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## From the Chair

We send out a huge thank you to our 3063 Foundation Sponsors who donated over \$935,000 to help us purchase and set up Te Ahu Pātiki park - 500ha of iconic land above Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour.

Thanks also to everyone who worked so hard to help us promote the crowd funding campaign and collect the donations - The Press and Stuff who got in behind the project with their 'Buy the Hill' campaign, and the Christchurch Foundation and Givealittle who collected the funds. We couldn't have done it without you!

I am very grateful for the huge commitment of time and energy that my fellow Trustees, the Trust contractors, and our partners, Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke and Orton Bradley Park, have put into this critical project.

We are delighted that Christchurch City Council has recognised the value we provide as one of its CCO's and will continue to support us with two further capital injections and an annual operational grant commencing in FY23.



Please enjoy reading more about Te Ahu Pātiki and the other partnership projects and activities we have progressed this year.  
**Maureen McCloy**  
Chair



Te Ahu Pātiki includes the summits of Mt Herbert and Mt Bradley and the basin between.

'Spot the Tops' 1st place winner Sam Barrow. Pot of gold at the end of the rainbow

## Thank you everyone - Te Ahu Pātiki is secured!

Te Ahu Pātiki park protects a sacred feature of the Whakaraupō (Lyttelton Harbour) cultural landscape and public access on the popular Te Ara Pātaka track network to the summits and beyond. It creates a huge new biodiversity reserve, linking an ecological corridor stretching from Whakaraupō to Wairewa and enabling ki uta ki tai – summit to sea catchment protection in conjunction with Orton Bradley Park below. Rod Donald Trust is acting as the interim guardian

until a new purpose-built charitable trust has been established with our partners Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, who hold mana whenua over the area, and neighbouring Orton Bradley Park. The three parties have agreed to protect native biodiversity in the new park with a QEII covenant, secure public access on the track network with easements, and to adopt Te Ahu Pātiki, a cultural taonga, as the official name for the new park.



Yvette Couch-Lewis Kaumatua Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, Clayton Wallwork Orton Bradley Park Trustee and Maureen McCloy Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust Chair sign Schedule 1 of the MOU agreeing shared values for the park.



We took possession of the land July 1st and celebrated with our partners and the vendors. Pictured Ian Luxford Orton Bradley Park, Isaac Fahey Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, Maureen McCloy Rod Donald Trust, and Sarah Lovell-Smith and Phillip King vendors and Tōtara sponsors.



# Te Ahu Pātiki – from a dream to reality

## Agreement to purchase

On 1 October 2020, the Trust took the bold step of signing an unconditional agreement to purchase Te Ahu Pātiki, having decided the project was so worthwhile it would underwrite the entire purchase cost.

Our confidence was boosted after Orton Bradley Park pledged a substantial contribution and the vendors, Philip King and Sarah Lovell-Smith, generously agreed to a nine month settlement date giving us time to fundraise.



Signing the Purchase agreement.

## Te Ahu Pātiki fundraising campaign highlights

Supported and encouraged by Amy Carter, CEO of Christchurch Foundation, we launched our crowd fund campaign at Lyttelton's Eruption Bar – a leap of faith into the unknown!

Fundraising got off to a flying start, but then we had to get creative.

Our Christmas fundraising campaign "Gift a mountain to those you love" enabled people to donate as a

Christmas present, with artist Steve Pearce designing a lovely native Christmas wreath for recipients.

Spot the Tops competition got people rummaging through their photo collections. "70 entries showing the many moods of Te Ahu Pātiki made judging a difficult task" said Sue Church competition organiser. Our front page features Sam Barrow's winning image of twin rainbows striking the maunga.



Councillors Mike Davidson and Sara Templeton arrive at the fundraising launch in Lyttelton.



Annette Woodford won 2nd place with her trampers enjoying the spectacular view from Mt Herbert/Te Ahu Pātiki looking across to Mt Bradley and over Whakaraupō and the Port Hills beyond.



Dave Mitchell won 3rd place—showing alpine conditions in winter



Māui Stuart from Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke opened the well-attended event.



Our campaign really caught the public eye after The Press and Stuff launched 'Buy the Hill' to celebrate 160 years of The Press.

Representatives from Rod Donald Trust, Orton Bradley Park and Te Hapū o Ngāti

Wheke enjoyed a splendid hike with The Press staff to build the story which ran on May 26. Read it and much more on: [www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/buy-the-hill](http://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/buy-the-hill)

By lunchtime, we had hit our fundraising target receiving

\$194,000 from 1779 donors!

Donations kept pouring in as The Press promoted the project, raising additional funds to help us set up the Park, including a large donation from ECAN. See the list of Foundation Sponsors on [www.rodonaldtrust.co.nz](http://www.rodonaldtrust.co.nz)



Reporter Amber Allot captures thoughts, with Clayton Wallwork from Orton Bradley Park and Karen Banwell from Whaka-Ora deep in conversation behind.





A delighted Kamala Hayman, editor of The Press, was the driving force behind the Buy the Hill campaign. The Press made a large donation as well as running so many wonderful articles about the campaign.



Deputy Mayor Andrew Turner enjoys Te Ahu Pātiki Up Close with Glen Harris, and conservation stalwarts Penny Carnaby and Tina Troup.

## Celebrating our donors

We celebrated with our Tōtara, Ti Kōuka and Kātote donors (those who gave \$1,000 or more) with Te Ahu Pātiki Up Close – an opportunity to walk on the block the weekend we took possession and then with a more formal lunch event at Living Springs.



Somerfield School's Native Aotearoa group supported our campaign.

**Native Aotearoa**  
SUNDRAISER  
Time: 1-3pm  
Date: 13 December 2020 - Sunday  
Place: 116 Stuhlholme Street, Somerfield, Christchurch.  
FUNDRAISING FOR:  
Christchurch Penguin Rescue & Rod Donald Trust  
Toys, Clothes, Books, Cakes, Homewares, Decorations  
Grab a bargain, help Nature!

### Beautiful comments from our donors...

"MY GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER CAME OUT ON THE FIRST FOUR SHIPS. HE HELPED BUILD THE BRIDAL PATH AND THE LYTTLETON TIMES. I will always have affinity to the area"

"Happy to help"

DANIEL AGED 7 & SIMON AGED 5

BRING BACK THE  
TŌTARA FORESTS!

Ehara tōku tea i te  
Tea takitahi,  
engari he tea takitini

MY STRENGTH IS NOT AS AN  
INDIVIDUAL BUT AS A COLLECTIVE.  
TOGETHER WE CAN DO THIS!

THANKS TO THE LANDOWNER FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN AND  
EVERYONE ELSE FOR following the dream.

KIWIS LIVING IN CANADA.  
Love the Banks Peninsula/Lyttelton area!

The generous couple who donated \$100k on day one of our campaign explain...  
'We both value the outdoors environment and find walking the hills feeds us spiritually and physically. We want to ensure that generations

to follow have the sort of experiences that have been so valuable in our lives where in stillness and solitude we experience a connection with something bigger than ourselves. We also see that it is vital as we face issues like climate change and loss of diversity in the natural

environment that it is important that more areas are set aside as wild spaces for nature to flourish. Our hope is that putting Te Ahu Pātiki into public ownership to regenerate will fulfil these hopes.'

Photo: Sam Barrow



# Partnership creating the legacy

Te Ahu Pātiki is named after Ngāti Wheke tupuna and events of significance to local hapū.

The partnership between Orton Bradley Park, Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke and Rod Donald Trust has grown through much korero



## Setting up the QEII covenant



Partners Restoration Workshop with experts Nick Head, Alice Shanks, Miles Giller, Paul Devlin and Kate Whyte.

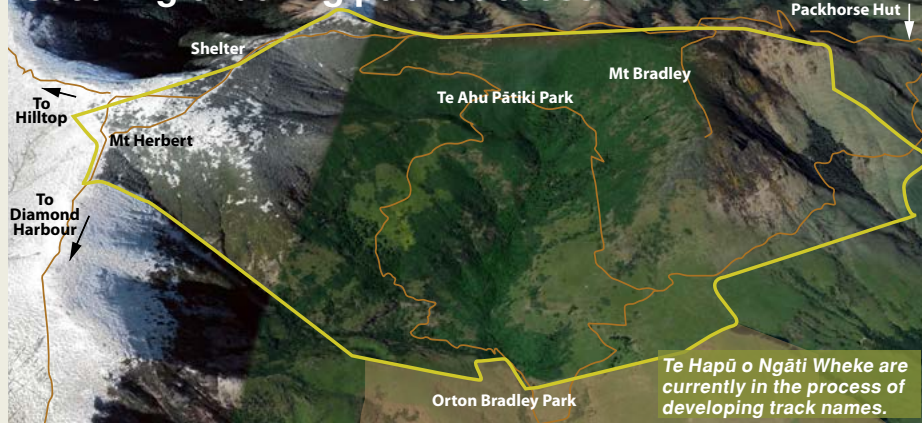
**The land is to be protected with a covenant in perpetuity with the QEII National Trust.**

Getting on site and learning to know the land better are important steps towards developing our management plan. Upgrading fencing to a 50-80 year standard is a QEII requirement. We've completed a fence line survey, and are now applying for grants to help restore them. Public crowd funds are supporting this work.



Fencing contractor Matt Latham scoping the existing fences with Trustee Bob Webster.

## Securing enduring public access



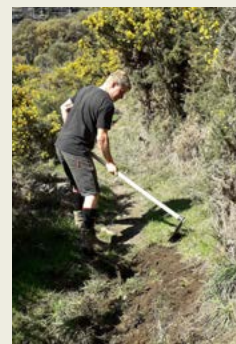
The existing network of Te Ara Pātaka tramping tracks and the farm tracks are to be protected with easements with the Walking Access Commission

for walking and biking. The public will have a right to roam on the rest of the block provided this doesn't conflict with biodiversity or cultural goals.

## Work in progress



Orton Bradley Park staff, overseen by Manager Ian Luxford will soon be on site keeping tracks mowed, containing gorse and undertaking pest and weed control.



Track builder Matt Coultas "No Sleep, Must Dig" is busy improving some of the existing walking tracks

Check out the Te Ara Pātiki project page on our website [roddonaldtrust.co.nz](http://roddonaldtrust.co.nz) and follow us Facebook and Instagram!

Purchase an updated version of the Te Ara Pātaka walking brochure – out soon!



## 2020 Highlights

The Banks Peninsula Walking Festival proved extremely popular once again, especially new walks exploring remote parts of the Peninsula.

Dr. Sam Hampton guided two informative geology and volcanology walks. Child friendly walks to the farm at Orton Bradley Park and to Omaha Bush were very much enjoyed by participating families.

We were delighted when adventurer Peter Coldicott offered to lead a walk for the Christchurch Blind low-vision group, guiding the group on a heritage walk around Governors Bay. The group are looking forward to a 'Big Day Out!' at Hinewai Reserve this year.



Janis Haley was amazed to discover that this mural at Godley Head was in fact that of her Mother! This walk included a tour to the Military Museum, a visit to the Antarctic Hut and a walk to Boulder Bay.

# BANKS PENINSULA Walking Festival



Land End Long Day enabled walkers to see the famous Scenery Nook from the cliff tops and experience absolutely breath-taking views.



David Barwick, Christchurch Botanical Gardens Curator, helped everyone appreciate Akaroa's Garden of Tāne more – including the Reserve Management Committee.



The Festival sponsored 'Youthtown' on their tramping adventure to the Rod Donald Hut.



Check out Te Ahu Pātiki for yourself to see what all the media attention has been about! Grab some tickets for 'Magnificent Mt Bradley'

## 2021 Festival Event



Try some 'rock hopping' at Kaikoruru/Church Bay with volcanologist and geologist Dr. Sam Hampton.

## Banks Peninsula Walking Festival 2021

The 2021 Festival will run every Saturday and Sunday from 6th-28th November.

This year's programme is proving to be as popular as ever with a great variety of walks to enjoy on Banks Peninsula. Join the continuing multi-year Kaitorete Spit challenge, take the family on a Kid's Adventure at Sugarloaf, or visit the new Te Ahu Pātiki conservation park in Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour! Try out a 'Digital Walk' in Lyttelton, follow in the footsteps of Akaroa's Antarctic hero Frank Worsley, or join some 'rock-hopping' at Kaikoruru/Church Bay with a well-known Canterbury volcanologist. There is something for all ages, abilities and interests, with a guarantee of beautiful Peninsula views and scenery along the way!

**Tickets are selling out quickly so book at [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)**

Search Banks Peninsula Walking Festival 2021.

Make sure you follow us on Facebook and Instagram!







**PEST FREE  
BANKS PENINSULA**



**The Trust is proud to be a member of Pest Free Banks Peninsula – supporting the bold vision to see the Peninsula free of pests and predators by 2050.** The \$5 million funding boost announced last year is already being put to good use with trapping teams covering targeted areas on the Peninsula's 110,000 hectares, including possum eradication on the South East side.

The strategy includes predator diversion fences, conservation dogs, poison bait stations and a mix of trapping, using new technology where possible such as smart traps that send a remote signal when they are set off, reducing labour for trap checking.

Without this protection we risk completely losing some species of plants, reptiles and birds that are unique to our region.

Feral cats and mustelids are also being targeted in some areas as part of the eradication programme.

"Feral pigs are a new and increasing threat", says Rod Donald Trustee Bob Webster, "and we are very pleased to see that Pest Free Banks Peninsula is now involved in planning action against this pest."



*Trustee Richard Suggate represents Rod Donald Trust on the Pest Free Banks Peninsula Project Operational group.*



*A worrying example of pig rooting in Te Ahu Pātiki park.*



*Trustee Bob Webster explains the difficulties of registering naturally regenerating native forest areas into the ETS.*

## Korero Climate

**Climate Change Minister Hon. James Shaw and MP Hon. Eugenie Sage visited the Peninsula to discuss incentivising natural regeneration with the Banks Peninsula Native Forest Climate Change group (BPNFCC).**

The BPNFCC group is an affiliation of landowners and experts from local government, research and community groups, with a shared interest in restoration of native biodiversity. The group advocates for removal of the barriers to registering regenerating native forest in the Emissions Trading Scheme. "We're delighted that James Shaw and Eugenie Sage made time to visit the Peninsula and understood the issues and incredible opportunities marginal farmland on Banks Peninsula presents for carbon sequestration with ecological benefits if landowners could gain some income from it," says co-ordinator Suky Thompson.

BPNFCC supports the He Pou a Rangi/Climate Change Commission advice to government Recommendation 25 – that there be a comprehensive national programme to incentivise natural regeneration of native forests to maintain net zero long-lived greenhouse gas emissions beyond 2050. "This work needs to start now if the forests are to be sequestering substantially by 2050," says Suky.

*Hinewai Trustees Bruce Hansen and Tina Troup share with Hon. James Shaw how registering for carbon has assisted Hinewai to thrive. Due to subsequent policy change it is now much more difficult for other landowners wishing to follow the Hinewai example.*



## Environmental Defence Society Conference

Trust Manager Suky Thompson presented the same climate message at the high profile Environmental Defence Society conference "Transforming Aotearoa - the Government's environmental law reform agenda".

The subsequent panel discussion endorsed her suggestions that to achieve the Climate Commission's recommendation for an extra 25,000ha of native forest to be added each year, the government needs to focus on natural regeneration on

marginal land, and make it easier to register these areas in the Emissions Trading Scheme. Currently the scheme's unbalanced incentives make pine forestry a more financially attractive option.





# Rod Donald Hut Update

Rod Donald Hut had its highest occupancy last financial year despite the April Covid-19 lockdown. "It's encouraging that so many Christchurch families are exploring their own back yard," says Hut Manager David Brailsford. "The hut closed again this August but is now up and running again awaiting visitors!"

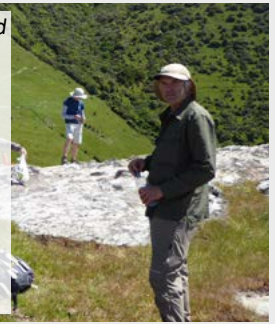
Many thanks to Sophie Hartnell, Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust's Volunteer Co-ordinator, for organising our Hut planting day. A great team from Jacobs Engineering battled

morning fog to plant 120 trees in the open grasslands.

To give these plants the best possible start each tree is protected with a woolly mat, tree guard to protect the stem and then a bigger tree guard to dissuade passing deer from taking a munch. Monitoring how these trees survive and progress will help us to scope other planting projects – the cost, the effort and time involved and what sort of survival rate we can achieve in harsh conditions.

*This is the third year we have enjoyed the cheery company of these dedicated volunteers.*

Hut Manager David Brailsford does a great job, and you might meet him in the field too – remarking Te Ara Pātaka tracks or at Hinewai where he's repairing the former manager's house!



## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Walk to Rod Donald Hut



*Councillor Anne Galloway admiring the view alongside Carol Jensen*

**Christchurch City Councillors joined the Trust on a walk to Rod Donald Hut as part of the Trust's 10th anniversary.**

**The clouds lifted and the sun shone through as the group tramped from the Port Levy Saddle down to the hut. Everybody enjoyed a chance to relax, share a picnic lunch and great conversation at the hut before departing again for the return journey.**



**Councillor Yani Johanson's daughter Milania helping Trust Chair Maureen McCloy to serve the birthday cake!**



**The hardy team of volunteers from Jacobs Engineering planting on the steep slopes.**



**Many thanks to Eco Gard for generously donating 100 environmentally friendly tree protectors.**

## Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust Celebrates 20 Years

An enthusiastic crowd celebrated the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust's 20th anniversary at Orton Bradley Park in March this year, also welcoming its new Chair Penny Carnaby. It was a great opportunity to celebrate the Trust's achievements, taking stock of the progress made to date with the Banks Peninsula Ecological Vision and the various projects relating to it.

BPCT became one of NZ's only two Covenanting authorities in 2003. A passionate and committed team of



**BPCT's new Chair Penny Carnaby, pictured with Sarah Wilson Pest Free Banks Peninsula project leader and Maree Burnett BPCT General Manager**

landowners, Trustees and dedicated staff has seen the Trust go from strength to strength, supporting many landowners with covenants on over 1500ha of Banks Peninsula. It has also taken a leadership role in coordinating Pest Free Banks Peninsula.



**Sue and Murray Johns, the first ever BPCT covenanters, cutting the cake!**

Rod Donald Trust is a signatory to the Ecological Vision and supports BPCT with funding grants to assist the Covenant Engagement program and Volunteer Coordinator role.



## First Geosite for the Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū/Banks Peninsula Geopark Trust

The Trust is delighted to partner with the Banks Peninsula Geopark Trust, to enabling development of the first GeoSite along the foreshore between Governors Bay and Allandale, creating an interpretation trail.

Watch out for new panels coming soon.



Trustees from the Geopark and Rod Donald Trust signing a partnership Memorandum of Understanding.



Dr. Sam Hampton scoping out the Foreshore Track in Governors Bay.

## Social Media Update!

Thanks to Robin + Andie who have overseen our Social Media campaign this year. These amazing wedding photographers are based on Banks Peninsula and have experience working overseas on PR and Social campaigns for top brands and destinations. Their communication skills have proven invaluable to the Trust, increasing our social media presence for the Te Ahu Pātiki fundraising campaign and developing our new Instagram page. Be sure to follow us @roddonaldbptrust and tag us in any great Peninsula photos you snap while out and about. We love sharing your pics!



Trust Administrator Sue Church and Manager Suki Thompson make a great team, keeping projects and office ticking



## Welcome to New Trustees!

Trustees serve for a maximum term of nine years. Running an organisation with so much happening is a big responsibility and time commitment for our volunteer Board. "Managing succession planning is the hallmark of well-functioning organisation" says Chair Maureen McCloy. "We were thrilled with the number and calibre of applicants in our recent recruitment process. We are delighted to welcome two members to our Board who are already deeply enmeshed in Trust governance, alongside our continuing Trustees Andrew Turner, Bob Webster, Paul McNoe, Bryan Storey,

Richard Suggate and myself."

Jenn has a legal background and works in the philanthropic sector as General Manager of the Wayne Francis Charitable Trust and Deputy Chair of Kilmarnock Enterprises. Jenn is a very keen ultra-distance runner, who enjoys getting out exploring Banks Peninsula.

Bob recently retired from Manaaki Whenua and remains a climate change and environment researcher. Having worked in the carbon space for many years he brings strength to the Trust's knowledge in this area. He is a passionate outdoors person and keen tramp.



Jenn Chowanec



Bob Frame

## Farewell and thanks

It is with great sadness we farewell Dr. Cynthia Roberts who has faithfully served on our Board for 6 years. With a doctorate in plant ecology, a passion for conservation, education and the outdoors, and a seat around the table at ECAN her knowledge and expertise has been a huge asset to the Trust.

## Donations and Bequests

The Trust welcomes donations, however big or small. If you support our work or have enjoyed Rod Donald Hut, our publications, the Walking Festival or one of the new Reserves, please visit our Givealittle page.

"Bequests are particularly welcome as a way to bolster our finances long term," says Maureen McCloy.



## Website and Walking Products

For the latest walking information make sure you check out our website [bpwalks.co.nz](http://bpwalks.co.nz) and purchase our walking brochures at local i-SITES.



Follow our news during the year on:

[www.roddonaldtrust.co.nz](http://www.roddonaldtrust.co.nz)

Follow us on RodDonaldBPTTrust

Donations are welcomed. You'll find us on Givealittle. Search for Rod Donald.

Rod Donald banks peninsula trust  
te pātaka o rākaihautū

For our walking information see  
[www.bpwalks.co.nz](http://www.bpwalks.co.nz)