

Focus on Baring Head/Orua-Pouanui

Restoring our past, revealing our history

2017



The Friends of Baring Head Trust and Greater Wellington Regional Council are working together to redevelop the lighthouse keeper's complex at Baring Head in East Harbour Regional Park. The buildings and compound are historically significant because they are the only remaining lighthouse complex in original condition in New Zealand. Works proposed will create an attractive new destination for visitors close to Wellington. Work on restoration will take place through a range of projects and we are calling on people, businesses and others to get involved.

Project 6. The Discovery Trail

The overall project includes redeveloping the two light keepers' cottages for bach-style overnight accommodation. Staying overnight here will be a memorable experience. We expect the cottages to be very popular, particularly with family groups because they will be easily accessible by vehicle. Baring Head is an interesting and special place for lots of reasons, and for families spending time here we want to create interesting and fun things to do and learn about – be it nature, or the lives of the lightkeepers and their families.

Help us create an interpretive discovery trail for children to explore, learn and have fun in the lighthouse cottage garden area.

The discovery trail will meander through a rocky native garden area behind the cottages and have discovery and nature play points which might include:

- weta motel
- lizard homes under rocks
- balancing logs or stepping stones
- climbing post
- bush cubby
- light keeper's chickens and chicken house with eggs
- plants to smell or taste (eg. NZ spinach)
- predator species models
- wooden carved birds or animals
- talking seats etc

The trail could also be supported with information/ quiz material in the light keeper's cottages and, at a later stage, educational packages for school groups. The trail could extend outside the cottage complex to the site of the women's barracks footprint, to particular plants nearby or to interpret park farming activities. It could also be developed in stages as funding becomes available.

Why do this?

Creating a discovery trail will provide a fun activity for families staying in the cottages and encourage them to get out and explore.

This work is part of an overall restoration and redevelopment plan for the cottages, outbuildings and garden area of the light house complex which aims to enhance heritage values and visitors experiences of the area.

How you can help

- Materials - gravel for path
- Interpretive elements – design, manufacture and installation
- Promotional / supporting material



Overall lightkeeper's complex restoration plan

Benefits for you/ your organisation

- Be part of a community led project
- Your company associated with this iconic, special place and an opportunity to promote your support
- A practical way to support conservation and heritage story telling
- Recognition in the cottages and day visitor centre (Powerhouse)
- Preferential first bookings when lightkeeper's cottages restored for overnight stays.

Estimated funds required - \$45k

Our cost estimates include:

- Volunteer labour and materials to create the trail \$10K
- Interpretive elements – design, manufacture and installation \$30k
- Promotional supporting material and orientation/ wayfinding signs \$5k



Discovery points might be



A model birds nest and eggs



A weta hotel



Edible NZ spinach



A bushy cubby on a rocky knoll with a view of the lighthouse



A tree to climb into and look out of



The old chicken pen with an amazing view

How to get involved?

Contact Friends of Baring Head



Visit
www.baringhead.org.nz
or
www.gw.govt.nz

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