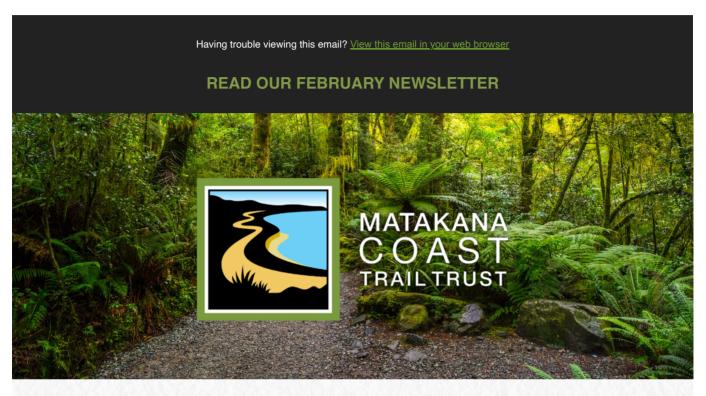


Matakana Coast Trail Trust February Newsletter

1 message

MCTT Trustees <news@mctt.org.nz> Reply-To: MCTT Trustees <news@mctt.org.nz> To: Omaha <Us@omahabeach.co.nz> 10 February 2023 at 14:30



Dear Omaha,

As we get into gear for 2023, our thoughts are with everyone adversely impacted by the flood. Thankfully, we are part of a community that cares and pulls together in times of need. We saw that firsthand and were mightily relieved the section of the trail from Point Wells to Matakana was not damaged!

Over the summer break, <u>Matakana Coast Trail Trust</u> (MCTT) has been nominated as the charity of choice for a bunch of intrepid local women who are cycling the length of New Zealand to help build our trail. Their generosity is hugely appreciated and we wish them well as they set off on two wheels next week. You can find out more about their journey below, along with news about us being in the news; the appearance of billboards in Rodney advertising the trail route; and a special gong for two of our own.

We hope you enjoy our February newsletter and appreciate your generous support and encouragement for us and our work, much of it being done by passionate volunteers. Please contact us with your feedback and ideas - we'd love to hear from you!

Take care, stay safe.

Ngā mihi nui MCTT

Charity fundraiser for MCTT



Next week, local women Angela Thomas, Julia Blennerhassett, and Nicola Paterson, will set off on an adventure of a lifetime. They plan to ride the length of New Zealand (3000kms), across various terrain, mostly sleeping under the stars, and hope to reach Bluff in 30 days!

The women have chosen MCTT to be their nominated charity and are asking the local community to dig deep to help fund the trail network, saying "the trail tracks are suitable for the whole family and for an array of activities, not just cycling."

You can keep an eye on their progress, send them a message, and support their fundraising efforts here: <u>https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/angela-julia-and-nicola-team-little-goats-ride</u>.

Warmest thanks to you Angela, Julia, and Nicola. Good luck and safe travels!

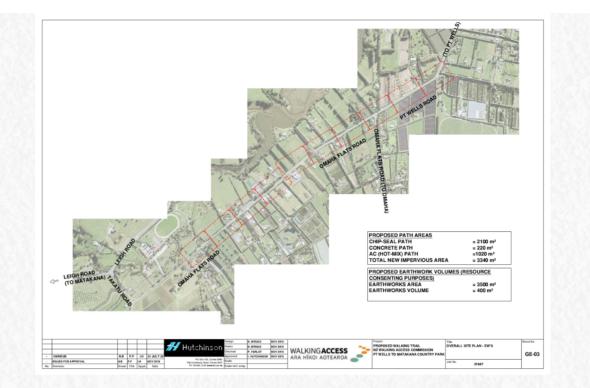
Postscript: Julia and Angela have attended planting days at Te Whau and participated in Warkworth Walks, hosted by Shelley Trotter (Trustee, MCTT) and Gary Heaven (Chair, Mahurangi Trail Society). Scroll down for more about Shelley and Gary's good work and a special award they're to receive.

We're famous in Rodney!



Look out for signs popping up in Warkworth, Sandspit, Matakana, Omaha and Point Wells. It's all part of informing the local community and visitors, and sharing our excitement about building a world-class trail network in Rodney. We reckon that's something to crow about!

Feature article in Mahurangi Matters



The Point Wells Matakana Country Park trail route has been given the big tick by Auckland Transport. The approval of the design is a huge milestone for us, as we now have all the required consents in place to build this section of our landmark 117-kilometre trail.

"Let's not let anyone put this in the too-hard basket," says MCTT's Deputy Chair and founder, Allison Roe. Undaunted by big challenges, Roe, winner of both the New York and Boston Marathons, quotes Nelson Mandela who said, "It always seems impossible until it's done."

Roe says, "Whatever we dream and believe can be achieved. We are not building a trail network for selfish reasons, but rather, to benefit the whole Rodney community. It will provide unique access to our beautiful, natural environment; enhance health and wellbeing; and play a part in reducing carbon emissions. Such a viable commuter/recreational corridor is a sustainable, legacy project and one which will help to improve road safety in the region, as well as grow the local economy."

Read article

Outdoor Access Champion Awards for 2023



Shelley Trotter and Gary Heaven are the recipients of Outdoor Access Champion Awards for 2023, for their work supporting public access to the outdoors.

Awarded by the Outdoor Access Commission, Shelley's work as a Trustee of MCTT and a member of the Mahurangi Trail Society is being recognised. This includes working through the Herenga ā Nuku public access easement process to legally protect a vital part of the Pūhoi to Mangawhai Stage 1 section of the trail, which crosses her property at Solway Deer Farm.

In tandem, the Commission also honour Gary's work as Chair of the Mahurangi Trail Society. They highlight the considerable time he has spent planning the design and location of the Matakana trail, as well as advising and engaging with the community, Auckland Council, Department of Conservation, and Auckland Transport to obtain the necessary approvals to enable this project.

The Outdoor Access Commission is organising a special award ceremony for the pair. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for further details.

Please consider giving a little

While we continue to seek funding through grants and government agencies for our multipurpose trail network, we are also heavily reliant on the local community to help us reach our target of \$53 million. Please consider making a donation so we can reach our goal. Don't we owe it to ourselves to invest in the health, wealth, and safety of our local community?







matakana COAST

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