



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

September 2022

Kia ora koutou, ngā mihi nui

Wow, what an incredible last few weeks/months we have had. The top of the South has been plastered with what seems like a year's rain over an extremely short period.

The Trust is happy to report the Hut has come through the deluge unscathed. While there was no one in the Hut at the time, we are sure the adjacent creek would have been pumping. While there was no damage to Matai, the same cannot be said for houses and infrastructure across Marlborough and Nelson. In particular, a number of roads in the Sounds have been severely damaged. If you are planning to travel through the Sounds at present, please check the road conditions.

Looking forward to Christmas, bookings for the Matai Hut are coming in thick and fast. Please do not delay if you are looking to spend a few days in our little slice of heaven, pick up the phone or email us at the contact details in the newsletter.

The time has arrived for you to order your 2023 Matai Bay Calendar. This veritable feast of pictorial splendour can be yours for the meager price of \$15.00 (plus a donation if you are feeling flush). All proceeds (after printing, etc.) go to maintaining the Hut. The Matai Bay Trust is a registered charity and uses its funds for the purposes stated in the Trust Deed (looking after the Hut and adjacent surrounds). Before I close off about the Calendar, a huge thanks to Beryl Archer and her team of supporters for their hard work.

In closing, I would like thank trustees and supporters for their untiring devotion to the Hut. Remember, teamwork makes the dream-work.

Naku noa
Greg Durkin
Chair

Matai Hut History – a recap

The Matai Bay hut was originally built out of concern for the native bush being destroyed by noxious animals, mainly deer and opossums.

In 1962, the New Zealand Forest Service was tasked with looking into eradication measures by the Croisilles/French Pass/Durville Island Reserves board. Two years later, the Forest Service requested that a noxious animal control be implemented in the Duncan Bay Reserve. However, the section holders of Duncan Bay raised a total of 27 objections in response to the proposal. While the Reserve Board supported the need for the base, it agreed with the section holders that the Duncan Bay Reserve was an unsuitable location. The Reserves Board instead proposed basing the animal control in Matai Bay.

Four years later, the Reserves Board organised the construction of a hut to assist the “hunters and opossum trappers.’ The building of the Tennyson Inlet Hut (as it would be named) was undertaken by Thorn and Hart. Construction was funded via a Government grant of \$610.00 (\$10,000 today). Building materials were punted across from Havelock by Eric Johnson and Sons for the sum of \$18.00 (\$300 today)(Ref. Minutes of Reserves board meetings).



Over the years the hut has gone through a number of changes as its usage has become more and more recreational. A major upgrade by the Maritime Parks Board occurred in the mid 1970s due to increasing public demand for park access. The hut is believed to have been rebuilt during this upgrade, during which it was moved closer to the sea. Anecdotes of the original hut describe it as "a scummy, hunter's tin hut with a smelly smoky open fire" .

Although the original hut offered little in the way of comfy sleep (with many preferring to sleep on their boats) it did offer some fantastic whitebaiting from the local creek. If anyone has any information or anecdotes from the early days we would love to hear.

Beryl Archer 4/8/17



Who has been staying with us.....

Well I haven' t stayed, butit is my favorite spot to visit with friends or family for a picnic morning tea or lunch,

If gives everyone a taste of the tranquility they could enjoy when they book to stay!



*Love is....
being lifted to the shore so you
don't get your feet wet*



We know how magical
feedback on how much



the hut is and it is always wonderful to get
our guests have also enjoyed their time.

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

Matai Hut after the Floods of August 2022

After four days of rain and emptying 750mm from the home rain gauge we were anxious to check out the Matai Bay hut. Then Finally on Saturday the rain stopped, and we headed out of Penzance through the muddy waters.



Choosing the deepest beach landing we tied the boat up on the shore in from the Matai Hut mooring and walked up through the toe toe to cross the creek to the hut, the creek had turned into a raging river totally impossible to cross. We motored over to the beach in front of the hut all good. The hut was surrounded by mud, tentatively we pushed opened the door to find the interior beautifully clean and dry, what a joy. Walking through the bush to the Nikau gully up where the creek bends, we could see it had overflowed through the bush and down under the hut sweeping everything clear, but fortunately the banks had held directing the main force of the creek way from the hut. The flood claimed a few trees on the edge of the creek, there is some debris strewn around and plenty of mud but thats about it.

Leaving the bay we had a chance to observe the effect on the surrounding area, its devastating how many landfalls have scared the hills especially along the western side of the bay, fortunately in time they will regenerate. Already the shags had returned to their old nesting place in the beech trees preparing their new nests for the spring and one of the resident seals had reclaimed his spot on the point, normality was already beginning to return

Our hut situation is very fortunate in comparison to the heart-breaking stories from around the rest of the Marlborough Sounds

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 5th November 2022

Further details will be confirmed closer to the time.

Hunt for the Calendar shots.....

Thank you for all who have sent in photos.

After much discussion the final 24 photos have been sent to our photographic judge for reducing down to the 13 photos needed to grace the pages of the 2023 calendar.

Calendars **ARE AVAILABLE NOW FOR PURCHASE!**



And as for the 2023 Cover.....



\$15.00 ea

FUNDRAISING CALENDAR

Each year the Matai Bay Hut Trust assembles a Fund-Raising Calendar of exciting scenes from within the Marlborough Sounds.

The calendars are available now. They make an excellent gift for friends and family or to send overseas.

These are available from any Trust Member or

★ Beryl Archer Ph 03 576 5292
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★ Linda Booth Ph 027 436 9485
doug.linda2@gmail.com

★ Jane Nichol Ph 03 576 5133
janenichol111@gmail.com

YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED

2023 MATAI BAY HUT CALENDAR



MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS
NEW ZEALAND

**THANK YOU
FOR ASSISTING US TO
MAINTAIN THE HUT
FOR FUTURE
GENERATIONS TO
ENJOY**

OUR FUND-RAISING CALENDAR

Our first calendar

was published in 2013, an A4 size calendar, depicting the hut and its beautiful surroundings.

Today

We focus on sights and scenes photographed in the sounds, always considering any images you enter.

The images we receive are all collated then approx. 50% are chosen by four committee members and sent to the Executive Director and Publisher of Potton & Burton Ltd who selects thirteen for publication.

We changed to the A3 size calendar in 2015 to better showcase the magnificent scenic photos you send.

The quality of images is paramount, but the subject is up to your imagination, if it's about the Marlborough Sounds.

If you have any specific topics you would like to see more emphasis on please let me know.

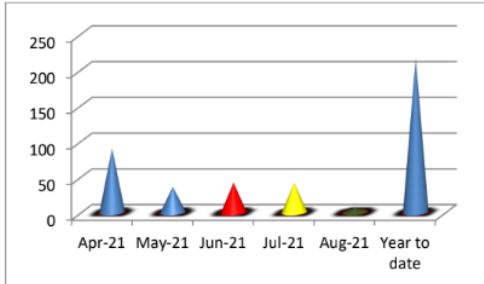
Perhaps a series of black and white or historical Sounds images? Any other recommendations are welcome.

Email your suggestions to Beryl today on berylarcher@xtra.co.nz

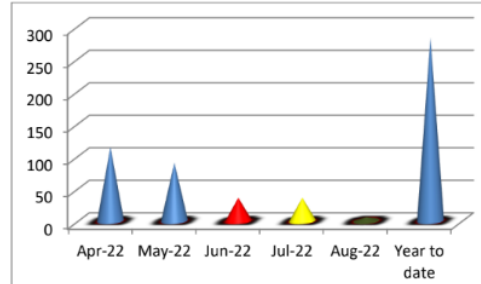


HUT BOOKING TRENDS

April – July 2021 / 2022



Number of Bed Nights					
April 21	May 21	June 21	July 21	Aug 21	YTD
90	36	42	42	6	216



Number of Bed Nights					
April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	Aug 22	YTD
114	90	36	36	6	282

www.mataibayhut.org.nz



Matai Bay Hut

@hut.mataibay

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