

# MŌKIHI REFORESTATION TRUST

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ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR 2021



*Carmichaelia compacta*

# CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT

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2021 was the sixth year for the Mōkihi Reforestation Trust. Operations wise, it was another successful year of activity across our three keystone sites at Richards Beach (further planting plus maintenance), 45 th Parallel (maintenance) and Stuart's Ferry (the second year of plantings). Included among the Richards Beach sessions was a special memorial planting for our former chairman and founding trustee, Mike Barra, who sadly passed away in 2020. This was attended by his family, friends and also representatives from Wanaka Forest & Bird with which he also had had a close association.

A central feature of the memorial was the planting of young Hall's totara which is a pointer to what the trust long term is hoping to achieve: demonstrate it is possible to return selected places in the Cromwell Basin to fully mature dryland forest as existed before human arrival and landscape altering activities. This objective being the driver behind two other significant achievements of the trust during the year.

In the first instance, our experience with Richards Beach, 45th Parallel and other smaller sites, and determination to get Stuart's Ferry right from the outset, led the trustees, as part of strategic objective for 2021, into undertaking a full review. This included consulting with our sister Central Otago reforestation trusts, researching latest developments and ideas as to what the pre-human vegetation would have been, and holding a brainstorming session, as we continued to learn how best to establish our range of plants in our challenging conditions. To cap this, in June, we commissioned dryland ecologist, Kate Wardle, to review our plantings to date with a particular focus on species selection and siting. At five years since planting commenced, a full range of species and sites could be reviewed on the success and adherence to proper restoration technique and plant succession. A detailed report was received and will prove most valuable as a framework for us to plan and plant sites well into the future.

Secondly, during the year we completed the construction of our nursery at McNulty Inlet, which by the end of the year was operating in its nascent hardening off capacity. This is an important step for the trust as it now enables us to both acquire seedlings in advance of planting out, when those seedlings are actually available, and enhance our planting success as from experience we have found that some species struggle when planted out too young and fragile.

The timing of completion of construction of the nursery by October allowed us, in early November, to host the annual hui of regional restoration groups there. This was attended by 23 people representing seven separate groups but all with common restoration goals and issues. Prior to the hui commencing, we took the opportunity to show the delegates our progress at Stuart's Ferry and Richards Beach. We also used this opportunity to officially open the Mokihi Reforestation Trust Nursery which was conducted by Cromwell Community Board Member, CODC Councillor and Deputy Mayor, Neil Gillespie.

Much earlier in the year on 11 March 2022 we had held our AGM at the Lake Dunstan Boat Club, also in the McNulty Inlet vicinity, with guest speaker former Minister of Conservation, Denis Marshall, speaking as founder and chair of the New Zealand Nature Fund on the topic how the mechanics of obtaining funding for conservation projects can work.

Liaison, making strong contact and building to partnership with other local community groups was also a feature of the trust's operations in 2022. This worked on two levels. On the one hand there were special combined education and planting events with the likes of Cromwell Youth Trust. While on the grander, more partnership side of things, two Memoranda of Understanding were signed. One with Lake Dunstan Charitable Trust to ensure open communication channels and sharing of resources and knowhow. Our connection and involvement with LDCT will both ensure consistency of restoration plantings around the Cromwell Basin, as LDCT embark on their initial Bridge to Bridge project, and also allow for a stronger Mōkihi voice in discussions over the challenges of habitat restoration in other areas of Lake Dunstan. The second MOU was with Cromwell Rotary for the further development of the area within Richards Beach signposted as Rotary Point. Plantings began in this area in 2018 with Rotary planning significant more development with their group of committed and hard-working volunteers.

In July, our inaugural Administration & Community Liaison Officer Kirsten Kyle resigned and was replaced by the capable and efficient Jane Powe in October. We thank Kirsten for the enthusiasm and professionalism she brought to the role in greatly improving our website, social media function and many other essential administrative bits and pieces. We look forward to Jane's input in running the administrative side of Mōkihi which is becoming increasingly busy. Jane has already completed the Friends of Mōkihi programme with some initial financial supporters on board. This side of the trust's operations – broadening the funding and community support base – has been slated by the trustees as a prime strategic objective for 2022. And with Jane now fully on board, we look forward to completing this Friends of Mōkihi programme this year as an important funding cog to ensure the trust's continued financial stability.

**BLAIR WALTER**

CHAIRPERSON

# TRUSTEES 2021

**BLAIR WALTER – CHAIRPERSON**

**RICHARD LORD – DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON**

**BARBARA ARMSTRONG – PLANT OPERATIONS**

**GREG LIND**

**NITA SMITH**

**BRITTA SONNTAG – TREASURER FIRST HALF-YEAR**

**ANDREW SWANN – TREASURER SECOND HALF-YEAR AND ONGOING**

**ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER**

**KIRSTEN KYLE – RESIGNED JULY 2021**

**JANE POWE – APPOINTED OCTOBER 2021**





# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## Mōkihi Reforestation Trust

Statement of Financial Position

For the year to 31 December 2021



### Statement of income and expenditure - for the year to 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Income</b>			
Grants and donations	1	33,738	21,678
CO Pinot Noir Charitable Trust	2		20,000
Sargood Bequest	3	10,000	
Net interest earned		356	6
<b>Total income</b>		<b>44,094</b>	<b>41,684</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Plant purchases		6,086	7,389
Netting and plant support/protection		3,719	6,755
Rabbit proof fences		15,906	
Compost/fertiliser		531	351
Green waste drop fees			30
Planting day teas, etc		112	228
Site preparation		922	1,845
Irrigation installation		1,301	
Nursery expenses	4	1,655	
Nursery construction	3	6,964	4,500
Consultant ecologist	2	1,427	
Administrator remuneration/charges	3	7,394	5,573
Depreciation charge	5	712	651
Insurance		372	444
Sundry administration & consumables		481	603
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>47,581</b>	<b>28,368</b>
<b>Deficit (Excess) of income over expenditure</b>		<b>- 3,487</b>	<b>13,316</b>

### Balance sheet as at 31 December 2021

<b>Assets</b>			
Cash at bank		37,499	40,399
Outstanding debtor balances	4	1,535	
Equipment	5	745	1,332
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>39,779</b>	<b>41,731</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
No outstanding creditors			
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>nil</b>	<b>nil</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>39,779</b>	<b>41,731</b>

## Notes to the accounts

### General notes

- (a) Prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles with, however, the overriding principle that Mokihi Reforestation Trust is a tier 4 charitable trust (i.e. annual expenditure less than (<) \$125,000) and therefore accounts need only be prepared on a cash (receipts & payments) basis; also no requirement to account for donated (in-kind) goods and services.
- (b) As the trust is not a trading entity therefore does not carry out any defined taxable activity, it is not registered for GST. Accordingly, all figures shown in the statement of financial position are GST inclusive. NB this relates to expenditure and capital value of depreciated fixed assets.
- (c) Consideration has been given to capitalisation of nursery construction costs. However, under tier 4 there is no requirement for this and as the accounts are expressed on a cashflow basis it is considered currently more appropriate to match the funding of the construction against the cost through the income & expenditure statement (as above). If in future the trust's income increases beyond the \$125,000 threshold and/or there is significant expansion of the nursery facility, then the option would be available to restate the accounting basis and account for the capital value of the nursery structure, fixtures and fittings at that time.
- (d) Unaudited. There is no requirement for audit for a tier 4 charitable trust.
- (e) Accounts approved by the trustees at a meeting held 9 May 2022.

### Specific notes as per notations in the statements

- 1 Principally comprises grants and donations that have funded activity at the most recent keystone planting site, Stuart's Ferry: grants for plant purchases and protective caging received from *MPI Te Uru Rakau* (\$6,188) and *ORC ECO Fund* (\$5,324); grant of \$1,300 from *CODC* to offset irrigation & water connection costs; and a generous private donation of \$15,906 to finance installation of two rabbit proof fences at the sites. Balance is made up of \$3,120 from *Connect Cromwell* to fund a community nature day and planting at Richards Beach, which had to be deferred to 2022 due to covid-19 restrictions; and sundry smaller grant amounts also related to Richards Beach.
- 2 In 2020 the trust received a one-off \$20,000 from the *Central Otago Pinot Noir Charitable Trust*. As this was a windfall, the trust ring-fenced the money as a reserve against future unforeseen, but necessary, or emergency overhead costs. After consideration, \$1,427 of these funds were drawn down in 2021 to pay for the one-off consultation by ecologist *Kate Wardle*.
- 3 The \$10,000 received from the *Sargood Bequest* in 2021 is a follow up to \$20,000 received 2019. These funds are for initial construction of the nursery & payment of a professional administrator. To end of 2021 \$24,431 of the \$30,000 had been disbursed, with balance carried forward to early 2022 obligations.
- 4 Necessary expenditure of \$1,535 for the cost of felling and removing trees overhanging nursery site is to be offset by donation from *Contact Energy* in 2022.
- 5 New tool purchases in 2021 totalled just \$124. The total depreciation charge of \$712 for 2021 substantively relates to ongoing diminution in value of the trust's trailer.

# ACHIEVEMENTS

22

PLANTING DAYS

23

MAINTENANCE SESSIONS

1154

VOLUNTEER PLANTING AND  
MAINTAINENCE HOURS

113

VOLUNTEER NURSERY HOURS

59

TRIPS BY TRUSTEES TO FILL  
THE WATER DRUMS

884

PLANTS IN THE GROUND 2021

6252

TOTAL PLANTED TO DATE



# WITH THANKS



I would like to thank the dedication and efforts of the trustees in running the trust and in particular, Barbara Armstrong who co-ordinated all the planting and maintenance days through 2021 (as well for the previous year in 2020). Barbara has also meticulously managed the applications for and subsequent monitoring of the grants that principally fund the plantings. I mention Barbara's special effort and energy at this juncture, as she and her husband are soon to leave Cromwell to return to the lower North Island and as a consequence she is currently retiring as a Mōkihi trustee. We will be very lucky if we can find anyone close to her level as a replacement.

I would also like to extend special thankyou's to two other trustees, Britta Sonntag and Nita Smith who have also both recently retired from the roles, Britta in November 2021, and Nita earlier this year. Their efforts as trustees have been both valuable and tireless, and we look forward to their continued involvement in planting and maintenance days.

In addition, a big thanks to all the volunteers who regularly turn up to planting and maintenance days. They are the heart and soul of our community focused trust. We also are very appreciative of the grants, donations and in-kind support that we have received throughout the year that enables our activity.

Additionally, we are grateful for the presence and success of the Lake Dunstan Cycle and Walking Trail. Thanks to the trail, which runs through all three of our keystone planting sites, and the significant numbers that it is attracting, our plantings have become highly visible contributing to increased community awareness of Mōkihi. The thriving plants at our three sites are a testament to all the time and work committed and is something that all those involved with or contributing to Mōkihi can be immensely proud of. Seeing our plants grow taller, flowering and becoming more water self-sufficient in our challenging establishment environment gives us the confidence of our work in habitat restoration in the Cromwell and Lake Dunstan surrounds.

**Blair Walter**  
Chairperson

MŌKIHI REFORESTATION TRUST