

EVENTS, SUBMISSIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE TRUST

2002	GBI Trust formed with vision of rat and feral-cat free Great Barrier Island
2003	Adopt plan to research the ecological and economic benefits to GBI of pest-free status, and develops mission statement and policies
	Open Day at Little Windy Hill – everyone had a walk through part of the project and Judy Gilbert spoke about the project at Little Windy Hill. This workshop was a way to introduce participants to the idea of pest eradication; Speakers: John Ogden, Judy Gilbert, John Early, Halema Jamieson and Jo Ritchie. 85 at workshop

2004 First issue of 'Environmental News'

Contributions to DOC Conservation Management Strategy plan (CMS)

Petscan – The Great Barrier Island Charitable Trust (GBI Trust) has, for 8 years, managed a cat de-sexing project called Petscan. This project was originally set up by Tony Bouzaid and the Hauraki Gulf Charitable Trust as a way to de-sex domestic cats in the community of Great Barrier Island by subsidising the cost. A 50% subsidy is normally provided during the year but once a year the GBI Trust does a "pulse" of 100% subsidy. Multiple cats or wild cats that have been domesticated are also accommodated under the scheme to ensure that as many cats have been de-sexed as possible. Occasionally the



vet deals with pregnant cats or male cats with complicated operations and the difference in cost is usually covered by the owners on a case by case basis, or in unusual circumstances and on the recommendation of the vet, by the GBI Trust. To date we have **de-sexed 355 cats** and the after a recent 100% subsidy drive the vet stated that the scheme has possibly reached most of the domestic cats on Great Barrier Island as she has seen a marked drop in people taking up the offer of subsidised cat de-sexing. There will always be the odd person who won't de-sex their cat but the GBI Trust will continue to educate these people.

Open Days Benthorn Farm - 'Pests, pasture and Pateke' - Walk and talk by Peter Speck with other invited speakers introducing participants to Pateke on farmland. Speakers: Ossie Latham – Pateke Recovery Group, Ray Pierce, Peter Speck, John Ogden and Peter Speck.

Glenfern Sanctuary – 'Kaikoura into the Future'. Speakers Tony Bouzaid, Geoff Davidson – walk at Glenfern then Tony Bouzaid spoke about the project at Glenfern and again it was an opportunity to introduce participants to pest eradication and to show other methods for eradication. Tony also talked about the big picture for Glenfern Sanctuary. 95 participants.







2005

Summer Lecture series with guest speakers

Extended distribution of Environmental News to reach all ratepayers and residents

Three trips to Tiritiri Matangi Island for islanders to see the results on a rat-free island







Website started www.gbict.co.nz or www.greatbarriercharitabletrust.co.nz

First Primary School Environmental Awareness prizes made and presented











2006

'Referendum' gives massive support for GBI Trust to continue research into methods for rat and feral cat eradiation

Presentation to Auckland Council on World Heritage status

Summer Lecture Series. There were approx. 20 people at these lectures and the only one in the winter was poorly attended with only 10 people. Allan Saunders spoke about rat eradication overseas and John Innes spoke about the types of rats and why they are a problem, habitats etc..

2006 contd.

Community bird counts commenced using volunteers to do the counting and John Ogden to evaluate information.





Rat research papers placed in local library

2007

First 'Rat Attack' workshops





First Community 'Kaka count' The whole community had the opportunity to be involved with this Boxing Day bird count. Many people volunteered and we kept receiving information about sightings well into the next year

Submissions to Auckland district Plan

Contributions to ARC biosecurity Management Plan for Great Barrier Island and Regional Pest Management Strategy

Two trustees attend 'Rats, humans and their impacts on Islands' conference in Hawaii and present a paper

2008

GBI Trust submits on Kiwi recovery plan

GBI Trust draws attention to algal bloom and stream quality in Tryphena



GBI Trust starts research for State of Environment Report for Great Barrier Island

Three 'Rat Attack' workshops in the three main areas of Great Barrier Island – Tryphena, Claris, Okiwi, these workshops introduced the community to new methods for eradication, what to eradicate, the damage done by rats and feral cats and any other information of interest to the public. Speakers Judy Gilbert, John Ogden, Matt Maitland, Each workshop had on average 45 participants with Okiwi being the smallest group at 24 participants.







2008 contd.

Carbon Credits workshop. At the time of this workshop Carbon Credits was a 'hot topic' so people were invited to the workshop to give more information about the topic. Speaker John Dentice 32 participants.

Weeds workshop – This property has a lot of introduced weeds and it was an opportunity to show gardeners the need to be careful about what they plant in their gardens, how to remove weeds and restoration of areas where there have been weeds. Speaker George Wilson DOC - Great Barrier Island. 28 participants.







Sponsorship by Natural Habitats started.

Glenfern Sanctuary workshop 'Glenfern Sanctuary Open Day' at Port FitzRoy Boating club. A short video shown about Glenfern sanctuary, talk by Tony Bouzaid and then a walk in the sanctuary – 98 participants

Website redevelopment

State of Environment Report occupies GBI Trust for most of the year

'Kaitoke Swamp and Hot springs track walk and talk'

John Ogden spoke about the swamp and it's importance, he took core samples then the participants walked the beginning of the hot springs track. This was to show people the importance of the Kaitoke swamp and to identify some of the fauna and flora of the area. John spoke about the history of the swamp and how it was formed.



Speaker John Ogden 35 participants



GBI Trust produces report to Auckland City Council on state of Tryphena streams

2009

Final report on Bird Counts for Biodiversity Advice fund

First time Ngati Rehua representative at GBI Trust meetings

Palmers Beach workshop – 'Farmland in Transition' Palmers Beach farm is a farm that has had a lot of restoration work and planting done on it over the last number of years. Farmers on Great Barrier Island were invited to show new methods of restoration and pest management and to raise their awareness because of their isolation here on Great Barrier Island. Speakers – Chris Morton and John Sutton – Palmers Beach Farm, Trevor



Wadams – ARC Parks, Monica Peters – Landcare Trust, Garrick McCarthy – ARC pest management. 58 participants.







First time DOC representative at GBI Trust meetings

First Time Auckland City representative at GBI trust meetings

Mulberry Grove Project started with the cooperation of 96 landowners

GBI Trustees publish 'Prospects for the eradication of rats' paper in "Biological Invasions"

State of Environment Report published as book and in an abridged format – circulated on island and to interested stakeholders. Widely acclaimed and launched at Hauraki Gulf Forum 10th Anniversary. It was distributed to all libraries.

Attended and presented paper at International 'Island Invasives' conference

GBI Trust submits on proposed DOC cutbacks to staffing on Great Barrier Island and relocation of managerial team to Warkworth.

2010

GBI trust submits on proposed changes to Schedule 4 of Mining Act and presentation at public hearings

Sue Daly (former trustee) elected to Auckland Council local board

Ngati Rehua commences process for return of kokako to Te Paparahi

GBI Trust work with Hauraki Gulf Forum

Input to DOC Conservation Management Strategy Plan (CMS)

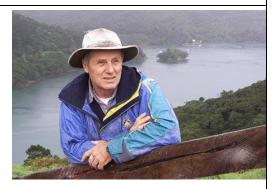
GBI Trustees publish 'Running the gauntlet' paper about the process of pest eradication on an inhabited island in "Island Invasives: Eradication and Management" (International Union for the Conservation of Nature)

Brent Bevan workshop 'Stewart Island pest eradication feasibility report' - Brent spoke about the pest management feasibility study he has been involved in and its relationship to Great Barrier Island, the difficulties, the good stuff and the future 34 participants

Local Board forms Environmental Strategy Planning Committee (ESPC)

2011 Trust revises long-term strategic plan and submits ideas to ESPC

17 October, founding trustee Tony Bouzaid dies suddenly leaving a legacy of environmental initiatives and dedication to the GBI community



Kauri die-back seen as threat to Great Barrier island kauri forest

Hui to support the return of kokako jointly hosted with Ngati Rehua and organised by GBI Trust at Motairehe Marae

 This hui was to introduce the idea of bringing back Kokako to Great Barrier Island and to gauge support from the community for the idea.





Detailed information was provided about the removal of the last kokako from GBI and requirements to bring them back. Speakers – Mike Lee – Councillor Auckland Council, Hazel Speed – Kokako Recovery Group, Liz Westbrooke, Sonia Williams – Ngati Rehua, Rolien Elliot – Area Manager, Department of Conservation, Kerikeri. 160 participants

Black Petrel Action Group formed in response to decline of Great Barrier Island's most iconic seabird – Trustee Kate Waterhouse instrumental in setting group up

First Bush Telegraph newsletter published

Kaka Lunch – 25 people came at our invitation. The volunteers who helped with the Kaka count were invited to a lunch to hear John Ogden speak about the importance of the work they were involved in and he presented the results of the count to these participants.

Community consultation process - GBI Trustees broker meeting between Auckland Council Environmental Strategy Planning (ESP) committee representatives and DOC representatives.

Kokako Cocktail event held to talk about the GBI Trust and what it is trying to achieve and to encourage memberships from landowners from





Medlands Beach area. Kokako painting donated by Peter Edmonds raffled to raise funds

Local Board commits to community consultation on options for ecological future of Great Barrier Island, including possible pest eradication

2012 Long-term vision of rat eradication is included within DOC's Conservation management Strategy Plan

Bird Checklist — developed from final bird count and comprises 124 species, 10 of which are extinct on the island and one extinct nationally. There is coded information on rarity, status, habitat and current threat.

10th **Anniversary 'Beatles Dance'** celebration with community

Masters Student Scholarship – student Asher Cook on island studying tomtit and kakariki numbers

Submission to Department of Conservation CMS on need for more DOC staff and high protection status for DOC land, kokako return and black petrel protection, Rakitu project planning with community

2013 Annual Plan submission to Auckland Council

John Ogden submitted re-vegetation plan for post fire restoration to local board

Aotea Conservation Park. The Trust submitted in favour of the establishment of the Aotea Conservation Park which will give marginally more protection to public conservation lands on the island.

Glenfern Sanctuary. The Trustees have been active in campaigning for Glenfern Sanctuary to be turned over to public ownership.

Community Consultation on the Environment. As a result of sustained influence from the Trust, the Local Board announced it would begin community engagement on the future of the island's ecology in 2015.

2014 Unitary Plan. The Trust made submissions to the Unitary Plan as it related to marine protected areas and water quality.

Dame Anne Salmond visited the island in November and agreed to be patron of the Trust.

Development of a new website

Island Events: the Trust participated in several events during the year; Great FitzRoy Mussel Fest, New Year's Picnic, Santa Parade, Easter Market with an Easter Rat Hunt competition, the Walking Festival, Conservation Week, Love Birds walking event and the Garden Tour.

Environmental News. This is now a bi-annual newsletter.

Churchill Fellowship. Trustee Emma Cronin travelled to Peru on a Churchill Fellowship to work with schools on the Peruvian coast educating them on black petrels and black petrel conservation. Emma also worked with the Aotea Art Gallery in Claris on a joint



exhibition following this trip and on local school visits to the colony.

Facebook – the Trust's FB page was re-launched and had more than 400 likes at the close of the year.

20014 contd.

\$15000 EIF Grant towards black petrel research project, including increasing public involvement and awareness – two school groups, fishers and politicians all visited.

\$10,000 Grant from RENH/Auckland Council to set up and monitor a network of cat and rat traps on tracks leading up to and around Hirakimata/Mt Hobson

\$8440 Grant from the Great Barrier Local Board towards installation and monitoring of remote sensing devices on the existing Mulberry Grove Community Rodent control project.

2015

Aotea Conservation Park. In April the Minister of Conservation, Maggie Barry, formally opened the Aotea Conservation Park.

National Party "Blues Greens" (a pro-conservation group within the party) hosted their annual conference at the Barrier Social Club in Tryphena, attended by trustee Kate Waterhouse.



Give A Little page has been established as another channel for supporters to provide donations to the Trust on an issues basis.

"Love, Protect, Restore" Video was produced. A series of six short UTube videos about private conservation projects on GBI. These will be used at events and via social media to support community and stakeholder engagement as well as promoting the work of the Trust.



Upgraded website to reach larger audience.

Cat Sterilisations:

Island Events: An on-island event for friends and supporters was held in January. The Trust again had a presence at Port FitzRoy Family Fest, New Year's Picnic, Santa Parade, Easter Market with an Easter Rat Hut competition, the Walking Festival, Conservation Week, Love Birds walking event and the Garden Tour.

2016

Projects:

Mulberry Grove Community Rodent Control Project, remote sensing was completed and extended to continue into 2017. This was a good opportunity to progress the Econode system and its application in a community project and has had positive feedback. This was funded by the GBI Local Board.



The importance of Hirakimata cat control was highlighted with a RENH Grant Project for cat control during the taiko breeding period. The Trust installed cat traps which were monitored throughout the breeding season.

Funded by the GBI Local Board the Trust purchased "Good Nature 24" rat traps to set up in two 'study area' in the taiko colony and two 'control areas' outside the nesting area. The data collected will allow statistical comparisons between rat abundance in the petrel colony and outside, providing an indication of the possible need

(or not) for rat trapping in the colony in future. Monitoring occurred in Nov/Dec 16 and will happen again in April/May 2017.

Movies: Four environmental movies were shown to the community during the year to broaden peoples understanding and appreciation of our environment. River Dog (32 people attended), Predator Free NZ (26 attendees), Bee Movie (school holiday programme, 28 attendees), The Last Ocean (4 attendees).

Restoration Videos: A series of short videos was launched documenting various local environmental 'heros' and their respective conservation projects to encourage more restoration activity on the island. These were very well received and have encouraged membership and interest in our island's environmental activities.

Funding was received from the Local Board toward the printing of the Trust's newsletters and this enabled the first full colour Environmental News to be published. The first Environmental News was published in 2004 and was a quarterly newsletter. This became a bi-annual publication in 2014. The Bush Telegraph was first published in 2011.

Funding was received from Foundation North towards the co-ordinator's position. Auckand Council funding allowed the Trust to offer free or subsidised sterilisations for 13 cats in 2016.