

## **SUPPORTERS' NEWSLETTER**



*Become part of this journey. Help to retain and manage the Matai Bay Hut in its unique location for future generations to enjoy.*

## Perfect Seclusion



Sometimes, the only way to truly get away from it all is to go someplace only accessible via boat. Spend a night at Matai and listen as the world's problems fade away with the lapping ocean.

### Hut Fees

**Adult:** \$7.00 per night per person.

**Youth/child:** \$4.00 per night per person.

**Exclusive Occupancy:** \$40.00 per night.

In the first instance please contact:

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# Chairperson's Report

Matai Bay Trust  
Chair's Report – Greg Durkin  
March 2022

Kia ora koutou

I would like to begin my report to the AGM with the following whakataukī (proverb).

*Ehara ko te ua o te wai,  
Ehara hoki ko te pupuhi o te hau,  
Engari ko te whakatika ke o nga ra,  
Ka tae ora te waka ki uta*

*It is not the direction in which the current flows,  
Nor is it the direction in which the wind blows,  
Rather it is the setting of sails,  
That enables a canoe to reach its destination.*

This whakataukī is about the influence people have on the direction of travel. In our case, Trustees have maintained a steady course during uncertain times and remained focused on our purpose. Our goal is simple: preserve and manage the Matai Bay Hut on behalf of DoC to provide opportunities for people to access and enjoy an extraordinary part of Aotearoa. In respect to that goal, I can attest that the Trust fulfills its duties to a very high standard.

This AGM reports on the business of the Matai Bay Hut Trust for the period of 1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021. While we are five months on from the close of the financial year, some of the challenges our communities faced during that time are still fresh in our minds. Principally, the ever-present spectre of COVID19 has meant the Trust had to adapt quickly to managing the Matai Bay Hut in different ways. I am delighted to report that the Trust has continued to operate effectively as a team and has risen to every challenge.

Despite COVID, the 2020/2021 year was busy, with record occupancy levels. While there were several interruptions, people visiting Matai Bay Hut have continued to climb. Of note, we continue to attract new visitors and a healthy number of returning clients. Thanks to regular maintenance and careful

monitoring, the Hut looks fabulous. In keeping with our commitment to people learning about their natural surroundings, we maintain and improve information sources of the bush and surrounds of Matai Bay on an ongoing basis.

The task of keeping bookings up to date, management of income, and liaison with Hut users is a constant process that requires dedication - my thanks to Trust members and supporters involved in this important work. Coupled with this, my sincere thanks to those who have ably managed our: communications, health and safety, digital presence, building maintenance, financial management, liaison with DoC, and the many other tasks associated with the Hut operation.

The effort that goes into the Matai Bay Hut Calendar deserves particular mention. Thank you, Beryl and team, for managing submissions and producing another excellent publication in 2021. The calendar brings the Sounds to life in so many homes and offices with its medley of awesome photos of nature on every page. In addition to the editorial team, I also wish to thank all the contributors, sellers, and purchasers – your teamwork makes the dream work.

The Matai Bay Hut is a unique feature of Marlborough Sounds that the Department of Conservation (DOC) values highly. The common goal of preserving and operating the Hut, has resulted in our local communities forging a solid working relationship with the local DoC team that delivers value for visitors and locals alike. On behalf of the Trust, I extend my thanks to Margot Ferrier and the team at DoC for supporting this example of an effective public-private partnership.

The future of the Matai Bay Hut is bright. As an organization, the Trust is committed to ensuring the resource continues to deliver value. In closing, the Trust gratefully acknowledges the service of two Trustees who resigned during the term - Sharon Rose and Ellie Cooper; and welcomes three new faces - Kim Rogers, Sarah Archer and Mark Secker. I commend the Trustees and supporters for their sustained efforts and dedication to the Trust's objectives.

Naku noa

Greg Durkin  
Chair

## Who has been staying with us.....

*Dear Linda and the Committee,*

*Another glorious time was had amongst the tui, bellbirds, piwakawaka, seals and moreporks and in perfect conditions. The hut was in excellent shape – both clean and well stocked and we enjoyed our first driftwood wood fire the year. Idyllic!*

*Please pass on my grateful thanks to the Committee, with best wishes and I will no doubt be back soon!*

*Hazel*



We know how magical the hut is and it is always wonderful to get feedback on how much our guests have also enjoyed their time. Thank you for feedback Hazel and the stunning photos you sent through.

A reminder – if you have fantastic photos – share them with us all by entering the Calendar competition!

## Save the Date - Working Bee

Time to Spring Clean the hut ready for what is going to be a busy summer

Save the Date for now

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Further details will be confirmed closer to the time.

## Hunt for the Calendar shots.....

Its Calendar time again and we are on the hunt for images that remind you of life in paradise

Your next claim to fame could be the winning picture that graces the cover of the 2023 Matai Bay Hut fund raising Calendar!



# Matai Bay Hut Trust

**IMAGES WANTED!**

PHOTO IMAGES ARE NOW NEEDED  
FOR THE 2023 CALENDAR

Email or drop box to .....

**berylarcher@xtra.co.nz**

Call - (03) 576 5292



*PHOTOS MUST BE ;*

- \* Submitted Electronically with a file size of 2-5 MB as jpg file.( OR LARGER )
- \* Please Note: Photos from some phones do not print as clearly as shown on the LCD screen.
- \* Only cropping, sharpening and tonal or exposure adjustments allowed
- \* Available for the calendar and other hut promotions/ advertising.
- \* We can resize them but months are LANDSCAPE and cover PORTRAIT.
- \* Photos of sights, scenes and actions taken within the Marlborough Sounds.

**Please send your entries to BERYL BY THE 30th MAY**



# Tennyson Inlet Islands Trust

Life on the Tennyson Inlet islands continues to improve. Bird counts are going up which is showing our 58 \* 24 self-resetting Good Nature A24 traps are having the desired effect. There is always room for improvement and the way to do this is to increase the coverage of traps. With this in mind we are expecting delivery of another 25 \* A24s early in May 2022. See image below of our trap locations.

We are finding that the 6 monthly service intervals of the A24s makes life far simpler and less demanding on our volunteers. However, we are going to change the A24 service interval to from 6 monthly down to 4 monthly (3 times a year). This change is a result of R&D from other trapping programmes showing that 4 monthly replacements of the gas and bait keeps them closer to 100% effective.

Our A24s have counters on them which record each time the trap is triggered causing a “strike”. This time of year, the strike numbers increase as a consequence of the rat population growing in sync with the plentiful supply of seeds.



We have two “trial” cameras which record movement around our traps. It shows how cautious rats are but also how lethal the A24s are when a rat finally puts their head into the trap.



In June we are looking forward to meeting Darren Peters from the Good Nature company. Good Nature are the developers of the A24 Traps.

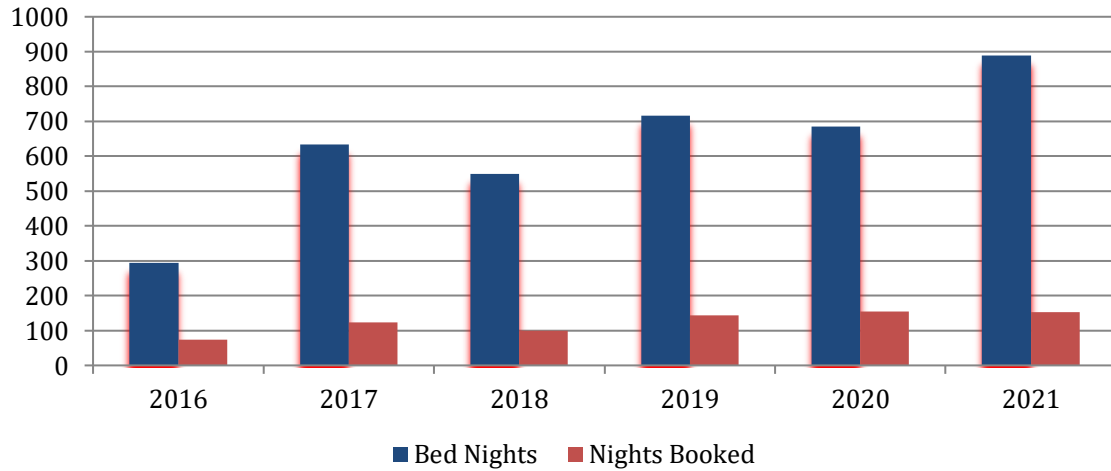
Our cameras are also occasionally employed to watch over our penguin boxes and it is great to see the busy mothers and then finally the chicks emerge. We have installed 25 boxes on the islands to protect the eggs and young from being attacked by rats.

The annual vesplex baiting continues to be very successful in reducing the wasp population and increasing the honey dew available for the birds. Lizard refuge and weta houses have also been installed to encourage and protect the biodiversity of the island.

Extreme thanks go to our “Friend of TIIT” who contribute an annual membership subscription. If you are interested in donating or getting involved please go to our website (

<https://www.tiit.co.nz/>) and download the Feb 2022 Newsletter which has at the back a membership form.

## Hutt Booking Trends



Find us on  
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[www.mataibayhut.org.nz](http://www.mataibayhut.org.nz)



Matai Bay Hut  
@hut.mataibay

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About

