

Annual General Meeting 2016

Saturday 10th September 2016

Ian Brennan's Property, Te Miro, Waikato

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - June 2016.

This year has been a particularly sad one for all of us, with our patron Gordon Stephenson passing away earlier in the year. Gordon provided good guidance and leadership where necessary while his association with the Trust provided greater credibility than might have been possible otherwise and we are grateful for the contribution he made in this way. An obituary for Gordon was published in our Newsletter and members will be aware that his contribution to protecting and perpetuating the natural environment was very extensive and included projects such as the establishment of the QE II Trust.

Later in the year we received the equally sad news that Ian Campbell, who only retired as a Trustee last year had also passed away. Ian was very effective in helping us get up to speed in this world of rapidly expanding communications technology and also a keen tree planter from the Wairarapa where his work with the Trimble group is particularly notable. Trimble planted a number of native species in a series of trials and ensured they were regularly measured, providing additional data about species requirements and performance.

2015-16 has also been notable for the commencement of one of our largest projects ever, "Our forests, Our Future" (OFOF) which we had been keenly anticipating this time last year.

Details of the project have been included in member's Newsletters during the year, however it is the breadth and very comprehensive nature of the work to be undertaken that creates its particular value. More details of our progress and the leadership of the various work-streams covered are included in this Annual Report; however it is also important to acknowledge the support of the Tindall Foundation which is largely funding this two and a half year initiative.

As anticipated the project has also required a commitment from us in terms of careful governance and administration of the project and we have consequently boosted our resources to help ensure that our activity and the administration sitting behind it is robust.

In other respects our work has also continued at a good pace with Newsletters, a workshop (funded and supported by Auckland Council), and a couple of Northland Totara Working Group projects advanced/completed over the same period. Ian Barton's treatise on Kauri was published and all members should have received a copy, along with the report on the re-measurement of the Hunua (Mangatangi) kauri thinning trials.

While the breadth of activity associated with our various projects has stretched our resources the level of achievement means that we can certainly regard 2015/16 as one with some notable successes.

Meanwhile we continually remind ourselves of Tāne's Tree Trust's goals to assist and facilitate the planting of native trees throughout New Zealand and take every reasonable opportunity to promote these where we can. Early in the year we were invited to a meeting with Ministers in Wellington

representing Climate Change, Primary Industry and Forestry where the process around reviewing and developing the future national strategy for climate change and setting new emission targets was discussed. Notably we were the one group able to represent the role of native forests, although our colleagues from NZ Farm Forestry Association were also present. We also had the opportunity to talk directly to the Minister with responsibility for Forestry, Jo Goodhew, in Kaitia and introduce her to the work of the Northland Totara Working Group. Since this latter meeting we have been able to advance our discussions with the Ministry of Primary Industries (along with Northland Inc. and Scion-NZ Forest Research Institute) and are much closer to getting further work around totara funded and underway.

And of course we still need to maintain and develop projects initiated in earlier years. This includes advancing work in a number of areas and adding to our databases, putting much more information on-line. There is no doubt that we could achieve more if our resources were greater and a large part of our focus remains on widening and increasing the funding available to us.

TRUSTEES

The trustees are - Ian Barton, Peter Berg, David Bergin, Helmut Janssen, Robert McGowan, Warwick Silvester, Wiremu Puke, Gerard Horgan, Paul Quinlan, Kirsten Crawford and Jon Dronfield. Unfortunately Wiremu has been dogged by ill-health and has recently resigned after several years and his sage advice and very important links to Iwi has already been missed.

Trustees retiring by rotation were Peter Berg, Ian Barton, Paul Quinlan and Kirsten Crawford. All four retiring trustees have elected to continue and have been re-appointed (being key members of the team). Our Trustees make an important contribution to our links both with the wider community and also with other organisations that share our goals and interests and it is important that our Board is as representative as possible in that regard. Accordingly we are always keen to hear from our members about their ability to participate in this way.

OFFICERS OF THE TRUST

Positions remain unchanged since last year, however the reconstituted Management Committee (which meets monthly) permits us to keep a closer watch on funding, monitor projects and more particularly ensure new project and associated funding opportunities are pursued promptly. The management committee includes Peter Berg (Chairman), Prof Warwick Silvester (Treasurer), Dr Dave Bergin, Gerard Horgan, Paul Quinlan and Ian Barton. Most Trustees are involved in some way in projects and other Trust activity and reporting requirements, often for little reward and we are truly fortunate to have so many folk lending their time, experience and recognition in the wider community to supporting our goals.

NETWORK GROUP

The number of member/participants on our network group e-mail list remains at a similar level as the previous year – some 270 people or groups. Subscription rates are \$45 annually, although many members take the option of also providing a donation to the Trust and its various programmes. Over the last 12 months members have donated around \$3000 to our work programme and this has become increasingly important to our ability to maintain Trust services to members and our programmes.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Executive Officer Mel Ruffell who has now been at the helm for more than three years has continued to direct Trust activities very capably, however with the growth in our work programme it became increasingly important to provide good backup, and during the year we have also been fortunate to secure the services of Keri Anderson to assist Mel. Keri is experienced in administration of organisations similar to our own and has accordingly been able to pick up the reins in relevant areas and make a difference immediately. Both ladies have given extra zest to the provision of quality service to our members (such as Newsletters), our project partners and have otherwise kept Trustees up to the mark.

TELECONFERENCING

As mentioned last year we have continued to provide teleconferencing facilities for all Trustee and Management Committee meetings to minimise travel and associated costs, but more importantly to ensure Trustees, especially those at some distance, are able to take full part in meetings. Nevertheless a good number of our Trustees still travel to Hamilton for meetings.

STRATEGIC PLAN

2016 is a review year for our Strategic Plan, and once again this has been led by Ian Barton who has been prepared to take on what is at times a quite demanding role. While the Plan has been regularly updated and was more substantially reviewed in 2014 it has now been our principal driver for more than a decade. This year dates have been extended to ensure a longer term perspective is maintained - and it will of course be placed on the website. We are also keen to receive any contributions from members including other matters we should address or processes we might usefully adopt to improve our effectiveness and membership base.

INFORMATION TRANSFER

Bulletins and Handbooks: No further additions to the Handbook were completed this year; however as proposed last year we are now in the process of making it accessible on our website and also providing for sections to be uplifted by interested parties.

No new publications are in the immediate pipeline although it is expected that OFOF will produce material of wider relevance which may well be released in the form of additional publications.

And as also advised last year we are monitoring our publication stocks more closely in an attempt to ensure we don't unnecessarily hold numbers of bulletins etc as they become more dated. Members are now encouraged to obtain copies from the office of any reports of interest.

TRUST FUNDING

During the year we completed the totara certification project funded through the Sustainable Farming Fund (SFF) while our management of totara in riparian situations and funded through Reconnecting Northland (RN) has also continued very satisfactorily. During the year RN steering group members and a number of the NZ Council of WWF visited the latter project and were impressed by its potential and scope. We are now discussing other complementary activity with RN although whether that might lead to further support is far from certain.

A number of other projects have been proposed including 2-3 which are based around the cultural values of some of our native species. However a major focus remains on facilitating planting of native trees – we have a lot of information in our databases and hope that by using this to populate planting and management models we can make it easier for those considering planting native trees to be able to plan in a more realistic framework.

Draft annual accounts for the past year's activity are attached for members' advice; they have been independently audited and otherwise indicate the breadth of our effort and our present situation. Reserves are now considered adequate to address any possible contingencies (of which there are very few) and we do not anticipate any change to members' subscriptions.

IN SUMMARY - 2015-16 was a year of growth and recharging for Tāne's Tree Trust. There is recognisable interest in planting more trees and acknowledgment of the importance of trees in improving the environment which is very complementary to our own goals and objectives. The level of interest in, and support for our work is particularly encouraging.

Peter Berg – Chairman.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE:

Subscriptions have been sent out for the 2016/17 year, and the annual subscription remains at \$45.00. There are currently 278 members. We have 149 paid members to date for the 2015/16 year.

We welcomed Keri Anderson into the office during the year and she has been a wonderful addition to our team, undertaking the majority of the administration for the Trust.

Please contact either Keri or myself at the office, office@tanestrees.org.nz if we can be of any assistance or if you wish to purchase any of our publications.

Mel Ruffell – Executive Officer

PROJECT UPDATES:

Northland Tōtara and Riparian Management Project

Progress report:

This project is attracting a lot of interest and is shaping up to be an excellent demonstration of integrating native forest within a dairy farm context for multiple environmental gains and yet also including a timber production aspect.

Since the last AGM update, the funders, Reconnecting Northland and the New Zealand board of the World Wildlife Fund, have inspected our work on the property and have been very pleased with the progress and supportive of the wider totara initiative generally. They saw silvicultural trials, fencing and planting sites. Presently we are starting to plan an open field day there in November this year. This will be widely advertised closer to the time.

The lodging of a Sustainable Forest Management Plan, to enable a harvest under the Forests Act, has been an extremely useful case-example to use in our dialogue with Ministry for Primary Industries regarding their interpretation and administration of the legislation. Consequently, we have submitted a proposal for a simpler and less costly option. We await their response. The property has excellent potential for the development of demonstration harvest sites.

Plantings have been monitored and released by Michael Bergin and survival has been very good. Other more recent progress to update is that the eight Permanent Sample Plots have been re-measured and the data for the first year's response will soon be available. These will be reported in Tāne's Tree Trust Newsletters.

The project is running on schedule to meet all its targeted deliverables. It has just over another year to run.

For more information on this project, please contact the Project Manager: Paul Quinlan, (09) 405-0052 or pdq@pqla.co.nz

Pathways to Building Code Compliance for Farm-totara Timber

Project completed:

Tāne's Tree Trust on behalf of the Northland Totara Working Group and the NZ Farm Forestry Association (NZFFA), has recently completed a project funded by MPI through the Sustainable Farming Fund. This was a scoping study to investigate how to maximise Building Code compliance for farm-totara timber.

The full report is available on the Tāne's Tree Trust and NZFFA websites. This sets out recommendations based on a thorough independent review of the current legislative situation. Many thanks to Dean Satchell, the president of the NZFFA, who undertook most of this work. It will inform our potential submissions on this topic in the future processes of review of the regulatory documents (such as NZS3602 etc.).

For more information on this project contact Paul Quinlan pdq@pqla.co.nz

OUR FORESTS, OUR FUTURE

Tāne's Tree Trust has completed the first six-month milestone of a major project called Our Forests, Our Future. This project funded by The Tindall Foundation project aims to demonstrate the potential, both financially and operationally, and at a scale not done before, of establishing and managing native forest for multiple purposes. This project will demonstrate that planted and managed native forestry can provide both production opportunities and substantial conservation benefits within our productive landscapes.

Phase 2 is underway (to be completed in 2018) and involves detailed planning of several large-scale demonstration forests, the progression of sustainable management of the existing totara resource in Northland, the development of the commercial business case and also better defined non-timber values. A project team has been set up and an Advisory Board provides governance.

There are four workstreams:

1. Demonstration planted forests
2. Building on Northland totara work
3. Commercial business case
4. Non-timber values

Work-stream 1: Demonstration planted forests

This workstream lays the groundwork for the planting of scaled-up demonstration forests in Phase 3 where the major costs will be incurred, and shared by a range of funders, investors, iwi and other interested parties. However, there is significant work under Phase 2 to secure suitable sites, plan their establishment, identify best practice, ensure appropriate plants and involve the community. This phase is critical to ensuring the success of these forests.

Progress up to mid-2016 has included evaluation of several potential sites in both the North and South Islands, initiation of discussions with selected native plant nurseries regarding cost of large scale

supply of native seedlings for planting programmes, and development of planting plans for at least two sites. The aim at each planting site is to determine the potential to establish 5-10 ha of demonstration production native forests at each site in collaboration and in liaison with landowners, councils and iwi.

Sites considered to date include:

- Sainsbury Road Recreational Reserve, Pirongia, Waikato
- Pataua North, Northland.
- Te Muri Coastal Park, north Auckland.
- Ngati Hine Forestry Trust, central Northland.
- Papamoa Hills Regional Park and Onekawa Regional Park, Bay of Plenty.
- Longbush Sanctuary, East Coast.
- Cranford Basin, Christchurch.
- Leithfield Beach iwi land, north Canterbury

Two of these sites located on council land have been progressed to initial plans. Based on a Landscape Concept Plan developed by Paul Quinlan, a planting and costing plan has been developed for the Sainsbury Road Recreational Reserve for Waipa District Council. This includes establishment of nearly 10 ha of demonstration native forestry along with several hectares for exotic species alternative to radiata pine and leaving open space in grass for recreational use.

A planting layout and design has also been produced for the Christchurch City Council for establishing several hectares of native forestry in the Cranford basin area, within the northern suburbs of the city. This includes establishing a nurse cover or shrub hardwoods with kahikatea on lower sites and groves of totara on elevated sites.

For more information on this, contact the workstream manager: Clayton Wallwork
clayton@greenco.co.nz

Work-stream 2: Building on Northland totara work

This work-stream aims to advance the identification and utilisation of the existing Northland totara resource through support for the Northland Totara Working Group and Tāne's Tree Trust's current efforts and the establishment of a wider Northland Totara Growers Association. The establishment of a viable totara utilisation industry is critical to encouraging investment in future forest establishment.

Two specifically stated outcomes include the creation of a landowner and stakeholder data-base, and the development of on-farm demonstration sites, in harvestable-sized totara stands. However, these activities anticipate being a complement to many other totara projects, research and development initiatives. Therefore, another purpose of this work-stream, is to help co-ordinate a wider collaborative approach to progressing work generally on totara in Northland.

We consider that we are nearing the cusp of facilitating a regional totara industry. It would be based on the commercial use of farm-totara timber, initially from stands of advanced regeneration, until planted and managed stands come on stream. This is considered to be the most effective incentive to encourage native forestry as a land-use option and bring extensive areas of regenerating scrub under sustainable management. However, this is an ambitious goal and considerable work is still needed to bring this vision about.

Work to date has included contacting stakeholders and potential collaborating partners, identifying the priority areas of work needed, and preparing and presenting proposals to potential funders. Early indications are encouraging and we hope to get a significant totara project underway. Preliminary planning work for the data-base has also commenced and potential on-farm demonstration sites explored.

For more information on this, contact the workstream manager: Paul Quinlan pdq@pqia.co.nz

Work-stream 3: Commercial business case

This work-stream provides the foundation on which significant investment in native forest establishment and utilisation will be based. It will identify the costs and returns that can be expected and will establish a legal framework within which different groups of investors may participate.

Progress to date has included:

- Preliminary investigation of economic models for establishment of the major native timber species building on the growth and economic calculator developed by Scion for kauri.
- Discussions with selected native plant nurseries regarding scale of production, grade and container size for nursery raised stock for both shrub hardwood species and longer timeframes required for conifer and hardwood tree species, container vs open-ground production etc and consequences in reducing costs per unit for natives.
- Progress with development of a national growth and carbon calculators for planted native forestry based on the Tāne's Tree Trust Indigenous Plantation Database and scope for leveraging funding.
- Implications for costing contractor vs community involvement in planting programmes.
- Initial consideration of ecosystem services as part of economic models for planted native forestry.

For more information on this, contact the workstream manager: Gerard Horgan
g.horgan@paradise.net.nz

Work-stream 4: Non-timber values

The involvement of the wider community in the proposed planted forests, along with the associated environmental and cultural benefits, will ensure significant Non-Timber Values (NTVs) from the project. Consideration of these values at the earliest planning stages of the project will maximise this involvement and the resulting benefits.

A comprehensive checklist of the wide range of NTVs relevant to planted native forestry has been collated. These include:

- Active and passive recreation, e.g. walking, biking, bird watching
- Biodiversity both national and regional - ecosystems, landforms, soils
- Waterways - wetlands, water quality
- Landuse - hill country erosion, mosaic landuses, multiple use
- Landscape - forest vs open space, exotics vs native forestry
- Employment/business - nurseries, planting, tourism, pest control, carbon

- Cultural - local marae, matauranga Maori, building capacity
- Education, research and extension - infrastructure, community aspirations, demonstration
- Local community values - views, health and safety, access, traffic

This checklist of NTVs is being applied in liaison with local communities, iwi, landowners and managers to potential planting sites.

For more information on this, contact the workstream manager: Kirsten Crawford

kirsten@coastline.co.nz

Phase 3 - Implementation

Subject to review and ongoing support Phase 3 will see implementation of Our Forests, Our Future. Partners and funding will be explored under the current Phase 2 planning stage. Opportunities exist for defined corporate and iwi involvement, both directly and downstream, resulting from investment in the planting of native species on a large scale.

Further contacts for this project

- Peter Berg, Chair, Tāne's Tree Trust peter@bergforests.co.nz
- Mel Ruffell, TTT Executive Officer office@tanestrees.org.nz

TTT WEBSITE UPGRADE

The Tāne's Tree Trust (TTT) website has been completely upgraded to include a range of new features. All pages have been updated and new information added and navigation around the website made easier for users. The new website includes the following pages:

- **HOME** - A welcome to our website and an introduction to Tāne's Tree Trust.
- **ABOUT US** - An update of Trust structure, vision and biographies of the trustees. This includes background and current work by the Northland Totara Working Group (NTWG), which is an entity managed by TTT.
- **PROJECTS** - Summaries of completed projects completed by TTT over the last decade, and current projects that are being managed by TTT. Links to publications, reports and key contacts for each of these projects is also provided.
- **RESOURCE CENTRE** - Includes a revamp of the Indigenous Forestry Archive Database and a link to the resources and easy methods for ordering and accessing Trust publications. This page will eventually provide access to growth and species information from the TTT Indigenous Plantation Database when funding is secured to develop this, and the TTT Indigenous Forestry Reference Database which is currently under development. A new page with pdfs of the TTT Handbook articles for free download but with provision for users to provide a donation. The Handbook includes 32 full colour technical articles ranging from two to 12 pages in length.
- **SPECIES PROFILES** - A new page led by trustee, and our first Chairman, Ian Barton where information on the distribution, ecology, establishment and management of the major timber species will be highlighted. New species profiles will be added over time with many of them already published in past TTT newsletters.

- **NEWS AND EVENTS** - Latest news will be posted to this page relevant to membership of TTT. Send in relevant articles and links to our TTT Executive Officer for posting to the website.
- **GET INVOLVED** - Provision of user-friendly methods for membership options and making donations to the Trust.

Check out our new website at www.tanestrees.org.nz. Provision has been made for the website to be updated on a regular basis by the TTT Executive Officer and improvements and corrections to content can easily be made. Please send in your comments and suggestions, and any news and events to the TTT Executive Officer at office@tanestrees.org.nz.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2015-2016

At last year's AGM I had to alert members to a significant downturn in our finances and recommended we use our research fund to see us through that low point. This year is a contrast in that we have had the large grant from the Tindall Foundation which has allowed us to put in place an extensive research effort and has allowed us to recoup our overall financial situation. Members should know that grants like the one we have just received are not won easily, they are won by hard work and above all by the acknowledgement that we at TTT have established nationwide credibility and it is being rewarded. In this respect we need to acknowledge two long term members of the team that were centrally responsible for bringing in this money; David Bergin and Paul Quinlan have spearheaded this effort and it is their tireless input and their professional credibility which is now bearing fruit for the whole organisation.

So you will see from the year's accounts we have turned the corner and we have well-funded teams planning the next phase of native tree establishment. You will notice the clear presentation of accounts due to our EO Mel and her assistant Keri's mastery of MYOB. Their ability to keep us all in line both financially and professionally also needs to be acknowledged, we are fortunate to have two dedicated and tireless workers in the office who make both the executive and especially the treasurer's job so pleasant.

With 278 members on the books and 149 paid up we are holding our own with the membership but given the impact that we are having we should have more and we are considering attempting to gain traction and membership via Facebook.

Warwick Silvester – Treasurer

**TANE'S TREE TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

	Note	2016	2015
Operating Revenue			
Taratahi Project		37,405	34,900
Sustainable farming fund		12,010	-
Tindall Project		133,500	-
Joint projects grants and sponsorship		18,901	13,315
Project Co-Funding		9,500	-
Lotteries Grants		-	5,000
Sales		311	393
Subscriptions		6,848	6,417
Donations received		2,317	2,225
Interest received		1,650	290
Other income		-	4,740
Plus Income Received in Advance from Last Year		32,056	-
Less Income Received in Advance for Next Year		(80,000)	(32,056)
Opening work in progress		0	0
		<u>174,498</u>	<u>35,224</u>
Expenses			
Accountancy		200	200
Audit fees		596	600
Contractors and consultants TTT projects		10,438	17,740
Depreciation		35	301
Donations		-	25
Executive officer		13,875	12,625
General expenses		86	294
Joint projects		122,641	2,200
Miscellaneous project expenses		11,370	4,393
Newsletter		526	1,250
Postage		336	116
Printing and stationery		3,405	457
Rent		1,200	1,000
Subscriptions		-	69
Telephones and tolls		921	546
Travelling and accommodation		3,136	2,992
Website & internet		1,852	710
		<u>170,617</u>	<u>45,518</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit) For Year		<u>\$3,881</u>	<u>(\$10,294)</u>



**TANE'S TREE TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 MARCH 2016**

	Note	2016	2015
Current Assets			
Bank		120,690	53,587
Bank - Book Account		6,807	
GST		5,553	
Petty Cash		64	109
		133,114	53,696
Non Current Assets			
Fixed assets (as per schedule)		-	35
Total Assets		133,114	53,731
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable		25,908	2,643
Income Received in Advance		80,000	32,056
Net Receipts held for Pureroa Book		6,807	-
GST Payable		-	2,560
Accruals		800	754
		113,515	38,013
Total Net Funds Employed		\$19,599	\$15,718
Represented By:			
Trust Equity			
General funds		5,267	1,436
Research funds		14,332	14,282
Total Trust Equity		\$19,599	\$15,718

For and on behalf of the trustees

_____ Chairman

_____ Date

_____ Treasurer

_____ Date

