

Annual Report of the Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust for the year ended 30 June 2009

I am pleased to deliver this first annual report of the Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust (the Trust). The Trust held an inaugural meeting on the 16 October 2008 and was established for the following purposes:

- To recognise and value Hutton's shearwater unique iconic characteristics
- To encourage and promote the conservation and sustainable management of Hutton's shearwater on its breeding grounds, flight paths and feeding areas with the people of Kaikoura and elsewhere
- To cooperate and work closely with any organisation or authority to encourage and promote any issue relating to the conservation and sustainable management and protection of Hutton's shearwater
- To promote and facilitate projects and scientific enquiries that will enhance the protection, conservation and sustainable management of Hutton's shearwater
- To educate the public about Hutton's shearwater by any appropriate means including making presentations to schools, groups, media, through the establishment and maintenance of a website and by newsletter
- To source and raise funds and allocate funds for projects that supports our charitable purposes.

It is important to recognise the efforts of Geoff Harrow as settlor of the Trust for his vision and determination to establish this organisation for the long term preservation and conservation of this remarkable species. Without that, this Trust would not have been established. I know that it was a demanding time for Geoff, dealing with the complex administrative and bureaucratic hurdles involved in setting up a Trust. It is a tribute to Geoff for his long standing commitment to conservation and to his more than 45 year association championing the cause of Hutton's shearwater. Geoff has regularly signaled his intention to retire after one year as a Trustee to provide a place for someone younger. I sincerely hope that this is not the case as his contribution, despite his excuse of age, is without question, and the Trust would be at a real loss if Geoff was not here to continue with his invaluable input.

I also acknowledge others who made a significant contribution in assisting with preparing the Trust deed. In particular thanks are accorded to Susan Wallace of Community Law Canterbury who advised the Trust and drafted the Trust document. Her time and very sound advice was much appreciated and will stand the Trust in good stead in the future. Hugh Wilson of the Maurice White Native Forest Trust of Hinewai Reserve and barrister Carolyn Bull also provided Geoff with invaluable advice during this initial stage of establishing the Trust.

Since the Trust's inception and inaugural meeting held on 16 October 2008 and up until 30 June 2009, the Trust met a further three times on the 24th January 2009, 18th April

2009 and the 20th June 2009. The majority of business has been conducted outside of those meetings.

It is not an understatement to say that it has been a truly momentous and exciting year with a huge amount achieved in less than nine months. For a newly formed group to come together and achieve what this Trust has during that period is a credit to all of the Trustees involved.

The first project to be undertaken by the Trust was to raise funds for the establishment of a predator proof fence on the Kaikoura Peninsula to secure the third colony that the Department of Conservation have been developing since 2005 on land owned by the Kaikoura Charitable Trust.

When the Trustees set out to raise the funds necessary to build the fence, there were a number of people in the community who thought it would not be possible to obtain the level of funding required, considering the economic environment. However the determination and commitment of the Trust meant that within six months, the fundraising target of \$220,000 had been exceeded.

The support for the predator proof fence project has been proof of the tremendous help from the Kaikoura community and beyond, the major funders, and the many individual supporters who have also given generously, either financially or through the generosity of their time or expertise.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the following:

- Kaikoura Charitable Trust who in May of this year signaled its willingness to negotiate with the Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust for the provision of a 'Licence to Occupy' their land where the Hutton's shearwater colony was being developed on the Kaikoura Peninsula by the Department of Conservation. This generous offer was greatly appreciated by the Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust and recognised the practical means by which this project could be best progressed.
- The Canterbury Community Trust; Lotteries Commission, Environment Canterbury, the Kaikoura District Council, Lions Club of Kaikoura, the Eureka Trust; World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the North Canterbury and the Kaikoura branches of the NZ Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society, Pub Charity, and the Greenwood Trust, and also, the many individuals; all who have generously provided grants, donations or funding toward the fencing project..
- Simon Mortlock and Simon Ford of Mortlock McCormack Lawyers who generously offered to negotiate the 'Licence to Occupy' on our behalf at no cost.
- Mrs Sarah Gwilliams of Christchurch who has willingly taken on the job of auditor for the Trust.

- Mr Michael Trotter who undertook an archaeological assessment of the peninsula colony site at no cost to the Trust.
- Thomas Kahu for generously designing an attractive logo for the Trust at no cost.
- Austen Deans who personally signed 50 print copies of the painting he did of Hutton's shearwater and the Kaikoura Mountains. This was commissioned by Geoff Harrow who offered the prints to the Trust as a fundraiser.
- The Kaikoura District Council, Department of Conservation, Te Runanga o Kaikoura, and Whale Watch; who have all provided a range of administrative support to assist the Trust.
- Encounter Kaikoura for providing a meeting venue for some of the Trust's meetings at no cost.
- The Kaikoura Star and other media including the Christchurch Press and Radio NZ (Spectrum programme).
- Those who willingly provided letters of support invaluable in assisting with fundraising proposals including from Dr David Bellamy, Dr Richard Cuthbert, Mark Solomon and Te Runanga o Kaikoura.

If I have overlooked any group or individual I apologise. It is not intentional. There has been so much support in so many different ways for the work of the Trust; it has at times been difficult to keep track of it all.

I would also like to acknowledge the support I have received from Trustees and the sheer hard work that you have all undertaken to realise our fundraising goal and the many other tasks necessary to enable a Trust to be successful. The countless hours you have all put in would collectively exceed well beyond a thousand over a short period of time. You have been a dedicated and committed team. I record my appreciation and thanks to you all including for the following:

- Secretary Jodie Denton in performing what is a time consuming and demanding role. Keeping on top of the paperwork underpins the success of any organisation.
- Teri Sonal for those occasions when she has obligingly stepped into the role of minute taking in Jodie's absence, other administration tasks, and for the time and effort that she put into helping with the 'Licence to Enter'.
- Treasurer Lindsay Rowe who has performed an exceptional role, not only in his capacity as Treasurer but also for the role he took on as 'coordinator' of fundraising for the Trust. Much of the success we have experienced in exceeding our fence fundraising target is attributable to Lindsay's efforts and I will be eternally grateful to have had someone as competent and efficient as Lindsay getting on with the business. Lindsay has also led the website development and prepared a database.
- Mike Bell and Lindsay Rowe for spearheading the scientific work the Trust hopes to undertake in the future.

- Phil Bradfield for invaluable conservation advice and a professionally developed presentation that has been so useful in promoting the Trust's cause at events.
- Nicky McArthur for her willingness to lead the 'Friends of Hutton's Shearwater' group, assisting with press releases and promotion of the Trust's activities
- Dennis Buurman for sound advice, help with events and promotion, and generously providing meeting space
- Tim Manawatu for sound advice and providing a valued linkage with Te Runanga o Kaikoura to whom Hutton's shearwater is a 'taonga' species; and
- Geoff for his endless stream 'begging letters' for donations to friends, letters to the Press, and generosity to the Trust in numerous ways.

It is also important to recognise the efforts of all of those Trustees who helped out with the raffle and Biodiversity Bonanza held at Kaikoura in March 2009. This was led by Jodie Denton. This event was a helpful catalyst in getting the work of the Trust well recognised within the community and raising our profile for fundraising purposes.

The Trust established a website during this time and although there is further work to be done on it, it is a useful means by which the Trust can promote its conservation goals.

It is hoped that the predator proof fence that the Trust has successfully raised significant funds for, will be in place before the end of 2009. This will provide much needed protection for returning birds from the successive DoC translocations and will enable the birds to eventually breed and establish the third colony to realise the vision of Dr Richard Cuthbert, DoC, and the Hutton's Shearwater Recovery Group.

Looking to the future I am confident that the Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust will continue to be a successful organisation and make a valuable contribution toward the conservation and protection of Hutton's shearwater. The Trust has started to work on a three year plan and has proposals for research that will ultimately provide important information to help understand more about this extraordinary seabird. The Trust also has an opportunity to inform and educate the public and needs to include within it's planning how that may be best achieved. Education into schools needs to be an important part of that.

There is much to be done to maintain the fence once it has been built, and to progressively plant the area out. This will require the support of volunteers and organisations and it is proposed that the 'Friends of Hutton's Shearwater' group will provide a strong support base for getting help with such practical tasks alongside support from key stakeholders. The Trust, in addition to it's role in conserving and protecting this species, is making an important contribution to the community of Kaikoura through creating awareness of an important endangered species that Kaikoura can claim as 'it's own'. That value will become increasingly evident in the years ahead.

It is vital that the Trust maintains strong links with the community and key stakeholder groups including Kaikoura Charitable Trust, Te Runanga o Kaikoura, Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu, Environment Canterbury, Kaikoura District Council and the Department of

Conservation so that it continues to receive the strong support that has been evident to date.

The Trust has an exciting year ahead and I am confident it will maintain the momentum it has demonstrated in the last nine months as it continues with its important work. It has been a privilege to serve the Trust in the role of Chairman.

Paul McGahan
Chairman
Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust
31 October 2009