



THE ASB TRUSTS' NEWSLETTER
TRUSTLINE
 TE TUAPAPA ROHE

APRIL 2006



A view out over the harbour from Chelsea Park.

Sweet deal

The largest tract of undeveloped, privately owned land on the Waitemata Harbour is set to become a public park.

After years of negotiation the Chelsea Park Trust has signed up to buy 36.7ha of parklands and lakes surrounding Birkenhead's Chelsea Sugar Refinery for \$20 million.

Upon completion of the agreements, the land will be permanently secured as a public park.

The ASB Trusts were the first to financially support efforts to buy the land, promising to grant \$6 million for the project. The purchase agreement, which is subject to a number of conditions, was finally signed just before Christmas last year.

The park, which could have been developed for housing or industry, will now be part of the city's "urban lungs".

Together with the nearby Kauri Point Centennial Park (22ha), Kauri Point Domain (31ha) and Defence Department land (85.5ha) it contains the North Shore's richest diversity of habitats.



The refinery will still operate.

The Chelsea Park initiative also has the backing of North Shore City Council, the Auckland Regional Council and the Department of Conservation. The Chelsea Park Trust will seek further funding to complete the purchase.

ARC Parks and Recreation Committee chairman Bill Burril says the combined land parcels will create a park of tremendous value.

"The heritage values alone are momentous," he says. "It contains what are believed to be the only intact examples in the country of colonial workers' cottages, built for and still associated with the historic working refinery."

"There is also an intact example of military history, significant pre-European occupation sites and the entire coastal margin is of special wildlife significance."

The land has been owned by Chelsea Sugar since the 1880s and includes lakes, regenerating forests, wetlands, open spaces and historic homes. The refinery will continue to operate on its remaining 14ha site.

Chelsea Park Trust chairman Sir David Tompkins says the trustees' time and energy is now going into satisfying a number of conditions to which the agreements are subject, including raising the necessary finance. The deal should be settled by June, if all conditions are met.

■ Chelsea Park, Colonial Road, Birkenhead.

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The park will continue to be part of the city's "urban lungs".





Jennifer Gill

Letter from the Chief Executive Officer

Kia ora and warm Pacific greetings

Welcome to the first edition of Trustline for 2006. This is the first edition edited and produced by our new Communications Coordinator, Russell Joyce.

We are delighted to have Russell on our team and we aim to produce Trustline at least three times a year, along with a revamped website and some new publications for grant seekers. We hope that you, the members of our community, the people of Auckland and Northland, find this informative and helpful.

With over a thousand grants a year made to groups in our community we can't feature you all and the wonderful work that you do in this publication. However, this is one way in which we can inform our community about the ASB Trusts' focus and priorities.

This issue of Trustline focuses on some of our most recent grants to significant projects and groups working to protect and enhance our environment.

We are featuring the upcoming purchase by the Chelsea Park Trust of the 37.6ha of land that surrounds the iconic pink Chelsea Sugar Refinery on the shores of the Waitemata Harbour.

The Trusts' support for the purchase of this land will ensure that this wonderful open space is preserved forever for this generation, our children and their children.

"The trustees are keen to recognise and support those projects where there is evidence of significant volunteer contributions in time as well as through donations and fundraising."

The trustees are keen, through our grants programme, to recognise and support those projects where there is evidence of significant volunteer contributions in time, as well as through donations and fundraising.

The "kiwi crèche" on Moturoa Island and the native robin release and breeding programme run by the Ark in the Park volunteers in the Waitakere Ranges enables the return of native birds to their natural habitat.

In line with our policy of protecting and enhancing the environment we have decided to publish this and future editions of Trustline on recycled paper, to use vegetable inks and to introduce policies in the Trusts' office that encourage waste minimalisation and recycling.

Vets work for wildlife health

In response to growing demands for its specialised veterinary expertise in the wildlife field, the Auckland Zoo is aiming to raise \$4.6 million dollars to replace its existing animal hospital with a Wildlife Health and Research Centre by June 2006.

The new centre, toward which the ASB trusts have granted \$1 million, will include a modern animal hospital with extra facilities for research teaching and public education.

For the first time, visitors to the zoo will also be able to view the work of the zoo vets – a strictly behind-the-scenes activity at present.

"People find our work with animals fascinating and we are keen to share that with them as much as possible," Dr Richard Jakob-Hoff says.

"Also diseases like SARS and Bird Flu have recently highlighted the importance of monitoring diseases in wildlife and, through this centre, we can play a useful role in raising public awareness of these issues.

"As a conservation organisation, Auckland Zoo plays an active role in supporting the survival of animals in the wild, in New Zealand and overseas," says Director Glen Holland.

"Our veterinarians are regularly consulted



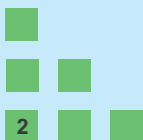
Senior zoo vet, Dr Richard Jakob-Hoff, with a model of the new centre.

by overseas agencies and conservation groups, because the work they do here with native species is of direct relevance to species world-wide."

The new centre will be named the New Zealand Centre for Conservation Medicine, in recognition of its national significance and focus on the cutting edge science of conservation medicine.

"Diseases like SARS and Bird Flu have highlighted the importance of monitoring disease in wildlife"

– Dr Richard Jakob-Hoff



Staff news

Additions and subtractions

After nearly 15 years with the ASB Trusts, Accountant Diane Moffitt has temporarily put away her calculator.

She left the Trusts earlier this year, took a well-earned break at the beach and has been enjoying golf, tennis, art classes and home improvements. She will look for contract work in Auckland.

Before she left, Diane helped her replacement, Syd Beguely, settle into his new role. Syd has spent eight years as a financial

management consultant to organisations in the not-for-profit and commercial sectors. Prior to that he worked in the energy sector in Auckland and Taranaki.

We've also welcomed back Grants Administrator Ross Burton, who was out of action for two months after breaking a leg in a motorbike accident.

Ross had only just finished his first day on the job when the accident happened and returned to part-time work in late January.



Syd Beguely



Ross Burton



Diane Moffitt

Former financial management consultant Syd Beguely has joined the team.

Encouraging volunteers

The Volunteering Auckland Trust is on a strong growth curve and expects 900 new volunteers to register next year.

The group, which promotes and encourages volunteering throughout the region, was recently granted \$50,000 toward its operating costs.

This will help with training and resource costs for the group, which has 165 community organisation members.

An estimated 10,000 volunteers and 400 community groups directly benefit from the Volunteering Auckland Trust's work.

The ASB Trusts have been supporting its work for 15 years, during which time it has made grants worth more than \$300,000.

Migrant Support Services has also benefited, with a \$36,443 grant approved at the Trusts' December board meeting.

The money will go toward running costs at the service's Onehunga base, where 3750 migrant and refugee people have been helped in the past year.

The support service provides courses such as computer literacy, driver licensing education, Treaty of Waitangi education and parenting skills at little or no cost.

Last year the Trusts granted it \$20,000 towards its operating costs.

In the sport and recreation area, Trusts funding is helping put the performance of our top athletes under the microscope.

A \$77,000 grant to the New Zealand Academy of Sport North will help buy \$120,000 worth of equipment for its performance analysis unit.

The hi-tech equipment, which gives coaches and athletes feedback on specific aspects of their performance, is expected to help our top athletes to reach international standards in their sports.

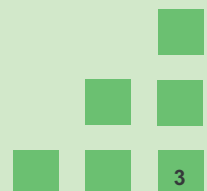
CEO Jennifer Gill said the Trusts usually target grass-roots participation in sport. "However, ASB Trusts recognise that, to develop sport and increase participation, there is a need to fund high level sport.

"It's well known that when a sport does well, participation in the particular sport increases."

SPARC Chief Executive Nick Hill said that "having this kind of technology available to athletes and coaches helps give us that necessary edge that you need to win on the world-stage."

"Having this kind of technology gives us that necessary edge that you need to win on the world stage."

– Nick Hill



Heritage and environment

A safe haven for kiwi

Predator-free Motuora Island, in the Hauraki Gulf, is a perfect "kiwi creche" – a safe haven where young kiwi can grow until they are big enough to defend themselves back on the mainland.

Volunteers have been working for the past 10 years to create a sanctuary for native plants and animals on the 80ha island, just north of Auckland. They spend thousands of hours propagating and planting native trees and shrubs, at a rate of 25,000-30,000 a year. More than 150,000 native trees and shrubs have been planted so far, covering more than a third of the island.

The ASB Trusts have supported the Motuora Restoration Society's work since 1998, helping to fund weed control work and the building of a propagation shed. This year its \$38,000 grant helped buy a tractor for mowing and hauling work on the island.

Society chairman Ray Lowe says that thanks to the volunteers' work, the island is thriving.

A recent insect survey logged "an incredible 41,000 insects – an excellent count compared to some other comparable locations".

The abundance of insect life has made it a perfect place for young kiwi to grow up. Operation Nestegg is undertaken in partnership with Auckland Zoo, with assistance from the Bank of New Zealand Kiwi Recovery Trust.

Under the programme, eggs from

Eggs from Northland are hatched at the zoo and the chicks are later released on Motuora.



Visitors watch as a young kiwi is released.

Photo: DOC

Volunteers have been working for the past 10 years to create a sanctuary for native plants and animals.

Northland are hatched at the zoo and the chicks are later released on Motuora Island.

When they are big enough to defend themselves – about 1.2kg – they are returned to the wild in Northland.

Return of the robins

Native robins are back and breeding in Auckland's Waitakere Ranges, thanks to years of effort by Ark in the Park volunteers.

The fledglings are thought to be the first newly hatched robins in the area for more than 100 years.

Their parents were transferred from Mokoia Island and have joined reintroduced whiteheads in the 1000ha protected reserve, where bait stations and traps are reducing predator numbers.

Hihi are next in line to move in, with the first birds – also known as stitchbirds – expected to be released next month.

Thanks to the control of predators such as rats, stoats, possums and ferrets, insect life is thriving in the reserve, giving the birds plenty to feast on, and a recent survey found 240 species of plants in the area.

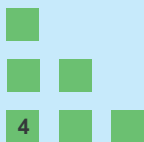


Robins – back in the Waitakere Ranges.

The Forest and Bird Waitakere Branch project is partnered by the Auckland Regional Council and also received funding from the ASB Trusts. Last year \$87,000 was granted to help cover the cost of wasp and predator control, as well as costs involved in the transfer and release of hihi.

Find out more about Ark in the Park at <http://ark.forestandbird.org.nz>

Insect life is thriving in the reserve, giving the birds plenty to feast on.



Heritage and environment

A sustainable option

Workers are ramming home the earth in the last of 32 houses in New Zealand's first sustainable eco-neighbourhood – Earthsong.

Incorporating the principles of co-housing, permaculture and sustainable building, the development combines rammed earth walls, eco-technologies and non-toxic materials.

The aim is to recreate many of the advantages of the traditional village – social contact, contact with nature, child care, economic efficiency and celebration.

At the centre of the complex, in Waitakere City's Ranui settlement, is the just-completed common house and Earthsong Centre.

This will be an extension of the residents' homes, as well as being a function centre where the Earthsong Centre Trust will run seminars on sustainable living, co-housing, sustainable building and other environmental issues.

The common house was built with the help of a \$203,000 ASB Trusts' grant.

"Our vision is to share information with

the world about co-housing and living sustainably," says spokesperson Lippy Chalmers. "We plan to run seminars on alternative building methods, living sustainably, both inside and outside the home, permaculture and much more."

■ www.earthsong.org.nz



A working bee prepares for a new lawn outside the Earthsong Centre.

"Our vision is to share information with the world about co-housing and living sustainably."

– Lippy Chalmers

Community saves coast

A catastrophic collapse of the dunes in Northland's Mangawhai Harbour in 1988 left the harbour "a putrid mess".

Mangawhai Harbour Restoration Society chair Graham MacKenzie says sand mining destabilised the dunes. The harbour entrance closed and the sea breached the dunes.

"The ecology of the Mangawhai Harbour began to die, as there was insufficient water flow to flush the harbour of toxins. The harbour was a putrid mess," he says.

For four years the community tried to negotiate with local authorities for help.

"The Mangawhai Community is famous for taking matters into our own hands and in 1991, in the stealth of the night, we assem-

bled our diggers, graders, trucks and shovels and in excess of 100 people tried to reopen our harbour. We failed," he says.

However, it brought the statutory authorities to the negotiating table. The community established the restoration society, which has raised nearly \$2m for restoration work.

They dredged the inner harbour and closed off the dune breach. Native plants were grown to stabilise dunes and since 1992 volunteers have planted 1.2 million plants.

"In 2004 the Mangawhai Harbour Restoration Society campaigned to stop the sand mining of our harbour and, at a cost of \$260,000, won an Environment Court decision to stop the issue of new licences."

"In the stealth of the night, we assembled our diggers, graders, trucks and shovels and in excess of 100 people tried to reopen our harbour. We failed."

– Graham MacKenzie

In December 2004 the Society gained a prestigious award in recognition of its work – the largest and most successful community coastal project in New Zealand.

Last December the Trusts granted the Society \$87,264 to help pay for the dredge. The grant follows two earlier payments totalling \$50,000. The Restoration Society has also gained support from the Lion Foundation and the Mangawhai community.

Experts act for the environment

The Environmental Defence Society is a group of environmental professionals, lawyers and scientists dedicated to improving environmental management.

It applies well-researched, innovative and practical approaches to resolving environmental issues – including landscape protection, coastal and oceans management, pollution of inland lakes and climate change.

EDS achieves its aims through research and policy analysis on key issues, profiling them through conferences and seminars and increasing the capacity of individuals, community groups, resource management professionals and environmental managers to respond.

Where necessary to protect nationally significant resources, and to stop poor environmental practices, the EDS also litigates.

Over the past few months EDS has been actively working with the Far North District Council and other stakeholders, through the

appeals process, to strengthen the provisions of the Far North District Plan to help protect kiwi habitat from destruction and coastal areas from inappropriate subdivision.

Projects planned for this year include community workshops on coastal management, a mini-conference series on resource management law reform and a book on coastal development.

The guides are supplemented by a widely used web-based guide to the RMA available at www.rmaguide.org.nz and back-up advice service. EDS is currently in the process of fully updating the website content to reflect recent changes to the legislation.

The ASB Trusts last year granted the group \$131,000 – critical core funding which has enabled the society to undertake these activities and develop sustainable sources of funding.

■ www.eds.org.nz

EDS has been working to help protect kiwi habitat from destruction and coastal areas from inappropriate subdivision

Education

Animal advocates

SPCA Auckland is working to set up a \$1 million education centre at the Animal Village in Mangere. Chief executive Bob Kerridge says the centre is the culmination of years of planning.

"The society is very aware of the importance of education as an effective preventative against animal cruelty," he says, "and given the fact that over 90% of the cases attended by our inspectors are the direct result of ignorance it is clearly evident that this needs to be seriously addressed."

"The proposed education centre will have a direct impact on the reduction of cruelty to animals, in addition to teaching children how to respect all living things, a powerful message for young minds."

The education centre will include an auditorium for lectures and "the barn", where the hands-on experience of handling animals will be promoted.

Last month the ASB Trusts made an \$188,000 grant toward building costs.

"The SPCA hosts thousands of visitors through its centre each year and the new addition will enhance the services they already provide," says ASB Trusts' CEO Jennifer Gill, adding that cruelty to animals is now recognised as an indicator of violence toward people.

The SPCA grant was part of the Trusts' support for key projects in Auckland and



Canine Attendant Emma Ginsberg with Wizowski, who lost an eye after an air gun attack. Wizowski has since been adopted into a new home.

Northland. In February a total of \$4.5 million was granted to projects in education, the arts, sport, recreation, health and social services areas.

A similar amount is granted to the region's not-for-profit groups every month.

■ www.sPCA.org.nz

"The society is very aware of the importance of education as an effective preventative against animal cruelty."

– Bob Kerridge

Responding to violence

Throughout Auckland and Northland, volunteer groups are working to reduce violence in our community.

Already this year, the ASB Trusts have put almost \$300,000 into several key projects.

Auckland-based Preventing Violence in the Home has been granted \$150,000 for its work, which includes crisis response teams, a telephone crisis line, advocacy services and community education.

The work of this group, formerly known as the Domestic Violence Centre, has received ongoing support from the ASB Trusts, which has granted it almost \$500,000 since 1999.

Whangarei's Miriam Centre Child Abuse Research and Treatment Unit Trust, which works with children across the Northland region, has been granted \$112,000.

The centre has worked with more than 11,000 children and families over the past 18 years and has been proactive in schools and the community.

Its Wrap-Around programme helps children who are displaying extreme anger and violence in their school, family or community.

These are children of primary school age who are pulling weapons on teachers and peers, going to school under the influence of drugs, abduction and sexual violence against younger children, intimidation and bullying.

Miriam Centre staff work intensively with the children, teachers, parents and communities to empower them to identify, face and address issues and move toward non-violent, safe and compassionate lives.

The work of Violence Free Waitakere has also gained a grant, with \$23,898 going to its community awareness project.

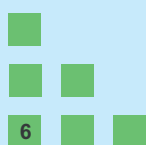
Previously known as Zero Tolerance to Violence, the group aims to create awareness of the effects and causes of violence. It provides education and support for peaceful conflict resolution in schools and communities in Waitakere.

Meanwhile, not-for-profit groups working with disadvantaged and disabled people have been given almost \$500,000 in the latest round of grants.

Whangarei's One Double Five Whare Roopu Community House has been granted \$165,000 to support its community work – including whanau support, free legal advice, an alternative education programme and a film unit which gives students acting, directing and film production skills.

Whangarei's Arataki Ministries has been granted \$180,000 for its work in the mental health sector. And New Zealand CCS Auckland has been granted \$112,408 for the repair and upgrade of projects in Auckland and Northland.

The Wrap-Around programme helps children who are displaying extreme anger and violence.



Sport and recreation

Double triumph in bay

The festival brought opera, orchestral music, comedy and art shows to the region.



Nesian Mystik get fans on their feet at the festival.

Kerikeri Tennis Club's new tennis facility, at Waipapa, has been served up a grant of \$120,000.

The courts will be next to the new Bay Sport stadium, which was itself a recent recipient of a \$295,000 ASB Trusts' grant.

The trust also put \$30,000 towards the Bay of Islands Arts Festival, which ran from March 3-18.

This took opera, orchestral music, comedy and art shows to the region, with many events also touring schools.

The grant helped festival organisers keep ticket prices to a minimum and encouraged a wide range of community participation.

Festival director Sandy Mecredy said Nesian Mystik and Adeaze were a huge success.

"The rehearsal was a huge success too and in my mind of most value because the bands talked with the audience, played requests and drew questions from a wide range of young people. Young and old were entranced with them," she said.

Skilled work rewarded

Highlighting the potential of trades work and its value to young skilled trainees is one of the more rewarding aspects Youth Skills New Zealand (YSNZ) has to offer.

SkillEX competitions, organised by YSNZ, allow young apprentices to compete across 20 trades and gain life-developing skills including identification of strengths and weaknesses, understanding of the potential of a chosen vocation and a substantial point of difference for self promotion while job hunting.

New technology bought with an ASB Trusts' \$86,000 grant, including a mobile education trailer unit to visit schools, lets YSNZ better promote its competitions.

Benjamin McNaught, a car painter from Warkworth, entered in the last round of the regional competitions in the auto refinishing category.

He won the one-day event and took gold at the three-day national finals.

Ben then attended the WorldSkills Competition in Finland last year – taking silver in auto refinishing.



Benjamin McNaught

"It feels great to have received a medal. I couldn't believe it when my name was called out," Ben said.

National competitions also point out career pathways for students.

When they watch projects in progress at the event and try the 'have a go' stands, students are able to get an insight into what really goes on in a trade.

More than 1000 trainees are expected to join in the series of regional competitions which are to be held this year.

"Strong regional entry leads to strong national numbers from which to select our best to compete globally," YSNZ's Helen Goldsworthy explained.

"Young people often underestimate their talent and feel nervous about entering.

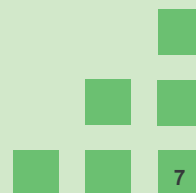
"This diminishes when competitions are underway," she said.

Regional competitions cover computer work, automotive, building and construction, electrical, engineering and hospitality, including cooking and hairdressing.

■ www.skillex.org.nz

"I couldn't believe it when my name was called out."

– Ben McNaught



Are you thinking of applying to the ASB Trusts? ... here's how!

Our Mission

To enhance the lives of all the peoples of our region by wisely allocating, equitably sharing and responsibly managing the resources that we hold in trust for present and future generations to allow for inter-generational equity.

Our areas of Interest

To ensure that funding provided by the ASB Trusts is achieving maximum impact in our communities, we have decided to focus on six areas of interest:

Health and Social Service

The ASB Trusts seek to address social issues, improve equity between groups and reduce poverty, making our communities better places for everyone to live, particularly through supporting women and their families, children and young people, older people and people who experience disability.

Contact: *Kim Calcott*

Education

The ASB Trusts will support projects that facilitate improved educational outcomes for children and young people in our region by adding value to the sector, with a focus on innovative projects and programmes that are generally not eligible for government funding. We will, however, work in partnership on projects that meet our criteria.

Contact: *Karyn McLeod*

Sport and Recreation

The ASB Trusts will support projects that encourage people of all ages to participate in sport and recreation with a particular focus on the participation of young people and of older people and the promotion of health and fitness.

Contact: *Katrina Dansted*

Arts and Culture

The ASB Trusts will support projects that aim to foster access, engagement, and experience in the arts and cultural opportunities for all citizens and will work in partnership to achieve the widest possible levels of participation in our region.

Contact: *Chloe Harwood*

Environment and Heritage

In order to increase the quality of life of current and future generations in this region, the ASB Trusts will support projects that will preserve the heritage of the communities of our region and that will protect and enhance the environment in which we live.

Contact: *Chloe Harwood*

Community Economic Development

The ASB Trusts will work in partnership with local and central government agencies, and Maori and Iwi organisations to identify projects that will assist with social development and economic growth. As this is an area where the Trusts have not provided funding in the past and there is significant national input, the Trusts will initially only support pilot projects in Northland.

Contact: *Karyn McLeod*

Who can apply?

To be considered for funding from the ASB Trusts an organisation must be either a registered incorporated society, a registered charitable trust, or controlled by an organisation operating under an adopted constitution and rules with annually audited accounts.

How to apply

For an application form and a copy of our funding guidelines please either go to our website at www.asbtrusts.org.nz or call us on 0800 272 878

Please refer to our website for information on eligibility and the types of funding available to organisations. Alternatively please contact a member of the grants team on 0800 272 878