

# GREAT BARRIER ISLAND CHARITABLE TRUST

## ANNUAL REPORT 2009

In addition to working on our State of the Environment report and the production of four Environmental magazines, the Trust's Calendar looked like this last year – a full year of activities promoting our vision in the community. We have also been busy seeking funding which has proved to be much tighter this year. If you can help, please contact Fenella Christian at 09 4290414. Or post a cheque in to the secretary at R.D.1., Great Barrier Island.

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| March/April 2008 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Met with Community Board to discuss the way forward from the difficulties of the past; as a consequence Izzy Fordham was appointed as the CB representative. We also appointed Des Casey as the liason person for Department of Conservation and Sue Daly as a new trustee. These welcome additions have made great contributions this year.</li><li>• Ran a guided walk along Whangapoua Beach for the community and as a “Thank You” to bird count volunteers</li></ul> |
| May              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Held Carbon Credits workshop run by John Dentice of Kyoto Forests and followed by a walk over Ben Sanderson's farm.</li><li>• Meeting with Community Board, ARC and DoC representatives. In addition to Izzy Fordham and Des Casey, Mike Lee(ARC), Paul Downie(Chair of CB) and Matt Cook (DoC) were also present.</li></ul>  |
| June             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Offered free cat spaying to the community for one month. Setup subsidised cat spaying with ARC</li></ul>  |
| July             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Produced a new Trust pamphlet on light card as give-away at Open Days and other public events</li></ul>   |
| August           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ran a well attended ‘Rat Attack’ workshop at Claris</li></ul>   |
| September        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Volunteers counted kaka and returned their numbers and comments to the Trust for analysis.</li><li>• Ran a talk followed by a guided walk through the Kaitoke Swamp and on to the Hot Springs.</li></ul>  |
| October          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Another ‘Rat Attack’ workshop at Okiwi.</li><li>• Held a Weed Awareness Open Day at Schooner Bay, with support from DoC (George Wilson) and Weed Busters.</li><li>• Met with the Department of Conservation Conservator to discuss pest eradication priorities on Great Barrier.</li></ul>  |
| November         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Held the opening of the Glenfern predator-proof fence.</li><li>• Presentation to the Guardian Trust on behalf of Great Barrier Island. (Aotea Family Support Group, GBI Community Health Trust and GBI Charitable Trust)</li></ul>  |

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| <b>December</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Entered the Rat Car into the community Santa Parade and won “Best Community Group Float” prize! (See ENV NEWS 16, Cover).</li><li>• Awarded the Trust’s Environment prizes to the winners at three schools.</li></ul> |
| <b>January</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Held another guided Swamp Walk following up on the success of the first.</li></ul>  |
| <b>February</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initiated the Mulberry Grove Community Rat Eradication Project; now handed over to volunteers and running successfully.</li></ul>   |
| <b>March</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed the final Bird Count Report incorporating the past two years counts;</li><li>• Added a donation facility to our Web site.</li></ul>   |

We would like to thank you, our members, for your loyal support over the year . Your continuing membership is immensely important to the Trust’s ongoing viability and represents a positive appreciation of the work we carry out.

Although not mentioned above, much of our time this year has been devoted to preparing a “State of the Environment” Report, which will be published later this year. The draft stage runs to over 80 pages and will be the first time that much of the data on human impact on the Great Barrier Island environment, and the health or otherwise of our flora and fauna, has been gathered together to provide a picture of the current state of our environment. On completion, the document will be presented to the local community, DoC, the ARC, and Auckland City. We hope it will form a basis for an urgent re-assessment of pest eradication, especially rats and feral cats, by members of the community.

Thanks again for your support. If you’d like to be more actively involved please get in touch!

**John Ogden**  
Chairperson