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KEEPING YOU INFORMED

TĒNĀ KOUTOU KATOA FROM OUR CHAIR

Over the past eight months the Board of Trustees and senior management have conducted internal workshops facilitated by an independent facilitator who was familiar with the Sanctuary, its culture and objectives.

The purpose was to review the committees that make up the working structure and report to the board. Questions such as, is the committee still pertinent, is it fit for purpose, does it meet and/or achieve its objectives, is its terms of reference still relevant, is the structure, numbers or make up in order, were amongst the questions asked during the review. Other matters considered included reporting lines, relationship, time and commitments to other committees.

The review has given rise to a number of changes within the various committees from minor to significant, readjustment of the focus or just a tweak in some instances.

As the Trustees reviewed each committee it became clear how each one although independent, dovetailed and was dependent on the others to both achieve objectives, and support or contribute to the well-being of other committees. The net result is a structure that is both robust and flexible enough to meet future requirements and expectations of the Sanctuary in the ensuing years.

Our success is readily recognised today when we review various key components such as "security" (e.g. of the fence, tracks, railings, signs, bridges, environment, tools and mechanical equipment), eco-system (biosecurity, fence integrity and species introductions), improving financial position, increasing supporter base, increasing visitor numbers, Open Days etc. From marketing, finance, engineering, fund raising, legal, environmental, health and safety, all are playing a part in the continued growth and development of the Sanctuary.

Although not always obvious, trustees are actively involved, usually chairing or being part of committees which enables them to hear from those working and volunteering 'at the coal face'. of the Sanctuary's activities.

The Board is also aware of the need to ensure the ongoing sustainability of the Sanctuary as it evolves and demographics change (as they always will). The changes arising from the above workshops will ensure the Trust Board and its committee structure are fit for purpose for the coming years.



Enjoy reading this September edition of eNews. And finally, as always, our thanks for your ongoing support for the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary. If you haven't been up to the Sanctuary for a while, then I would encourage you to pay a visit sometime soon. Ngā mihi

Chris Hawkes, Chair BWST

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NEW COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

As mentioned on page one, the Sanctuary Trustees have recently reviewed the committee structure. With the increased number of staff in the organisation, the operational staff can absorb more day-today Sanctuary management activity.

The Audit, Risk & Finance, and the Eco-Systems advisory committees are retained, and together with (the new) Human Resources advisory committee, report directly to the Trustees. The Health & Safety committee, chaired by Paul Russell will now report to the Board via the Chief Executive. Nick Robson, our Operations Manager will chair the Operations Committee.

Marketing, Comms. and Visitor Experience; Ecosystems (working); Operations; Financials, Business Support & Admin., and Fundraising will all report via the Chief Executive.



Although the new structure represents a reduction in the number of committees reporting directly to the Board, Trustees will remain involved through the Sanctuary operations.



Last week the Nelson Regional Development Agency launched the new We Got You Campaign, to support local businesses, encourage our community to spread the word and talk about their favourite local businesses, to shop local, and to enjoy our beautiful region. Please support the campaign by sharing the video here.

We all know a lot of local businesses are doing it tough at the moment. They've had to deal with lockdowns, shipping delays, labour shortages and cost increases. But just as the locals got behind our business community last year for the We've Got This campaign, we're getting behind them again by making local joints our focal points. Businesses of Nelson Tasman — We've Got YOU!

SUPPORT THE SANCTUARY - SUPPORTING LOCAL



HOW IT WORKS

- 1. Share the launch video on social media, tag in your favourite local businesses and let them know you love 'em
- 2. Support restaurants and cafes by heading out for some local delights
- 3. Do your Christmas shopping early and stock up on locally made tings
- 4. Roam your own region and keep our tourism operators, accommodation providers and small towns humming

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Visit: <u>https://wevegotyou.nz/</u>

YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2021

\$61K ADMISSIONS REVENUE



\$68K SUPPORTER REVENUE



SUPPORTER NUMBERS GREW FROM 515 IN **JULY 2020 TO**

IN JUNE 2021

15-YEAR **STRATEGY &** OBJECTIVES APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED



>3,000 DETECTION DEVICES MONITORED IN SANCTUARY



VOLUNTEERS GAVE

>23,00 HOURS OF THEIR TIME TO THE SANCTUARY

\$494K IN GRANTS FUNDS RECEIVED



FIRST SPECIES TRANSLOCATION COMPLETED IN **APRIL 2021**

30 JUNE ANNUAL REPORT PREVIEW/SNIPPETS

Work is well underway to compile the Trust's annual report to be presented at the annual report in late October.

The auditor completed his visit and report this month. Presented on this page, a few key takes outs from the year ending 30 June 2021.



- SAFE -

AWARDED

- WARM-

GO

DONATIONS & BEQUESTS RECEIVED













MONITORING, GENERAL

MAINTENANCE, WEEDING & VEHICLES



PROJECTS UNDERWAY

As always, our volunteer teams (and paid contractors) have been busy in recent months, here's a brief update on just some of the projects currently underway.

- The handrails installation project on the Loop Track ground to a halt over the COVID lockdown period, but work has restarted and is now about 60% complete.
- Kaka aviary development and installation this asset will be important for future species introductions and will be located close to key walking tracks so the public can further connect with nature. The necessary resource consents have been gained, now we wait for building materials to arrive.
- Flagstone Bridge installation repairs and maintenance on the bridge donated by Nelson City Council are underway. The bridge will help improve the walking track experience for visitors.
- Visitor Centre building enhancement the project is to help improve the building as the ticketing and administration centre for the Sanctuary. Building should commence shortly after the end of the busy summer period.

SIGNIFICANT NEW FUNDING

The Sanctuary is delighted to have secured significant funding from the Jobs for Nature programme through the Department of Conservation for Invasive & Noxious Weed Control.

The funding will enable the Sanctuary:

- to employ 9.3 full time equivalent employees over three years
- formal training in the areas of 4x4 training, pesticide use and handling, chainsaw use
- informal training in weed identification, weed control methods and VHF radio use
- purchase of pesticides
- assorted tools
- the purchase of a 4WD quad bike and trailer
- the lease of an additional ute and insurance.

A Sanctuary-wide weed control plan has been developed as part of the application process for this grant.

Under the funding agreement we will be tackling a variety of weed species including conifers/wilding pines, gorse, broom, Old Man's Beard, tradescantia and woolly nightshade.

We're delighted to announce that Murray Neill (pictured below) has been appointed as the Weed Control Coordinator under this funding arrangement.

Interviews to recruit the rest of the weeding team are now completed, we hope to have the full team in place by early October.

Shown below, Tony Bowater, CEO Bowater Toyota with the Toyota Landcruiser which is on loan to the Sanctuary until our new (leased) vehicle arrives in about four months time. The leased vehicle is funded by the Department of Conservation via the Jobs for Nature Weed Control project.





VISITOR CENTRE ENHANCEMENT PLANS

Earlier this year we received a grant from Simplicity Charitable Trust for enhancements to the Visitor Centre. The plan is to improve the back office layout and to weather-proof and insulate the building.

Plans drafted by <u>redbox architects</u> have been circulated with staff and volunteers and have been through several iterations incorporating feedback and suggestions.

The work is now planned to commence March or April 2022 following the summer visitor season.

Work includes enclosing the back deck for additional display space, creating a 'smoko/meeting' room where the existing back office is, and creating new office space on the front of the building.



Existing Ground Floor Plan

1:100



COVID IMPACT ON SANCTUARY

During the August COVID19 lockdown we were, once again, fortunate to have one of our staff living at the Brook Motor camp and on site at the Sanctuary to do essential work around the Sanctuary. Maintaining our predator-free biosecurity was classified as essential work.

The main job was to carry out regular checks of the fence and to ensure the fence breach monitoring system was working. We didn't have any breaches during level four, although we did send other ops staff in under level four restrictions to clear culverts after a storm event and to assist with ongoing breach response monitoring.

The lockdown did cause some delay to Sanctuary maintenance and projects. The urgent ones were restarted at level three and now that we have reached level two all teams are back in action with COVID19 Level Two protocols in place.

CLEAN UP AFTER HEAVY RAIN IN AUGUST

The wet weather in August caused a number of problems inside the Sanctuary. On the 27th August Third House recorded 155mm of rain in 24 hours which is a 2-5 year rain event.

The track team had two slips to deal with and there were two wash outs on the Loop Track. We also found a lot of fallen trees, both on the valley floor and up the top of the Sanctuary, some of these have been very large beech trees.

The visitor tracks are all back in order now. At the end of August we still had some large trees to be removed from the monitoring tracks and the track team are progressing this in order of priority.

KAKA APPLICATION TO DOC

Planning is underway to reintroduce kākā back to the Sanctuary – for that an application to translocate kākā to the sanctuary has been lodged with the Department of Conservation. The intention is to source the offspring from captive kākā pairs that have Top of the South (TOS) heritage, this will also contribute to TOS kākā conservation in general.

The Sanctuary has received grant funds from the Stout Trust and a number of private individuals to build a kaka translocation aviary in which to hold the birds after their translocation before release into the Sanctuary. Resource consent to build the kaka aviary has been approved by Nelson City Council.

Materials (mesh) for the aviary is on order and we await delivery so that building can commence.



OTHER TRANSLOCATIONS

We are in the early stages of planning for additional species translocations and we'll provide updates on these in future editions of eNews, on our website and via our social media channels.

We're hopeful that there will be more to tell in the not too distant future!

TĪEKE POPULATION SURVEY

Over the past two weeks our Ecologist Robert and a large team of volunteers have been conducting a tieke population survey to estimate the number of tieke present in the Sanctuary. 40 birds were translocated to the Sanctuary last April.



The tieke survey involved a team of 58 volunteers playing tieke playback calls along 29 transects covering 90km of monitoring lines over a two week period. The volunteers played a tieke playback call every 100m waiting for 2-3 mins. for a response and then moved on and repeated the procedure. Doing this the team covered the entire Sanctuary.

Another tieke population survey will be conducted, by April 2022 at the latest, possibly sooner.

ASSET TEAM INSTALLS NEW DRAIN ON LOOP TRACK

The recent heavy rain washed away part of the Loop Track on the western side of the valley.

The existing drain was too small to cope with the rain washing down the side stream which overflowed over the track, undermining part of it. The assets team laid larger pipes down the side gully and under the track into the Brook Stream.



FENCE CHECKING

The fence suffers all sorts of damage as we well know from reports and pictures of tree and rock falls. However, not all damage is so obvious, so a dedicated team of regulars led by Michael Humphries go hunting on a weekly basis for minor damage to the fence.

In the early days of the fence's construction many gaps and faults were found, many originating at the factory which have all, by and large, since been fixed.

Team members carry a repair kit with them consisting of fence mesh patches, pliers, wire, duct tape, spanner and a probe to test holes are less than 6mm. These kits enable on-the-spot repairs to be made.

This dedicated team checks the entire 14.4km of fence every two to three weeks and then start the process all over again. After three years of regular checking, there are fewer and fewer problems being found. Such vigilance is essential for maintaining the integrity of the fence and protecting the Sanctuary from pest incursions.

Here's an example of a recent find:



This hole was found together with about a dozen others and the guess is that goats were grazing on the outside and objected to the fence getting in the way of a good feed!

The hole is big enough to allow a small mammal in if it were able to find it.

POWER TOOLS DONATED

Another generous donation of power tools from Stanley Black and Decker NZ of battery operated power tools valued at over \$5,000 was received in August. The DeWalt range features the flexvolt 54V 5pce kit that will give the power of corded tools, so perfect for those remote areas that we require commercial tools. We are very appreciative of this very useful support.





Shown above, the recently donated DeWalt demolition hammer being used to install a new culvert on the Loop Track. The asset team has reported that the demolition hammer is proving to be a most useful tool which will get a lot of use! Our grateful thanks to Black and Decker NZ.

DONATION POINT TAP DEVICE

The Sanctuary recently purchased two electronic donation 'point tap' devices. The cost of purchasing one of these devices was kindly covered by our Sanctuary sponsor NBS.



One of these devices is currently at River Kitchen Cafe and the other at NBS. Using an EFTPOS card or credit card, visitors can make an automatic \$5 donation to the Sanctuary. The plan is to move these devices around retail outlets with high volume foot traffic. If you're interested in having one of these devices at your business, contact:

accounts@brooksanctuary.org.nz

CREATIVE ARTS GRANT

Our thanks to the Nelson City Creative Communities Scheme for a grant of \$913.10 for arts materials which will be used at a youth workshop as part of Open Day next month.



GENEROUS BEQUEST The Sanctuary received an anonymous

bequest of \$120,000 in July, and a final disbursement from this estate is expected in October. The initial funds have now been transferred to The Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Foundation Trust to kick-start the Foundation investment activities to generate future income for the benefit of the Sanctuary.

GIFTED GOODS & SERVICES ROLLOS LOCKSMITHS

For a number of years Rollos Locksmiths Nelson have been supporting the Sanctuary providing us with a range of goods and services at no charge. Our grateful thanks for their ongoing support, it is most appreciated.

BUNNINGS NELSON

Our thanks to Bunnings Nelson for the donated stair casings.

MOUNTAIN WAREHOUSE

Our thanks also to Mountain Warehouse for the two large backpacks donated to the Sanctuary. The packs will be put to good use by volunteer teams carrying equipment into the Sanctuary.

TOTARA TREE SEEDLINGS AND CUSHION COVERS

At the Sanctuary Open Day in October we'll be selling totara tree seedlings which have been raised and gifted to the Sanctuary by Brian Hirst.

At Open Day, we'll also be selling cushion covers made by Pam Pope.

All the proceeds from the above will go to the Sanctuary. Our thanks to both Brian and Pam for their ongoing support for the Sanctuary.

WE'VE CHANGED BANKS

We've changed banks to community-owned NBS which is also one of the Sanctuary's sponsors.

Our new NBS account number is:

03-1354-0561993-00

Please update your records (especially if you have us saved in your online banking payees list).

FUNGI GALORE!

If you've been following our Facebook page, you might have seen some great and varied fungi photographs taken by Brook Sanctuary supporter Rebecca Bowater. Our thanks to Rebecca for sharing her terrific photos with us, here's a tiny sample.



Sulphur Tuft *Hypoholoma fasciculare* Photo by Rebecca Bowater



Coral fungus *Ramariopsis pulchella* Photo by Rebecca Bowater



Sarcosoma orientale Photo by Rebecca Bowater

Rebecca is the author of New Zealand FUNGI, quite a few of the fungi featured were photographed at the Sanctuary. If you'd like your own copy (\$45), contact Rebecca 03 545 1260.



RECENTLY SEEN IN THE SANCTUARY



A species of earthstar fungus *Aseroe rubra* Photo by Deb Corbett



Fischer's Egg Fungus *Claustula fischeri* An rare and endangered species that is thought to have once been spread by moa eating (and excreting) the spore 'egg'. Photo by Wayne Hennessy

KÕURA BREEDING IN BROOK STREAM



Rick Field our Educator was in the Sanctuary earlier this month with Mana Motuhake students from Hira for a three hour tramp and adventure in the Sanctuary.

The students found six of these kōura in the stream all with eggs like this one - the term is 'in berry'. A good sign for the future population of kōura.

RECENTLY HEARD IN THE SANCTUARY

Spring has sprung! We have heard the call of the migratory Pīpīwharauroa (shining cuckoo) in the Sanctuary.

Māori welcomed Pīpīwharauroa with the proverb "Ka tangi te wharauroa, ko ngā karere a mahuru" – "If the shining cuckoo cries, it is the messenger of spring".

When you hear the distinctive call that comprises of several high notes followed by a single falling note "Kui! Kui! Kui!" it is time to plant your spring veggies!

The Pīpīwharauroa are famous for being brood parasites, laying their eggs in the nests of Grey Warblers, leaving the ever so kind warbler to raise its chick.

GUIDED WALKS/TOURS

DAY TOUR

We are really excited to now be offering regular guided tours through the Sanctuary for anyone wanting to maximise their knowledge and/or time while visiting.

A gentle walk of 60-90 minutes, each tour will stop at several points of interest with an experienced volunteer guide explaining:

- The history of the valleys
- Stories of the bush including history and Māori use of plants
- The plants and animals all around us
- The conservation work we are doing and why it's important for all of us.

The tours depart at 10.30am from the Visitor Centre, every Sunday, and other selected days during the summer (check our website for details). We can tailor guided tours for groups around specific topics relating to the Sanctuary.

NIGHT TOUR RESULTS

Total Glowworm tour numbers, including all free tours during 11 June -1 September (booked groups) total 34 tours involving 384 people doing the glowworm tours including the volunteers. COVID lockdown levels disrupted tours through early September, with some being postponed a few weeks and others cancelled. The volunteer guides, operations staff and Kirsten, the Visitor Centre Coordinator are to be congratulated on achieving a great result and for lifting the Sanctuary profile amongst the Nelson/Tasman community.

INTRODUCING SHANI BENNETT STORYTELLER / EDUCATION SUPPORT

On 16 August, Shani Bennett started with us in this new part-time role, and will be based in the town office,

Shani has recently joined our team as kaiāwhina mātauranga (education/storytelling support). Shani has a background in video production and education and is passionate about the arts and nature. She believes education is powerful and fundamental to conservation. She thrives on helping connect those who visit the Sanctuary with nature through storytelling. She aims to work collaboratively with local iwi to promote the rich mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) held about ecosystem restoration.



NEW STAFF

INTRODUCING OLIVIA GALLAGHER **EVENTS COORDINATOR**

Olivia, known as 'Liv', officially joined the Sanctuary team back in July, as our new Events and Promotions Coordinator.

Liv is interested in native ecology and conservation and is also passionate about the arts. She hopes to promote the intermingling of these worlds during her role with the Sanctuary.

Liv will work about 23 hours per week, based between the town office and her home office.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CARWASH - 2 October

Tyre General 118 Tahunanui Drive

The Brook Waimārama Sanctuary Events + Sponsorship Team are organising a Carwash Fundraiser.

Come on down on 2nd October and support the Sanctuary by giving your car a spring spruce up!

SAUSAGE SIZZLE - 9 October

The Sanctuary will be running another sausage sizzle at Bunnings in Stoke. Funds raise will be used to support Sanctuary Operations. Volunteers are still required, contact events@brooksanctuary.org.nz if you're interested in helping out.

SPEAKER EVENT - Devon McLean – 21 October

Experienced director and environmental advisor, Devon McLean QSM will share his personal insights on his own journey, plus a few confessions along the way. He will touch on how to assess the risk, focus and action projects, and how to empower your team in these unprecedented times where change is needed.

Venue: Trailways Hotel. 66 Trafalgar Street, Nelson Date: 21 October, 12-1.30pm Register by clicking <u>here</u> to attend

SANCTUARY OPEN DAY - 24 October

The Brook Waimārama Sanctuary Open Day is taking place on the 24th of October, with a focus this year on engaging with the arts. One exciting new activity this year is an Open Art Workshop for kids of all ages. We are excited to use this opportunity to promote conservation and visual arts through a collaborative community-based art event for youth. We'd like to thank the Creative Communities Scheme for helping us make this workshop a reality. Other things on the agenda this year include live music, a handful of delicious food vendors, a BWST fundraiser stall selling Artwork, Native Trees and more as well as a Volunteer Bake Sale. There will be more activities announced in the coming weeks so keep an eye out online and be sure to spread the word to your friends, colleagues, and whanau. With everyone's support, we look forward to welcoming another great crowd along. We are keeping our fingers crossed that we will be at Level 1 in time for the event and will be monitoring the situation closely, however, a postponement date has been set for late November should we need it.

PROMOTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

We have lots coming up at the Sanctuary as the weather heats up. Our new Events & Promotions Coordinator Olivia has been busy with planning for the Open Day on the 24th October, as well as a number of other events such as The Car Wash fundraiser (2 Oct.) & the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle (9 Oct).

We are also in the early phases of developing a range of high-quality merchandise which we hope to launch later this year and into 2022.

As we start to grow our presence through events and promotional activities, we are actively on the hunt for new volunteers to join the Events + Sponsorship team.

We have some really exciting opportunities ahead and look forward to engaging the community in all that we do. if you'd like to join in on the action, please email: events@brooksanctuary.org.nz



ADVANCE NOTICE OF AGM MEETING

SANCTUARY TRUST AGM - 28 October

Further details (venue/time) will be advised via public notices, via direct email to paid up supporters, on our social media pages. This may end up being an 'online event', paid up supporters will be advised by 14 October (at the latest).

SUPPORTERS HIT 900

Just in the last day or so the number of paid-up Sanctuary supporters has hit a new high as we tick off reaching 900 paid-up supporters.

If you're not currently paid-up, you can do so via the Sanctuary website, <u>click here</u> for more details, or email: info@brooksanctuary.org.nz

BROOK BUSINESS CLUB

In 2018 the Trust launched the Brook Business Club to develop/strengthen our ties to many of the businesses in the Nelson/Tasman region, and to develop new income to support the activities of the Sanctuary. We asked businesses to commit to a three-year programme at a cost of \$500+GST per annum. The programme has seen 60+ businesses joining, and while we've lost a few this year due to COVID-19, we're delighted with the number of businesses who have recently fulfilled their third-year commitment. We are continuing to evolve the programme to make it more attractive and meaningful to businesses supporters, and would welcome your feedback; and of course we're always keen to sign-up new business club supporters. <u>Click for more details</u>, or contact: deborah.mcconochie@brooksanctuary.org.nz

SUPPORTING BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

In July the Trustees agreed that the Sanctuary would support three other community organisations in Nelson by offering them free entry passes to the Sanctuary.

Below, Chelsea Routhan, Programme Director from Big Brothers Big Sisters Nelson-Tasman receives entry passes from Ru to enable adult mentors and their 'mentee' to visit the Sanctuary free-of-charge. Also featured, Cushla Vass from BBBS, Chris Hawkes BWST Chair, and Nick Tilly our office manager outside the town office.



OBITUARY

Sadly, Terry Johnson, a long term stalwart supporter of the Sanctuary recently passed away. Terry (and his partner Annette) have been involved with the Sanctuary for many years and made a significant contribution. Terry will be greatly missed.

NEWSLETTER SURVEY

We've created a short online survey to get reader feedback on eNews. Welcome your thoughts/input. You can find the survey <u>here</u>

BUSINESS CLUB SUPPORTER PROFILE



<u>Rezource</u> is a workforce management and recruitment company, we employ skilled staff and match them to businesses, small and large, and provide outsourced administration, payroll, virtual reception, human resources and recruitment services.

We currently have 13 staff working across Aotearoa. Alongside our outsourced team we have a dedicated recruitment team who thrive on finding quality employees for our clients.

Rezource is committed to regional economic development, we play our part by creating jobs that would not necessarily exist in this new age business environment where owners need to be agile and require a more flexible workforce, and employees need the stability of enjoyable work that allows them to have a flexible work environment. We believe companies will begin to utilize augmented workforces to scale as we adjust to new digital advancements. Welcome to the future of work people!

For more information on how outsourcing can benefit you contact:

Sacha MacDonald, Founder Phone: 03-265-5565 or 027-386-9288

VOICES FROM THE BROOK

Our new fortnightly 15-minute show on FreshFM called 'Voices from the Brook' is hosted by Kirsten Rodsgaard-Mathiesen and is full of updates and short interviews with volunteers, visitors and staff. Tune in and listen at your leisure:

Voices from the Brook (freshfm.net)

SANCTUARY HOURS

The Sanctuary will be open Fridays through to Sundays from 10am to 4.00pm through to December. Guided tours are offered on Sunday mornings departing from 10.30am. We will be open daily, except Mondays, during school holidays.

WANT TO UNSUBSCRIBE?

If you no-longer wish to receive eNews, please send an email to info@brooksanctuary.org.nz with "UNSUBSCRIBE eNews" in the subject line.