



Queen Elizabeth II

National Trust

For open space in New Zealand

Nga Kairauhi Papa

Open Space

No. 35 December 1995

IN THIS ISSUE...

NEW DIRECTORS APPOINTED
page 1

FROM THE TRUST MANAGER
page 2

DIRECTOR HONOURED
page 2

**TOMAHAWK LAGOON
REMNANTS NOW SAFE**
page 3

**GENEROUS NORTHLAND
BENEFACTOR**
page 4

TARANAKI TREE TRUST
page 4

A DREAM CAME TRUE
page 5

**POSSUM-INDUCED COLLAPSE OF
FORESTS**
page 5

**ATTRACTIVE PLANT REALLY A
THREAT**
page 6

IMPRESSIVE WAIKATO SUPPORT
page 7

**OPEN SPACE COVENANT
STATISTICS**
page 9

**RECENTLY REGISTERED
COVENANTS**
page 9

CLIPPINGS
page 13

**SPRING NEWS FROM THE TRUST
GARDENS**
page 14

TRUST DIRECTORY
Page 16

NEW DIRECTORS APPOINTED

Two new directors have been appointed to the Trust Board by the Minister of Conservation.

The new appointees are Sir Paul Reeves of Auckland and Mrs Patricia Seymour of Gisborne.

Sir Paul Reeves is a former Governor-General and Primate and Archbishop of New Zealand with strong links to Maoridom. Sir Paul has been appointed to represent the interests of the Maori people. He replaces Maui Pomare who passed away in March of this year.

Mrs Seymour has had more than 25 years experience working with community and statutory agencies, primarily in the health and education areas. She was National President of the Royal New Zealand Plunket Society from 1990-1993 and is currently a director of Tairāwhiti Healthcare Ltd. Mrs Seymour, in partnership with her husband, farms 800 hectares of medium to steep East Coast hill country

north-east of Gisborne.

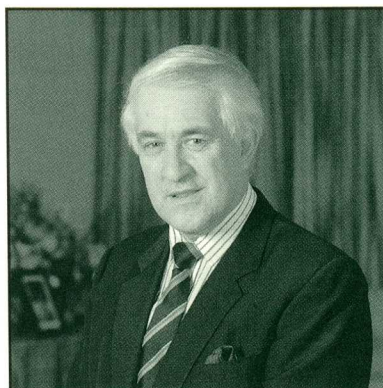
Mrs Seymour has been appointed to represent the interests of rural landowners, a position that has been vacant since Hamish Ensor was appointed Trust Chair in 1993.

In announcing the appointments, the Minister of Conservation Hon Denis Marshall said:

"The QEII National Trust plays a significant role in protecting ecological and landscape features on private land. I am pleased that two persons of such calibre have made themselves available to assist directing the Trust in its important work."

Acting Chair, Maggie Bayfield, said she welcomed the appointment of two persons with such obvious abilities, and she felt the Trust Board would be strengthened as a result.

The appointments are for a three year period.



Sir Paul Reeves



Mrs Patricia Seymour

FROM THE TRUST MANAGER

- In the last issue of *Open Space* the Trust Chair, Hamish Ensor, reported that the decision had been taken by the Board of Directors to no longer offer long-term replacement fencing assistance for new covenants. The decision acknowledges that present Directors have a duty to act prudently. Burdening the Trust with future financial obligations without being in the position to guarantee funding clearly cannot be regarded as prudent. The Trust is currently developing a strategy to ensure adequate funding is available to meet existing commitments. In response to Hamish's comments, a number of covenantors have already moved to amend the long-term fencing clause in their covenant agreement to lessen the impact on the Trust. For this, the Trust is most grateful. If others of you would like to discuss this matter, please contact your Regional Representative.
- I again invite readers to write in to *Open Space* and pass on their experiences with weed and pest control, revegetation or any other matters of interest to other readers.
- May I take this opportunity to extend best wishes to all National Trust members and friends for the festive season.

Tim Porteous
Trust Manager

DIRECTOR HONOURED

Trust Board Director Dr Brian Molloy has been awarded the prestigious Charles Fleming Award for Environmental Achievement.

Sir Charles Fleming (1916 to 1987) had a tremendous love for nature and was deeply concerned for the environment and environmental conservation. The award, made by The Royal Society of New Zealand, was established in 1988 to commemorate Dr Fleming's life and work and to honour those who have achieved distinction in the protection, maintenance, management, improvement or understanding of the environment.

The award is made every three years and consists of a medal, cash grant and an expenses paid lecture tour visiting selected branches of The Royal Society.

Brian Molloy commenced his working life in 1956 as a Field Research Officer in the Department of Agriculture. His principal activities were in the fields of weed ecology and the use and management of South Island tussock grasslands. In 1970 Brian became a Scientist in the Botany Division of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. His area of expertise being in taxonomy, ecology and conservation. He retired from Landcare Research in August of this year but is still involved with that body as a Research Associate focusing on taxonomy.

Holding a Diploma of Agriculture, Diploma of Teaching, Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Science, Brian Molloy has a unique mix of academic qualification blended with personal work and life

experiences enabling him to readily assess not only landowner aspirations but also protection needs.

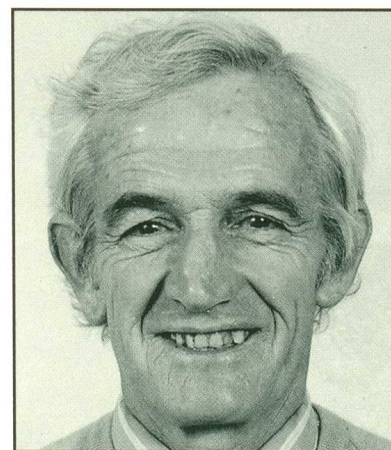
In supporting nomination for the award made by the National Trust, Trust Chair Hamish Ensor wrote:

"Brian Molloy's contribution to the work of the National Trust has been, and continues to be immense.

The importance of this contribution must be weighed against the knowledge that the Trust is all but solely involved with securing protection for natural features on land in private ownership. It is on private land that the greatest opportunity exists to make further conservation gains in the future.

Brian Molloy has indeed a most impressive record of achievement with distinction in respect to the protection, maintenance, management, improvement and understanding of the environment."

On learning of the success of the nomination, Acting Chair Maggie Bayfield congratulated Dr Molloy on behalf of the Trust Board, staff and all covenantors, members and supporters of the Trust.



Dr Brian Molloy

TOMAHAWK LAGOON REMNANTS NOW SAFE

by Marie Taylor

Tucked into steep hills behind Ocean Grove on the southern coast of Dunedin city, the two Tomahawk Lagoons are slowly being transformed.

Paul and Sue Clark, who own much of the land between the two lagoons, have protected bush remnants around the lagoon margins with a newly registered National Trust covenant. The covenant, a legal agreement between the Clarks and the National Trust, protects in perpetuity the bush remnants of secondary forest as well as flax wetlands, raupo swamps and rushes.

The Clarks have protected a total of 3.1 hectares around the lagoons, but this protection is only part of the whole process of restoration of the area.

Helping them with fencing and revegetation is an impressive array of individuals and organisations, including the Department of Conservation which supplied materials to fence off the swampy northern end of the Number One lagoon, and the Kiwi Conservation Club led by Ken Mason, which recently won an Otago Regional Council environmental award for its work at the lagoons.

"Everybody has had a go at it. DOC supplied materials and fenced off the swamp at the northern end of Number One lagoon. Forest and Bird supplied the posts and we supplied 300 metres of fence materials, the wire and bulldozer, and the Conservation Corps erected the fence for both lagoons," notes Paul Clark.

The Lottery Grants Board paid for the survey costs of the

covenant and, of course, Paul and Sue Clark contributed time and money themselves to the fencing project.

"The shallow lagoons are important wildlife reserves close to the city," says National Trust Regional Representative Helen Clarke. "The covenants are a natural part of the landscape, and integral to the wetlands. They are a recreational, scientific and educational resource, and they improve the wildfowl habitat," she says.

Paul and Sue Clark provide public access around the northern shore of the Number Two lagoon, and this track links up with 41 Peg Road higher up in the hills. Revegetation work around the Number Two lagoon has been carried out for the past five years by the Kiwi Conservation Club, and Paul Clark is revegetating some areas around the Number One lagoon.

A large number of birds use the 30 hectare lagoons, and fencing them off will improve both the nesting habitat for the birds, as well as the conditions of the water in the lagoons, as less run-off from the land will now end up in the lagoons.

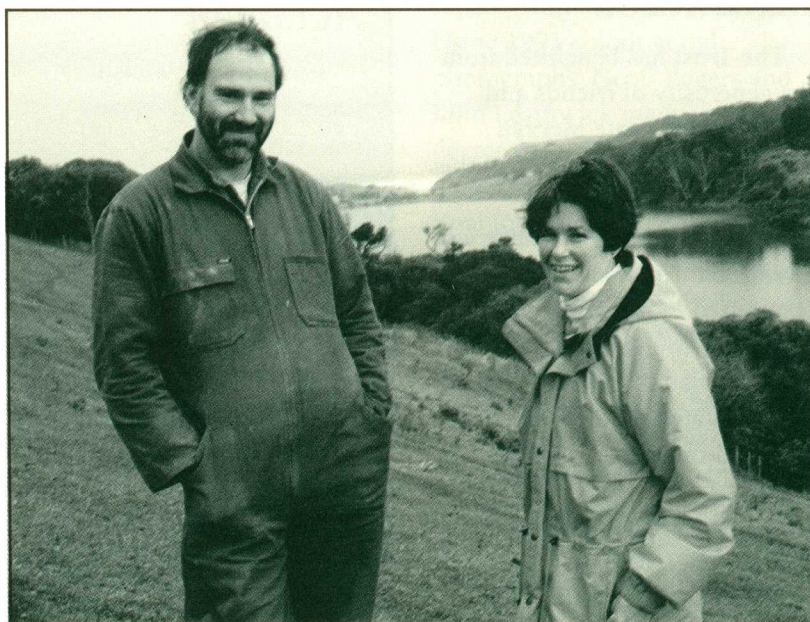
Some of the species using the

lagoons include crested grebe, white heron, white-faced heron, NZ shoveler, mallard duck, grey teal, pied stilt, spur-winged plover, marsh crake, spotted plover, black shag, pukeko, paradise duck, black swan and kingfisher. "Royal spoonbills and godwits also come and go," says Mr Clark. Eels, frogs, brown trout and perch, as well as leeches can all be found in the lagoons.

While the bush remnants are largely ngaio and Hall's totara, other species such as mature milkwood trees (turepo) and many coprosmas are present. Mahoe, broadleaf, cabbage trees, rohutu, and ribbonwood, muehlenbeckia and kowhai are also present.

The Clarks moved onto the farm in 1987. "Even then we thought the bush needed to be fenced – for numerous reasons: stock protection as well as bush protection; the animals used to get caught up in the vines, and didn't reappear," Mr Clark says. "Since fencing, regeneration has been strong. Hall's totara and ngaio, a prolific seeder, are coming up everywhere," he says.

Ken Mason, who's been visiting the lagoons for more



Landowner Paul Clark with the National Trust's Helen Clarke at Number One Tomahawk Lagoon. (Photo: Marie Taylor)

than 30 years, saw the potential for revegetation. A national councillor for Forest and Bird, and a keen Otago Peninsular Walkers member, he helped with this covenant from its earliest stages.

Now he and the Kiwi Conservation Club members are planting species which have almost disappeared locally – like *Pseudopanax ferox*, *Olearia avicennifolia*, prostrate fuchsias; and cabbage trees. All the plants are sourced locally, so they are appropriate for the ecological district with most of the plantings being of ngaio and broadleaves. The KCC has now undertaken revegetation work at the lagoons for five years.

It hasn't all been plain sailing, with problems with fires and cattle. "Animals came through after a fence was burnt down, and knocked out three years of regeneration," says Ken Mason.

"Sometimes there were 40 kids and 20 adults out there planting – children's work is often under-rated. It's not just revegetation but restoration."

GENEROUS NORTHLAND BENEFACTOR

The Trust has benefitted from the generosity of friends and relations of the late Mervyn Ross, who died in January of this year.

Mervyn Ross of Parua Bay was a very practical man, and committed to the protection of Northland forest. His death notice sums him up very well when it stated that he had died "suddenly, at home, with his boots on".

In 1980, Mr Ross initiated one of the very earliest of Trust open space covenants. His covenant protects some nine hectares of kauri forest on his home farm at

Parua Bay. Over the years he was a tremendous advocate for the National Trust, promoting the benefits of covenant protection with other landholders in his district. He was the catalyst for a further covenant to protect another 43 hectares of kauri forest on a property owned by his daughter, Jennifer, also at Parua Bay, in 1993.

In lieu of floral tributes, Mr Ross's family asked that donations be made to the National Trust. A significant sum was forthcoming to the Trust as a result of this request.

Although Mr Ross may have died in early 1995, his commitment to native forest protection is not being forgotten as a memorial grove of native trees is being planted by family and friends at Parua Bay.

The National Trust is grateful indeed for the life and commitment to open space protection wonderfully demonstrated by Mervyn Ross. That gratitude is also extended to all those who made donations to the Trust at his family's request.

TRUST CHAIR IN ACCIDENT

Trust Chair, Hamish Ensor, sustained serious injuries as a result of a farming accident in August. Hamish has remained in hospital since the accident but is now making steady progress. The Trust extends its best wishes to Hamish for a speedy and full recovery, and to the family during this difficulty and worrying time.

Trust Deputy Chair, Maggie Bayfield, has been Acting Chair since Hamish's accident.

TARANAKI TREE TRUST

A Regional Initiative

The Taranaki Tree Trust (a registered charitable trust) was officially launched by the Hon Denis Marshall on Wednesday, 7 October 1992. The Trust is dedicated to the preservation and development of Taranaki's natural ecosystem and landscapes.

The Trust objectives are to:

- promote an awareness and appreciation of Taranaki's distinctive natural heritage
- preserve Taranaki's unique character by protection and planting
- purchase land containing natural ecosystems
- establish an information resource for everyone interested in Taranaki's ecology.

There are six Trustees selected from organisations with a proven interest in the preservation and planting of the province's landscapes.

The Taranaki Regional Council provides the administration role to the Trust's independent policies and the Trust is assisted in marketing by the Taranaki Savings Bank.

A Riparian and Indigenous Forest Protection Project was set up with a generous donation from ECNZ. As well as other projects, the Taranaki Tree Trust is supporting six National Trust covenants which could not otherwise be funded. One of these is further supported by the New Plymouth branch of Soroptimist International Club.

The Taranaki Tree Trust is an excellent example of a local community initiative. The National Trust and the six covenantors are very grateful for the Taranaki Tree Trust contribution to protecting forest remnants in the Taranaki region.

A DREAM CAME TRUE

A really magnificent bush remnant has been protected in Hawkes Bay with the registration of a National Trust covenant by Peter and Daisy Berkahn over 47.6 hectares of bush in Salisbury Road.

Their farm, 33 km west of Hastings, is gentle hill country with deeply incised gullies filled with bush.

Peter explains why he protected the bush: "Having lived and tramped over the bush all my life here it has always been my objective to fence it off and let it revert to native cover.

Having fenced half of it, I realised I couldn't fence it all, and was fortunate to receive support from the QEII National Trust, and it made a dream come true."

"For three winters we worked on the fence. It was pretty well four months altogether, it was a huge job to fence it. The main thing is that it got done, and it would never have got done if we hadn't got assistance from the QEII."

"It is now far easier to farm, and it's good to see all the bush

come away as some of it has been closed up for three years now. We can see all the young trees coming up through the grass. Some of them, like putaputaweta, are now three feet high."

Mr Berkahn hopes to make a kilometre long walking track through the covenant so walking through the bush is safe. Part of the walk would go near a waterfall and 30 metre cliffs.

"To me it has always been another world, particularly in the times of drought."

The bush is rated highly by DOC's Hawkes Bay Advisory Scientist Geoff Walls, who says it is an obvious haven for forest birds in an otherwise denuded landscape. The gullies harbour a forest-treeland of broadleaves including rewarewa, mahoe, titoki, kowhai, kohuhu and mapou, while podocarps are scattered throughout. Black beech grow on some drier spurs. The steepest scarps, some of which are vertical, support kowhai, manuka, kohuhu, koromiko, mingimingi and coastal flax (wharariki).

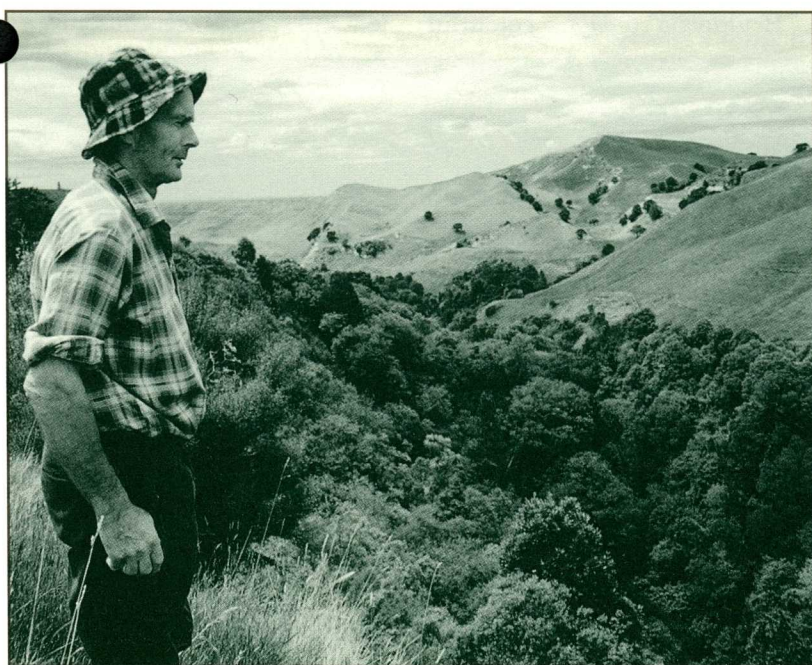
POSSUM-INDUCED COLLAPSE OF FORESTS

This article by Geoff Rogers and John Leathwick of Landcare Research is reproduced from Landcare Research's Possum Research News, Issue 3, October 1995

Over the last fifty years, possums in the canopy and deer and goats in the understorey have been responsible for an unprecedented amount of forest collapse in the southern Ruahine Range. The Ruahines, therefore, offer opportunities to examine how forest composition and topography predispose stands to damage if possums are not controlled. Results from this research will be useful in looking at long-term trends in forest health over the rest of New Zealand, as currently possums are controlled in only about 15% of our forests.

Amount of Forest Collapse

There is a wide range of forest types in the southern Ruahine Range, including beech forest, podocarp-hardwood forest, and tupare (leatherwood) scrub. Using 1995 colour aerial photographs, Geoff Rogers and John Leathwick mapped the degree of forest collapse in 33,500 ha of the southern Ruahine Range, then integrated this information with maps of the original forest types and topography in a Geographic Information System (GIS). The resulting maps show that forest has collapsed most severely in the podocarp-hardwood forests south of the Pohangina River, where 68-87% of the 20,000 ha of original tall forest has been replaced by scrub, low forest, tree ferns, and tussock. Beech-



Peter Berkahn surveys one of the major arms of the bush gullies on his farm. (Photo: Marie Taylor)

dominated forest to the north is much less affected, with about 28% of its former area now in shrubland or tussock grassland. The tupare scrub that dominates mountain summits is unaffected by possums and has expanded downwards by 32% (about 430ha), replacing high-altitude forest.

Models Predicting Forest Collapse

Geoff and John's models show that the original composition of forest is by far the strongest factor in predicting the susceptibility of forest to possum damage. Another important factor is the distance of beech forest from non-beech forest, as beech forest adjacent to podocarp-hardwood forest (containing plant species preferred by possums) is more susceptible to damage than beech further away.

In general terms, forests on steeper slopes, in the upper montane-subalpine zone, and on warm west and north aspects are more susceptible to modification by animals than elsewhere. Originally, these forests were dominated by mixes of tree species highly palatable to possums, such as northern rata, kamihi, Hall's totara, kaikawaka, wineberry, and fuchsia.

Possums are responsible for the collapse of forest canopies, but deer and goats are responsible for inhibiting regeneration. Because possum numbers in the canopy and deer and goat numbers in the understorey peaked at the same time, the southern Ruahine Range forests appear to have suffered a greater amount of collapse than similar forest types elsewhere in New Zealand. Elsewhere, gradual disappearance of palatable species is often accompanied by

expansion of unpalatable species. However, in the southern Ruahine Range few unpalatables were abundant enough to maintain the structural integrity of the forests.

Outcomes of Pest Control

Possums are the main agent in opening up forest canopies. However, increased mechanical damage from wind, and secondary infection of weakened trees by fungi and insects lead to continued internal collapse of the stands. Whether these stands can recover after pest animals are reduced needs more research.

This research was funded by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology.

ATTRACTIVE PLANT REALLY A THREAT

by Frank Begley

An attractive plant with the potential to become as troublesome to native forests as the possum, has been openly sold by Western Bay plant shops and nurseries for the past three years.

Houttuynia cordata, a colourful

ground cover from eastern Asia, was banned from importation into New Zealand, but a cargo of wrongly labelled plants managed to slip past customs officials in 1993. Since then the plants have been propagated and sold – even by mail order – around the country.

Hundreds of the plants would have been purchased unwittingly by Western Bay gardeners at that time and many are thought to have been potted up by local nurseries for this coming season.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has known about the pest for some time, but has been slow to do anything about it. Finally, MAF designated the plant an “unwanted organism” under the Biosecurity Act 1993, but a loop-hole in the Act means that nothing may be done about the plant's spread until the middle of next year – much too late, according to Forest and Bird spokeswoman Ann Graeme. Mrs Graeme said if the plant gets a chance to establish itself in waterways or native forests, the consequences would be disastrous.

“*Houttuynia* grows like a nightmare version of wandering jew and spreads vigorously by



Environment Bay of Plenty Office Manager Judy Pemberton with a lush specimen of *Houttuynia cordata*, left, and a small potted plant as it might appear for sale. (Photo: Ross Brown, Bay of Plenty Times)

rhizomes, but unlike wandering jew it is self-fertile and sets seeds as well as rooting from any broken fragment."

"It will grow anywhere – even in waterways. If it gets into native forest it will cover the forest floor, and prevent native seedlings from growing," she said.

The unwanted organism designation allows regional councils to set up a pest management strategy for *Houttuynia cordata*. Unfortunately, that strategy does not have to take effect until July 1996.

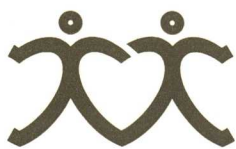
Even then, Mrs Graeme believes the piecemeal approach from different councils would prove ineffective. She said MAF has a responsibility to implement a national programme as soon as possible. "The longer they (MAF) leave it, the more expensive it will get to fix. If they had acted as soon as the problem had occurred, it could have been controlled for hundreds rather than thousands of dollars."

Mrs Graeme's sentiments were echoed by Environment BOP plant pest co-ordinator, Peter Ingram, who said that fast-track legislation should be used by MAF to get something done before next year.

Mr Ingram said he was concerned people would tire of the plants in their yard and dump them, spreading them into the wild.

(Reprinted courtesy of the *Bay of Plenty Times*)

The work of the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust is supported by



NEW ZEALAND

Lottery Grants Board

IMPRESSIVE WAIKATO SUPPORT

An impressive combination of resources is helping to covenant forest remnants in the Waikato district.

In the past few years the Waikato branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society has been helping the National Trust complete covenants. The branch has come to the party with funding for fencing, survey and legal costs, and also money and plants for revegetation work.

Dr Philip Hart, the chairperson of the branch says it's good to be able to help farmers who want to covenant but don't have the money.

"We don't do an enormous number at any time, just a little bit here and there. We concentrate on the northern King Country, Waikato and Coromandel, and the Trust always tells us what is coming up."

"Often things that wouldn't go through without outside assistance are things we help with, and a group of our committee always goes out and has a look first."

"We're extremely happy about the protection because I think it is cost-effective. It is better to preserve existing bush and to fence it and do a bit of weed control and replanting if necessary, rather than trying to create a whole new forest out of paddock."

"That's an interesting idea, but we find when we fence off a place, the regrowth is tremendous. And we encourage farmers to keep an eye on the possums."

The branch has helped out the Trust for the past six or seven years. "We think it's a very useful way of spending money. We are prepared to put in several thousand dollars a year, and

that's all due to Miss Lilian Valder of Waihi Beach who also donates money to various other causes," Dr Hart says.

"That's why we can do it where a lot of other branches can't. When I first joined in 1984 we couldn't do a great deal. Now we are successful and it is all because of her."

Miss Valder says it's nice to be able to have the money to distribute. She's been a life member of Forest and Bird since her father signed her up as a teenager. "My father was a timber miller and he was very interested in the preservation of forests – in spite of the fact he was interested in cutting them down."

"It was mostly native bush they were cutting down then." As well as her donations to Forest and Bird, she and her sister gave 40 hectares of bush at Pirongia to Forest and Bird.

Miss Valder, who at 84 says it's now hard for her to get out walking, has visited several Trust covenants she has helped fund, but not lately.

"I am old. I don't walk with any comfort on much uneven ground now. I've never been much of a walker," she admitted, "laziness I think. I just feel glad that I am able to help."

The following three covenants are all examples where the branch has given the Trust and landowners a helping hand to complete covenants.

Moratti Covenant

Peter and Elaine Moratti of Te Anga near Te Kuiti have protected two blocks totalling 30 hectares of bush on their sheep and cattle farm.

Most of the covenant is on easy contoured land, and the quality of the bush is high. Podocarps including rimu,

totara, matai, and kahikatea and a wide range of other species including karaka, kohekohe, pukatea, puriri and mangeao are present.

The Waikato branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society kindly contributed to revegetation of this area, and some fencing.

The covenant protects the flora and fauna, retains the natural landscape values and prevents soil erosion.

Fladgate Covenant

Pierre and Charmian Fladgate, who already have one covenant on their property, have a second registered over an 18.8 ha area of lowland broadleaf and podocarp forest at Rangiatea.

Our thanks to the Waikato branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society for their contribution towards fencing to make this covenant possible.

The bush can be seen from the Waipa Valley Road near Otewa, and it lies above the Waipa River. The new covenant is on steep country. A wide species range includes tawa, pukatea, mangeao, rimu, hinau, kahikatea, miro, tarata, mahoe and pigeonwood. The new covenant protects the bush from erosion and from logging, and protects the landscape vista.

Some nearby logging on neighbouring land in the early 90s spurred Mr Fladgate into protection of this bush, as many of the trees were millable.

Pemberton Covenant

Like several other Waikato covenants completed and registered recently, Stephen and Kristine Pemberton of Te Miro, Cambridge, had a helping hand from the Waikato branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society with their covenant.

The branch gave \$500 to help

them with fencing of the two blocks making up 2.7 hectares of forest remnant on their dairy farm.

The covenant protects the landscape, and means the trees will never be cleared for pasture or logged. Both blocks are remnants of forest including tall old trees such as mangeao, tawa, rewarewa, kahikatea, totara, miro, matai, and pukatea. A fern understorey also includes some coprosmas and many seedlings.

IAN WILLIAMSON

Long serving Trust Regional Representative for the South Island high country, Ian Williamson, has left the Trust.

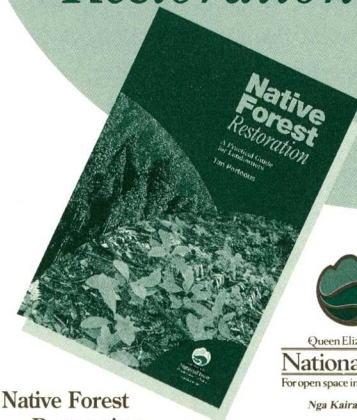
Ian, who has been based at Twizel in the Mackenzie Basin, was appointed in 1985. At that time neither the National Trust nor its potential for protecting and enhancing open space was well known in the region.

Ian quickly established the name of the Trust and in the subsequent ten years many nationally and regionally important covenant proposals eventuated. Today there are 29 registered covenants or proposals proceeding towards registration in the high country, South Canterbury and North Otago protecting a diverse of landscape totalling 27,440 hectares.

As a result of a recent review of Trust operations with respect to the high country the position of Regional Representative based at Twizel was determined to be no longer appropriate. With regret, this has resulted in Ian's position being disestablished. Henceforth, high country matters will be handled from the Trust's Wellington Office.

The National Trust extends its thanks to Ian for his significant contribution to the work of the Trust.

Native Forest Restoration



Native Forest Restoration: A Practical Guide for Landowners by Tim Porteous

An essential guide for those managing, restoring or creating areas of native forest.

- Animal control and eradication techniques.
- Weed identification and control methods. (Colour identification photos and detailed control methods for over 40 common problem weeds of native forests.)
- Revegetation principles and techniques.
- Propagating native plants. (Seed collection, cleaning and treatment suggestions for over 60 common native trees and shrubs.)
- Site preparation and planting techniques.
- Post-planting treatments.

A5, wire spiral bound and plastic laminated cover for easy use in the field, the handbook contains over 200 pages of technical information and advice. It includes 86 black and white and 46 colour photos and 11 line drawings. Price \$29.95.

ORDER FORM:

GST Tax Invoice. Price includes GST and Packaging and Postage.
Send to: QEII National Trust, PO Box 3341, Wellington. Tel 0-4472 6626, Fax 0-4472 5578. GST Reg. No. 19-456-900.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ copies at \$29.95 = \$ _____

Payment method

☐ Cheque (payable to QEII National Trust) ☐ Visa

☐ Bankcard/Mastercard Expiry Date / /

Card No. _____

Cardholder's Name _____ Cardholder's Signature _____

Open Space Covenants

As at 1 November 1995, there were 915 registered covenants totalling 36,455 hectares, with a further 345 areas totalling 39,341 hectares approved and proceeding towards registration. The breakdown by Land District (which differs from our Regional Representatives' boundaries) is as follows:

REGISTERED OPEN SPACE COVENANTS AS AT 1/11/95

LAND DISTRICT	TOTAL NO.	AREA PROTECTED (HA)
North Auckland	179	3,432
South Auckland	222	6,251
Gisborne	45	8,252
Hawkes Bay	36	1,137
Taranaki	52	1,467
Wellington	156	8,394
Marlborough	3	159
Nelson	46	1,268
Westland	2	10
Canterbury	72	2,446
Otago	33	2,173
Southland	66	1,466
	915	36,455

RECENTLY REGISTERED COVENANTS

NORTHLAND

Ross Covenant

A steep east-facing catchment on the hills behind Parua Bay, 1.5 km east of Whangarei, has been protected by Jennifer Ross. The newly registered covenant covers a very healthy 43 hectare bush block, with tanekaha the dominant species. Once milled for kauri and later for totara, the bush shows excellent regeneration of both these species and has a solid canopy with an excellent subcanopy and ferns.

"This block is one of the best privately owned bush blocks in the district, and it is notable for the kiwi present", says Regional Representative Murray Tapp.

Jennifer's late father Mervyn Ross was a committed

conservationist. An article about his contribution to conservation is on page 4 of this issue of *Open Space*.

Tate Covenant

On the road to the Whangarei Heads, and almost 3 kilometres from Onerahi, Ronald and Enid Tate have protected a small south westerly facing steep catchment in the Waikaraka Valley.

Part of the bush-clad green belt of the suburb of Onerahi, it adds to the scenic and landscape values of the upper Whangarei Harbour.

Two forest types are found: mature podocarp broadleaf forest with emergent rimu and kahikatea, while the canopy is made up of towai, kanuka, puriri, totara, rewarewa, karaka,

kowhai and taraire, and tall kanuka shrubland, with totara emerging through it.

The area is important habitat for the nationally threatened North Island brown kiwi. Kereru are also present, as well as North Island fantail, silvereye, kingfisher, grey warbler and harrier hawk.

The 3.7 hectare forest remnant has high ecological significance, and is easy to see from the Whangarei Heads Road, having high scenic values. Kumara pits are located within the newly registered covenant, and one of three pa in the valley is next to the covenant boundary.

Hooper Covenant

Halfway between Whangarei and Dargaville at Tangiteroria Sandy and Jan Hooper has protected a small block of native bush on easy rolling dairying country. "It's rare to find any bush on easy contoured land like this", says Regional Representative Murray Tapp.

The 8.9 hectare covenant is mixed podocarp and broadleaf secondary forest, with kauri, tanekaha and taraire dominant. While the lower and shrub canopy has been grazed by stock in the past, the bush is improving now that it has been fenced.

AUCKLAND

Sainsbury Covenant

This newly registered covenant is believed to be a remnant of the original forest of the area which escaped burning due to the dampness of its location.

This 5.8 hectare covenant off Ryan Road at Te Hana is long and thin, protecting a narrow strip of bush running up a valley. A stream runs through the bush,

which includes a good stand of medium sized kauri at its north eastern end. There are also many rimu, tanekaha, totara and rewarewa. A few quite large kahikatea and taraire, as well as and punga, nikau, cabbage trees and lancewood are also present.

Pointways Pony Club Covenant

A bush-clad valley straddling a stream has been protected by the Pointways Pony Club on the north side of Alfriston, east of Manurewa. On rolling hill country, and facing south, the new covenant covers the whole title of 41 hectares and includes 5.4 hectares of bush.

The bush is predominantly taraire, but includes puriri, kahikatea, karaka, tawa, mapou, rewarewa, punga and nikau. It adjoins an 8 hectare area of similar bush owned by the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society.

As the whole title is covered by the covenant, the agreement provides for the continued use of open areas for equestrian activities while protecting the bush.

TAUMARUNUI

Hill Covenant

Rowley and Ruth Hill covenanted a 4 hectare area of tall lowland podocarp forest with the Trust this year. The covenant is at Meads Road, Ngapuke, near Taumarunui. Sadly, Rowley Hill passed away last month.

Their youngest son, George, initially called on the Trust's help to protect this forest remnant which has a high matai content. That's unusual in a district where all the other remnants are predominantly totara.

The bush has been fenced for about 40 years and is in excellent condition. It's on a flat



The Hill Covenant

alluvial pumice terrace above the Pungapunga Stream. Because it's relatively young bush it probably escaped the attention of sawmillers who logged this valley 80 odd years ago. The remains of a tram line can still be seen on the covenant boundary.

This valley and the neighbouring Echolands valley are reputed to have provided the highest yield of native timber per hectare of anywhere in the King Country.

The Hill family are to be commended for protecting this small piece of historical vegetation as an example of what the district must have looked like before the loggers and farmers arrived.

Mr and Mrs Hill came to the 120 hectare rehab farm 47 years ago, when their son Richard was only a few days old. Richard and George grew up with the bush as a playground, and both learned to love it deeply.

EAST CAPE

Taylor Covenant

Former Regional Representative Tiny White's enthusiasm and encouragement for Bruce and June Taylor's tawa

and totara forest near Frasertown spurred them on to complete their covenant, says June. She and Bruce live 15 km from Frasertown, and have protected an 18.8 hectare tawa forest remnant on their farm.

"We protected it because, given another 100 years, it probably wouldn't be there," Bruce says. "Regeneration was virtually nil through stock damage."

The heart-shaped covenant is bisected by one main ridge, and is made up of three steep gullies with easier country at the top. On one side of the ridge, totara is dominant, while on the other side rewarewa is the main species.

"It's electric fenced to keep out the goats, and this is very successful, so now only the possums are still a problem", June says. "Fencing conventionally would have been a nightmare, as the fence has so many angles and covers such steep land," Bruce says.

The canopy cover in the bush is dense, and the bush includes a wide mix of species including totara, rewarewa, tawa, pukatea, nikau, kanuka and manuka, mahoe, whau, fuchsia and tarata. June has taught herself, with the

aid of plenty of identification books, most of the species in the bush. "If I had my time over again, I'd do a botany course," she says.

Even though cattle had knocked the bush around badly, it is now recovering well, after fencing two years ago. The Taylors are amazed at the regeneration, especially of groundcover species, and the hundreds of pigeonwood seedlings which have come up.

The Taylors were due for a visit from local Forest and Bird members just as this issue of *Open Space* went to print.

Butler Covenant

Semi-coastal puriri and tawa forest and a small wetland have been protected by brother and sister Tom and Rachel Butler of Opotiki. Their newly registered covenant, on part of their family estate, covers 7.6 hectares, 6 km south east of Opotiki on State Highway 2.

The covenant is made up to two small valleys and the gentle ridge in between, and includes a pukatea-kahikatea community



Massive rata vines in the Butler Covenant

on the narrow valley floors. A small 0.3 ha wetland is perched in the western valley, formed behind an ancient slip which dammed the valley.

Numerous young kahikatea occupy the edges of the wetland, together with two 35 metre tall mature kahikatea. The middle of the wetland has always been inaccessible to stock, and retains wood vegetation dominated by *Coprosma* species. This wetland is unique in the district.

In the Opotiki Ecological District very little primary forest has survived, and this is the third largest such remnant on the easy terrain of eroded gravel terraces characteristic of the district.

HAWKES BAY

Hartree Estate Covenant

Tremendous supporters of the Trust, the Hartree family of Patoka have entered into three major covenants totalling almost 43 hectares. The new covenants are over gullies and faces of secondary forest, and they wrap around the William Hartree Scenic Reserve.

Once the farm would have been a tussock belt with pockets of tall forest, but now the mixed broadleaf forest consists of tawa, mahoe, kamahi, lacebark, rewarewa, kanuka, kahikatea and rimu.

The farm is managed by Theresa and Wilton Hartree who initiated the covenant. These forests are very important in an area which has been extensively logged and modified, and where little remnant vegetation remains.

Warren and Holden Covenants

These two covenants on rich easy rolling farmland at

Tikokino adjoin each other, and are fenced together making up a 26 hectare totara remnant. Peter and Penny Warren of Te Pah own 21.2 hectares of the covenant, which is off Holden Road. David and his father, Peter Holden, own the remaining 5.2 hectares of the covenant, a wetter area which includes kahikatea.

The Warrens run a deer farm, so their portion of the covenant is fully deer fenced, while the Holdens' boundary with the covenant is fenced conventionally.

The forest includes some matai and kahikatea, and many titoki. One small gully is completely forested in titoki, and there's a magnificent clearing in the middle of the covenant too.

"It's quite good to see a bit of native bush around. We are quite pleased to have it there really," says David Holden. "Before it was fenced it was more of a nuisance because it was so difficult to muster," he says. "It works far better like it is now, and it will be there forever."

This totara remnant is an important feature of the Tikokino district, and is the best and most extensive. It can be seen from Highway 50 on the left just before the Tikokino village.

Kirk Covenant

Started off by Jerome and Trish Pitt, who now live in Dannevirke, this 9.2 hectare covenant and associated farm at Waipatiki on the road to Weber is now owned by Fenn and David Kirk. The covenanted land is a beautiful sandstone gorge with a small alluvial flat of native bush and a 10 metre high waterfall just above the bush area.

Kahikatea, matai and totara

are all present as well as two different kowhai species. Cabbage trees, mountain flax, tree ferns and manuka are also part of the covenant. Grant McLaren, the local soil conservator with the Manawatu Wanganui Regional Council originally suggested this covenant, and the Council helped fund part of it too.

"We are rapt to have it protected," Mr Pitt said. "We're very happy, as it's a nice bit of bush."

Harwood Trust Covenant

Not far down the road from the Kirk covenant is the Harwood Trust covenant, a 1.85 hectare forest remnant tucked onto a steep south-east facing hillside off Tahuokeretu Road, near Weber.

Farm manager Max Buckendahl finished the fencing at the end of 1992, and this fine covenant is now regenerating well. The covenant is quite close to Bottom Bush, which is a Department of Conservation reserve. Pukatea and tawa are the two dominant species in the bush.

WANGANUI

Collins Family Trust Covenant

Forty-five kms north-east of Wanganui, at Mangamahu, the Collins family has protected a 4.15 hectare bush remnant on a very steep bank of the Whangaehu River. Kahikatea grow on the river terrace, while kowhai, hinau, totara, rewarewa, lancewood, mahoe, matipo, kanuka and manuka are also present. At the northern end of the covenant is an area of regenerating bush, and along the river is some very attractive mature bush.

The Collins covenant is within 10 km of a cluster of scenic reserves, and the Hine, Collier and Ngapukewhakapu covenants are all nearby.

WAIRARAPA

Holmes Covenant

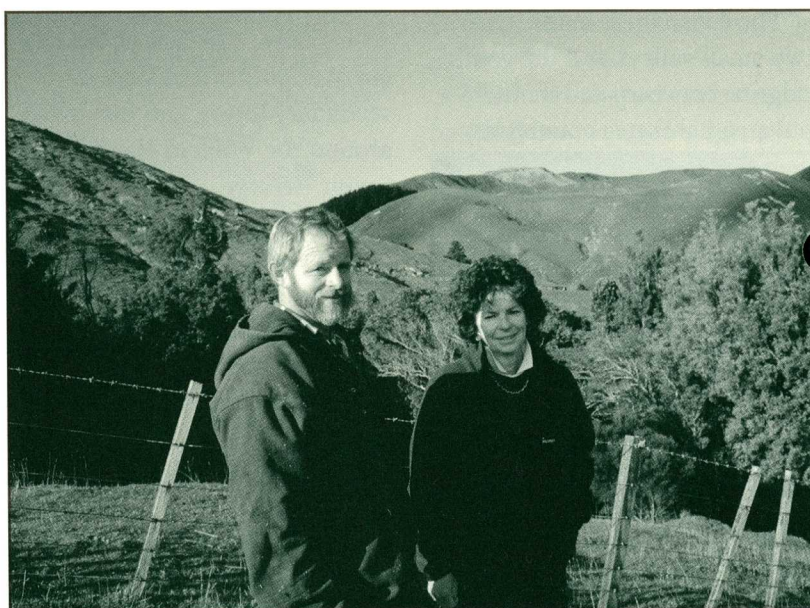
David Holmes, of the Pakaraka Shorthorn stud, has developed an interesting covenant on the hills overlooking the Raumahanga River. The initial project was to protect the 7.8 hectares of titoki and podocarp bush, occupying a shallow gully. This was expanded later when the Masterton District Council decided to commemorate the 1990 sesquicentennial year by establishing a forest of exotic trees, visible from the town, and designed to complement the native trees by adding a range of long-lived species from around the world. This was to become Forest International 500.

provide walks through the widely spaced oaks and redwoods, and in autumn the colours of the deciduous trees will be visible from Masterton itself.

Paulik Covenant

The Pauliks farm at Mangamahoe, just north of Mauriceville, close to the old Scandinavian settlements and the railway line to Eketahuna. It was an area of thriving small settlements, each with its church and school, often also a dairy factory and saleyards. Mangamahoe even had a toll gate before the railway made it irrelevant.

As the typically small blocks in this area required every scrap of land to be developed, very few native trees remain in the district. When an earlier owner, Mr Kilmister, began negotiations for its protection, he believed that the nearest



Jean and Priscilla Paulik on the edge of their covenant. (Photo: John Kirby)

The original area of open space covenant remains intact, with plantings of native seedlings being continued in open areas. Lower down the gully, the exotic area has been established in a separate area. As the trees develop, the slopes will

forest was at Mount Bruce, seven or eight kilometres to the west.

Fortunately, the two hectares of kahikatea and rimu at Kowhainui were saved, as it provides habitat for kereru, tui and occasional parakeets. The

Clippings

Interesting and Unusual Plants Available

The Nursery associated with the Hackfalls Arboretum at Tiniroto has a wide selection of interesting and unusual plants for sale.

The arboretum is protected by an open space covenant and is open to visitors. It includes a wide range of trees and shrubs in a hill setting enhanced by natural lakes. The homestead garden features many unusual herbaceous and alpine plants, including New Zealand natives.

For more information about plants available for sale, including a species and price list, contact:

Bob and Anne Berry

Tel: (06) 863-7091

P O Box 3, Tiniroto, Gisborne

or

Kevin and Diane Playle

Tel: (06) 863-7083.

Native Plants Available

The Trust's Three Streams property at Albany is also a source for native plants which are available to Trust members.

Contact should be made with the Three Streams Custodian, John Hogan, State Highway 1, R D 3, Albany, or tel/fax (09) 415-9336.

Visitors Welcome

Sylvia and Neil Hayes from Carterton have enhanced the natural wetland and associated native forest remnant on their covenant through revegetation plantings of native species.

If Trust members would like to visit they will be made welcome. Please contact Sylvia or Neil on telephone (06) 379-6692 for directions.

Regional Council Success

Although there may be others associated with the Trust who have achieved success in this year's local body elections, congratulations are recorded to:

Adrienne Williams, covenantor from Tikokino, newly elected to the Hawkes Bay Regional Council, and
Euan McQueen from Wellington, former General Manager of the National Trust, but now Deputy Chairman of the Wellington Regional Council.

We've found a few little gems in the reports our Regional Representatives have sent us lately:

"Kiwi present, owners have erected signs deterring dogs" is a particularly good one.

Another is:

"Keen owner rare remnant under protected in conservation estate."

Department of Conservation identified this block as a recommended area for protection in its report on the Pahiatua Ecological District in 1992. Tawa is the dominant species in the mixed podocarp broadleaf forest. Other major species include rimu, hinau and manuka, kamahi, kaikomako and a mix of tree ferns.

As well as the native bush, the Pauliks are the proud owners of a fine homestead designed by the architect of many turn of the century houses, Natusch.

Egan Covenant

Howard Egan has protected a wetland on his property at Parkers Road, 11 km from Masterton. The wetland is made up of five ponds and springs covering three hectares.

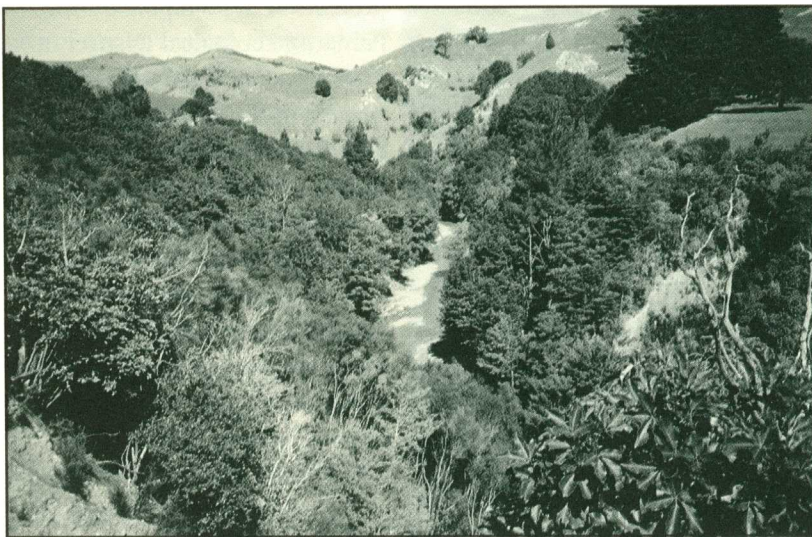
In only four years, he has turned the rough and gorse infested pasture into a model wetland. The ponds are all fenced off and their margins are planted in a variety of shrubs and trees, including cabbage trees, karo, karamu and kahikatea. Mr Egan's covenant covers the whole 10.44 hectare property.

The Department of Conservation has recognised his wildlife management skills in entrusting him with the care of the whio, or blue duck. He also has a captive pond with Australian shelduck. Other birds using the ponds include free-ranging Canada geese, black and mute swan, shoveler and mallard duck. Waders include pied stilt, which breed on the site, white-faced heron, pukeko and spur-winged plover.

Mr Egan was Wairarapa Small Farmer of the Year in 1993, and his wetlands are used by the Wellington Fish and Game Council as a model of how

wetlands can be created. He has many years of wildlife management skills.

River, south of Pahiatua. There is rich dairy land all around, but the Hobbs family treasured this



Eldridge Covenant

Eldridge Covenant

Just over the Kaiwhata River from the Bannister open space covenant, Barry and Cherry Eldridge have protected a block of bush. Their farm at Kaiwhata Road, 48 km from Masterton, includes a 4.7 hectare remnant. The bush runs along the side of the river, and is dominated by black beech. There's a huge range of other species including rimu, kahikatea, totara and pukatea.

Alice Hobbs Bush Covenant

This is a small forest block on the banks of the Mangatainoka

last remnant of bush, and when Miss Hobbs bequeathed the property to the Roman Catholic Church, she specifically asked that this forest should be protected in perpetuity.

It contains some very large tawa and kahikatea, and huge cabbage trees festooned with epiphytes. Before the farm sold recently, the sharemilker, Bob Hulena, and supervisor, Brian McFall, initiated the covenanting of the block, and as one of their last tasks, made sure the fencing was upgraded.

The new owners, Norman Avery and his sons, are also very committed to conservation, and to maintaining the memory of the Hobbs family.

MANAWATU

Moynihan Covenant

Patrick and Jacqueline Moynihan, who live at Shannon, have protected a 5.4 hectare block of bush which surrounds their house.

Started by Patrick's parents, Emilie and the late Brian Moynihan, the new covenant is a tawa and podocarp forest remnant. Brian, a long-time and well-respected resident of the district, was particularly concerned to ensure this forest remnant was protected for future generations to enjoy.

The botanical values of this bush are high as there are many species present, and a large number of nikau groves scattered throughout it. A small part of the bush can be seen from Mangahao Road.

Tell a friend about the National Trust and get them to join the Trust to help continue its work.

SPRING NEWS FROM THE TRUST GARDENS

MAIN VISITOR SEASON BEGINS

Spring heralds the busy season for both Tupare and Hollard Gardens, starting with the traditional Labour weekend

influx of visitors to both gardens, quickly followed by the annual BNZ Taranaki Rhododendron Festival.

Already this season, thousands of visitors from all over New Zealand and abroad

have flocked to see both the gardens at their glorious spring best.

The opening of Tupare's Chapman-Taylor designed house was undoubtedly a major drawcard, with English-style teas

served at the house by waitresses in period costume and high quality local crafts for sale. The atmosphere was described by many as very relaxing, with gentle classical music playing in the background and the smell of freshly brewed coffee wafting through the house.

Meanwhile, at **Hollard Gardens** visitors were truly impressed with the variety of colour throughout the garden. Rhododendrons *Bernard Shaw*, *Lemon Lodge* and *Royal Flush Apricot* were much talked about, along with the delightful wood anemones.

Storm Recovery

Preparing the gardens for the busy season was a real challenge for the garden staff this year.

The localised torrential rains in North Taranaki on 20 and 21 April caused havoc at **Tupare**. There were four major slips throughout the property, the worst being a slip above the drive. There was also a slip in the Redwood Grove, another at the bottom of the Dell undermining a brick arch, and the last in the North Garden toppling a stately Incense Cedar and flattening the old pumpshed.

Just as everyone thought the worst weather was over, mother nature dealt another cruel blow. On 6 September at **Hollard Gardens** 153mm of rain fell in the space of just 12 hours, accompanied by severe North-West winds. Large areas of the garden were flattened which, once cleared, needed to be replanted with new material.

New Brochures and Guides

A colourful new brochure has been produced for the gardens. Brochures can be obtained at the



The Tupare house from the Elizabeth Garden

gardens or from the Trust's Wellington office.

Visitors to each garden will now also be provided with a complementary guide which includes a large map and gives a written walking tour through the garden, pointing out notable plants and trees, and explaining some of the history of the gardens.

Garden Developments

A section of the garden at **Tupare** is undergoing major refurbishment. This project involved the removal of a row of 60 year old pine trees that had become potentially dangerous. They have been replaced with a row of Japanese Cedar clone *Cryptomeria japonica* 'Egmont'.

A number of other aged trees in poor condition also had to be removed and now have been replaced.

A two stage planting programme has been implemented with the final planting next year.

This year we have planted an additional selection of Japanese Maples (*Acer palmatum* types), a particular feature of **Tupare**.

Other new plantings include *Rhododendron yakushimanum* hybrids, extensive ground cover plantings of Rengarenga lily (*Arthropodium cirratum*), *Adiantum aethiopicum*, a native fern, large groupings of evergreen Azaleas, and a planting of *Strobilonthus anisophylus*.

In addition to the garden, the main house and gardener's cottage have been restored and painted.

Meanwhile, at **Hollard Gardens** the unique plant collection continues to expand, especially some of our rare native species, including the tiny buttercup (*Ranunculus recens*) and the endangered bronze *Acaena rorida*. In the exotic range we have added to our collection of hollies, including new introductions such as *Ilex* 'Cannock' and *Ilex crenata* 'Convexa'. We have also planted a good number of new rhododendron hybrids including 'Satin Cloud' from Pukeiti and some of the different plant material from China.

HELP US PROTECT THE LANDSCAPE JOIN THE NATIONAL TRUST

• Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

• Subscriptions (GST included): Tick appropriate category

- | | | | |
|--|----------|---|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$22.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate - business | On application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18) | \$11.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate - special | \$33.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$33.00 | (societies, voluntary | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life | \$550.00 | organisations, schools) | |

Signature _____

• Gift Membership

Please send a gift membership to my friends – details above.

Gift from (name and address):

Queen Elizabeth II National Trust

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Appointed by the Minister of Conservation in terms of the QEII National Trust Act 1977

Hamish Ensor of Methven, Chair Margaret Bayfield of Inglewood
Patricia Seymour OBE of Gisborne Sir Paul Reeves of Auckland

Elected by National Trust Members

Arthur Cowan MBE, JP of Otorohanga Dr Brian Molloy of Christchurch

TRUST MANAGER Tim Porteous

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

FAR NORTH
Fenton Hamlin
Waipapa Road, PO Box 68,
Kerikeri
Tel: 0-9-407 7562

CENTRAL NORTHLAND
Murray Tapp
Ferry Road
Waipu
Tel/Fax: 0-9-432 0305

AUCKLAND
Walter Willis
10 First Avenue, Stanley Point
Devonport, Auckland
Tel: 0-9-445 3595

WAIKATO
Tim Oliver
Maungatautari
R D 2, Cambridge
Tel: 0-7-827 4424
Fax: 0-7-827 4448

BAY OF PLENTY
Stephen Parr
Harman Parr & Assoc, PO Box 444,
777 Cameron Road, Tauranga
Tel: 0-7-578 7658 Office: 0-7-577 6129
Fax: 0-7-578 2670

GISBORNE
Malcolm Piper
Kairoa Station
Private Bag 7107
Gisborne
Tel/Fax: 0-6-867 0255

TAUMARUNUI
Ross Bishop
Community Mail Box 50
Owhango
Tel: 0-7-894 4747

HAWKES BAY
Marie Taylor
310 Clifton Road
Te Awanga
Hawkes Bay
Tel/Fax: 0-6-875 0784

MANAWATU/WANGANUI
Bruce Kirk
Glendevon
R D 4
Palmerston North
Tel: 0-6-325 8723

WAIARAPA
John Kirby
"Pounui"
Tauweru, R D 9
Masterton
Tel: 0-6-378 7458

WELLINGTON
Contact Wellington office (see below)

NELSON/MARLBOROUGH
Martin Conway
Palmer Road, R D 1
Brightwater
Nelson
Tel/Fax: 0-3-542 3712

CANTERBURY
David Webster
Knights Road
R D 5
Christchurch
Tel: 0-3-347 8683

COASTAL OTAGO
Helen Clarke
24 Matariki Street
Broad Bay
Otago Peninsula
Tel: 0-3-478 0860
Fax: 0-3-479 8337

SOUTHLAND
Roger Sutton
16 Vogel Street
Invercargill
Tel/Fax: 0-3-215 7810

Published by:

Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust, P O Box 3341, Wellington
Colenso House, 138 The Terrace, Wellington, Telephone 0-4-472 6626, Fax: 0-4-472 5578