



KAITIAKITANGA CHARITABLE TRUST NEWSLETTER: December 2019

Okete Estuary Restoration:

Next year planting on the Wallis property will be 1,700 mixed natives. We await a copy of the agreement between the Waikato Regional Council and the owners before we have the plants ordered.

The growth of our planting over the 3 previous years on the Wallis Farm is good. We need several days of releasing to help them along. That is our next priority for this project.

Pureora Predator Control:

Last newsletter we referred to Wallace Narbi and the Auckland Tramping Club's efforts. A training session took place on 30 November 2019 which made us more excited about this project than ever before.

The Auckland Tramping Club were finishing off their 8th year of predator control to save our native Kokako in a block bordering the Tunawaea Stream and Owawenga Road, Northern Pureoras.

Wallace Narbi had offered to share his knowledge of many years of bushcraft and voluntary predator control with Kaitiakitanga Charitable Trust. An early start was required due to the forecast of heat later that day. As had been the case for some decades, the Oliver Family of Rangitoto Lands generously allowed their farm to be the base for predator, deer and pig control.

Our goal was to check the plastic bags filled with Pindone kept in one place by being wedged in possum bait stations. The first thing you notice is how little flow there is in the gully water courses and how good the markings are to follow. Then you start to wonder what bird is making that song. It was a huge thrill to hear Kokako singing off and on over the first 2 hours.

Throughout our checking, refilling where necessary, recording empty, full or percentage full of the 45 bait stations Wallace tells me what bird we are listening to and what plants we are looking at. Kokako, Bellbird, Tui, Kaka, Grey Warbler, Kakariki, Keruru and a Robin all made for a wonderful treat.

During our walk through the bush it was clear this group of trampers had made a huge contribution to the health of the bird population. The hunters are also active in this area keeping deer and goat numbers down. In parts there was good forest regeneration. We saw good regrowth including Kidney Fern, Green Orchid, 100's of young Miro, Tawa and Tree Fern. One large tree had fallen down letting us see an Epiphyte flowering. Just Awesome!

At one stage after listening to Kokako song we stopped to identify a young tree. After 2 minutes trying a phone app by DOC a fawn ran from its hiding place 2 metres from us.

Ngati Haua (Waharoa):

Pari Kaukau, Mayor Ash Tanner and Murray Grant met at the Waharoa Bowling Green. Ash confirmed the Council's support for Pari and his efforts to have a place to work from. The legal documents are being prepared. A costing exercise is underway to allow youth to attend a weekend training for predator control at a venue on the Coromandel Peninsula. It requires travel, accommodation and food. Pari is to lead the group with local at risk youth who have been finding themselves in trouble.

Tauwhare Wetland Restoration:

Releasing work is to be undertaken as soon as it can be organised. The owners pay for this and fully support the Trust's goals.

A local photographer has set up a bird hide from which he has captured some great shots of wetlands wildlife. See below some visitors to our wetland.



Sponsors:

Stace Hammond:	Continue to provide office facilities, secretarial support and pro bono legal advice. Creation of website progressing.
Frank Risk:	Pro bono brokerage advice and generous financial contribution.
Ebbetts:	Provision of four wheel drive vehicle and fuel. A video is also planned.
Brown Pennell:	Pro bono accounting services.
Rangitoto Lands:	Access for client camping and generously provide meat for Koha to volunteers and clients when no funding for environmental work.
River Kitchen:	Maria has provided tasty food for a weekends camping.

Contacts:

Prison Care Ministries:	One man has been offered a fulltime job with room for more jobs available. Another has passed his forklift certificate after funding from the Grant Family, who also donated dining room chairs and a chest of drawers for a new house for the rehabilitating prisoner.
Youth Justice:	One young man referred to us has successfully applied to the "Waterboy Trust" and has been placed in a sports club with a business sponsoring him. We put him forward after learning what he likes from a day releasing trees.
Future Leaders:	This group of wonderful people work with troubled youth by teaching military training skills and discipline. We have agreed to take groups camping as a follow-up to their program.
District Court Judges:	Judge Phil Connell hopes to arrange meeting with new Chief District Judge.
Anglican Action/ Real Waikato:	They are working on groups of young men and women coming to Pureora to do some native plant releasing in wetlands and learning camping skills
Corrections:	A second letter seeking a relationship has been sent.
Client:	After 1 year of support a client narrowly missed jail due to positive changes we helped put in place.

Funding:

D.V. Bryant Trust	\$5,500.00 – Received
(SSCIF) Small Scale Community Initiative Fund	\$4,993.00 - Received
WWF New Zealand	\$15,000 – To try again next year.
Lion Foundation	\$15,000 – agreed and awaited.

Strategic Plan:

This important document is near completion. It will contain short and long term goals for the Trust. A completed website and a fulltime position will be a part of this. The plan is before the Board and Winsome Stretch for sign-off.