



The Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ team at the South Pole. L-R: Bengt Rotmo, Marthe Brendefur, Laura Andrews, Mike Dawson, Nigel Watson. © AHT/Mike Dawson

South Pole Reached

The Trust's Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ team have shown how far an explorer mindset can take you, reaching the South Pole on 6 January 2023 after towing sledges 920km from the edge of the Ronne Ice Shelf.

Over 50 days, the Kiwi-Norwegian team of Inspiring Explorers Laura Andrews, Marthe Brendefur, and Mike Dawson, along with Expedition Leader and former Trust Executive Director Nigel Watson,

and Ousland Explorers Polar Guide Bengt Rotmo, worked their way through a maze of sastrugi and around crevasse fields, while experiencing extreme winds, punishing sub-zero temperatures and the effects of altitude. The team would ski for an hour at a time for up to 12 hours a day, and they would each take turns at leading. The person at the front carried the mental load of navigation and the physical load of breaking the path for their teammates behind them.

The expedition celebrated 150 years since the birth of legendary Norwegian polar explorer Roald Amundsen. Norwegian Inspiring Explorer Marthe Brendefur said, "I have so much respect for what Amundsen and his team went through now that I have experienced how piercing, cold and ruthless Antarctica can be. I love the expedition life – even the unpleasant parts. I loved pulling my sledge, using my entire body to move it – it was really satisfying!"



The Inspiring Explorers team L-R: Bengt Rotmo, Marthe Brendefur, Laura Andrews, Nigel Watson. © AHT/Mike Dawson

On arrival at the South Pole, Expedition Leader Nigel Watson said the team shed tears and felt joy. “We are cold and tired but exhilarated to be on this spot in the footsteps of legends like Amundsen, Scott and Hillary. We are in awe of Amundsen’s speed of travel. The team definitely reflected on the early polar explorers and what they were able to achieve over 100 years ago. Our Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ has inspired a new generation of explorers who will be part of the future guardians of the explorer’s legacy the Trust cares for.”

Inspiring Explorer Laura Andrews says, “What I learned from this expedition is that we all have strength in different ways and it’s not necessarily just physical. Strength is a combination of physical, mental, and emotional, and it is hugely influenced by your team spirit. We were successful because even though we were strong



Inspiring Explorer Laura Andrews skis towards the South Pole. © AHT/Mike Dawson

individuals, we were an even stronger team. We went from strangers across the world to a team that thrived together by talking and learning about each other’s strengths and weaknesses. We lifted each other up.”

Now that they are home, our Inspiring Explorers are delivering outreach plans for how they will share this life-changing experience with their communities.

The Trust extends its sincere thanks to Expedition partner Ousland Explorers, Clothing Partner Norrøna, Photographic Partner Canon, TrackMe NZ, Roald Amundsen’s House, Brynje of Norway, Fjellpulken, Helsport, and Åsnes, along with logistics provider Antarctic Logistics and Expeditions for helping make this expedition possible.



See more photos at nzaht.org.

HRH The Princess Royal Visits

HRH The Princess Royal visited New Zealand in February 2023 to mark the centenary of the New Zealand Army’s Royal New Zealand Corps of Signals. During her time in New Zealand, the Trust’s Acting Executive Director Francesca Eathorne, Chair Mark Stewart, Deputy Chair Anthony Wright and former Executive Director Nigel Watson were delighted to meet Her Royal Highness at an event hosted at Government House in Wellington.

In 2002 we were honoured to have HRH The Princess Royal launch the Trust’s Ross Sea Heritage Restoration Project in Antarctica, an international project to secure the historic explorer bases. The Princess Royal is a valued supporter of the Trust’s work to safeguard this legacy.



HRH The Princess Royal speaks at an event at Government House. © NZDF



HRH The Princess Royal and Executive Director Nigel Watson, inside Scott’s *Terra Nova* hut, Cape Evans in 2002. © Reuters/Mark Baker.



Trust Deputy Chair Anthony Wright (right) presents Nigel Watson (left) with the title Emeritus Executive Director. © AHT/Jo Moore

Nigel Watson Honoured and Farewelled

Former Executive Director of Antarctic Heritage Trust, Nigel Watson, has been awarded the prestigious New Zealand Antarctic medal in recognition of his services to Antarctic heritage preservation.

Throughout Nigel's 23 years as Executive Director of the Trust, he has dedicated his life's work to saving the sites of the early Antarctic explorers, raising significant funds to undertake their conservation, and creating programmes that inspire the next generation of explorers.

Mark Stewart MNZM, Chair of Antarctic Heritage Trust, says the Trust is immensely proud that Nigel Watson's commitment and achievements have been recognised.

"Nigel is driven by deep passion and is an incredibly high achiever. The contribution he's made to ensuring Antarctica's cultural heritage is protected has allowed Aotearoa New Zealand to shine on the world stage. His creation of the world's largest cold-climate heritage conservation project (the Ross Sea Heritage Restoration Project) has meant that this remarkable legacy has been conserved for future generations."

The creation of the Inspiring Explorers™ youth programme has been another accomplishment in Nigel's noteworthy career. Since the programme launched in 2015 thousands of young people have had the opportunity to engage in the programme through expeditions to the world's polar regions, through New Zealand-based events including summits, conferences and the Trust's virtual reality experience of Sir Ed's Antarctic hut.

Nigel has personally led five Inspiring Explorers Expeditions™ to polar

environments including Antarctica, South Georgia Island and the Greenland Ice Cap. Nigel was on his way to the South Pole during the Trust's eighth Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ when it was announced he would receive the New Zealand Antarctic Medal.



Nigel Watson measures wind speed and temperature during the Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ to the South Pole. © AHT/Mike Dawson

Nigel finished in his role as Executive Director of the Trust on 3 February 2023 and was farewelled at an event in Christchurch, attended by Trust stakeholders where Nigel's enormous contribution was recognised.

In addition, the Trust's Board have appointed Nigel as Emeritus Executive Director. The International Polar Heritage Committee (IPHC) passed a motion to recognise Nigel with gratitude for his significant achievements in the conservation of Ross Sea heritage.

Thanks to Nigel's leadership, the legacy of the polar explorers that the Trust cares for will be conserved, celebrated, and made accessible to New Zealanders and the world for generations to come.

Mark Stewart Awarded Honorary Doctorate



Trust Chair Mark Stewart. © AHT/Jo Moore.

The University of Canterbury (UC) has bestowed an honorary Doctor of Commerce on Trust Chair Mark Stewart. Mark was the first in his family to attend university, graduating from UC in 1984 with a Bachelor of Commerce with a major in Business Administration before embarking on a highly successful business career.

Mark left New Zealand in 1985 at age 22 to work in Malaysia. He has served as Honorary Consul for Malaysia and received a PUN (Distinguished Order of Meritorious Service) honour from Malaysia bestowing him the title of Datuk, the equivalent of a knighthood from the Malaysian King, for outstanding service to the country.

Over a 40-year commercial career, Mark has been a director of a number of publicly listed companies. A common thread throughout his life and career is a desire to give back through philanthropy and governance roles.

In addition to his role with the Trust, Mark is also currently the Chair of the ChristChurch Cathedral Reinstatement project. He is a trustee of the NZ Olympic Foundation, as well as of the NZ Dementia Prevention Trust and the Hororata Community Trust, which he established as a way of fundraising for the local community after a major earthquake in September 2010 hit the district hard.

In 2018 Mark was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to sport and the community.



The Trust's 2022-23 On-Ice Conservation team at Cape Royds, L-R: Megan Absolon, Lachie Cromar, Lizzie Meek, Zack Bennett, Jane Hamill. © AHT/ Zack Bennett

Summer Conservation Season Complete

The Trust's On-Ice Conservation team spent seven weeks in Antarctica undertaking a comprehensive monitoring and maintenance programme on the historic Ross Island explorer bases of Captain Robert Falcon Scott, Sir Ernest Shackleton, and Sir Edmund Hillary.

The team, led by Lizzie Meek, the Trust's Collections Conservation Manager, included Lead Conservator Jane Hamill, Conservator Megan Absolon, Lead Heritage Carpenter Zack Bennett, and Conservation Support Lachie Cromar. "With a short season and an intensive work

programme, we were fortunate to have skilled and experienced team members Zack, Jane and Meg, and the energy of our first time Antarctic Lachie," says Lizzie.

In addition to the annual monitoring and maintenance programme for each historic site, artefacts that had undergone stabilisation treatments by the Trust's On-Ice Conservators during Winter 2022 were returned to the sites: 574 artefacts were returned to Shackleton's *Nimrod* hut and 399 returned to Scott's *Terra Nova* hut, including pony snowshoes and tack from the stables, and an expedition medical kit.

"Returning the conserved artefacts after a mammoth Winter conservation project was particularly rewarding for the team," says Lizzie.

While at Scott's *Terra Nova* hut the team worked on an archaeological site survey and recorded details of artefacts newly visible this season due to low levels of snow accumulation; these included a husky skeleton, a New Zealand Railways tarpaulin, a dog collar, and a pony blanket.

"Our Lead Conservator Jane, who holds an additional degree in Archaeology, focused all her time at Cape Evans on documenting the many new finds in detail. Using our Draft Site Archaeological guidelines, we will be adding this information to our GIS records and looking at possibilities for ongoing stabilisation and monitoring," said Lizzie.

To manage liquid blubber from the blubber stack in the Western Annex as it mobilises during the warmest summer weather, the team installed flashings to direct liquid blubber run off, a perforated sheet metal filter, and a sump box to catch the run off.

Lead Heritage Carpenter Zack Bennett says, "A growing problem with the blubber stack is the increasing oil run-off. In 2011 a timber bund was installed to try and contain the seeping blubber oil and prevent it from leaking into the walkway in the Western Annex and entrance to the



The box stack along the south wall of Shackleton's *Nimrod* hut, now sitting 700mm away from the hut wall.
© AHT/Lizzie Meek

Stables. Over the last several years this bund has required emptying each season and it has been regularly overflowing. Our work this season will make the liquid blubber oil easier to manage.”

At Shackleton's *Nimrod* hut at Cape Royds the team continued conservation work started last season on the Venesta box stack positioned along the southern wall of the hut, checking, consolidating, and removing any deteriorated food products. To reduce the amount of melt water and ice flows entering the subfloor of the hut, the box stack was moved 700mm away from the southern wall of the hut, enabling the south wall to breathe and dry out. Ice build up was also removed from under the hut.

Work was also undertaken to repair and reinstate a damaged chimney flue and rigging. Zack Bennett says, “Last winter was remarkably stormy with many high wind events. During a winter storm, two of the hemp rope stays that hold the chimney snapped causing the chimney to fall. Both the remaining section protruding through the roof and the section that broke off were left with large dents. We used a small hydraulic jack, a mandrel we fabricated onsite, and panel beating hammers to work the dented flue back into shape before lifting the chimney back into position and securing with new hemp rope, copper, and wire rope stays.”

Additional work at Cape Royds included repairs to damaged hessian on the

fodder bales located along the north wall of the stable. The hessian gradually degrades as a result of light damage, penguin guano and abrasive scoria, and is periodically replaced.

While on Ross Island, the team also inspected the Observation Hill Memorial Cross and Vince's Cross and rationalised and packed a large quantity of Trust equipment and supplies to be returned to New Zealand during Antarctica New Zealand's Scott Base Rebuild Project.

The Trust extends its thanks to Antarctica New Zealand for their logistical support throughout the season and to the United States Antarctic Program for their support of the team's work at Hut Point Peninsula.



L-R: Zack Bennett and Lachie Cromar reinstate the chimney flue on top of Shackleton's *'Nimrod'* hut. © AHT/Jane Hamill

“Returning the conserved artefacts after a mammoth Winter conservation project was particularly rewarding for the team.”

Lizzie Meek



Megan Absolon undertakes solubility tests on the stove in Shackleton's *'Nimrod'* hut for the purpose of informing future treatment options. © AHT/Jane Hamill

Artefacts Repatriated to Scott's *Terra Nova* hut

The team repatriated several items to Scott's *Terra Nova* hut at Cape Evans this season including an improvised sledge distance meter wheel once owned by George Murray Levick.

Levick was the surgeon, zoologist and a photographer on Scott's British Antarctic Expedition 1910 – 1913. He was part of the Northern Party who built a hut and wintered at Cape Adare in 1911.

Following that winter, the Northern Party were collected by the *Terra Nova* and taken south down the coast to complete further geological work and surveys. On route to Evans Cove, where they were dropped off on 8 January 1912, they realised one of their standard sledging mileage recorders had been left behind, so the ship's carpenter Davies made a replacement sledge meter wheel using part of a Venesta case and some hardwood. The Northern Party took this improvised sledge meter wheel with them

for use on one of the two very over-loaded sledges they had with them during the extensive surveying work they carried out. On the other sledge they used a standard sledge meter wheel issued to them before leaving Cape Evans for Cape Adare.

The Northern Party were supposed to be collected a month later. However, because of the ice conditions, the ship was not able to pick them up as planned, and the party spent a miserable winter in a snow cave at Inexpressible Island, Terra Nova Bay; subsisting on seal meat.

The improvised sledge meter wheel was also likely attached to one of their sledges during the Northern Party's self-rescue, a long trek south on meagre rations. They travelled some 200 miles (320km) along the coastline of McMurdo Sound in the spring of 1912, finally reaching the safety of the hut at Cape Evans on 7 November 1912, almost two years after their initial arrival at Cape Adare.



A box of Fry's cocoa tins, repatriated to the Galley in Scott's 'Terra Nova' hut. © AHT/Lizzie Meek.

When the surviving members of Scott's expedition left Antarctica on the *Terra Nova* in January 1913, Levick took the improvised sledge meter wheel with him.

Over the years, the wheel has been passed down through Levick's extended family and has been donated to the Trust by Ross and Bruce Bailey.

Collections Conservation Manager Lizzie Meek said, "We are very grateful to the donors we've worked with this season for the care they've taken of these artefacts over the years, and their willingness to assist us in returning them to the sites.

"We received the sledge distance meter wheel in excellent condition. Some historical damage to the timber construction required minimal stabilisation treatment, this was essentially surface cleaning and minor corrosion removal," said Lizzie.



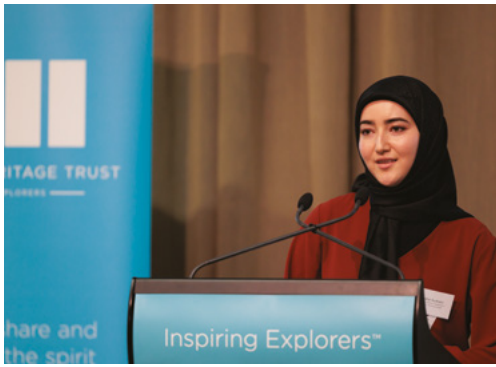
The sledge distance meter wheel after conservation treatment. © AHT

The Trust's On-Ice conservation team placed the wheel in the mess-deck area of Scott's *Terra Nova* hut, adjacent to other sledging equipment.

Also returned were a box of cocoa tins, which were placed in the Galley, and a Shell motor spirits box, donated by former United States naval Captain Dave Baker.



A sledge distance meter wheel placed with other sledging equipment in Scott's 'Terra Nova' hut. © AHT/Lizzie Meek



At the application launch event, Inspiring Explorers Sadra Sultani, left, and Laura Andrews, right, shared stories about their expeditions with the Trust's community, delighting and inspiring. © AHT/Jo Moore



Mike Barber.

Applications Launched for Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ South Georgia

The Trust launched applications for its ninth Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ to South Georgia Island at a dinner at New Zealand's Parliament Buildings, hosted by Hon Dr Duncan Webb, on 14 February 2023.

This expedition will honour the centenary year of Sir Ernest Shackleton's final expedition, the *Quest*, which journeyed to South Georgia and marked the end of the heroic-era of Antarctic exploration.

It will provide an opportunity for 22 young New Zealanders aged 18-30 to explore South Georgia Island, connect with the legacy the Trust cares for and embrace their spirit of exploration.

As part of the expedition three young explorers will attempt a first Kiwi ascent of Mount Worsley, a peak named for Shackleton's captain and New Zealander Frank Worsley.

Antarctic Heritage Trust Acting Executive Director, Francesca Eathorne says this is a once-in-a-lifetime expedition.

"We are excited to take a diverse group of young people who are curious about the world and are keen to connect with the spirit of exploration to South Georgia Island. This will be a life-changing experience for

these young people as they develop their confidence and ability to step confidently into this changing world."

This incredible two-week ship-based expedition is presented by Antarctica21 and supported by the Trust's Inspiring Explorers™ Programme Partners MetService New Zealand and Royal Society Te Apārangi. Both organisations will provide help with science and research during the expedition as the team of explorers complete a number of outreach projects connecting with themes such as climate change, science, polar history and education.

Stephen Hunt, Chief Executive MetService says, "Antarctic Heritage Trust cares for the early polar explorer expedition bases in Antarctica, which include the first meteorological stations. We are thrilled to be partnering with the Trust on this expedition to inspire young people with their science-based outreach as they have the opportunity to explore this wild environment."

The Trust is currently in the process of selecting our 22 Inspiring Explorers™ and will look forward to announcing the team mid-year.

Inspiring Explorers™ Programme Manager on Board

The Trust welcomes Mike Barber to the team as Inspiring Explorers™ Programme Manager. Mike is responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's Inspiring Explorers™ programme.

Mike has worked in various programming, operational and management roles in the adventure activities and conservation industries. He is experienced in creating, developing and delivering programmes for people of all ages and from all walks of life. Mike says, "My new role at the Trust really gets me excited about where we can take the Inspiring Explorers™ programme, for both our alumni network and those yet to take on an Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ of a lifetime!"

Personally, Mike thrives on his own expeditions and adventures. Most weekends summer or winter he can be found somewhere in the backcountry climbing, snowboarding, biking or tramping. If he's not in the hills then he can be found enjoying the surf or other water sports. Mike has previously spent time surfing and racing as a sponsored paddleboarder as well as travelling the world packing in weird and wonderful experiences that he says make for some good chat.



Sir Ernest Shackleton's grave on South Georgia Island. © Antarctica21

Explore Sir Ed's hut in 2023



Students take part in the Trust's Hillary's Hut - Antarctica Virtual Reality Experience. © AHT

The Trust continues to tour our ground breaking, fully immersive virtual reality (VR) experience of Sir Edmund Hillary's Antarctic hut to schools, community venues and events around New Zealand, bringing Antarctica to thousands of Kiwis in a fresh and dynamic way.

Thanks to Auckland University of Technology, Dulux NZ, StaplesVR, Antarctica New Zealand and donors to the Inspiring Explorers™ Fund for their continued support.

New Public Engagement Officer

In addition to delivering the Hillary's Hut - Antarctica Virtual Reality Experience, our education team inspire people with their presentations on Antarctica, Sir Ed Hillary, and his team's work to further science and exploration as part of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition and International Geophysical Year.

We are delighted to welcome our new Public Engagement Officer, Adelma Matthews to the Trust's education team.



As an experienced educator with over 20 years of experience working in schools and with communities, Adelma is looking forward to sharing stories of Sir Edmund Hillary and the magic of Antarctica with communities around New Zealand. During her time as a classroom teacher, team leader, deputy principal and resource teacher of learning and behaviour, she has championed the enthralling stories of the heroic-era of Antarctic exploration. With her keen appreciation for the environment, Adelma has also run various environmental groups within schools and is keen to ensure students appreciate the unique environment of Antarctica. As a member of the Learning Through The Arts Committee, Adelma helped organise several national conferences around New Zealand, and ran various workshops for a wide variety of groups. She is looking forward to connecting with many different people through the Trust's Inspiring Explorers Education™ programme.

In her leisure time, Adelma is a keen runner and biker, enjoying both road biking and mountain biking in all areas of New Zealand and abroad.



Contact us at education@nzaht.org to book an in-person visit for your school or community group.

Online Database Update

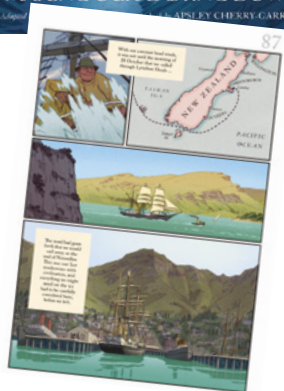
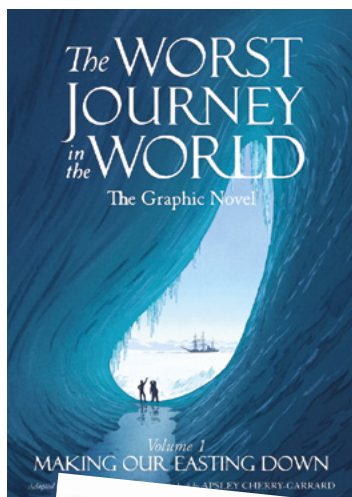


This stunning image is one of 159,000 processed so far by the project team transitioning the Trust's image assets to an online database called Recollect. It was taken by John Evans who worked with the Trust during the 2011-12 season as a Blake Antarctic Youth Ambassador and shows Shackleton's *Nimrod* hut and the snow-covered Cape Royds environs viewed from a ridge South-east of the site. A meteorological screen sits on a ridge South-west of the hut. Further West, Pony Lake is hidden under a blanket of snow in front of an Adélie penguin rookery.

Trust Distributes *The Worst Journey in the World: The Graphic Novel*

Antarctic Heritage Trust is proud to announce it is now the New Zealand distributor of *'The Worst Journey in the World: The Graphic Novel'*, with copies of Volume 1 available for purchase on the Trust's website. Adapted by Sarah Airriess from the book by Apsley Cherry-Garrard, *Making Our Easting Down* is the first in what will be a four-volume full-colour graphic serialisation of *The Worst Journey in the World*, made in cooperation with the Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge and published by Indie Novella.

This stunning graphic novel captures the story of one of the most gruelling and tragic expeditions in history. The memoir, originally published in 1922, was a personal account of the British Antarctic (*Terra Nova*) Expedition 1910-1913 led by Captain Robert Falcon Scott. Cherry-Garrard and his companions faced unimaginable challenges in their quest to explore the unknown regions of Antarctica, including blizzards, frostbite, hunger, and the ever-present danger of death.



Sarah Airriess, a Disney veteran with over a decade of research under her belt, has adapted this classic work for a new generation of readers. Her graphic novel captures the personalities of the men involved, from the leaders to the support crew, and the harsh realities of life in the Antarctic. She also highlights the scientific research conducted by the expedition

members, underscoring the importance of scientific exploration and discovery.

Airriess' illustrations are both beautiful and haunting, capturing the stunning landscapes and the isolation and desperation of the men. Her storytelling is equally vivid, bringing to life the triumphs and tragedies of the expedition. *'The Worst*

Journey in the World: The Graphic Novel', is a powerful work of graphic literature that captures the spirit of exploration, the pursuit of knowledge, and the human experience in extreme conditions.



Order your copy at nzaht.org.



Sarah Airriess © Sarah Airriess

About Sarah Airriess

Sarah Airriess is a Canadian animator and graphic novelist, with a career spanning Canada, Los Angeles, Silicon Valley, and London. She trained as an animator in Canada and was working at Disney when she heard a radio dramatisation of Apsley Cherry-Garrard's *'The Worst Journey in the World'*, which inspired her to create a graphic novel adaptation.

Sarah is currently an Institute Associate at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge. She travelled to Antarctica in 2019 with the US National Science Foundation's Antarctic Artists and Writers Program, which provided her with valuable insights that inform her graphic novel adaptation of Apsley Cherry-Garrard's classic memoir.



© AHT/John Evans

Trust Digital Collections Technician Ella Beckett says working through the Trust's archive of images from each conservation season has been the best way to learn about the scale of work that's undertaken each year and about the explorer bases themselves.

"By looking through photos taken year after year you can build up an internal map in your head of each building, where artefacts are placed inside the space, as well as where the huts sit in relation to the outside environment. It's a great moment when you find an image taken from a unique angle that helps you to understand better a corner of the hut you hadn't noticed before.

"As someone who hasn't been to Antarctica the images also give a comprehensive insight into daily life in the field for our conservators as well as illustrating some of the logistical

challenges encountered when working in an extreme environment. Along with the images detailing our work undertaken to preserve the explorer bases of Borchgrevink, Scott, Shackleton, and Hillary the images tell a story of collaboration with our Trust supporters from our global conservation alumni to the partners that assist with logistics and transport to remote locations," says Ella.

The Trust is looking forward to sharing stories and images from the last 21 years of the Ross Sea Heritage Restoration Project with the public and are excited to continue to share the Trust's future work in both cold climate conservation and our Inspiring Explorers™ programme through our public portal which will be launched later in 2023.

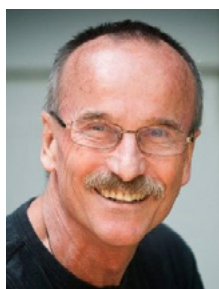
We are grateful for the support of the New Zealand Lotteries Grants Board for their match funding of the project.

Governance

The Trust welcomes several new members to our Board in 2023. Brent Clothier joins as the Royal Society Te Apārangī representative, Rex Hendry as the New Zealand Antarctic Society representative, and Aliesha Staples is appointed as a new Independent Trustee. We are delighted that Governance Interns Mike Dawson and Georgina Archibald have joined the Board as full Independent Trustees, and we welcome two new Governance Interns, Laura Andrews and Tasman Gillies.



Aliesha Staples.



Dr Brent Clothier.



Rex Hendry.



Georgina Archibald.



Mike Dawson. ©
AHT/Jo Moore



Laura Andrews. ©
AHT/Jo Moore



Tasman Gillies.

Aliesha Staples

Aliesha comes from a 15-year film industry and Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, technology creation background. She is the founder of Staples VR, an emerging tech consultancy and development company, and the co-founder of Click Studios. Aliesha is a pioneer of new technology and has a passion for governance. She also currently sits on the board of TVNZ, Institute of Directors, and New Zealand Football Foundation.

Dr Brent Clothier

Brent is a soil and water environmental scientist, working at the Crown Research Institute Plant & Food Research as a Principal Scientist based in Palmerston North (NZ). Brent is also an Adjunct Professor at China Agricultural University in Beijing and a Fellow of the New Zealand Society of Soil Science, and four foreign science academies: Soil Science Society of America; American Agronomy Society; American Geophysical Union and an Academician (Foreign) of the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

Brent is also involved in water-related aid and development projects in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, as well as in the Middle East, China, and Africa.

Brent is a Fellow of Royal Society Te Apārangī, and their current President. He grew up in Christchurch during the International Geophysical Year 1957-58 and was enthralled by the US Operation Deep Freeze, riding his bike out to the airport to watch the Globemasters land. He reads avidly of the polar explorations of Scott, Amundsen, Nansen, Shackleton, Byrd, Mawson, Fuchs, and Hillary.

Rex Hendry

The Ice is in Rex's blood, having travelled to Antarctica 25 times over four decades. Roles and activities have included wintering over as an electrician at New Zealand's Scott Base, field training instructor, mountaineer and dog handler roles for British Antarctic Survey, search and rescue roles, serving as Scott Base Operations Support Manager for three consecutive years, with subsequent seasons in operational roles, and visiting as a New Zealand Government Representative, lecturer, and field guide on Antarctic cruise ships.

Rex has also worked as an outdoor instructor, a local government adviser, an area manager for the Department of Conservation, and consultant planner. He also runs a horticulture business, lovelavender.co.nz.

Rex's previous governance roles include serving as Chair of Taranaki-Whanganui Conservation Board, Council member of the Western Institute of Technology, and Chair of Land Search and Rescue NZ. He has also served on the Advocacy Committee for the New Zealand Alpine Club and as the Environmental Sustainability representative on the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee.

Rex is now (mostly) retired, and joins the Trust's Board in his capacity as President of the New Zealand Antarctic Society.

Georgina Archibald

Georgina is from Ōtautahi (Christchurch, NZ) and of Tongan and Pākehā heritage. With a background in literature, law and education, she works as Pacific Learning Advisor at Te Pūkenga Ara Institute of Canterbury. Her passion is supporting students to succeed in education so they

can increasingly action and inspire positive changes in their communities.

Georgina was selected as a team member for the Trust's Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ to the Antarctic Peninsula in 2019. She is thrilled to join the Board of an organisation that cares for the incredible legacy of polar exploration and delivers meaningful outreach to diverse local and international communities. Georgina is also involved in governance across a range of Waitaha Canterbury initiatives that support youth development, conservation, and sustainable intentional communities.

Mike Dawson

Mike is a retired New Zealand representative athlete with over 15 years' experience in the high-performance sport environment as an athlete, advisor and coach. He is a double Olympian in canoe slalom, and a New Zealand Olympic Ambassador, inspiring young New Zealanders and sharing the Olympic values of respect, friendship and excellence. Mike is currently the coach of the New Zealand canoe slalom team. He is internationally renowned for his extreme kayak feats, having won a slew of titles in some of the biggest rapids on the planet, and through his expedition paddling.

Mike is the founder of Kiwi Creations, a New Zealand-based film production company, and has been involved with the Trust's Inspiring Explorers Expeditions™ to the Antarctic Peninsula as a kayaking mentor, and as an Inspiring Explorer™ on the Trust's most recent expedition to the South Pole.

Laura Andrews

Laura is a firefighter and medical first responder by day, working for Auckland Airport Emergency Services. She enjoys the

close-knit team environment she works in, the ability to interact with the community and the dynamic environment that means no two days are the same.

Outside of work, Laura loves the outdoors and thrives on pushing her physical and mental boundaries. She has previously spent three months walking the length of New Zealand's South Island solo, cycled the length of New Zealand along the Tour Aotearoa route, competed in endurance, adventure and ironman races in New Zealand and firefighter stair climbs internationally.

Laura was a member of the Trust's Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ South Pole team.

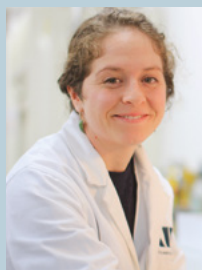
Tasman Gillies

Tasman, a descendant of Ngāi Tahu and Ngāti Kahungunu, is a passionate advocate for restoring, maintaining, and enhancing the relationship between people and the environment. As Programme Director at Toha, he works with those taking action on the frontline of the climate and biodiversity crises, where he sees the urgent need to scale the flow of capital, data, and information to drive climate action. Tasman's expertise lies in leveraging data to support frontline action by developing and implementing data strategies that support regenerative environmental outcomes. Most recently he is working to support the East Coast Exchange to show in near real-time the community-led disaster response to

Cyclone Gabrielle in Tairāwhiti (NZ). He supported the public release of location-specific sea-level rise projections as part of the NZ SeaRise project through his work at Takiwā.

Tasman has completed a Postgraduate Certificate in Antarctic Studies and contributed to the paper 'Transforming Antarctic Management and Policy with an Indigenous Māori Lens' which proposed a new approach to Antarctic management and conservation by incorporating Māori values and perspectives. Tasman hopes that through the governance internship, he can contribute his expertise, skills and passion to the Antarctic Heritage Trust.

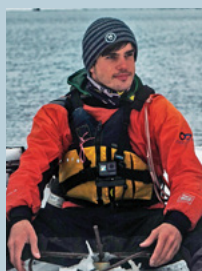
Alumni News



It has been an exciting time for **Josefin Bergmark-Jiménez** (Conservator 2016-17) as she began a new position as a book conservator at Uppsala University Library in Sweden in November

2022. While working for the Trust in 2017 Josefin, a specialist paper conservator, discovered Dr Edward Wilson's watercolour painting 'Tree Creeper 1899' while cleaning a paper portfolio collected from a bunk in Borchgrevink's hut at Cape Adare.

After reaching the South Pole in January 2023, **Marthe Brendefur** (Inspiring Explorer 2022) has been back in her skis and is preparing to depart for Svalbard in April. She is looking forward to some weeks of skiing in the Arctic and traversing glaciers, while keeping her eyes out for polar bears! Marthe says the learnings and experiences from her expedition to the South Pole are sure to come in handy.



Alexander Hillary (Inspiring Explorer 2019) recently made it down to Macquarie Island aboard the National Geographic *Orion*, working as a guide for Lindblad Expeditions.

Dr David Harrowfield NZAM (Trust Inaugural Executive Officer) has a major new paper published in Polar Record by Cambridge University Press, alongside co-author Dr Mark Mabin. The work spanned three years and is titled *The Possession Islands Ross Sea Antarctica: a history of exploration and scientific endeavour at a Ross Sea archipelago since the first landing in 1841*.



Lana Kiddie-Vai (Inspiring Explorer 2019) is in her final year of studying towards a degree in Anthropology at Auckland University, with plans to graduate in early 2024.



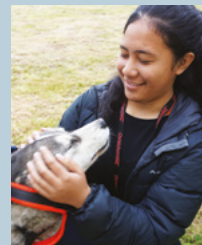
Ihlara McIndoe's (Inspiring Explorer 2020) composition 'On Satin Waters' inspired by her time in Antarctica with the Trust, was recently selected for the le Vivier annual concert

in Montreal, Canada which celebrates new music from universities in Montreal. The piece was a rearranged version for violin, cello and tape – the tape being audio recordings from her expedition to Antarctica. The performers were Silvia Buttiglione and Mattia Berrini.



Listen to 'On Satin Waters' at nzaht.org.

Vivian Satui (Young Inspiring Explorer 2019) attends the Trust's partner school, Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate in South Auckland and has been appointed as a Leader for Advocacy and Participation.



Emily Stacey-Baxter (Young Inspiring Explorer 2022) is proud of her recent achievements having been awarded her school's Emerging Leader Award and this year been named Deputy Head Girl, as well as a school councillor, cultural leader and librarian.



From October 2019 to June 2022, **Annick Vuissoz** (Conservator 2014-15) has been working at the American Museum of Natural History in New York as a conservator, participating in the renovation of the Northwest Coast Hall. This work focused on conserving totem poles and monumental carving as well as wool blankets and textiles. Annick has also worked on conserving Native American pottery, Mayan archaeological objects and Maasai beaded jewellery in preparation for the opening of the museum's new Gilder Center for Science, Education, and Innovation.



In Memorium

Rt Hon Paul East CNZM QC

The Trust is sad to share that former Board Chair Rt Hon Paul East CNZM QC passed away in February 2023.

Paul joined the Board of Antarctic Heritage Trust in 2002 following a distinguished career in the legal, parliamentary and diplomatic services. He held a number of Cabinet posts during his political career including Minister for State Services, Defence, Corrections and Crown Health Enterprises; was a Leader of the House, served as the country's Attorney General for seven years, and was later appointed the New Zealand High Commissioner to the UK.

Paul was a dedicated advocate for the Antarctic Heritage Trust throughout his time on the Board and as Chair, making a significant contribution in all areas of operations over 15 years of service.

Heritage conservation plans were underway for the Antarctic huts when he joined the Board, and during Paul's tenure

he saw the Trust team complete restoration work at Scott, Shackleton and Hillary's Huts, and conserve thousands of important artefacts.

In 2007 Paul visited Antarctica with Sir Edmund Hillary to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Scott Base. Paul also had an opportunity to visit South Georgia with HRH Princess Anne in 2015 to mark the 100th anniversary of Shackleton's death.

Paul retired as Chair of the Antarctic Heritage Trust in September 2016, and from the Board in May 2017. The Trust is incredibly grateful for the passion he displayed for Antarctica and our work, his thoughtful chairmanship, sage advice and the tremendous commitment he made to the Trust over the 15 years he was involved in our governance.

Our thoughts are with Paul's family at this sad and difficult time.



Rt Hon Paul East visiting Shackleton's grave on South Georgia Island in 2015. © AHT

Chris Hubbert

The Trust also recognises with sadness the passing of long-time member Chris Hubbert in December 2022. Chris had a great love of the Antarctic, was inspired in life by heroic-era explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton and had been a supporter of the Trust since 1996.

Matt's Good Walk



Trust supporter Matthew Rose is walking the length of New Zealand's South Island on the Te Araroa Trail and the Trust is incredibly grateful to be one of ten charities Matthew is raising funds for as part of 'Matt's Good Walk'. Matthew's generous support will help fund a young person with an explorer mindset to join our Inspiring Explorers Expedition™ - South Georgia 2023 in October.

Matthew set off on his 1,400km journey in February from Ship's Cove in the Marlborough Sounds, and it will be completed three months later when he reaches Stirling Point at Bluff.

Find out more and support Matthew's progress at: mattsgoodwalk.nz

Matthew Rose officially started Matt's Good Walk heading South Bound on the Te Araroa trail. © [instagram/mattsgoodwalk](https://www.instagram.com/mattsgoodwalk)

Thank You

to our new Antarctic Explorer Members :

Bronze Don Milne (NZ)
Nicola Oberlin-Brown (NZ)
Norman Williams (USA)
Claire Buttigieg &
John Timings (NZ)
Lynette & Dave Gillies (NZ)
Robert Tuffley (AUS)
Mark Allen (USA)
Robert Bunes (USA)
John Seager (NZ)
John Kedar (UK)
Robert P Davison III (USA)
Thomas Davison (USA)
Mark & Anne Smith (USA)

Silver Eugene Wolfel (USA)

Gold Graham Barber (UK)
Anita Castan (AUS)
Julie Wrigley (USA)
Lisa Heinz (USA)

If you love the Trust's work and want to make a gift to continue the legacy of exploration visit nzaht.org.