

Queen Elizabeth II

National Trust

Nga Kairauhi Papa

Open Space

\$5.00

No 54, May 2002

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1500th Covenant Celebration

There was an enjoyable National Trust gathering near Geraldine, in March, to honour Graeme and Chris Henriksen with the distinction of being the 1500th registered open space covenant.

Trust Chairperson Sir Paul Reeves unveiled a plaque in recognition of their commitment to conservation and the preservation of natural features on their land (see overleaf for photo and transcription of Sir Paul's speech). Following speeches from Graeme and others present, Sir Paul assisted Graeme and Chris in cutting the special celebration cake.

It was particularly fitting that Graeme and Chris received this tribute, as the 1500th covenant covers the third area they have protected on their 600-hectare farm at Pleasant Point, bringing their personal total to 78 hectares.

Graeme and Chris are the third generation of Henriksens to farm their property, known as *Clifton*. Graeme's grandfather, Charlie, started in 1920; his father, Alec, took over in 1960; and Graeme and Chris



Photo courtesy of the Timaru Herald.

For Graeme and Chris Henriksen, this recognition is the icing on the cake.

started farming on their own account in 1979. In his speech, Graeme thanked his father for helping to foster his interest in the native bush, and also his wisdom and foresight in leaving the bush areas untouched. Graeme and Chris are very proud of the fact that almost all the water leaving their property is filtered through native bush.

Graeme commented that they chose the Trust to fill the role of protectors because it is non-political and independent, and they are able to carry on their normal farming practices.

Thanks to Graeme and Chris, and Regional Rep Miles Giller, for making the occasion a great success.

Covenantors have their cake and eat it too.

By placing an open space covenant over a natural feature on their land, landowners protect it in perpetuity yet retain control over access and management.



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Sir Paul Reeves' Speech

19th March 2002

Commemorating
the 1500th covenant
at "Clifton",
Totara Valley,
South Canterbury.

The basic legislation for the National Trust is the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Act 1977. At that time the Queen had been on the throne for 25 years and to commemorate her silver jubilee Parliament established a trust to *encourage and promote the provision, protection and enhancement of open space for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of New Zealand.*

This year marks the fact that the Trust is 25 years old and that the Queen has been our sovereign for 50 years. The significance is even further compounded by our presence to celebrate the 1500th covenant on this property of Graeme and Chris Henriksen. In fact this is their third covenant and they represent in a spectacular way the commitment and enthusiasm of landowners. If it took us 20 years to notch up 1000 covenants it has only taken another five to reach 1500.

The National Trust has 1500 registered covenants with 55000 hectares of land under protection. In addition 250 covenants have been approved that are now proceeding to registration and this will mean an additional 16000 hectares. It is hard to keep up with the demand.

The basic function of the Trust is to protect significant open space on private land. We achieve that by offering the protective mechanism of an open space covenant over designated land on a certificate or instrument of title. The Trust is guided by four principles:-

- **Permanence.**

Under the empowering Act the National Trust is an independent Trust with *perpetual succession*. Our covenants are in perpetuity and not affected by a change in ownership.

- **Independence.**

This is absolutely fundamental. The key to the Trust's rapport with landowners is its statutory independence and perpetual succession.

- **Partnership and community support.**

Partnership between the landowner and the Trust enables the Government to achieve conservation outcomes on private land, as our Act says, *for the benefit of the people of New Zealand.*



Photo courtesy of the Timaru Herald.

- **Cost effectiveness.**

Covenants are voluntary landowner initiated agreements so we rarely have protracted negotiations. Covenants also secure a perpetual interest in the land and adequate protection without the need to buy the owner's interest. Legally the day-to-day management remains the responsibility of the owner and this is a substantial cost saving.

Recently one of our directors shared a discussion paper with the board. He said we are kaitiaki or guardians of much of the remaining indigenous biodiversity and cultural heritage of New Zealand. The urgency is we have only one shot at protection and once it's gone it's gone for good. Only 6% of the Canterbury region retains its original indigenous forest cover and of that the Trust presently protects 1.6%, most of which is the uncommon lowland and plains forest rather than the more widespread upland beech forests. This is the smallest proportion of indigenous forest in any region of New Zealand.

Having said that, most of the biodiversity and biomass of ecosystems is unseen, microscopic in fact; lowland systems are biodiverse rich and mosaics of small natural areas can be every bit as valuable as big tracts. In the push to get more hectares covenanted, we need to remember that small can be very beautiful.

Among landowners and managers in New Zealand an important cultural shift is taking place that gives us hope. Increasingly native vegetation, landforms, wetlands and cultural features are seen as assets. Authorities, community groups and owners are aware of these landscape values and prepared to fund and manage land to protect and enhance these assets. Landowners are the residential custodians of what we seek to protect.

A lot has happened since 1979 when Graeme Henriksen sent in a coupon printed on the back of one of the Trust's early publications. It is really fitting that this important occasion is being held on this property and our thanks and congratulations go to Graeme and Chris.

QEII National Trust Silver Jubilee Dinner

*Her Excellency The Governor-General
Dame Sylvia Cartwright will host the QEII
National Trust Silver Jubilee fundraising dinner
at Government House, Wellington
on Thursday, 14th November, 2002.*

Special Guest Speaker – Dr David Bellamy

This dinner is in special celebration of 25 years
of conservation on private land and to commemorate
the vision and commitment of over 1500
QEII National Trust open space covenantors.

Tickets will be strictly limited.

Keep this date free:- more details to follow.

Silver Jubilee Field Trips

The QEII National
Trust will host two
field trips to coincide
with the Fundraising
Dinner.

November 14th, 2002,
exploring open space
covenants around
Wellington

November 15th, 2002,
exploring open space
covenants around
the Wairarapa.

Visit the National Trust's Unique Conservation and Education Project on AROHA ISLAND

At Kerikeri Inlet in the beautiful Bay of Islands

Open most days.

- *Ecological Centre
– learn about kiwi and NZ ecosystems*
- *Picnic sites*
- *Interesting walking tracks through bush and mangroves.*
- *Accommodation available – book now for a mid-winter getaway*
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- *School parties welcome, by prior arrangement.*

Contact: The Centre Manager
Tel (09) 407 5243 Fax (09) 407 5246
Email kiwi@aroha.net.nz
Or write to Box 541 Kerikeri

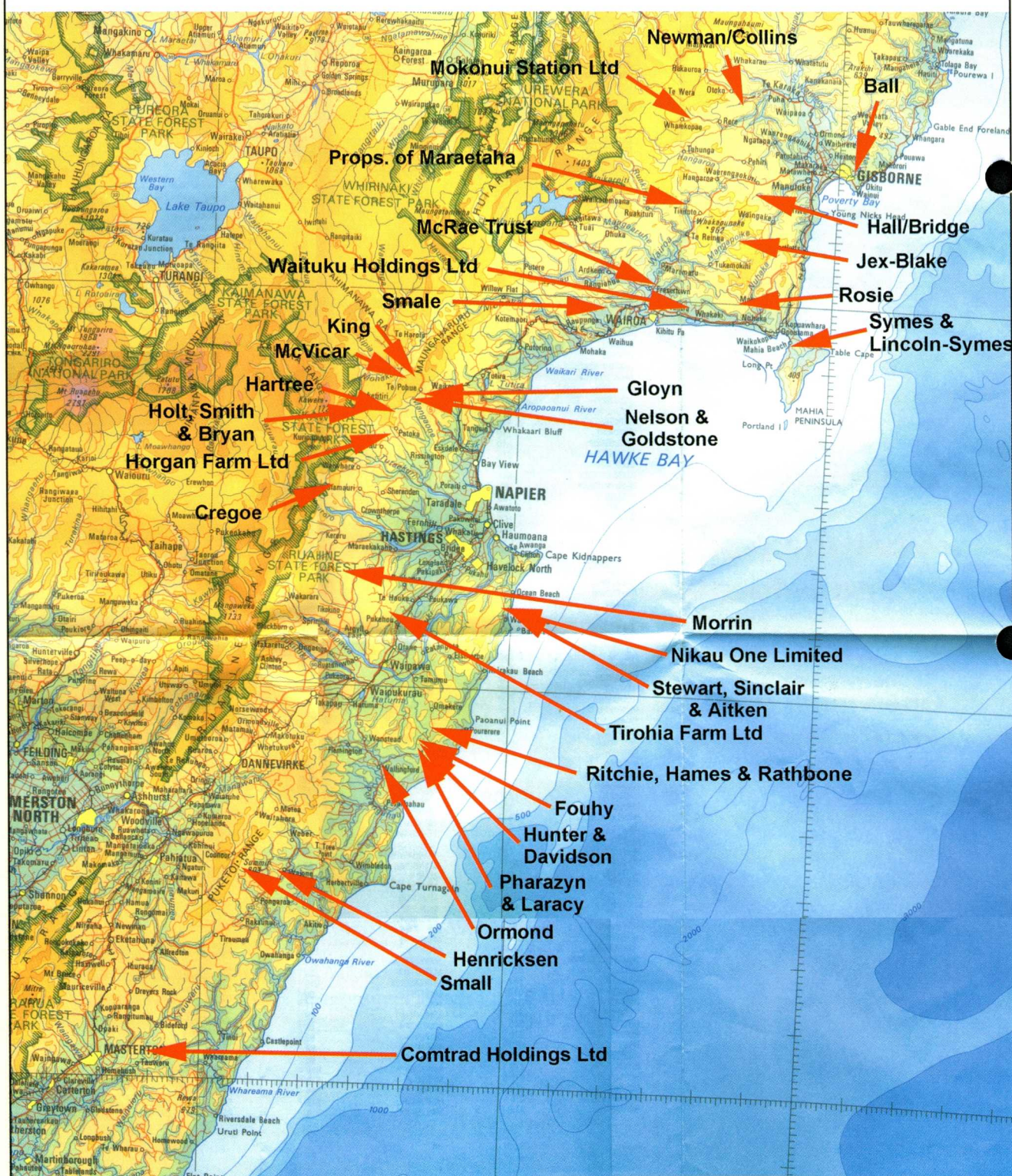


Focus on the East Coast

Featuring National Trust covenants and covenantors on the eastern side of the North Island, including the East Cape, Hawke's Bay and Wairarapa regions.

These areas are covered by Regional Reps Malcolm Piper, Marie Taylor and John Kirby.

Recently Registered Covenants on the East Coast



East Cape

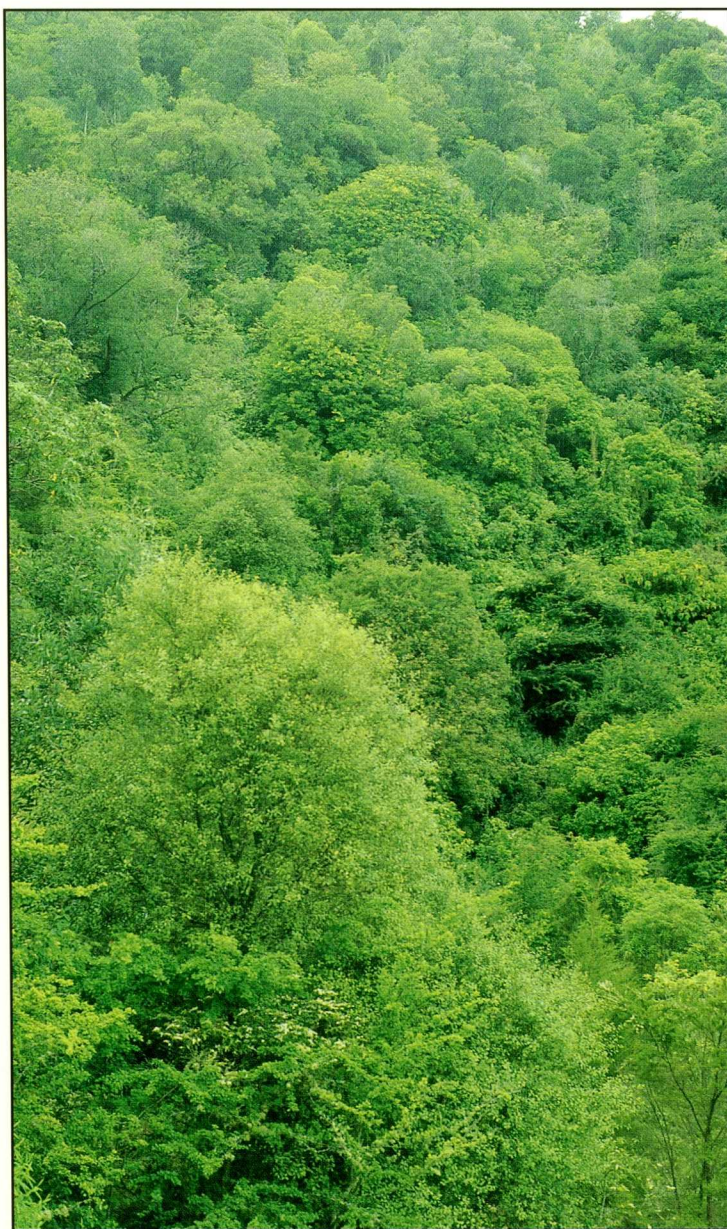
The Turanga Ecological District (the hinterland of Poverty Bay) has relatively gentle relief, fertile soils and a dry and mild climate. It is thus the most modified of the three districts in the East Cape Ecological Region, as it is the best suited to agricultural development. The present day landscape is a patchwork of orchards, vineyards, mixed crops and some pasture on the plains, and pasture and exotic forest plantations on the surrounding hills. Native vegetation is reduced to isolated small remnants, most on these less intensively farmed hills. Three open space covenants have been registered in the Turanga Ecological District recently: Ball's Bush in Gisborne and two at Rimuhau, near Waerengaokuri – see below.

From Footrot Flats to Ball's Bush

Cartoonist Murray Ball is well known to New Zealanders as the creator of Dog, Wal and Horse and the other archetypal kiwi inhabitants of Footrot Flats. Now **Murray** and his wife **Pam Ball** have created something else for New Zealanders to enjoy and cherish: an extensive area of regenerating shrubland and secondary forest on their Te Kuri Farm property has been set aside and protected in perpetuity by open space covenant.

The covenanted land, known as *Ball's Bush*, covers over 30 hectares of medium to steep hill country on the northern outskirts of Gisborne City and includes blocks with such names as "The Gorge", "East Face" and "The Twin Bush". The forest canopy comprises titoki, kanuka and manuka, and there is a valuable stand of puriri and kohekohe in "The Twin Bush". Elsewhere, weeds have been cleared and replaced with exotic plantings of *Acacia melanoxylon* (Tasmanian blackwood) to provide quick-growing compatible canopy cover and minimise weed regrowth.

Murray's plan is to plant a forest corridor to link the bush areas. This will allow bird movement from forest to forest. The native blocks are already popular with tui, kereru and fantail, and pheasant and quail are seen in large numbers.



Te Kuri Farm Walkway

The Te Kuri* Farm Walkway allows public access through part of Ball's Bush. This 5.6 km loop walking track climbs steadily from a carpark at the end of Shelley Road through "The Twin Bush" around "The Gorge" and up to a look-out point at 230 metres above sea level. The track offers superb views over

the plains and Poverty Bay, as far south as Mahia Peninsula, and west to Maungapohatu on the eastern fringes of Te Urewera National Park.

The Department of Conservation manages the walkway. (* Despite the name, please note that dogs are not permitted on the walkway).

Rimuhau rewarewa forest - It's a biggie!

At over 100ha, this is the largest area of protected indigenous forest in the Turanga Ecological District: and recognition is due to the two sets of neighbours that own it – **Stuart & Annette Bridge** and **Len & Debra Hall** – who have protected it by open space covenants.

Rimuhau was a Recommended Area for Protection in the 1991 Survey Report for the PNA Programme in Turanga Ecological District because of its size, the rarity of rewarewa forest in the district, and the presence of rifleman amongst the birdlife. It also has a high landscape value, being prominent on the skyline from high points around the Gisborne Plains.

Retired from grazing at least ten years ago, the block is showing considerable regrowth. A bulldozed track through the middle was reopened in 1999, giving good dry-weather access to the summit. From there, at a height of 1928 feet, are spectacular



The Rimuhau forest atop an impressive steep-sided limestone escarpment. The rogue pine trees scattered through the forest will be removed.

views east to Poverty Bay and Gisborne City, north to the East Coast Mountains, and west to Panikiri Bluff overlooking Lake Waikaremoana.

—Visit Rimuhau!—

Access to the covenant area is readily available by contacting either **Stuart & Annette Bridge** on 06 867 9326 , or **Len & Debra Hall** on 06 867 8050.

In contrast to the Turanga Ecological District, the adjoining Tiniroto Ecological District, to the southwest, is characterised by steep hill country with only minor alluvial plains, and a wetter climate. Although this district has also been widely cleared for semi-extensive farming and exotic forestry, substantial remnants of native vegetation remain. Five open space covenants have been registered recently in this district.



Mokonui Station

Just south of the Wharekopae River, west of Rere settlement, **Mokonui Station Ltd** has protected a fine 5-ha block of primary lowland forest on its 790 sheep and beef farm property.

Dick McMurray accompanied Regional Rep Malcolm Piper on his first visit to the forest and was impressed by the existence of mature rewarewa, pukatea and some tawa in the upper storey canopy with a strong presence of titoki particularly at the western end. Some of these trees are possibly part of the original forest.

Given the fertile, easy sloping terrain that this forest occupies, it is remarkable that it was never cleared for farmland. Mark and Anne Gemmell run the farm and they are pleased that with the Trust's assistance they have been able to fence and permanently protect the forest.

A brief history of Dick McMurray – valued Trust supporter

By Malcolm Piper

Dick McMurray, who accompanies me on initial inspections of native bush, is a retired policeman whose interest in trees started as a child in rural Timaru. As a young boy, and the second eldest of eight children, he was left to his own resources and enjoyed climbing trees, catching frogs, and bird nesting in hawthorn bushes.

In the late 1940s, under instructions from his future mother-in-law, Dick joined the NZ Police and over the next few years had postings to Auckland, Timaru, Christchurch, and Kaniere on the West Coast.

In the early 1960s, back in Timaru, he became N.C.O of Search and Rescue. The atmosphere and magnitude of the region - the mountains, rivers and

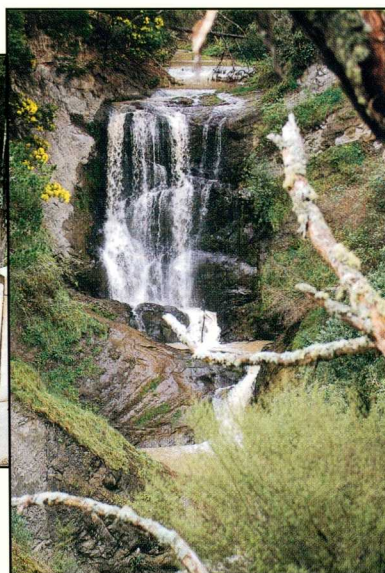
flora – really impressed him, and led him to join the South Canterbury section of the Alpine Club. On weekends spent at huts in the Mt Cook area, members would photograph the local fauna and flora and Dick's interest in botany developed.

In 1985, when he retired from the Police and was living in Gisborne, together with his wife Dawn, he became a member of the Gisborne branch of the Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society. He is also a member of the Rotorua Botanical Society. In addition to giving me botanical assistance, Dick has been busy with a project which involved identifying and transferring native orchids to a safe site in the Society's Iwitahi forestry block on the Napier-Taupo highway.

Riverbanks Protected



Ray and Grace Newman at the gate to the viewing area.



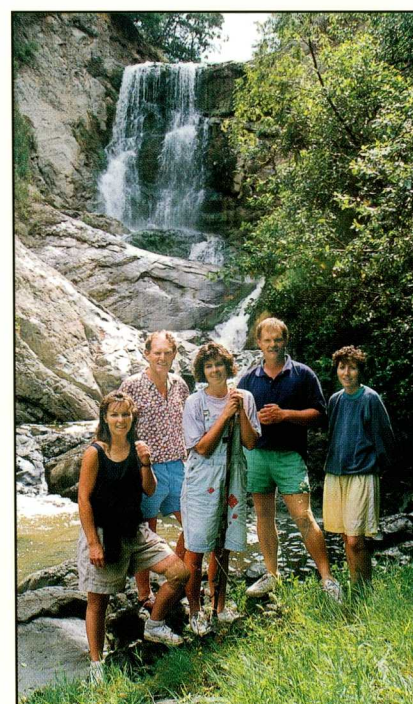
The gateway labelled "Ray's Reserve" leads to this viewpoint above the waterfall.

About 50 km northwest of Gisborne, in erosion-prone, muddy ash and siltstone terrain, the Hihiroroa Stream flows through a steep, bush-clad valley on the boundary between Koro Station and its southern neighbour. Over 12 hectares of the forested stream banks have been protected by covenants, thanks to the initiative of Koro Station owners **Ray and Grace Newman** and the ready co-operation of their former neighbours **Richard and Jeanette Collins**. [Richard and Jeanette have since sold their farm to the Cyril Healey Family Trust.]

The protected forest stretches about one kilometre along the streamsides and is dominated by kanuka, with lots of kowhai, and numerous native shrub species. At

the western end of the block, the stream drops 4 metres over several mudstone cascades; beyond them you find yourself facing a 16-metre attractive waterfall and 25-metre vertical cliff wall – all unclimbable. The waterfall is known as Te Reinga-o-Poi (the heap of Poi) – Poi being the families who lived alongside.

In a locality that was largely stripped bare of natural vegetation to make way for pastoral farmland, this forest provides valuable erosion control, is an important haven for tui, kereru and fantail, and forms a useful ecological link with the nearby Devine, Coates and McLean covenants.



The Newman family – Carolyn, Ray, Angela, Stephen, and daughter-in-law Valerie – at the base of the falls. The walking route along the stream to this point takes about 3/4 hour and involves wet feet.

Photo taken by daughter Marisa.

Visit the Newman covenant!

Ray and Grace Newman welcome visitors to their covenanted area.

Please phone them first on (06) 862 3444 for permission and directions.

About 40km south of the Newman & Collins covenant areas, over 70 hectares of bush, in two blocks, has been covenanted at Ruakaka, near Tiniroto.

The Spence family initiated

this covenant back in 1991, and after the property was sold in 1992, the new owners – **Proprietors of Maraetaha No. 2 Sections 3 & 6** - completed the process.

The riparian covenant area

comprises a 3.8-km strip of mudstone bluffs along the eastern side of the Hangaroa River. Most surfaces where plants can gain a foothold are covered in a healthy mixture of manuka, kanuka, and other native species. The Spence family fenced this block between 1986 and 1991 and removed some 700 goats: as a result, regeneration of the vegetation, particularly totara, has been spectacular, and the bluffs are returning to their original splendour.

Downstream from the riparian block, the second block is a compact area just north of Ruakaka Road and adjacent to the Hangaroa Scenic Reserve. The dense regenerating forest covering the steep hillsides provides an attractive and prominent vista as one crosses the Hangaroa Bridge.



Rain delays – but worth the wait

Dan and Tam Jex-Blake's new open space covenant at Mangapoike would have been finalised a year ago if it had not been for persistent rain making the river too dangerous for the surveyor to cross. The covenant protects three blocks of mixed podocarp/broadleaf and beech forest totalling 15 hectares, with two blocks being south of the Mangapoike River and the other to the north named, naturally enough, "Across River".

When Malcolm and Dick visited the forests in 1997, they were excited by the very strong regrowth of podocarps: the robust young specimens of miro, matai, rimu and totara up the western side of the track perimeter were up to 40 foot tall. High in the treetops is a rich diversity of vines, epiphytic native orchids, astelias and collospermums, whilst at ground level, terrestrial orchids compete with emergent tawa and rewarewa seedlings.

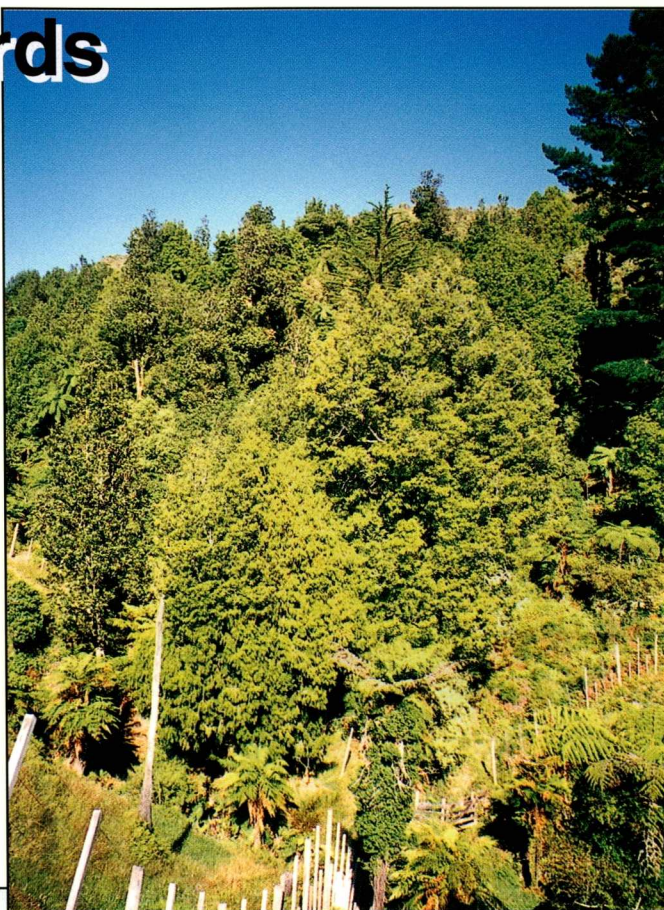


Calling all fernbirds – come on over

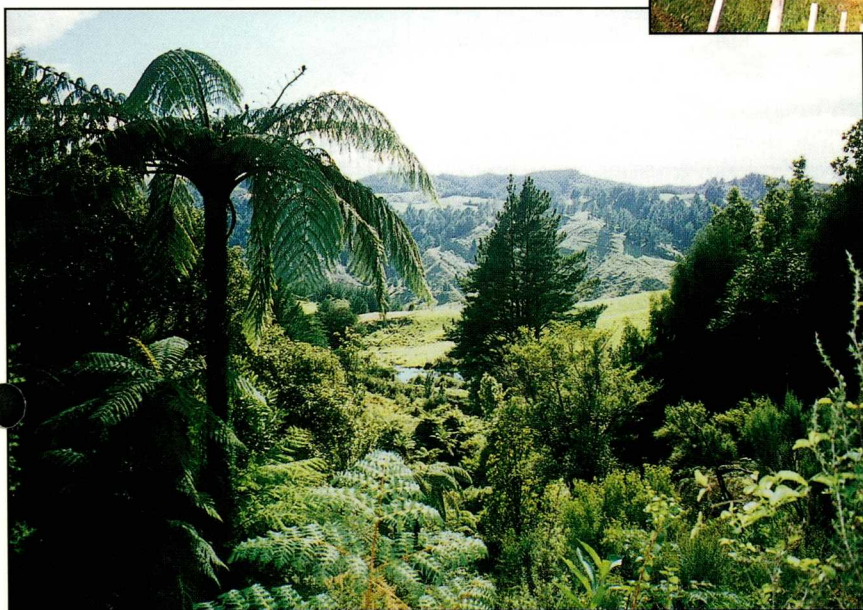
Fernbirds like scrub, bracken, drier swamps and low rushes, so they'd feel quite at home in the newly covenanted areas of the Rosie family in Mangaone Valley. There is a population of this secretive bird living nearby, and, with a bit of luck, it will spread into the Rosie block before long. As Malcolm Piper commented, "Fernbirds are now very rarely sighted around the Gisborne district, so it would be a real bonus if the scrub area of the Rosie bush could provide extra habitat for them".

On their sheep, cattle and deer farm just south of the Mangaone Valley Road, about 8 km northwest of Nuhaka, **Grahame Rosie** and his son **Philip** have protected nearly four hectares of regenerating forest remnants with some mature tawa and emergent rewarewa and rimu. The family has enhanced the block by planting a wide range of native tree and shrub species, and just outside the protected area they have created a small wetland which has already attracted New Zealand shoveller ducks – fairly rare in this locality.

Inside covenant area, looking down to wetland.



*View from outside covenant area
– rimu and tawa in foreground.*



Demonstrating Land Sustainability

On a 600 ha property at Frasertown, a few kilometres north of Wairoa, the **McRae Trust** manages a "demonstration farm" sustainable land management project that integrates profitable production, environmental protection and community education. One aspect of the project has been the covenanting of a 5.7-ha block of native forest.

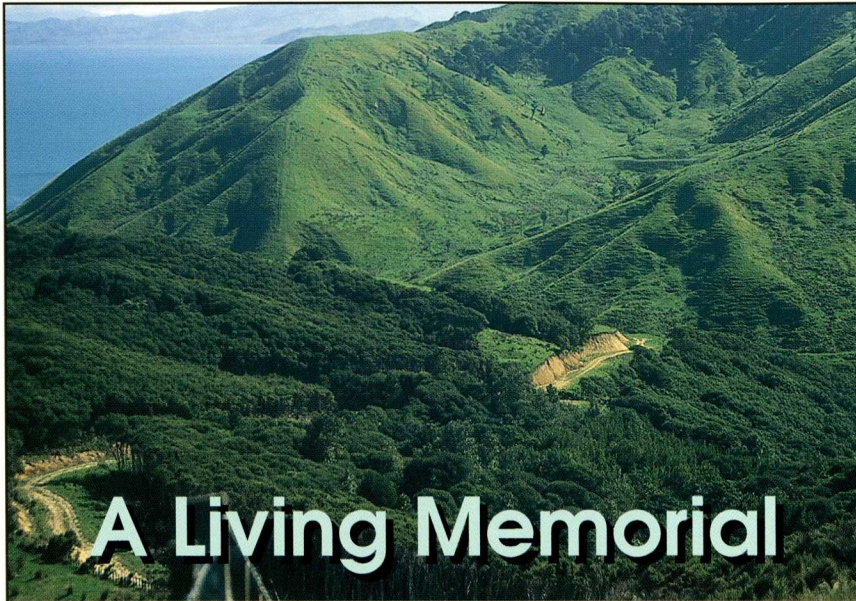
Lying at the head of a steep gully, the protected forest canopy is dominated by putaputaweta with scattered emergent tawa and rewarewa and a few kahikatea. The main hindrance to regeneration in the block was the high goat population (of all sizes, shapes and colours), but a combination of electric fencing and a concerted control programme means that goats in the forest are now history.

Standing out from the crowd

There are a number of forest remnants in the Wairoa district already protected by covenants, but the two on the **Waituku Holdings Ltd** property are quite different from the rest. Whereas the others are broadleaved or mixed podocarp, these are almost pure kahikatea.

One block is just south of Harrison Road, the other is immediately north of Hereheretau Road, and the two remnants total over 5 hectares. The kahikatea trees are about 200-300 years old and are in good health. However, until the remnants were fenced, regeneration was practically non-existent due to browsing by feral goats.

Dick McMurray visited the forests with Regional Rep Malcolm Piper and commented that they are highly representative of what the earlier East Coast coastal river flat forest looked like.



A Living Memorial

"Living memorial" is a phrase you'll read in the *Open Space* quite often. Perhaps it's something of a cliché. But what better way to remember and honour someone special than to protect an area of native forest that will keep growing for hundreds, maybe thousands, of years, enhancing our landscape and our lives?

That's what **Len Symes and Jan Lincoln-Symes** felt after they tragically lost their daughter Toni-Anne in a car crash in 1994.

Len and Jan are both highly respected and hard-working farmers on their large Mahia Peninsula sheep and cattle farm property. As a memorial to Toni-Anne, they decided to place almost 15 hectares of impressive kanuka forest under National Trust covenant.

The protected forest is on the western side of Kinikini Road, about 3 km south of Mahia Beach, and extends westwards down a valley towards the coast. A large rock marker is at the roadside.

Jan and Len have initiated another covenant which will soon be registered and will protect the historic Te Hoe whaling station site on the foreshore below the forest. Whaling had a major impact on the development of communities in the Eastern Bay of Plenty, East Coast and Hawke's Bay regions during the early 1800s and is a key theme in the early history of European settlement in these districts. Extensive evidence of early whaling stations is rare, however, and Te Hoe is exceptional for both the amount of remains evident and their largely undisturbed state.

Those wishing to visit should contact Mr & Mrs Symes first for permission.

Gifts and Bequests

The National Trust is naturally always grateful for cash gifts or bequests, as these assist the Trust in its work.

If you are contemplating making a gift or leaving a bequest to the National Trust, or would like to talk about possibilities, contact me at any time at either the Trust Office, Wellington, or by way of my home telephone (04) 970 7496.

John Bishop, Estate Manager

Shaking brake and hanging spleenwort



Tree orchids almost overwhelm this in the Smale forest.

No, these are not the latest form of expletive; they are the names of just two of the many ferns and other native plant species protected by a recently completed covenant near Wairoa.

Some 10 km west of Wairoa, on Cricklewood Road, **Jasper Smale** has covenanted a fine 12-hectare block of regenerating hardwood forest on the lower slopes above the Huramua Stream.

Expansion of exotic forestry has been a major threat to the remaining natural areas in this district. The size and health of this native stand, together with its abundant bird life, mean it is self-sustaining and regenerating well. However, a steady influx of possums from surrounding pine plantations means that possum control will be a long-term priority.

The property was recently sold to Bruce and Jill Campbell.

Mokotahi Hill

– A hill with a view

Dardie and Frank Ormond have made a most generous gesture in gifting Mokotahi Hill to the National Trust. Prior to formally transferring the 10-hectare property to the Trust, an open space covenant was registered against the property title.

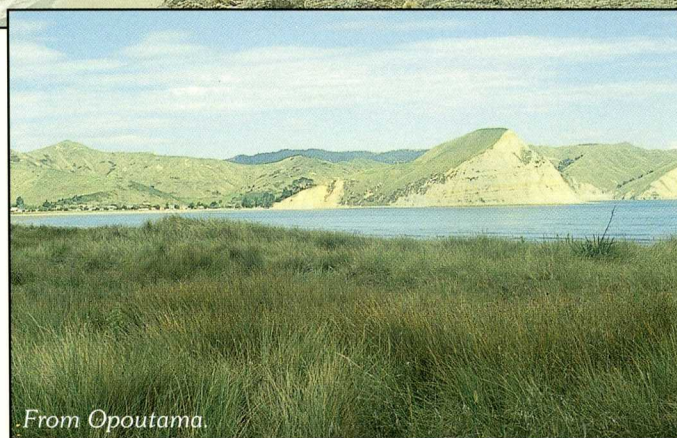
Mokotahi Hill is a prominent landmark at the southern end of Mahia Beach and is highly prized for its landscape, archaeological, historic and recreational values. Rising steeply from sea level to 125m, the hill was a naturally well defended site for a pre-European Maori stronghold, and traces of pits and terraces from that era are still visible on the hill crest and ridges. Later, in the mid-19th century, whalers used the hill as an observation point.

In more recent years, under the ownership of the Ormond family, casual visitors have been able to wander at will over the slopes and enjoy spectacular panoramic views of the surrounding district. At Mr and Mrs Ormond's request, the National Trust will continue to allow public access to the hill.

The Trust is currently preparing a management plan for the Mokotahi Hill property. That plan will



From the south.



From Opoutama.

address the need for a clearly marked and safe route for public pedestrian access. In the meantime, public visiting the property do so at their own risk. *Be careful, the grassy slopes of the hill are steep and may be slippery.*

11

International award for Hackfalls Arboretum

Nicola Higgie, wife of North Island International Dendrology Society (devoted to the study of woody plants and shrubs) chairman Clive Higgie, will visit Hackfalls Arboretum at Tiniroto on May 5 to unveil a plaque presented to Arboretum founder Bob Berry.

The Dendrological Society was founded in 1952, and in 1978 began awarding plaques to recognise outstanding efforts in establishing a collection of woody plants or for giving exceptional service to the general public in creating interest in dendrological matters. Of the 14 plaques

presented world wide, New Zealand has three (including Bob's).

Bob, together with his wife, Lady Anne, has created what is believed to be the largest collection of Mexican and other oak species in cultivation in the Southern Hemisphere. Associated with the oaks, and planted over some 50 hectares in selected areas around Hackfalls Station and its two lakes, are other ornamental trees including maples, poplars, conifers, dogwoods and rhododendrons together with representatives of many other plant families both in the arboretum and the garden.

The arboretum has been protected by open space covenant since 1985. Bob is also closely associated with Eastwoodhill Arboretum, which was awarded a plaque in 1978.

—Visit Hackfalls Arboretum!—

Bob and Anne Berry welcome public visitors who share their love of the trees and tranquil scenery. The arboretum and parkland is at Tiniroto, about 62 km south of Gisborne via SH 36. Please contact the Berrys first on 06 863 7091 for permission and directions.



Hawke's Bay

Hawke's Bay Regional Rep. Marie Taylor describes the latest covenants to be registered in her territory.

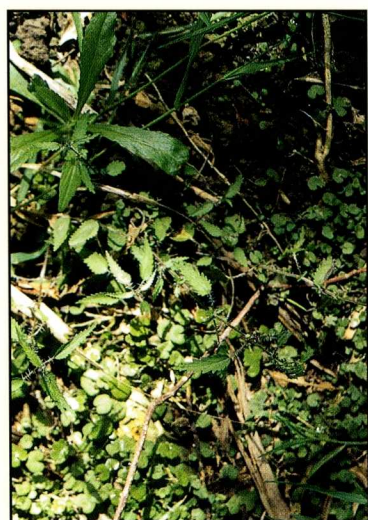
She notes that all the Hawke's Bay covenants included in this issue of Open Space have benefited from generous funding assistance from the Hawke's Bay Regional Council.

Under the Regional Landcare Scheme, landowners wanting to carry out protection work on bush or riparian areas are eligible for funding assistance. Bush protection work may qualify for a 33% fencing subsidy, while riparian protection on five priority catchments could be eligible for up to 90% fencing subsidy.

"Since 1995, the Council has assisted on 47 bush covenants, with a total Council contribution in grants of \$357,000 for the protection of 488 hectares," says Garth Eyles, the Council's land management manager. "And 18 riparian covenants in priority areas have been funded and covenanted with grants of \$182,000 and at a total cost of \$290,000."

A most significant stream

Inland from Blackhead Point, beyond a low range of northeasterly trending hills, the Huatokitoki Stream wends its erratic way westwards towards Wallingford to join the Taurekaitai Stream. The Huatokitoki Stream is one of the most significant lowland streams in Hawke's Bay because it has bush margins for much of its length. In the upper catchment of the stream, three neighbouring landowners have placed covenants on their land, protecting stream banks, a flax swamp and areas of native forest; whilst downstream at Wallingford, the Ormond family has covenanted forest-covered land next to Taurekaitai Stream.



Rare swamp nettle – *Urtica linearifolia*.

Flax swamps are about as rare as hen's teeth in Hawke's Bay, so helping protect a 5-hectare wetland on a terraced bend of the Huatokitoki Stream was a great pleasure.

Chris Fouhy, in conjunction with neighbours Jim Pharazyn on Motere Station and James Hunter on Rangitoto, has protected the swamp by open space covenant.

The flax, up to three metres tall, has a scattering of cabbage trees, lacebark and ribbonwood trees through it, as well as some rare swamp nettle *Urtica linearifolia*.

Trust director Geoff Walls says this is the only flax swamp of any substance remaining in the Hawke's Bay region.

"We believe it is important to preserve ecological history – everything requires an appropriate balance – this also applies to conservation and it is a pleasure to be able to share in the contribution to that with this block of land," Chris and his wife Lynda say.



The uniquely New Zealand flax/cabbage tree combination.

Open space covenants are on private land. Always gain permission from the landowner before entering an area protected by open space covenant.

Neighbouring farmer James Hunter has protected all the indigenous vegetation remaining on the family farm, Rangitoto, owned by **Gretchen Hunter and Hugh Davidson**.

In addition to the southern margin of the major flax wetland discussed above, remnants of podocarp forest along a 3.5km stretch of the Huatokitoki Stream, and three sidlings of shrublands with regenerating totara in the same catchment area have been protected. A further four areas of forested gullies on the coastal side of the hills have also been protected.

"Some of it may not look much and is what people call scrub. However I get excited about it, because in 20 years it will look spectacular," James says. "I went out through the totara block the other day. It is just fantastic what is erupting from the soil: kahikatea, kowhai, ribbonwoods. The whole thing is just a carpet of seedlings."

"If we had carried on grazing, these little blocks wouldn't have been there," he says.

Instead, the 33 hectares of fenced off areas are home to some regionally rare plants:

- matagouri, which is very unusual in the North Island

- the tiny mistletoe *Korthalsella lindsayi*
- the uncommon and very elegant *Coprosma virescens*, and
- wharangi, which is rarely found on the Hawke's Bay coast.

Already he has been recognised for his protection work, winning a Hawke's Bay Regional Council Environmental Award in 2000, and being a finalist in the Norsewear Conservation Award.



James Hunter in front of a block of regenerating shrubland.



Small greenhood orchids are present under totara forest in mid winter in the Motere Station covenant.

Small greenhood orchids (*Pterostylis graminea*) are a magical autumn feature of the new, 10-hectare covenant on neighbouring Motere Station, owned by **Rozel Laracy and Jim and Charles Pharazyn**.

Motere Station, which Jim Pharazyn manages, is better known for its impressive Angus stud started back in 1908 by Jim's grandfather Henry Horace Pharazyn.

This covenant covers a major forested stretch and meander of the Huatokitoki Stream plus the western portion of the flax swamp owned jointly with the neighbours. The forest block has a dense covering of tall totara trees, and underneath one area of totara is a scattering of the tiny green and white ground orchids.

The route south along State Highway 52 to Porangahau winds through some marvellous countryside, but there are few areas of bush visible from the road. However, one of the bush remnants easy to see from the road belongs to **John, David and Judith Ormond** at Wallingford.

Tucked in a curve of the Turaekaitai Stream, a tributary of the Porangahau River, the totara forest stand, known as Wallingford Bush, is a real gem. It sits on an alluvial terrace and is edged with massive cabbage trees.

John Ormond comments, "For a number of years we had talked about fencing off and conserving this very accessible and really peaceful small block of native bush, but it took Marie Taylor of the National Trust to drag us finally into action. I am delighted and quite excited about the fast regeneration."

Matai are common throughout the totara trees, as well as kahikatea. Large macrocarpa trees shelter the 12 hectares of bush to the southwest, and there is a wetter area of small leaved species such as weeping matipo and swamp ribbonwood.

John Ormond in front of one of the many totara trees in Wallingford Bush.



Clear moonlit water

Located just south of Havelock North, Waimarama is one of Hawke's Bay's stunning beaches, and the seaside resort village has grown rapidly over recent years. The name Waimarama means clear or moonlit water.

The drive to Waimarama from the Bay cities is always

enjoyable. Coming down a steep hill onto the flats is a special part of the trip, as a dramatic face of coastal bush and its associated waterfall across steep limestone faces are a real feature.

Now two new covenants protect 15 hectares of this karaka, titoki and mahoe forest and the Waingongoro Stream running through it. The area shows much evidence of past Maori occupation.

David "Snow" Stewart initiated a covenant on Cabbage Tree Flat Station – owned by his father

J. Donald Stewart together with **Roger Sinclair** and **Julian Aitken** – which protects the northern 3 hectares. Craig and Kristal Foss of **Nikau One Limited** have covenanted the central 8 hectares, called Peach Gully Bush, a process begun while this land was owned by David and Marilyn Belcher.

A covenant over the southernmost part, of 4 hectares, is not yet registered, although fencing is completed.

Long Range Protection

Only about 3% of lowland Central Hawke's Bay remains in bush, and a great deal of that is off the beaten track. So the Ritchie

family's newly covenanted bush opposite their home on Long Range Road – part of the route from Waipukurau to the coast – is a real

treasure. The forest remnants are about 6km northeast of the Huatokitoki Stream covenants, in similar topography,

The forest remnants lie within the farm property of **Denis Hames, William Rathbone, Bill Ritchie** and his mother (**Elisabeth**) **Ann Ritchie**. Bill Ritchie took over the family farm in 1997 and it was then he began fencing off the three gullies of tawa and titoki forest.

There are a great range of canopy species including some impressive rewarewa, matai and kahikatea, which are regenerating well. Bill took the fence out from the bush in a generous sweep, giving plenty of room particularly for large cabbage trees to recover and start spreading into the grassland.

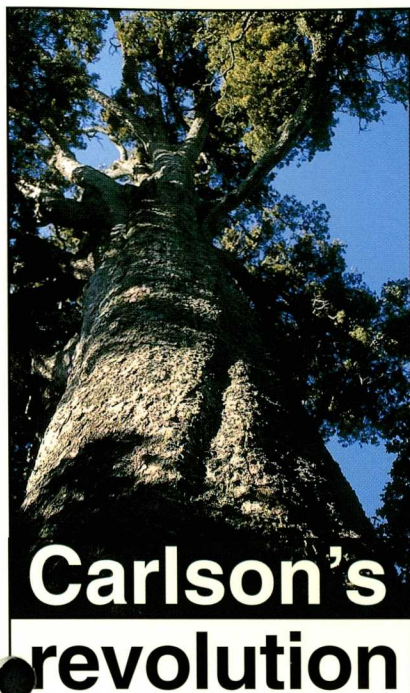
The covenant covers 16 hectares, and is home at times to up to eight pairs of wood pigeon, as well as morepork, tui and grey warbler.



DON'T SELL! Without telling us.

If you are a Covenantor and you're thinking of selling or subdividing your property, please let the National Trust know.

Making contact with the new owner, and keeping in touch with you, is important to us.



Carlson's revolution

Hamish Carlson's great-great-grandfather was the first European owner of this land, buying it in the 1880s. The new covenant is part of the previous bullock paddock, and traces of the wooden railway tracks, used for moving timber, still remain.

The totara and titoki forest Hamish Carlson and Mathilda Schorer have protected on the **Tirohia Farm Limited** property is a tiny remnant of the forests which once clothed the Te Onepu hills, 35 kilometres southwest of Hastings.

Their 3 hectares contain a remarkable diversity of species, including the uncommon *Lophomyrtus obcordata*, a stand of *Melicope simplex*, the milk tree or turepo *Streblus heterophyllus* and a 30 metre high kahikatea.

"It's good to turn the full circle from being tree fellers in previous generations to conserving the remnants of the native bush," Hamish says. "We've also put in a lot of work to get rid of the weeds and to encourage regrowth in the gaps and open areas. It's a great millennium project!"

Thanks to the Napier and Hastings-Havelock North branches of Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society for their generous funding assistance towards completion of this covenant.

Taumahapu Bush

In June 1998, after Kirsty - **Tony and Jocelyn Morrin's** daughter - had finally pressured her parents into protecting a small patch of remnant bush on their Taumahapu property, an initial inspection of the bush was made.

While this remnant is small in area (3 hectares), there is little of this type left elsewhere. This patch used to be part of the Gwavas Station ram paddock, and up until it was covenanted it had been grazed. It is on an easy fertile southwest facing hill slope with a dry gully at the base.

Although it is not visible from Kereru Road (also known as Gwavas Road), its location within the property makes it easily accessible, whilst not interfering with the management of the surrounding farm. Access can be gained with the landowners permission

Taumahapu Bush is a very even stand with old titoki and totara as a canopy, and rewarewa, matai and kahikatea as emergents. Numerous other natives form the subcanopy, and *Lophomyrtus*

obcordata, which is uncommon in the district, is also found here. It has a good population of tui, bellbird, fantail, kereru, morepork, grey warbler, wax eyes and cuckoo. Walking into the covenant is like walking into a cathedral with its high canopy.

The whole perimeter of the farm has bait stations around it as it is bounded by Gwavas Forest, and the



Taumahapu Bush

covenanted block has bait stations on its perimeter. Possum numbers are now well under control.

Since this block was ring fenced, there has been exciting regeneration in such a short time. The Morrin family is grateful to the National Trust and the Hawke's Bay Regional Council for the help in ensuring their daughter's initiative has become a reality!



Tony and Jocelyn Morrin

Gorgeous gorges

Philip, Joanne and Richard Cregoe have a beautiful farm, with easy country sloping to the north. The pastoral land is cut through with deep kanuka-filled gorges, two of which they have protected by a covenant.

One gorge, which runs along the eastern boundary of the property, is 26 hectares, while the other is 14 hectares. The streams running through the gorges are tributaries of Waikonini Stream, which runs north into the Tutaekuri River.

Few gorge systems of this size, with good canopy cover like this, are protected within Hawke's Bay, so the protected areas on the Cregoe property are an important addition to the suite of covenants within the Bay.



Philip says: "protecting the regenerating bush in the steep gorge areas has been of value to our

environment – and the water quality. And it makes the farm more aesthetically pleasing too."

To the north of the Cregoe property, a deep and steep gorge on the **Horgan Farm Limited's** farm on Waihau Road, managed by Steve and Catherine Horgan, is now fenced off and is a new covenant.

The kanuka filled gorge is 12 hectares and two kilometres long. The covenanted area protects half the back boundary of the property, which is the Waihau Stream. There are pockets of titoki forest, and quite a few podocarps including rimu emerging through the canopy of kanuka.

Steve, who is chairman of the Hawke's Bay Monitor Farm committee, says he has a good feeling about the covenant area, and knows that no-one can touch it again. He's looking forward to seeing more species come back in, and says it's amazing how plants self-seed. Until recently, the gorge was filled with goats; now there are none, thanks to frequent culling expeditions.

"It is really nice to think it is protected, and will regenerate and be a piece of natural New Zealand," they say.

A further covenant upstream over the remaining two kilometres of their boundary has recently been approved.



Steve and Catherine Horgan with their covenant in the background.

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Three new covenants make Mangaone Stream Bush cleaner and greener

"Mangaone Stream Bush", located near State Highway 5 just south of Te Pohue, was a Recommended Area for Protection in the Maungaharuru Ecological District PNA report of 1996. The 325-hectare block comprises river flats along the sides of Mangaone River and its tributary Waipuna Stream, with steep side slopes and bluffs forming a gorge around them. Upstream, the watercourse opens out into a series of gullies with gentle sideslopes.

The vegetation on the river-flats alternates between emergent podocarp forest and rank weedy pasture. Birdlife abounds, with shining cuckoo, bellbird, kereru, fantail, grey warbler, kingfisher, chaffinch and blackbird in residence.

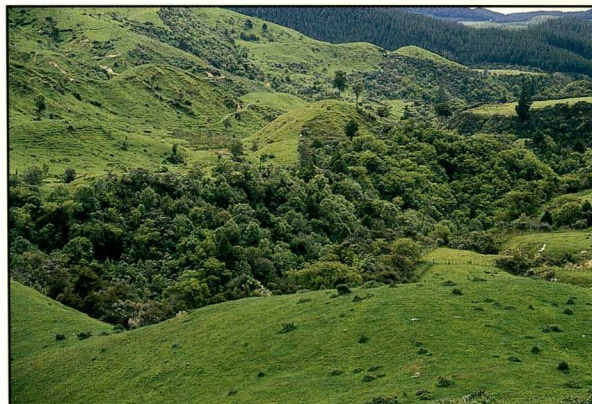
Unfortunately, at the time of the 1996 survey, goats were common in the site and dead sheep and cattle were noted in the stream.

However, the commitment of the Gloyn, Nelson and Hartree families to open space covenants has now secured protection for part of Mangaone Stream Bush RAP and two other areas upstream in the Waipuna Stream catchment. Adding in the McGregor and Thomsen covenants, which are moving towards registration, and the existing W.H. Hartree Estate covenants managed by Wilton and Theresa Hartree, there is more than 250 hectares of protection in the Mangaone River catchment.

The bush in and around **Bruce Gloyn's** new covenant was logged until the 1931 earthquake, which destroyed the mill on the farm next door.

The covenant area is stunning, comprising 29 hectares of 100 metre deep gorges dropping into the Waipuna Stream. Along the stream there are narrow river flats with a forest of kahikatea and matai over titoki, and above the steep bush-clad cliffs are shrublands of putaputaweta, fivefinger, lacebark and kanuka.

Bruce says: "when I look into the gorge it is amazing to see the kowhai growing out of the vertical sides of the limestone rock." There is also a remarkable abundance of bird life.



Mark and Judy Nelson and **Bruce Goldstone's** new covenant, just upstream from Bruce Gloyn's, comprises two deep gorges with a long and skinny island of pasture stretching out into the center. The fenceline was so tricky in one place blasting was necessary to get a good line. Now fencing is all completed, it is a real masterpiece.

This covenant is an integral part of a series of covenants in this watershed, protecting parts of the margins of the Opau and Waipuna streams.

"We are all winning," Mark says. "We are

doing something we couldn't afford to do on our own. The Trust is achieving its aims, and we are fencing stock out of areas which are unsuitable for them."

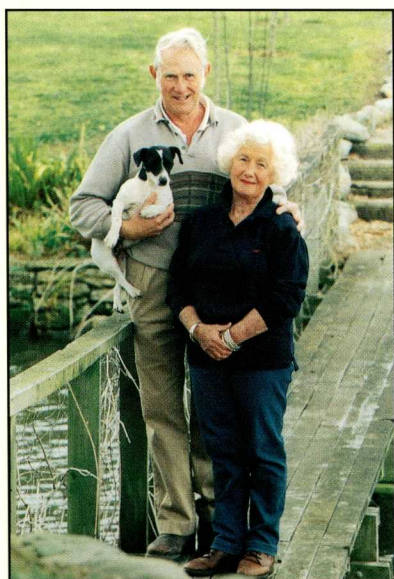
The Nelsons are so enthusiastic about the covenanting process they have recently initiated a new covenant on another series of gorges on their home farm 17 kilometres away.



Hawke's Bay Regional Council land management officer Simon Stokes, left, checks out the new fence with Mark Nelson.

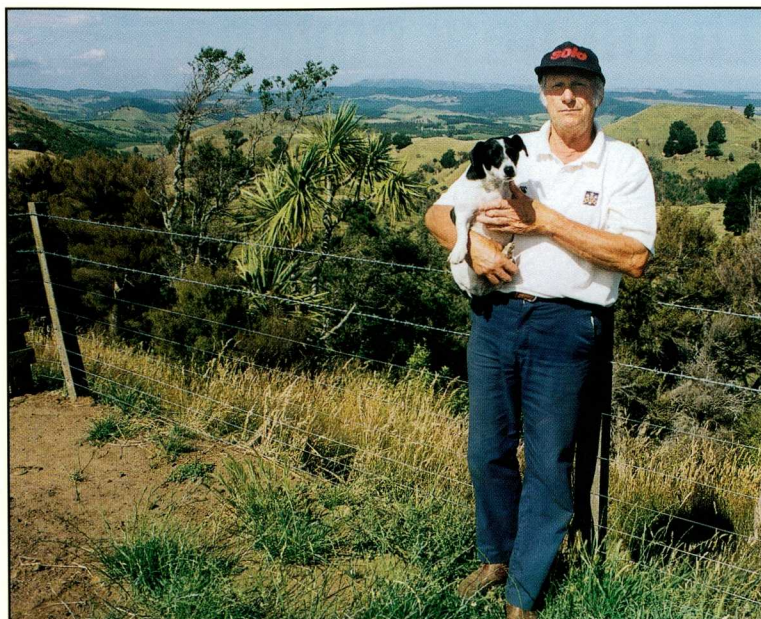
At their Puketitiri family farm, **Tom and Dora Hartree** have a third block of bush fenced and protected. This new covenant over a Y-shaped gully at the head of Opau Stream covers almost 17 hectares, taking their total protected area to 43 hectares on the farm. "We are trying to look after our part of the planet," says Tom Hartree.

"As a teenager I saw the grass desert I lived in. Trying to save the odd rimu or matai seedling engendered a desire to see areas set aside and protected. It's very rewarding to see native birds and native plants becoming more common." And he's happy to have more of the Mangaone watershed – and its water – protected too.



Tom and Dora Hartree.

Photo courtesy of Warren Buckland



Tom Hartree and his dog Sybil at the top of the Hartree family's new covenant at Puketitiri.

The Hartree family also previously gifted shares in the 213-hectare Hartree Forest – to the south of Puketitiri, tucked under the Kaweka Range – to the National Trust. Adjoining the northern boundary of Hartree Forest, the Holt family's new covenant on their Rocky Hill farm is most impressive. Family trustees **John Holt, Bruce Smith and Anthony Bryan** own the land.

In three parts, the protected area adds up to 56 hectares, comprising 44 hectares of the main gully of Mangatutu Stream, and two smaller gullies.

The main covenant area fills a deep, steep gorge, which may still be home to blue ducks. The dramatic landscape is made up of emergent kahikatea, rimu and red beech over a canopy of dense kanuka, cabbage trees and manuka. Steeper north-facing slopes support the kowhai *Sophora tetraptera*.

Beautiful big black maire

Seventy enormous and mature black maire trees are a dramatic feature of a tremendous new covenant north of Te Pohue.

Rock Station, the farm property of **Murray and Delia King** stretches up to the top of the Te Waka Range alongside State Highway 5.



Running 200 metres down from the top of the range at 900 metres is the 31-hectare forest of black maire, totara and rimu. Broadleaf is predominant closer to the top of the range.

Delia and Murray were keen to protect the podocarps as well as the birds. "I love the bush, but the main thing was the birds," Murray says. "We get morepork here, and even the occasional bat. I haven't seen one in over three years, but we're hoping now the area has been fenced, it'll give it a chance to properly revegetate and the bats will come back to live."



Murray King with his dog Ike in front of a particularly tricky section of fence.



Dad's dream

Red beech features on the ridges of **Garth, Ruth and Ian McVicar**'s new covenant area south of the Mohaka River. The protected land lies within the family farm property managed by Garth and his wife Anne.

Two large gullies of bush are covenanted, one of 62 hectares, the other of 24 hectares. The largest block faces south and is tall kanuka forest with manuka on its exposed ridges and red beech in the gullies. The smaller block is on steep terrain and faces east, with a cover of kanuka and manuka and many broadleaf species.

Much of the surrounding land is now in pine trees, which has changed the landscape quite significantly.

Garth says it had always been his Dad's dream to fence the "native block". "The National Trust gave us this opportunity. It is



Garth McVicar attaches the National Trust sign to a fence on the Mohaka farm.

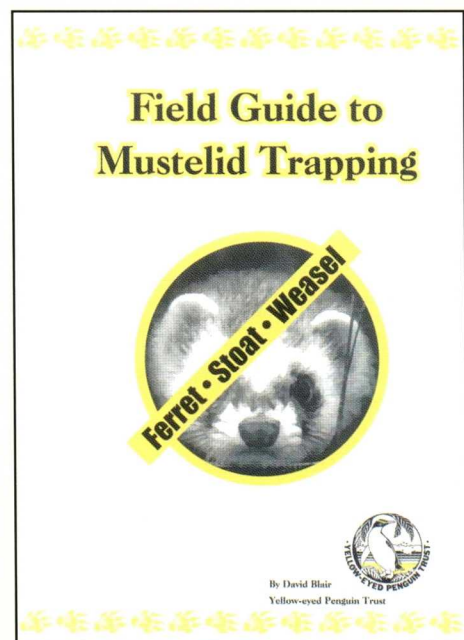
great to have these blocks protected and watch the native regenerating for future generations."

Mustelid Booklet

The Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust (YP Trust) hosted a practical workshop on mustelid control techniques in August 2000. At the request of attendees, a follow-on field guide has now been published by the YP Trust. This A5-sized booklet outlines the biology of the mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) including reproduction, diet, range and signal the implications of predator guild relationships. Placement of traps (when, where, how many), technical aspects of trapping and types of traps are all discussed. Sample data recording sheets and explanations to the importance of accuracy of records, including recognising nil returns. The legal obligations under the Animal Welfare Act are also included in this booklet.

Aimed at both amateur and experienced trappers, the YP Trust hopes it may assist in the practical eradication of one of the threats to the rare yellow-eyed penguin and other endemic species.

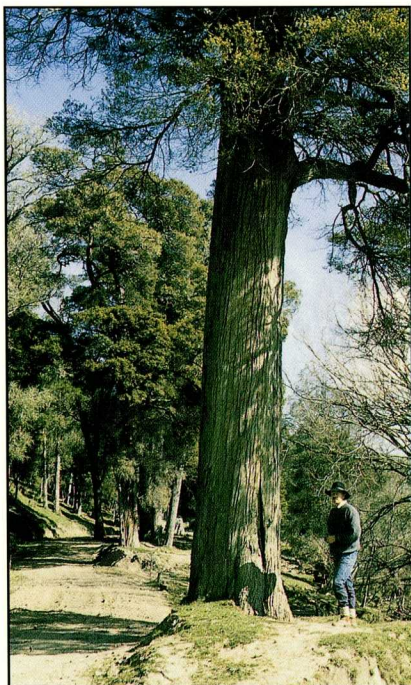
Copies are available from the YP Trust Office for \$7.50 plus \$2 p&p Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust, P O Box 5409, Dunedin.



For more information about the National Trust and its work, visit our website www.nationaltrust.org.nz

Wairarapa

Tauweru totara



20

Bramerton Station - a 787-hectare sheep farm owned by **Comtrad Holdings Ltd** and managed by Clark Goddard, is located east of Masterton, in the Tauweru River valley. Company director Michael Dossor and former farm manager Chris Haynes, approached the Trust in 1992 because they were both keen to protect native forest remnants on the property. Due to funding restraints the Trust was experiencing at that time, the Trust was only able to approve the project and wait for funding to become available.

Despite this, Chris and Michael's enthusiasm was undiminished, and by 1996, when funding finally became available (with assistance from Wellington Regional Council), they had already got cracking and fenced one of the remnants. Now the fencing and registration has been completed, a total area of almost 30 hectares of locally rare mixed podocarp forest with notable totara, tawa and kahikatea has been protected.



The Puketoi Range (pictured above) cuts a swathe across the Wairarapa landscape forming a dramatic barrier between Pahiatua to the west and Pongaroa to the east. Extending along the steep escarpment of the range is a very nearly continuous stretch of native forest – some 500 hectares total.

As Regional Rep. John Kirby points out, for the last 30 years, it has been a major objective of territorial authorities to exclude stock completely from the forest. Thanks to the recent open space covenant of **Richard and June Small**, another step in achieving that objective has been made.

Richard and June have fenced off the 38 hectares of hardwood forest on their property (managed by their son and daughter-in-law, Alan & June Small), bringing the total protected by open space covenant in this locality to 406 hectares. Only one small section remains to be formally protected, but it is already fenced off from stock access.

The Puketoi Range covenants protect the ecology of the hardwood forest plus the landscape amenity of the land. The forested limestone escarpment is visible from the increasingly popular tourist route of SH 52 - between Masterton and Waipukurau - and the Makuri Gorge Road.

A remarkable survivor

On a hill block, a few kilometres to the east of the Puketoi Range, the newly covenanted forest block of **Dennis and Deborah Henricksen** is a remarkable survivor of logging and stock browsing.

This 11-hectare secondary forest block is one of only a handful of remnants in the southern part of the Eastern Hawke's Bay Ecological District; its totara-dominant canopy is highly representative of forest ecosystems that are now unfortunately rare. Sheltered from the ferocious Puketoi winds by a large hill, the

forest has a good leaf litter and a understorey of tree ferns, kawakawa seedlings, *Coprosma* species and podocarp saplings. Part of the bush area has been left unfenced to provide shelter for stock, and the covenanted area should benefit from this protective fringe of hardy totaras.



AROUND THE COUNTRY

World Wetland Day was marked at Taranaki and Canterbury covenants

Saturday, 2nd February was World Wetlands Day. Taranaki Regional Council organised a tour of the Omata Tank Farm wetland covenant to mark the day, whilst in mid-Canterbury, native fish were ceremonially released into the Langdon wetland covenant.

In Taranaki, approximately 200 interested people met at Lloyd's Ponds at the Omata Tank Farm, near New Plymouth.

Fletcher Challenge Energy who owns the site has recently protected the wetlands with a National Trust covenant.

"The tour gave the public the opportunity to explore a wetland and learn about the value of Taranaki's wetland areas," said Taranaki Regional Council officer Maggie Bayfield.

"The two semi-natural lakes and wetlands cover four hectares and are an important water bird habitat. They are home to the Australasian bittern and it has long been a favoured spot for bird watching.

There is now widespread support for the protection and enhancement of wetlands in Taranaki. The Taranaki Regional Council, landowners and the National Trust continue to work together to ensure the future of these valuable sites.

Extracted from Taranaki Regional Council press release.

In mid Canterbury, a hundred shy brown Canterbury mudfish, or kowaro, slipped quietly into the murk of Russell Langdon's wetland, watched by tangata whenua, conservationists and others.

The mudfish lives only in Canterbury, and according to

Aroha Island – it's out of this world

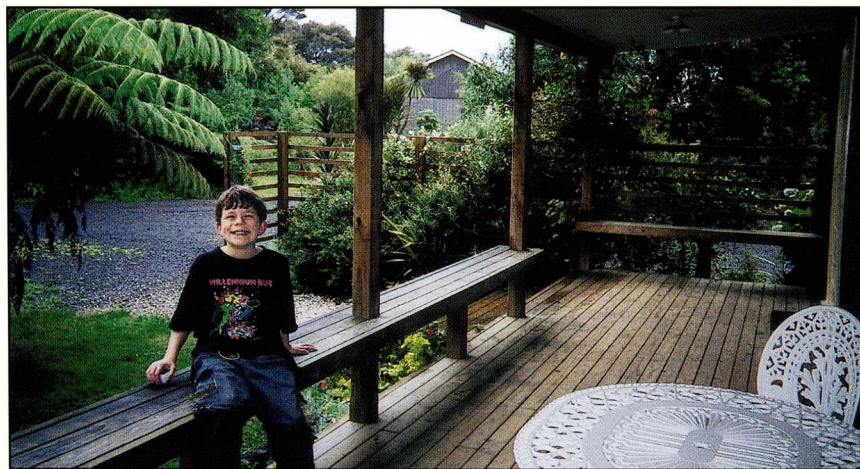
By Ruth James

I read Stuart Chambers' article "Aroha – the island of Love" in the December Open Space issue and I found it a moving story. Shortly after, I had the opportunity of visiting Aroha Island with my grandson, Richard, for the weekend.



National Trust Accounts Officer Ruth James, her grandson Richard and the view over Kerikeri Inlet.

In my mind's eye I had a picture of the island and surrounds, but nothing prepared me for the majestic beauty I saw on arrival and during my stay there. I had stayed in the rain forest in the north of Queensland last year and I thought nothing would ever be like the experience I had there. However, that was before I visited Aroha Island. I would now like to add something more to Stuart Chambers' article: **"it's out of this world"**.



Richard finds plenty to smile about outside the cottage accommodation on Aroha.

Department of Conservation biodiversity manager Graeme Crump who released the fish, between the 1970s and the late 1980s, its known population sites had reduced from 20 to six.

The wetland developed in recent years by Mr Langdon, next

to the Ashburton River, gives this taonga species another foothold free of predatory trout.

The National Trust recently approved a covenant over the 10-hectare wetland, and it is now proceeding towards registration.

National Fielddays at Mystery Creek

Landcare – Action on the Ground

That is the premier feature of this year's New Zealand National Agricultural Fielddays to be held at Mystery Creek, Hamilton on 12-15 June.

The QEII National Trust will be represented at the fielddays, so be sure to find our stand and say hello.

Visit the official website www.fielddays.co.nz for more information.

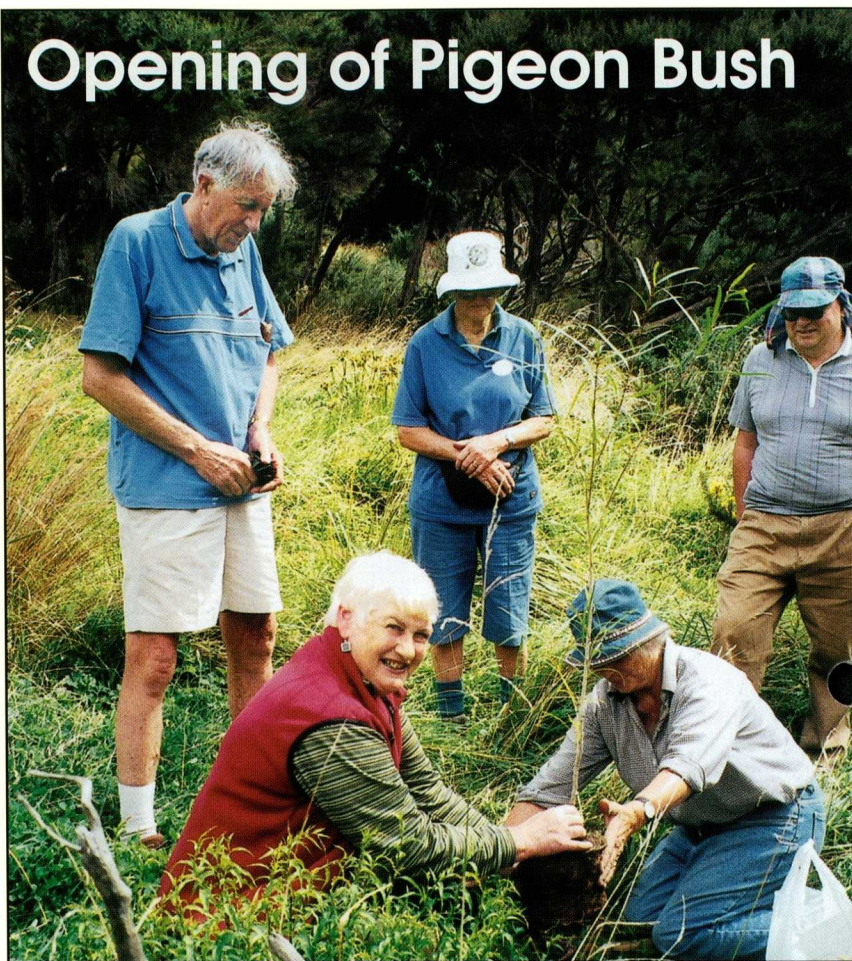
Forested landscape of eastern Southland

The National Trust's Winter Field Day on 2nd August 2001.

Although the day was cold and wet, the Southland Winter Field Day was well attended by covenantors, Trust members, neighbours and members of associated organisations. The group enjoyed visits to the Hopkins, Story and Ayer covenant areas, and talks by Brian Rance of DoC on native forest species and Richard Bowman of Envirosouth on possum control work. Thank you Brian and Richard for your involvement.

Gay Munro, Regional Rep.

Opening of Pigeon Bush



Chairperson of Wellington Regional Council, Margaret Shields, assisted by members of the NZ Native Forests Restoration Trust, plants trees at the opening of Pigeon Bush – part of the Rimutaka Restoration Reserve in the Wairarapa.

An open space covenant was registered over Pigeon Bush late last year. The National Trust's Margaret McKee, Philip Lissaman and Nancy Watters attended the event, which included those legendary NZNFRT culinary delights - sausages and billy tea. Scratching frantically, Nancy commented later that the voracious sandflies should prove able guardians of the bush.

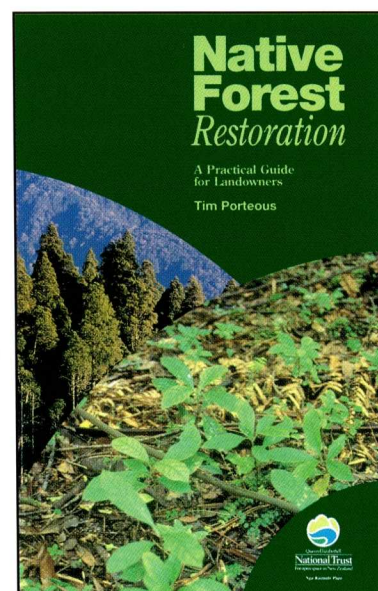
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BEATING *around the bush*

tips and techniques for native ecosystem management

By Tim Park

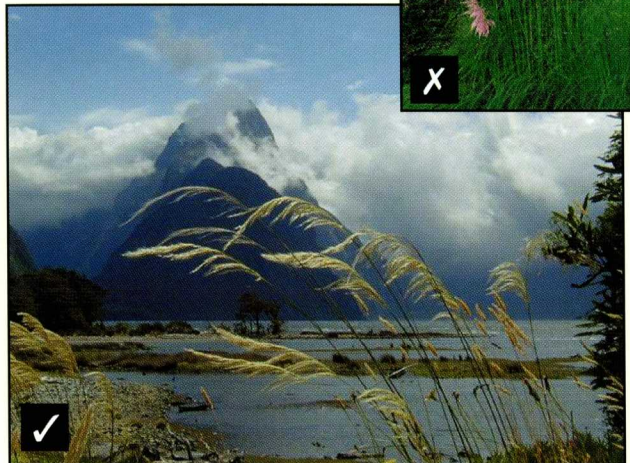
Toetoe, or not Toetoe?

That was the question posed by an Open Space reader

A query that is often presented to botanists is to differentiate between the exotic pampas and native toetoe. These species are often hard to tell apart, especially by the untrained eye. There are a number of different pampas and toetoe species which are closely related, in fact they share the same genus.

It is important to identify and control pampas, because it can threaten the productivity of plantation forests and land of high conservation value. It has the ability to reach distant open spaces quickly and to blanket them with very rapid growth. Pampas can quickly overcome native turfland communities. Pampas invades disturbed areas such as cleared bush margins, burned areas and firebreaks where it competes with and smothers other vegetation, and provides habitat for rats and mice. The build-up of dry material from pampas such as dead leaves, leaf bases and flower stalks creates a significant fire hazard.

Fortunately there are a few distinguishing characteristics that help. Generally speaking, the growth form of pampas is a large, dense 'clump', often greater than two metres high. Toetoe has a much more open structure and sits lower to the ground. Typically, toetoe has curved, arching flowering stems whereas pampas has straight, erect flower stems. The flowers of toetoe are usually a colour between white and creamy yellow, whereas pampas varies from a bright white to a distinct purplish-brown colour. These clues work from a distance and should help in most situations. If they do not then



get up close if you can and look for the dead leaves – on pampas, but not toetoe, these curl up to look like wood shavings at the base of the plant. Another method that may help is the character of the leaves themselves. Pampas usually has one main midrib that runs up the centre of the leaf sheath, whereas toetoe has many veins in addition to the main midrib that gives it a 'ribbed' texture. Pampas leaves are more brittle than toetoe and break easily when tugged (careful not to cut yourself!!). Hopefully, these tips help, but if you are unsure check with your regional representative, the pest plants officer at your local council or a local botanist.

If you identified the pampas correctly, you will probably want to get rid of it before the problem gets worse. Grazing is not recommended as pampas is likely to be ignored by animals in favour of the more palatable toetoe. (Ironically, pampas was introduced to New Zealand as a forage crop.) Digging and grubbing is possible for seedlings and small plants. It is possible to chainsaw smaller plants and to remove sizeable plants by bulldozer. Chainsawing and slashing can be combined with chemical spraying of regrowth. Spray should be applied from spring to autumn, or after flowering. The common herbicides that are suitable include Roundup and Gallant. Use the concentrations recommended by the manufacturer. Take care to spray only in still conditions to avoid wind drift to non-target plants and don't spray when rain is expected. During spraying, non-target plants can be shielded with cardboard, plastic sheets or a large plastic container. The use of a marker dye helps to avoid double spraying and wastage, and a foaming agent can be added to the spray to help prevent spray drift. Make sure you leave the plants in the ground until the roots have died off. Do not re-apply herbicide too soon after the initial treatment. Wait until the plant actively begins growing again.

As with all spraying you should read the instructions on the manufacturer's label closely and always wear protective clothing.

Sources include: www.doc.govt.nz and 'Native Forest Restoration: A Practical Guide for Landowners' by Tim Porteous

Open Space
welcomes contributions from
covenantors, Trust members
and friends with ideas, views
or stories to tell.

Contact Sue Perry at the Trust's
Wellington office, email
sperry@qe2nattrust.org.nz

Trust People

New Chief Executive Officer

The National Trust welcomes Margaret McKee as new Chief Executive Officer.

In announcing her appointment, Sir Paul Reeves, Chairman of the National Trust, said he and the Board look forward to working with Margaret to strengthen the National Trust's position as the foremost organisation in conservation on private land.

Margaret grew up in Gisborne and has a degree in horticulture. She has worked in technical product development and strategic marketing roles in the horticulture and gardening industries.

For the last 4 years, Margaret has been the business manager at Outward Bound with responsibility for brand management, sales, marketing, sponsorship, product and curriculum development.

"Margaret's business skills, especially in the not-for-profit sector, and interest in the outdoors will benefit the Trust greatly", said Sir Paul.

Margaret has travelled widely both within New Zealand and internationally. She is a past NZ swimming champion and her personal interests include tramping, sailing and fly fishing.

Congratulations

Congratulations to covenantors **Robin and Betty Manson** of East Takaka for winning the Best Dairy Farm award in the Tasman District's Environmental Awards 2001. They were commended for the overall excellence of their farm, including the fencing of native bush. Robin and Betty covenanted 5 hectares of totara forest on their farm in 1983.

Obituaries

Neil Petrie

Neil farmed Sulphur Wells, in the Bideford valley, for over thirty years. Born a Scot, and educated in England, he brought to the Wairarapa the instincts of the traditional British landowner. He was a hunter and fisherman, and conservation of natural habitat was an immediate interest. Sulphur Wells contains six covenants, with a seventh being fenced. Neil was planning to protect other areas of bush, and he also created ponds and wetlands for water birds. He took the lead in clearing willows from his Taueru river boundary, and in creating riparian strips for native regeneration. Neil always had something of interest to report, whether a bat sighting, or a new mistletoe, or a worry about maire die-back. He was a progressive farmer, a keen naturalist and conservationist, and a vigorous supporter of the National Trust. Always ready with advice and support, he is greatly missed.

John Kirby,
Regional Representative.

Dallas Schluter

Trust staff, particularly our Far North Regional Rep. Greg Blunden, were stunned to learn of Dallas's tragic death in February.

Dallas and her husband Tony covenanted nearly 17 hectares of attractive mixed broadleaf-podocarp-hardwood-kauri forest at Pekerau Road, near Kaitaia, in 1998. Both Greg and his predecessor Fenton Hamlin were impressed by Dallas and Tony's enthusiasm and commitment to the covenant, and were pleased by the improvement in the forest in the last few years thanks to their careful management. In particular, the presence of kiwi and kauri snail in the block is very exciting.



Dallas and Tony's forest.

Ian Williamson

Former work colleagues and friends associated with the National Trust were saddened to learn of Ian's unexpected passing in December last year.

Ian was the Regional Rep for the Trust; firstly for the whole of Otago and then for the extensive High Country region from 1985 to 1995.

Ian brought to his role special skills which the National Trust was fortunate to benefit from. He quickly established the name of the Trust in the region he was responsible for and during his ten years with the Trust many nationally and regionally important natural areas were protected through covenants negotiated by him.

Without doubt a major contributing factor to the raising of the Trust profile and successful negotiation of open space covenants was Ian's approachable personality, his particular knowledge of the region and the rapport he was able to establish with property owners.

John Bishop,
Estate Manager

Oops!

Trust Director Geoff Walls was intrigued to read in *Open Space* #53 that he was born and bred in Golden Bay and that he was a self-proclaimed good cook. Geoff says that the truth of the matter is that whilst he knows and loves Golden Bay dearly, and his parents and brother live there, he was actually born in Wellington and raised in Nelson. He also says that although he is an experienced bush cook and does his share of home cooking, he is the first to acknowledge that not only are there far more accomplished cooks out there, but he has gone out of his way to associate himself with some of them, notably his partner Sue.

Our apologies also to Mr Robin Kay, husband of the late Barbara Kay, for referring to him as Richard Kay in the last issue of *Open Space*.

TRUST BOARD ACTIVITIES

New Director Appointed

The Minister of Conservation has appointed Sue Bennett to the position of National Trust Director.

As a farmer and conservationist, Sue represents a rural landowner's perspective on the Trust Board, replacing Patricia Seymour OBE, who has retired after 6 years in the position.

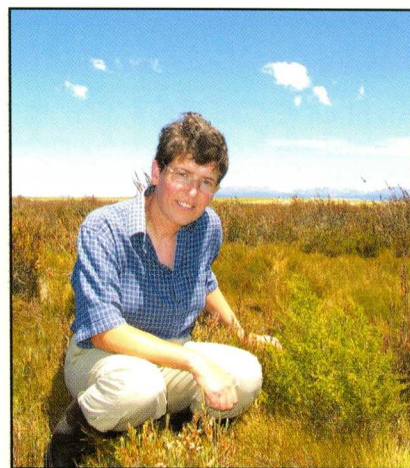
Originally from the UK, Sue lives and farms with her husband John Whitehead on a 330ha sheep and beef property in the Te Anau basin. The couple covenanted an 8ha wet swamp area in 1998 (featured in Open Space #42) and are currently working towards fencing a further 30ha wetland area, purchased in 1999, which will also be covenanted through the QE II National Trust.

Sue has a PhD in botanical

science and also works part time as a self-employed environmental consultant.

Through her experience as a covenantor and having received and read Open Space for several years, Sue feels that she has developed something of an insight into the workings of the National Trust and its Board. She also brings previous boardroom experience gained during three terms on the Southland Conservation Board, and is currently a member of the Guardians of Lakes Manapouri, Monowai and Te Anau.

"The great thing about the QEII National Trust," she says "is that it is such a positive scheme. It's win-win for everyone, with landowners retaining title to and management of their land, while protecting its biodiversity and/or other



outstanding features in perpetuity.

"My aim as a director is to foster continuing good relationships between landowners and the Board, as we strive towards common goals in protecting our natural heritage."

In her spare time, Sue enjoys making the most of her proximity to the lakes and mountains of Fiordland, and lists tramping, mountain biking, sea kayaking and SCUBA diving among her recreational pursuits.

Promoting predator-proof fencing



Above: #1 covenantor Gordon Stephenson (facing camera) in front of his protected forest.

Trust Chairperson Sir Paul Reeves (lime green socks); Board members Sue Bennett (check shirt), Geoff Walls (green shorts) and Dick Ryan (beard); Lady Beverley Reeves (pink shirt); Trust Covenant Advisor (Legal) – Nancy Watters (red cap); and others, watch intently as Dominic of the Otorohanga Kiwi House proudly displays 18-month-old "teenager" Tuatahi-a-nui.

The National Trust Board held its February meeting at "Out in The Styx" at the base of Maungatautari in the Waikato. The Board and some staff from Head Office welcomed the opportunity to visit local covenants and other areas of interest. One exceptionally entertaining visit was to "Warrenheip", the property of David Wallace and Juliet Chamberlain at Karapiro.

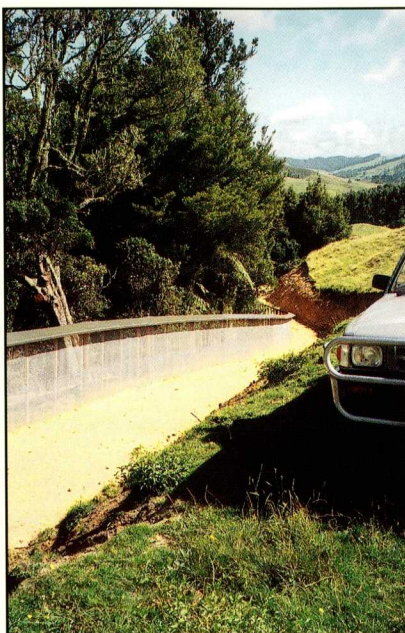
David and Juliet have, with the assistance of a group of scientists and others, developed, tested and built a proven totally pest-proof fence around 16 hectares of bush in a valley on their land. Since pests have been removed, there has been ecological recovery to the extent that the enclosure is being used as a nursery for kiwis from the Otorohanga Kiwi House. Fortuitously, the Trust visit coincided with weigh-in day, and we were able to get up close and personal with a very live, but somewhat sleepy Tuatahi-a-nui.

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David Wallace, Gordon Stephenson and our own Bill Garland are some of the founding Trustees of the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust, which proposes to construct 47km of predator-proof fencing around the mountain. The Department of Conservation has recently released figures showing kiwis are dying out at the rate of 6% a year and will be extinct in the wild within 20 years unless more is done to protect them. Establishing and fully protecting mainland islands like Maungatautari is a priority.

The Board also visited the very first covenant to be registered – that of Gordon Stephenson in 1979.



The predator-proof fence.

Board Meeting Dates

Proposed Board meeting dates for 2002 are as follows:- 7th & 8th May, 16th & 17th July, 17th & 18th

September, and 12th & 13th November. Any changes to these dates will be advised.

Covenants Update

As at 2 March 2002, there were 1569 registered Open Space Covenants totalling almost 56257 hectares.

The breakdown by Land District (which differs from our Regional Representatives' boundaries) is as follows:

Region	No. of Covenants	Area Protected (ha)
North Auckland	345	6313
South Auckland	353	10440
Gisborne	75	8987
Hawke's Bay	86	2519
Taranaki	96	2527
Wellington	255	11802
Marlborough	17	693
Nelson	76	2178
Westland	6	180
Canterbury	112	3302
Otago	58	5349
Southland	89	1962
TOTAL	1569	56257

A further 308 covenants, covering over 16,360 hectares, have been approved by the Board and are moving towards registration.

National Trust

Board of Directors

Sir Paul Reeves,
GCMG, GCVO, QSO, Chairperson;
Dr Sue Bennett;
Bill Garland; **Geoff Walls**;
Dick Ryan;
Lorraine Stephenson

Chief Executive Officer
Margaret McKee

Regional Representatives

Far North

Greg Blunden Tel: 09 407 5243

Central Northland

Nan Pullman Tel/Fax 09 4343 457

Auckland

Rex Smith Tel: 09 622 2303

Waikato & King Country

Gerry Kessels Tel: 07 825 9025

Bay of Plenty

Stephen Parr Tel: 07 544 4733

Gisborne

Malcolm Piper Tel/Fax: 06 867 0255

Hawkes Bay

Marie Taylor Tel: 06 836 7018

Taranaki

Neil Phillips Tel: 06 762 2773

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Southland

Gay Munro Tel: 03 239 5827

www.converge.org.nz/ntsth

Aroha Ecological Centre

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HELP US PROTECT OUR LANDSCAPE AND NATURAL HERITAGE

JOIN THE QEII NATIONAL TRUST

The QEII National Trust is always in need of greater financial and moral support for its work.

You can help by joining as a member. In return you receive the following benefits:-

- A year's subscription to our magazine *Open Space* – three issues a year.
- Free entrance to properties owned or administered by the following organisations: The National Trust (UK), National Trust for Scotland, National Trust of Australia (all states), Barbados National Trust, Bermuda National Trust, National Trust for Fiji, Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, Gibraltar Heritage Trust, Japan National Trust, National Trust for Zimbabwe.
- Entitlement to nominate and vote for two members onto the QEII National Trust Board of Directors. The current directors elected by members are Bill Garland of Cambridge and Geoff Walls of Christchurch.
- A copy of the Trust's Annual Report.

Please fill out this membership application form and send it to the address shown.

If you are already a member, please pass the form on to a friend, or use it to gift a membership to a friend or family member.

Membership Application

Name.....

Address.....

Telephone..... Email.....

Membership Type – tick appropriate category

- | | | | |
|--|------|--|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate – business | (on application) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18) | \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate – non profit organisation | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$45 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life | \$550 |

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☐ Making a bequest to the Trust ☐ Open space covenants

Gift Membership

Gift to: name & address

Send next year's renewal to me ☐ to the recipient ☐

Mail this form to: QE II National Trust, PO Box 3341, Wellington or simply free-phone us on 0508 732 878

TRUST PROPERTY ON EAST CAPE: POUAWA SANDHILLS

Location:

Pouawa Sandhills is a triangular area of dunes between the beach and State Highway 35 at Pouawa, some 19km northeast of Gisborne. There is a car park next to the road.

History:

J.N. Williams purchased the Pouawa Sandhills in the late 1800s as part of the Turihaua block. In 1965, his descendant Janet Mary Williams became the registered owner.

It was always Janet's wish that the Pouawa Sandhills be permanently protected for the use and enjoyment of the public of New Zealand. Following Janet's death in the Mount Erebus aircraft disaster in 1980, the estate's executor – H.B. Williams (J.N.'s grandson) - gifted Pouawa Sandhills to the National Trust.

Description:

The Pouawa Sandhills comprise mounds and ridges of sand blown by prevailing winds plus silt deposited by the Pouawa River.

The duneland vegetation is dominated by silvery sand grass and introduced marram, along with *Isolepis nodosa* and dwarf sedge. These plants play an important role in protecting the dunes from erosion. Some pohutukawa and ngaio have been planted within the dunes.

Among the dunes, look out for specialised insects such as the sand-dune hopper, the wingless shore earwig and the heavy, shiny-winged scarab beetle. Dune-loving wading birds such as the New Zealand pipit and red-breasted dotterel may also be seen.



Looking southwards over Pouawa Sandhills from the top of Conical Hill.



At dune level. The triangular marker stands at the southern boundary of a Marine Reserve that adjoins Pouawa Sandhills and extends 5 km offshore.



The interpretation board by the car park.

Visit Pouawa Sandhills!

The Pouawa Sandhills are freely available for recreational visitors, but please – pedestrians only.