

Restoring Baring Head

Creating a 'must see' destination for Wellington



greater WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Pane Matua Taiao



FRIENDS OF
**BARING
HEAD**

Help us turn this



Into this



And this



Into this



History of the park

- **March 2010 GWRC Sustainability Committee decided to demolish houses**
- **June 2010 - privately owned land around complex put up for sale**
- **Community wanted it purchased for public purposes**
- **\$1.77m funds to purchase from Nature Heritage Fund, DOC, HCC, GWRC, private donor**
- **Friends of Baring Head formed in late 2010**

Baring Head Property Deserves Protection, Says Wellington Natural Heritage Trust

Filed in Industry Info on June 8, 2010 with no comments

INTRODUCTION

On 11th June, tenders close for the Mortgagee Sale of a stunning block of undeveloped coastal land at Baring Head, right at the eastern entrance to Wellington Harbour.

Together with Forest and Bird, the East Harbour Environmental Association, and other environmental and recreational organisations, Wellington Natural Heritage Trust Incorporated is hoping that Greater Wellington Regional Councillors and Hutt City Councillors will this week decide to join forces with DOC to secure permanent protection of this panoramic site as an addition to the East Harbour Regional Park.

Wellington Natural Heritage Trust Incorporated is a charitable conservation trust dedicated to promoting the protection of significant natural heritage sites in the Wellington Region. The Trust,

which has 10 trustees, was established in 1999.

WNHT spokespeople Colin Ryder and Barbara Mitcalfe say: "This is an outstanding 284 hectare coastal property which is located within the jurisdiction of Hutt City Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council.

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Friends of Baring Head Trust



Formed to:

- Help GW manage Baring Head
- Save the lighthouse buildings from demolition & to restore them
- Restore natural values and facilitate public use and enjoyment
- Offer overnight accommodation in historic cottages in lighthouse complex.



Friends of Baring Head Trust

- ✓ Biodiversity, working bees, public events
- ✓ Restored the historic pump house beside river
- ✓ Contributed funding of over \$345k so far
- ✓ Begun restoring lighthouse buildings



What's so special about Baring Head/ Ōrua-pouanui?

- Magnificent setting
- Many recreational opportunities
- Close to large population centre
- Feels remote
- Visible to much of Wellington
- Unique biodiversity hotspot



Biodiversity Action Plan

- 10 year programme of work
- Four major areas:
 - Fencing and Pest control (landscape wide)
 - Coastal shorebirds
 - Lizard habitats
 - River flats and wetlands



Benefits of restoration

- Recreation and heritage destination for Wellington
- Lighthouse tourism
- Volunteer base
- “Use it or lose it”
- Provision of overnight accommodation
- “Wilderness” experience



The Lighthouse

- Built in 1937 to replace Pencarrow light
- Land donated by Eric Riddiford
- First fully automatic lighthouse
- First run by electricity
- Second last built in New Zealand
- Manned until 1989



What's important about the lighthouse settlement?

- Only one left that's readily accessible
- Last one built and first with mains electricity
- Depth of stories for interpretation – iwi, NIWA, GNS, Maritime NZ
- Heritage site
- Memorial to the lost lifestyle of the lighthouse keeper.



Seeking love and attention...

big and small projects

- Big – Restoring the buildings & services
- Medium – creating a day visitor centre, lookout, discovery trail, story telling
- Small – shelter belt restoration, outbuilding repairs, furnishing buildings, interpretation
- Ongoing – weeding, planting, river restoration



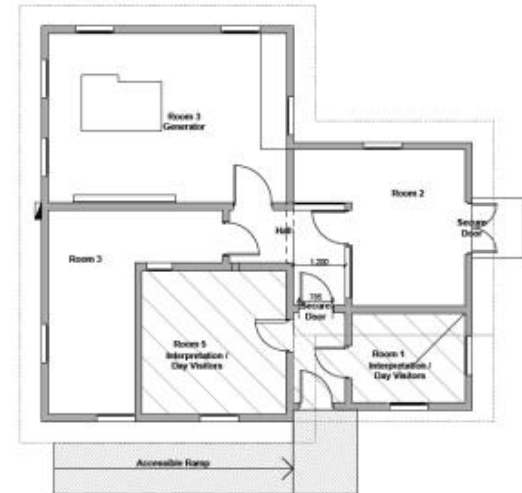
Lighthouse keepers cottages x 2

- Renovations – estimate \$940k
- Houses reroofed and painting by Dulux organised
- Services renewal – water, waste, power - estimate \$294k
- More funding needed. Volunteer and corporate support wherever possible.



The 'Power House' visitor centre project

- ✓ Stout Trust grant funds for new roof
- ✓ Greater Wellington to repair
- ✓ Community Trust of Wellington funding for initial interpretation
- ✓ Dulux to repaint
- Funding and sourcing of interpretation exhibits



Power House visitor centre

Stories to tell:

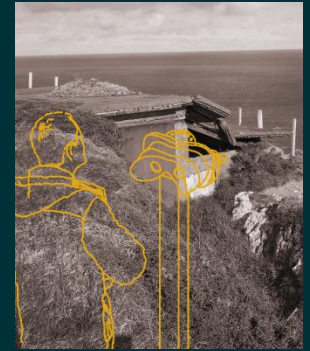
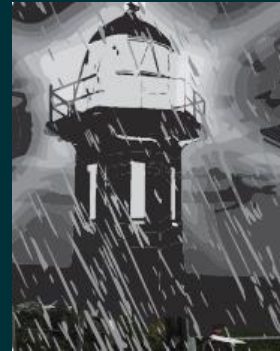
- iwi
- Safety of ships at sea, disasters
- Lighthouse keepers & families
- NIWA climate monitoring
- Earthquake monitoring - GNS
- History – Early settlers, WWII
- Natural heritage
- \$100k est. interpretation



Revealing stories to visitors

Massey University students design concepts

- StoryFinder
- Corten steel



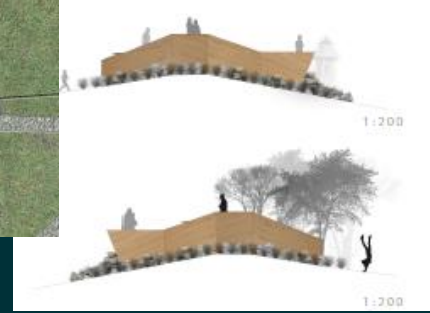
Restoring the garage and outbuildings

- ✓ Stout Trust grant funds to restore garage
- ✓ Naylor Love assisting
- ✓ \$75k est. (all outbuildings)
- Possible volunteer base
- Other outbuildings to be done.



A new lookout

- ✓ Victoria University landscape architecture student design concepts
- \$80k est. needed



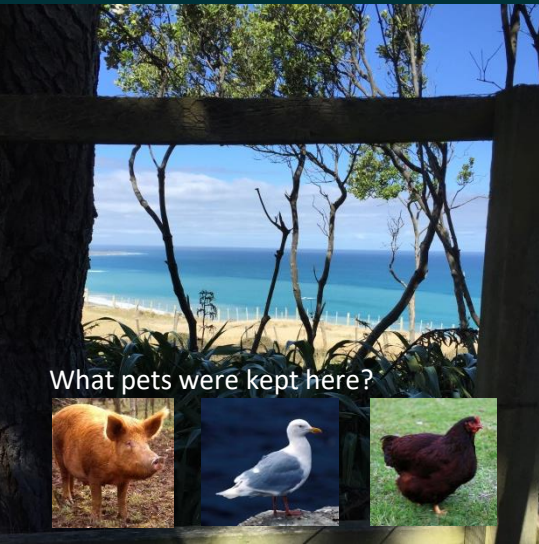
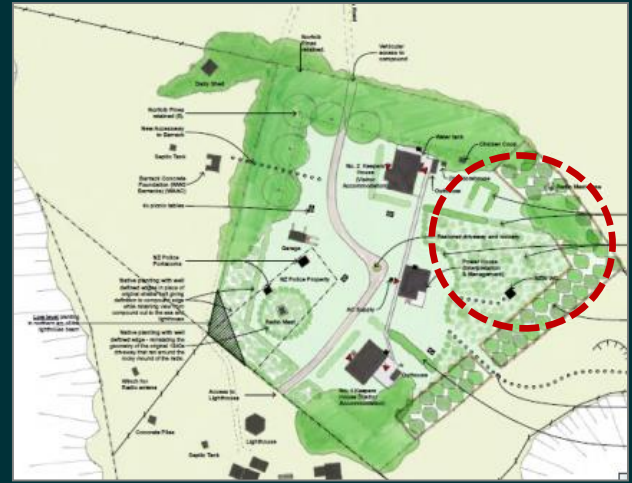
A loo with a view

- ✓ GW Parks funds for 'Norski' loo (short term)
- Future new loo in keeping with outbuilding style
- \$120k est.



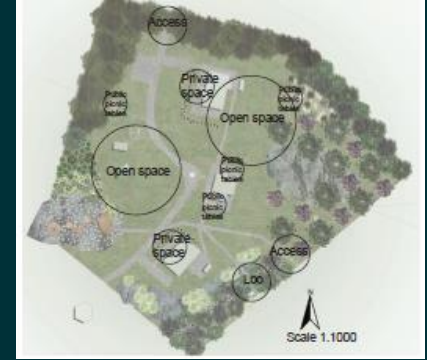
Discovery Trail for children

- ✓ Concept designs underway
- \$45k est. needed



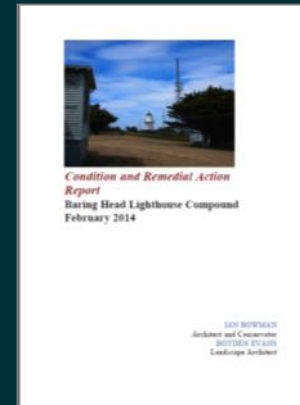
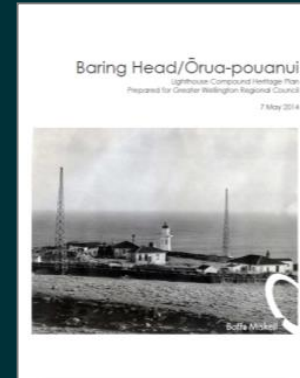
Restoring the drive, shelter belt, gardens

- ✓ FOBH working bees
- ✓ Using VUW landscape architecture students design concepts
- \$25k est. needed



Lighthouse complex 'Shovel ready' for funding

- ✓ Building condition & remedial action report
- ✓ Asbestos audit, underground services check
- ✓ Quantity survey & services concept plan
- ✓ Heritage reports to guide restoration
- ✓ Tourism & Recreation Options Report
- ✓ Landscape concept plans
- ✓ Naylor Love assisting with project management
- Work underway but funding still needed.



How can Rotary help ?

- Come and visit the park with the Friends

Ongoing:

- Support our fundraising
- Help us enlist business support
- Identify funding sources
- Help us recruit volunteers
- Adopt a project.



Working in the wilderness

- Range of volunteer opportunities including:
 - Plantings
 - Wetland and river restoration
 - Beach clean-ups
 - Weeding
 - Adopt an area (e.g. lizard hotspots)



How would you like to help?



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