is a 420 ha block on the station's downs country. These outstanding covenants protect diverse natural and visual features. Gullies, cushion bogs, screes and boulder fields habitats support mixed shrubland including snow tussock and mountain totara, coprosmas, olearias and the rare native broom *Carmichaelia kirkii*.

QEII rep for the area, Brian Molloy, worked with the Wardells to set up the covenants. They sought a protection plan that would allow managed use of the land. Brian says while he might know all about high country vegetation, landowners are the experts on assessing its condition, knowing when they can graze and when they need to pull out. Around March each year ewes graze the Mt St Cuthbert land for about six weeks. This provides relief for pastures further down and also helps with hericium control.

"If you don't graze at all, these areas would lose a lot of native plants to competition from weeds. If you over-graze it, the same thing happens. Getting the balance right is important," Brian says.

Focus on Gisborne

Between 1880 and 1920 large areas of Gisborne's forested landscape were felled or burned principally for timber and the development of farmland. The larger areas of remaining indigenous forest are found on the main ranges. Elsewhere original forest remnants tend to be nearer the coast, or further inland where the cooler, wetter climate meant it was less easily cleared.

Gisborne's geology means it is prone to erosion, as the region's most costly natural disaster, Cyclone Bola, demonstrated in 1988. The cyclone's damage totalled over \$80 million when 900 mm of rain fell in 72 hours, nearly matching Gisborne's annual average of 1,051 mm. Severe flooding and huge mudslides affected 1,765 farmers (some early covenantors among them) accounting for around 3,600 ha of damaged hill pasture and cropping lands. This disaster led to a huge rethink for the farming community and, as a result, forestry, poplar and willow conservation plantings to protect eroding hills have transformed the East Coast landscapes. Large Government-funded programmes such as the East Coast Forestry Project have assisted this change. Healed by these forest plantings, the scars caused by Cyclone Bola's massive slips can no longer be seen. In addition, large previously cleared areas have reverted back to kanuka and manuka for a number of reasons including poor farming returns and natural reversion under low stocking rates. In some places a lot of the reverted manuka is regarded as having a huge potential for honey production, while in others it is still being removed as a weed in pasture.

A number of ecological restoration projects are underway in Gisborne, involving the Council, trusts, volunteers and community groups, the Department of Conservation and QEII covenantors. These projects are also moderating the effects of erosion and protecting and restoring diverse ecosystems, even returning to Gisborne species like the kaka, green gecko and native broom that had been locally extinct for many years.

There are currently 161 registered QEII open space covenants in Gisborne, protecting around 5,050 ha. A further 29 covenant proposals have been approved for registration, covering 1,440 ha.

Place to visit in Gisborne

Pouawa Sandhills

These protected sandhills are on an attractive coastline, and have scenic, natural and cultural values. The dunes are habitat for specialised native fauna and flora. On-site interpretation of the site's natural values and history is provided. Roadside parking is provided but there are no other facilities.

The sandhills were gifted to QEII by the estate of the late Janet Williams. Janet wished the dunes to be permanently protected for public use and enjoyment.

Location: 19km northeast of Gisborne, adjacent to State Highway 35.





 1. Pouawa Sandhills
 4. Campbell-Snelling covenant

 2. Longbush Ecosanctuary
 5. McLelland covenant

 3. Eastwoodhill Arboretum
 6. Tuaheni Point

QEII regional rep Meg Gaddum



Meg was appointed as Gisborne's regional representative in the latter half of 2011, taking over from Malcolm Piper. Meg says she looks forward to meeting Gisborne's covenantors over time, and will be in touch with you soon to schedule in your biennial monitoring visit, should one be due. Contact Meg with any queries you might have about monitoring or any other matter directly concerning your covenant. T: 06 802 3418 E: mgaddum@openspace.org.nz



Muttonbird/titi chick

There is little riparian bush left near Gisborne's coast which makes Longbush Ecosanctuary exceptional because it contains a rare strip alongside the Waimata River. Longbush Ecosanctuary has a restoration plan in place to expand protection from this area to include a further 100 ha of regenerating bush in surrounding hill country and three stream valleys.

When Jeremy and Dame Anne Salmond purchased the land in 2000 it was under severe ecological threat. Cattle grazed the hills and riverside bush, and the forest floor was barren. Garden rubbish and other refuse including cars were dumped in the gullies and alongside the river. The Salmonds set up the Longbush Ecological Trust to take care of the restoration work that needed to be done. Founding members of the Trust, Dame Anne Salmond, Jeremy Salmond, Meikle McNab, Steve Sawyer and John Thorpe, are all long-standing contributors to the Longbush project.

The ecosanctuary's restoration project began in 2001 when Longbush Reserve was fenced and placed under a QEII covenant. An intensive weed and pest control programme followed. Planting projects by community groups, including Conservation Corps from the Tai Rawhiti Polytechnic and Turanga Ararau PTE, have created wildlife corridors from this bush to regenerating native forest on the hills to connect with protected blocks on neighbouring land.

Ten years on and the bush is now alive with the sight and sound of tui, bellbirds, fantails, kingfishers, whiteheads and kereru, while the forest floor has been colonised by kawakawa and rare plants including black orchids (*Gastrodia cunninghamii*) and hooded green orchids (*Pterostyllis banksii*). Grey geckos, longtailed bats and black-headed tree weta also live in the bush. Native robins, which were locally extinct, have been returned to Longbush Reserve.

Groves of berry-bearing trees (tikoki, karaka, puriri and taraire) and the "Renee Orchiston" collection of 60 varieties of harakeke (New Zealand flax) have been planted along the foothills to provide seasonal food supplies for native birds. A group of local weavers, led by Meikle McNab of Ngati Porou, care for the flax collection, which is regarded as a national taonga (treasure).

The Longbush Ecological Trust aims to foster innovative approaches to ecological restoration. Future plans for the ecosanctuary include a new kind of predator-proof fence, based on existing farm fences but with netting, capping and footings added. Designed by Steve Sawyer of Ecoworks, this fence is much less expensive than current models. It can be built and maintained by local labour, and permits low levels of predation to keep down the rodent populations that explode in many enclosures. This will encourage the return of many native species, including brown kiwi, weka, tomtit, kakariki, kaka, the rifleman, East Coast kaka beak, native broom, and the forest and green gecko – all no longer found in the region. An unexpected inclusion on that list is the mutton-bird/ titi. These birds, and seabirds generally, were numerous in New Zealand forests in pre-human times. At Christmas, Longbush achieved a world first when five titi chicks from Young Nicks Head that had been hand-reared at Longbush by Steve Sawyer's team set off on their oceanic migration – the first step in establishing an inland titi colony.



Waikereru weavers with Dame Anne Salmond.

Eastwoodhill Arboretum – The National Arboretum of New Zealand

Story by Rodney Faulkner

You may well have heard of Eastwoodhill, Gisborne's worldfamous arboretum. What you may not know is that the entire property is protected with a QEII covenant.

The development of the arboretum started 100 years ago when William Douglas Cook took possession of hill country 30 km inland from Gisborne. He named his property "Eastwoodhill" after his mother's home in Scotland.

Injured during service in WWI, William Cook spent time convalescing in English country homes. The estates inspired him to create a park of great beauty and botanical interest on his property back in New Zealand. He feared that a nuclear holocaust (and later acid rain) would wipe out northern hemisphere species and that led him to develop Eastwoodhill as a safe repository to protect and preserve as many tree species as he could.

By 1960 he was becoming concerned about the future of the

arboretum, worrying that a subsequent owner might clear it for pasture. Fortunately, the property was purchased in 1965 by Mr Bill Williams, another conservationist and philanthropist. The Eastwoodhill Trust Act was passed by Parliament in 1975. Mr Williams gifted the property to the Trust and became its first Chairman.

Eastwoodhill was registered as a QEII covenant in 1992. It covers 131 ha and contains over 3,500 different species of trees and shrubs, 175 of which are listed as endangered.

Through the Act and the Eastwoodhill Trust's liaison with organisations such as the QEII Trust, the future of this wonderful collection is secured and the arboretum will continue to provide interest and pleasure to serious botanists, scientists and the thousands of visitors who come from all over the world to explore the park.





ALL PHOTOS: GILLIAN CAMPBELL-SNEL

Gillian Campbell-Snelling and Doug Snelling have seven covenants totalling 74 hectares and are working on covenanting another 18 ha block on their property 28 km north of Wairoa. The covenants contain gullies, streams, wetlands and lakes, forming a rich assortment of wildlife habitats. Gillian's background in botany and fine art is reflected in the way their farm and its network of covenants are managed. The Snellings' vision is to create an open space native parkland across the farm which gives the land beautiful visual form, and functions as a refuge for native plants and animals. No fewer than 53 bird species have been officially recorded in the covenants including the North Island pied tomtit, whitehead, bittern, kereru, tui, bellbird, crake, fernbird, dabchick, scaup, morepork and several cormorant species. Gillian's record of the native plants identified in the covenants includes a growing wetland collection. She has recently discovered 12 orchid species including the tiny Corybas cheesemanii orchid which has not been recorded in the area since the 1970s.

The covenants are a mix of remnant and regenerating bush featuring tawa, totara, matai, titoki, lianes and a wide range of ferns, lichen and fungi. Hawke's Bay Regional Council predator control support has meant that endangered species such as mistletoe are thriving along with the native birds. A list of native aquatic species surveyed by DOC includes the longfin eel, banded kokopu, koura and fresh water mussels. Archaeological sites surround the wetlands.

Dealing with feral deer and goat incursions has been a major challenge but the Snellings, together with Gillian's brother and sister-in-law, who face the same problem on their neighbouring covenants, have come up with an innovative solution. Conventional fencing around the covenants has been designed to keep out goats that can squeeze their way through the tiniest gap. To prevent feral deer from entering the covenants they hit on the idea to include a deer batten between the posts and run a hot wire tape at deer height across the top. The visibility of the tape means deer are less likely to injure themselves. This simple solution has had great success.



Pre-European canoe mooring post.



Corybas cheesemanii orchid



Carbon-dating of the puriri trees in the McLellands' covenant indicates they are at least 1,200 years old.

Much of the forest clearance on Puriri Station took place in the early 20th century but fortunately some pockets of forest were spared. In Bruce and Hinemoa McLelland's 2.6 ha covenant, ancient puriri tower over lush groves of nikau palms, giving an insight to what the forests in the area would once have looked like.

"When we first walked through our covenant, we were completely unprepared for the size and beauty of the old trees

Puriri facts

Puriri is endemic to New Zealand and is found on Three Kings Islands and in the North Island from Te Paki to Taranaki, Mahia Peninsula and northern Hawke's Bay. It is one of the few native trees with large colourful flowers. The bell-shaped flowers of the puriri range from red-brown through crimson to pale pink. Occasionally, white flowers with a yellow or pink blush can be discovered. The colour, shape, copious nectar production and the hairs at the base of the flower tube are all indicators that birds pollinate the flower. (The hairs stop insects from getting to the nectar). Puriri is also important as a host for a number of species. The puriri moth, or ghost moth (Aenetus virescens), is New Zealand's largest moth, with a wing span measuring up to an impressive 15 cm. Its 10 cm long larvae often live in long burrows they dig into the tree. The burrows are hard to see, as they are camoflauged with a silk covering that mimics the bark. The moths are much reduced in number. The great swarms "invading rooms, sufficient in number to extinguish lighted lamps" reported by early settlers no longer occur. (From Muriel Fisher, E. Satchell &

and this very powerful primal feeling in the forest.

"We are used to it now, but visitors to the covenant are usually very moved by the experience. Maori say that Tane Mahuta's presence is felt very strongly there," Hinemoa says.

Bruce and Hinemoa sold their Southland sheep breeding and finishing unit three years ago to move to Gisborne and farm sheep and beef at Puriri. Their top priorities for the covenant are possum control and making sure it is stock-proof.



Janet Watkins, *Gardening with New Zealand plants, shrubs & trees*, 1985). The puriri's spreading branches also provide a place for epiphytic species such as *Astelia*, puka (*Griselinia lucida*) and northern rata (*Metrosideros robus*) to grow. An infusion of its leaves has been used for centuries in traditional Maori medicine for bathing sprains and treating rheumatism. (Source: nzgeographic.co.nz).

Transforming Tuaheni Point



Tuaheni Point.



Restoration plantings are transforming Tuaheni Point.



Trust members and volunteers have planted over 20,000 native plants at the Point.

Tuaheni Point, located just a couple of kilometres south of Gisborne city, is of scenic and cultural importance to the Gisborne region. High mudstone and sandstone cliffs rise steeply from Sponge Bay and the Point's rocky shorelines. The cliffs, which continually slip and collapse, are largely bare. Above the sea cliffs a series of ledges and back slopes have pockets of herbfield dominated by Selliera radicans, a native coastal ground covering plant, iceplant, Poa anceps anceps (a native grass) and sea celery. Tuaheni Point is considered the best remaining and largest example of coastal herbfield and shrubland on the region's cliffs and terraces. The cliffs also contain many roosting sites for sea birds. Of historic interest is the Point's old lighthouse, abandoned in 1955 in favour of another on an adjacent ridge.

Restoration of Tuaheni Point is cared for by the Tuaheni Point Ecological Trust. Since 2003, rats, cats and rabbits have been controlled and are now at low numbers. Trust members and volunteers have planted over 20,000 native plants to enhance regeneration around the Point's scarped perimeter. Trust chair, Sandy Bull, says the harsh conditions on the Point have challenged the work at times, but the plantings are now taking hold and transforming the area.

"We are very grateful to QEII, DOC, Project Crimson Trust, the Gisborne District Council and all the sponsors and volunteers who have helped us along the way," Mr Bull said.

The Point is protected by two QEII covenants. The larger, on Warwick Bell's farm, circles a smaller covenant block owned by Maritime New Zealand. An additional covenant proposal is currently going through the application process which, once approved, will extend protection along the Point's western side.

Selliera radicans/remuremu - an end to lawn mowing?

Selliera radicans/remuremu is a spreading fleshy leaved groundcover found commonly on coastal marsh flats all around New Zealand. It has also been found inland in areas such as Wanaka and the Waikato. Its dark-green, spoon-shaped leaves create a very thick weed-suppressive mat. Geoff Davidson of Oratia Native Plants Nursery has successfully grown a *Selliera* lawn in Auckland. He says the ten-year old lawn never requires mowing, and sluicing every three months with salt water removes weeds without affecting the salttolerant *Selliera*.



Celebrating covenants

QEII open space covenants are helping to revive the health of the land and protect special natural and cultural sites. They also foster community engagement, recreation, education, research, nature appreciation and land stewardship skills. The following stories illustrate the different ways covenants benefit our land and society.

Caring for Kowhai Reach

Story by Dylan Forde, Limehills School

This year (2011) I entered a project in the Southland Social Science Fair on Kowhai Reach. I can see Kowhai Reach from my home because it is situated just 3km from my gate. And because my family's farm has the Winton Stream running through the very centre, Kowhai Reach is a very big part of my life. All the more reason for researching more about it. For my project I interviewed several people including Louise Wilson (original founder of Kowhai Reach), Caroline Beggs (maintenance), Frank Shand (former landowner), Gay Munro (ex-QEII Trust representative) and Richard England (current landowner). From these interviews I have been able to record the history of why Kowhai Reach is such a special covenant and the people that made it possible.

Louise Wilson decided that this special place could have some greater purpose and went about protecting it with the QEII. Then in 1999 Gay Munro asked my school if we could help underplant at the Reach. That was when the area was adopted by my school and to this day the area is still under development.

In the late 1960s the Southland Catchment Board had a policy of straightening streams and rivers, to better allow flood waters to drain away, and also because they wanted to grow two blades of grass where one had grown before! A landowner at Kauana, John Beck, was concerned at this practice, so took steps to stop this from happening on his land by preventing the bulldozer from entering his land and the Council from further straightening the stream, and stood up for what he believed in. Therefore the Kowhai Reach meander was saved.



Old kowhai trees line the banks of Winton Stream.



Dylan Forde at the Science Fair.

Kowhai Reach is a stretch of the Winton Stream, comprising five land holders, who placed an 'Open Space Covenant' on it in 1987. It is the only remaining example of a natural meandering, and relatively unmodified stream, and last remaining remnant of kowhai on the Southland plains. A stand of kowhai trees line the stream banks and at the original count there were 1,000 trees. At the time the trees were said to be over 200 years old and were naturally grown. The trees created shade for kokopu and freshwater crayfish. Through co-operation between the Southland District Council and the five adjoining landowners the stream bed and a strip of land on either side which comprise 'Kowhai Reach' are protected by Open Space Covenants. The total area is 23.05 hectares. Kowhai Reach is like an historical building!! It is our history!!

Limehills School, which I attend, began its involvement with Kowhai Reach on Arbor Day 2000. It has made Kowhai Reach its Community Project. Pupils' involvement includes planting and maintenance of small manageable areas of Kowhai Reach to provide a canopy to enable new kowhai to establish well in the future. Limehills School pupils have spent many days constructing a loop track, weed matting, barking and planting natives around the reserve and banks of the Reach. We also erected some signs recently to tell people how to respect our wonderful environment at Kowhai Reach.

(Dylan's research project was placed 3rd equal in the Year 7 and 8 Section of the 2011 Southland Social Science Fair).

Nature, recreation and cultural traditions sheltered at Wainono Lagoon

Wainono Lagoon with willow control underway in David Johnstone's recently registered covenant.

David Johnstone is protecting a 100 ha freshwater wetland habitat in his covenant bordering Wainono Lagoon near Waimate in South Canterbury. The covenanted area is highly representative of the original wetland ecosystems that were once extensive throughout the region before drainage and pasture development. The wetlands surrounding Wainono Lagoon are significant because they represent approximately a quarter of all saline/ estuarine wetland areas remaining in South Canterbury. It is the only extensive wetland between Christchurch and Dunedin and forms an important habitat for some 57 different bird species, many resident, others migratory.

David farms organically and runs a Romney stud. He is well known in the district for his low input method of farming and is a great believer of looking after the soil by having low stocking rates and a large variety of grasses in his paddocks. Legal protection of the wetlands further extends these practices to enhance the health of his land.

The area has high conservation, recreation, fisheries and wildlife values. For takata whenua Wainono Lagoon has practical and spiritual importance. Large numbers of waterfowl can been seen here; lucky bird watchers have even spotted the beautiful white heron (*Egretta alba*).

QEII, DOC and Environment Canterbury have supported David in establishing his covenant by offering rates rebates and funding support for fencing. ECan will further aid restoration efforts by funding a five-year control programme to tackle a 20 ha willow infestation, blackberry and the invasive, salt-tolerant reed canary grass, which threaten to smother the wetlands if left uncontrolled.



David Johnstone

An existing covenant owned by Central South Island Fish and Game protects 180 ha of habitat to the south of Wainono Lagoon. With the addition of David's covenant, large areas of wetland at the lagoon's northern and southern ends are now protected.

Perseverance leads to discovery

After reading in the Auckland Botanical Society's journal that the *Danhatchia australis* orchid had never been found in the North Kaipara district, plant enthusiast Doug Shaw was determined to find it. His search was focused on the property of friends Warren and Cherrie Boyce-Bacon at Paparoa because their 11 ha QEII covenant contains taraire bush. The orchid is known to grow in the taraire tree's leaf litter.

The Danhatchia australis orchid is endemic to New Zealand and is categorised as naturally uncommon. It is only about 120 mm high and, as it mostly lacks chlorophyll, flowers without the benefit of light. This means plants can grow in concealed dark sites, making it very difficult to find. On top of that it only flowers from late December to late February. Doug's "search and find" mission had to be well-timed. After three unsuccessful expeditions over two years, Doug and his mate Doug Sheppard finally came across the elusive orchid. The Auckland Museum confirmed its identity and was given permission to uplift a sample for its herbarium.

"Thankfully the covenant had kept the orchid's habitat intact. We just feel so happy that our perseverance paid off and we were able prove its existence in North Kaipara," they said.

About our orchids

Orchids are perennial plants, belonging to the Orchidacae family. Most New Zealand orchids grow as small ground herbs, dying back to an underground tuber after flowering and fruiting. Epiphyte orchids grow perched on trees or rocks. These orchids don't die back, and have thicker leaves. Orchids are found throughout the country, from coastal shores to alpine herb fields. Common habitats are mature forest. open scrublands and swamps. Orchids' dust-like seeds lack food reserves and cannot germinate until they have been infected by a soil fungus that supplies nutrients for the seed. This partnership persists throughout the life of the orchid. Some species are known as parasitic orchids. They depend wholly on their fungus partner because they lack chlorophyll and cannot photosynthesise food. New Zealand's parasitic orchids are the potato orchids (Gastrodia species), a spider orchid (Molloybas cryptanthus) and Danhatchia australis. (Source teara.govt.nz).



Danhatchia australis orchids

Marsh orchid study

QEII has received funding from DOC's Biodiversity Advice Fund to study the nationally vulnerable marsh orchid Spiranthes novae zeelandiae in a covenant in Tasman. Populations of the orchid have declined dramatically with the destruction of wetland habitats across the country and this site is now one of only two locations in the northern half of the South Island where the orchid is known to grow. Monitoring of the site by an independent ecologist will take place over the next three summers when the orchid flowers and sets seed. The quantity, distribution and flowering pattern of the orchid population will be tracked and compared with the grazing regimes and water table of the marshland to determine



the best way to manage the species. A final copy of the report will be made available to the public on QEII's website or from DOC in 2014.

A variety of values protected on one Northland property



Our French connection

Among the whalers who landed at Akaroa Harbour in the late 1830s was French captain, Jean Francois Langlois. Believing he had purchased all of Banks Peninsula with a land deed signed by some local Maori, he instigated a decision back in France to found a settlement there. Close to 60 French and a small number of German immigrants arrived in 1840. By that time, though, New Zealand was already a British colony. Despite this setback the settlers remained, giving Akaroa township its special appeal and the distinction of being the only town in New Zealand founded by French settlers.

The Causers' covenant encircles the remains of the oldest French building site in Akaroa Harbour. Features like early drains, the sites of other buildings, track lines, fragments of a stone terrace and old plough lines alongside the main building (built c. 1843) provide a valuable insight into one of the earliest European settlements in New Zealand. The covenant contains the only building remaining from the early period of French presence in Akaroa Harbour outside the township of



The Causers' covenant protects archaeological features from the oldest French building site in Akaroa Harbour.

Akaroa. The building is registered with the Historic Places Trust with Category I status. QEII's interest lies with the archaeological, cultural and historic context of the site (in accordance with the definition of "open space" set out in the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Act 1977) with other authorities – in particular the Historic Places Trust and the Akaroa Civic Trust – dealing with the physical and legal protection of the building itself.

Growing a business organically

Heather and Ian Atkinson produce organic sheep meat, venison, wool, grain crops and graze dairy heifer replacements on their property in the Wairarapa. They also have an exotic forestry block and an 11 ha QEII native bush remnant covenant. The covenant is at the centre of their vision to develop the natural areas on their property, balancing biodiversity protection with their business goals. Thousands of native seedlings have been planted around the covenant and on the farm to provide shelter belts and increase the diversity and abundance of native wildlife on the property. The master plan is to slowly develop a forest corridor from the covenant to the Haurangi Ranges behind the farm.

Over the years WWOOF (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) volunteers have contributed many hours to help the Atkinsons. WWOOF New Zealand is part of a world-wide community that promotes awareness of organic farming through a volunteering programme.

"During the summer months WWOOFers come and stay for a week or so. It's a great exchange. We give them food and board and they help us out around the place. Some come back every year because they are so enthusiastic about the vision for the property and progress the trees are making," Heather said.

Local volunteers have also made a huge difference. John Kippenburger of Premier Beehive has partnered with the Atkinsons



Heather and Ian Atkinson

to provide plants and an annual workingbee day with staff.

"Coming back each year means they get to see the results of their hard work and that is really rewarding for everyone involved," Heather said.

Project Crimson has also provided ecosourced rata trees to plant on the farm.

Ultimately Heather and Ian want to extend their farming business to include an ecotourism component so visitors will be able to come and enjoy the countryside and nature on the farm.

They envision using the farm to showcase

the succession from exotic forestry through to the covenanted forest remnant and on to its regenerating borders, and show how all this ties in with ecosystem health and flows on to the organic farming business.

In December last year, Heather and Ian were awarded the 2011 Landowners' Conservation Award at the Encore Awards. The awards are run by Greater Wellington Regional Council to "honour people, whose sustained commitment to environmental restoration, nature and conservation is making the Wellington region a better place to live".

Heather with John Kippenburger and staff from Premier Beehive.





Going from rare to abundant Ngahape style

Paul Bird collecting seeds from the endangered white flowered mistletoe, *Tupaia antarctica*.

Paul Bird of Ngahape has things growing in his backyard that botanists drool over.

Ngahape, found in the Wairarapa's eastern hill country, is at the end of a metalled road and its remoteness could be a reason for still having an abundance of some pretty special plants.

Paul looks after his daughter Jenny's property while she works as a marketing manager in the UK. Jenny bought the property in 2007, covenanting an area to protect the only site in the lower North Island where the yellow flowered mistletoe occurs naturally. Over the past four years QEII Trust rep Trevor Thompson has been working with the owners to manage this rare population. During this time 14 new plantlets have been counted and two new populations have been established as a result. Paul recently discovered a cluster of 36 plants of another endangered mistletoe, the white flowered *Tupaia antarctica*. This is the most easterly and abundant population of the species found in Wairarapa to date. Paul has been working with Trevor to collect and plant seeds on black maire trees in the covenant. Black maire can support large established mistletoe plants.

"Planting into the covenant will see it protected legally and managed to secure its survival in the long-term.

"Paul lives surrounded by rare biodiversity. If we can copy that in other suitable sites, we can actually take things from being rare to abundant quite quickly with good management," Trevor said.

Paul and Trevor have also planted greenflowered mistletoe which they found growing near the covenant.

PTA (kauri dieback)



Dr Stanley Bellgard heads Landcare Research's programme on PTA (kauri dieback). He stresses the importance of sensible plant hygiene practices and the protection of the kauri tree's sensitive root environment to control the disease. He provides a summary of what is known about PTA and how it is being managed.

The genus *Agathis* (*Araucariaceae*) includes about 13 species of tropical to warm temperate trees found from Melanesia through Australia to New Zealand. Kauri (*Agathis australis*) is found in lowland forests in northern New Zealand. Giant individual trees, which can reach over 4.5 m in trunk diameter and exceed 1,000 years of age, are cultural icons.

In 1972 sick and dying kauri trees were discovered in a forest stand on Great Barrier Island. This phenomenon came to be called "kauri dieback". Early research concluded that a *Phytophthora* pathogen (a disease-causing agent) was involved. Recent research has identified the *Phytophthora* as a distinct and previously undescribed species, now commonly known as PTA (*Phytophthora* taxon Agathis). PTA is a tiny, fungus-like (watermould), plant pathogen that only affects kauri.

A PTA infected tree.



PTA was declared an unwanted organism in 2008 and in late 2009 the New Zealand Government announced funding for a long-term management programme. Six government agencies (MAF Biosecurity New Zealand, the Department of Conservation, Auckland Council, Northland Regional Council, Environment Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regional Council) are working together with Maori on a programme that manages the threat of the disease. Landcare Research, together with research partners MAF, Plant & Food Research and Scion, are part of the five-year programme covering research into the detection and spread of kauri dieback and methods to control it.

Mapping where the disease is present and putting containment strategies in place is the essential first step in controlling PTA's spread. Strategies include taking action to restrict activity around the trees and adopting good plant hygiene practices, such as cleaning boots and tyres and equipment thoroughly before entering and after leaving forests with kauri.

Evidence, based on the symptoms observed and the occurrence of PTA in soil samples, suggests PTA is a soil-borne disease with long-lived resistant spores spread by soil movement, and shortlived swimming spores moved in water flow in soil, as well as spreading tree to tree through close contact of the roots. Soil containing the long-lived spores is likely to be transported around on human footwear and by animals such as pigs. This further emphasises the importance of good hygiene practices where at all possible to ensure soil is not transferred from one site to another, inadvertently bringing the disease along with it.

Research has shown that the disease needs a susceptible host, suitable environmental conditions and a disturbance or introduction pathway which brings the pathogen into contact with kauri roots. It is known that the kauri's root system, which extends out towards the edge of the tree's canopy or drip-line, is an extremely sensitive environment; disturbing it places the tree under stress and wounds can provide opportunity for infection. While trees can be placed under stress by events that are out of our control, such as flooding or drought, we can help keep kauri in optimum condition by minimising activities that damage and stress the root system.

Control methods for the disease are being researched. Phosphorous acid (phosphonic acid or phosphite), which is used successfully to manage *Phytophthora* diseases in avocado, citrus and other crop trees, is one agent being tested for its potential to control PTA. Preliminary results in glasshouse trials carried out by Dr Ian Horner at Plant & Food Research were very encouraging, showing that phosphite provided good control when applied to kauri seedlings inoculated with PTA. Field trials on forest trees are about to commence.

FACT FILE ON PTA – KAURI DIEBACK

WHAT IS PTA?

PTA refers to the deadly kauri disease caused by *Phytophthora* taxon Agathis. This fungus-like disease was formally identified in 2008 as a distinct and previously undescribed species of *Phytophthora*.

Scientists are currently working to find control tools for this disease. There is no known treatment at this time.

WHAT DOES IT DO TO KAURI TREES?

Microscopic spores in the soil infect kauri roots and damage the tissues that carry nutrients within the tree. Symptoms include yellowing of foliage, loss of leaves, canopy thinning and dead branches. Affected trees can also develop lesions that bleed resin, extending to the major roots and sometimes girdling the trunk as a "collar rot". PTA can kill trees and seedlings of all ages.

WHERE DID IT COME FROM?

Its origin is uncertain but it is believed to have been introduced from overseas.

WHERE IS IT?

It has been found in the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park, on private land throughout the Auckland region, in the forest plantations of Omahuta, Glenbervie and Russell in Northland, Department of Conservation reserves at Okura, Albany, Pakiri, Great Barrier, Trounson Kauri Park and Waipoua Forest in Northland, home of our most iconic kauri – Tane Mahuta.

At this stage, the disease has not been detected in many areas of Northland forest, the Hunua Ranges, Hauraki Gulf Islands (except for Great Barrier) and bush in the Coromandel peninsula. It's imperative that we protect these uninfected areas.

HOW IS IT SPREAD?

The spores of kauri dieback (PTA) are found in the soil around affected kauri. Any movement of infected soil can spread the disease. Human activity involving soil movement (on footwear, machinery or equipment) is thought to be the greatest cause of spread. Kauri dieback may also spread though ground water and soil on animals.

WHAT IS BEING DONE?

The current programme of work includes:

- Research that improves knowledge of how to detect kauri dieback (sampling and DNA-based diagnostic techniques)
- Research that shows how the disease is spread i.e. what are in the infective propagules (fungal outgrowths) in the soil
- Development of an effective treatment method
- Surveillance that determines whether the disease is present, and mapping to show spread
- Assessing the risk posed by the organism to individual trees and their ecosystem
- Public education, cleaning tools provided at high risk sites
- Ensuring a co-ordinated approach to PTA including all communications.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO STOP IT SPREADING?

- Make sure shoes, tyres and equipment are clean of dirt before and after visiting kauri forests.
- Clean shoes and any other equipment that comes into contact with the soil after every visit, especially if moving between bush areas.
- Keep to defined park tracks at all times. Any movement of soil around the roots of a tree has the potential to spread the disease.
- Keep your dog on a leash at all times. Dogs can inadvertently spread the disease if they disturb the soil around the trees.
- No dumping of garden green-waste into natural bushland.

STOP THE SPREAD – CLEAN YOUR GEAR

Kauri PTA spores will die if there is no soil or water for them to live in. Scrub shoes/boots with soapy water (or a mild bleach solution) to remove all traces of soil and then leave to dry. Once dry you can spray with *Trigene™* disinfectant as an additional precaution. Use *Trigene™* before and after entering kauri areas to treat any soil traces that may still be on your foorwear even after cleaning.

Landowners with kauri on their property: contact the Kauri Dieback Team on 0800 69 52874 about getting *Trigene*™.



WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE KAURI ON MY LAND?

- Keep movement, including dogs and stock, away from kauri trees out as far as the drip line
- Download a specially designed warning sign available at this website www.kauridieback.co.nz and put it up to alert visitors to the dangers of spreading the disease. This can be laminated to make it more durable.
- If you think your trees have PTA symptoms contact the Kauri Dieback Management Team on 0800 NZ KAURI (69 52874).
- Go to www.kauridieback.co.nz for information and resources on PTA.

QEII COVENANTORS

Your QEII reps know what to do about safeguarding kauri against PTA. Discuss with them any concerns you have regarding the disease.

Managing your covenant

Magpie control

by Neale Blaymires

We all know the distinctive call of the magpie – those black and white highwaymen who perch in macrocarpa trees waiting to divebomb passing cyclists. Since arriving from Australia in the late 1800s, magpies have become a fixture of the New Zealand landscape, and as their numbers have increased, many people have witnessed a corresponding decline in native birds.

Magpies are fiercely territorial when nesting and often drive away other birds. Mostly it is by subtle harassment, but sometimes they will attack and kill. Many people have witnessed magpies dive-bombing and killing kereru. On the other hand, magpies in large flocks do not have nesting territories, so they are not interested in attacking other birds – apart from hawks. But these large flocks provide the replacement stock which will quickly re-populate any newly vacated nesting territory, so in practice they need to be controlled as well.

I exhibit each year at the Mystery Creek national field days, and have had numerous conversations with land holders who have witnessed the effect of magpie invasions. The consensus is that magpies drive away native birds, and landowners have seen native birds return once they trap magpies.

Feeding habits

Magpies mostly feed on pasture insects, preferring paddocks which are grazed short. They like to nest and roost in exposed trees or shelter belts which command clear views. Nesting magpies will often feed some distance away from their home territory.

Controlling magpies

There are four methods of control. My preference is to trap with food bait, but we will consider each method in order.

Trapping with a call-bird

The traditional trap is a Larsen trap, used with a call-bird. A central compartment houses the call-bird, with two or more side compartments to catch magpies as they attack the captive bird. When the magpie stands on the split-perch, the perch collapses and the door swings shut. Split-perches can be tricky to set. If they are too low they jam the door when closing, but if too high the magpie can walk underneath.

The best call-bird is a stroppy magpie caught at least a few kilometres away, which will sing and call inside the trap. The local territorial nesting birds will take exception to this foreigner and try to drive it away, but get captured in the process. If you are trapping a flock of non-territorial magpies, they will only be mildly interested in the foreign bird. They may come for a look, but will not be as likely to enter the trap.

The big problem with call-birds is the time and effort required to feed and maintain them. They have to be fed every day, and kept sheltered from rain. If they get wet they soon die from hypothermia. Some magpies do well in captivity, but many get stressed and die.

A variation on the call-bird technique is to mount mirrors inside the trap, so magpies looking in see their reflection and enter the trap to investigate.

Trapping with food bait

By far the easiest way to catch magpies is to use food as a lure. They eat all sorts of food, anything fatty such as butter, dripping, mince-meat, dog-roll, crumbled cheese, bacon or mutton fat. But they can be fussy and you may need to try a variety of foods to find what your local birds prefer.

You can use just about anything to catch magpies once they are feeding on bait. An old possum cage trap set with mutton fat on the hook can work. Larsen traps with side opening doors can be set with bait instead of a call-bird. Funnel traps can also be used. These are similar to an eel trap, with a large cage fitted with a funnel entrance leading to the centre. The letterbox trap is a variation on this idea. Designs for both can be found at http://icwdm.org/handbook/birds/ Magpies.asp

Another option is the magpie trip-trap, which I designed and have manufactured for more than 10 years. It is lighter and more compact than the traditional Larsen trap, and is easier to use. Please contact me for more information.



Trapping magpies using a call-bird.

Poisoning with alphachloralose paste

Alphachloralose is a narcotic poison available from farm supply stores. It knocks birds unconscious, and in cold weather they die from hypothermia. The theory is that non-target birds can be retrieved and placed in a warm place to revive. To knock out an entire flock of magpies you must pre-feed with non-toxic bait for at least a few days, so all the magpies will consume a toxic dose on poison day. Any magpies who do escape will be poison-shy and will not fall for the same trick again.

Pre-feed at the same time early in the morning every day, preferably by the same person. Choose cool weather, and on poison day have a team of helpers ready with bags to collect the magpies as they keel over. If you have prepared properly they will all succumb at the same time and you will gather them up with no escapees.

Shooting

The old joke about magpies recognising the calibre rifle you are carrying and sitting just out of range is no joke. They quickly get gun-shy. To avoid that, you need a silencer and terrain that lets you sneak up without being seen.

Some people use a magpie distress call tape, coupled with a

dummy magpie, to get magpies into range. However it is patchy and often the magpies sit in distant trees watching. One chap I met recounted shooting his cassette deck, which he did not notice lined up behind the magpie.

Disposing of magpies

Make sure the other magpies do not see you disposing of their captured mates. Either clear the trap in the evening when they have gone home to roost, or if during the day cover the trap with an old sheet to conceal the operation. Young magpies are least likely to become trap-shy. It is the older birds who are most likely to associate something bad with the trap if you are not careful.

You can wring the magpie's neck for a quick kill, but they have a surprisingly strong neck for their size. You can hit them on the head. An air rifle works well, but resist the temptation to use a shotgun. Believe it or not, people have done it but it destroys the trap. The same advice goes for .22 rifles as there is a risk of bullets ricocheting off metal trap frames.

Neale Blaymires can be contacted on 07 573 4157 or at neale@ orcon.net.nz

This article first appeared in Indigena magazine and is reproduced with the editor's permission.

BETWEEN YOU AND ME AND THE GATE POST

By Rob Best (Fencing Contractors Association New Zealand)

Rencing Contractors Association NZ Setting standards

Something I see occasionally – strainers installed incorrectly on sloping ground where a gate is to be hung. An example of this is shown in figures 1 and 2.

Notice that the strainer has been put in plumb, which has made it difficult to hang the gate parallel to the ground. This leaves the gate almost in contact with the ground at the latch end, needing a log of wood in the resulting gap to make it sheep-proof at the hinge end. Also the bottom gudgeon has been lengthened excessively to try and counter the problem.





Figure 1

Figure 2

Figures 3 and 4 show a much better relationship between the gate and strainer. The gate is better aligned with the slope of the ground. Gudgeons are adjusted evenly, are much neater and look more professional.

A strainer can be installed on the correct angle simply by standing the gate in the proposed position and driving the strainer parallel to the hinge end of the gate. This is easy to do, but is often overlooked.



 Figure 3
 Figure 4

 Article first appeared in FCANZ magazine and is reproduced with FCANZ's permission.



www.openspace.org.nz

QEII's website has a fresh look and new content. The "Managing your Covenant" section provides useful information and links on pest and weed control and restoration work. You can now update your contact details through the website. Visit www.openspace.org. nz to get contact details of your local rep, be inspired by covenantors' stories and much more. We welcome your comments and suggestions for content. Use the enquiry form on the Contact Us pages to send in any feedback or email us on info@openspace.org.nz



www.weedbusters.org.nz

Weeds are a risk to nearly 600,000 ha of protected natural areas. Wetlands, coastal habitats, lowland forest, shrubland and native grasslands are particularly vulnerable areas. Weedbusters' vision is to raise awareness of the threat weeds pose to our natural environment and encourage New Zealanders to take action to reduce their impact on the environment, economy and human health. Their website has a great search function to help you identify specific weeds and find out how best to control them.

Bad news for weeds

Weeds are one of the biggest threats to our native biodiversity so when QEII reps are out doing their monitoring rounds they like to deal to the trickier ones on the spot if they can. Here QEII rep Trevor Thompson attacks a feral plum using Cut'n'Paste, a glysophatebased brush-on herbicide gel.

New Zealand-based company Landman Ltd, which manufactures the herbicide, is collaborating with QEII in the fight against weeds. In a goods and services exchange agreement Landman Ltd has given QEII supplies of Cut'n'Paste for reps to use in covenants.



Making a bequest or gift

QEII is helped greatly by money or assets gifted in people's wills or in their lifetime. Bequests and donations form a vital component of QEII funding. Gifted funds go into the QEII investment portfolio, the dividends from which provide an important contribution towards its work – for example evaluating new covenant proposals, fencing approved covenants and maintaining properties owned by QEII. Visit www.openspace.org.nz for more information or contact CEO Margaret McKee on 04 474 1683 (or 0800 467 367) to discuss any aspect of contributing to QEII by bequest or gift.

Covenant registration just got easier

QEII is now e-dealing capable. Being able to register covenants electronically means a significant reduction in *Landonline* fees, no delays in registration due to posting times, and less paperwork.

New Zealand Farm Environment Awards Trust website launch

The NZFEA Trust has just launched its new website, with new content on the Ballance Farm Environment Awards amongst other things. Entries for the 2013 awards round can now be made on line. Visit www. nzfeatrust.org.nz for more information.

Open Space stories

Have you got something interesting to share about your covenant? We would love to hear from you. Contact editor@ openspace.org.nz with your story and photos.

All stories accepted for Open Space magazine are subject to editing at the discretion of the editor and the Trust.

Dear Open Space

Inspired by the tradescantia article in the October Open Space, I thought you may be interested in the attached photo. We shifted to a one acre bush section in Otatara, Invercargill a couple of years ago, which was already under a QEII covenant. Aluminium plant from a neighbouring property was beginning to edge its way into our bush. Having too many other things to think about at the time but wanting to curb any further advance of the weed, I covered the area with thick black plastic (the sort you use for under floor insulation). Probably not the best for native seedlings but I felt they were being smothered anyway. After a month (this was in the summer) I felt



guilty about killing off any possible native seedlings so removed the plastic. The result was amazing – the carpet of aluminium plant just rolled up, roots and all, leaving a bare but weed free area. No plants have returned. I just snip off invasion from next door at the fence and have now planted up the area with seedlings from the property.

Sally Duston

Birds of New Zealand

Photography by Rob Suisted, text by Alison Dench

Rob Suisted's vibrant photos capture the unique charm of New Zealand's birds in this full-colour 80 page handbook. Individual portraits and habitat shots are introduced by Alison Dench. Her interesting and well-researched text provides an insight to the habits and traditional stories of birds in our wetlands, forests, sea, coast and open country places. A great gift or coffee table book. RRP \$19.99.



Support QEII – purchase a QEII lapel pin

Designed for QEII's 35th anniversary, the lapel pin features the unique hill and river artwork of the Trust's logo.

Proceeds from sales will be returned to QEII's investment portfolio to contribute towards its work in protecting New Zealand's special open spaces.

The pin is made in New Zealand, 13mm wide, hand-painted and resin laminated and costs \$10.

Send in your order and cheque to QEII National Trust, Lapel Pin order, PO Box 3341, Wellington 6140 or contact QEII on 0800 467 367 to place an order using your credit card.



Call for Loder Cup nominations

The Loder Cup honours outstanding achievements in native plant conservation work. Gerald Loder loved our "incomparable flora" and donated the Loder Cup in 1926 to "encourage and honour New Zealanders who work to investigate, promote, retain and cherish our indigenous flora".

The Minister of Conservation awards the Loder Cup to a person or group of people who best represent the objectives of the award, to celebrate their outstanding conservation work in New Zealand.

Nominations can be made through a number of nominating bodies listed on the Department of Conservation's website (www.doc.govt.nz).

If you think you know of someone worthy of being nominated for this prestigious award, visit DOC's website for more details and guidance on how to submit a nomination.

The nominations period closes at 5pm on 31 May 2012.



Wardle's Native Trees of New Zealand and their story



John and Rosalie Wardle covenanted 120 ha of black beech forest on their Woodside Forest property near Oxford in 2008. John's keen appreciation of New Zealand's flora stems from a long involvement with native trees and sustainable forest management. This knowledge is now shared with readers in *Wardle's Native Trees* of New Zealand and their story.

This is a book of particular relevance to QEII covenantors. Ecological principles and processes are presented in every-day language and the characteristics of our tree species are described, building a picture of how our forests are

structured and how they function. John describes the variety of products, from timber to medicines that have been used by both Maori and Pakeha. The book helps with plant identification, propagation, and acts as an ecological guide for active conservationists, from the novice to the experienced. Ian Platt's beautiful photos, a number of them taken in QEII covenants, complement the text and provide further inspiration. Limited numbers are available through New Zealand Farm Forestry Association for \$95.

Order Form for Wardle's Native Trees of New Zealand and their story

To order your copy of the book send this form or a copy to NZFFA, c/o BPL, PO Box 2002, Wellington or telephone your order to 04 385 9705 $\,$

Please send me ______ copies of the book *Wardle's Native Trees of New Zealand and their story*. Price \$95 including post and packing.

Payment information:

Cheque enclosed Payable to NZ Farm Forestry Association

Please debit the following card: VISA / Mastercard (circle one)

Exp. date: / Signature:
Name on the card:
Postcode:

PROPERTIES FOR SALE

Build your home in a magic forest garden – Western Bay of Plenty district



Off a small, quiet, no-exit country lane, tucked under the lee of the majestic ranges, just north of Katikati, enter this 7.1725 ha sanctuary with glimpses of the blue Pacific Ocean beyond. The massive native garden is a legacy ready to be transferred to you, the fortunate new owner, with bigger and better trees than you could grow in a lifetime. The puriri trees are huge and the kauri too. Fences have kept stock out of the regenerating forest for many years and the canopy is now strong. This land is covenanted and will stay green forever. You can build your dream home here and live in paradise. Consent to erect a dwelling on this property has already been granted.

For more information call Andrew Fowler, PGG Wrightson Real Estate, on 07 571 5795 Mobile: 027 275 2244 or visit www. pggwre.co.nz ID: TAR 1930934.

Outstanding Natural Beauty – Tussock Creek, Southland

63.8416 ha freehold "Sherwood Forest" comprising flat land and approximately 25 ha in well sheltered paddocks. 34 ha of exceptional matai and kahikatea native bush on the property is protected by a QEII open space covenant. A three-bedroom home set in an attractive garden setting and numerous outbuildings are included. Contact Brett Lucas of Southern Wide Real Estate on 0274 351 361 for details.





For those hard to kill weeds No Spray - Just Brush it on

CUT'N'PASTE IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF LANDMAN LIMITED For product Info. www.cutnpaste.co.nz

Contents 450ml

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Formulated to achieve real results using the lowest toxicity levels possible means Cut'n'Paste is a more environmentallyconscious option and safe to use around other plants. Cut'n'Paste won't migrate through the soil to affect other plants. Brush it on to target broadleaf weeds, shrubs, trees and grass weeds, leaving the plants you want to keep.

To find out more about Cut'n'Paste visit www. cutnpaste.co.nz. Contact sales@cutnpaste.co.nz for enquiries or orders or phone or fax orders to 09 372 9333. Reference this advertisement and get your order delivered free of charge.



Message for Covenantors and QEII Members TRUST BOARD PRE-ELECTION NOTICE

Dear covenantors and QEII members

Towards the end of 2012 we will be sending out information about the QEII Trust Board Member elections in 2013.

We would like make the elections process as easy and as economic as possible for you and for the Trust. To that end we are looking to move towards an electronic voting system for the 2013 elections.

As part of that process we want to be sure your contact details are current. In particular we would like to ask if you have an email address that can be entered into our database and be used to send out voting information to you. Providing your email address will give you the option of voting online.

Please detach and return this freepost form to advise us of your email address and/or any recent changes to your other contact details. (There is no need to send back this form if you have already provided us with a current email address and your other contact details are unchanged).

You can also update your contact details online at www. openspace.org.nz

⁻ ull Name(s)		
Covenant or membership number		
Email address		
Current address		
² hone number	Mobile number	

Note: You are not obliged to provide an email address. In providing your email address you are giving QEII permission to contact you by email regarding the Board elections process. Your contact details will not be given to any third parties. Covenantors and members who have not provided an email address will be sent the relevant information by post.





QEII National Trust Open Space New Zealand _{Ngā Kairauhī Papa}

Freepost 180272 QEII National Trust PO Box 3341 Wellington 6140



Recently registered covenants

A summary of covenants registered from 1 February 2011 to 31 January 2012

District Council	Council Name		
Auckland	Warneford	4 18	Space Typ
Auckland	NZ Native Excests Restoration Trust	129 53	FW
Buller	Landcorp-Tram Road	108.10	F
Buller	Landcorp-O'Malley's	16.85	F
Carterton	Hewitt, Bayliss & Ogilvie	2.19	F.S
Carterton	Mclean	23.40	F
Carterton	Mcdonald & Stewart	4.70	F
Carterton	Mcdonald & Stewart	4.65	F
Christchurch	Patterson & Hubbard	5.52	F
Clutha	Markelli Holdings Ltd	22.59	F
Clutha	Grant & Hammer	28.72	F
Clutha	Landcorp-Reedy Creek	12.36	Tu
Clutha	Landcorp Waipori Station- Christine's	6.86	Tu
Clutha	Landcorp Waipori Station- Killing Shed	5.82	Tu, W
Dunedin	Parker	3.56	F, R
Dunedin	Cross	3.13	F
Dunedin	Cross	1.97	F
Far North	Allan	1.77	F
Far North	Gompelman	8.92	F
Far North	Keene	4.09	F
Far North	Newport	33.68	F
Far North	Landcorp Farming Ltd- Waimokaikai	35.98	E. R
Far North	Ardern	1 97	W
Far North	Bankin	48.97	Fe S
Far North	Skender	4.57	W
Far North	Macmillan	23.60	F
Franklin	Carey	0.90	F
Franklin	Kaywood Downs Ltd	13.08	FR
Franklin	Maxwell	1 70	F 1, 1
Gishorne	Raukura Station Ltd	15.17	F
Gisborne	Wishart & Gaddum	16.69	
Gisborno	Thorpe Grant & Pondall	0.00	
Gisborno		246.00	
Gisborno	Wilcov	240.00	г, S
Gisborne	VVIICOX	Z.02	F
Gisborne		3.01	3, Ge
Grey	Landcorp-Four Square	28.99	
Grey	Bay	12.06	F F M
Grey	Shaffrey	13.63	F, W
Hastings	Livesey & Yule	4.51	F
Hastings	Riddell & Hobson	2.22	I, G, R
Hastings	The Henry & William Williams Memorial Trust	22.25	
Hastings	Mackintosh & Sons	8.11	F
Hastings	Bryant	13.95	F, S
Hastings	Mclean	6.21	F
Horowhenua	Barrie & Downey	1.61	T
Horowhenua	Williams & Mclaren	9.46	F
Hurunui	Handyside	9.16	F -
Hurunui	Scanlon & Buchan	10.38	F
Hurunui	Antills Estate Ltd	13.82	F, C, Ge,
Hurunui	Tinline Downs Trustee Ltd	21.44	F
Hurunui	Hamilton Glens Ltd	18.03	F, S
Hurunui	W H Holdings Ltd	2.15	F
Hurunui	Mcmillan	27.50	F, S, Ge
Hurunui	Mount Vulcan Ltd	142.37	Ge
Kaikoura	Blunt Farm	10.92	F
Kaipara	Newall & Hammonds Trustees Ltd	0.43	F
Kaipara	Lees	22.97	F
Kaipara	Mayflower Farms Ltd	14.19	F, Ge
Kapiti Coast	Patone Holdings Ltd	2.45	F
Manawatu	Gray	51.92	F, W, S
Marlborough	Parr, Rogers & Hunt	0.64	FI
Marlborough	Millen	0.99	F, Cu, A
Masterton	Christensen & Birch	3.92	F, W
Masterton	Joblin	25.19	F
Masterton	Roseingrave	4.89	F
Masterton	Roseingrave & Haverland	10.49	F
Masterton	Cameron	1.75	F
Masterton	Lucas & Murdoch	8.95	F
Masterton	De Greeuw & Coenen	46.56	F
Masterton	Cranswick	5.10	F, Ge, V
Matamata-Piako	Azreel Farm Ltd	23.51	F
Matamata-Piako	Sunsuraj Ltd	15.61	F, S
New Plymouth	Whitehead & Darney	4.24	F
New Plymouth	Vertical Horizon Camp	1.49	F
New Plymouth	Taranaki Equine Therapy Ltd	0.94	R
New Plymouth	Stilwell	46.72	F
New Plymouth	Harrison & Allison	92.08	F
New Plymouth	Miller	1.17	W
New Plymouth	Parker	109.56	F
New Plymouth	Green & O'Donnell	0.68	F
New Plymouth	Shaw	10.63	F
Otorohanga	Hawkins	5.44	F
Rangitikei	Mickleson	2.11	F
Rodney	Kidd & Cabill	22.90	F W
Rotorua	Eleming & Dibley	1 34	F 1, 17
Ruanehu	Groshinski & Goodall	84.10	F
South Taranaki	Morrison	2 50	F
South Taranaki	Waiwira Holdings Ltd	11 /1	F F
South Taranaki	Ararata Farm Ltd	2 /15	с (
Juun IdidiidKi		L 2.40	I F

District Council	Name	Area (Ha)	Main Open Space Type
South Taranaki	Coleraine Farms Ltd	9.07	W
South Taranaki	King, England & Schurr	1.74	F
South Taranaki	Tong	11.67	R, F
South Taranaki	Newlove	6.72	A
South Wairarapa	Baigent, Silver & Goulter	10.48	F
Southland	Glen Echo 2011 Ltd	63.66	F, W, Tu
Southland	Broughton	5.11	F
Southland	Stowe & Pullen	7.35	F
Southland	Landcorp- Serpentine Knoll	0.70	S, Ge
Southland	Landcorp Farming Ltd- Lagoon Creek Lynmore	8.87	R, Tu
Southland	Landcorp Farming Ltd - Haycocks - Kerry's	12.15	Tu, F
Southland	Newton & Wood	8.42	F
Southland	Nichol & Craven	2.73	Tu
Southland	Anderson	7.77	F
Southland	Dorstrom Ltd	4.71	F, Tu, W
Southland	Landcorp-Carole's Covenant Eweburn	22.51	S, R
Southland	Goble	15.79	F
Stratford	Morrison & Lw Nominees Ltd	4.50	F, W
Tararua	Dewes	1.88	F
Tararua	Cowan	2.77	W
Tararua	Dougherty	64.52	F
Tararua	Dandy & Tararua Trustees	9.63	F
Tararua	Three Dogs Ltd	3.92	F
Tasman	Stanbridge & Alton Trustees Ltd	13.10	F
Tasman	Seaward Hills Farms Ltd	5.87	F
Tasman	Snake Creek Ltd	27.48	F, W
Tasman	Ferguson	0.91	F, T
Tasman	Holmes & Alton Trustees Ltd	4.89	F
Tasman	Lancewood Villa Ltd	0.76	F
Tasman	Mountain Valley Community Trust	1.35	F
Thames-Coromandel	Irvine	5.12	S, F
Thames-Coromandel	Tangley Park Ltd	2.12	R, S
l imaru	Holmes, Gresson & Dobbs	15.18	F
Timaru	Robinson	2.39	F
Waikato	Smith	13.34	F
Waikato	Wilde	4.86	F, A
vvaimakariri	Landcorp Farming Ltd- Eyreweil Station	0.51	S
Vvaimate	Jonnstone Station Deals Ltd	109.91	VV, S
Waimate	Station Peak Ltd	3.33	VV
Waimate	Moore Farms 2008 Ltd	9.17	F
Waimate	Rowe Meamatu Station Ltd	100.40	F
Wairoa	Thompson, Howard, Ebbett & Mayo	22.10	г с
Waitomo	Templeten	22.10	F
Waitomo	Murphy	5.09	г с
Waitomo	Potro	4.40	г с
Waitomo	Shove Thomson & Bailey Ingham Trustees Ltd	4.20	F
Waitomo	Buckley & Alleman	78 70	F
Waitomo	Waihanga Pastoral Ltd	796	E R
Waitomo	Berkers & Evans	1.50	E Eo
Wanganui	Newman	6.14	F
Wellington	Island Bay Natural Heritage Charitable Trust	1.37	F
Wellington	Churchouse & Feast	0.01	F
Westland	Landcorp-Baft Creek	4 20	F
Whakatane	Crosswell & Hands	55.16	F
Whangarei	Patrick	15.56	F
Whangarei	Adams & Madeley-Adams	3 55	F I
Whangarei	Airey, Chevne & Dunn	2.90	F. W
Whangarei	Bell	2.50	F
Total Area		2712.90	<u> </u>
			L

Key: A Archaeological feature F Forest T Treeland
 FI
 Flaxland
 Ge
 Geological feature
 R
 Rushland, Reedland

 Tu
 Tussockland
 G
 Grassland
 L
 Landscape

 S
 Shrubland
 W
 Wetland

All covenants by Regional Council as at 31 January 2012

Regional Council	Approved covenants	Formalised covenants	Registered covenants	Total covenants	Total area covenants (ha)	Average size (ha)
Auckland	28	2	247	277	4187.10	15.12
Bay of Plenty	9	3	163	175	9537.21	54.50
Canterbury	40	9	234	283	16366.83	57.83
Gisborne	20	2	116	138	5079.73	36.81
Hawkes Bay	18	1	212	231	10318.13	44.67
Horizons	27		302	329	7727.19	23.49
Marlborough	7	1	60	68	3155.12	46.40
Nelson			13	13	300.75	23.13
Northland	52		586	638	9888.84	15.50
Otago	19	2	162	183	11045.62	60.36
Southland	25	2	250	277	5678.22	20.50
Taranaki	65	3	247	315	8659.49	27.49
Tasman	13	1	131	145	2329.64	16.07
Waikato	63	2	530	595	16390.36	27.55
Wellington	28	3	285	316	6042.87	19.12
West Coast	17		53	70	2590.45	37.01
Totals	431	31	3591	4053	119 297 55	29.43

QEII Trust: Help us to protect our natural features

Protecting natural features helps New Zealand

- Many of our plants, animals and landscapes are unique to New Zealand. This helps set us apart and define us as a nation.
- Unfortunately, many of these species and features are under threat. The decreasing diversity of our indigenous flora and fauna is regarded as one of our biggest environmental problems.
- New Zealand has a network of publicly owned conservation areas. However, 70% of land is in private ownership.
 Many habitats and features are found only on privately owned land and can be protected only with the goodwill and action of landowners.

Practical land management and farm productivity

- Many farmers protect natural features because it makes good land management sense.
- Bush and wetlands help to filter rain and runoff ensuring improved water quality. They encourage recycling of nutrients and reduce soil erosion.
- Forest remnants reduce wind and provide shelter and shade, enhancing stock management and production.
- Fencing allows regeneration of bush, helps to protect stream banks and water quality, and keeps stock out of hard to manage areas.
- Healthy bush and natural landscapes beautify and add economic value to farm properties.

Join QEII National Trust Membership – an ideal gift

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QEII is always in need of greater financial and moral support for its work. You can help by becoming a QEII Trust member.

Your benefits as a QEII Trust member

- Two issues of Open Space[™] magazine a year.
- Free or discounted entrance to properties owned or administered by the National Trust (UK), National Trust for Scotland, National Trust of Australia (all States), Barbados National Trust, Bermuda National Trust, National Trust for Fiji, Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, Gibraltar Heritage Trust, Japan National Trust and National Trust for Zimbabwe.
- Entitlement to nominate and vote two members onto the QEII National Trust Board of Directors.*

Financial members must have a residential address in New Zealand. QEII covenantors automatically become members.

To join QEII Trust: post the membership application to QEII National Trust, PO Box 3341, Wellington 6140, email info@openspace.org.nz or phone 04 472 6626, or from outside Wellington 0800 4 OPENSPACE (0800 467 367). **QEII National Trust Membership Application**

Title Name
Address
Postcode Phone (0) Email
 Membership Type (please tick) Individual \$30 Family \$45 Life \$550 Corporate – business \$75 Corporate – non profit organisation \$50 Subscriptions include GST. Financial members must have a residential address in New Zealand.
Donation (optional) Donations over \$5.00 are tax deductible. • \$100 • \$50 • \$20 • Other \$
Method of payment O Cheque O MasterCard O Visa CREDIT CARD DETAILS Number: Image: I
Cardholder name Expiry date Signature
Total \$ O Please send a receipt
For direct debit option, please email info@openspace.org.nz
Please send me more information on: O Making a bequest to QEII O Open Space Covenants
Gift Membership Gift to: Name & address
Send next year's gift renewal to me ${\mathbf O}$ or to the recipient ${\mathbf O}$

* To be eligible to nominate and vote members onto the QEII National Trust Board of Directors, membership must be current at 31 December of the year preceding elections (voting papers are sent out in December) and not expire before 31 March of the election year itself. Elections are held every three years. Next elections will be held in 2013.



QEII Trust: helping you to protect the special nature of your land

QEII National Trust helps private landowners in New Zealand protect significant natural and cultural features on their land usually through the legal mechanism of open space covenanting.

Open space covenants help safeguard forever special features such as landscapes, forest remnants, wetlands, coastlines, threatened species habitats, archaeological and geological features and cultural sites. Landowners throughout New Zealand have established over 3500 covenants to voluntarily protect nearly 100,000 ha of special features on their land.

The Trust also helps by contributing funds for covenant projects and advising landowners on managing their covenants.

QEII Trust owns 29 properties which collectively protect 1,600 ha of significant habitat. Most of these have been gifted to the Trust. Effective stewardship of these properties is greatly assisted by local communities and management committees.

What is a QEII open space covenant?

A QEII open space covenant is a legal agreement between a landowner and the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust. The agreement is entered into voluntarily and binds current and all subsequent landowners in perpetuity. The covenant is registered on the title to the land.

Private property rights are not jeopardised by a covenant - the landowner retains ownership and management of the land. Visitor access is available only with the landowner's permission.

The details of terms and conditions for a covenant are agreed between the landowner and QEII. Each covenant agreement is unique. It can apply to the whole property of just part of it. There can be different management areas within a covenant with varying conditions in place depending on the landowner's aspirations and the nature of the features to be protected.

Open space covenants are generally in perpetuity although there can be a case for a variable term covenant. These include Kawenata on Māori land, which recognises tino rangatiratanga, Life of the Trees where individual trees occur in a situation where they may not be self-regenerating, and Landscape Protection Agreements where the land does not have title, such as roadside areas.

Managing a QEII open space covenant

QEII helps landowners with ongoing management advice and support. A management plan may be prepared with the landowner when a covenant is established, setting out ongoing management objectives and providing guidance on aspects such as species management, pest control and restoration methods.

Each covenant is visited regularly (usually every two years) to monitor its condition and trends, identify and address any concerns, and, if required, provide help and advice for the owner about how to meet the covenant objectives.

How to covenant your special area

- **Enquiry** The first step is to ask your local QEII representative to visit, discuss your proposal and explain the covenant process to you.
- Evaluation The QEII representative will evaluate your area against criteria including ecological and biodiversity values, naturalness, sustainability, wildlife, geological features, landscape values, and cultural and heritage values. Practical considerations include management needs, threats to the site, your motivation and potential sources of funding.



- **Approval** The QEII Trust Board will consider the evaluation and approve the covenant if it meets the criteria. You will then be asked to sign the covenant agreement document. It may take up to two years from this approval stage to final registration.
- Fencing If required the covenant area will have to be fenced next.
- **Registration** The covenant will then be formally registered on the title to your land with Land Information New Zealand. QEII will lodge all the necessary documentation. When registration is completed, QEII will notify Quotable Value (QV) and your local and regional councils.
- **Privacy** Your privacy will be respected and additional information about your covenant will not be given without your permission.

Funding assistance

Your QEII open space covenant may be non-rateable. You may also be eligible for assistance with funding for items such as fencing, weed and pest control, and restoration planting. Your QEII representative will be able to advise you about possible funding sources.

Visit www.openspace.org.nz for more information about QEII open space covenanting.



www.openspace.org.nz

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