

WINTER 2016



KOOKABURRA

Magazine of Kawau Island New Zealand



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Kawau Island Kookaburra

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2016 - 2017

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Editorial

Michael Marris

The summer comes to a very abrupt halt. This happened in the first week of June. Our senses took a big step backward as we suddenly had to reconcile the fact that the seasons were indeed moving on, and that we can now anticipate a period of intermittently inclement weather, strong winds and not infrequently, stormy seas.

Around the Island smoke trails stream from chimneys, thick parkas are the preferred attire and gumboots that have seen a whole period of summer hibernation are suddenly in full fashion! But underneath the scarves, the hats, the woolly gloves beats the warmth of our Kawau Island community heart. For no matter what the elements might bring from the outside there is the warmth and the spirit that our little community has on the inside. Not, of course, that that warmth cannot be enhanced by a roaring fire and a bottle of red wine. Plus a quiche. Or a chicken stew.

Winter brings its own internal space to our lives. It offers a pause in the busyness of Kawau activity and offers a pause for reflection. We are embedded in the "here and now". Contemplation can turn to the "then". In particular, how would we wish our beautiful Island to look for future generations.

Our Kawau community has a dominantly generational focus. Unlike most mainland settlements we are family oriented and many of our properties travel from sons and daughters to grandsons and granddaughters, and then further to great great grandchildren, and so on. This is a quintessential characteristic of our community. So it is important to provide not only guidance to generations that might follow, but also to provide them with the opportunities to stamp their own mark, in the face of a

rapidly changing New Zealand society. We are merely current custodians of our environment. We collectively share responsibility for ensuring that the Kawau pleasures we enjoy continue to be both appreciated and left in good stead for those who are taking up our reins.

So winter is a fine time for reflection. Those chilly afternoons and evenings, wood fires, wonderful comfort food we so relish..... all provide an opportunity to identify who we are now and what we would like to present to future generations.

The starting point for Kawau Island and our highly integrated and interdependent community is the touchstone of independence. The understanding that the more we are able to determine our own course then the more successful our Island environment will be, both in a social and community sense and in an ecological and environmental sense. Kawau – an Independent Island Nation State.

We have achieved so much together within the framework of the Unitary Plan. We have identified ourselves to Auckland Council as a community that is constructive, positive, and deeply committed to enriching our environment. So far as is possible we shun bureaucratic intervention, in the belief that we are by far the better able to orchestrate our own future. We work together in a cooperative and harmonious manner to achieve goals that in any suburban mainland setting would be almost unthinkable. We are bound by the constraints of our Island environment and that we are absolutely ring fenced from the rest of the world. This is our strength. This is our richness. This is what allows us to be masters of our own destiny, captains of our own ship.

Continued on page 5

Letters To The Editor

Ron Archer

A Warning To Mooring Owners

As a long time mooring owner in North Cove I have been made aware, at considerable cost, of recent changes to mooring weights, chains etc, by Auckland Transport.

I have just had my mooring inspected for its two-yearly check. The cost this time for the inspection and work to bring it up to comply has increased by a massive 800%. I was not pre-notified or given any option of the necessity of the work required.

I suggest that, prior to their bi-annual inspection, that mooring owners discuss the new requirements with both Auckland Transport and the mooring contractor, because I believe that there is the possibility of negotiation on the new weight/size requirements on the basis of site situation and vulnerability to extreme weather.

I also have been advised that the new regulations are 'recommendations' only !!!

Harry Verney responds: "Ron Archer is right. I have had a heap of people ringing me. I have been through my accounts. There is nothing that I have put more than 10% on. There is a new schedule of boat length, mooring chain size and bridle weight.

"The requirement is from the Auckland Transport Harbourmaster who is using Rodney as a testing ground. It's become an embarrassment for me. AT give confusing advice. I understand that it all stems from insurance companies and boats in Auckland breaking their moorings – a knee-jerk reaction. Increased chain length also leads to problems with mooring placements."

Jenny Spring and Jen Seel

Walking Tracks

Walking tracks to Mansion House from Schoolhouse Bay closed to everyone from the 22nd May.

Red DANGER tape was put across all tracks and yellow RESTRICTED tape across the Cemetery entrance.

A phone call to DOC in Warkworth stated that they had no idea when the tracks would be cleared. Apparently up to six trees had fallen over the weekend of the 22nd May.

We want our tracks safe for all to wander through our Park.

PLEASE DOC CLEAR OUR TRACKS

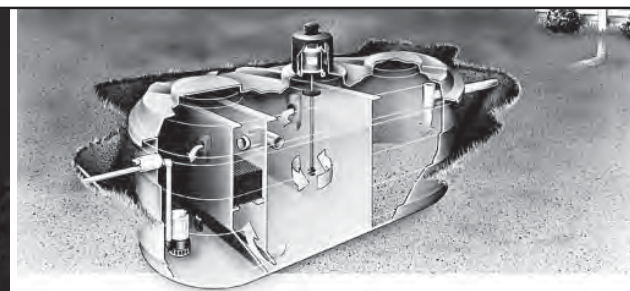
MAKE THEM SAFE FOR US ALL TO USE.



Editorial Continued from page 3

So these winter evenings provide a marvellous time for quiet contemplation, the spirited discussion, and for an awareness that the responsibilities we have to our Kawau Island extend very much to responsibilities so we have for those generations who are following on from

us. With every right comes responsibility. The right that we claim to be caretakers of our own Kawau Island world carries with it responsibilities to ensure that that world is left in great condition for our families who follow. This is our task; this is our focus.



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Vivian Bay News

Fay Richardson

What an autumn, swimming in May: my new apple tree had blossom and set fruit, guavas so big and juicy that I made extra jars of jelly to give away, couldn't bear to see them fall to the ground.

My vege garden continues to produce copious amounts and the kumara crop will keep us going into the winter .

Easter was glorious and Vivian Bay was chock-ablock with boats including over 50 yachts that gathered off the beach by Kawhiti wharf.

Dave and I joined in one day, to help the Auckland Council ant eradication team as big nests were found and destroyed.

Just last weekend we had an unaccountable beaching of 50 mackerel, dead but fresh when we found them. We gathered them in buckets to use as bait and garden fertiliser, not wanting them to be wasted.

I wonder if any of the other bays had a similar experience?



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North Cove News

Ross West

As harbours go, some may see North Cove as Bon Accord's poor relation. Sure, it's not as big and as obvious, especially from Kawau Bay, but therein lies its charm.

Arriving through the heads is always a pleasure as the sheltered water opens up revealing the two tidal estuaries with their dwellings clinging to the often steep land.

On a full tide these areas are great to explore in a kayak, SUP or small boat and this was very much the case over the Easter weekend. Friday was a little damp from the previous few days of stormy weather but the long weekend turned out to be fine and warm with gentle breezes. The combination of this sort of weather and mid-morning high water always draws people out of their baches, most of which were occupied for the weekend.

On Easter Saturday the Mahurangi Cruising Club ran a regatta out of North Cove, with the after-party at Lin and Larry Pardey's. Briefing was at the Pardey wharf over barbecued sausages, and the race got underway about midday. These classic yachts make a wonderful spectacle as they work their way out of the harbour, this day in light airs. Steve Horsley is Commodore of the Club and responsible for handicapping, but it was his almost-neighbour, John Sinclair, who won the race in his etchell, recently renamed *Kawau*. In fact, John's won the race several times and has a long sailing pedigree, which includes ocean racing in his yacht *Diva*. First place prize is typically a decent bottle of rum presented in a nice wooden box, and on one occasion John left it on Pardey's wharf when getting himself and Kathryn into their dinghy. Steve, departing sometime later, picked it up, took it home, put it down some-



where, forgot about it, found it a year later and presented it to John!

John's crew for the race were two young men in their prime, Tom Lysaght and his friend Brendan Hopson. Tom's grandparents, Ali and Donald McKenzie, bought their property, a short walk from Starboard Wharf, in 1974 - when there was no wharf - only a simple pontoon. And it was Ali and Donald who introduced North Cove to the Sinclairs who would visit their old friends when returning from their summer cruise in *Diva* with children, Sarah and Jonathan.


Late autumn saw three North Cove classic boats and their owners tucked up together in Lees Boatyard at Sandspit, doing the sort of annual maintenance and improvements boats always seem to require. Steve Horsley's magnificently restored yacht *Ngatira* towered over Jill Hetherington's iconic workboat *Tuna*, while John Pryor's very sedate looking launch *Rotomahana* made up the trio. All these boats are older than their owners, and in the case of *Ngatira*, older than Steve and his lovely wife Jo's ages combined! When tallied up, these three boats have a whopping two hundred and eighty-two years of nautical history behind them.

Dave Jeffery has sold Sally Ray's property in Moana Creek to a couple from the Warkworth area. Sally shared the property with her partner, the late 'beachcomber' Bob, and at high water they would be seen rowing between the property and Bob's two boats moored in the Cove. The new owners, Will and Valerie Hay, love the peace and birdsong which is pretty much undisturbed at that end of the creek. They have a 37-foot yacht, *Gambol*, secure on a mooring and have bought an 18-foot dory to get them to and from the Island. The latter I can relate to, as I have three shallow draft dories and can sneak up Starboard Arm in very little water indeed.



It's nice when a For Sale sign comes down and fresh blood takes over a property but it's also nice when people who would be a loss to the community change their minds and revert to Plan B. Such was the case with Paul and Elise Harper, who thoroughly enjoyed taking down the sign and getting on with enjoying the place once they'd had their change of heart.

Paul and I were once at a meeting that lingered on and we missed the top of a big tide in the estuary. Paul was irritated and so I asked him what he'd wanted to get done on the full tide. He replied, "just look at it". I know perfectly well what he meant.



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South Cove News

Andrew Stone

The Warkworth photographer Tudor Collins (1898-1970) captured many black and white views of Kawau. They can be found online and are worth digging out because they reveal a landscape of pasture and pohutukawas with just a few pines.

The images show an Island which no longer exists, at least from a botanical perspective. But if the plan to remove pines from the DOC estate ever gets the green light, then Collins' photographs, now more than half a century old, offer a view how Kawau could appear without its pine cloak.

Two summertime images from Collins vast collection looking back towards Auckland across the folds of South Cove show kanuka on the Island edges and bare, burnt, hilltop pas-

tures. The long ridges are devoid of pines. A lot more of Coppermine was intact when Collins directed his camera south over Dispute Cove. It would be wonderful if DOC could find the resources to rebuild the structure at the same time it fells pines from the historic Reserve.

The other striking feature of Collins' South Cove assignment is that, besides the Coppermine chimney and imposing pump house, not a single building appears in his prints.

If the pioneering lensman were alive today, and standing in the same place, he could frame perhaps 20 properties. More lie over ridges hidden from his field of view, with one or two still to rise from foundations marking the start of two new places in the community.



Chris, with Trevor and Ray, were part of a response team that got Steve's 4WD back on the road. The vehicle required a new diff, and Steve needed a hand to replace it. The call went out and was answered. By the end of the day, the ute was in working order.

Our picture shows the crew at work. Tudor Collins, one of New Zealand's most important documentary photographers, would not recognise the place.

Chris (left) and Ray replacing the diff on Steve's 4WD. Somewhere under the vehicle Trevor hopes the jacks will do the job.

The bare, scrubby hills are gone, subdivided by boundary fences and the ground covered in many places by plants more suited to the Gulf ecosystem than wilding pines. Another feature missing from the old images is our helipad, which sounds James Bondish, but is an integral part of the community emergency infrastructure.

Collins was most notable for his photography of the native New Zealand bush. Collins was also instrumental in preserving the McKinney kauri trees at Warkworth. He was a Warkworth Town Councillor from 1932-1941 and with his wife Anne, ran a photographic business from a small shop.

Towards the end of summer, Chris, our new civil defence main man, toiled for hours on a sweltering day to trim kanuka around the helipad to make operations safer.

With Karen, Chris has reversed the exodus from Kawau and settled permanently in their Edith Ridge property. From a community point of view, Chris has embraced the civil defence role with enthusiasm and produced an invaluable checklist which guide the South Cove First Response team.

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Moores Bay News

Kerry Knight

At Moores Bay we landed only 10 years ago, unlike other families who have had an association with Kawau for centuries! Islanders are to be applauded for the hands-on and passionate way daily business is carried on.

The dedication of the ferry operators, the patience of the resident real estate agent, the amazing food operators (and anyone who travels though the Med and came across the likes of Kawau Boating Club or the Beach House your Face Book would be full of how amazing they are), DOC workers, barge operators, KIRRA members, Pohutakawa Trust trustees and the amazing Camp Bentzon. Whether you hate or love the wallaby, the pine tree or the wretched cutty grass, everyone plays a part in making this an amazing Island.

However as a newbie I do wonder how sustainable Kawau is to remaining as it is. In any other big city of three million people a gem of an Island sitting so close would be a billionaire's paradise. Auckland will soon be that city of three million people, and inevitably Kawau will change. So far the APF (Auckland property factor) hasn't hit Kawau but it will once people work out that Sandspit is 40 mins from the CBD (anticipating the new motorway section is completed), that regular (and easier than Waiheke) ferries are available. That Kawau has three restaurants. That shopping in Matakana (if you don't want it delivered to your wharf) is an amazing river-drive away. That empty beaches and



fishing spots are numerous and the joy of pottering about everywhere by boat, and of course the isolation is a positive and not negative escape from our otherwise mad world.

So what do we want for Moores Bay? Very simple, people to pay us a reasonable sum for our sections, to build a reasonable house and start enjoying all that Kawau has to offer. However we are well aware that others (just like the love/hate wallaby issue) may not want further population increase, do not want Auckland extravagance and basically do not want change.

We don't know what the answer is but 2030 is heading our way and surely having a very clear vision now will go some way to Kawau Island being in charge of its own destiny.

It's probably time that Kawau Islanders start promoting Kawau Island as the destination they want it to be and not the destination it may inevitably turn out to be. Sounds like more hard work for a few. I'll put my hand up!

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Coastguard Kawai

Peter Garman

After a very busy summer of rescues, and ongoing fundraising necessary to maintain and support the efficient and safe operation of Kawai Rescue, was it time to take a breath as we moved into autumn and finally winter? Not so! Continuing good weather and plentiful fishing in the Bay kept boaties out on the water, so the pager continued to go off to alert us to yet another callout.

Often these callouts were routine towing jobs involving mechanical breakdown when gear has simply failed or hasn't been checked. But lately there have been several urgent callouts with our volunteers having to scramble as quickly as possible to get to Kawai's base at Sandspit. With many coming from the other side of Warkworth, negotiating the Hill Street intersection has always a challenge, particularly at holiday weekends. Now, even on ordinary days and weekends, the increased volume of traffic is becoming more apparent as more and more people flock to live in this beautiful part of New Zealand.

However, challenges don't deter Coastguard on or off the water and we have managed to attend and successfully execute every rescue we have been tasked to.

Urgent callouts in recent months have ranged from upturned dinghies and catamarans to a fire on a boat.

Rescues can often be quite dramatic and rely on clear, concise instructions. It was a beautifully calm afternoon in Algies Bay recently when a very observant member of the public noted a capsized Sunburst dinghy offshore in Algies Bay. The occupant seemed to be having some difficulty in righting it so a local Coastguarder living nearby was summoned.



Meanwhile a catamaran had turned turtle in Anchor Bay and there was some confusion from the communications centre in Auckland as to whether these two incidents were in fact one. Was Algies Bay really Anchor Bay?

This is where local knowledge of place names comes in very handy. We very quickly stabilised the first incident at Algies Bay before speeding off to Anchor Bay where the police helicopter Eagle was already in attendance. The two occupants perched on the top of their catamaran were quickly transferred to Sandspit before we returned to Algies to pump out the Sunburst, then righting and returning it to the grateful owner on shore. What started out as a peaceful morning ended as two urgent callouts resolved positively and efficiently.

On another occasion, Coastguard Kawai responded to an urgent callout for a fire on a yacht. When we arrived on the scene, the sole occupant was close by in a rubber dinghy with the Harbourmaster also in attendance. The boat had burned to the waterline and the grateful owner was quickly transported back to Sandspit.

Even with the best of planning, accidents still do happen on the water. There is always great



satisfaction when we can bring people safely home. Local businesses employing our volunteers need to be acknowledged here as they are pretty flexible and understanding when our volunteers take off as the pager calls.

Hopefully we will enjoy quieter times in winter which is always a time to make sure maintenance on the boat can be completed.

There's always a lighter more social side to Coastguard life. Recently we were welcomed to Kawai Island on a rather blustery Saturday afternoon to receive a very generous donation. This was raised at the *Music in the Gardens* event organised and hosted by the Kawai Island community, which took place on a rather

more pleasant summer day earlier in the year. It was great to show the community what their efforts had enabled us to purchase with last year's donation – Kawai Rescue is now sporting bright new orange pontoons.

Continuing liaison with community groups is vital. Not only does it help raise awareness of the role of Coastguard as volunteers in our community, but we benefit from their considerable fundraising efforts. This helps enormously in allowing us to maintain a safe and viable unit. As ever with a voluntary organisation, fundraising is an ongoing concern!

Recently we have had great interest from new recruits wanting to become Coastguard volunteers. All are currently involved in induction and training modules, which are very comprehensive and require quite a high level of commitment from the trainees and trainers alike. And we are always looking for more people!

Anyone interested in pursuing this can contact the president, Peter Garman. Please call me on 021 921 174 at any time.

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**DOGS ON LEADS ALWAYS
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Camp Bentzon Report

Peter & Erin Hyde

We made it!

Peter and I have been Managers at Camp Bentzon for 10 years. We walked over to the Boat Club and enjoyed a nice meal there the evening of our 10th anniversary. The time has in some ways flown by but in others so much has progressed here that it seems a very long time.

May weekend

We had a lovely group from Birkenhead Play Centre due the last May weekend. The forecast was not promising and with 75 of them, many under the age of four, we expected this would be a group we would need to be positive with. However the ferry arrived and there was nothing but laughter and positive comments like "That is what gumboots and raincoats are for". The weekend turned out to be mainly nice weather, as it often does on Kawau, and

they were all outside making the most of it. Some of the children on kayaks with parents would have been no more than two years old. It is great to see parents doing things with their children and encouraging outdoor activity. On the following page is a picture of William Aston up early Sunday morning using the Kindling Cracker, a popular activity with the boys. The Kindling Cracker was designed by a NZ teenager Ayla Hutchinson.

Dolphins

Many days recently have been a mixed bag of weather. On those days we constantly check weather. This involves listening to the VHF, monitoring the weather radar through Met Service, checking on the Predict Wind website, checking our weather station situated on the Camp Bentzon wharf, all as well as looking out the window! We cancelled one of the

sessions one day due to the weather; however by 4.30pm it had come right so I took the students out for their kayaking session. We got to Archer's wharf and three bottlenose dolphins appeared – wow! what a treat. Some students had a swim with them and the dolphins stayed with us swimming around all of the kayaks for half an hour. By this time the rest of Karaka School was on Camp Bentzon wharf watching. The dolphins followed us back there and we all enjoyed the experience for another 40 minutes. They were slapping their tails and interacting. It was now nearly dark - however the two ladies who had been cooking all week waded into chest-height water by our pontoon and stayed with the dolphins for another 10 minutes.

Camp Diary

All of the camp diaries from Karaka made interesting reading and it was difficult to choose one. I feel Jack Cornish has made the day "come to life" so I have included this for you to enjoy.

Tuesday 26 May DAY 2
Today the day we have 4 awesome activities:
Sailing, rock climbing, bush survival and archery. First
up we had sailing "YAY" we got down to the boat
shed and got our lifejackets. After that we had a
talk. I won't tell you everything because it took like
20 minutes. Now time for the fun stuff! At first I
was with Oscar doing double the wind made
us go as fast as lightning we crashed through the waves.
Soon Oscar and me split up and we went on our
own boat. When the wind came I went flying! Literally
flying!! The waves crashed over my face. Suddenly it
was the end of our time NO!!! That was so
fun!!!
Next it was the climbing wall it was so tall. When
it was my turn I made it! That was I felt like I
was at the top of the sky tower.
The END



Harbourmaster Report

Angela Bedford

Winter time should be a bit slower for the Harbourmaster's office but alas the work still goes on. This winter we will be finding our office work being moved into the Council offices in Warkworth township. We will still have the building here, and the vessels in the compound. Sorry - you can't get rid of us altogether! We will still be keeping our phone numbers so please contact us when there are issues, just like normal.



Jump on our website when you have some spare time. You will find all sorts of information on moorings, jet skis, wharfs and boat ramps, planning a harbour event, local notices to mariners and more. You can report any accidents or incidents to Maritime NZ from here too. See more on their website www.at.govt.nz/about-us/harbourmaster.

We have had Mark Hallet from Hallet Enterprises join the team of mooring service providers. Some of you may know them from previous wharf and various jobs they have done on

Kawau Island.....You may even recognise skipper Kelly Hanson getting his hands dirty!

Our Maritime Officer Graeme Kearney made it in to the news on stuff.co.nz helping out the Kawau Coastguard with a boat on fire just outside Kawau Bay. The owner set off the vessel's EPIRB.

Editor's note: When the Harbourmaster's boat reached the sinking yacht there was no sign of the skipper. Subsequently he was found about 1 km away in his dinghy, but, strangely, upwind. It transpired that the yacht had been sailing on autopilot and when the skipper abandoned his boat the burning vessel simply kept on travelling, leaving him behind bobbing in the water! Fortunately his emergency systems worked and he was successfully recovered.

Harbourmaster's TIP O'THE SEASON



When you buy a vessel and the previous owner tells you how and where they store the key..... change the hiding place!!

We towed this vessel into Sandspit, which had been stolen but not broken into. It had been stolen in Auckland and abandoned on Snells Beach for three weeks. Forensic police have been down to take fingerprints from inside and the owner has been notified.



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GPS Helicopter System for Kawau

Michael Marris

At a recent KIRRA executive meeting a unanimous decision was made to donate \$1000 to the Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust. This is in line with the same donation that was made last year on behalf of Kawau Island residents and visitors.

We are all very familiar – sometimes with a sense of foreboding – with the sight of the Westpac helicopter coming into land at various locations around the Island. Equally, we all share a sense of comfort that this valuable resource is available to us for medical and accident emergencies: especially so given our particular and sometimes challenging environment.

Michael Marris presented the cheque to Greg Barrow, the Chief Executive of the Trust, on behalf of our Association. Several pilots were also present, including James Tayler who, with his family, has a property at Schoolhouse Bay.

The rescue service has been in operation since 1970, and the Trust was formed in 1990. Trustees are selected from the community and business sectors of the greater Auckland region. The primary aim of the Trust is to provide and develop a highly efficient aeromedical service for the benefit of the community at large. We all know how critical this is for us.

In the course of discussions with the Chief Executive and the pilots it became clear that a more sophisticated navigational system to enable a wider window of operation for Kawau Island was part of their current thinking. Chief pilot Dave Walley, a personable man with a sound knowledge of our environment



explained “a GPS navigational system will allow an instrument approach to the Island that is not currently possible, particularly in bad weather or conditions where visibility is limited.” He said that a GPS operational facility would mean increased and safer helicopter access to both Kawau and Snells Beach. The inward approach waypoint would be probably somewhere around Martello Rock, with the option then to navigate either to the mainland or to the Island. “The proposed navigational system is not hardware-driven, but relies on a series of GPS waypoints.” These are then enhanced by some of our own Island infrastructure, such as the landing platform and lighting system at Schoolhouse Bay.

James Tayler, with his own personal interest in our Kawau community, noted that “GPS is an accurate way of flying to a specific point, for example Schoolhouse Bay, utilising a procedure that will have enough latitude to take account of individual pilot flying techniques, minor errors in the GPS measurement system, and then also provide exit procedures if the sit-

uation gets too difficult.” He noted that “there are strict limits at present to get somewhere in bad weather, especially at night, with a 2000 foot minimum ceiling for visual flying.” While there is some discretion around these limits in extreme emergencies, this is a this satisfactory option in a formal GPS navigational route.

The cost of developing a specific GPS procedure for Kawau (which could also be shared with Snells Beach) is around \$26,000. The Helicopter Trust itself has a qualified person who is able to develop the plan, and the major part of the cost lies with the safety assessments by the CAA who, understandably, are vigilant around tolerances and safety buffers. James continued “most airfields have these approaches, but there are very few to other areas. Northland is an exception where most hospitals in that region have developed GPS approach procedures.”

This would clearly be a major enhancement to the excellent service that we already received from the Helicopter Trust. It may be possible to ally with the Snells Beach community and conduct a joint fundraising effort. There are opportunities both on the Island and the mainland that may well make this a very viable proposition, and provide yet another measure of comfort to Kawau Islanders for assistance in emergency situations.



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Pohutukawa Trust

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Well! Winter is certainly starting to make her presence known. Wonder why we use a feminine term to describe its arrival...probably best not go there.

You may have seen the increasing number of news media articles regarding the destruction of our native forests recently from introduced pest attack. Not limited to, but particularly in the Northland area. The risks for a potential catastrophic loss of flora and fauna to Kawau from introduced animals such as wallaby and possums in particular was identified by Trust members over fifty years ago. It was in fact this that provided the catalyst that saw the eventual formation of the Trust, and its efforts to save what was left of the flora and fauna on the Island.

The out of control wallaby and possum populations have been responsible for incalculable damage to the Island's ecosystem. They have been accountable for the destruction of a great

number of trees, in particular pohutukawa, puriri, totara and the northern rata.

We should however never concede that the cause is lost, as can be seen from the photographs below. These magnificent guardians of the foreshore (pohutukawa) were being destroyed by wallaby consuming the new shoots trying to sprouting from the trunks, and possums grazing the higher vegetation.

The two photos above I took from approximately the same place but were twenty years apart. The tree's will to survive is extraordinary. With the management of the pests, new shoots were seen to sprout from seemingly dead wood and the trees began to flourish. For our efforts, they have rewarded us each December with a spectacular display of crimson red flowers and the sounds of birdsong streaming through the Bay.

This is but a small example of what a concerted effort can achieve. As you may be aware the Trust last year ran a programme carried out by professional hunters to reduce the numbers of wallabies and possums. In the areas that were treated we have received reports of increased birdlife and of strong growth being achieved

by native plants. As the last round was so successful, the Trust has resolved to continue the program this year. We are in the process of planning for a further exercise to be completed in July. If you would like to consider including your property please make contact with me. If you email your details to Carl@workwise.co.nz I can provide you with more details.

Should you wish to join the Trust or just want to support our work to restore the native flora and fauna of the Island you can do so by visiting our Givealittle page at <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/pohutukawatrustnz>. Your continued support is appreciated and crucial to our efforts on the Island.

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Afloat Around Kawau

Lin Pardey

Winter is here. The Cove looks grey, the clouds foreboding, the wind whipped trees distressed and bedraggled. I look at my firewood pile stacked under the eaves in back of the house and realize it won't last more than a few days. "Have to get someone out here to help cut up more," I mention to Larry. I feel slightly smug about the big pile of logs that I can see from my kitchen window, trees we cut down a year ago which are now well seasoned and ready to be cut up to fuel our old fashioned pot belly heating stove.

The boats that dot the mooring field, shorn of sails and deck gear, covered and put away for the season look slightly forlorn. Two are missing; *Tuna*, Jill Hetherington's bright red pug-nacious looking 1939 harbour tug is over at the Sandspit Yacht Club haul out yard where it is being fitted with a new anchor windlass. I had stopped by the last time I went to the mainland to admire her bright fresh coat of topside paint, her smooth looking black anti-fouling. John Pryor's elegant 1923 launch *Rotomahana* was in the yard next to *Tuna*. She too has been freshly painted, checked over for any deck leaks so she will stay fresh and dry inside throughout the winter. They will soon be back here in North Cove securely moored against winter storms, but first their owners each want to sneak in one more cruise to other parts of the Island, another few days at the Kawau Boating Club before it shuts its doors for the winter.

Here at Mickey Mouse Marine (that's the name on the sign that graces our boat shop door, a gift from a satisfied customer with a strange sense of humour) things are being winterised too. The jetty steps have been scrubbed and de-oystered, the walkway cleaned to ensure no

one slips during the rainy days ahead. I have put extra chafing gear on lines holding *Felicity's* cover in place and tied her halyards so they won't slap and scuff her mast. I've moved *Jay Dee* to a position where she is a bit harder to get under way, but safer when fierce southwest-erlies rake the Cove. I've even added an extra tie-down to the upside down sailing dinghy that spends most of its life on the pontoon at the end of the jetty. The cradle for John Sinclair's 28 foot sailboat *Kawau* is chocked up and ready for when Mark gets the survey finished on his barge. As soon as he arrives and lifts *Kawau* out of the water, the final item on the boatyard winterising check list will be crossed off.

But that still leaves winterising me. Up until a few weeks ago my days had an almost perfect pattern - up at 6.30 or so, an hour in my the downstairs exercise room, leisurely breakfast and then from 9 till 4.30 at work in the Elf Office, home to the pint-sized operation called L&L Pardey Book Publishing. That left lots of time at the end of each day to get outside, time to go for a sail out onto Kawau Bay on *Felicity*, or to buzz around to the Kawau Boating Club in *Jay Dee* for a meet up with friends, or to putter around in the garden and do some outside-of-the-house maintenance jobs and breath fresh air until the sun set behind the hills across to the Cove.

This may sound like a harsh schedule, but being self-employed means I can be somewhat flexible with my work day schedule -casual drop-ins by friends are definitely allowed to mess with my office time, but not with the time when I end my working day and get outside. Unfortunately, this summer and autumn schedule definitely does not work now. I am



not talking about the dark that greets me when I wake naturally and without the aid of any alarm clock at 6:30 or 7:00. It is at the other end of the day when, by 4.30 dark is descending. On those days when high pressure systems bring clear skies and the winter sun shines brightly, by late afternoon it is cold, too cold to enjoy gardening or being out on the water. So to prepare me for the next few months of winter, I not only have dug out my long sleeved tops, my fleeces and corduroy pants, but now I have made a change to my schedule.

But as most people know, changing long standing schedules can be guilt producing. I am working hard on that, putting aside my guilt, ignoring my ingrained work ethics as I close my office for two hours at mid-day and get outside - sometimes just to gather firewood, or dig-up bulbs, do some weed control. But on any winter day when the sun shines brightly and the breezes blow lightly, you'll see me heading down the jetty towards one boat or another, grabbing a chance to be where I most like to be, afloat around Kawau.



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From One Island to Another

Lyn Hume

As with many good ideas from people this one started with my neighbour Fay Richardson and I enjoying a quiet drink as we discussed ways to settle the state of the world. This particular time we were commenting on what Patria had told us about the situation she has seen for many people on Efate Island, Vanuatu following the devastation caused by Cyclone Pam last year. Not only had this weather catastrophe wiped out many villages, homes and gardens it had also left many people with depleted clothing for their families.

The situation was made worse at the beginning of this year when various airlines decided not to fly into Port Vila until the runway had undergone desperately needed repairs which meant that the income from tourism basically came to a standstill. The tourist industry creates many earning opportunities for the Ni Vanuatu people either through the service industry, craft and art sales in the many markets throughout the country's islands, or the sale of local fruit and vegetables. With the lack of disposable income many families are finding it very hard to buy new clothing for their families.

Travelling around the island it is amazing to see the huge trees uprooted or blown over, ships and smaller boats still up on island shores and so many houses still with only a tarpaulin to shelter the occupants. Equally amazing, however, is the realisation of just how quickly so many plants and trees have recovered – banana palms and papaya trees being a great example. Not such a good sight though was the quick recovery of a large leafed vine known as "mile-a-minute" for its rapid and vigorous growth. This vine was introduced by the American military to camouflage their airbases during



WWII but which is now smothering large areas of local flora.

As a result of our discussion Fay stated that when she had closed down her shop in Mount Maunganui, before moving to Kawau, she still had quite a stock of children's clothes which she would like to donate. As Alan and I were making a trip at the end of May to stay with Patria, Fay brought up to Kawau two large bags of beautiful, bright clothes for us to take over and distribute to whomever we could. It didn't take long for the people in the village area where we were staying to hear that this was happening and we were met on our daily walks by children who came out to greet us and receive a present of clothing. The size range was from toddlers to 14 year-olds, both girls and boys.

We went to the fortnightly local Women's Market one Friday where we bought delicious food (manioc rolls filled with beef, superb donut rings, various fruits and veg) and found more children who were delighted with the beautiful shorts, shirts, dresses etc.

We also learned that an Australian neighbour living in the village was working with families in need. We met some of these plus were able to put together a parcel to go to an outer island. When we left Patria still had more parcels to make up. One young recipient wrote a beautiful thank you letter for me to bring home to Fay. Unfortunately it is lightly written in pencil, with pastel flowers, t-shirts and shorts and stick figure illustrations which therefore will not reproduce well but the wording says "Dear Fay, Thank you for the wonderful clothes you have given to the kids of Vanuatu and thank you for you kind heart and I really appreciate what you have done. Thank you very much. We are very happy for what you have done."

It was lovely to see the bright smiles of the youngsters but also their mothers and fathers.

Fay, from me, thank you so much for your generosity and wonderful spirit as I pass on a message from one mother "May you be blessed".



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John Sinclair

For over 40 years this group of keen yachties have gathered for a monthly (well actually it started out as weekly!) lunch at the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron. They sailed, travelled and discussed (argued?) yachting together. Originally just called 'The Old Mates', they became the 'Junior Cobwebs' in deference to an older group called the 'Cobwebs', who also gathered at RNZYS.

Their weekend out started with a few beers on the ferry over!



(a model of No 2 buoy in Auckland Harbour, involved in a collision with the yacht *Diva*), and a painting of the group at Kawau by noted maritime artist Warwick Russell (a member of the group).

After a hard day's match racing, with quarter neither asked for nor given, Roger Scherer came up winner. Initial analyses of his tactics attributed this to clever working of the tide and wind shifts – but he claimed it was the fact that he was the only one wearing red socks.

Annually they spend a weekend staying in Lidgard House, dining at Kawau Boating Club and match racing Electron remote control model yachts – all to 'strict' Americas Cup and IOR Rules. They compete for the Diva Trophy

The trophy awarding ceremony and dinner at KBC were special – in a way only Kawau can provide.



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Our Island Weka

Our Kawau weka is a wondrous bird,
Frequently seen and always heard,
Too many attributes and faults to list,
Do please forgive me if some I miss,
I'll start this verse with a description of,
A bird that we've learnt to hate and love.

It has no wings and can't fly around,
And cannot get very far off the ground,
But, their feet and claws can move so fast,
Like a rotary hoe over areas vast,
In its search for food at a furious pace,
And spread your garden all over the place.

When they move fast it seems to me,
Like the road runner birds of TV history,
They also move with stately pomp and grace,
Through your house at a leisurely pace,
They now have their own traditional right,
Council's SEA is over, they gave up the fight.



Don't give them a fright whatever you do,
They'll run round the house leaving lots of poo,
So smelly and fluid and make the air blue,
Then they run out the door leaving it all for you,
They don't hold a grudge and will soon visit again,
If the door's open they'll make a mess just the same.

As vocalists go they will put on a show,
To equal the concerts where teenagers go,
Early morn calls puts all roosters to shame,
Timing so bizarre it can cause a lot of ear pain,
When courting the hens give shrieks of delight,
Males give bass booming both day and night,
These duets take place at a furious pace,
As the courtships proceed all over the place.

After patiently sitting to hatch out their eggs,
Littledarlings arrive with big feet and long legs,
The chicks are delightful and love everyone,
All trotting along behind their fine mum,
Huge feet so clumsy can cause them to fall,
Soft fluffy feathers roll them up in a ball.

Unique to our country where they fight to survive,
On our Kawau Island they flourish and thrive,
We use netting to save our gardens from them,
And if they break in please do not condemn,
They're entitled to eat the same as I and you,
As all of us are New Zealanders proud and true.

P.J.Newson

*I may have misquoted Dame Whina Cooper by
giving the wekas our New Zealand citizenship
but I'm sure neither Dame Whina or the wekas
would have minded.*

Water Water Everywhere....

Kawau Girl

.....BUT LITTLE IN OUR TANK

OR..... WHERE HAS ALL THE WATER GONE ?

NORTH COVE XMAS 2015

Where is he ?

I can't find him

The MOH is missing

Our Kawau property of 1½ acres is mostly covered in bush except for the area around the house.

I was calling him for lunch, starting to panic, looked everywhere, has he had an accident? Fallen over the cliff area on the western side of the property? Or collapsed somewhere. Silly old bugger shouldn't be let loose outside.

THEN I SAW IT, a 12-foot-long ladder resting on the side of our main large water storage tank, BUT NO SIGN OF HIM.

EMERGENCY!!! He obviously couldn't hear me calling so I climbed up the ladder only to find another ladder going down inside the tank, and way down there was MOH on the floor of the tank splashing around in about 3 inches of water. MOH not even aware that I was looking for him.

Tank had obviously recently sprung a leak and almost all of our precious water had disappeared. It was pitch black inside the tank and armed with a torch MOH was checking for cracks to see where the water had gone.

The floor of the tank had split because of movement in the ground the tank sat on, MOH said.

Without water our holiday would be ruined

Our system for catching water starts with the gutters on the roof draining into a huge plastic tank of over 30,000 litres. (We had the tank dropped in by helicopter at great expense, like all things on Kawau, many years ago.) From this tank MOH had designed a system to feed the water up to 2 smaller holding tanks positioned higher up the property. The water when required is pumped up to the top tanks and from there the natural flow down provides plenty of pressure without having the pump running all the time.

To make matters worse, unfortunately one of the holding tanks had also rusted out over winter and all water stored up there was gone.

The date of this discovery: December, just as we are starting our stay.

Now MOH is very resourceful, he was a builder for 45 years, he tends to be very practical. In his shed he actually had some cement and him knowing that cement would set under water promptly decided he would tip the cement into the area in the bottom of the tank where the leaks were and this would seal the cracks. Intended only to be a temporary fix.

Then, would you believe it, it rained, very heavy rain.

Although MOH never doubted that his 'fix' would work, we anxiously checked the level next morning and found that the level had gained overnight another 2 inches. MOH had designed a measuring system so he didn't have to climb the tank to check the level all the time (he once fell off a ladder and broke both

Continued on next page

Tall Ships To Kawau

John Lister OBE

Many parts of the country, including Kawau, thrilled to the sights of the flotilla of World Tall Ships that visited many of our ports in 2013. This included an overnight stay in Bon Accord Harbour where our community hospitality was willingly accepted by many nationalities of seafarers. Now we have another opportunity!

In 2019 New Zealand will celebrate Captain Cooks 250th circumnavigation of New Zealand and the Ministry of Heritage is keen to have a party.

Captain Cook first landed in Gisborne on the 5th October 1769 and Gisborne will be the first City to celebrate his landing.

As this city's harbour is relatively small four or five Tall Ships will arrive in Gisborne over the weekend 5th-7th October 2019, and a large national celebration has been planned.

From there he sailed to Mercury Island and on to the Bay of Islands where we expect many of the Tall Ships of the world will gather before sailing in company to Auckland for a mass entry into our harbour over Labour Weekend 2019.

As it was in 2013 when Auckland City welcomed nine Tall Ships to a weekend of fun, a short stop over at Kawau Island is planned so

Water Water Everywhere....Continued

heels!!! Regular checks showed the tank no longer leaked so MOH was very happy.

Well, you know it rained off and on for the next couple of weeks, mainly rained at night time, so we stayed on and enjoying our holiday.

Now, several months later, the tank is 1/3rd full and holding. I think that MOH is hoping



the fleet can prepare for the Auckland arrival and I am sure the Island will make them as welcome as they did in 2013.

From Auckland the fleet could race to the Marlborough Sounds, Picton and Nelson before a formal farewell to the fleet in Wellington. Much of that planning is still to be confirmed.

In January 2016 I attended the Sail Training International conference in Quebec, Canada as a guest speaker with the sole purpose of soliciting interest in a Fleet Visit to NZ for Cook's 250th. At this early stage 25 Tall Ships of the World indicated to me that a New Zealand voyage in October 2019 was a serious possibility and are planning their schedules accordingly.

that the temporary fix is good enough to be a permanent fix.

He still has to replace the rusted out top tank, a new tank has been ordered and we will transport it over in our RIB from the mainland.

Just another challenge that makes Kawau so special to us.

It's them or us....

The Two Jens

What a few weeks we have had!

The week we made Kawau our permanent home a neighbour left a note on the back door – Big possum hanging around eating my roses, put your trap out.

We had an agreement with this neighbour not to set the Timms trap till after 8pm and to unset at 7.30am as she had an inquisitive cat that would pop over and visit us, we were concerned that her cat may get hurt or worse still killed by the possum trap.

Our priorities at this stage did not include possum trapping. What with boxes to unpack, shelves to be sorted. But when we saw the growing tips of our prized heirloom Cox's Orange Pippin, a Christmas present, well munched next day - THE WAR WAS ON.

We'd been told the best bait was apple well covered with cinnamon and flour (possums evidently are partial to an apple crumble), so the trap was set. All was good and we waited.

The very next morning a big male was hanging from the trap. Out came the phone to capture the evidence and texts were sent to friends and relatives to show off our trapping prowess.

Years ago, when we caught our very first possum, we dug a hole to bury the evidence and to help fertilise the garden. Digging a hole in clay that is big enough to accommodate a possum body with rigid limbs is no mean feat. We need not have bothered, the wekas soon dug the body up. So we dusted off the clay and executed our first possum aerial burial from the lower deck into the bush below. Unfortunately the thrower miscalculated the letting go time and the possum got caught in the fork of a ka-



nuka, it stared back at us accusingly. It took quite a bit of prodding with a broomstick to dislodge the critter and the next throw was a beauty. Since then, with practice, the aerial burial technique has been perfected. Now we go to possum corner and hurl the hairy brute to the waiting wekas in the valley below.

We were now prepared to fight these four legged garden munchers. Each night the two Trims traps are set. Taking more neighbourly advice we added a couple of rat traps to the mix. By our sixth week living here we were up to possum number 11 and rat number 8. Whew, we are beginning to feel like professional trappers. We have some busy mornings and are often seen at possum corner emulating Valerie Adams. A big thank you to the number of people on Kawau locals who have offered us possum advice.

This is what we have been told:

- Its best to catch the males
- Its best to catch the females
- You can pluck the fur off easily if the possum is still warm
- Singe/burn the male fur and put it around your fruit trees and no possum will come near
- Dogs apparently love the smell of possum, but you have to cut the possum claws off, if eaten by your pet dog the claws can do some real mischief to internal organs.
- Possums are easy to skin
- And someone gave us a recipe
- Cut the back leg meat into chunks
- Casserole with red wine, water, seasoning and cornflour.
- Cook at 200 degrees for half an hour.
- Put in your vegetables and cook for another 30 mins.
- Serve with mashed potatoes or rice.

Needless to say, we have not followed up on any of these tips.....yet!

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Sandspit Marina Opens

Grant Brown Interview

We have watched for a number of years the evolution of the new marina developed by the Sandspit Yacht Club. We have seen the community opposition to the idea and the intense lobbying that took place before a Resource Consent was granted. Now the marina is a reality. It was time to investigate. Grant Brown is the Dock Master for the new marina and has been intensely involved, along with Graeme Maker, in the committed development process. Grant is a personable and knowledgeable man, a Sandspit resident, and a boatie. Who better to ask?

How did the idea of a marina for Sandspit come about?

The idea was born out of members of the Sandspit Yacht Club many years back. The Club itself is about 50 years old. Around ten years ago the concept was put to Rodney District Council but nothing eventuated. However, the idea smouldered underneath.

How long has the process taken?

This time Graeme Maker's involvement provided the driving force necessary. Over the past seven years he and others visited marinas around New Zealand and Australia to understand the latest technology and to appreciate how different environments call for different marine architectures. It was a long process

where honesty and integrity shone through with the granting of a Resource Consent.

How has the process been?

Expectably, it has been a political question for many and as such became a somewhat long-winded process. However, it was enjoyable for those doing it and ultimately resulted in a well thought out project which now has culminated in a world-class facility.

How many boats will the marina contain?

There are 135 berths which are now all privately owned and there is a waiting list for those wanting to buy or to rent. Discussions are still evolving around the possibility for "cleat leasing" which would enable short-term use of the marina facility.



How many boats are local boats and how many from elsewhere?

Those figures have not yet been analysed but approximately 40 boats are from our local region. One man is bringing his boat from Queenstown this week and another his boat from Christchurch. There are probably more motorboats than yachts but even with this increase in capacity there are still no surplus pole or pile moorings available in the river space.

Is this a commercial profit-making exercise?

The Sandspit Marina Society is an independent division of the Sandspit Yacht Club tasked with building and running the marina. There is a management committee of six members. All positions on the Society are voluntary. It is a not-for-profit organisation but has high regard for the prudent and careful management of money.

Are you pleased with the outcome?

Everybody is delighted and excited about it. There is a great sense of achievement, and of satisfaction. The Sandspit Marina will encourage and enhance Hauraki Gulf boating.



What is the management structure?

Overall marina governance is the responsibility of the Society committee. The day-to-day management is contracted through the chairman/general manager Graeme Maker and myself (Grant Brown) as Dock Master.

How many carparks have been provided?

There are over 100 carparks in three locations – the western reclamation by Lee's boatbuilders, spaces around the clubhouse itself and further parking at 8 Brick Bay Drive. This is considered to be more than adequate.

What sort of relationships does the Club have the local community?

The majority of members are local people and SYC is a vibrant, growing club. We have an excellent relationship with local people but we are yet to establish a serious contact with the Kawau community, although some have purchased berths at the marina. We are currently looking at how benefits for local Kawau people who wish to use the marina can be structured, whether they be members or nonmembers.



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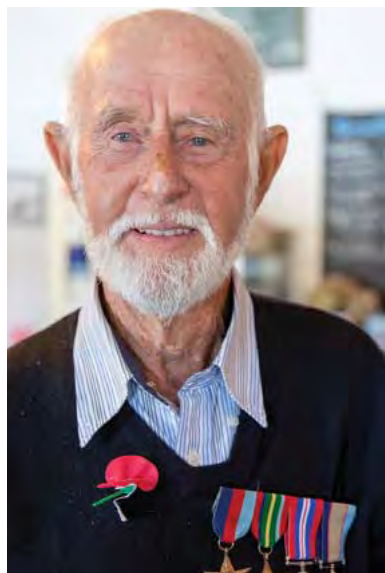
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Vector Responds to NC Palm Damage

Shirley and John Pettit

Island residents were made aware of the horrendous destruction to the magnificent palm garden nurtured over many many years by John and Shirley Pettit in North Cove. This ravage was caused by Treescape, acting on instructions from Vector during the recent powerline refurbishment. Those of us who have had the privilege of being shown through the Pettit garden know only too well what a beautiful and meticulously cared for paradise it was, quite apart from the unique heritage of many of the palms. John and Shirley have been vigorous in their efforts to address this carnage. Here is a sequence of correspondence and an outcome.

Letter to the CEO of Vector

Re: destruction of trees and plants on my property at North Cove, Kawau Island.

I had tears in my eyes when saw the damage they had done. My beautiful palmscape which had taken me 25 years to create laid waste, gone. Done to death by the chainsaw gang sent in by Vector.

Beautiful young palms not interfering in any way with the power lines at all, totally wasted. Not only that I am looking at a 2 metre high mess of vegetation on my well kept lawn.

Even some kentias, one already 20 years old, a beautiful specimen, cut to the ground. This palm is very slow growing and would take at least 10 to 15 years to reach as high as the



power lines and even then it could never interfere with the lines and it is only just within the 4m. margin. Why, I ask? Most palms just go straight up and do not branch in any way. Further back I see a very young kentia cut down. This one had not even started to trunk.

I spoke to your so called arborists when they walked through my property but it was obvious that they did not want to talk to me. Obviously P.R. is not on your agenda. Quite frankly I don't think that they know the difference between a palm and a tree. These palms have strong trunks, so they do not bend in the wind and their spent foliage drops down the trunk.

What really hurts is that a lot of plants that are little more than shrubs were laid waste. A number of big palms were cut down and left where they fell. Now we have weeks of work cutting them up and removing these heavy trunks. I was not given the opportunity of doing this work myself and clearing as I went. No this work is handed over to your own subsidiary company to do.

Another gem was a ravena rivularis. This palm was probably about 3.5m. It does not grow any higher but it was sacrificed to the chain saw. Why?

I think that you people are acting way beyond your mandate. Your public relations are non-existent. Surely it was obvious that my property is well maintained. The lawns are groomed and there is no weed growth. Yes we care you don't.

I am now 86 and will have to employ people to clean up the mess you have left me. Also I am too old to replant what I have lost. I have been a nurseryman for most of my life, a past Regional Councillor and for a time I was chairman of Regional Parks. I do know what I am talking about.

Yours truly, John F. Pettit Q.S.M.

Vector and Treescape Response:

On Thursday, 2nd June, we had a visit from a senior executive from Vector together with the CEO of Treescape. They came to view our property & the damage inflicted by them in March & to view the cleanup we have managed so far.

They were extremely apologetic for the damage done, & they have admitted culpability on the following counts;

1. Their lack of appropriate communication
2. The fact that their gang trespassed on our property without due notice to us. The Electricity Act of 1992 states that due notice be given, ie 10 working days. We were given 7. This does not constitute reasonable notice under this Act. We also should have been notified verbally, eg, by phone instead of relying on 'snail mail'.
3. They cut down trees & shrubs which were of no danger to the powerlines, as well as some

Successful but still sad outcome: Our sorry saga was successfully brought to a satisfactory conclusion yesterday when we came to an amicable agreement with Vector/Treescape. We were treated with dignity & respect by both these agencies, which we feel is very commendable, & we are comfortable with the outcome.



very valuable palm trees, once again nowhere near the lines.

4. Extensively damaged underplanting.
 5. Left huge piles of debris for us to cleanup. We now have a mountain of debris which, once shifted, measures 22 mtrs long, by 4-5 mtrs deep & 2 mtrs high
 6. The doomed trees should have been marked with paint & this was not done. We were aware that some of the trees had to be removed & in hindsight, we should have marked them ourselves.
- Vector & Treescape have erred on so many counts, but they tell us they have taken the necessary steps to review & improve their processes. They were very impressed with our property & understood & sympathised with our distress, anxiety & brutal unnecessary annihilation of our garden which has taken 20 years to create.

On Friday we will know how much compensation we will be getting from Vector if any. No amount of money will be able to replace what we have lost.

In Honour of Marty

Denise Barlow

'Ciao Marty' – we are not saying goodbye to Martin Duytshoff but are saying ciao in the sense of 'see you later'. We intend to definitely keep seeing Marty on Kawau Island and there are a number of beds in South Cove that have his name on them. In fact, Marty is the first person who has had conferred upon them, for all he has done for South Cove, the honorary title of South Cove Life Member!



Martin and his mother, Rita, bought their South Cove section in the mid 1980s. Some of you will remember Rita, a quiet, thoughtful and kind person who looked after Mansion House for many years. Rita would catch the 7.45am ferry every weekday to Mansion House which of course would call in to South Cove on the way. One of our fondest memories of Rita is that, upon her learning we had forgotten to pack some food for the coming weekend, she gave us her lunch so that we wouldn't go hungry.

It wasn't until three years later that Martin actually went and looked at the section and it was in 2003 that he and his new wife, Karen, commenced building their home on it. They had recently gotten married on the beach in front of Mansion House. This was not the original plan which was to be married at Great Barrier, but the prevailing weather stopped that.

They had a contingency plan to get married at Bostaquet Bay but the wind was at an unusual direction which stopped that too. The only place that the wind rendered practical was at Mansion House, despite ferry loads of people tripping about and looking on. Not having gained a permit to have the ceremony on the actual grounds Martin and Karen were married on the beach. As it happened it was right in front of the tree around which Rita's ashes had been sprinkled some years earlier and they couldn't help but think that perhaps there was some divine intervention...

Martin had spent 25 years in the New Zealand Fire Service and was more than ready for a life style change. Karen was also ready for a change and would be able to work from South Cove even though in those days the internet was incredibly slow. It took around a year to build their home and holiday unit. Like others in South Cove they enlisted Jarrod Hume to craft their home to the perfection they desired. As well as project managing the operation, Martin's tasks were hammer hand, the loading and driving of their launch which acted the part of a barge carrying cement, builders' mix, wood, plants plus the towing of water tanks. Memories linger of having to handle everything about five times when transporting materials and equipment to Kawau and then unloading and transporting to the sections without the benefit of trucks or hiabs.

Over ensuing years Martin and Karen contributed generously to the South Cove community. They were a part of a community-minded group of 'full timers' who were very active at that time, establishing weekly dinners for locals, social events, safety initiatives and even the production of South Cove calendars.

We 'part timers' would arrive to find that all manner of work had been done. The railings of the jetty were painted, the jetty shed would be upgraded with helpful community utilities and signs, recreational facilities were created for the use of all, seats would be erected in key vantage points; the list is endless. In amongst all of this Martin and Karen and their teenage children, David and Bridget, took full advantage of Island life, enjoying the (then) good fishing, seafood and diving around Kawau. One event, of which we wish we had a photo, was a small barge built by Martin on which one witnessed the lucky occupants with their comfortable table and chairs and sun umbrella happily toasting the world as they cruised by on sparkling waters under the bright sun of a gorgeous summer's day. Absolute paradise!

Martin has lived in South Cove for 12 years. His appetite and creativity in business ventures and his ideas and works to benefit the community have been unparalleled. His company, Kawau Contractors, served us locals with excellent service through his painting, welding, engineering, mechanical repairs, building, landscaping and property maintenance. This included the building of an elaborate tree house for three lucky children whom Martin consulted with before building – to this day he maintains that he had more fun building the tree house than the children had subsequently playing in it!

However, alongside all of this, the most noteworthy of Martin's contributions has been his unstinting commitment to the health and wellbeing of all Kawau Islanders (let alone all New Zealanders!). Due in large part to his extensive background in firefighting, emergency response, civil defense and all matters to do with health and safety Martin has, for the 12 years he has been in South Cove, been the 'go to' man. Whatever the matter may be, it was Martin's mobile number that got hit first. He

has helped many of us in times of need. We can think of dozens of examples of his being called out in the middle of the night to attend to one emergency or another. His relationships with others who work in emergency response and civil defense, for example the Westpac Helicopter, have enabled all matters under his leadership and direction to be responded to quickly and without question.

Ken's speech at Marty's farewell sums a lot up...

When Marty announced he had sold his Kawau home he (quite unintentionally I am sure) shook the universe of at least 100 people.

He caused an outpouring of grief and anxiety, the likes of which we haven't seen on Kawau since the Council announced they were going to triple the charges for the Sandpsit car park.

The emails ran hot! And the best way I can demonstrate what a huge contribution Marty has made to Kawau Island over the last 20 years is to read you a few of these emails.

I must warn you that this volume of praise is seldom heard unless it is at someone's funeral... and it is a testament to Marty that people feel so strongly about him that they are saying these things well before he karks it. “

So the emails....

“Marty....you have touched all of our lives... and you will leave a large footprint on the island, and in particular South Cove. You have enhanced our community and left us with good guidelines to follow”

“All the very best Marty. Many thanks for all your help and support over the years”

“Thank you Marty for all your hard work and enthusiasm. Your shoes will be hard to fill”

Continued on next page

"When we purchased in South Cove ...we saw someone who stood out from everyone, someone who would help anyone in need on all levels. Every community needs such a person and South Cove (and Kawau as a whole) was unbelievably lucky to have you Marty"

"You have selflessly served the Island at your own free will and have in my opinion left such a void that it can never be filled completely by any one person"

But wait there's more....

"Your presence will be missed by all. Your dedication and hard work for the community and all projects never ceased to impress"

"Despite your happiness over moving on I cannot help but feel very sad at losing you. You have given us all so much help in so many ways. I always feel safe knowing that you are here. None of us knows what will befall us in the future and we will be all the poorer in times to come and will miss your leadership, your decisiveness and your expertise – not only with accidents and injuries but as a stalwart member of our small community"

"Marty...as a community we have evolved, with your guidance and participation, to improve our quality of life in our little paradise. The many projects you have been a part of have enhanced our experience of living on an island"

"Thank you for your effort and time in helping make South Cove in particular and Kawau in general, a safe and happy environment for us all to enjoy"

But wait there's still more....



"Thanks for all the hours of work you have put into our community, it is very much appreciated"

"I will miss having you around having been neighbours and friends for around 25 years"

"Marty...your contribution and energy over the years to our community is very much appreciated. You leave big boots to fill, and we will miss having you around!"

There were many more but we don't want this to become too emotional, or God forbid, cause Marty to get emotional and tear up....now that would be a sight!

Seriously however...Marty, we are all going to miss you...we have often joked about the fact that whenever we are in trouble...whether it be.....

- a boat engine that won't start
- or a medical emergency such as a heart attack, a child falling out of a tree, someone falling off a roof, severed fingers, broken legs, alcohol poisoning, boating accidents etc.
- a jet ski that needs modifying into a rapid response vessel
- a fire permit that's needed
- setting up an Emergency Response Trust and creating helipads, emergency re-

sponse depots, first aid facilities, obtaining fire-fighting equipment etc.

- lobbying Councils and other public bodies on behalf of Kawau Islanders...

... and so many other aspects of Island life where help is needed...there has always been an immediate and consistent response.... "call 0800 Marty!"

Well ladies and gentlemen, the sad news for us is that "0800 Marty" has been disconnected... Marty has left the building' as they say.... Or in this case ...the Island".

Marty, with your departure, we mere mortals are going to have to learn to look after ourselves.... other Islanders are going to have to step up and "fill your size 16 boots"

And whilst we can all wallow in our own selfish disappointment at not having you at our beck and call 24/7, we are actually very happy for you. You are about to begin another exciting chapter in your already very rich and varied life!

Who knows what we will read about you in the years to come, and what feats you will accomplish:

Perhaps:

- Kiwi man single-handedly saves crew and passengers on super yacht in the Mediterranean by putting out a fire in the engine room
- Multi-talented New Zealander invents a piece of marine technology that locates all snapper over 50 cm and causes them to commit suicide by swallowing your hook
- Unknown recluse sets up a non-profit organisation in the Amazonian rain for-



est to prevent the extinction of the 4 toed, bushy tailed aardvark

Or perhaps:

- Handsome New Zealander, recently residing on Kawau Island, marries fabulously wealthy Saudi Arabian princess and is quoted as saying: "my new found wealth and happiness will never change me...yeah right!"
- Marty whatever the future holds for you, all of us here wish you every success and happiness. You have greatly enriched our lives and we are very grateful for all you have done for us....but it is now time for you to do your own thing.

Thanks for being there for us Marty... and all the very best for the future!

A number of us are continuing to have contact with Marty, albeit only occasionally these days. He is pursuing the practicalities of a number of ideas and projects and will continue his international life including of course the Italian connection. So, as we said at the beginning, 'Ciao Marty!' But we are adding 'we look forward to hearing of the next exciting chapter of your life!'

Continued on next page

A SNAPSHOT: MARTIN'S WORK HISTORY

- Commenced as a Volunteer Firefighter in Warkworth in 1979 at the age of 18.
- Became a permanent Firefighter in Auckland in 1982, serving Fire Stations in North Shore and Auckland City.
- In 1999 he became a VSO (Volunteer Support Officer) which looked after 9 Volunteer Fire Brigades from Silverdale to Te Hana, coast to coast and also Waiheke Island. He was based at Warkworth Fire Station with a 4x4 vehicle which was fully equipped with medical and some specialist firefighting equipment (thermal imaging camera). Marty's role was to assist in the general running of the brigades, to facilitate training and to respond to larger incidents (larger fires, serious accidents, Forestry accidents, serious medical events) to provide support. He also looked after the welfare of Firefighters/Officers, the mentoring of new officers and the maintenance of effective liaison with Firefighting Helicopter companies.
- In addition to being a VSO, he became a Volunteer Ambulance Officer and assisted at callouts. Being in a rural area, Ambulance Officers would ask him to attend medical emergencies until they could get there as they were responding from North Shore Hospital. Often it was serious so he would get Westpac Rescue to come before the Ambulance arrived.
- Because Marty had a thermal imaging camera (picks up heat for finding bodies and hotspots after fires), several times at forest fires he would sit on the side of the helicopter and scan the skirts of the fire looking for hotspots and guiding ground crews to them. The camera was so good he could detect smouldering fence posts from quite high up.
- Upon moving to Kawai he became CFO (Chief Fire Officer) and Civil Defence Coordinator. Due to his experience and training, he was able to implement a number of initiatives to improve services on Kawai. Part of this was the birth of KERT (Kawai Emergency Response Trust) which has helped hugely in the development of emergency response services available for Kawai Islanders today (Defibrillators, RRV – jetski and other emergency equipment).
- Due to his extensive experience, Marty was deployed as 2nd in charge of 20 Civil Defence personnel during recovery from the major Christchurch earthquake. This included nine days of sleeping in tents, the longest day being 22 hours in duration. People would do shifts around the clock. Marty and his team were deployed on the second contingent and their role was looking for bodies under collapsed debris. They also had the role of Safety Officers for building engineers doing inspections.
- Marty was also seconded to Great Barrier Island for several days during the big fire there. He headed a team of six firefighters and worked with helicopters and ground suppression.

Kawau Real Estate

Dave Jeffery

As we settle in for the next three months of short days and long cold nights we can look back on what was again, a very nice summer and autumn, apart from May of course when the wind and rain returned to remind us that winter was not far away.

For those of us with properties for sale, it's very important to remember to pop over on a regular basis to check the grounds and tidy up the windblown debris. We have people coming over most weeks to view a variety of places for sale, and these "winter buyers" are usually genuine, and have often been considering a purchase over the summer months and are now looking to own somewhere ready for next season. First impressions are most important, as not only does an unloved appearance re-

duce the buyers' price expectations, it can easily turn them off the property altogether - and there is a lot of competition out there. Vegetation growth slows right down over the colder months, so once the grounds are tidied up at the start of winter, it only needs a regular quick spruce up to keep them looking attractive.

Sales have remained steady for some time now and with a number of well-priced new listings attracting buyers' attention, they should continue to slowly increase as people are starting to realise what good value Kawai properties are at the moment.

As always I am available at most times to answer all your real estate enquiries whether buying or selling, or for just a chat if you are interested in what's happening around Kawai.

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A Year in Vivian

Zeyn Buksh

Almost one year has gone by since our first warm welcome into Vivian Bay and first experience of Kawau Island.

Katie, Nala (cat) and I have been made to feel at home and have settled in to this very special place. We have been privileged to be able to share it with our family and friends and enjoyed a great and busy summer at The Beach House. First time visitors to the Island are blown away by its untouched beauty, thanks to local preservation and knowledge.

A rise in boat, seaplane and helicopter traffic has proven to us that Kawau Island is becoming a sort after destination that we are proud to be involved with. Above all, we enjoy being a small piece of a determined and welcoming community that is certainly unique in 2016.

Katie and I look forward to meeting more of the community.

The Beach House has put the sun umbrellas away and have the open fire in our restaurant roaring. We will be open throughout winter - Wednesday-Sunday 12-3 for lunch and 6:30-9:30 for dinner. Accommodation as normal.



Reservations are essential to avoid disappointment and to allow us to plan efficiently.

See you soon. Zeyn and Katie

BEACH HOUSE VOUCHER

When making a reservation mention this exclusive 'locals' voucher, bring it in and receive 10% off final food and beverage bill. T's and C's apply.

Expires 30 November 2016

Park Notes

Susan Stoddart

...and some winter musings...

Winter! Hard to believe when we have jon-quil flowering in the garden and hibiscus still in bloom! I must admit to being a bit biased towards the wild weather days so looking forward to what winter may bring to the Reserve. I think the House takes on a wonderful mood on the dark gray days.

Some bits and pieces of House news:

The House piano is freshly tuned, cleaned and polished – the scent of the precious waxing polish permeates the Drawing Room and wafts into the main entrance. Kevin Bennett, who tunes, repairs and restores quality pianos and has a special interest in fine vintage pianos gifts his time and expertise to this task for Mansion House - www.kevinbennett.co.nz. The piano is now looking forward to a workout from some tuneful soul (wish I had such talent!).

As I write this I can hear a load of squealing from the Day Nursery. I look at the monitor, a bunch of school kids from Karaka Primary are in the Nursery waving at the camera, soon they will filter down the stairs and demand to know if the room is haunted. School visits are great days – children always ask some of the most challenging and interesting questions and really explore the many dimensions of the House.

To me this House has such a strong homely feeling – of comfort and good use. Many visitors say the same. It is full of good spirit and cheer – and I am not only sensing its hotel and bar days I am sure! As the Karaka kids come down the stairs, I once again, for perhaps the 100th time, try to picture what life in the Big



House and gardens may have been like for the children of Annie and Seymour. I imagine living so isolated from the mainland, the children being granted or taking freedoms that may perhaps have been otherwise restricted by social status. Did the children race with bare feet around the corridors and rooms and rush noisily up and down the stairs and out the front door? Did they slide on the banisters? – they are certainly low enough – I imagine Uncle George had tried sliding down them occasionally – perhaps after a whiskey or two.

I try to answer the Karaka kids' questions. Did the children build sand castles on the beach? They must have swum and fished. Did they make model boats; have sailing dinghies; build rafts? Did they ride the zebra and ponies? Did they have pet wallabies? So many questions to answer. So much to ponder.



A visitor to the House told me that his grandfather remembered picnicking on the lawn as a child and Sir George throwing sweets out of the top storey window for all the children.

Rita Duytshoff's wonderful collection of photo's and memorabilia from her days as custodian to Mansion House is still here at the House and certainly confirms the history of the Park and Reserve as a place for family gatherings and joyful events. This history is definitely something worth keeping alive.

On that note Mansion House will be taking a well-earned break and will be closed from the 1 June to end of July. During this time the House will be open to visitors by prior arrangement either through the DOC Ranger on duty 422 8882 or email kawauisland@doc.govt.nz – please talk to us ahead of time to ensure we can open for you. From August onwards we are back to daily opening hours 12 – 2 pm and weekends 12 – 3.30pm.

These two months will be a good time to get some spring cleaning and maintenance into

action. We are planning to have a wee team at work during July for thorough conservation cleaning. With over 2000 items in the House it is going to be a busy time as we systematically inspect and clean every object.

We will also be busy with winter work in the valley. A crew from the Navy have started dismantling the old wallaby enclosure fence. They are planning some more trips to do work around the Reserve. We have installed more traps through the Reserve and are routinely checking and baiting. Have great success with both possums and rats.

I'm sure most of you have tried Kawau's especially spicy kawakawa. Here's a great pesto recipe to try:

2 cups kawakawa (you can add other herbs for a medley of flavors!)
1/3 cup brazil nuts
4 cloves garlic
1/3 cup sunflower seeds
1/3 cup pumpkin seeds
2/3 cup oil – perhaps truffle oil!
4 tablespoons lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon sea salt
2 teaspoons kelp flakes

Pan fry nuts and seeds lightly, remove from the heat before they get brown.

Place green herbs and oil in a blender. Add garlic, nuts, salt, kelp flakes and lemon juice. Blend together.

This recipe can be made with various combinations of ingredients to target different therapeutic properties of other plants.... Use as a dip for vegetable sticks or to spread over your favourite healthy bread or cracker.

And finally, for the news most of you will probably already know about – the closure of the Reserve. On page 74 is an official public notice. The photos on these pages are eloquent evidence of the dangers current existing the Reserve.

Pam's Recipes

Pam Dallow

We have suddenly woken up to the (literally) cold realities of winter. Shorter days, cold mornings and a distinct chill in the evening air, unpleasant sou-westers and some rain. So what better time to light the fire. To search a recipe books for some comfort food. To reach for a glass of red wine. To understand the real value of that very old-fashioned attire "slippers". These recipes are specifically geared for just those sort of winter days and evenings. Try them and enjoy them!

Lemony Lamb Kebabs

Soak bamboo skewers for several hours

1kg lamb, cubed

Marinade

2 onions chopped

2 cloves garlic, crushed

½ C olive oil

¼ Clemon juice

1 tsp ground cumin

½ tsp ground ginger

1 tsp ground coriander

Process together until well combined

Pour marinade over lamb and marinate for several hours or overnight.

Thread lamb on to soaked skewers, heat oil in pan and cook kebabs in batches until cooked through.

Tomato Sauce

425g can tomatoes

1 small fresh red chilli, finely chopped

½ tsp ground cumin

¼ tsp ground cinnamon

Combine drained crushed tomatoes with remaining ingredients in a small pan and simmer, uncovered for 5 mins or until slightly thickened. Serve on kebabs.

Easy Pumpkin Soup

1 kg peeled chopped pumpkin or butternut

1 onion chopped

6 cloves garlic chopped

1 Tbs olive oil

1 C milk

1 l chicken stock

1 tsp ground nutmeg

Salt and pepper

Toss ½ the pumpkin in oil and cook half in oven for 30 minutes at 180C till cooked.

Fry chopped pumpkin and onions in oil and garlic in large saucepan over a medium heat stirring often until tender and slightly browned.

Add milk, stock, roasted pumpkin and nutmeg and simmer 25 minutes, season.

Puree or mash, serve with crusty bread or garlic bread.

Honey Cake in a Cup for One

2 Tbs soft butter

1 medium egg

2 Tbs runny honey

½ tsp vanilla

3 tbs brown sugar or light muscavdo sugar

4 tbs self raising flour

pinch salt

Place butter in a 350 ml mug and microwave for 10-15 seconds until melted.

Add the egg, honey and vanilla to mug and beat with a fork until combined. Add sugar, flour and salt, beat again until smooth.

Cook in microwave for 1 min 45 seconds @ 600W or 1 min 30 seconds @ 800W or 1 min 15 seconds @ 1000W. Leave to cool.

Serve with cream or 2 tbs butter, 4 Tbs icing sugar, pinch cinnamon creamed together and piped on top of cake.

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ANZAC Day 2016

Jill Hetherington

On 25 April, the 100th anniversary of the first commemoration of the Gallipoli campaign and the resultant centenary of the Returned Services Association, an estimated 200 people attended the annual ANZAC ceremony at Kawau Boating Club clubrooms. It was a comfortable mix of Islanders and boaties.

John Duder officiated. He also did a lot of research and supplied the reading material.

The ceremony started with the Young People's Team marching out to the flag on the end of the wharf, called there by the bagpiper. It was a multi-focus ceremony, touching on WW1 memories of the exploits of Bernard Freyberg (later General Sir Bernard) at the Somme as he earned his Victoria Cross. Vaughan Spurdle read that and he also later read an account of the actions of HMS New Zealand during WW1. That led into a short recollection from an Australian merchant marine veteran, of his time on the water during WW2 accompanying the convoys of supply ships around the coast and protecting them from engagement with the marauding Japanese submarines.

Tony Hatton represented Warkworth RSA and spoke of the RSA centenary and also the use of their Poppy Fund, to which we contribute each year. This year, we raised \$345.30 for that welfare fund. Thanks very much to Kawau Cruises for their sponsorship transporting both Tony and Ross Hetherington, the bagpiper.

Tameara Hill (formerly of Pah Farm) read the Ode to the Fallen while her partner, Chief Petty Officer Jonathon Brooke of RNZN, ceremoniously lowered and raised the flag, escorted by members of the Young People's Team. Mukai Duder-Hura read a Maori language version of



the Ode. John Sinclair laid the Kawau wreath (thanks to the two Jens and Julie Jackson for that) and also read an ANZAC prayer. Simon Dickie supplied a selection for us to use.

Wreaths were also laid by Capt Pete Mounsey for the Australian servicemen, (thanks to Jane and Gill for making that) Tony for RSA, Jonathon for RNZN Emma Gilpin for the Young People of Kawau Island, and a personal wreath

in memory of a family member who died in Vietnam.

Juliet Pope and Mark Kunath mentored the Young People's Team comprising their own family of three, Ben, Marigold and Grace, Lewis Hoggard, Emily Caldelari-Hume, Mukai, and the Gilpin family of Emma, Caroline and Christopher. All wore uniforms of their choice – Scouts, Guides and schools –and made an enormous contribution to the poignancy and reflective nature of the occasion.

After the ceremony, KBC and Robyn and David Lee provided us with a delicious selection of finger food. Much appreciated, thanks. Fellowship followed. Thanks to KBC and the Lees for the use of the facilities.

So many thankyou's!

Just one more. . . a big thankyou to those who participated in the ceremony and also to those who attended and endorsed the efforts of all those who contributed.



LegaSea

Scott Macindoe

Make a decision about the fishing parks!

Given the conflicting messages from Wellington it is no surprise there are ongoing concerns regarding the proposed recreational fishing parks for the Marlborough Sounds and Hauraki Gulf. After five months of discussion it is still not clear what happens next, what species will be exclusively non-commercial and which ones will continue to have shared access.

We all need clarity, especially the coastal communities and small-scale artisanal fishermen operating in the Sounds and Hauraki Gulf. People are struggling with the confusion and resultant insecurity from not knowing their future.

Even more daunting is the prospect that only quota owners will be eligible for compensation if commercial fishing is forced out of the proposed parks. With few quota owners and even fewer jobs available in these smaller communities there are slim prospects for gainful employment or a prosperous future.

Looking after local fishers

LegaSea acknowledges the benefits of having small-scale fisheries operating close to home because much of the catch is sold locally, to a community grateful for this fresh, rich source of protein at a reasonable price.

A broader issue is the vast management area applying to commercial mullet and flounder fishing. In the north this area extends from northern Taranaki out west to Cape Runaway on East Cape. Having such a large area enables fishing effort to shift to areas of high abundance. When the fishery is depleted these fish-



ers move on to the next harbour or bay, only returning when the fishery rebuilds thereby repeating the cycle of depletion. This issue was canvassed in our March submission. We said, in part:

“The submitter’s representatives would like to discuss management options for these species [flounder and mullet] with commercial and customary fishers to see if there is a way of preserving the livelihood of local fishers but preventing an influx of fishing effort (as soon as catch rates improve) by any fisher with FLA1 [flatfish] or GMU1 [mullet] annual catch entitlement (ACE).”

Other reviews

Currently the Ministry is looking at what changes are required to the way the quota system operates, including how it responds to local issues. The plight of local artisanal fishers in the Hauraki Gulf and Marlborough Sounds will need to be addressed in this review, with particular regard given to the costs and benefits of any changes for smaller communities.

Moreover, the Hauraki Gulf Sea Change spatial plan has been under discussion for three years, and another process is underway in the Sounds. These planning groups have their own

views on conservation and fisheries management that will need to be incorporated into future decisions.

The government cannot expect to throw artisanal fishers under the proverbial bus while compensating large quota owners who may or may not fish in the proposed parks.

From LegaSea’s perspective taxpayer’s money would be better spent on restoring inshore fisheries to abundant levels so people can provide for their own social, economic and cultural wellbeing.

Take action: It’s easy to stand up for more abundant fisheries. Sign up to be a LegaSea Legend at www.legasea.co.nz/legend



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Kawau Boating Club

The Kawau Boating Club closed on 7th June for the winter break and general maintenance. It will open again on Friday 7th October. Robyn and Davo have been superb hosts over what is said to have been extremely successful summer which morphed seamlessly into an extremely successful autumn. The Club is proving to be a tremendous asset not only for visiting boaties but also for Kawau Islanders. The Thursday "Curry Night" has a fantastic following and has proved to be a great opportunity for "off Island" visitors to meet and mix with locals.

The premises are a magnificent venue for significant Kawau Island events – this year the KIRRA AGM "after-match lunch" was held there and the Anzac Day celebration was a wonderful occasion. The committee has worked tirelessly to ensure that this new Island asset becomes a central community resource,



"Full Steam Ahead"



and to ensure that Robyn and Davo have every opportunity to make this a successful commercial operation.

Easter weekend saw a number of Auckland-based yacht clubs choose Kawau as a destination, in significant measure because of the new facilities offered by the Boating Club. The new design and layout of the clubrooms has proved to be a hit and the committee are still exploring further ideas to enhance a decor and general appearance.

During the quieter mid-week days a fair number of cruisers have been using the Club as a place to stretch their legs and hide from the winds that seem to die down at the weekend. The "Swap a Book" library and indoor children's play area has been a favourite hangout during these windy days. The new playground equipment, installed by the RNZYS on the lawn at Lidgard House has been well used by Kawau Boating Club members.

When Vector announced they would be shutting down the electricity for four days to upgrade the Kawau Island power supply, Honda sent over a 7 KVA generator to supplement the Club's standby generator and ensure the Club

could provide food and showers and pump fuel. So other than the first morning of the outage when only a limited amount of food was available, the Club was in full swing while helicopters flew from one end of the Island to the other and 70 men worked to install new power poles and lines.

The WISC, NZFS and Camp Kawau Fishing Tournament 2016 took place at the KBC and was a great success. All the weigh-in and celebrations took place around the Bon Accord outside bar area. With its pop up bar next to the laundry area, and with a separate iPod sound system, groups of up to 60 folks can have private functions in the Bon Accord bar area while KBC members and visitors can still enjoy the camaraderie of the clubhouse.

In every way, as these photographs show, The Kawau Boating Club has rejuvenated in the most wonderful way. Roll on 7th October!



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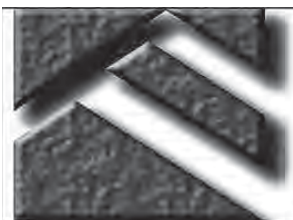
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KIRRA AGM Minutes

Helen Jeffery

KAWAU ISLAND RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION INC

Annual General Meeting held at 9.30am Mansion House Café, Bon Accord Harbour, Kawau Island

PRESENT: Ross West, Lynne Hume, Pam Dallow, Simon Pirie, Michael Marris, Peter Buckton, Helen Jeffery, Alan Marshall, Beth Houlbrooke, Shelley Fitcher, Fay Richardson, Jane Myhre, Colin Bright, Les Mellars, Lin Pardey, Andrew Fyfe, Paul (Taz) Strauss, Martine Fernandez, Tony Maidment (DOC), Russell Derecourt (AT)

APOLOGIES: apologies were received from: Dave Jeffery, David & Grecia, Peter Allbon, Melda Brunette, Ron & Cynthia Archer, Craig & Judy Bettley, Kathryn & John Sinclair, Alan

Hume, Juliet Pope & Mark Kunath, Ian Henderson, Chic Vercoe, Don Galbraith, Jill Hetherington, Cath Bryne, Gael & Foster Archer, Gary & Lynne Dobby, Greg Sayers, Angela Buckton, Joyce Goodhue, Jill & Ted Powell

BEREAVEMENTS: a moment of silence was held to remember those who have passed on – Mike Edwards, Belinda Edwards, Ray Weaver, and Marjorie Rowe

The Chairman, Les Mellars welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the guest speakers, Tony Maidment from DOC and Russell Derecourt from Auckland Transport.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM: The 2015 minutes were published in the autumn issue of Kookaburra and all members received a copy. The minutes were moved by Peter Buckton

and seconded by Pam Dallow as a true report – carried. It was moved by Simon Pirie and seconded by Fay Richardson that there were no matters arising from the minutes.

CHAIR REPORT – Les Mellars

It's my pleasure to welcome you all to the Annual General Meeting of KIRRA, here at Mansion House Bay this morning. I can report that the Association is in a financially sound position thanks to the superb work of our Treasurer, Ian Henderson. Although we have had a productive year, this has not come without a social cost. Sadly, today we do not have the amiable presence of Ray Weaver, a Life Honorary Member of this Association.

As most of you will now be aware, Ray passed away suddenly in the first week of July last year. Ray's unswerving service to our Kewau Island community over many, many years leaves us with an almost unfillable gap that will continue to affect our social and ecological environment. There are also other trusty members of our community who have or are struggling with personal health issues; they soldier on, continuing to serve this community to the very best of their ability, without complaint.

Your KIRRA and KIAC team have been working away with leading community members to ensure that we as a small Island community are heard at the on-going ARUP hearings. Time is given for free and it's widely acknowledged that those speaking on our behalf do so in a very professional manner. The Sandspit car-parking issue has to some degree been addressed, however, it's not over. Today we have a guest speaker from Auckland Transport. Russell Derecourt, Manager, Parking Services and he has travelled some considerable distance in his own time to address our meeting. I trust

that you will appreciate what Russell has to say and also the effort he has made to be here.

The DOC pines project just seems to be out there but little actual progress has been reported. Today we also have Tony Maidment from DOC as a guest speaker; I trust that Tony can enlighten us on progress.

Most of our KIRRA and KIAC team have been involved in this year's very successful "Music in the Gardens". Isn't it fantastic to be able to relax and enjoy the amazing talent we have within our small community?

I'm sure that you will have enjoyed the four great issues of Kookaburra this year. Editor, Michael Marris has with the help of his team of proof readers and contributors, kept us very well informed about the activities of our community and as usual, he always presents us with stimulating and thought provoking editorials.

My thanks to our Secretary Helen Jeffery who is not only involved in most of the social activities on the Island but somehow also finds the time to complete all secretarial duties for KIRRA. I must also suggest to you that every member of your KIRRA committee deserves your applause, our executive meetings throughout the year have been held both in the city and on the Island and during all kinds of weather, which can be a challenge at times. Greg Sayers and Beth Houlbrooke from our Local Board have both attended these meetings and we thank them for taking the time to attend and to be part of our community. All your present committee have expressed a desire to stand again this year, however, Cath Bryne has reluctantly decided to withdraw due to increased work commitments. Thank you very much Cath for your past input, we will all miss you. "New Blood" - we have two additional sup-

Continued on next page





porters from our community who have indicated their willingness to join the KIRRA executive committee. We look forward to being able to welcome these two aboard (with open arms!). Please take the time to make yourself known to your new committee! The Chair report was moved by Helen Jeffery and seconded by Lynne Hume with a special thanks to Les for his commitment to KIRRA.

FINANCIAL: Special thanks to our Treasurer Ian Henderson for his ongoing financial hard work, through thick and thin. Copies were distributed and as at 31st December 2015 we had \$59,208 in the bank account and this includes four Term Deposits totally \$50,000 earning interest from 4.3% to 3.55%. Subscriptions to remain the same for the 2016 year – moved by Shelley Futcher and seconded by Ross West.

The Financial Report was moved by Pam Dalow and seconded Peter Buckton - carried all accepted.

KERT: This report is presented on behalf of the Chairman Ken Wells who is unable to attend the KIRRA AGM and sends his apologies.

There have been some additional Trustees appointed and the present Trustees are: Ken Wells, Martin Duytshoff, Lynne Hume, Denise Barlow, Hugh Clarkson, Cheryl Hoyle, Jacob Twiss, Jan Hughes, Chris Carding, Trevor Hutching and Jonathon Koea with Bruce Stevens as Treasurer.

The main fundraising event that KERT was involved in was the third *OPAK Music in the Gardens* at Mansion House bay in February. It was once again a great day and KERT, Kawau Coastguard and Camp Bentzon benefitted from the proceeds.

With these proceeds KERT is intending to fund a series of comprehensive first aid workshops for residents and ratepayers during 2016

In 2015 KERT funds again went mainly towards replacing medical supplies in the response packs around the Island.

The Trust would like to acknowledge the ongoing financial support it receives from the Victoria Cruising Club year after year. Their

contributions help us maintain a healthy balance that can be applied to various emergency response projects around the Island.

In addition we acknowledge the donations from individuals: Angela Buckton, Andrew Brown, and Maxine Dunning. We are also grateful for the contribution from Wiremu Koea who created and sold a personalised cookbook to raise funds for KERT.

Wishing all Kawau Islanders a happy, safe and prosperous 2016!!

KIVRFF REPORT – there was no report to hand from the Acting Fire Officer, Blair Williams.

KIAC REPORT was presented by Lin Pardey Sandspit Parking – With the help of Michael M, Lyn H and Les M plus full support from the Rodney Local Board we have worked with Auckland Transport to reach a workable arrangement for Sandspit parking and this includes the use of five special trailer / car permits. Russell Derecourt is here to answer questions and discuss the future going forward for the car park. There are several areas that require attention – move towards returning the car parking area to Reserves & Parks, new machinery for the entrance, gate being open at all time when attendant is there, expanded parking for the future i.e. removal of caretakers cottage.

Auckland Unitary Plan – there has been success in advocating against SEA's which will not be introduced on Kawau without going through a full consultation process which would then require a plan change, and cooperation with property owners. KIAC worked with planners and has full agreement with harbour masters department, (Auckland and local) that Kawau moorings must be treated differently than those on the mainland. Cur-

rent situation appears that a limit of 200 will be lifted so those meeting criteria can get one. Criteria – own property or are full time resident and currently own a boat. Also said community would be willing to work with harbour master to tighten areas used for moorings in places like North Cove and School House Bay by trialing gang mooring systems – but costs must be born by Auckland Transport, not mooring holders. Last hearing for the Precinct Plan – have two concerns only, one word has been left out of Precinct Plan preamble which might mean Precinct Plan is trumped by General Plan - Also want the 6 metre foreshore yard to have a clause allowing for those with existing buildings within this foreshore limit to be able to get permits for extensions as a discretionary activity, not requiring a special resource notified consent.

Rodney Local Board - KIAC's relationship with the Rodney Local Board will be formalised by way of a MOU. Two other points in discussion are: the local board providing an inorganic pick up, possible trash barge for yachties in summer and the issue of transport from Warkworth to Sandspit.

Lyn Hume also referred to an email she had received regarding the lifting of the moratorium in 2015 on discounted fares for senior fares and asked that the RLB look into this on our behalf. Beth will follow up.

KOOKABURRA REPORT: Michael Marris welcomed everyone's valuable contribution to each issue of Kookaburra, everyone on this island is different and come from all walks of life and this is reflected in the community. Kookaburra reflects this diversity and is the voice of the community, a deeply family orientated society that makes us richer with a great community spirit. Special thanks to Shelley Futcher for her ongoing help with advertising, David

Continued on next page

Faull's for his detail to printing services, reliability and co-operation to make Kookaburra a great little magazine. Finally, huge appreciation to the wonderful body of contributors, the important proofreading team and, significantly, for you in your role as KIRRA members and enthusiastic and committed citizens of Kawau. For that I thank you.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Pine Tree Logging Project: Tony Maidment, DOC Operations Manager for the Mahurangi area spoke to the group about this ongoing project.

- Hoping to get resource consent in around end of April 2016;
- Delays around jetty/pontoon issue at Ladies Bay. Hoping to use pontoon design works out to be a lot cheaper and minimum environmental impact;
- Aiming for harvesting start around October 2016;
- Vital to have community support with regard to future restoration;
- There will be ongoing community consultation as process carries on.

The archeological studies and feasibility studies have been completed and the infrastructure is now in place and ready to go once timber prices are viable but they still have to go through the resource consent stage with the Auckland Council. The National Project Manager for Olsens are wanting to have community engagement and Bevan Moir DOC and Holly Russell will be the liaison people.

Sandspit Car Parking: Russell Derocourt, Auckland Transport Parking Services, kindly attended the meeting to answer questions and

give us some background into the ongoing issues with this car parking facility. They are working with the Local Board and also with Parks & Reserves to achieve a good outcome. Auckland Transport have \$450m in assets, 145 car parks around the Auckland area. The Sandspit car park needs to be treated differently, costs \$120k per year to run the car park and they are not looking at disposal of this asset, just want to achieve a breakeven scenario. There are many groups involved in the Sandspit area who are involved i.e. SOSSI. The gear at the car park is very second hand and keeps breaking down, so they plan on trialing a system whereby license plates are read, similar to Johnstone's Hill toll road. This should happen around June. AT also need to be communicated with regarding the Kawau Cruises scheduled runs so they can adapt their opening hours (when they have a person in the office) to suit. Winnie is doing a great job, accommodating family, friends, tradesmen. Lyn Hume thanked Russell for being a great person to work with and understanding our concerns.

Sunny Bay: Colin Bright spoke to the meeting about his findings to date. The Sunny Bay area sits with the Office of Waitangi Treatment Settlements. As far as Colin can ascertain, there have been caveats going back three years but nothing is very clear. A lot of evidence based resource / history was lost when Ray Weaver past away. Piers Barney is also trying to lift the profile of this area by getting the media involved. Tony Maidment mentioned that when he came to Kawau Island two and a half years ago, he looked into the future of Sunny Bay but he was told it was at the treaty settlement stage and nothing could be done until this was settled. Sunny Bay will always maintain reserve status and remain open to the public, even if the site goes to Iwi and there should be nothing to stop local interests approaching them in the future with regards to discussing desires



such as accommodation etc. This will be dealing with a different entity, not DOC.

Ray Weaver Memorial Seat

Kawau Boating Club are happy with the memorial seat and location between the clubrooms and the large pohutkawa tree, though this does need to be okayed by the yacht squadron. Two local woodworkers have been approached to build it with an expected completion date of early June 2016. KIRRA will fund this project.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All nominations have been received in accordance with the rules and it was moved by Fay Richardson and seconded by Lin Pardey that all committee members as listed below are standing again including our Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

Chairman – Les Mellars, Secretary – Helen Jeffery, Treasurer – Ian Henderson, committee members: Gael Archer, Colin Bright, Cath

Byrne, Peter Buckton, Pam Dallow, Shelley Futchter, Alan Marshall, Simon Pirie and we welcome three new committee members: Andrew Fyfe, Paul (Taz) Strauss, Martine Fernandez.

Meeting closed at 11.50am

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on Kawau Island and
surrounding areas call 111**



KIRRA Minutes April 2016

Helen Jeffery

MINUTES OF THE KIRRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING held Wednesday 27th April 2016 at the Ponsonby Yacht Club, Westhaven

PRESENT: Martine Fernandez, Helen Jeffery, Peter Buckton, Shelley Futchter, Pam Dallow, Paul Strauss, Simon Pirie, Les Mellars, Alan Marshall, Michael Marris

APOLOGIES: Gael Archer, Colin Bright, Alan Marshall, Andrew Fyfe, Lin Pardey, Ian Henderson, Beth Houlbrooke

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Minutes had been circulated it was moved by Peter Buckton and seconded by Pam Dallow that they are true and correct

CORRESPONDENCE: Inwards: Emails: received from Tony Maidment, DOC, Jo Richie, Christine Cumiskey, DOC re pine tree project; Hauraki Gulf Forum newsletter, NZ Post

Outgoing: nothing outgoing

TREASURER'S REPORT: financials were presented, The financials were moved by Pam Dallow and seconded by Shelley Futchter, carried by all present. It was moved by Shelley F that we donate \$1,000 to the Westpac Helicopter Trust on a yearly basis, seconded by Pam Dallow, all agreed. Ian to raise a cheque and give to Michael Marris to present. Membership sitting at 176 members, reminder invoices to be sent out to unpaid. It would be great if we could get the membership up to 250.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE: Lin P (KIAC) was unable to attend but she prepared a report for the meeting: Lin attended the final two hearings for the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan and presented on behalf of KIAC.

At the hearing regarding moorings, Michael Marris and Lyn Hume attended and were in full support of the push to move away from the mooring zone model proposed by Auckland planners and also to refute the suggestions made by Mr Brown who claims to represent the greater Auckland boating community under the guise of Auckland Yachting and Boating Association. His suggestion was to halve the number of moorings at Kawau and clump them together in small mooring zones away from the favourite bays.

The planners were very receptive of our proposals and Lin was told by certain members of the Independent Hearings Committee that they found the AYAB evidence to be highly flawed. Lin thinks that there will be little change as to moorings other than there is no longer a number cap, and where there are general mooring fields such as in North Cove, South Cove and Schoolhouse Bay, there may be a push to re-align moorings to gain more open space if possible.

Lin and Lyn Hume attended the second hearing regarding the Precinct Plan. The planners and committee were very receptive of the idea of moving the six metre foreshore yard requirement for new buildings to align with the Kawau Vision Statement and to allow homes to be built closer to the foreshore rather than scarring the hillsides, and also of adding words to make it clear that the right to clear native bush for tracks is limited only to tracks crossing an individuals private property, not tracks on other people's land. These are small details but could be important down the track. The Kawau Vision Statement has become part of the whole Unitary Plan which is far more important that it may seem at a glance.



Now that all hearings are done, the hearings committee will make its recommendations then the planners are required to implement them in the Plan. We can only hope that these changes are fully implemented. Thanks to everyone who helped with this effort – Michael Marris, the late Ray Weaver, John Sinclair, Lyn Hume, Steve Hoyle and others. Lin believes future Kawau Islanders have a good framework to work with, far better than it would have been if everyone had not pitched in and fought to get an appropriate Precinct Plan.

On other matters – the Rodney Local Board arranged for KIAC to meet with representatives from Auckland Transport and Waste Auckland. Michael Marris and Lyn Hume also attended the meeting. Russell Derecourt, head of the parking division of Auckland Council informed the meeting that new machines should be in place within a three month timeframe. Casual (day) rates will change in a favourable direction and it's been observed and figures show the \$12 charge is discouraging use of the Sandspit carpark and overloading Brick Bay Drive. This warrants a complete re-think of the area, the way it works, responsibilities and also shorten the high season.

Auckland Waste has been made aware of the mess that gathers around the waste bins at Sandspit. They will be meeting with KIAC at

Sandspit in May to look at ways to improve this situation and to keep non Kawau Islanders from dumping their household waste at the bins. The idea of co-ordinating an inorganic collection was floated but it appears this would mean increased rates and would probably be better organised as a community effort.

Lyn Hume with the support from KIAC asked the RLB attendees to assist in getting a Gold Card discount for seniors on the Kawau ferries, thus providing a subsidy that could help future proof our transport from the mainland. Though they agree the current situation is unfair, they did not offer any insight on the matter.

Michael Marris, at the request of the RLB has prepared a first draft Memorandum of Understanding to formalise and future proof the position of KIAC. This will be worked on both by KIAC and the appropriate people within council to make sure it does the job and meets all legal requirements under the Local Government Act. The goal is to formalise this MOU by July.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Kookaburra: Autumn issue well received, good contributions from everyone involved.

Continued on next page

KIRRA Website: revamp in progress by Design Solutionz, making it mobile friendly and adding new sections. All Kookaburra advertisers will receive a complimentary advert on the website. Shelley to use this as a marketing tool when seeking further advertising for the magazine. Contributions required from everyone for the website, so that it really reflects our island community. Get input from KERT, Fire Team, Camp Bentzon, Pohutakawa Trust, Boat Club, accommodation places.

Ray Weaver – memorial service and memorial bench – wood workers are on schedule to complete in May.

KIAC Honorarium – this was discussed, figures required from Ian. Question asked should this come from RLB? With elections coming up, possibility could be two members involved. KIRRA needs to be seen to support KIAC.

Pine Tree Project – Jo Richie, Project Co-ordinator attended the meeting and spoke to the committee. According to DOC they are moving

forward and hope to start the consenting process this month. They have asked KIRRA to circulate a letter of support in regards to the logging project to the KIRRA database. They plan to commence in September 2016/17 but this is dependant on the outcome of resource consents to be lodge in May 2016. Christine Cumiskey is the DOC person leading the project and they have contracted Jo Richie from Treescape Environmental to co-ordinate the project.

Sandspit Carpark – there have been issues at the car park with people arriving after 4.30pm not being able to access the car parking area. With the machine broken the barrier arm should be left up when the office is not manned and this has not been happening. Winnie will do this in the future until such time as the new equipment is installed.

Meeting closed at 7.20pm. Next meeting will be the Saturday 18th June, Shelley Futer's bach in Stockyard Bay, Kawau Island

DOC PUBLIC NOTICE

The Department of Conservation (DOC) is closing its network of tracks on Kawau to safeguard visitors to the Island.

DOC is concerned about pine trees falling on tracks through the Kawau Island Historic Reserve and the risk this poses to people walking the tracks.

DOC has authority to close the tracks to protect the public under section 58(d) of the Reserves Act 1977.

The tracks are located between Bon Accord Harbour and South Cove, on the western side of Kawau.

The tracks will be closed to the public from Monday May 23, 2016, for an indefinite period, while the safety issues concerning the pine trees are assessed.

We regret any inconvenience caused by the track closure, but our first duty is to safeguard visitors to the Island.

Only people authorised by the Director-General of Conservation can enter the reserve while the tracks are closed.

Further information is available from the DOC Mahurangi/Warkworth Office: Unit 12,30 Hudson Road, Warkworth. Ph 09 425 7812

Nick Turoa

Operations Manager Mahurangi/Warkworth - Acting as Commissioner



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WEDNESDAY 22nd JUNE 5.30PM	PONSONBY YACHT CLUB, WESTHAVEN
SATURDAY 20th AUGUST 9.30AM	KAWAU ISLAND Shelley Fitcher's, Stockyard Bay
WEDNESDAY 12th OCTOBER 5.30PM	PONSONBY YACHT CLUB, WESTHAVEN
*SATURDAY 10th DECEMBER 9.30AM	KAWAU ISLAND TBA
*(set AGM at this meeting)	

SANDSPIT MOORING

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call Pam on 444 3378 or 021 1186 049
usual maximum is 24 hours depending on pressure

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SAT - SUN	8:00am	10:30am	2:30pm	no sailing	6:30pm

TIMES FROM KAWAU

	SOUTH COVE	BON ACCORD	NORTH COVE	VIVIAN BAY
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	9:05am	9:20am	9:35am	9:45am
	2:05pm	1:30pm	1:00pm	12:50pm
MON - THU	4:05pm	4:20pm	4:35pm	4:45pm
FRI, SUN, PUB. HOLS	5:05pm (Fri. ONLY)	5:20pm	5:35pm	5:45pm
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Please ensure bookings are made at least two hours before departure

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