



A quarterly update to the community at large.

September 2020

The third quarter, July to September, has seen further Covid-19 business disruption. Lockdown levels were lifted and then renewed and volunteers and staff have been able to complete a number of projects by adapting rapidly to new rules.

A Sanctuary site plan has been drafted that incorporates perspectives from ecosystem restoration, visitor experience and operations. This is a living document which will be influenced by future species' translocations.

The 2020-35 vision document outlining aims for the next 15 years of the Sanctuary is nearing completion and will be released later this year. This document, read together with the annual report, should give the reader a clear understanding of the Sanctuary: its purpose, current activity and performance, and its direction.

As part of improving our offering for receiving and managing legacies such as bequests and endowments we have established an independent Sanctuary Foundation Trust. A profile of the new foundation trust is included later in this edition.

The Brook Waimārama Trust has now developed into a fully operational sanctuary following the completion of projects including The Loop Track, the top dam bridge construction, and the installation of signage, while operational resources continued to be utilised on maintenance, pest control and biosecurity measures. The Trust also moved from a gratuity model for entry to the Sanctuary to a full pricing model. This appears to have been well accepted by the majority of visitors, as numbers have held up well and both gate takings and membership numbers have increased to 30 August 2020.

Our financial results have been completed and audited and end of year results to 30 June 2020 are as follows: total income for the Trust increased from \$658,821 to \$843,478, an increase of \$184,657. This figure included a bequest of \$100,000, Covid wage subsidy of \$41,006 and grants pertaining to the top dam bridge of \$138,131. Total operating expenses reduced from \$656,066 to \$570,975, the main reduction being the completion of the slip reinstatement in the previous year. The net result was a cash surplus of \$272,503, and after depreciation, a surplus of \$120,420.

Sanctuary-wide survey

This was recently successfully completed and this time, no rats or mustelids were detected. There were 2,111 tunnels loaded with pest detection cards and 229 DOC200 traps set and baited. A total of 51 volunteers were active in the field with another 13 organising and coordinating, driving and reading cards – a great effort.

Latest technology deployed in Sanctuary

The Sanctuary needs to be predator-free before species' reintroductions and new technology has been deployed to help us achieve this goal. Working with Zero Invasive Predators (ZIP), we are now trialling cameras and ZIP's Moto-Lure. Cameras have been shown to be a much more sensitive tool than tracking tunnels for mustelids (very few prints have been detected in our tracking tunnels and it is thought weasels won't often enter tunnels that they can see right through). The Moto-Lure (right) is an automatic lure dispenser where a small electric motor releases a programmed amount of lure at a specific time each day, effectively luring the weasels into the camera's path for detection without needing volunteers to continually rebait tracking cards



Operations Activities

As the fence bench settles and consolidates we get some movement of the ground, particularly on the eastern side of the Sanctuary.



Fixing these issues involves a few of the volunteer teams working together: the assets and fence repair teams realigned a short section of fence which was situated on soft ground; the asset team then built a retaining wall to stabilise the ground before the fence repair team moved the fence into a better line; finally the fence checking team came along to ensure that the resulting new section of fence was bio secure.

The track maintenance team have been fixing slumps and cracks along the base of the fence to ensure the fence is bio secure and the track inside the fence is in good condition for the monitoring team.



Get involved in the great Kereru count

Great Kererū Count 2020

Our native pigeons or kererū are almost as Kiwi as kiwi! You can help this iconic bird by taking part in the Great Kererū Count.



For more information about getting involved: <https://shape.nelson.govt.nz/great-kereru-count> or <https://www.greatkererucount.nz/>

Promotion with AA travel

The Sanctuary was invited to take part in a nationwide promotion of Nelson Tasman via AA Travel, circa ~900,000 contacts. We have been working towards the launch of our We Love You New Zealand! <https://www.aa.co.nz/travel/places-to-go/we-love-you-new-zealand/> domestic travel campaign aiming to go live on October 12.

With 101 Kiwi Gems to include from all over New Zealand, the tail of the campaign will now run until the end of January. A promotions schedule for the campaign has been drafted for Nelson; the plan for the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary Facebook promo as an example: Nelson's nature preserve <https://www.aa.co.nz/travel/we-love-you-new-zealand/brook-waimarama-sanctuary-nelsons-nature-preserve> 10 January 2021

The AA Travel PR team are currently working through a plan for regional and local press integration to support the campaign. The Sanctuary is being used for a competition giveaway as part of the press integration.

Rare Fischer's Egg fungus found in the Sanctuary



Volunteer Chris Tarton made this exciting find and Wayne Hennessy went about getting a positive identification. It has been confirmed as *clautula fischeri* which was first identified and named by Lady Rigg, New Zealand's first female Doctor of Science, in 1926. It is one of only two fungi red-listed internationally as endangered and has been found only in the Fringe Hill/Dun Mountain area, Gore, Dunedin and Tasmania.

Banded Toutouwai

Another good find, this time by Wayne, was a banded toutouwai (robin) whose band was placed some nine years ago. As toutouwai normally only live an average of three years in the wild, this places him in the 'venerable' category which goes with his suggested nickname Koro or grandfather. Wayne was busy training two young birds when they encountered each other.

Sponsorship drive results

The results of last month's drive for sponsorship has been very encouraging and we are grateful for the additional financial support offered to the Sanctuary across a number of fronts:



Hi-vis vests supplied by onefortyone. Formerly known as Nelson Forest limited, onefortyone has sponsored 60 vests for our volunteers to use in the Sanctuary. Onefortyone's ongoing support of the Sanctuary over many years is a feature story in the next edition of the Wild Tomato magazine, or read the media release here: <https://onefortyone.com/sanctuary-volunteers-receive-hi-vis-boost/>.



The target of funding and placing three picnic tables and five bench seats have been met and are installed in the Sanctuary.



The huge table and chairs created by volunteer Brian Pollock is just inside the entrance gate - still work in progress - has already been used by a school group.



Additional seats are being fashioned by Brian from fallen timbers. The bench seat to the right is near the top of Koru track.



Stone Carving. Recent human history is featured with the founding of the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Trust, represented by a large version of the Trust's logo—a stylised representation of a bird and a human hand, also created by Dean Raybould. Our logo carving is progressing and a site has been identified close to the Brook Stream for its future placement.



Fencepost sponsorship. This is an ongoing opportunity for supporters who want a small 'mark' of their own in the Sanctuary; we really appreciate the people who bought posts in recent months.



Kay Chapman's fundraising effort update. After several months and just 399 kms short of completing the 3000km Te Araroa Track, volunteer Kay Chapman's aim to walk the length of New Zealand was scuppered with the announcement of the Covid-19 lockdown in March. Kay set up a Give A Little page for the Sanctuary supporting the walk and raised nearly \$3500 for the Sanctuary, which was most appreciated. Kay plans to complete the final part later in the year.



Binoculars. A long standing volunteer donated the funds to purchase 22 sets of binoculars for educational use within the Sanctuary.



De Walt inkind support. The Auckland based office didn't hesitate to help the Sanctuary and have generously supplied an assortment of over 40 hand tools and pieces of equipment that will be put to good use in the Sanctuary.



Thank you to all the above – you've made a positive difference to our conservation efforts!

Promotion and profile increased

Two new display sites

Our shop front display of eye-catching artwork by Dean Raybould has relocated from the former Barkers store in Hardy Street to the former Urban Beach shop at 194 Trafalgar Street. This is part of the amazing NCC initiative Makeshiftspaces.



We have also been given the opportunity to have a display about the Sanctuary at Nelson Airport for the month of September. Nelson Airport was recently recognised as the best provincial airport in New Zealand and we're proud to be partnering with such an organisation.

Becoming part of a national trail of Great Sanctuaries of Aotearoa

The 'Great Sanctuaries of Aotearoa' Trail is under development, as follow:

- North Island sanctuaries came together in June/July to discuss lifting visitor numbers to pre-Covid levels. These sanctuaries all offer a visitor experience and were generating revenue through gate sales
- South Island sanctuaries were then invited to get involved
- A collaboration of seven fenced Sanctuaries has formed including the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary
- We will promote each other at our respective visitor centres/gate sales facilities with printed material and online, with a plan for combined offers at a later date
- The national trail will evolve over time involving more sanctuaries as they develop their visitor experiences.

Become a Sanctuary Supporter

August's database clean up exercise resulted in a significant number of people responding with updated contact details. A small number of people asked to be removed from the database, or to unsubscribe from the newsletters and such wishes are of course followed.

Our current (paid-up) supporters currently stands at a little over 370. This represents a doubling of the base in about 12 months. Thank you and welcome to those people who recently signed up as Supporters, either individually, as a family or via their business. Thanks also to the individuals who have recently set-up regular donations to the Brook Sanctuary, your support is also most sincerely appreciated.

If you've made a financial contribution of any sort to the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary but not received an official receipt, please get in touch with Nick Tilly: info@brooksanctuary.org.nz.

Supporter cards

We're continuing to issue new electronic supporter cards to store on a mobile phone. These are done in monthly batches and emailed, and again, get in touch with Nick if you have not received yours. For people who prefer a credit card-sized hard copy, also contact Nick at info@brooksanctuary.org.nz.



Entertainment Offer with Booster Wines

Booster Wines is keen to increase their support for the Sanctuary and has offered us a wine fundraiser. This particular offer has been running at Sileni Estates for over 12 years and during that time has been very successful for restoration projects, replanting, maintenance and development of valleys and areas around the country. Now it's our turn to take advantage of this fabulous offer just in time for Christmas. We will begin the fundraiser Monday October 12th and run to Friday 6th November. For every 12 bottles of wine sold using our fundraiser code, Booster Wine Group will give us \$40 in sponsorship money and the best part of it is you get to enjoy some quality NZ wines at great prices while supporting our cause. To order your wine please go to: <https://www.fundraiser.boosterwinegroup.nz/>

Use the password: **fundraiser2020** and start ordering from Monday 12th October 2020.

When you get to the checkout you must enter the code: **BROOK88** in the discount code area and APPLY to ensure your purchase goes towards our fundraiser.

The last day for ordering will be Friday 6th November so please make sure you get your order in before this date. Late orders will not be possible.

Thank you again for your support and happy shopping.

Please note that as this is a fundraiser involving alcohol, no one under the date of 18 years can take part or purchase wine.

Your wine will be ready for collection from the Sanctuary city office – ground floor, shop 12, Morrison Square between 9am and 4pm on Tuesday 24, Wednesday 25 or Thursday 26 November.

For readers who cannot order online, please visit the office to pick up an order form.



The Brook Waimārama Trust Foundation

While the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary Trust is itself a charitable trust, the Trust has decided to establish a separate charitable trust for the purposes of receiving bequests, gifts and endowments from third parties.

Independent foundations are able to invest private gift funds in a more diversified manner, providing greater investment return and increased support for the Sanctuary with less risk of loss of real value. A separate foundation was also considered to be a way to keep these finances separate from other fundraising efforts and provide a stable and secure source of funding for the Sanctuary, free of any public sector or funding influences that can shift over time.

The sole mission of the Foundation is for the benefit of the Sanctuary, but the independence and long-term nature of the Foundation are steadying factors, particularly in difficult times. Further, by giving to an independent foundation, many donors feel assured that their gift will be responsibly invested, and distributed for the intended purposes and not become confused with other funding.

Foundation Trust Investment Programme

The BWS Trust will provide an annual sum to the Foundation to finance its fundraising and endowment-raising initiatives and Craig's Investment Partners have been appointed as the Foundation's investment manager.

Foundation Trustees

Three trustees have been appointed to the Foundation by the BWS Trust.



Chris Hawkes – chair. Chris has been involved in business management with both national farmer's co-ops and international companies ICI and Coca-Cola. He was a 50% owner of Mainstream Food. Chris is Chair of the Kaiteriteri Recreation Reserve Board and is also the chair of the BWST.

Maurice Woodhouse – trustee. Maurice has had a long career in the accounting industry, and was a founding partner of one of Nelson's most respected accountancy firms, RWCA. Maurice became a BWST trustee in 2017. Maurice is also the chair of the BWST finance, audit and risk committee and treasurer for the BWST.



Jason Craig – independent trustee. Jason works for Craig's Investment Partners, one of NZ's largest investment advisory firms. Jason is based in Nelson and has extensive experience in banking and investment prior to joining Craig's as a financial advisor. Jason is committed to the Nelson community, understands and identifies with the Sanctuary's aims and wants to make a positive contribution to the Sanctuary.

For more information either contact the Sanctuary's city office on 03 546 2422 or go to the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary website using the link; <https://www.brooksanctuary.org.nz/our-story/brook-foundation-trust>

Get Involved - Looking for volunteers



Warehouse Stocktake (nights) 16/17 October. We have the opportunity once again to assist The Warehouse Nelson with its stocktake as a fundraiser for the Sanctuary. We are still looking for someone to join the Ruru team, so, if interested or for more details, contact waynehen55@gmail.com



Sanctuary Open Day Saturday 24 October 2020. We are calling for volunteers to assist with our public open day, helping out in the visitor centre, with traffic management and guiding visitors.



Annual Nelson Cathedral Festival of Christmas Trees. The Sanctuary will once again be decorating a tree to stand proud in this very popular event. Decorating is normal last week of November with the Festival running through to the end of January.

If you are interested in helping at any of these events please contact Sabrina at volunteerconnector@brooksanctuary.org.nz

A cold snap

A pic taken by volunteers of the Sanctuary 29 September



Open Day at the Sanctuary

Saturday 24 October between 10am and 4pm.

Meet New Zealand's own Bug Man, Rudd Kleinpaste, explore the bush tracks, take a guided tour, bring a picnic, storytelling, native plant sale, treasure hunts, and delicious food and drink for sale.

The Brook Waimārama Sanctuary is the largest fenced haven for endangered plants and creatures in the South Island. Close to Nelson city but hidden away up the Brook Valley, this is a great opportunity to visit us and find out about a major community conservation project going on in your own neighbourhood.

By Car or Bike: we are just 5km from city centre, through the Brook Valley Holiday Park.

By Bus - Route 4 from Nelson Terminus Saturday - Departs hourly 9am – 2pm

This is a zero waste event. Please take home what you bring with you.

View the full listing here: <https://itson.co.nz/2020/22403-open-day-at-the-sanctuary>

Sponsor Profile



Nelson City Council is proud to support the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary as a community initiative that allows our residents to play a practical role in safeguarding Nelson's natural heritage. Since 2004 Council has made a significant contribution with funding to help support and maintain the 14.4 kilometres of pest fencing, creating a 690 hectare, predator-free haven for our local biodiversity to flourish safely.

Council will continue to work with the Sanctuary to achieve our shared goal of maintaining a vibrant and accessible space, where wildlife can flourish, and residents and visitors can experience and learn about the wonders of our natural biodiversity and what they can do to safeguard it

To close

We appreciate your ongoing support of the Sanctuary and welcome your feedback. Should you wish to make a comment on this newsletter, please write to Ru Collin at ru.collin@brooksanctuary.org.nz

Yours sincerely

Ru Collin
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