



*"Hearing more birdsong and seeing tomtit, kereru and warblers in the bush - that's what this is all about."*

## CONTACT US

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### Volunteer Now

As the saying goes, many hands make light work. If you're reasonably fit, keen on getting off-track and can use (or learn to use) a GPS, please contact us.

### Donate Now

If you'd like to help out financially, you could make a one-off or regular donation, adopt a trap line or leave a bequest.

#### Potential Donations:

1 x A24 trap, lure & gas	\$188
1 x A24 trap	\$150
1 x Inked monitor cards, 1 monitor	\$96
1 x lure & gas for trap , 1 year	\$38
Or a value of your choice	

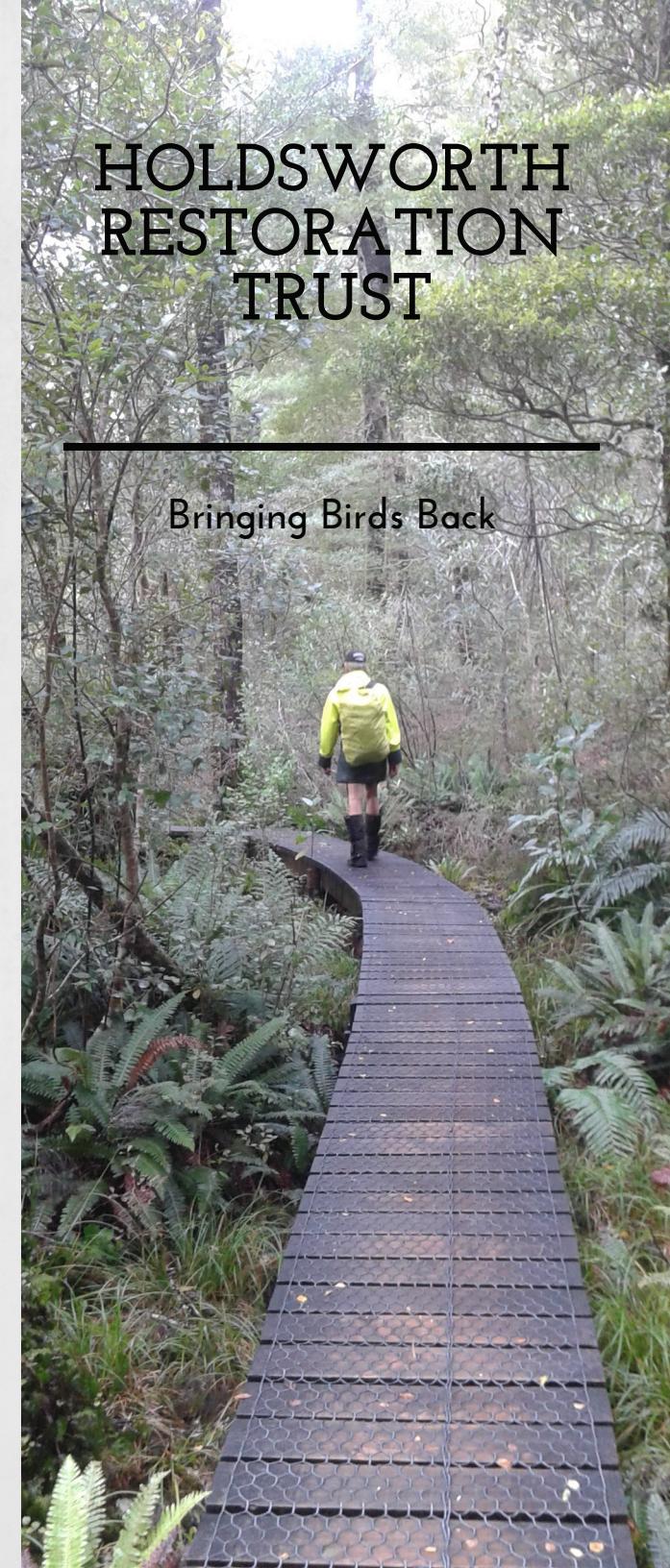
Charity # CC56517

BNZ Bank Account, Masterton  
02 0688 0236248 000

Please email us with your donation amount and to receive a receipt.

# HOLDSWORTH RESTORATION TRUST

### Bringing Birds Back



# ABOUT US

Our goal is to reintroduce the North Island Robin (toutouwai) to the area around Donnelly Flat which is at the Holdsworth road end of the Tararua Ranges. First we need to ensure 1000 hectares has less than 5% rat tracking. In other words; very few rats, mice, stoats, possums, ferrets, weasels.

We have laid out over 400 traps so far. They're laid out in lines, with traps 50m apart. We're currently using Goodnature A24 self-resetting traps. We re-lure and gas these every 6 months. Rats are our main target species.

To measure our success we carry out a monitor of the rat numbers 3 – 4 times a year. We have 80 monitoring tunnels in the area, with each monitor we lay a piece of cardboard with a central inkpad in each tunnel, and some peanut butter as a lure. Rodents walk across the inkpad to the peanut butter and leave their footprints on the card. We count how many cards have prints on them to give an indication of abundance (it doesn't count each rat!).

## OUR BEGINNINGS

In 2010 a group of volunteers approached the Department of Conservation (DOC) in Masterton about the possibility of setting up a trapping project to remove predators, bring back native bird life and create a 1080-free area for dog walking. The area fitted in with DOC's Project Kaka, a scientific project monitoring the outcomes of 1080 control over 29,000ha.

The ground-control aspect of Project Kaka started at Donnelly Flat. A bequest in 2017 allowed the purchase of 420 self-resetting traps, lure and gas - a great way to start bringing back the birds.

The Holdsworth Restoration Trust (HRT) plans to purchase more traps to cover an area approximately 1000ha



## RECENT MONITOR RESULTS

### % of cards that show rats:

2018 June	56%
2018 Oct	71%
2019 Jan	51%
2019 May	74%

These results give us an indication of how the rat numbers change with the seasons, how beech masting impacts and that we need more traps in the 1000ha area to control the rats.

The Holdsworth Restoration Trust fundraises and applies for grants so that we can buy more traps and lure to achieve our goal of 1000 hectares predator free.