

The Mountains to Sea Conservation Trusts' Origin Story

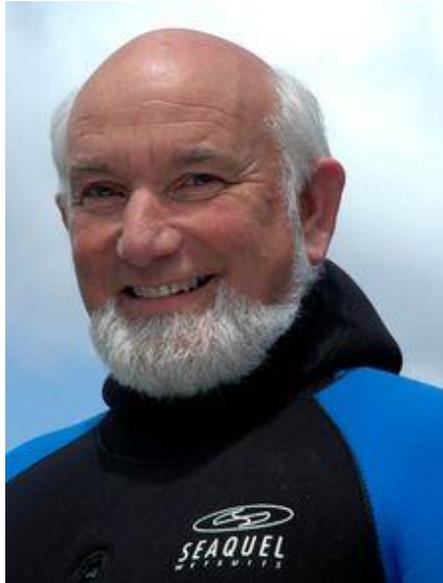
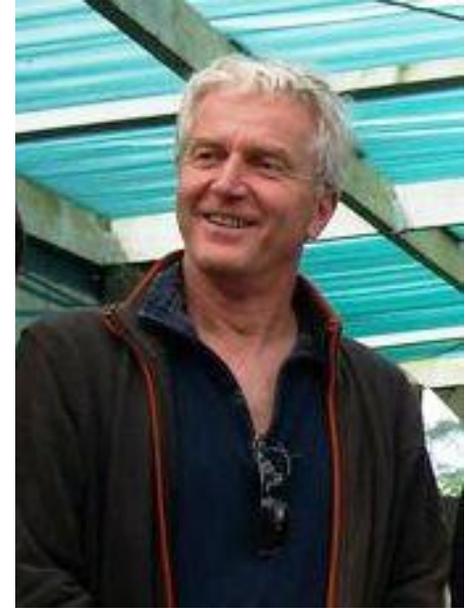
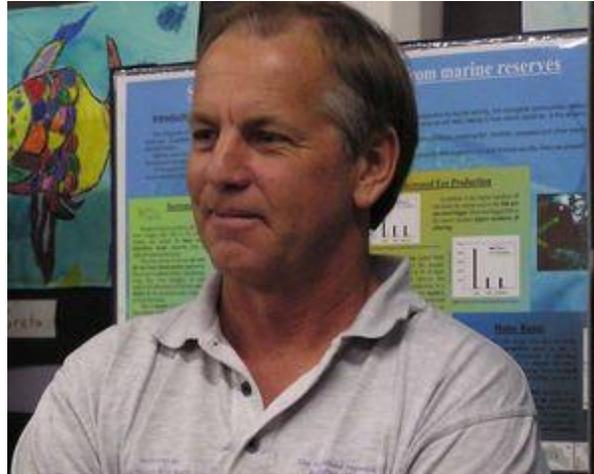


Mountains  **To**  **Sea**

Conservation Trust

Nga Maunga ki te Moana

Nga Maunga ki te Moana



Established in 2002 with just \$10!

The objective:

A Charitable Trust is hereby established for the purpose of achieving the following outcomes.

- (a) Environmental educational strategies, programs, resources and community engagement activities will be created, fostered and offered to the community.*
- (b) Advocate directly within communities and with Government for the establishment of a system of conservation measures and biodiversity protection areas.*
- (c) Support and create opportunities for young environmental professionals to work and engage with schools and communities in environmental education and ecological restoration and conservation management.*
- (d) Foster and support the pursuit of scientific research, understanding and traditional knowledge of aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity. Ensure that the results of the research are disseminated in the community.*
- (e) Provide technical, scientific assistance to the community, schools and environmental advocacy groups for the purpose of furthering the aims of the Trust.*

In the following two years NMKTM got some new recruits and went national...



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

In 2005 we changed our name, got a new logo and started thinking much more long-term..





Charity Number: CC23406

For all enquiries email info@emr.org.nz



www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz



www.emr.org.nz



www.marinenz.org.nz



DRAINS TO HARBOUR

MANGROVE DISCOVERY PROGRAMME

People came and went but the
essence of the trust remained...



And this is what it looks like today...

Schools and community engagement programmes



www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz

Community Riparian Planting Projects

Whitebait Spawning Site and Habitat Restoration Projects



www.emr.org.nz

Drains to Harbour (Whangarei)
National Marine and Freshwater Wānanga

Community Guided Snorkel/Kayak Days



www.marinenz.org.nz

Reef Savers
www.reefsavers.nz

'How to' create a marine reserve proposal
www.howtokit.org.nz



Hilton Leith
Chairperson
Businessman and
Commercial Diver

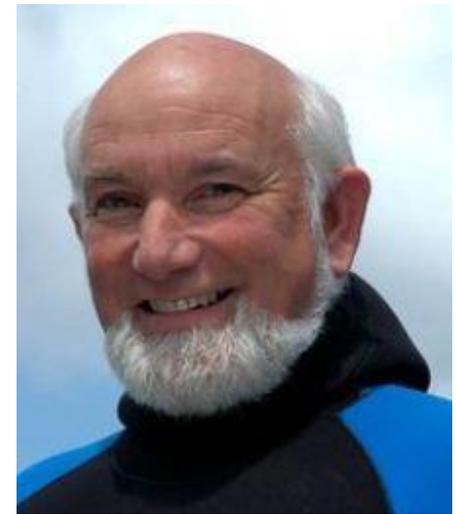
Non-Consulting Trustees



Vince Kerr
Biologist and Marine
Conservation Campaigner



Sioux Campbell
Environmental Public Relations
Specialist



Dr. Roger Grace
Marine Biologist
and photographer

Consulting Trustees



Samara Nicholas
Environmental Social
Entrepreneur and Trust
Programme Director



Kim Jones
WBC National Coordinator and
Trust Secretary



MTSCT Nthld/AKLD Consultants



Elle Gibson
EMR Coordinator



Harriet Thomas
WBC and EMR Coordinator



Nicki Wakefield
Regional WBC Coordinator



Soozee McIntyre
WBC Coordinator



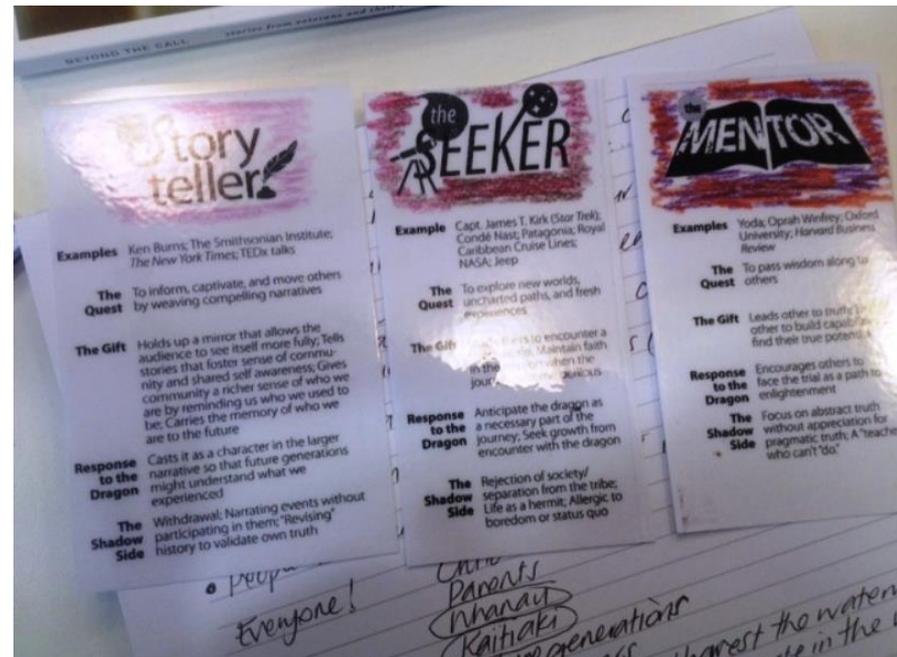
Jasmine Pirini
WBC Coordinator



Lorna Doogan
EMR and WBC Auckland Regional
Coordinator

Finding the essence

- The Storyteller
- The Seeker
- The Creator
- The Mentor
- The Rebel
- The Companion
- The Caregiver



[YouTube Clip](#)



•Celebrate the Sea event - 2003



Chain of awareness: Northland Experiencing Marine Reserves co-ordinator and human chain co-chief organiser Kim Boyle with Parua Bay School students, from left: Mathew Donelley, 11, Katie Woodward, 11, and Sophie Ackermann, 10, who will be taking part in the record bid.

World record chain

THE WORLD'S first human chain around the world's first student-driven marine reserve will be a highlight of Conservation Week in Whangarei this month.

The aim is to raise awareness of Whangarei harbour marine reserve boundaries, which are constantly transgressed by fishers.

The Experiencing Marine Reserves programme, with support from the Department of Conservation, is organising the event. Hundreds of people are expected to take part.

Event co-ordinator Samara Nicholas says more than 60 people have been caught fishing in the area since it became a reserve

three years ago, resulting in 37 prosecutions.

Most charges resulted in a diversion or formal warning.

"That's on top of hundreds we have stopped from offending by approaching before they get the line in the water," Ms Nicholas says.

"We were light on prosecutions in the first year and have been warning less and prosecuting more as time has gone on. People have become more aware of the reserve."

The marine reserve was proposed by Kamo High School students in 1990.

The Motukaroro and Waikaraka sites attained marine reserve

status in October 2006 and it is believed to be the world's first student-driven marine reserve.

The event, formed around the 253.7 hectares of marine reserve, is funded by fines from infringements at the reserve.

Ms Nicholas says the event follows the theme of strong student and community voice and action – kaitiakitanga – which the programme embraces and the department fosters.

Students from more than a dozen Whangarei schools are taking part in the event.

Residents can also register to join on land or at sea on one of the seven boats already signed up to

form a chain on the water boundary of the reserve.

The event will be filmed and photographed from the sea, air and land. It will also be entered into the Guinness Book of Records as the biggest human chain around a marine reserve.

The human chain will be formed on Wednesday, September 16, or Friday, September 18, in the event of bad weather.

People must arrive at McLeod Bay between 10am and 11am with the event starting at 11am and finishing at 1pm.

Register by phoning Samara Nicholas on 433-8205 or email samara@emr.org.nz.

2009



Experiencing
Marine Reserves



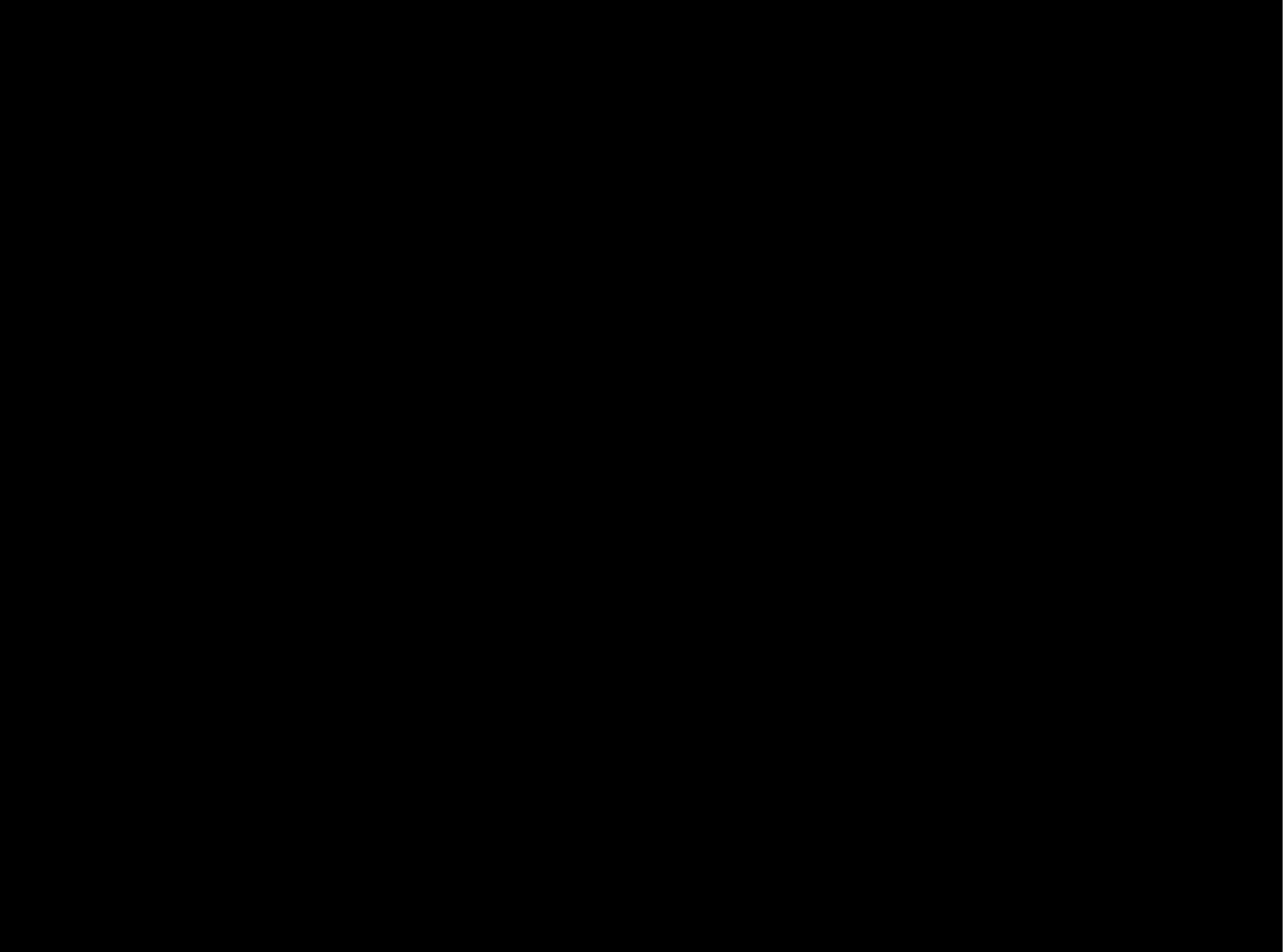
EMR
Where fish are cool and hang in schools

www.emr.org.nz



Marine & Freshwater Wananga 2010





SEED TO STREAMSIDE

Students from Room 6, Te Puawaitanga unit at Te Kura O Otangarei with He Kakano tutor Shane Nicholas.



Every week four vanloads of children arrive at Whāngārei's He Kakano nursery to get hands-on with the process of growing plants.

The Northland Regional Council is one of several groups that has funded the nursery's education programme, which sees students from Kamō, Tikipunga and Otangarei involved in the programme.

Nicki Wakefield, a trustee and project manager for He Kakano, says the project was set up by a group of enthusiastic staff and students from Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Te Rawhiti Roa in 2006.

"They had completed the Whitebait Connections programme and wanted to give something back to the environment, particularly riparian planting," she says.

"They found the facility in First Ave, Whāngārei, the use of which was then donated by Whāngārei District Council."

About 40 children are involved per term, supported by two staff members who deliver one full day a week, plus 10 regular volunteers who help with planting. Last year the nursery had 92 students go through the programme.

"It is designed to provide information about plant propagation – they get the theory with hands-on experience, information about traditional Māori uses for the plants, forest ecology and the whole system, how everything inter-relates," says Nicki.

Nursery funding comes from a variety of sources, including the Lotteries Environment and Heritage Fund, and the Department of Conservation Community Conservation Fund.

Other resources, like root trainers and irrigation equipment, are donated. Northland Regional Council and Whāngārei District Council have helped fund extra plants and fencing, and weed removal and plant maintenance.

Kim Jones, who is also a member of the trust which oversees the management of the nursery, says the project is a real collaboration.

"Funding from Northland Regional Council's Environment Fund contributed to planting days where we've needed to buy in plants from outside the nursery to add to stock for big planting days at the Tikipunga Domain," says Kim.

"The regional council also funded part of the riparian fence at the Balmoral Reserve, which is one of our planting sites."

The greater scheme behind the nursery is about growing plants for riparian planting within the Whāngārei district. Nicki says the children are involved with stream studies to connect with life in streams.

"We have a plan for the district as to what areas will be planted in future. At present we are focussing on the Waitaua River catchment restoration and each school is involved, from Kamō through Tikipunga and Otangarei."

Nicki is involved in both the Whitebait Connection programme and Experiencing Marine Reserves, both of which are key projects of the Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust. These programmes were started in Northland and have now been picked up by other regions across New Zealand.

"I love Whāngārei and what this programme does for the environment and people here," says Nicki. "We also have a lot of fun doing it, and for me the role has been one that I can get my teeth into."

Stay up to date with the latest information from the Northland Regional Council.

Visit www.nrc.govt.nz/subscriptions and register to receive emails whenever new items are posted on our website.



Over 3000 hours of volunteer time contributed to freshwater monitoring, clean ups and planting or 4 kilometres of the Waitaua Awa's riparian land



www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz



WAITAUA AWA

RESTORATION PROJECT

WHĀNGĀREI - NEW ZEALAND







Whitebait Connection **ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN** Mountains To Sea

 **KEEP OUR WATERWAYS CLEAN** 



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



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EMR Simone Nelder