

KAITIAKITANGA CHARITABLE TRUST

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER



Our Work Team is Growing

In February we reported our first full time employee, Layton Gardner. In late July Nevi Maniapoto joined us to work with Layton. He asked for a job after being introduced to our kaupapa and mahi via our collaboration with Taku Wairua. His initiative impressed us and his mahi to date is great. The photo below shows him planting a manuka from Matt Holwill's Nursery on Frontier Road. It shows Pirongia in the background and some of the pampas and crack willow we have to remove to allow full rehabilitation of this important gully system running into the Waipa River.



Malvern Properties Limited and Waikato River Authority

Preparation and planting at Malvern Properties Limited, Papesch Road, Pirongia has been one of our major projects this year. So far we have secured a two year collaboration with Waikato River Authority on behalf of the Vernall family. It has involved many weeks of poison gel application by hand onto the bark of the crack willow. It is particularly challenging due to the uneven and swampy terrain.



The trust has planted over 5,000 native plants on the banks of a major stream/Council drain running through the property. We have also run four school based planting/education days with Taku Wairua's kura programme. The children were from Cambridge, Leamington, Te Pahu and Ngutunui schools. They were from years 10 and 11 and the feedback from them all was how much they enjoyed being outside working with nature. A real special connection has been made with Purekireki marae which is based on Ormsby Road, Pirongia. We both plan to make this project a biannual meeting opportunity where whanau can help us improve our local waterways.

Rangitoto Lands Summer 2023 Camp

We held our 6th Upper Waipa Youth camp with Taku Wairua. Adam Daniel from Fish and Game joined us teaching the youth how to fish for their supper. Again, many thanks to Duncan & Rhonda Oliver for allowing us to use their land.



Okete Raglan Ecological Rehabilitation

This is the oldest and largest of our riparian projects and is now in its 18th year of weed removal and native revegetation. We have 1,100 plants to help around a pond and a spring. Both feed into the Whaingaroa Harbour through dairy farms. The cool news is the farmers like this mahi so much they have agreed to retiring land around wetlands and streams for the foreseeable future.

Below is a photo of a large area retired and fenced off by farmers Shaun and Jo Wallis of Okete. The face has now had 3 years of planting and weeding. This photo was at the early just fenced off stage. It now has thousands of natives surviving two summers and looking like they are winning the battle against gorse, blackberry and convolvulus. We have the volunteers and the Waikato Regional Council to thank for this collaboration in addition to Shaun and Jo.



Above: Okete recently retired land for restoration

Octa Group Planting Day

Thank you to the team of Octa for their continued support of the trust. A great days planting was had by all.



New Quad Motorbike

With the growth of the trust, we required a second quad motorbike for our riparian planting projects. The Lion Foundation supported the trust with a financial contribution and Peter Glidden Honda – Huntly came to the party with a great deal.



Tauwhare Container

Our workshop container programme is a continued success. We have completed another 100 DOC 200 traps. Four youth received certificates of competency at the Taku Wairua graduation. A further 100 traps are due to be placed at Chindie and Rua Oki Station this winter.

Thank you to Trust Waikato and SCIF for their contributions towards purchasing materials to complete the DOC traps.



Trapping Results

The traps continue to be cleared and maintained monthly with great results. To date Rats 528, Stoats 78, Hedgehogs 290 and Cats 16. These results come from Rangitoto Lands and Owawenga Station. We continue to apply to community grants for funding so this vital work can continue. A good sized male stoat met a quick end.



Team Development

In July Murray, Layton and Carrie attended a four wheel motorbike safety course via Ag Drive. Health and Safety requirements were met lots of fun by all. Carrie was a star!



A big thank you to you all for your support.

KAITIAKITANGA CHARITABLE TRUST

M D GRANT

Founding Trustee/Chairman

DDI: +64 7 838 0292

MOBILE: +64 21 924 854

EMAIL: murrayg@shlaw.co.nz

VALUED SPONSORS



D.V.BRYANT TRUST

Enhancing Human Welfare in the Waikato



LEN REYNOLDS TRUST



frank.[™]
risk management

STACE HAMMOND