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**MCTT QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

2 messages

**MCTT Trustees** <news@mctt.org.nz>  
Reply-To: MCTT Trustees <news@mctt.org.nz>  
To: Us@omahabeach.co.nz

17 August 2022 at 10:11

**AUGUST NEWSLETTER**

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**This quarter our newsletter chronicles a series of media features which demonstrate a growing level of interest in the development of trails such as our Pūhoi to Mangawhai trail we are all so passionate about. More and more people are choosing to explore new and existing trails around the country and are writing home about their experiences.**

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## Some traction on the slippery bit...



After the wettest July for more than 6 years we are pleased that the rain has finally paused long enough to allow contractors to provide some grip to the boardwalk sections of the Matakana to Point Wells Trail. We wish to acknowledge the response of Auckland Council Community Facilities to addressing the traction issues when they were raised earlier in the year.

The new surface is a significant improvement to a section of trail that



by its very nature requires caution and concentration in all weather conditions.

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## **Yes! Minister...**



In this press release from April, the Minister of Tourism Stuart Nash acknowledges the value of cycle trails in the economic recovery of the tourism industry, and of course health and well-being.

[Read the full article here](#)



Stuart is clearly a man who enjoys using cycle trails himself, such is his enthusiasm for them in this video:

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We look forward to the Minister of Tourism waxing lyrical about our trail in the not-too-distant future!

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**Our Co-Chair on the air waves**





Also full of enthusiasm was our Co-Chair Aidan Bennett in this radio interview with Graeme Hill of Today FM. Aidan describes Stage 1 of our trail network as being “*shovel ready*”.

[Have a listen](#)

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**‘Hops’ (and a DB)**





We've had a huge response to this story in Mahurangi Matters on Roger Trotter ("Hops"). Hops is obviously a dearly loved, long-standing community member who has donated a 1.3 km easement along his Duck Creek Road boundary to be included in the trail between Snells Beach and Warkworth.

Hops has lived on Hamilton Road for 75 years. Now, he and his niece (and our Trustee) Shelley Trotter are 'paying it forward' by providing easements across their properties, to help us make our trail network a reality. Talk about local heroes.

[Read the full article here](#)

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**Building bridges**





Our friends at the Outdoor Access Commission wrote this story for the news section of their website.

*“Creating more public access trails will also take cars off the road and on to two wheels or foot. This will help connect people to their jobs, their communities, and their neighbours.”*

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## Pakiri Progress

**The Pakiri Trail Group’s Coordinator John Bluck has just updated us about recent progress for their walking trail...**

*After two years of work, the trail from Pakiri Hall to the beach is now ready to progress, subject to signoff from the Ngati Manuhiri Settlement Trust, who own the riverbed adjacent to the trail. DOC control the esplanade strip along the river and AT are supportive, as are local landowners.*



*The Pakiri trail would provide safe walking, and eventually cycling space, for a community that has few safe places to walk. The village, which has doubled its permanent population over the last decade, has only 200 metres of footpath. Currently, locals must walk through the valley on 80km roads, often used by heavy vehicles. The road to the beach is narrow, dusty, poorly maintained and beset with several dangerous corners. Walkers, including those doing the Te Araroa Trail, currently 'take their life in their hands' on their way to the beach. The Pakiri Trail Group's trail would provide a safe route and avoid those treacherous corners.*

*The local school is keen to use the trail and support its development, especially the first two sections. The first would transform an Auckland Transport dump for road spoil into a delightful picnic area; the second section would provide an adjoining walk around the river edge, following the oxbow curve of the riverbed.*

*Securing the promised funding would enable the Pakiri Trail Group to fence this oxbow section, allowing planting of natives and eventually, allow a web-based track to be laid. The Group are confident funds of \$6.5K would allow them to fence the path, after they have raised the balance needed locally. Fencing would cost around \$12k in total.*

*Eventually, the Pakiri trail could connect with the wider network of trails planned for Rodney. The Pakiria Trail Group believe that local support from mana whenua and Pākeha locals would be secured by getting this modest project underway.*

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## **Changes at Matakana Coast Tourism**

The Trust was surprised to hear about Karen Thompson-Smith's departure from Matakana Coast Tourism (MCT). She has been such a champion support of our work and we will miss her professional help

and friendship. We wish Karen every future happiness and success, and extend a very warm welcome to Gregg Anderson, who is taking over the reins at MCT. We look forward to working with Gregg, and to more exciting collaborations with MCT in the weeks and months to come.

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## Somewhere, over the rainbow

Some days it feels like we are searching for a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, but momentum is building, and the Trust is confident that we are nearing the cusp of securing significant funding to start the main construction of Stage 1 of our project. In the meantime, we do rely on regular donations to cover our administrative and fundraising operating expenses. Please help us keep the momentum going by making a donation.

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