

**Leon Anthony “Tony” Bouzaid
1940 - 2011**



On Monday 17th October, 2011 the GBI Trust was saddened to learn of the death of Tony Bouzaid, one of our founding trustees. We have lost a friend, a valued trustee and a man who has contributed a tremendous amount to the Great Barrier Island community.

Tony was a well respected member of the GBI Trust and his wise and often timely input assisted the work of the trust over the past 9 years. He was a man of huge integrity who worked tirelessly to achieve the things he believed in.

Over the years he has been involved with the community on Great Barrier Island at many levels and one of our best leaders. Tony was Chairperson (2002-2005) and board member (1993-2005) of the Great Barrier Island Community Board. He was deeply involved in setting up the original GBI Business Association, GBI Tourist Association, and the GBI Visitors Centre. The annual Mussel Fest was his original idea and he was a hard working member of the North Barrier Residents & Ratepayers Association.

Before he settled on Great Barrier Island in 1992 Tony was a legend in the NZ yachting world, winning the following:

- Tamaki Yacht Club X Class Champion 1961, 1962, 1963, 1965
- Winner Sanders Cup in 1963 and 1966
- Interdominion 12ft Skiff Champion 1967
- World Half Ton Cup, Poole, England 1977
- World Half Ton Cup, Scheveningen, Netherlands 1978
- New Zealand Yachtsman of the Year 1979

Tony also received awards as a businessman and designer:

- New Zealand Industrial Design Council – Designmarks
- Membrane Structure Assn of Australia – Design Awards
- IFAI International Achievement Awards – Outstanding Achievement Awards

He received the following Environment and Conservation awards:

- Environmental Initiatives Award for Auckland Regional Council for restoration, Pest eradication, reforestation and Education – 2001
- Conservation achievement award in Biodiversity Protection and Restoration (from DOC) for a “decade of work to restore 60 hectares of native bush near Port FitzRoy, including replanting, pest control and reintroducing the North Island Robin.

At a personal level he and his wife Mal and their family restored FitzRoy House and developed Glenfern Sanctuary. The pest proof fence is a tribute to his vision to create a safer haven for native species and to his commitment to conservation.

He gave of his time and energy generously and we will all miss him terribly. Day by day we notice his absence and our thoughts and love are with his family and friends