

In 2011 a group of New Zealanders had an ambitious idea—to restore the biodiversity of the Abel Tasman National Park over a 30-year time frame.

Never before had philanthropists offered to partner with a government department to finance the restoration of a national park. With the vision of Devon McLean and a generous donation from Neal and Annette Plowman, Project Janszoon (named after Abel "Janszoon" Tasman) was launched in 2012.

Project Janszoon is like a dream come true for DOC. If you had a Project Janszoon for every national park in New Zealand the whole challenge of biodiversity that we have now would be far, far less. It's hard to emphasise just how significant it is.

Martin Rodd, Department of Conservation, Director of Partnerships

At 22,530 ha the Abel Tasman is New Zealand's smallest national park and also one of its most visited. When Project Janszoon began the Park had an estimated 160 thousand visitors, in five years that has grown to 350 thousand. Designated a national park in 1942, it boasts a wide variety of habitats from beautiful sandy beaches and islands to the sub-alpine tops.

But look beyond the golden sands and there is a lot of work to be done. The regenerating forest in much of the Park reflects a history of fires and land clearance by both Māori and European, and introduced predators and weeds have impacted negatively on the landscape and wildlife.

There was no-one sitting on the manual about how to restore the national park, but there were superb people within DOC and other outside specialists who all had a good idea about how to go about it. By mixing those sets of talents, and spending a little bit of time on the planning, we came up with the starting point.

Devon McLean, Project Janszoon Director

Project Janszoon took a collaborative approach, working together with DOC, iwi, conservation groups like the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust, bach owners, concessionaires, and the community.

Five years on, Project Janszoon has made early inroads into removing weeds and predators. This has allowed a number of bird species, like kākāriki, kākā, toutouwai/robin and pāteke to be returned with more translocations planned.

Restoration projects, from transforming the dunes and reducing fire risk to forest regeneration are underway throughout the Park with professional, scientific based decision making a key aspect of each plan. Work has also gone into strengthening the community of support for the Park and its restoration, and ensuring the legacy of Project Janszoon's work is protected.

The Abel Tasman is a perfect showcase for an ecological restoration project. In 30 years, on the 100th anniversary of the Park we hope visitors will hear the birdsong, see the birds, giant land snails, native fish, seals and penguins alongside flourishing rātā trees and mistletoe. Then, Project Janszoon will have succeeded in not only restoring the ecology of this wonderful national park, but also embedding a passion for its ongoing conservation.



CONTENTS

Chair/Director message		1
Devon McLean		3
Securing the ecological values		5
Weeds compromising native forest regeneration		7
Wilding pines—a ticking time bomb		9
Wasp control		11
Predator control		11
Accelerating the restoration		15
Restoring the wildlife		17
Good news about critically endangered snails		23
Returning the forest giants		25
Dune restoration fast tracked through volunteer efforts		25
Iconic tree returning		27
A plan to help black beech control hakea	7/15	27
Future proofing		29
Education programme builds connection to Park	7 81318	31
Tomorrow Accord paves way for other projects		39
Technology helps bring Park to life		41
Collaboration key to success		43
Meet the Project Janszoon team		46
Financials		51



CHAIR/DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Project Janszoon is five years old, which marks a good time to reflect on progress. What seemed like a daunting task in the early days is gradually taking on a more manageable pallor as some key tasks near completion and measurable changes emerge. We are into an exciting phase with restoration and translocation programmes underway.

When the project started out we were most focused on the problems. How could we stop the negative impacts on the Park? Principle amongst them were the invasive predators and invasive weeds. Five years on and thanks in part to a huge fund raising effort by the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust the threat posed by wilding conifers is receding fast. We are still addressing the challenges presented by a wide range of other weed species but there is a clear plan and progress is good.

The extensive network of stoat traps which now covers about 20,000 ha of the park is providing effective control although we still get the annual spike in numbers during January as the young venture out on their own! Our best indication that this control is sufficient will be the success of our bird populations and the results with the recent pāteke reintroduction at Awaroa are encouraging in that regard.

Expansion of the ground based possum control into the exclusion zones for the aerial operation is giving us tighter control of possum numbers overall, leaving rats as the main challenge. We are encouraged by the success of the resetting traps for rats where they are deployed at reasonably high density, as is the case now around Anchorage, Torrent Bay, and at Totaranui thanks to the investment by Air New Zealand.

The key to ongoing improvement is now in the use of our monitoring data to optimise the way we deploy the various control tools.

Over the next few years we will increasingly look to engage neighbouring landowners in the halo around the Abel Tasman in an effort to minimise the movement of all forms of pests into the Park. Many of these landowners have already shown an interest and we appreciate their recognition of the values at stake.

Much of the focus is now on the restoration of species with expectations of more pāteke and kākā over the next few years, and plans for whio/blue duck

and perhaps kiwi under discussion. We also hope to complete the return of tuatara to Tonga Island once the operation to eliminate mice from the island is confirmed as successful.

The work to "firesmart" many of the popular beach fronts is well underway with flammable species being removed and native plantings established. Volunteers and our partner schools are playing key roles in this work which will serve both to reduce the fire risk and restore the natural beach front vegetation.

The update of our phone app for the park to allow users to report back on species of interest is a novel innovation. We hope more visitors to the Park will download the app and take the time to help our work by reporting their sightings of the various species of interest that the app identifies.

Part of our vision in establishing Project Janszoon was to create a model for landscape scale restoration that would inspire others to act. We developed an agreement with the Crown called the Tomorrow Accord. The Accord provides that once a large scale restoration project achieves pre agreed indicators of ecological transformation, the Crown, through the Department of Conservation, will take responsibility to maintain those gains. Project Janszoon was the first project to qualify under the Accord and we have recently agreed the indicators of transformation.

The Taranaki Mounga Project was inspired by the success of Project Janszoon and is also now qualified under the Accord, giving investor's confidence that the transformational change they achieve will be secure for the long term.

We are excited by what is being achieved in the Abel Tasman National Park, inspired by the efforts of partners, volunteers and friends of the project and humbled by the knowledge that others are building on the model for a better future for New Zealand.

Gillian Wratt Devon McLean
Chair Director



DEVON MCLEAN

After five years as Project Janszoon director, 2017 sees an important transition for the project with Devon McLean handing over the role to Bruce Vander Lee.

Devon has been the driving force behind Project Janszoon since its inception. His vision of secure, restore and future proof has guided the work of the Project Janszoon team and our Department of Conservation colleagues. It is evident from the pages of this report, that his dedication to the project and inspirational leadership is already seeing positive changes to the depleted ecosystems of Abel Tasman National Park.

Beyond Project Janszoon, Devon's bigger vision of taking the Janszoon model and applying it more broadly across New Zealand is also bearing fruit. Since Project Janszoon began in 2012 we have seen the launch of affiliated projects under the NEXT Foundation umbrella, such as Taranaki Mounga, Zero Invasive Predators (ZIP) and Predator Free Wellington. The Tomorrow Accord has created an important framework for ensuring conservation gains made from philanthropic investment will not be lost.

Devon's dedication to the environment was recognised in 2015 when he was awarded the prestigious Queens Service Medal in the New Years Honours. He is also the Chairman of Zero Invasive Predators (ZIP), Environmental Advisor to the NEXT Foundation, Governance board member of the Biological Heritage National Science Challenge, and a director of both the Taranaki Mounga project and Predator Free 2050.

While Devon will continue his involvement with the project as part of the Janszoon board it is timely to acknowledge his significant contribution in initiating the project. With Project Janszoon now in the capable hands of Bruce and the rest of the Janszoon team, and with Devon still providing guidance we can look forward to more exciting achievements—for Project Janszoon and broader conservation initiatives across the country.





SECURE

"The Abel Tasman is a park that has had quite a chequered history. It's been burnt, it's been farmed, it's been logged, it's been mined, so what you are seeing is a Park that is going through quite a process of restoration."

Martin Rodd, Department of Conservation, Director of Partnerships



ECOLOGICAL STRATEGY COMPLETED MAY 2012



HEADS OF AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH DOC JUNE 2012



113 WEED SPECIES IDENTIFIED



16,492 RATS TRAPPED



1,571 STOATS AND WEASELS TRAPPED



90% OF PARK STOAT TRAPPED



WILDING PINES CONTROLLED ACROSS THE PARK



WASP CONTROL OVER 46 km OF COAST TRACK, 17 CAMPSITES AND 846 ha



2 AERIAL PREDATOR CONTROL OPERATIONS COMPLETED



1,117 ha OF INTEGRATED RAT CONTROL IN HEART OF PARK



WEEDS COMPROMISING NATIVE FOREST REGENERATION

One of Project Janszoon's first undertakings was to commission a weed survey to get an understanding of the scale of the Park's weed problem. The results were sobering.

The 2012 survey undertaken by Kaitiaki O Ngahere Ltd identified 113 different weed species—not including gorse and hakea. These weeds were mostly associated with former farms and bach areas and have the potential to seriously compromise native forest regeneration if not brought under control.

In 2014, the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust began a \$200,000 weed control programme, supported by the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board, targeting high-priority weeds like grevillea, wattle, holly, old man's beard, pampas and tradescantia. At Totaranui, climbing vines like Japanese honeysuckle, jasmine and banana passionfruit, and willows in the wetland area were controlled.

Project Janszoon took over follow-up work in 2016, focusing on target species that were either missed, or had sprung up after initial control. DOC continues to manage boxthorn and the aggressive Australian wonga wonga vine in the north of the Park.

Bach owners have been very supportive, removing plants on private land that were causing problems in the Park. Old man's beard and banana passion-fruit on the Park's western fringes are also sources of reinvasion, so Project Janszoon has collaborated with Project De-Vine in this area.

When it comes to weed control we are unwinding over a hundred years of human history, where common garden plants have jumped the fence and found the national park more to their liking.

Andrew Macalister, Operations Manager

Looking forward, as the existing weed problem is reined in, the test will be to prevent the introduction of new weed problems into the Park—a challenge that will require Project Janszoon, landowners, DOC and the Tasman District Council to work together.

GREVILLEA-WHEN GOOD PLANTS GO BAD



Grevillea rosmarinifolia. JJ Harrison, Wikimedia Commons

Look no further than the pretty pink flowering Grevillea to find an example of how easily a common garden plant can spread in a national park.

A native of Australia, Grevillea (Grevillea rosmarinifolia) is prized in New Zealand gardens and is likely to have been brought into Torrent Bay village as a garden plant. However it was not a plant to be contained in a garden.

When work began as part of the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust's weed control programme, workers discovered that Grevillea had spread up to 2 km into the bush behind Torrent Bay, colonising bare ridges. Already \$40,000 has been spent controlling the Aussie invader over 180 ha. There will be years of work ahead to completely remove the plant from the native bush.



WILDING PINES—A TICKING TIME BOMB

It is estimated 20% of New Zealand will be invaded by wilding conifer forests within 20 years without rapid action. These marching armies of wilding pines have been halted in their tracks in the Abel Tasman but another ten years of vigilance will be needed to ensure they do not get away again.

In 2010 the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust began a \$650,000 project to eradicate pines of cone bearing age from high-priority coastal areas of the Park. The arrival of Project Janszoon meant the completion of this initial project was accelerated, and the initial strike was completed in 2015.

Hundreds of thousands of wilding pines were poisoned, stretching from Tinline Bay in the south to Taupo Point in the north. Follow-up control was then undertaken by Project Janszoon and DOC, with the Birdsong Trust completing initial control of some small remaining areas, with support from the Abel Tasman Foreshore Scenic Reserve Fund.

Removing wilding pines is hard work and a massive logistical challenge. Access is often difficult with contractors having to work on steep and isolated hillsides. The impact is almost immediate and the

grey skeletons of dead pines are now seen in the Park. The removal of pines has transformed the Park's skyline and will allow native forest to recover, ultimately providing habitat for native fauna.

Without intervention, the southern ridgelines of the Park would have eventually turned into a wilding pine forest. Being able to avert this slow-motion train wreck has been an unglamorous task, but a major step forward in the restoration of the Park.

Andrew Macalister, Operations Manager

Looking forward, Project Janszoon and DOC have begun a ten-year programme to remove wilding pine seedlings.

BARK BAY—A STUDY IN HOW QUICKLY WILDING PINES TAKE OVER



Pinus pinaster male cones. Meneerke Bloem, Wikimedia Commons

In 2017 Project Janszoon will remove the last eight hectares of mature wilding pines above Bark Bay, reducing fire risk and the danger of widespread reinfestation.

These trees represent the remains of what was initially a 40 ha pine forest, most of which has been controlled in the last few years. This block of maritime pine (Pinus pinaster) had spread over 120 ha and operations manager Andrew Macalister says if left for 20–30 years it would have completely overwhelmed this native landscape.

The forest also represented a massive fire risk, made worse by its proximity to a public camping area. A fire in this forest could cause widespread damage to the surrounding Park and result in the rapid dispersal of pine seed across large areas through thermal uplift.

Its removal marks another step in achieving what was previously thought beyond the reach of current conservation efforts in the Park. In fact, a 1978 university thesis on maritime pine in Abel Tasman National Park concluded that "the pine appears to be sufficiently well established to make eradication a seemingly impossible task".



WASP CONTROL

With an abundance of beech forest the Abel Tasman attracts a very unwelcome guest every summer—wasps. After four years of successful wasp control using Vespex®, a protein bait which targets wasps and is not attractive to bees, we are now assessing how to maximise benefits from the annual control for the long term ecological health of the Park.

New Zealand has some of the highest densities of German and common wasps in the world. Beech forests can be home to an estimated 12 nests, or 10,000 worker wasps, per hectare. This makes the total combined body-weight of wasps in these areas higher than the weight of all native birds, stoats and rodents, put together.

My wife and I did a walk from Anchorage back to Marahau last Saturday, and I counted five wasps in 11.6 kilometres. The trees were already glistening with honeydew again, and many were crawling with honey bees. The bellbirds were going gangbusters around Anchorage. Vespex is the dog's bollocks.

Dave Hansford, Park visitor

Project Janszoon is committed to wasp control to not only greatly improve visitors' experience of the Abel Tasman but also for its substantial bio-diversity benefits. Wasps consume massive amounts of honeydew, which is an important food for native birds, bats, insects and lizards. They also eat huge numbers of native insects, upsetting the natural food chain of the forest.

Project Janszoon and DOC have successfully undertaken regular wasp control over the Coast track, Pitt Head and Falls River block. Monitoring has seen wasp numbers reduced by over 95% each season.

The wasps take the bait back to their nests to feed their larvae, destroying entire nests from one bait-station. However, the benefits only last one season. Project Janszoon is now consulting with others about undertaking a research project to see whether reinvasion can be limited if wasp control is undertaken at landscape scale.

PREDATOR CONTROL

The removal of rats, stoats and possums are Project Janszoon's core business. Good headway is being made, and by ridding the Park of these introduced predators we can progressively begin our work to restore the biodiversity.

STOATS

Stoats are often described as 'public enemy number one' for native birds. They are the major cause of the decline of species like pāteke, kākā, and kākāriki/ yellow crowned parakeet, and also feed heavily on reptiles and invertebrates.

Project Janszoon began installing a stoat trapping network at the top of the Park in 2013. Four years later, working with the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust and Air New Zealand, more than 90% of the project area is stoat trapped. The aim is to have 100% of the project area under stoat control by the end of 2017.

This represents the largest stoat trapping network undertaken by a private trust in New Zealand and in January 2017 we hit a milestone with 1,000 stoats killed in the Park.

Installing and maintaining a trapping network like this is hard work and DOC has done a magnificent job. Cutting tracks and hauling loads of traps into the bush in steep terrain were the first steps. Now, during two weeks of every month rangers visit every trap site, removing and recording kills, and adding fresh bait.



PĀTEKE SURVIVAL A GOOD INDICATOR OF SUCCESS

The release of 20 pāteke/brown teal at Hadfield Clearing in May 2017 was a test for the stoat trapping network, and so far, results are good.

Pāteke are the rarest native waterfowl found on mainland New Zealand with only 2,500 left. They are very vulnerable to predation from stoats and the Pāteke Recovery Group took care to satisfy themselves that stoats and feral cats were well controlled.

The 20 birds have all been intensively monitored, and so far we have lost two—one is thought to have been caught by a Harrier Hawk and the other slipped its transmitter. There has been no evidence of stoat predation which is a positive sign. If the population does well in the Abel Tasman, up to 300 juvenile captive-bred pāteke could be released in the Park over the next seven years.

POSSUMS

In the first five years of the project possum numbers have been reduced as a result of two aerial predator control operations using 1080-laced cereal baits.

Possums consume an estimated 21,000 tonnes of vegetation in New Zealand forests every night. In the Abel Tasman they have severely damaged large areas of native trees including rātā, tōtara, tītoki and mistletoe. They also prey on bird eggs and young chicks.

Possum numbers have been cut to very low levels in the treated areas, well under the threshold for native forest recovery. Project Janszoon is extending possum control into the 1,600 ha, excluded to protect water supplies to communities, from aerial control which will be ground baited or trapped.

New sowing regimes being tested by the NEXT Foundation-funded project, Zero Invasive Predators, are having early success in completely removing possums from a treatment area. This has positive implications for the Abel Tasman and we will be watching this work closely.

RATS

Rats are being controlled on several fronts, with the aim of protecting a core upland area of the Park and linking that with the coast through a safe corridor.

Rats take a huge toll on birdlife and can attack birds and chicks nesting high in trees. They also eat native snails, lizards and insects like wētā.

During the periodic beech masts, when the beech trees seed prolifically, we get a jump in the rodent population so the project has used aerial 1080 operations to control these predator explosions in the core of the Park.

An intensive predator control area at Falls River is the first step towards providing a safe corridor for native birds from the upland to the coast.

The Falls River Management Area is an 842 ha site between Torrent Bay and Bark Bay. A network of 841 bait stations to control rat numbers has been installed, complementing the existing stoat trapping network in the area. The large protected area will ultimately connect the core upland area to the coast, providing a safe passage for rat and stoat sensitive birds, like riflemen, tomtits and kākāriki.

Early into the project Project Janszoon financed a trial of new Goodnature A24 self re-setting traps at Pitt Head. The trial and network was run by the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust and after some teething problems it was agreed to extend the A24 network to Boundary Bay in 2017. This adjoins the Falls River treatment area, creating a 1,117 ha safe zone on the coast that is under intensive management.

In addition, a further A24 network was established at Totaranui in 2017, financed by Air New Zealand and maintained by DOC.



RESTORE

"If you just did the secure work and left the park alone for a few hundred years you'd expect a lot of things to come back by themselves. But there are real opportunities to accelerate that process."

Devon McLean, Project Janszoon Director



54 KĀKĀRIKI RELEASED



PENGUIN SURVEY UNDERTAKEN



50 TOUTOUWAI/SOUTH ISLAND ROBIN TRANSFERRED TO THE MAINLAND



40 TĪEKE/SADDLEBACKS RELEASED ON ADELE ISLAND



8 KĀKĀ RELEASED



20 PĀTEKE RELEASED



40,000 TREES PLANTED AT HADFIELD CLEARING



METHODS TO RESTORE BLACK BEECH ESTABLISHED



276 NORTHERN RĀTĀ PLANTED



SIX SPECIES OF MISTLETOE FOUND



6 DUNE AREAS BEING RESTORED



10 POWELLIPHANTA HOCHSTETTERI SNAILS RADIO-TRACKED



SEABIRD CALLING SOUND SYSTEM TRIALLED



RESTORING THE WILDLIFE

Two and a half years after its launch Project Janszoon reached a milestone in 2014 with its first bird release of 12 kākāriki/yellow-crowned parakeets. Since then, extensive predator control has seen more species returned to the Park, and captive breeding programmes have been launched to ensure genetic diversity in the bird population.

I have been here since the first traps went in and I think there are definitely more birds around, especially riflemen up in the Canaan/Wainui area. I have also seen kākāriki about 3 km inland from Bark Bay so they are obviously heading towards the coast which is cool.

Steve Holloway, former DOC ranger

The survival of birds like kākā, kākāriki and pāteke/ brown teal is the true test of predator control. As we reduce the numbers of rats, stoats and possums we expect to expand the range of birds like toutouwai/ robin, titipounamu/rifleman and ngirungiru/tomtit from the higher reaches of the Park to the coast via protected corridors.

Work is also going into ensuring birds that are being returned to the Park are of local provenance and as genetically diverse as possible. In the future we hope to return species like rowi kiwi, whio/blue duck and ultimately mohua to the mainland and tuatara to Tonga Island.

WAINUI AVIARY PROVIDES SAFE ENTRY INTO THE WILD

In order to acclimatise kākā and kākāriki before their release into the wild an aviary was built next to the DOC hut at Wainui, in the upper reaches of the Park, in 2014. This site was chosen as aerial predator control has been undertaken in the area and the stoat trapping network was rolled out here so ornithologists are confident the birds have a good chance at survival.

lwi have had an important role in the bird releases with the manu blessed at a pōwhiri at Golden Bay's Onetahua Marae before being transported to the aviary.

Logistically, releasing birds from the top of the Park means a helicopter ride for the native species and an hour long walk from Canaan for everyone else. A huge thanks must go to the volunteers who put in many days feeding and checking on the birds while they are in the aviary.

It is a very special moment witnessing these native birds leave the confines of the aviary to begin their lives in the wild.

OVER 50 KĀKĀRIKI RELEASED

With four aviaries in Te Tau Ihu (Top of the South) now breeding kākāriki there have been regular releases of the birds with the 54th released in April 2017.

Tui Nature Reserve Wildlife Trust in the outer Pelorus Sound, Lochmara Lodge in Queen Charlotte Sound, EcoWorld Aquarium in Picton and Nelson's Natureland Wildlife Trust are all breeding the kākāriki. There was already a small remnant kākāriki popula-

tion in the Park before releases began and anecdotal reports seem to indicate they are establishing and spreading into the Park.

The plan is to monitor the kākāriki population more closely through the next beech mast. By intensively watching them in a breeding season we will get better information to best manage the Park's kākāriki population.



KĀKĀ BREEDING PROGRAMME WILL STRENGTHEN POPULATION

Having a thriving population of the charismatic kākā in the forests of the Abel Tasman is a major aim of Project Janszoon and work is progressing on many fronts to ensure this happens.

A small number of wild male kākā remain in the top of the Park and four female kākā have been successfully reintroduced since 2015. These birds came from existing South Island captive populations and further releases are planned.

However there are limited options for sourcing birds with Top of the South genetics so, with DOC approval, Project Janszoon plans to obtain chicks from a nearby wild source population in the Wangapeka.

Genetic inbreeding in bird populations has been highlighted as a threat to native birds in the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment's report, *Taonga* of an Island Nation: Saving New Zealand's Birds. In early 2017 three male kākā that were taken from wild nests in Nelson Lakes, were introduced to four females at Nelson's Natureland Wildlife Trust in the hope they will form breeding pairs.

Project Janszoon hopes to obtain more chicks for release in Abel Tasman by capturing female kākā in the Wangapeka and fitting them with transmitters so that their nests can be found if they breed, and their first clutches of eggs collected.

The eggs would then be artificially incubated and the chicks hand-raised until old enough for release in Abel Tasman. Female birds will usually re-nest If clutches are taken early, which means that there will be minimal cost to the source population.

Ron Moorhouse, Project Janszoon ornithologist

MOTUARERONUI ADELE ISLAND—A BLUEPRINT

Pull up your kayak on the beach (but please check first for stowaways!), or moor your yacht in the bay at predator free Motuareronui Adele Island and you hear the beautiful sound of birdsong—a spectacular example of where the Abel Tasman is heading.

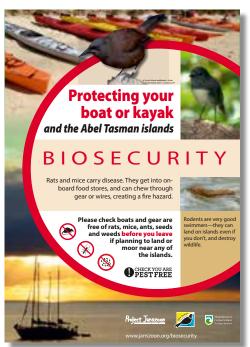
Predator free since 2007, the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust and DOC maintain the trapping and predator monitoring on the island to ensure it stays that way. In 2015 mice were found to have re-established on the island and a brodifacoum programme to remove them is planned for 2017.

Motuareronui Adele Island is a great blueprint, and allows people right now to experience what the Park could become.

Devon McLean, Project Janszoon director

The Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust and DOC returned toutouwai/robin to the 87 ha island in 2009 and the birds have naturally colonised nearby Fisherman Island. In 2014 Project Janszoon helped the Trust

introduce tīeke/saddleback. These birds join korimako/bellbird and riroriro/grey warbler to produce the magnificent dawn chorus that you can listen to, either in person, or via the live link on the Project Janszoon website.



Biosecurity awareness poster



RARE NATIVE DUCKS NOW CALL ABEL TASMAN HOME

In May 2017 the Abel Tasman became only the second mainland South Island site where rare pāteke/ brown teal are found.

Historically pāteke were New Zealand's most widespread and abundant water bird. However introduced predators and loss of habitat means there are now only 2,500 left, mostly in the north island.

The 20 juvenile birds were released after a moving pōwhiri at the Hadfield Clearing release site on the banks of the lower Awapoto River. Northland iwi Ngātiwai representatives were on hand to ensure the manu (birds) safe transition to their new home and representatives from Manawhenua ki Mohua welcomed their return.

I thought it was really awesome and special releasing a pāteke because they are so rare and beautiful. They were really soft and amazing actually.

Tara Morgan, Motupipi Primary School

Both intensive stoat and feral cat trapping has been undertaken to provide a safe habitat for the pāteke. The small dabbling ducks are being closely monitored and so far there has been no sign of any predation other than one being taken by a harrier hawk. Signs are good for up to 300 of the rare birds to be released at this site in the next seven years.

GANNET COLONY A WORK IN PROGRESS

In 2014 decoy gannets and a bird call system were installed at Separation Point. It was hoped birds passing overhead to a colony at nearby Farewell Spit might be enticed to begin breeding in the Park.

Although tākapu/gannets landed at this colony site, and even displayed to decoys there, this site wasn't ideal because of excessive human disturbance.

Therefore, in 2017 Project Janszoon and Rogue Weka Wildlife began work on a new colony site at a more remote location, complete with decoy gannets and an automated call playback system. This site has now been completed. It's early days, but we're hopeful gannets flying to and from the now very crowded Farewell Spit colony will decide to nest there.

GANNETS AND PENGUINS MAY HELP SAVE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED PLANT

A plant on the brink of extinction in the wild could be given a life line if penguin and gannet colonies flourish in the Abel Tasman.

There have been a lot of setbacks. Deer and possums have eaten whole sites, plants have been swept away in cyclones, buried in landslips or smothered by seals. But we are feeling more confident that we can get more of this critically endangered plant growing successfully in the Abel Tasman.

Roger Gaskell, DOC biodiversity ranger

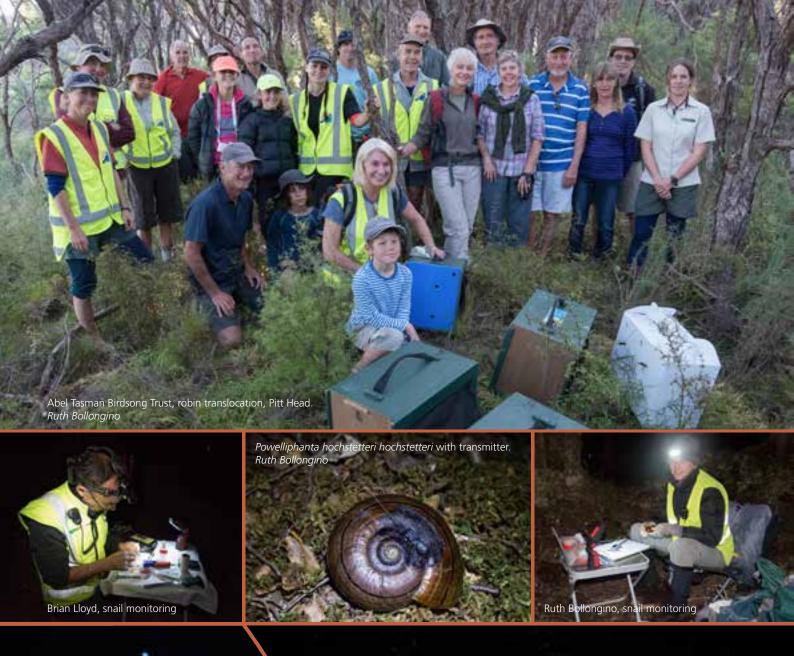
Coastal peppercress *Lepidium banksii* was once abundant in Tasman Bay but despite an epic struggle by DOC to ensure its survival it is now among the 10 most endangered plant species in New Zealand.

Named after Captain James Cook's expedition botanist, Joseph Banks, it was eaten by their crew to ward off scurvy, and was also an important food source for Māori.

There are small numbers of peppercress surviving on Tonga Island, the Pinnacle island rock stack, and near penguin colonies on the mainland between Frenchman's Bay and Bark Bay.

Peppercress needs plenty of open space and has a high nutrient requirement, which it gets from seabird guano, so if gannets and penguins are thriving in the Park the rare plant will have more suitable ecosystems to live in.

DOC biodiversity rangers Roger Gaskell, Shannel Courtney and Simon Walls have spent hundreds of hours trying to save *Lepidium banksii*. Local gardeners are also helping the cause by growing plants and the rangers sow seed directly in strategic sites in the Park in the hope it will take off.





FAILURES ESSENTIAL FOR LEARNING

Not every initiative to restore the wildlife in the Abel Tasman has been successful. However, whatever the outcome, we are constantly learning.

In 2012 and 2013 a sound-system was installed on the Awaroa headland and Motuareroiti Fisherman Island to encourage sooty and fluttering shearwater to take up residence. The seabirds did not show any inclination to breed in the Abel Tasman and the sound-systems were removed after a few seasons. These birds may recolonise the Park naturally over time. In 2016, 50 toutouwai/robin were transferred by the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust from Motuareronui Adele Island to Pitt Head on the mainland. This area was chosen as it was the site of an A24 rat trapping network maintained by the Trust. The birds were seen in the area for a few months but by the next breeding season they had dispersed from Pitt Head. Occasionally robin are seen in the area and in 2017 a reliable source did spot an unbanded toutouwai which may mean a few of the birds remained and bred. However, more work will have to go into returning this curious little bird to the Park coast.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SNAILS

Never before have the rare, carnivorous snails *Powelliphanta hochstetteri* and *Rhytida oconnori* been studied so intensively. In a New Zealand first, Project Janszoon has even radio tracked snails, with monitoring and survey results painting a much rosier picture about the state of both species in the Abel Tasman.

In the spring of 2016 Dr Brian Lloyd, assisted by Dr Ruth Bollongino, attached tiny radio transmitters to ten *Powelliphanta hochstetteri* snails near Canaan Downs to investigate their ranging behaviour and activity. The snails in this study were from the sub-species *P.h. hochstetteri*, ranked as nationally endangered. They were monitored, day and night for the next 41 days.

I was expecting the snails would travel in random directions but they actually tend to move in a straight line with a slight left bias. None went back to the same spot which indicates they are not territorial and don't seem to have a home base.

Dr Brian Lloyd, snail tracker

This is the first time snails have been radio-tracked at night in New Zealand, giving a unique insight into the carnivorous land snail's behaviour. Results found snails are active for one or two nights and then have longer periods of inactivity, preferring to move on warm, moist nights. Unsurprisingly they don't travel great distances, on average just 1.32 m, although one did travel 3.8 m.

The information from the snail tracking will help improve the accuracy and precision of population estimates from mark-recapture and other survey methods. These new tools give us the ability to monitor population changes over time.

Rhytida oconnori is the only critically endangered species found in the Abel Tasman and numbers were thought to be in decline. However monitoring by DOC and Project Janszoon in 2015 found that both Powelliphanta hochstetteri and Rhytida oconnori populations are much more widespread in the Abel Tasman than initially thought.

This monitoring has provided invaluable information about snails in the Park and Project Janszoon and DOC are now in a much better position to secure the future of these snails in the Abel Tasman.

To put this in context, if the Rhytida oconnori had feathers it would be the equivalent of a kākāpō as they are both classified nationally critical. Imagine finding you had 20% more kākāpō than you'd thought, people would be popping the champagne corks.

Mike Ogle, DOC biodiversity ranger





RETURNING THE FOREST GIANTS

The ten year restoration project to return lost kahikatea swamp forest to Hadfield Clearing has had its challenges since planting first began. However we are on track to restore 25 hectares of kahikatea forest by 2024, extending the existing remnant forest.

Working in ecological restoration over a long period is so satisfying as it is possible to look at a paddock and see a future forest. There is nothing more inspiring than walking under the canopy of trees you have planted.

Helen Lindsay, restoration supervisor

Kahikatea, or white pine, are New Zealand's tallest trees and the 10 ha remnant on the Hadfield site is one of the largest stands of this forest type left in the Nelson Tasman region.

So far, the restoration work has concentrated on the establishment of pioneer species such as mānuka to provide shelter for the larger trees. Since 2014 over 40,000 trees and flax have been planted on the site and despite some browsing, severe frost and a lack of rain their survival rate has been reasonably high.

While the nurse crop trees are not growing as fast as hoped, planting of canopy trees like kahikatea began in early 2017. Natural regeneration is also happening in some areas which is influencing where planting will take place.

Looking ahead, Project Janszoon wants to future-proof the restoration project by developing strong community and iwi involvement. Rare pāteke/brown teal were re-introduced to Hadfield Clearing in May 2017 and in September a planting event will see a tree planted for every child in Golden Bay—a Forest for the Future.

DUNE RESTORATION FAST TRACKED THROUGH VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

The dunes of the Abel Tasman are undergoing a transformation with the sharp, thorny spikes of gorse being removed and replaced with native dune plants thanks to the tireless efforts of our many wonderful volunteers.

A pilot dune restoration programme began at Anchorage in 2013 with DOC removing the gorse and volunteers, including Motueka High School students as part of the Adopt a Section programme, Forest and Bird, and Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust members taking responsibility for the planting and weeding.

While planting is a satisfying part of restoration work it has been the extraordinary commitment by volunteers to do the less fun jobs of weeding and maintenance that has been the real success story of the dune restoration programme.

Helen Lindsay, restoration supervisor

The early success of this pilot saw five other sites, Mosquito Bay, Tinline camp, Appletree Bay, Coquille Bay and Wainui sandspit also undergo a makeover. Motupipi Primary School students have helped with the work at Wainui as part of the education programme.

As well as being an invasive weed, gorse is also highly flammable so replacing it with less flammable native species in these locations will help reduce the fire risk in the Park.

The effort by the volunteers to maintain the plantings has meant we are able to fast track further dune restoration work. In late 2017 gorse removal and planting will begin at five more sites including Anapai, Onetahuti, Bark Bay, Tonga Quarry and Porters Beach.



ICONIC TREE RETURNING

Northern rātā, with its vivid red flowers in summer, is iconic in the northern coastal areas of the Abel Tasman. Years of land clearance and browsing by possums has meant only an estimated 30% of original northern rātā remain but a planting programme started in 2016 aims to return the magnificent flowering tree to the Park.

Historically, large flocks of birds like tūī, kākā and bellbird converged on the Abel Tasman to feed from huge nectar producing trees like northern rātā.

Dr Philip Simpson, Project Janszoon trustee and botanist

As rātā has limited ability to regenerate naturally Project Janszoon trustee and botanist Dr Philip Simpson designed a rātā strategy in 2016. So far, 276 rātā have been planted, with an annual programme of about 200 trees to be added over coming years.



Volunteers and contractors initially began planting the rātā between Bark Bay and Awaroa with planting sites further north from Gibbs Hill to Wainui planned for 2017. Project Janszoon's pest control programme encourages the growth of tree ferns and rimu which, in future, will provide sites for natural rātā establishment. It is thought southern rātā should return naturally in the interior of the Park as possums are controlled.

A PLAN TO HELP BLACK BEECH CONTROL HAKEA

A trial to grow black beech in areas with low-fertility soils may be the answer to controlling the exotic weed hakea in these areas. But it will take many years to see results.

Two species of the invasive weed hakea are well established in the Park. As early colonisers they make their presence known particularly on infertile or denuded sites. They can easily be seen on Adele Island and on the ridges behind Anchorage. Hakea is not easily controlled by cutting or spraying due to its prolific seeding.

In 2014 DOC and Project Janszoon began the black beech planting trial on Motuareronui Adele Island looking at beech tree survival in areas of harsh, low-fertility soils that have been burned in the past. Volunteers from Motueka High School and the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust have helped plant and monitor the beech which are grown with mycorrhizae fungi, which associate with the roots and help the tree draw nutrients from the soil.

Three years later, the trees have had a 93% survival rate which has given researchers the confidence to take the trial to the mainland. Sites are being scoped near Anchorage for planting in 2018 when more trees will be available locally.

Ultimately, it is hoped beech tree forests will reestablish on lowland ridges and headlands where the trees would once have dominated. In turn this will help to restrict the spread and growth of hakea, which prefers a lot of light to survive.



FUTURE PROFE

"Future proofing for the Abel Tasman is about connecting people, the community and particularly our young people to this special place, and instilling a passion for the Park and its environment long after Project Janszoon has completed this ecological restoration."

Devon McLean, Project Janszoon Director



TOMORROW ACCORD SIGNED IN 2014



2,285 STUDENTS VISITED PARK



434 STUDENTS EARNED NCEA CREDITS



20,550 PEOPLE HAVE DOWNLOADED VIRTUAL VISITOR CENTRE



12 WI-FI HOTSPOTS OPERATING



2 PAY PER USE WI-FI AREAS



4 WEBCAMS IN PARK



1,451 FACEBOOK FRIENDS















△ Motueka High School students. *Wendy Reeve* ▽

EDUCATION PROGRAMME BUILDS CONNECTION TO PARK

Project Janszoon and DOC launched the Abel Tasman education programme in 2014 to increase local students engagement with the Park. Future generations will become the kaitiaki (guardians) of the Park, enjoying and protecting the benefits from its ecological restoration.

The initial Adopt a Section programme saw three local schools take ownership for a section of the Park. Golden Bay High School, Motupipi Primary School and Motueka High School have all grown their relationships with the Abel Tasman, incorporating the Park into the curriculum using inquiry based learning. Students can earn NCEA credits in subjects as diverse as biology and design, incorporating their Abel Tasman learning in assignments.

All of the schools have contributed greatly to their sections, involving students and their families in projects including planting, dune restoration and bird releases. Teachers and parents say the education project provides clear learning benefits and the students enjoy the hands on involvement and opportunities to interact with DOC and Project Janszoon experts.

An opportunity for students to become more involved in Project Janszoon's work was launched in 2015. Now known as the Abel Tasman Youth

The opportunity Project Janszoon provides schools for long-term engagement with the Park and to engage across different subject areas, for a range of purposes, is important for developing a sense of ownership. Students are beginning to talk about the Park with their families and to engage with the Park outside of school.

Nina Hood, education programme review

Ambassadors/Pokai Rangatahi, four students from each school, and two iwi representatives from Te Awhina and Onetahau marae, get the opportunity to develop as leaders and Abel Tasman ambassadors.

In 2016 a review of the education programme was undertaken. Work is now underway to grow the programme to involve more local schools.

MOTUEKA HIGH SCHOOL

The iconic dune landscape at Anchorage, one of the Park's most popular destinations, its estuaries, and regenerating forest across to nearby Watering Cove is Motueka High School's special place in the Park.

Motueka High School started the education programme with one class and now we have ten involved. It gives the students the opportunity to have authentic learning in a wonderful environment, they don't just talk about it—they experience it first hand.

Heidi James, Motueka High School education programme lead teacher

Motueka High School and its teachers have incorporated the Abel Tasman into every aspect of their learning. Students study subjects as diverse as biology, geography, design, science X, physics, adventure skills and outdoor education, and earn NCEA credits in a number of classes. Even The Base, the schools supported learning centre, visits the Park as part of the education programme, and the whānau, and media studies classes are planning to incorporate the Abel Tasman into their learning in the near future.

Lead teacher Heidi James has been a huge supporter of the programme and her energy and commitment has seen the number of classes involved in the programme growing every year.



The school has been heavily involved in the Anchorage dune restoration where gorse was removed and native dune species planted to reduce the fire risk in the area. Almost every class that visits Anchorage helps with the weeding and maintenance of the plantings—a job not as fun as planting, but just as important.

I had a wonderful, educational visit, enriched with Wi-Fi and natural surroundings. The weather was favourable and the representatives from Project Janszoon and DOC were a laugh. Would go again to Anchorage in a heartbeat.

Charley, Motueka High School design student

GOLDEN BAY HIGH SCHOOL

Hadfield Clearing with its small remnant kahikatea stand is a unique site now home to both rare pāteke/brown teal and Project Janszoon's major forest restoration project. It provides a diverse learning environment for Golden Bay High School students.

It's really awesome and lots of fun, we get to come out to Hadfield Clearing quite a lot and help plant stuff and make a difference.

Pippa Struck, Golden Bay High School student and ATYA representative

Lead education programme teacher Mark McKenzie uses the different habitats and biodiversity in many ways. The Awapoto River becomes a fresh water ecology classroom and biology students study both planned and natural restoration in the former farm site. Students can earn NCEA credits for their learning and one class has even stayed at the site overnight.

The release of 20 pāteke at Hadfield Clearing in early 2017 was a special moment for students and local iwi, Manawhenua ki Mohua. With more of these

rare dabbling ducks likely to be released over time there will be further learning opportunities available involving the feeding and monitoring of the birds.

As the site of one of Project Janszoon's major ecosystem restoration projects, extending the remnant kahikatea forest to 25 hectares, students get access to DOC and Project Janszoon experts like restoration supervisor Helen Lindsay. The students and their families have helped plant many trees and flaxes at the site and over time will be able to watch the forest mature and know they were a major part of this restoration.

Thanks also go to Bev Purdie from Manawhenua ki Mohua who has been iwi liaison to the programme and in 2017 stepped up as the Project Janszoon support to the school.

The highlight for the year being an Abel Tasman Youth Ambassador was the pāteke release. I really enjoyed the retreats we had, but the release was a massive event and it's a great opportunity to be involved in going back to monitor them too.





2017 Abel Tasman Youth Ambassadors at Wainui spit

MOTUPIPI PRIMARY SCHOOL

Motupipi's ecologically diverse section from Wainui sandspit to one of the Park's most historical sites at Taupo Point gives the primary school students the opportunity to undertake a conservation journey.

The children get really excited about getting to know their own area in the Park and they want to take their families there. It is wonderful to watch their knowledge grow over the years that they are involved in the education programme while at Motupipi School.

Helen Young, Motupipi education programme lead teacher

Under the guidance of lead education programme teacher Helen Young and principal Mark Cullen all of the teachers have embraced the opportunity to engage with the programme and their Adopt a Section site.

Motupipi Primary engages with their site at a whole school level, connecting students' experiences in the Park with their in-school learning. Over three years the students knowledge has grown, with younger students beginning their learning about plants,

native wildlife and pest animals on the sandspit, and older students being rewarded on their last school year with a trip to the historically rich Taupo Point.

The students monitor bird species, wētā and plants and are able to see how they change year on year. They also take responsibility for their section and in 2016 presented a site restoration plan to the Golden Bay community.

Wainui sandspit is a Firesmart priority site and students and their families work with Project Janszoon's restoration supervisor Helen Lindsay to remove flammable plants like gorse, plan and undertake planting, and carry out weeding. The school is embracing its site and increasing its connection with the Park.

A highlight for me was seeing the 10 and 11 year old students from Motupipi School presenting their site restoration plan to the community. To see them stand up confidently, speaking about how much they had learnt about conservation restoration was inspiring.

Simon Walls, DOC biodiversity ranger

ABEL TASMAN YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME DEVELOPING NEW LEADERS

Launched in 2014 the Abel Tasman Youth Ambassador/Pokai Rangatahi (ATYA) programme is fostering a passion for learning about the Park in an enthusiastic and inspiring group of students who will become the next generation of conservation leaders.

I decided to join ATYA because I am interested in learning more about the Park and ways to preserve and protect it, as well as gain some leadership skills.

Siti Jongkind, Golden Bay High School ATYA representative

Students apply to be ATYA members annually, with four representatives chosen from each school and two iwi representatives nominated by Te Awhina and Onetahua marae. Application numbers continue to grow year on year and it is becoming harder to choose the ATYA representatives from such a high calibre of applicants.

Initially known as the Student Advisory Board, a review of the programme decided on a name change in 2016 to better reflect the role of the students. ATYA currently meets at six events during the year including a summer and winter overnight retreat in the Park. Events give the opportunity for students to introduce their sections and learn from experts. As well as team building, and leadership training they get to enjoy hands on learning like fish monitoring, animal tracking, spotlighting, tree planting and discovering the special places in the Park.









I would encourage anyone to get involved with the Abel Tasman Youth Ambassadors programme. It is self-empowering. You know you are helping conservation in the Park and the programme really builds you up and plays on your strengths.

> May Takahashi, Motueka High School ATYA representative

As youth ambassadors the students get opportunities to represent the Abel Tasman in forums like the Sir Peter Blake Trust's Youth Environmental Leadership Forum and Department of Conservation national youth hui. Teacher and iwi representatives are an important part of the programme so special thanks must go to Bev Purdie, Helen Young, Heidi James and Mark Mackenzie for their time and expertise to ensure the success of ATYA.

The ATYA programme continues to evolve and change to suit the students and our constant learning. I can't get over how much energy and effort our teachers and iwi representatives put into this programme. Its success is definitely due in part to them.

Brooke Turner, DOC Project Janszoon education ranger

ABEL TASMAN SEA SHUTTLE A KEEN SUPPORTER

Abel Tasman Sea Shuttle has been a keen supporter of the education programme since the start, transporting Motueka High School students to their site at Anchorage and providing access for ATYA students to many areas of the Park. The company has been extremely positive about its involvement in the programme saying it wants to encourage more

young people to access the Park and is motivated by seeing 'the big smiles that the students have when they finish a day in the Park'. Project Janszoon would like to acknowledge their support and encouragement and look forward to Sea Shuttle's continuing involvement in the programme.





TOMORROW ACCORD PAVES WAY FOR OTHER PROJECTS

In 2014 the NEXT Foundation and the Government signed the Tomorrow Accord, to secure the ecological gains made by privately funded conservation projects. Project Janszoon's restoration of the Abel Tasman is the first project to benefit from the accord.

In 2017 discussions began to define how the partnership between Project Janszoon and DOC would look into the future under the Tomorrow Accord. The parties are agreeing on the transformational outcomes that would trigger the Crown to take over maintaining the ecological gains made by Project Janszoon.

This work is about agreeing on a clear path forward and what the successful transformation of the Abel Tasman National Park looks like.

Bruce Vander Lee, Project Janszoon assistant director

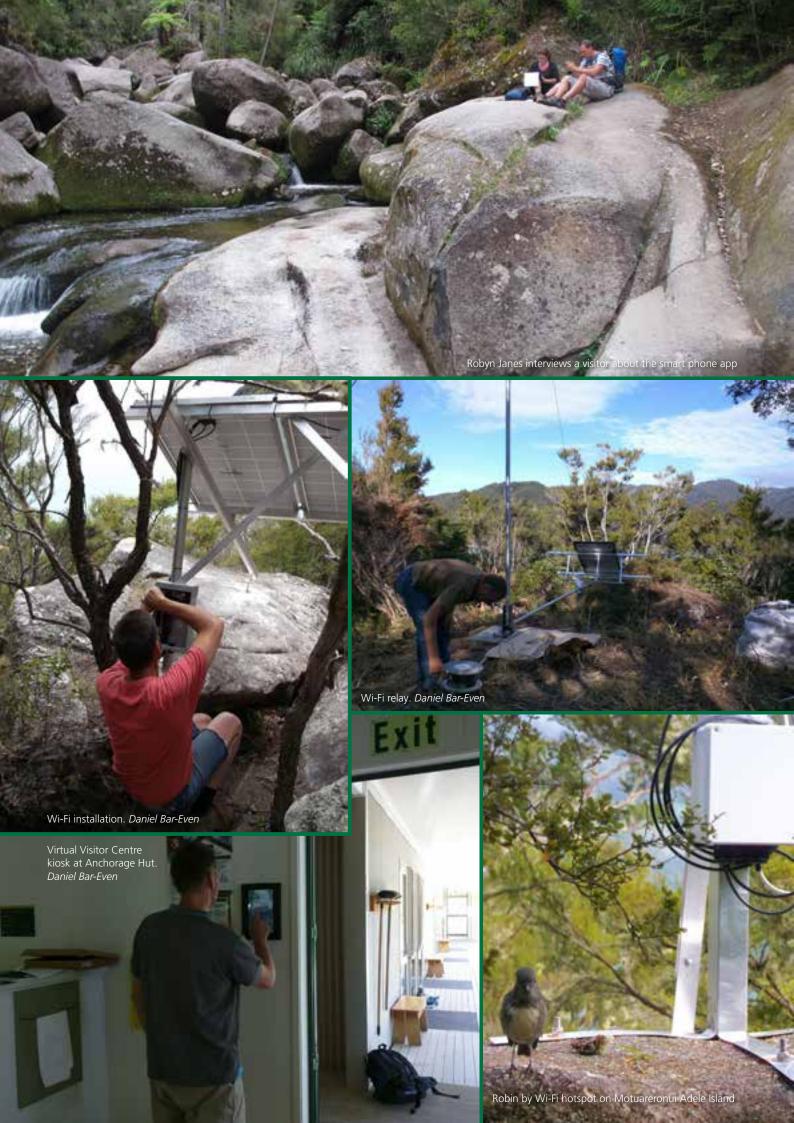
Examples of the sort of outcomes under discussion include a time when there are no longer adult coning trees, or wilding pines, in the Park, or when a genetically viable kākā population is flourishing.

The Accord will also secure the long term future for other qualifying philanthropic projects like Taranaki Mounga.

One of the real legacies for Project
Janszoon will be the other projects that
emerge based on what we've learned.
The concept of the Tomorrow Accord,
where once we achieve pre-agreed
indicators of ecological transformation
for the Park the Crown will take responsibility for maintaining those gains, has
created a platform that can be used in
other places and projects.

Devon McLean, Project Janszoon director





TECHNOLOGY HELPS BRING PARK TO LIFE

Project Janszoon is using technology to support the ecological transformation of the Park and to connect with visitors; sharing the Abel Tasman's conservation story and providing opportunities to become involved.

Partnering with New Zealand technology company Groundtruth, the installation of 12 solar powered Wi-Fi hotspots in the Park began in 2013. Using sun powered wireless relays is a low cost and low environmental impact alternative that will support communications and environmental monitoring within the Abel Tasman for many years to come.

This network is becoming an important support for DOC's day-to-day operations allowing rangers to manage bookings and payments, and providing reliable Wi-Fi access for campground operations at Totaranui. Pay-per-use internet access is now available in the communities of Awaroa and Torrent Bay, and proving very popular with locals and visitors. Proceeds go towards the ecological transformation of the Park.

A free smart phone app that acts as a Virtual Visitor Centre, was developed as a way to engage with the communities that visit and enjoy the Park. 70% of visitors to the Abel Tasman National Park are aged between 18 and 35 and most are carrying a smart phone so it made sense to use this technology to communicate. At the height of the season around 60 people download the app daily, with numbers growing every year.

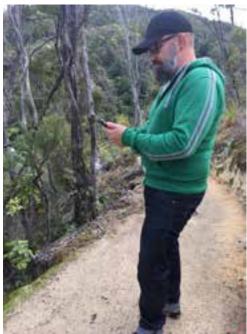
It really is a unique project. The solar powered network provides an unobtrusive channel for getting information about the ecological significance of the park to visitors, and in turn allows them to provide feedback with their experiences and observations.

Daniel Bar-Even, Groundtruth

The app gives visitors access to up-to-date information on weather, tides, points of interest, history, wildlife and plants. It also engages our citizen scientists, allowing the public to submit species observations, helping DOC and Project Janszoon make decisions about Park management and predator control.

Four remote cameras that can be viewed on our website provide a way for the public to visit the Park from anywhere in the world and a listening station on Motuareronui Adele Island allows anyone to listen to live birdsong while at home or the office.







COLLABORATION KEY TO SUCCESS

An ecological transformation of this scale could not be achieved without the support of everyone with a common interest in the national park. Project Janszoon works together with DOC, the community, iwi, Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust, landowners and concessionaires towards the common goal of restoring the ecological prospects of the Park.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Project Janszoon works closely with DOC, the department primarily responsible for the Abel Tasman National Park. Initial work went into a Memorandum of Understanding to structure how the relation-

ship would work. This relationship has grown, and evolved as time goes on and Project Janszoon would like to thank DOC staff for sharing their expertise and energy, to support this unique partnership.

Project Janzoon has essentially changed the way DOC works in collaboration with others. From our first association with Neal and Annette Plowman this single project has taught us so much about the power of New Zealanders wanting to make a difference for conservation. To open DOC up to fresh thinking, to take a huge landscape scale to restoration and resilience, to involve youth, to govern with communities and proudly to leave a significant conservation legacy for New Zealand and our international visitors. We look forward to honouring "The Tomorrow Accord" to protect the Project Janszoon achievements.

Lou Sanson, Department of Conservation director-general

MANU WHENUA-THE CUSTOMARY PEOPLE

Project Janszoon are doing an awesome job in our rohe, we are really supportive and hugely grateful for everything they have done, and are continuing to do.

John Ward-Holmes, Manawhenua ki Mohua

Local iwi, Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Rarua and Ngāti Tama, represented by Manawhenua ki Mohua in Golden Bay, and Mana Whenua families of Motueka have a strong relationship with the Park. As kaitiaki or guardians they work closely with Project Janszoon and DOC, involved in the release of manu (birds), and many other aspects including the education programme. Project Janszoon is currently working with local iwi to tell the stories of their ancestors through the smart phone app. These ancestors are celebrated in the Park in the form of Pou Whenua.



THE ABEL TASMAN BIRDSONG TRUST

The Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust's vision is to bring the birdsong back to the Abel Tasman National Park and the trust was already working towards this goal before the formation of Project Janszoon. We have worked alongside the Birdsong Trust, helping them with their programme to remove wilding pines, and providing assistance with predator control and returning birds like tieke/saddleback to the islands and toutouwai/robin to the mainland. The Trust has continued to take on more responsibility for the Park and its volunteers do an incredible job.

The strong relationship we have with Project Janszoon and the Department of Conservation has helped accelerate a lot of the work the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust is doing. This includes current pest control and restoration work, and previous weed control and South Island

robin and saddleback translocations. Our combined predator control efforts offer great protection for our native flora and fauna to flourish again. It is exciting to be part of the team working on restoring the Abel Tasman National Park back to its former glory.

Kim McGlashen, Chair Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust

THE COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

The community has always been supportive of the project. Big thanks must go to the land owners, both in and around the Park, who have been open to removing weeds from their properties. Concessionaires are one of the best conduits to Park visitors and we appreciate their support, and the enthusiasm in promoting our vision, helping get the message out about issues like biosecurity on the islands and the existence of the Smart Phone App. DOC and the Tasman District Council have supported some of our projects through the Foreshore Fund. Volunteers continue to delight us with their enthusiasm and willingness to get their hands dirty to help with projects. The feedback we get from the public and visitors through social media is always welcome. Together, we are restoring the Abel Tasman.

We spend time in the park on our trailersailer in the summer and we really appreciate the work of Janszoon to restore the ecology there. It is very important work and, as park visitors and kiwis, we feel a strong responsibility to support what you do.

Emma Ewart, Park visitor



AWARDS RECOGNITION OF "PARTNERSHIP" APPROACH



2015 Green Ribbon Awards: Pam Holyoake (Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust), Devon McLean, Robyn Janes (Project Janszoon), Martin Rodd (DOC)

Project Janszoon was delighted to win the Supreme Award and Philanthropy and Partnership category, at the 2015 Green Ribbon Awards. A few months later the project was named the worldwide Gold Winner



International Green World Environment Awards: Jan Hania (DOC), Pam Holyoake (Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust), Devon McLean, Roger Wolens (The Green Organisation), Geoff Harley (Project Janszoon)

in the Conservation, Habitat and Diversity section of the International Green World Environment Awards.

These awards acknowledged the work of the Project Janszoon team and our partners, DOC and the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust.

FORGING TIES FOR CONSERVATION IN THE REGION

In 2016 Project Janszoon signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary which will see the two trusts work together to bring birds like kākā and whio back to the region.

We also welcomed a joint biodiversity partnership in the north of the Park between DOC, Manawhenua ki Mohua and Air New Zealand which has expanded stoat, possum, rat and wasp control around the Totaranui campsite.



MEET THE PROJECT JANSZOON TEAM

Key to the success of Project Janszoon are the many skilled people who make up the Project Janszoon team.



Personally I have been really blown away by the community response to this project. Restoring the Abel Tasman is something I have been personally passionate about for a long time. When the idea was first mooted there was an understandable mix

of excitement and disbelief. Now, five years on, the results are starting to be visible and it is a delight to hear our partners, this community and visitors alike sharing their enthusiasm for the changes that a landscape scale project can bring. It is a privilege to represent the benefactors and guide a great team as we uncover the ecological potential of this wonderful place.

Devon McLean, Project Director



After 5 years, Project Janszoon is well on its way to achieving restoration of the Park. In doing so, it has inspired many others to believe that conservation of our special places is not only important, but possible, and to take action in the places

important to them. This will be a lasting legacy of the project.

Bruce Vander Lee, Assistant Director



The key to ensuring the long-term sustainability of our work is developing a broad base of partners who work with, and care about, the ecology of the Park.

Andrew Macalister, Operations Manager



My biggest joy is working with volunteers as they recognise the social, physical and emotional rewards of assisting with conservation projects. Their commitment to contributing to making a difference in the world is inspirational.

Helen Lindsay, Restoration Supervisor



There's been a tremendous amount of work done in just five years. The challenge now is to translate this effort and innovation into actual ecological transformation—measurable, and tangible, increases in native biodiversity, and the restoration of ecological processes, within the Park.

Ron Moorhouse, Ornithologist



Working with Project Janszoon brings many "pinch me" moments; seeing a rare species released, watching young people enjoying the Abel Tasman as their classroom, walking the Park with one of our resident experts

soaking in their knowledge. Being part of the Park's transformation is a privilege and a delight.

Robyn Janes, Communications Advisor



A highlight of my work has been monitoring carnivorous land snails. I never thought I would enjoy spending all night in the cold rain counting slimy molluscs.

> Ruth Bollongino, Scientific Consultant



It is great to see how the project has grown in the last 5 years that I've been working with Project Janszoon and the wonderful progress that has been made. It is a delight to walk in

the Park knowing that I have had a part to play in its restoration.

Marika Kingan, Executive Assistant



I always strive to 'Do what you love, love what you do'. Project Janszoon is a convergence of great people that feel the same way. It's a real privilege to be a part of it.

Rosemary Vander Lee,





DOC PROJECT JANSZOON TEAM

I'm awed by the solid and blossoming conservation gains achieved by our strong partnership; for the benefit of not only the environment, but of all who visit. Exploring the park really does bring a breath of fresh air.

Jim Livingstone, Senior Ranger—Biodiversity

One of the highlights for me has been going into the Park after a wasp control operation and not hearing the constant drone of wasps. It means I can go from gingerly picking my way through the bush trying to avoid being stung, to bush bashing without a worry.

John Henderson, DOC Biodiversity Ranger

It is inspiring to see the transformation and growth of all the students and adults (myself included), involved in the Abel Tasman Youth Ambassadors programme. Brooke Turner, DOC Project Janszoon Education Ranger What an awesome project to walk into! The hard work and dedication of all the people involved is extremely motivating. I cannot wait to see the transformation in our flora and fauna become more prominent in the years to come.

Sian Reynolds, DOC Biodiversity Ranger

TEAM CHANGES IN 2017





Founding ornithologist Pete Gaze and education advisor Wendy Reeve both left the project at the end of 2016.

Pete was responsible for our first kākā and kākāriki releases, and assisted the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust with translocations of tīeke/saddleback and toutouwai/robin. Now he has semi-retired he is enjoying extra time to fish and cycle. Wendy led the establishment and development of the 'Adopt a Section' programme with three pilot schools, and the student leadership initiative.

Wendy and Pete have both made a huge contribution to Project Janszoon. We thank them for their passion and enthusiasm and look forward to building on their great work as the project moves forward.





Independent auditor's report

To the Trustees of Project Janszoon Trust

The performance report comprises:

- the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017;
- · the statement of financial performance for the year then ended;
- the statement of changes in trust funds for the year then ended;
- · the statement of cash flows for the year then ended;
- the entity information;
- · the statement of service performance; and
- the notes to the performance report, which include a summary of significant accounting policies.

Our opinion

In our opinion:

- a) the performance report of Project Janszoon Trust (the "Trust") on pages 2 to 11 present fairly, in all material respects, the entity information, the service performance and the financial position of the Trust as at 30 June 2017, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting Accrual (Not-For-Profit); and
- the reported outcomes and outputs, and quantification of the outputs to the extent practicable, in the statement of service performance are suitable.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit of the statement of financial position, the statement of financial performance, the statement of cash flows and the related notes to the performance report that include a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs NZ). The audit of the entity information and the statement of service performance was conducted in accordance with International Standard on Assurance Engagements (New Zealand) 3000 (Revised) (ISAE (NZ) 3000).

Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance report section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We are independent of the Trust in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised)

Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (PES 1) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance

Standards Board and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for

Professional Accountants (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in

accordance with these requirements.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Trust.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, 188 Quay Street, Private Bag 92162, Auckland 1142, New Zealand T: +64 9 355 8000, F: +64 9 355 8001, pwc.co.nz



Information other than the performance report and auditor's report

The Trustees are responsible for the annual report. Our opinion on the performance report does not cover the other information included in the annual report and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. The Trustees have advised that no other information will be included in the annual report.

In connection with our audit of the performance report, if other information is included in the annual report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the performance report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

Responsibilities of the Trustees for the performance report

The Trustees are responsible, on behalf of the Trust, for the preparation and fair presentation of the performance report in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit), and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the performance report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the performance report, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance report, as a whole, is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs NZ or ISAE (NZ) 3000 will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance report.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the performance report, including performing procedures to obtain evidence about and evaluating whether the reported outcomes and outputs and quantification of the outputs to the extent practicable, are relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the performance report is located at the External Reporting Board's website at:

https://www.arb.govt.nz/standards-for-assurance-practitioners/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-8/

This description forms part of our auditor's report.



Who we report to

This report is made solely to the trustees of the Trust, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the trustees of the Trust, as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Leopino (Leo) Foliaki.

For and on behalf of:

Chartered Accountants
28 September 2017

Auckland

Entity Information

As at 30 June 2017



Charities Registration Number CC47879

Nature of Business Charitable Trust

Settlor Hutton Wilson Nominees Limited

Trustee Project Janszoon Trust Company Limited

Accountants The Business Advisory Group Limited

P O Box 162, Shortland St

Auckland

Bankers Bank of New Zealand

Date of Formation 22 December 2011

Solicitors Bell Gully

Auckland

Auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers

188 Quay Street

Auckland

Entity's Mission To address the ecological restoration of the Abel

Tasman National Park.

Main Sources of The restoration of the Abel Tasman National
Cash and Resources Park has been made possible by the generosit

Park has been made possible by the generosity of a philanthropic Trust in partnership with the

Department of Conservation.



Statement of Service Performance





Background

The Abel Tasman National Park was formed in 1942 from a mix of Crown land, reserves and former private holdings where timber harvesting and farming had been the prominent land uses. Seventy years on, the natural processes of restoration are in progress, but these processes are hampered by the negative impacts of weeds and pest animals.

The Project Janszoon Trust is a privately funded initiative working in partnership with the Department of Conservation to address the ecological restoration of the Abel Tasman National Park.

The project is developing a detailed programme of work which will be implemented by a combination of DOC staff, private contractors and volunteer resources. Since there is a great deal yet to be learned about the natural processes at work in the Park, and the most effective interventions, a careful programme of monitoring and review is also being implemented.

Some elements of the work, such as the removal of wilding conifers which has been championed by the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust in conjunction with Project Janszoon and other funders, will have a dramatic short term impact in the Park. Other elements will be more gradual and will take much of the 30 year project timeline to achieve the desired outcomes.

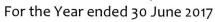
Description of Entity Outcomes

The task Project Janszoon has set itself is to transform the ecological prospects of the Abel Tasman National Park over the next 30 years by investing in measures which:

- Reverse the incursions of the predators and weed species in the Park.
- Restore key elements of the ecosystems, including key species and key ecological associations.
- Reestablish stable populations of lost or threatened birds, plants and animals.
- Strengthen the community of support around the park.



Statement of Financial Performance

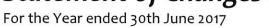




		2017 \$	2016
			\$
INCOME			
Distribution Received - Hadfields	1(a)	25,000	25,000
Distributions Received	i(a)	1,700,000	1,300,000
Interest Received		705	2,958
Donations Received		11,960	2,950
Total Income	-	1,737,665	1,330,633
EXPENSES			
Accountancy Fees		31,170	27,915
Audit Fees		14,062	3,875
Bank Charges		2,204	78
Board Fees		12,000	3,000
Conferences & Events		9,992	-
Consultancy		285,507	261,102
Consultancy- Department of Conservation		1,235,763	713,301
Donations		·,/-//// ~/	37,038
Entertainment		1,341	11,081
General Expenses		12,590	12,249
Hadfields Direct Costs		54,427	32,357
Legal Expenses		190	1,260
Management Fees		70,181	76,312
Pest Eradication		70,101	1,267
Printing, Stamps & Stationery		1,329	4,217
Publications		22,236	24,922
Revegetation		94,178	45,595
Subcontractors		23,733	53,470
Travel - National		40,227	21,631
Website Costs		17,844	44,764
Total Expenses	_	1,928,974	1,375,432
Net Loss Before Depreciation & Amortisation	_	(191,309)	(44,799)
Less Depreciation & Amortisation			
Depreciation as per Schedule	3	583	<u>=</u>
Amortisation as per Schedule	4	91,780	125,800
NET LOSS	_	(283,672)	(170,599)
	_		
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE LOSS	=	(283,672)	(170,599)



Statement of Changes in Trust Funds

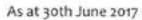




	Trust Capital	Retained Earnings	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Opening Balance – 1 July 2016	100	(17,209)	(17,109)
Total Comprehensive Loss for the Year		(283,672)	(283,672)
Closing Balance – 30 June 2017	100	(300,881)	(300,781)
Opening Balance – 1 July 2015	100	153,390	153,490
Total Comprehensive Loss for the Year	-	(170,599)	(170,599)
Closing Balance – 30 June 2016	100	(17,209)	(17,109)



Statement of Financial Position





e 2017 \$	2016
200	
65,160	71,556
113,876	71,154
	28,750
179,036	171,460
1,417	
91,774	147,355
272,227	318,815
557,679	331,258
15,329	4,666
573,008	335,924
573,008	335,924
(300,781)	(17,109)
100	100
(300,881)	(17,209)
(300,781)	(17,109)
	(300,881)

Signed on behalf of the Corporate Trustee, Project Janszoon Trust Company Limited by:

as Director of the Corporate Trustee

as Director of the Corporate Trustee

Date 28 September 2017



Statement of Cash Flows



For the Year ended 30 June 2017

	Note	2017	2016
		\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash was received from:			
Distributions		1,750,000	1,300,000
Interest		705	2,958
Receipts from Customers		-	31,089
Donations		11,960	2,675
Net GST		(38,972)	(13,095)
Cash was applied to:			
Payments to suppliers		(1,691,890)	(1,298,175)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	5	31,803	25,452
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES Cash was applied to:			
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment		(38,199)	(100,568)
Net Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities		(38,199)	(100,568)
Net Decrease in Cash		(6 6)	(\)
		(6,396)	(75,117)
Opening Cash Closing Cash	100	71,556 65,160	146,673
ciosing cash		05,100	71,556
This is represented by:			
Cash at Bank	15	65,160	71,556



Notes to the Performance Report



For the Year ended 30 June 2017

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The entity has elected to apply Tier 3 reporting standards, PBE SFR-A (NFP) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not For Profit). At the reporting date, the entity expenses exceeded the threshold of \$2,000,000 and thus meets the criteria for Tier 2 reporting, on the basis that it does not have public accountability and it is not defined as large. The entity has elected to continue to apply Tier 3 accounting standards as this is the first year that the entity has met Tier 2 criteria. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

(a) Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. These policies have been consistently applied to all the periods presented, unless otherwise stated. Certain balance in the prior year have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation.

Prior year comparatives have been restated where needed to conform to current-year classification and presentation. These changes were:

Distribution Received – Hadfields

A distribution receivable of \$25,000+GST was not recorded in prior year's financial statements, which was received in the current financial year. An adjustment to prior year's comparative was made to accrue this amount.

(b) Fixed Assets & Depreciation

The entity has the following classes of fixed assets;

Website Design & Development	50% Diminishing Value
Trust Website	50% Diminishing Value
Additional Website Applications (2014 Progress)	50% Diminishing Value
Additional Website Applications (2015 Progress)	50% Diminishing Value
Additional Website Applications (2016 Progress)	50% Diminishing Value
Additional Website Applications (2017 Progress)	50% Diminishing Value
Plant & Equipment	50% Diminishing Value

All fixed assets are recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation, if any. Depreciation of the fixed assets has been calculated at the rates which reflect the expected useful life of the asset.

(c) Goods & Services Tax

These financial statements have been prepared on a GST exclusive basis as Project Janszoon Trust is registered for GST.

(d) Revenue Recognition

Interest on deposits is accounted for as earned. Interest on fixed interest investments is accounted for on an accrual basis.



the business advisory group

Notes to the Performance Report

For the Year ended 30 June 2017

(e) Income Tax

No provision for Income Tax has been made as Project Janszoon Trust is a charitable trust which is exempt from income tax.

(f) Receivables

Receivables are stated at their estimated realisable value. Bad debts are written off in the year in which they are identified.

2. CASH AT BANK

۷٠	CASII AT BANK		
		2017	2016
		\$	\$
	BNZ Bank – 00 Account	36,255	54,206
	BNZ Bank – 01 Account	28,905	17,350
		65,160	71,556
3.	FIXED ASSETS		
٦.		2017	2016
		\$	\$
	Plant & Equipment	7.	т.
	At Cost	2,000	20
	Less Accumulated Depreciation	(583)	-0
		1,417	
	Total Fixed Assets	1,417	
			
	Depreciation		
	Plant & Equipment	583	-
	Total Depreciation	583	
4.	INTANGIBLE ASSETS		
•		2017	2016
		\$	\$
	Website	·-	60.
	At Cost	334,069	297,870
	Less Accumulated Amortisation	(242,295)	(150,515)
		91,774	147,355
	Total Intangible Assets	91,774	147,355
	· ·	<u></u>	· T/1///
	Amortisation		
	Website	91,780	125,800
	Total Amortisation	91,780	125,800



Notes to the Performance Report



For the Year ended 30 June 2017

5. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT FOR THE YEAR WITH CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Net Surplus		(283,672)	(170,599)
Add non-cash items			
Depreciation	3	583	-
Amortisation	4	91,780	125,800
		(191,309)	(44,799)
Movements in Working Capital			
Decrease in accounts receivable		28,750	2,339
Increase in GST		(42,722)	(9,345)
Increase in accounts payable		226,421	81,995
Increase/(decrease) in accrued expenses		10,663	(4,738)
Total Movements in Working Capital		223,112	70,251
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities		31,803	25,452



Notes to the Performance Report



For the Year ended 30 June 2017

6. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

At balance date there are no known contingent liabilities (2016: \$Nil).

7. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE COMMITMENTS

There were no future capital commitments at year end (2016: \$Nil).

8. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS TO BALANCE DATE

There have been no events subsequent to balance date that require disclosure in or adjustment to these financial statements.

9. RELATED PARTIES

During the year, Project Janszoon Trust received distributions of \$1,700,000 (2016: \$1,300,000) from a related party significantly influenced by key management personnel.

During the year management fees of \$84,091 (2016: \$82,928) were paid to Prow Consulting Limited, a company that is owned and operated by a director of the Corporate Trustee, for services provided in the management of the project of the Trust, of which \$1,432 (2016: \$7,430) was owed at year end.



