

Waihora Ellesmere Trust Annual Report 2012/13



The Trust

- Around 100 – 120 individual/family members plus 5 organisations
- A further 130 subscribers to the website/newsletter
- 2 staff members - General Manager and Finance Manager
- Contracted Restoration Consultant, working on projects and also with schools
- Several active volunteers, working on specific projects and assisting with events



Keeping in touch

- The WET website is regularly updated with information about events, items of interest and lake level updates
- Over 6000 visits to the website from over 3000 individuals
- New Facebook page
- 4 newsletters emailed or posted out to members and subscribers



Funding & support

- Core funding from ECan and SDC (covering around 50% of costs)
- Statutory Agencies Group – facilitation funding
- Office space provided by ECan
- Additional funding comes via project funding - for 2011/12 this included Community Environment Fund, Sustainable Farming Fund, Canterbury Community Trust and WWF



Reporting on the Community Strategy and developing an Action Plan

- A report covering achievements contributing to the *Community Strategy* and WET activities since its formation in 2003 was prepared
- Building on the Strategy, an *Action Plan* was developed which will guide our activities and provide a framework for reporting over the next 10 years
- Action Plan and Summary of Achievements report supported by CCT funding



WET also adopted a mission statement:

Waihora Ellesmere Trust (WET) is a community organisation dedicated to the improvement of the health and biodiversity of Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere and its catchment.

Acknowledging the past and looking to the future, we:

Educate - enhancing understanding, awareness and the values of the Lake through education programmes, newsletters, and field days.

Facilitate - promoting better management practices through public seminars and by partnering with private landowners, community groups and government agencies.

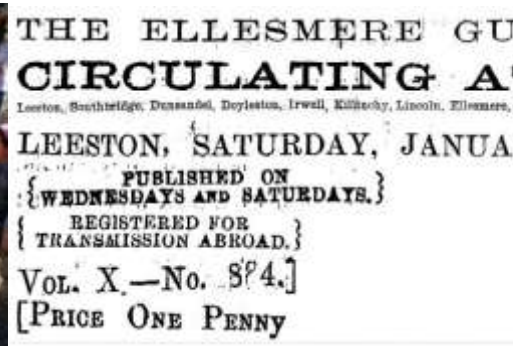
Activate - providing opportunities and encouragement for people to get actively involved in projects to rehabilitate the ecosystem through riparian and wetland enhancement.

Working to make our place better.



Educate

- Living Lake and Catchment Symposium – over 200 attendees
- Working with schools
- Newsletter/Website, new facebook page
- Working with ECan Education team (MoU), Enviroschools and Waterwatch
- Attending and organising events & field trips -
- New brochure on successful riparian restoration
- Submissions on resource consents, Zone Implementation Programme, CERA Recovery Strategy, Whakora Te Waihora
- Organised UC Community Education lecture series
- Worked with Selwyn Library to promote Papers Past
- Party to the Lake Opening Protocol
- Supported research students working on projects related to the Lake



Facilitate

- Facilitated Statutory Agencies Group - including participation of key agencies in the Living Lake & Catchment Symposium
- Draft Bird Monitoring Protocol
- Initiated discussions on state of the lake reporting
- Working collaboratively and facilitating information exchange through Sustainable Drain Management Project, Statutory Agencies Group, Selwyn-Waihora Active Restoration Forum



Activate

- Assisted with planning and organising the Canterbury Plantout
- Green Footprint partnership (WET/SDC/YHA)
- Working with schools on practical restoration projects – Ladbrooks, Burnham, Springston, Middleton Grange & Tai Tapu
- Continuing to maintain some of the Waihora Ellesmere Catchment Riparian Restoration Programme sites and handing over to all landowners by end of June 2012
- Assisting with development of new demonstration sites



Sustainable Drain Management Project

Educate Facilitate Activate

Year one:

- 2 new leaflets
- Meetings with drainage committees, drain managers. individual landowners
- 10 restoration plans
- Presentations & displays at several events
- Supported implementation of new demo sites
- Summer scholar project

Funders: SFF, CEF, CCT, plus support from ECan and SDC

We have funding secured for SDM for 2012/13.

