

## Meet the Trustees

TONY ROXBURGH - Chair  
KEITH THOMPSON – Deputy Chair  
GORDON STEPHENSON *CNZM* - Founder  
DAVID LAWRIE *MNZM* – Treasurer (Co-opted Trustee) and Founder  
DON SCARLET – Secretary (Co-opted Trustee)  
SHONAGH LINDSAY – Newsletter editor  
CATHERINE BEARD  
KERRY BODMIN  
MARIE BROWN  
BEV CLARKSON  
MONICA PETERS  
JO RITCHIE  
BRIAN SORRELL  
KAREN DENYER - Executive Officer



[www.wetlandtrust.org.nz](http://www.wetlandtrust.org.nz)

### TONY ROXBURGH - Chair

Tony is employed by the Waipa District Council as Project Manager for Heritage Development and Reserves Planning. He has spent 33 years in the field of conservation management, beginning as a wildlife trainee with the Wildlife Service, Department of Internal Affairs in 1973 and terminated his employment with central government as Waikato Area Manager for the Department of Conservation, in 2005. Over that period he has been engaged in all facets of wetland conservation and management and retains an active interest in wetland protection in both a professional and private capacity.

#### **A J (Tony) Roxburgh**

Project Manager  
Heritage Development and Reserves Planning  
Waipa District Council

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### KEITH THOMPSON – Deputy Chair

Keith Thompson is a wetland ecologist, with a particular interest in peat systems and specialises in management and restoration issues. He has researched wetlands on five continents and taught ecology, environmental science and botany at universities in the UK, Africa and, for 28 years, at Waikato. He has collaborated with, and carried out studies for, various regional and national government bodies, farmers and community groups and is currently a private consultant. He was Supervisor of the Hamilton Junior Naturalist Club for 15 years and is now a trustee of the Te Kauri-Waikuku Trust. He recently joined the Advisory Committee for Regional Environment.

#### **Keith Thompson**

[bogman@ihug.co.nz](mailto:bogman@ihug.co.nz)

## GORDON STEPHENSON CNZM - Founder

Gordon is a semi-retired farmer from Waotu (near Putaruru). Gordon has a long history of involvement in farming and environmental issues. From 1964 until recently he owned and ran a dairy farm in the South Waikato, and was national chairman of the Dairy section of Federated Farmers from 1973 to 1977. He is a Trustee and judge for the Waikato Farm Environment Award. He is also a trustee of the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust and the New Zealand Landcare Trust and was on the Forest and Bird national executive from 1987-1990. He helped develop the concept of the QEII Trust, which was enacted in 1977, and was on the QEII board as deputy chairman until 1988. He also served on the council of Lincoln University from 1979-1988 and on the Environmental Council from 1976-1988, where he was also deputy chairman. He is currently chair of Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust and Member of South Island High Country Review Committee. Gordon was the Convenor of Wetland Task Force which prepared 'Wetlands: A Diminishing Resource' and is also the author of the book 'Wetlands: exploring New Zealand's Shy Places'. Gordon and David Lawrie founded the National Wetland Trust in 1999.

**Gordon Stephenson**  
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## DAVID LAWRIE MNZM – Treasurer (Co-opted Trustee) and Founder

David is a Principal in a Land and Surveying and Land Development Consultancy in Pukekohe. He holds a diploma in Town Planning and is a member of both the Survey and Planning Institutes. David has been actively involved in conservation organisations for a number of years with his main passion and hobby being the study of birds. This is reflected in his involvement in the following organisations:

- New Zealand Fish and Game Council
- Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Council
- Miranda Naturalist Trust since 1975
- Ornithological Society South Auckland Region
- Waikato Conservation Board
- New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Trust.

David and Gordon Stephenson founded the National Wetland Trust in 1999.

**David Lawrie MNZM**  
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## DON SCARLET – Secretary (Co-opted Trustee)

Don is Mighty River Power's Regional Affairs Manager. For the last 15 years Don has held a number of practical environmental management roles in the Waikato region. These have included senior consents and policy roles at Environment Waikato and more recently he has been Project Manager of Mighty River Power's project to renew the resource consents for the Waikato Hydro System. Don is an active member of a number of community environmental interest groups and has acted as an environmental advocate as chair of an action group in his home community over the last 8 years.

**Don Scarlet**  
Mighty River Power

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## SHONAGH LINDSAY – Newsletter editor

Shonagh Lindsay has worked in journalism, public relations and communications since 1990. Until this year she was Public Awareness Advisor for Fish & Game NZ, with other communications work including a major public art gallery, the film and television industry and a variety of strategic research projects.

Journalism has been even more varied ranging from television documentary research through to business feature writing. She is currently editor of Landscape Architecture NZ, a new publication for AGM Publishing the pre-eminent NZ publisher of design and architecture magazines.

Shonagh graduated from a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture at Unitec, Auckland in 2008.



**Shonagh Lindsay**  
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## CATHERINE BEARD

Catherine is Environment Waikato's wetland scientist.

**Catherine Beard**  
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## KERRY BODMIN

Kerry is a wetland plant ecologist with the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) in Hamilton where she is involved in the management of invasive species, assessment and monitoring of native biodiversity, and restoration ecology. Her Masters thesis on the swamps of Motutapu Island in the Hauraki Gulf ignited her passion for wetlands. Prior to joining NIWA her work had a more terrestrial focus with education on weeds and weed control, four years as an ecologist for Waitakere City Council where she provided weed management and restoration advice, biosecurity guidance for painted apple moth and led the Te Henga wetland willow and weed control programme, and 15 months with Biosecurity New Zealand managing the didymo incursion. Kerry is particularly interested in using applied science to enable sound environmental management practices that are accessible to all New Zealanders.



### **Kerry Bodmin**

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## MARIE BROWN

Marie is presently working towards a doctorate on the subject of biodiversity offsets at the University of Waikato. Marie holds a BSc (Biology), a PGDipSci (Environmental Management) and a Masters in Environmental Legal Studies. Marie has a background in local government and is passionate about feeding good science in to making effective environmental policy. Marie has worked in the voluntary sector of conservation for the past ten years and has a strong interest in facilitating good governance of New Zealand's unique flora and fauna.

Marie Brown

### **Marie Brown**

PhD Student - University of Waikato  
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## BEV CLARKSON

Bev is a wetland plant ecologist who works for Landcare Research, Hamilton. She currently leads a collaborative PGSF (Public Good Science Fund) funded research project on New Zealand wetlands which involve researchers from NIWA, DoC and the University of Waikato. Her expertise is in the functioning and restoration of restiad peat bogs. Bev has been a member of the Waikato Conservation Board and is currently a member of the International Society of Wetland Scientists.



**Dr Beverley R. Clarkson**

Plant Ecologist  
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Hamilton

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## MONICA PETERS

Monica has an eclectic background which combines art and science. She has a Master of Fine Arts (Winchester) and an MSc (Otago). Over the last decade she has developed educational resources on indigenous biodiversity and conservation in Mongolia and USA, facilitated volunteer groups on environmental management/restoration projects in the UK, and carried out botanical field work (habitat assessments and weed control) in Borneo, Bolivia and NZ.

Monica has a strong interest in bridging the divide between science and the public, as well as in coordinating bottom-up approaches for protecting and enhancing the environment. Monica is a project coordinator for the NZ Landcare Trust, focusing on wetland restoration and sustainable land management in lakes catchments.



**Monica Peters**

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## JO RITCHIE

Jo is a grassroots environmental contractor specialising in ecological restoration projects and particularly pest eradication programmes. Since leaving DoC in 2000 she has undertaken a variety of projects including 6 years as the project manager for the Tawharanui Open Sanctuary project, provided advice on revegetation programmes, and acted as the technical adviser for pest eradication projects at Kaikoura Island, Glenfern Sanctuary (Great Barrier) and Rotokare Sanctuary (Taranaki). Concerns about sustaining funding for community restoration projects have led her to become involved in the area of carbon credits and sequestration and how business can get more involved in these projects as a means to offset carbon emissions and become more environmentally sustainable.

Jo is keen to use her planning and operational experience to increase knowledge of the importance of wetlands in New Zealand and educate people as to how as individuals they can all make a difference.

**Jo Ritchie**

Natural Logic Environmental Management

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## BRIAN SORRELL

Brian is a senior freshwater ecologist with NIWA in Christchurch, where he has been working on lake and wetland ecology and restoration since 1996. Before joining NIWA he spent six years in Australia studying the ecology of floodplain wetlands in the Murray- Darling Basin, and four years in Denmark, where he was involved in a multi-national EU project investigating die-back and restoration of reed wetlands in Europe. He is interested in all aspects of wetland functioning, biodiversity, and restoration, but has a special passion for deep-water wetland plants such as kuta, club rush, and raupo. He is currently the Secretary-Treasurer of the New Zealand Limnological Society, is a member of the Editorial Board of the international journal *Aquatic Botany*, and is particularly interested in public education about the functions and values of wetlands.

**Brian Sorrell**

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## KAREN DENYER - Executive Officer

Karen is the executive officer of the Trust (3 days per week) and operates her own ecological consultancy for the rest of the time. She spent 14 years as Environment Waikato's terrestrial and wetland ecologist where she developed a series of wetland fact sheets that were a huge success with over 2000 distributed and most other councils adopting and adapting them. Karen brings to the Trust her enthusiasm for environmental education and a long history with the Trust as a past Trustee and Chair.



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