

Queen Elizabeth II

National Trust

newsletter

No. 22 DECEMBER 1990

Golden Bay Field Day

Fine weather greeted 30 members and friends who attended the National Trust Field Day at Golden Bay on Saturday November 10.

Organised by Regional Representative, Martin Conway, the day provided an opportunity to visit two open space covenants and to discuss problems and

exchange ideas.

Also representing the Trust were Chairman, Sir Peter Elworthy, Lady Elworthy and Senior Field Officer, Philip Lissaman. Invited guests included the Mayor of Tasman District Council, Kerry Marshall, the Chairman of the Golden Bay Branch of Federated Farmers,



Field day participants approach the Puklowski covenant.

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Graeme Wilson, and representatives of the Department of Conservation.

The first visit was to Mrs Helen Puklowski's property at Pakawau, near Farewell Spit. It has a very fine seven hectare covenant of mixed podocarp-rata forest which is distinguished by species such as kawaka, tanekaha and *Pittosporum cornifolium*, more commonly found in the North Island. This bush remnant brings together many of the best features of a covenant. It is visible from the road, botanically significant, accessible and has in the past been used as a school study site. Although relatively small it is sustainable and shows a strong understory since fencing, and has very few weeds.

The second property visited is owned by Brian Petterson and his family. Situated just south of Takaka, the seven hectare covenant is also a very fine forest remnant. The beech-mixed podocarp forest remnant contains tawa at its southern limit in Nelson Province. In addition some rare plants have been discovered. This covenant and the adjoining covenant of Gavin Petterson are close to the state highway and form a prominent landscape feature.



Regional Representative, Martin Conway, with others inside the Puklowski bush

Sir Peter spoke briefly about the Trust from a national perspective. Discussions during the day focused on specific local issues including weed control in covenants and proposed combined efforts to eradicate old mans beard from the Petterson covenant. There was also exchange of ideas about the potential for further protection of bush remnants and scattered totara in the Takaka Valley.

It was a valuable and enjoyable day, clearly illustrating the goodwill and enthusiasm among owners to both protect natural features and manage them well for the future.

A Reminder to Trust Members

To ensure that newsletters and other items of membership interest continue to reach you please remember to notify us of any change of address.

For covenant owners it is even more important as Clause 16 of the Covenant Document Second Schedule states:

“The Owner shall notify the Trust of

any change of ownership or control of all or any part of the land, and shall supply the Trust with the name and address of the new owner or lessee.”

When ownership of a covenant changes it is important for the regional representative to visit the new owner as soon as possible to establish contact and discuss any concerns they may have.

The Miranda Naturalists' Trust Centre Opening

The Miranda Naturalists' Trust Centre, at Miranda on the western shores of the Firth of Thames, south-east of Auckland, was opened on September 29, 1990. A crowd of almost 200 people was there to celebrate the event.

The Queen Elizabeth II National Trust was represented by its chairman, Sir Peter Elworthy, who was also one of the guest speakers. Sir Peter is a life member of the Miranda Trust but attended as a guest speaker due to the special association the National Trust has with the Miranda Naturalists' Trust.

The National Trust's main role is protection of landscape features, especially native bush. This covers a wide variety of open space including the National Trust gardens in Taranaki. The Trust also supports other organisations such as Eastwoodhill Arboretum near Gisborne, and has an open space covenant over the Sinclair Wetlands in Otago.

Miranda is a special place. Its vast mudflats of some 8,500 hectares at low tide attract large numbers of migratory birds and at any given time it is feeding in excess of 25,000 birds, these figures being derived from regular censuses. At high tide the Miranda area shellbanks become high-tide roosts to thousands of birds and it is this concentration which draws bird-watchers.

The Queen Elizabeth II National Trust was attracted to the Miranda area at the invitation of the Miranda Naturalists' Trust. The Miranda Trust had plans to place a centre on the coast but felt that priority should be given to protecting the privately owned Miranda foreshore before the centre was established.

It was planned to site the centre on the land of Alan Lane, a Miranda farmer. Alan was approached about a coastal covenant which he agreed to, thus now 27

hectares of his land along the foreshore are protected by National Trust covenant restricting the area to its current use only.

However during the lead up to this very valuable covenant the Miranda Trust invited the National Trust to consider involvement in the centre as well. Subsequently, a visit to the area by the then chairman, Les Gandar, resulted. He saw merit in National Trust involvement and an association was established.

The current chairman, Sir Peter Elworthy, also saw merit in the idea and the outcome was a contribution of \$10,000 to the Miranda Trust building fund by the National Trust. This made the National Trust the Miranda Trust's largest benefactor.

The opening of the centre was a full day affair. It started at daybreak when the tangata whenua of Pukorokoro, (the first people of the Miranda district) led the Miranda Trust members through the gates and on to the Trust land and then into the newly finished centre.

Tapu-lifting of meeting houses is always done at daybreak. The land on which the Miranda Centre stands is ancient Ngati-Paoa ancestral ground and steeped in early history. Not only was it widely settled before European settlement but it was later the centre of flax trading until finally it became the staging post for the line of defence between the Waikato River and the sea during the Land Wars.

Once inside the building greetings of welcome were exchanged, first from the Miranda Trust chairman Stuart Chambers and then by the tangata whenua. Maori protocol was observed throughout this ceremony with each speaker being supported by waiata. Miranda Trust members met this challenge with their own waiata set to their own music.

Following the ceremony breakfast was

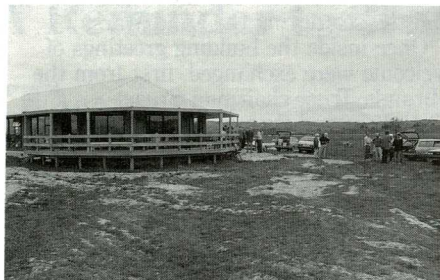
provided by the Miranda Trust with sausages and bacon being cooked on barbecues out of doors.

At 9.30am the Reverend Richard Fenton, a long-standing Miranda Trust member, led a dedication ceremony. Guest speakers followed including John Brown, the first Miranda Trust chairman, Brian Ellis, the third chairman, Sir Peter Elworthy, Ronald Lockley, world renowned naturalist and adviser to the Trust, and Richard Sibson, renowned ornithologist and second chairman of the Trust.

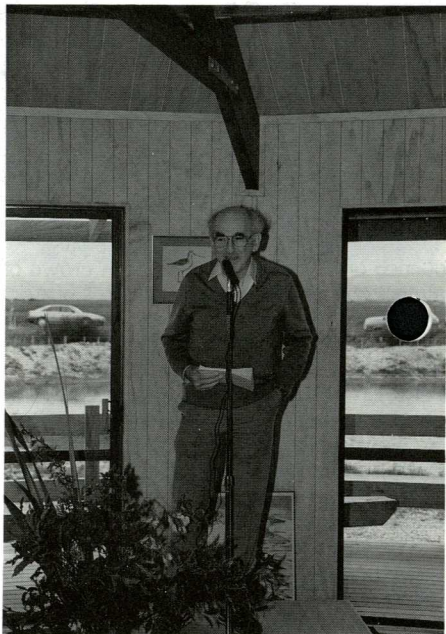
Sir Peter outlined why the National Trust was involved at Miranda. He complimented the Miranda Trust Council on its achievement, an achievement which he originally had doubts would ever come to fruition. Sir Peter also commented on the early morning ceremony suggesting that the two peoples had come together not unlike the coming together of the bird species out on the shellbanks.

The buildings was formally opened by Richard Sibson and this was followed by the presentation of gifts. A laminated picture of the birds of Miranda was presented to Sir Peter for the National Trust.

The keynote address by Professor Max Maddock followed after lunch. Max Maddock has been a key person in setting up a similar centre at Shortland on the Hunter River delta in Newcastle, Australia. As an educationist he was able to offer many suggestions about the future direction the Miranda Centre should follow. The Shortland Centre, he



The Miranda Naturalist Trust Centre



Professor Max Maddock giving the keynote address.

said, now has a throughput of 12,000 children per year, and thousands of other visitors.

The occasion was followed by a mid-afternoon tide and good birding along the foreshore. This brought about the discovery of a Marsh-sandpiper, a species which breeds in the mid latitudes of eastern Europe and in northern China. It occasionally visits New Zealand over the northern winter. Most Marsh-sandpipers, though, winter over in East Africa or southern Asia.

National Trust Members should note that they are welcome to visit the Miranda Centre when in the area. The centre has some displays, and nature notes can be purchased. There is also accommodation for five people for which bookings can be made at the Kaiaua Seaside Store just north of the centre.

Stuart Chambers
Waikato Regional Representative

The Skinner Covenant

A second open space covenant on Dunedin's Saddle Hill has been registered. Owned by the Skinner family for many decades this covenant lies just above the one belonging to Les Cleveland, which was featured in the last issue of the Newsletter.

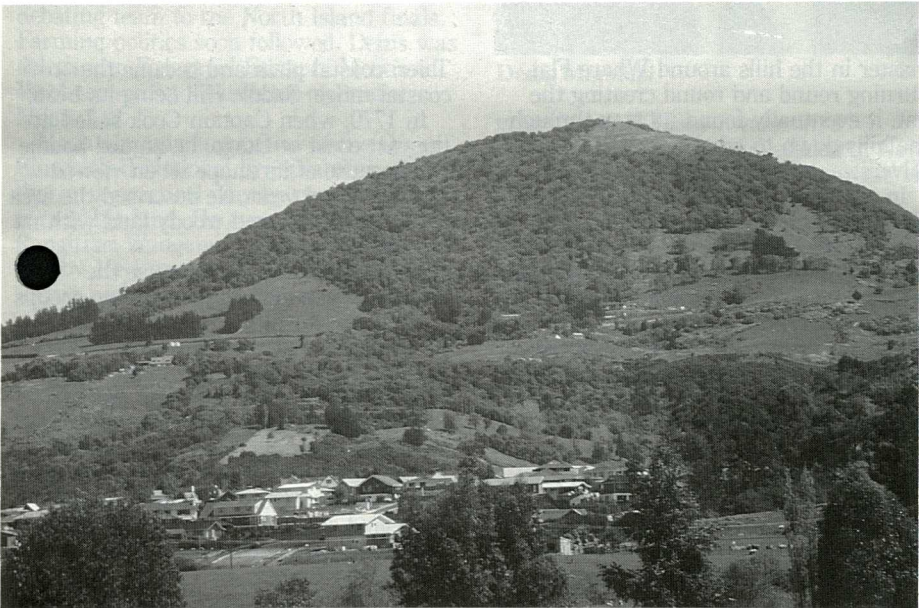
The 17.5 hectare covenant comprises both rain forest and a parkland area. The nine hectare rain forest lies on the east side of Saddle Hill overlooking Dunedin and has a variety of mature and regenerating native species. Of particular note are the many mature kowhai trees along with cabbage trees, rimu, broadleaf, kahikatea, kanuka and mahoe. The parkland and regenerating scrubland, containing mostly peppertree and totara, is situated on the top of Saddle Hill, with magnificent views in all directions.

Over the years the Skinner family has taken great care of their property, and has made it available to the public. There are tracks from the homestead through the forest to the top of Saddle Hill and the parkland area, providing superb views.

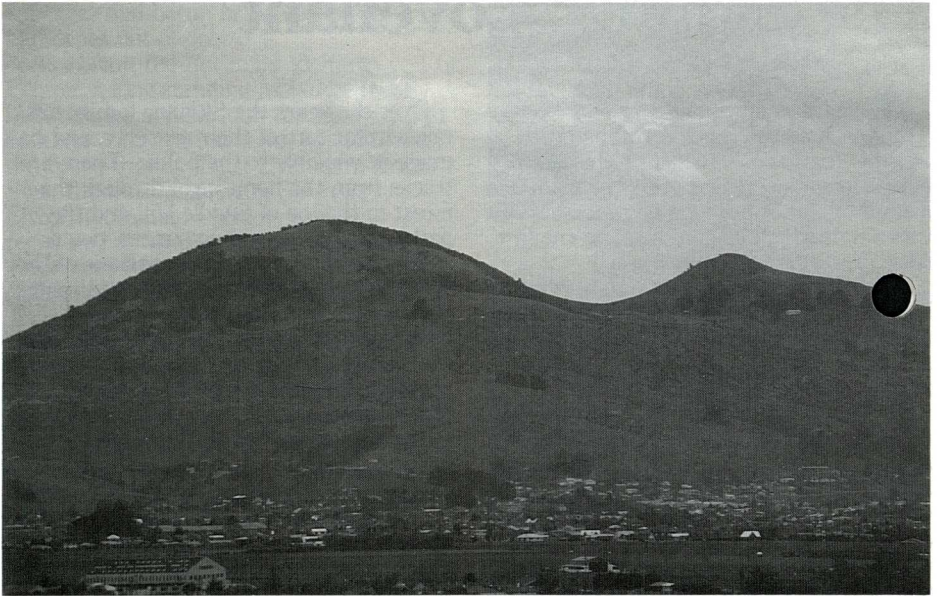
The family, being very conscious of the area's natural values, were keen to protect it in perpetuity while still retaining ownership. An open space covenant with the National Trust was the ideal solution.

Saddle Hill has significance in both Maori and European history. It features in a Maori legend which is illustrated in a beautiful wall hanging displayed in Dunedin's Early Otago Settlers Museum.

The story is about Mere-Mere, a taniwha (or water monster) that was a guardian and pet of Te Rakitaunkeke, chief of Ngatimomoe. The taniwha lost its



Saddle Hill from Dunedin showing the Skinner bush and parkland on top with the Cleveland bush below.



View of Saddle Hill from Mosgiel

master in the hills around Whare Flat. Turning round and round creating the flat, it eventually found its way through the hills down to what is now Silverstream to Mosgiel.

In one place it made a hollow called 'Waipotaka' or 'turning round and round at midnight.' Further along the taniwha was really tired and made an even bigger hollow 'Ta-kokika-o-te-mata-mata' or 'Mata-Mata's crawl.' This is where Mosgiel now lies. From there it wriggled down the Taieri Plain and followed the course of the river for a few miles below Allanton, forming the tortuous reach known as 'Te Rua-Taniwha', the 'Monster's lair.'

Finally poor Mere-Mere, completely worn out and heartbroken at the loss of its master, writhed and stretched out at full length across what was then the

Taieri coastal plain and became the coastal range, Saddle Hill being its head.

In 1770, when Captain Cook sailed up the east coast of Otago, he named Saddle Hill because of its shape when viewed from east and west. He described the area as "a very green and woody land with no sign of habitation."

Many people continue to use the Skinner covenant today, including groups such as the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society and the Otago Tree Society. Barbecue facilities and a shelter may be added to the parkland area.

The National Trust is most grateful to the Skinner family for the care and attention given to the covenant area. With only a road between the Skinner and Cleveland covenants they have a major impact on Saddle Hill as a scenic landscape feature.

Denis Marshall

New Minister of Conservation

In one way you could say that Denis Marshall hasn't gone far: he was born in Marton (in 1943), and he still calls Marton home. But in every other way it is obvious that he is a man on the move.

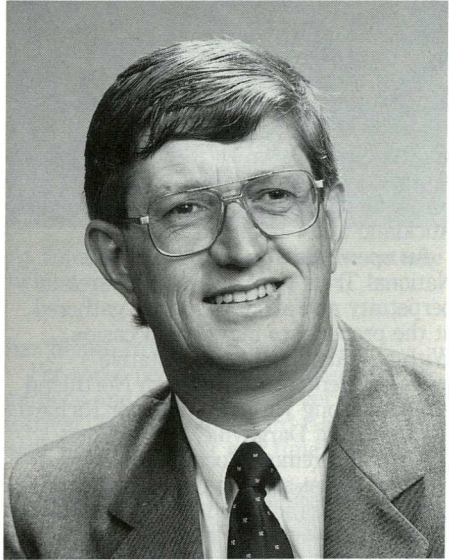
Married with three children, Denis Marshall snuffed out the high-profile political career of Social Credit leader Bruce Beetham by winning the Rangitikei seat for National in 1984. Educated at Norwood School, Hereworth School and Christs College, Denis attended Massey in 1962 and was part of the Kellogg New Zealand Rural Leadership Programme at Lincoln in 1982. He was a Nuffield Farming Scholar to the UK in 1983.

Farming near Marton since 1965, he was Chairman of Marton Young Farmers Club in that year and led the district YFC debating team to the North Island finals. Farming politics soon followed. Denis was delegate to Federated Farmers Meat and Wool section and a director of Producer Meats Ltd.

He is strongly supportive of the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust, and showed that in a practical way by covenanting part of his land. He spent six years on the Rangitikei-Wanganui Catchment Board, by 1984 was deputy Chairman. But then a higher political call was answered.

After election to Parliament, Denis Marshall was appointed Associate Spokesperson for Agriculture in 1987 and Spokesperson on Conservation and Horticulture in early 1989. In the Cabinet of the new National Government Denis Marshall is Minister of Conservation, Minister of Science (DSIR) and Associate Minister of Agriculture.

The new Conservation Minister describes himself as a committed conservationist. "I reckon I have been a Forest and Bird member for thirty years. My interest probably stems from my great



Denis Marshall

grandfather William Swainson, a prominent naturalist who settled in New Zealand in 1839. He was noted for his bird and botanical drawings."

As well as bringing an historical perspective to his portfolio Mr Marshall says that the new challenges in conservation have a real urgency. "The new National administration is well aware of the need for sustainability. There has been a permanent change in public thinking on the use of resources.

"We now know much more about resource depletion. We cannot ignore the impact of industrial development on the environment. Species are under threat, including human beings.

"National is committed to dealing with the daunting problems we face, both at home and abroad. I am grateful for the opportunity of meeting the challenge ahead," said Mr Marshall.

Mangawhai Forest Protected by Covenant

Saturday September 16, 1990 by Covenant was a red letter day for Mangawhai Forest Preservation Ltd. The 16 company shareholders purchased just over 417 hectares of forest at the eastern end of the Brynderwyn Hills, the geographic dividing line between Auckland and Northland.

An open space covenant with the National Trust now protects the area in perpetuity and about 30 people gathered at the property to mark the occasion. With our Auckland representative overseas, Fenton Hamlin from Northland attended along with new director Richard Alspach from Dargaville.

A small ceremony focused on fixing a National Trust sign on the main entrance gate. This was followed by a talk from company spokesman Professor John Morton where he described the conception and development of Mangawhai Forest Preservation Ltd.

Within the covenant Mangawhai Forest Preservation Ltd have set aside a small portion as a settlement area with

planning approval for 18 perpetual-lease cabin sites. This activity inside the covenant area operates under a management plan agreed to by the National Trust.

The cabin sites and construction are discrete with minimal disturbance to the native forest environment. The mixed podocarp-broadleaf forest was previously logged but is regenerating well and still has many large canopy trees such as rimu, totara, tanekaha and kahikatea.

The forest is rich in birdlife with fantail, tui, native pigeon and grey warbler being most common. Also found here are the primitive native frog *Leiopelma hochstetteri*, found under flat stones in damp places and the ancient caterpillar-like *Peripatus*, found under rotting logs.

Because the forest has been altered over the last century by logging, browsing and the invasion of exotic plants the company is carrying out a revegetation programme. Only the local genetic strain of native plants will be grown.

Open Space Seminar

On September 24 the Wellington Civic Trust ran a successful one day seminar on open space in Wellington. Held in the old Legislative Chamber of Parliament Buildings and chaired by the Trust's General Manager, Euan McQueen, the seminar attracted about 120 people representing a wide range of interest groups and organisations.

After presentations from a range of

speakers the seminar divided into discussion groups to traverse a number of ideas in detail. The fundamental outcome of the day was a call for the Wellington City Council to prepare a comprehensive Open Space plan for the city. This is to take into account the needs of all members of the community and to include the results of this plan in all further urban planning for the city.

Successful Festival

This year's Taranaki Festival was a resounding success. It was called the Taranaki Rhododendron Flower and Flax Festival, with 1990 Commission funding as part of the celebrations. Wide coverage and fine weather attracted record numbers during the 10 day period.

Tupare's Curator, Alistair Duncan, said several thousand people visited the garden and there was much praise for its quality and standard of maintenance.

Greg Rine, gardener at Hollard Gardens said there was great interest from the visitors who numbered over a thousand. The gardens were looking at their best with work done over the winter coming to fruition. *Rhododendron nuttalli x lindleyi* and the mollis azaleas were particularly attractive. For many, it was their first visit to Hollard Gardens and the Festival



At Tupare, the large pool with the cottage behind

has helped to "put it on the map."

For those people who are interested in gardens and were unable to get to the festival, Tupare and Hollard Gardens are well worth a visit at any time of the year.



Mt Egmont dominates this view of the North Ride at Hollard Gardens. From bare farmland only seven years ago, the top corner of the new garden now contains many deciduous plants such as mollis azaleas, philadelphus, paeonia, edgeworthia, weigela and chaenomeles with emerging specimens of oak, prunus, davidia, and chestnut.

Open Space Covenants

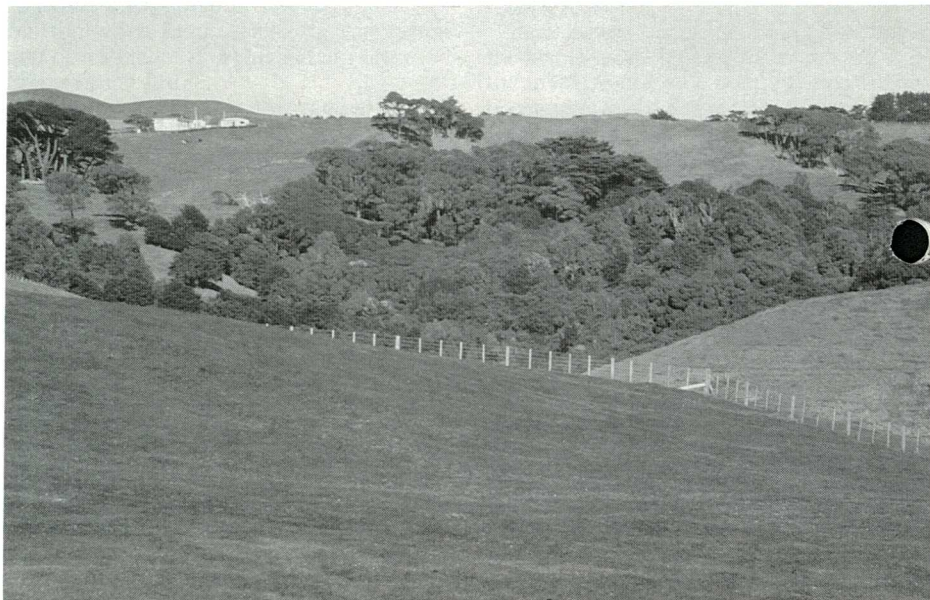
By November 1990 there were 440 registered covenants, while a further 352 were approved and proceeding towards registration.

RECENTLY REGISTERED COVENANTS

NORTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT

1. **MACDONALD DJ.** 13 km from Waiuku, South Auckland. 2.40 ha of forest remnant covering a shallow gully and adjacent hillside has been protected. Dominant species in the covenant area include totara, rimu and puriri.

2. **BROWN WA & MJ.** South side of Fawcett Road, Laingholm west of Auckland. The 4.59 ha whole title bush covenant adjoins the four similar covenants belonging to Lawrence, Whiteoak, Fawcett and Ijsseldijk. The area contains small to medium sized kauri in addition to rimu, tanekaha, totara, kahikatea, rewarewa, nikau, and punga.
3. **BAKER BW & RE.** Duck Creek Road, 3km west of Stillwater, near Orewa. The covenant protects a 3.80 ha hillside area with about half covered in regenerating bush and the remainder in mature trees. Dominant species include puriri, karaka, kohekohe, kahikatea, taraire and titoki.



McDonald covenant

SOUTH AUCKLAND DISTRICT

4. **FAGAN COP & FMM.** Mahuta Road, 3 km from Waitakaruru.
A 3.95 ha fringe of forest along Mahuta Road has been covenanted. It contains tawa, kahikatea, mahoe, kohekohe, puriri and rewarewa. Rising steeply from the road it is a valuable area for erosion control. The owners were keen to ensure its conservation and to protect the landscape view from Mahuta Road.

BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT

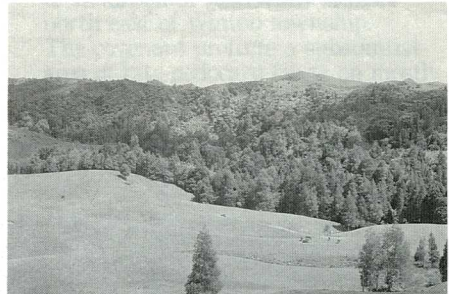
5. **FERRABEE HC & DL.** Ross Road, Whakamarama, west of Tauranga. The covenant protects a 1.91 ha remnant of old puriri and kohekohe bush. Part of the area has been fenced for some years and has a dense understorey. Bellbird, tui and pigeon are found there.

WAIKATO DISTRICT

6. **HARRIS DW.** Filfery Road, near Te Pahu.
A 1.97 ha forest remnant has been protected. The covenant area protects the view from Filfery Road and consists mostly of kahikatea, tawa and pukatea.

GISBORNE DISTRICT

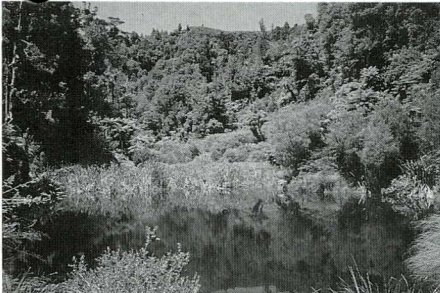
7. **COATES EH & DM.** Ngatapa, 27km north west of Gisborne.
The covenant protects a bush area of 0.40 ha. Located in a sheltered valley the bush has been fenced for many years. The main canopy trees are tawa and titoki with rohutu and pigeonwood.
8. **WHITE IT & PO.** Ngatapa, 27 km north west of Gisborne.
This 0.75 ha area adjoins the Coates covenant and comprises similar species with emerging kahikatea. The owners are keen to reinstate a once felled area of kahikatea. Both covenants protect important remnants in an area with no other protected areas.



Harris covenant, near Te Pahu. The protected bush is in the foreground.

TARANAKI DISTRICT

9. **HAWKES MD & ME.** Upland Road, east of New Plymouth.
The covenant protects a 1.61 ha forest remnant on elevated terrace country. Existing species include pukatea, kohekohe, puriri, tawa, karaka, rimu and kahikatea.
10. **TARANAKI ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.** Toro Road, Tarata. 30 km east of Inglewood.
A whole title forest 253.73 ha covenant in an area where there are currently no other open space covenants. Only a small number of



One of the many ponds on the Taranaki Acclimatisation Society covenant, with the bush behind.

trees were felled in the past and this very attractive area contains large specimens of beech, rimu, pukatea, kahikatea and totara.

WAIRARAPA DISTRICT

11. CAMERON DL & EC. Western Lake Road, 35 kilometres from Featherston. A whole title covenant protects 284.08 ha containing two areas of bush and Lake Pounui. Situated in the foothills of the Rimutaka Range, the covenant area also borders the Rimutaka Forest Park. The bush is regenerating well having been free of stock for many years. The rare mole cricket can be found in the manuka flats. Lake Pounui itself has a long Maori history and is well known to local people. This area is leased on a long term basis to Victoria University to use as a

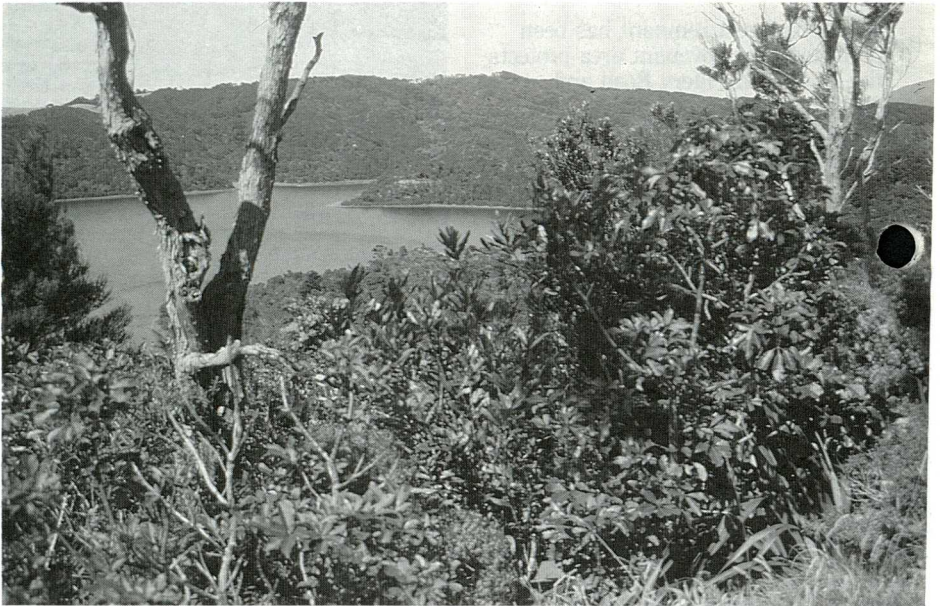
scientific reserve and in particular for limnological research.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT

12. STEELE JH & JM. Happy Valley Road, near Hurunui River Mouth, 85 km north of Christchurch. Two areas totalling 17.11 ha have been covenanted. The first area is a gully system, very tall kanuka being the dominant species with broadleaf species near the stream. This area is very visible from Happy Valley Road. The other area is a hillside with regenerating coastal bush.

OTAGO DISTRICT

13. SKINNER HR & BA. Saddle Hill, Dunedin. The covenant protects 17.5 ha on one of Dunedin's well known landmarks.



Lake Pounui from the north ridge



View of the tall kanuka on the Steele covenant

Half of the area contains forest with many mature kowhai; birdlife is abundant. The remaining area of parkland and regenerating scrub is situated on the top of Saddle Hill with magnificent views in all directions. This covenant adjoins the Cleveland covenant.

SOUTHLAND DISTRICT

14. MUNRO RE & KG. Lawson Road,

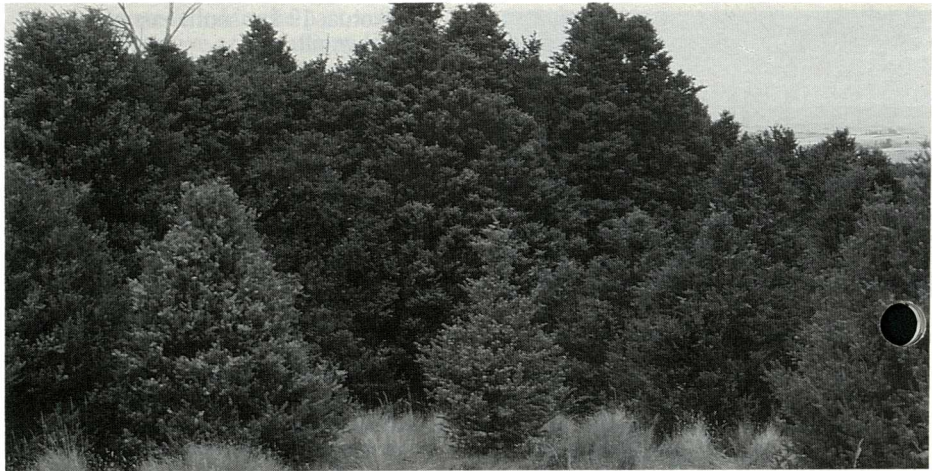


Munro covenant with tall forest at the back left with peatland in the foreground

Mokotua, 19 km south east of Invercargill.

Two areas totalling 64.06 ha have been protected by a covenant. A feature is the 2.5 ha wetland which has been created and is protected from stock. The remainder of the covenant area is mostly typical peatland vegetation including short manuka, dracophyllum, wire rush, sphagnum moss and many native orchids. There are three small forest remnants with kamahi, pokaka and regenerating rimu and a variety of other lowland forest species. A further area contains manuka with regenerating forest species. The area attracts numerous native birds especially grey warbler and fantail.

15. WINTON FOREST LTD (E Aitchison & L Malcolm). Lora Gorge, 17 km north east of Winton township. The covenant protects a substantial area of rata-podocarp forest on mostly steep slopes which are fully visible



Forest margin of McLean covenant showing beech, podocarps and broadleaf.

from the Lora River Road. The 136.90 ha forest is dominated by rata but has good specimens of matai, kahikatea, totara, rimu and large pittosporums. 1250 metres of unspoilt Lora Stream, containing many brown trout, bound the lower part of the covenant. The forest has good populations of native birds, particularly brown creeper and pigeon.

16. MCLEAN RJ & JL. 5.5km east of Lumsden.

Two areas of forest remnant totalling 15.38 ha in tussock hill country have been protected. The dominant vegetation is totara, broadleaf and silver tussock. The uphill spread of the regenerating totara is an outstanding feature of this covenant. The area is seen from Longridge Road.

Forest Heritage Fund Grant

In October the National Trust received a grant from the recently established Forest Heritage Fund.

The grant will be used to pay for surveys necessary to complete eight valuable forest covenants in the Manawatu, Rangitikei and Wairarapa regions and to fence and survey an additional covenant in Hawkes Bay. This work, which will allow the protection of 1362 hectares to proceed, would have otherwise been put on hold until funds became available.

The \$6.75 million Forest Heritage Fund

was established earlier this year to provide contestable funding to enable protection of valuable forest on private land.

Chaired by New Zealand Conservation Authority member, Di Lucas, the Fund committee considered 121 applications, and inaugural grants totalled \$274,000. The committee will meet quarterly and the National Trust will continue to apply for grants. An application for survey and some fencing money for twelve further covenants will be considered in December.

Rangitoto Station

National Trust Board Member, Arthur Cowan, has been involved in the protection of many areas of native forest. As a founding member of the Native Forest Restoration Trust he has initiated their purchase of Rangitoto Station and its protection by a space covenant.

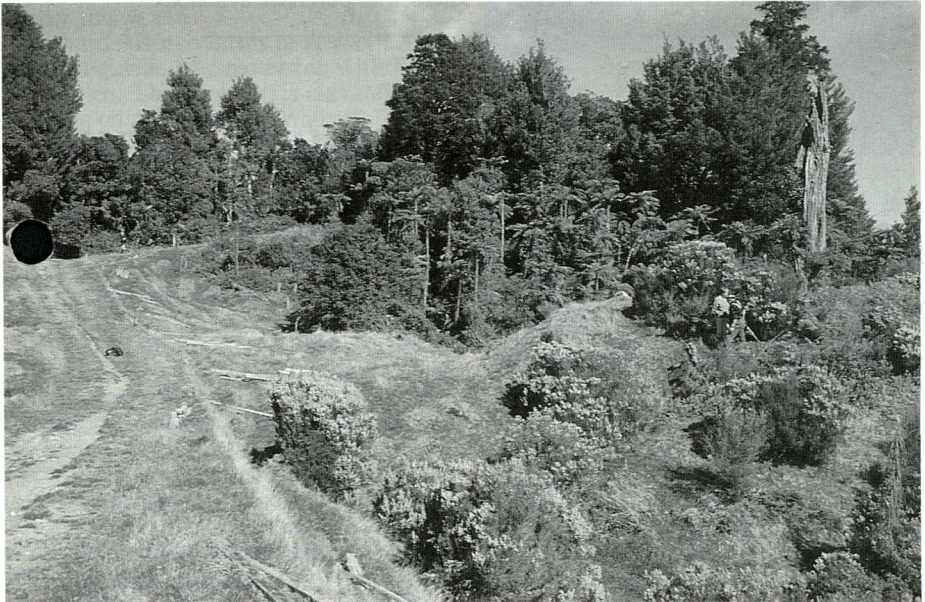
Rangitoto Station is large (over 400 hectares), remote and high on the Rangitoto Range with splendid views. Purchased by the Native Forest Restoration Trust in December 1989 its inclusion in the conservation estate will restore to forest an area which should have never been felled.

The Station was initially cleared of practically all its native forest cover during 1912-1915. Only about 40 hectares remained. Over the decades there were many attempts to farm Rangitoto as a

going concern; it carried sheep, cattle and latterly deer. However it was not an economic farming proposition because high altitude and the prolonged winters meant that stock feed was never adequate.

Rangitoto is significant for conservation in its own right. However this becomes much greater when the Station's 'neighbours' are taken into account. The Pureora State Forest is on one side, the Arthur Cowan Wildlife Reserve (a covenant) lies on the south and west side and bush owned by a Maori incorporation is on the northern boundary. Those 'neighbours' were a contributing factor in the purchase of the area by the Native Forest Restoration Trust and allowing it to revert and become part of the overall forest habitat.

The Restoration Trust is currently



Planting on Rangitoto Station earlier this year

working with the National Trust to covenant the Station. With the removal of all stock the landscape is beginning to regenerate well. Nature is being assisted by appropriate planting; four Restoration Trust members are coordinating planting groups. Manuka is being seeded on to bare ridges and fuchsia cuttings are being planted in gullies. Other species being planted in large numbers include totara, kahikatea, horopito, coprosma and cabbage tree.

Arthur Cowan and Roy Dench became responsible for the revegetation project and for raising the necessary finance. Their task also involved the dismantling of the deer and sheep units, the materials from which have been sold to provide valuable funding.

When one inch (2.5 cm) of rain falls on Rangitoto Station 100,000 tonnes of water is shed. The underlying pumice land is highly erosion prone so that regenerating vegetation is of great importance. The benefits to the Waipa River through improved water quality, which are already obvious, will become vitally important as

the lowland population increases. It is certain that water from this region will be needed in Auckland City in the not too distant future.

Much of the area contains regenerating forest, and bird populations are high especially bellbird and tui. They find the large areas of *Fuchsia excorticata* much to their liking from September, flowering until February when fruit is still ripening.

A comfortable house (the former station homestead) is already being used by Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society members, tramping clubs and school groups for study and recreation.

There are long term plans to extend the educational opportunities at Rangitoto Station and the existing woolshed may be utilised for this purpose.

Thus the protection and revegetation of Rangitoto completes the jigsaw for this important indigenous forest and watershed area. The Native Forest Restoration Trust thanks the National Trust, the Waikato Branch RFBPS and their own supporters whose generosity made the purchase available.

Representative Landscapes Forum

A forum on representative landscapes was held in Christchurch on October 2 by the Canterbury Branch of the New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects. Chaired by Sir Peter Elworthy it attracted 100 people including a wide representation of the tangata whenua.

The impetus for the forum came from a statement by the then Minister of Conservation, Philip Woollaston, that the protection of representative landscapes as defined in the Reserves Act 1977, would be a priority for the Department of Conservation.

There were presentations from Principal Landscape Planner for the Department of Conservation, Clive

Anstey, and New Zealand Conservation Authority member and Canterbury Regional Councillor, Di Lucas.

In his session Clive Anstey drew together all the aspects, including legislation, affecting representative landscapes. In conclusion he said: "Whatever our country is now it has become what it is to a greater or lesser extent because we are here. If we want it to be different we will have to make conscious choices and manage change. If we simply let 'nature take its course', then it may not become what we need."

Di Lucas spoke about the need for broader landscape awareness, which she illustrated with slides.

The discussion which followed focused on ways to achieve the protection of representative landscapes. Although legislation was considered as an option, the forum favoured an approach through education, advocacy and cooperation as used by the National Trust.

Trust Deputy Chair Hamish Ensor, as well as representatives for Otago and Canterbury, Ian Williamson and Graham Dunbar, attended the forum. Strong support was expressed for the work of the

National Trust.

In summarising the day, Sir Peter Elworthy said that it was clear there was a very strong consensus for education, communication and voluntary decisions being the basis for conservation and landscape protection in New Zealand. Coercion was not the way to achieve this.

He saw a role for the National Trust in extending community thinking and knowledge on the subject working along with other conservation organisations.

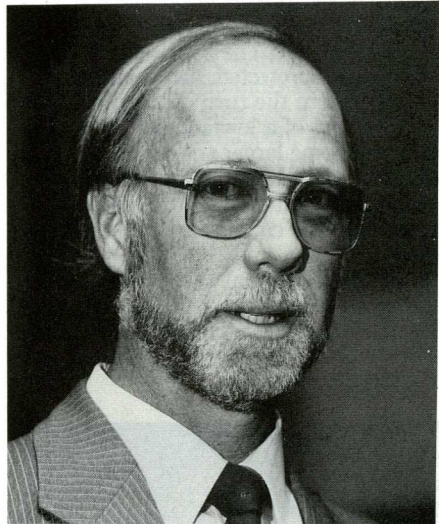
New Director Richard Alspach

The National Trust is pleased to welcome a new director to its Board: Richard Alspach, appointed by the Minister of Conservation after consultation with Federated Farmers. He replaces Ken Macdonald who stood down earlier this year.

Richard Alspach farms at Arapohue near Dargaville, in partnership with his wife Helen. Their son Ian is currently working on a farm in the Waikato. They have about 130 hectares in two properties which consist mainly of rolling to steep country with some floodable flats. In addition to a dairy herd they run beef and an expanding farm forestry area with *Pinus radiata*, *Acacia melanoxylon* and several species of eucalypts.

The Alspachs have fenced off several small blocks of bush for protection and have a strong interest in planting trees for both conservation and aesthetic purposes. Richard's parents have covenanted a forest remnant on their property near Opotiki.

Currently the Dairy Section Chairman of Federated Farmers, Richard has held offices in the organisation for the past 12 years. He is also chairman of the Animal Health Board which gives him a strong interest in bovine TB and possum control.



Richard Alspach

With a great interest in the environment Richard and Helen have a strong sense of the need for husbandry of both animals and land. They have been strong supporters of the National Trust since its inception.

AH Jackson Family Trust

Covenant

Situated north east of Stratford in Taranaki is a 27 hectare bush covenant which has been owned by the Jackson family for three generations.

Mr AH Jackson farmed the property on which the covenant is situated for many years, and has valued the bush since his childhood. He heard about the National Trust and open space covenants some years ago at a Mystery Creek Field Day and strongly appreciates the assistance provided by the Trust to protect the area.

Mr Jackson said that his father and uncle took up the property about 1920 when they returned from World War One. It was mostly covered in native manuka and bracken fern. The bush, except for the area now protected, had been felled probably before the turn of the century. It had been part of a lowland podocarp forest and some larger trees such as rimu, rata, hinau, pukatea, matai, maire and a few much sought after totara still lay strewn over the countryside and had to be cleared.

In the mid 1920s, at the time of the depression, the settlers had to go into dairying to pay their bills and so planted barberry hedges around the smaller paddocks required.



Pupils from Stanley School visiting the Jackson bush.



AH Jackson Family Trust bush

As these hedges were never cut they quickly grew to a great size, producing vast quantities of seed. This supplied food and shelter for huge flocks of birds, particularly starling, blackbird, thrush, sparrow, yellow hammer and finch. The manuka, bracken fern and also swede, chou moellier and maize crops provided ideal conditions for pheasant, quail (both native brown and Californian) and some kiwi. The bush supported the native birds including tui, pigeon, warbler, bellbird and kiwi.

These days with the scrub, fern and roughage gone many of the birds have disappeared. Thus the bush and the birds it supports is both valuable and beautiful.

Since fencing, the area is regenerating well. Tawa, rewarewa, rimu and miro are among the dominant species with ferns and many young seedling trees in the understorey.

Mr Jackson can fondly recall his childhood experiences playing in and exploring the bush. Later his own children tramped its tracks, making ponga huts and bridges, and catching possums to earn extra spending money.

His son, Murray Jackson, now farms the property and his family of four are growing up with the opportunity of enjoying the bush.

Book Review

Scotland In Trust by Jenni Calder

Published in association with National Trust for Scotland by Richard Drew Publishing, Glasgow, 1990. 176 pages.

The National Trust for Scotland, founded in 1931, has an extraordinary record of achievement in preserving, protecting, recreating, and educating. The Trust is dealing with a country of equal diversity in history, geology, landscape, and human talents.

Jenni Calder has captured all these elements in this book. It must be so easy for a writer about a national trust to produce a catalogue, or encyclopaedia. She has produced a fluent narrative which links the political, economic and social history and geography of Scotland to the heritage which now lies in the guardianship of the National Trust for Scotland.

It can be read as a guidebook, suggesting where to go and what to see, and how to understand it. It can be kept as an 'after the trip' book to remind, through both text and excellent

illustration, of what has been seen and admired. The book can be read in its own right, describing the connections between the proud but often sad and bloody history of Scotland with the restored remnants which stand today.

The modern traveller in Scotland will find evidence of Scotland's past in specialist museums and collections and in particular buildings, preserved outside the protection of the National Trust. They are simply additions to the impressive results achieved by the National Trust for Scotland over the last 60 years. In effort, innovation, breadth of view and role, and sheer imagination, it has been a remarkable achievement. Jenni Calder's book captures it well, with a quiet pride in the results, due humility in recognising the generosity and effort of many people which have made it happen, and a textual presentation of the first order.

Euan McQueen

House Exchange

Dr Peter Ross, an officer with the National Trust for England is interested in exchanging houses and possibly cars with someone in New Zealand wishing to holiday in England. He would like to be based in an area of the country where he and his family could enjoy bush walking and exploring natural areas.

He lives in Lamplugh, a small town on the northwest fringe of the Lake District.

It is quite close to Enmendal Water and Buttermore and within an easy drive of Bassenthwaite, Derwentwater and Borrowdale which are some of the most attractive areas of the district.

Interested readers can write to Dr Ross at The Old Sawmill, Lamplugh, Workington, Cumbria CA 14 4TX, England or contact him on tel (0946) 861728.

Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Board December 1990

Appointed by the Minister of Conservation after consultation with the organisations noted:

CHAIRMAN

Sir Peter Elworthy of Timaru

DIRECTORS

Rei Bailey of Wanganui.
NZ Maori Council

Hamish Ensor of Methven.
Federated Farmers of NZ

Ken Macdonald of Whakatane.
Federated Farmers of NZ

Margaret Mortimer of Frankton.

Jennifer Seddon QSM of Tauranga.
Appointed by the Minister

Marilyn Waring of Wellsford.
Appointed by the Minister

Elected by National Trust Members:
Arthur Cowan MBE of Otorohanga.

Dr Brian Molloy of Christchurch

General Manager:
Euan McQueen

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Published by:

Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust, PO Box 3341, Wellington.
Colenso House, 138 The Terrace, Wellington. Telephone (04) 726-626

Registered at PO Headquarters Wellington as a Newsletter.