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Magazine of Kawau Island New Zealand



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Editorial

Michael Marris

Our Island is a-changing. We have had quite a few years of a stable population, a stable community and stable prices. Attrition in the natural course of events has taken toll on the faces that were so familiar on the ferries.

Now however there are signs of change. Agents report an increase of interest in houses and land; sales have picked up. Several new families have moved to the Island on a permanent basis. There is a younger demographic. New houses have been built and several are in the throes of construction.

This change is likely to continue: housing prices in Auckland are extreme and housing prices on Kawau Island are entirely modest. Access to the city has been enhanced by the first new section of motorway and will be further enhanced in five years' time when the second section to Warkworth is completed. There are now several water options for access to and from our Island. New neighbourhood broadband installations around Kawau enhance opportunities for people to work away from their primary office space (and to feast out on Netflix!)

This is a healthy regeneration. New faces and younger faces bring new ideas and fresher thinking. Families with children have a different everyday focus living on an Island. Schooling is an important issue. Isolation can be a threat for stay-at-home mothers. The geographical conformation of Kawau, and the lack of developed infrastructure are challenging. Sometimes only a return to the city allows the realisation that "challenging" is often accompanied by "rewarding".

This replenishment of younger skills and talents and enthusiasm is much needed. The

stalwart organisation that holds our Kawau community together – KIRRA – is dependent upon fresh faces. The Fire Team thrives on the strength of youth which can then be wonderfully mediated by the wisdom of experience. Civil Defence protection is a critical community resource and always needing new blood. Asserting as much independence as we possibly can without the interference of mainland bureaucracy is an ongoing struggle requiring commitment and focus and energy.

So now there is a surge of change. However, this is change that is healthy. Fortunately, and unlike Auckland generally, this change is progressing gently enough to allow those of us with older memories to accommodate without being overly threatened. The characteristic of Kawau is that we are a geographically bounded community with a minimal overlay of urban infrastructure. Our Island life is not spartan by any means but it does require us all to have a deep engagement with our environment. These are the features that attract us and the features that distinguish us.

This period of regrowth and replenishment is an opportune time to reconsider how we wish the face of Kawau to be. The Kawau Vision Document is a crucial reference point reflecting the ambitions for our Island of the current generation. Future generations may willingly, or of necessity, adopt different perspectives. That will be their prerogative.

As incumbents however, our imperative is to welcome new faces and new visions into our community: to understand that the freshness of a younger generation is to be welcomed and embraced. Fortunately, welcoming is what we as an Island community do so well.

Letter To The Editor

About Penny Webster

Over the past three years, along with a hard-working team of other property owners here on Kawau, I have spent hundreds of hours struggling to ensure this Island retains its very special character under the Auckland Unitary Plan. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Penny Webster for her encouragement, assistance and input during this process. Right from the day the proposed Plan was introduced she made herself available to assist and explain, to introduce us to the appropriate people who could give us information and guidance.

Penny, in her role as Auckland Councillor, organised meetings with the lead planners, in-

cluding insisting they actually come out and visit Kawau Island so they would understand how their proposed planning ideas just didn't fit the situation.

Without her help, it would have been almost impossible to navigate the confusing morass of planning sessions, mediation sessions and hearings. The end result, a distinct precinct plan that actually works, one that recognises the uniqueness of our largely road-free, water access-dependent, Island community. I know I am only one of many people here on Kawau who would like to thank Penny for her ongoing support.

Lin Pardey

Kawau Advisory Committee

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THE SILENT AND LIVE AUCTION

The date is set, 18th February, 2017. The musicians are secured, all new ones who will get you up dancing at the fourth annual *Music in the Gardens* event. Wine glasses have been ordered. The tickets are being printed as I write. The count down for the committee has begun. Now the auction item committee would like your assistance.

This is the one chance for us Islanders to raise funds to support KERT which ensures our first response team has the equipment it needs, and also to support other Kawau Island charitable groups.

Your Help Needed: Music in the Gardens Auction

If you know any merchants or service providers who might be willing to donate items, please contact any of the Music in the Garden committee. We will do the follow up. Especially wanted are experience-orientated items such as accommodations, restaurant or shopping vouchers. Among the favourite items at this year's auction were the *Look Behind the Scenes at Auckland War Memorial Museum* and the Seaplane flight to the Beach House for a weekend.

Other types of items are welcome. The more variety the more fun.

Contact Ken Wells phone 021-440-797 or email – lpardey@xtra.co.nz or pass on the information to any of your neighbours who are on the committee.



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Vivian Bay News

Fay Richardson

Vivian Bay has a new flagpole thanks to Lyn Hume and Dave Lornie.

I didn't realise how much I looked at it until it wasn't there so now the new one using a yacht mast is flying high and has restored my pleasant ambience.

The rains came and caused waterfalls to pour off the hillsides.

First, the thunderstorm at 1.30am on July 8th, when the thunder shook the house and the lightening lit up the Bay. The gutters all overflowed and torrential rain fell for a couple of hours.

We got the spotlight out and shone it around the Bay checking that the boats were still float-

ing and watched the waterfall flow under our house and down to the sea.


Then the 10th August another six inches of rain fell over two days causing more rain to wash away our steps which had just been repaired.

A very enjoyable evening at the Beach House was had for Lin Pardey's birthday and we farewelled Katie and Zehn.

The dolphins are back in the Bay several times a week, chasing piper and mating, something I never tire of watching.

My garlic, potatoes and snow peas are well up and I look forward to planting out the seedlings I have growing in the caravan. The fruit trees are budding and spring is on its way.






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Pembles Bay News

Andrew Fyfe

Torrential Downloads

It was a dramatic winter. Much of it spent looking nervously to the skies. And for good reason. Intimidating lightning displays briefly turned our pitch-black winter night into broad daylight. Thunder followed so closely, it literally shook our buildings. Torrential rain so unrelenting, it saturated the ground until it could drink no more. Then like a cheap party drunk who had had far too much, Mother Nature started throwing up...vomiting massive mudslides that transformed the crystal waters of Pembles Bay into milky tea. Producing waterfalls so large, they could be heard, well before they were in sight. Creating lava flows of gravel and pebble, stripped from our paths and tracks. The end result - a mountain of debris surrounded by a swamp of rainwater, on what was once our lawn.

The water table had become so over-loaded, my toilet and shower couldn't be used, as they wouldn't drain. I've never experienced conditions like it. If all of this sounds a little like Monty Python's Yorkshire Skit, there was a noticeable upside - all our water tanks are now full to overflowing.

The sky has proved positive in other ways for the Fyfes. After delivering the most dreadful weather, the sky is now delivering us broadband. Downpours have been replaced by Downloads.

After family discussions confirmed broadband would be useful for the whole clan, I contacted a very disinterested Vodafone Rural. After working out the GPS co-ordinates of the various dwellings and asking for a technician to visit our property, I finally gave up. Not a



single phone call was returned. My frustration was growing and I was beginning to moan to anyone who would listen. Still, as they say... sometimes a problem shared is a problem halved. And if you're lucky enough to offload on Michael Marris - a problem solved.

What can I say - Kookaburra's Editor is a tech-head. His passion for technology combined with extraordinary patience and a love of problem solving made Michael Marris the perfect replacement for Vodafone. While South Cove long ago solved how to get broadband on Kawai, Michael had recently followed suit, installing the internet into his place and those of his immediate North Cove neighbours. His



expertise was about to come over the hill to the Fyfe Compound at Pembles Bay.

It has been quite a learning process for Lachlan and myself. We've learnt how to wire computer jacks onto LAN Cat 6 ethernet cable, understand that Ping is not just a golf club and how data transfer basically works and what download and upload speeds are required.

The very first thing I learnt was that to have broadband on the Island you first need a dedicated landline account on the mainland. Somewhere elevated, with a direct line of sight to your place. Michael approached a dedicated Kookaburra fan for help. His hill top location in Snells Beach is perfect, looking straight at Dad's clifftop place on Pohutukawa Point. Just over nine kilometres from roof to roof....dish to dish. Both positions high enough off the water to provide an amazingly strong signal.

Once Michael and I had installed the corresponding dish onto Dad's, Pembles could finally talk to Snells. Homework could be done. Airbnb bookings could be managed. Freedom Farms bacon could be ordered and Netflix and

Apple TV could be watched. Now we can all stay even longer.

That said, further challenges lay ahead. My annual 'Curry & Whisky' weekend was rudely interrupted. Whisky glasses briefly put down, as my good mate Ram and I fed Cat 6 across Dad's expansive roof down to Ram's brothers and friends who helped feed the cabling into the white house and back out to the back roof.

From there Lachlan and Michael installed a smaller dish programmed to communicate through the kanuka to number one son's place. Gregor and Kirsty's would become station control with a four-jack console to feed his house as well as those of his two brothers. As line of sight was not possible to the remaining two dwellings, the rest would be cabled. Metres of bright blue cable now run through the trees,

Continued on page 11



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Local Board Elections

Know Your Candidate

Beth Houlbrooke

Beth Houlbrooke is standing once again for this year's local body elections. She is standing in the Warkworth subdivision to be a Rodney Local Board member, only this time says she is doing things a little differently – running with a *team*. In seeking support she needs assurance that there is comfort with the team members who are her running mates – Allison Roe of Point Wells, and Mike Francis of Leigh. Together they are teaming up with candidates in the Kumeu subdivision – Cameron Brewer of Riverhead, Phelan Pirrie of Muriwai, and Brent Bailey of Kaukapakapa. Beth says the team represents a high level of appropriate skills and experience in business and community, as well as a great geographical spread across Rodney.

Information on the team and what they stand for can be found on www.rodneyfirst.org.

The team has a clear set of pre-agreed policies that will hopefully address what is important to voters – roads, footpaths and better transport, parks including walkways and cycleways (the new term is “greenways”), managing growth, partnering with the community and business

Pembles Bay News

Continued from page 9

down under Cameron and Sarah's abode, below ground underneath tracks and finally into the old Lockwood that was once the Wood-year-Smith's, and that I now inhabit.

My, how the tables have turned! Dad's original vision for Kawau (back in 1972) was to have a haven from the pressures of business. He briefly came here to escape technology, which back then was the humble landline telephone. Forty-four years later, technology has taken

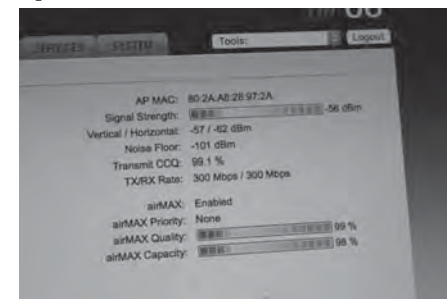
to “get stuff done”, and – more specifically to Warkworth – continuing to advocate for funding for a community pool and the completion of our walking and cycling connections (no expensive pink paths or Skypaths here, just a bit of gravel on the side of the road!), and solutions for “Hill Street”.

Beth writes “As promised at the last election, I have given my full time attention to this role despite some personal challenges. I intend to do the same for the next three years. Will you support me? Please feel free to reply with any comments on what I could be doing better. I will continue to take a special interest in Kawau Island matters, recognising the unique challenges faced by ratepayers over there and on the mainland with parking, access, and waste disposal issues.

“DOC controlled land is a little outside our scope but I am happy to broker meetings to get all parties around the table and see where we can work together. I don't shirk a bit of hard work.”

Candidate - Rodney Local Board, Warkworth Subdivision www.rodneyfirst.org.

over. The situation has completely reversed. Yet, ironically, technology now allows us to spend even more time at Kawau.



North Cove News

Ross West

It seems that at this time of the year weather is the main player in most of our activities. Early in July North Cove, along with the rest of the Island, was walloped by a massive downpour in the middle of the night. Something between 150 and 200 mm fell in a couple of hours shortly after midnight. As it coincided with low tide the water pouring off the hills hit the beach unimpeded. Existing small streams became small raging rivers and generous streams formed where water doesn't normally run, charging through properties and out to sea. The pebbly beach in front of the Pettit property now resembles a Hawkes Bay braided river and further up Starboard Arm the water gouged out a channel several times deeper than the slight depression it normally runs in.

Marcus Bossert aboard his yacht *Watea* was woken by the different smell his surroundings had taken on. Yes the smell. The massive amount of fresh water charged with organic debris was floating on top of the salt water giving of a strong odour which Marcus described as being full of tannins. His RIB hanging off the back of *Watea* filled completely with water. A few basements were flooded and water swept through sheds and under houses but no major damage occurred.

A couple of weeks ago we had yet more rain; this time throughout the day accompanied by very heavy south westerly winds and then it rained all night. This prolonged downpour caused a number of slips, the Pardeys suffering again with a truckload of clay clipping the corner of their boat shed and blocking access from wharf to house.

Early in August Lin Pardey invited a number of us to celebrate her birthday at the Vivian Bay Beach House. Reuben's driver Ben brought a



boatload from Sandspit and Reuben gathered up the rest of us from various parts of the Island. Maree was having a night off and, along with Reuben's father George, joined the party. Of course there was a strong representation from North Cove and Vivian Bay but Taz and Allison also made it from South Cove. Schoolhouse Bay was represented by Stephen Robinson and the gorgeous Louise.

The evening was also a farewell to Katie and Zehn who have by now left the Beach House to take a position in Tonga. Lin engaged Chris Sanders to sing and play guitar which he made an excellent job of. After we'd eaten he raised the tempo which not only got a number of light footed women on the floor but saw George Zylstra jiggling away to 'What Shall We Do With The Drunken Sailor' - a glass of port in one hand and cigarette holder clamped firmly between his teeth!

Michael Marris delivered two fine speeches; one to honour Lin's birthday and the other to

pass on the Island's appreciation of the work Katie and Zehn have done during their stay. By the time we came to return home a decent blow was pumping in from the SW but by that stage none of us cared and handed over all responsibility for our wellbeing to Reuben.

Since I last wrote there's been more comings and goings in the Cove. Paul and Kerry Jellich have returned from their stint managing the Spencer property and have sold their digger business to Russell Goodhue. Russell's grandfather built more than one dwelling in Moana Creek and his parents bought a bach adjacent to Starboard Wharf when a hundred and fifty quid could clinch a deal. Russell has bought a property in Schoolhouse Bay and a serious workmanlike shallow draft launch to use as transport and accommodation when he visits the mainland.

Dave Jeffery has sold Jim and Pat Empage's property in the upper reaches of Moana Creek to Luke and Leah Oram. They are looking forward to enjoying the property with their young children.

My neighbour and friend John Pryor is moving on after twenty years on the Island. John and son Thomas lived aboard the yacht *Meriman* while he established stage one of his house on a one acre plot subdivided by the legendary Rob Wilson. Rob put in the poles and a School House Bay builder framed it up and got the roof on. John did the rest and when it was habitable he, Thomas and younger son Alexander, moved in.

A good number of years later, South Cove's 'Duck' completed the stage two level and the place was signed off. John says it was about ten years from start to finish. Not unusual on the Island and some never get finished! A lot of people on the Island have more boats than are good for them and John is no exception. The

list would fill another column but they range from the very basic aluminium barge *Dama* of fifteen years ago to the exquisite and beautifully restored yacht *Gypsy*. John's classic launch *Rotomahana* will be 100 years old next year.

I bought my property through John and at the time his flyer touting for work listed something he could do for every letter of the alphabet. I never did find a xylophone to see if he could actually repair one as advertised.

He sold real estate on the Island for fifteen years before selling the business to Dave Jeffery. As well as earning a living, John served the community as a firefighter, KIRRA treasurer, did two terms on KIAC and was Starboard Wharf's treasurer for four years. At the time of writing he was hoping to purchase a period house in Hikurangi, just north of Whangarei. I wish him well.

The new owners are Doug Marsden and Nicky Porteous. The couple have been living on their 65-year-old Tahitian ketch for the past six years and this time last year were pottering about Tonga escaping the Auckland winter. They plan to put the ketch on a mooring in North Cove and buy some sort of small power boat to travel to and from Sandspit and about the Island in general. Doug is a builder by trade and will be looking for small construction jobs once they settle in. However, his passion is carving in the Japanese discipline known as Netsuke and he sells his work through a Queen St gallery. Nicky is an occupational therapist specialising in mental health. Starboard Arm will be their permanent home and they look forward to sharing it with their children and grandchildren.

On the sunny slopes of my upper Starboard Arm property I've pruned my fruit trees and look forward to seeing the changes that longer days and warmer weather will bring.

Moores Bay News

Cameron Dargaville

Yes! It has been a wet July: in fact, so wet we had our culvert tested to the limit on two occasions, with the rain gauge overflowing at 100mm on one night

Can we say a huge thank you to Spencer and Jude Neall for being such great caretakers over the last two years. They really have elevated the property to a park like status and exercised great husbandry of the land. They aren't moving far having accepted a role as caretakers of the Spencer Kawau estate starting late September and will be living just above our property in the existing caretaker cottage, which they are presently refurbishing.

We also extend a warm welcome to Miles Littlechild who will be looking after the property



and growing organic turmeric and ginger in his spare time.

A reminder: deep inside the calm Bon Accord Harbour, Moores Bay is the perfect spot for fishing, swimming, kayaking, water skiing, bush walking, or simply lying in the sun with a good book.

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South Cove News

Andrew Stone

The big storms which struck with such fury in July caused a particular headache at South Cove.

So strong was one westerly blast that a sturdy trailer was lifted off the wharf and hurled into the sea. Except no-one at the Cove figured that had occurred.

For three weeks the missing trailer created a community puzzle. An email went around seeking its return. Down beside the wharf, the water was murky and nothing was visible. Then, when the clouds cleared and the wind dropped, a breakthrough.

The sea gave up its secret. A few metres from the wharf, its outline unmistakable at low tide, the trailer was parked on the bottom of the bay several metres away from the steps in three metres of water.

Intrepid Chris snagged the trailer with a "grappa" anchor and pulled it closer to the steps. A couple of weeks ago a recovery party completed the job on a chilly Saturday morning. Squeezed into a wet suit, one local hopped into the water while Chris and Steven dragged the waterlogged wooden frame to the steps. It took a bit of effort but the trailer, its sides and floor swollen from weeks underwater and two of its wheels missing, got retrieved. One of the wheels was spotted and recovered a few days later, some distance from where the trailer came to rest.

As for the other wheel.... who knows. It is presumably still somewhere in the Cove, pushed about by storm currents and big swells. Trevor got in the water and had a look but couldn't find it. When the weather calms and the water



warms, maybe it will reappear, though whether it's still good to roll... who knows.

The same storm which tossed the trailer into the drink left more scars on our tracks. Fresh channels have formed across roads, and seal edges laid a year ago by Auckland Council have been stripped away. Just when we see a repair crew again.... who knows.

The disappointing aspect of last year's maintenance work was that the crews were urged to install drains which could cope with the intense storms we seem to be experiencing. If they had listened, and done the job the way it should have been done, we would have been spared the worse. Do it once, do it right. It's an old but reliable approach.

Greg Sayers

A Brief Introduction

Standing for the Rodney Councillor position this month is Mr Greg Sayers.

Greg has gained political experience through six years as an elected Local Board member and has been a regular attendee at the Kawau Island Resident and Ratepayers Association meetings.

He is standing because he believes Auckland Council has lost track of the important issues facing Rodney, including Kawau Island. He is running on a platform which is to stop Auckland Council's wastage and overspending, to get Auckland Council back to concentrating on its core services, and to have our local rates spent back in our local area.

Greg pledges he will continue to take special interest in Kawau Island's unique matters. Local Board member Beth Houltbrooke and Greg have already worked in partnership with KIR-RA and KIAC for the last three years on solving the Sandspit parking charges and the waste

disposal issue. Beth is standing for re-election as a Local Board member.

You can read more about Greg's background and policies at his website www.gregsayers.co.nz and about Beth at www.rodneyfirst.org

If you live off the Island, but own a property on it, you are entitled to vote at both your main residency as well as have another vote for the Island. Just phone Election Services on 0800 922 822 and ask to be sent out a voting paper for the Rodney election area. Voting is by postal vote beginning 16 September.

Greg's political experience has been gained through six years as an elected Local Board member and being readily available to the public.

Greg holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a NZIM management diploma. Among other skills he has developed a financial management software company and an organisational change company.

Camp Bentzon Report

Peter and Erin Hyde

Wharf jumping, Laughter, Excitement

It is the first Camp of the new season and what a fun group of children/adults/teachers. As I look out the window students are wharf jumping and there is a constant line of children waiting for their turn. The water is warmer than usual for this time of the year - however these students are jumping in with no wetsuits and then having another go. We really enjoy this group from Greenmeadows Intermediate. The students and adults utilise the camp so well and are such a fun school to be with.

Working Bee

Lots of enthusiastic people arrived on the Friday from the Lions Warkworth Club and some of their family and friends to help. Much was achieved: firewood, relining the games room and dining room, fixing a retaining wall, extending the bark wall around playground, roofing the garden as a workshop carport. Peter and I also attended a black and white evening with Warkworth Lions Club at the RSA. They are a very giving group of people and lots of fun to be around. If anyone is looking to join and contribute to community projects, we enjoy their company.

Flood Damage

Many places on Kawau were affected by 100mm of rain in a four hour period with 160mm over a 24-hour period. At around 2am we lay in bed thinking this does not sound good. The following morning we viewed the damage. Fortunately all the buildings were ok however much of our efforts re-barking and gravelling paths had been washed away. Below is a picture of the damage caused by run



off from the hills which blocked access to the beach for launching. The beach was a mess with small waterfalls created by water run-off. Mother Nature has fixed this and the beach is now back to normal. The other areas we have pretty much tidied up – about a week's solid work! We just have some drainage work to do now.

Bark

We were enthusiastically shifting bulk bags of bark to the playground area having hired a couple of guys to help out for the day. All went to plan until shifting one of the final four bags and discovering a penguin sitting on at least one egg. Our reactions in sequence: “how cute” and then “lots of photos”. Followed by

“concerned that we might be upsetting her”, “bother we can’t shift the bark now”, “Google, how long until they hatch?”. Finally “now it sounds like we’ll be getting another barge load of bark a few months earlier than planned, maybe not quite so cute now”

She is rather cute though: see photo at right.

Holiday Tales

Both of us enjoyed two weeks in Indonesia this year. Lombok was an interesting cultural experience where we even took part in a traditional dance and stick fighting evening. Gillis Islands are very pretty with lots of turtles to see, no cars just horses on the island. Peter and I enjoyed one of the best overseas dives we have ever done just off the Komodo Islands. The area has many soft corals, turtles, amazing



fish life and sharks. There were so many things to see and amazing colours. To access, we flew in to Labuan Bajo. We also went to see the famous Dragons. It's all very much well worth a look.



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A Clean Pair of Heels

Kawau Girl

Trip to Kawau

"Are you awake " I whisper in M.O.T.H's ear It's just daylight and there is no wind.

"Will we go?"

M.O.T.H reaches out for his hand-held VHF radio, which lives on bedside table on his side.

Weather at 5am only 8 knots southerly at Tiri passage.

It's too good to be true: we have been waiting for days.

The RIB is kept at Gulf Harbour Marina and weather report has to be safe before we venture out, So 35 knots at Tiri definitely not suitable. How could you justify anyone looking for us - we know better.

YES says M.O.T.H. we can go.

A quick shower and dress, throw some clothes in bag not too much we are only going for three days. Down to the kitchen: empty some fresh food from the fridge again only enough to survive for few days. I always keep some basic food in cupboards at Kawau bach.

No breakfast we can eat when we get there.

From when I first woke M.O.T.H. it's only taken 20 minutes into car and off to Gulf Harbour.



It takes 10 minutes to drive and 10 minutes to prepare RIB for voyage.

We creep quietly out of the Marina no need to wake the people that live on their boats.

Once we are outside the breakwater M.O.T.H. pushes the throttles and we are off.

It's just so exhilarating the wind and feel of the powerful motors.

It takes us about 40 minutes to arrive at the entrance to North Cove, as we pull alongside our jetty, Dave in his water taxi passes he calls out "don't you two sleep"

It's only 7.30am and we have arrived.

Our next problem will be the weather last till we want to return home.

SANDSPIT MOORING
Pam Dallow manages bookings
for the KIRRA mooring at Sandspit
call Pam on 444 3378 or 021 1186 049
usual maximum is 24 hours depending on pressure

Emilie's Brithday

I think you must be five this time,
So here's a poem with words that rhyme.
I live on an Island next to the sea,
looking out at the boats really pleases me.
I'm sending some photos to show you the place,
peaceful and quiet away from the rat race.
No roads for cars that rush here and there,
only boats on the water and wind in your hair.

I've been weeding the garden around the place,
some two meters high and a waste of space.
I've found lots of hydrangeas trying to survive,
pruned, and now budding and oh so happy alive.
With lots of sunshine and plenty of rain,
they'll flourish and all be flowering again.
The colours fantastic seem to glow in the dark,
my grandmother's plantings will look like a park.

The pastel colours amazing and lasting so long,
Dark plum, crimson sunset, blushing pink is my song,
royal and eggshell blues, purple, violet and mauve,
with the white so bright, a fine treasure trove.
it's all the good minerals in the soil of the land,
volcanic and humus, rich with ash and sand.
As their season ends slowly comes to a stop,
The colours fade and we prune for the next crop.
So, enough of me and the things that I do,
This is for your happy birthday and you,
have a great day and a big party as well,
I'll be thinking of you and the story you'll tell,
In the letter you'll send me about your big day,
I would love to be at your party but it's so far away.

Love from your Grandad, Peter Newson.

Sandspit Marina Opening

Elsbeth Wilkins

The opening of Sandspit Marina on 2nd July was a joyous occasion celebrating 10 years of team effort. The first eight years were spent negotiating through a minefield of consent hearings, followed by two years of construction by Hopper Construction, Pacific Pontoon & Pier, and Sandspit Marina Society.

It is testament to the character of Sandspit Yacht Club members that they raised the necessary capital through berth sales and have now steered the project through to completion.

And what a result! Sandspit now has a beautiful new marina with enhanced facilities for both boaties and the general public to enjoy.

The opening day was one out of the box – sunny and windless. Over 400 people were treated

to an impromptu bagpipe performance, while brightly coloured dinghy sails pirouetted in front of the wharf grandstand, and a helicopter towed a banner proclaiming the Marina Opening. The crowd were then entertained by the Snells Beach School kapa haka group, followed by a breathtaking solo performance by Emme Lentino.

Project Superintendent Graeme Maker spoke of the challenges faced during the project. The Sandspit Marina Society Chairman Alex Fowler thanked the many volunteers who have helped over the years. Ringi Brown, Kaumatua of Mana Ngati Manuhiri, gave a blessing before Councillor Penny Webster declared the marina officially open.

Then it was party time!

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Beach House Changes

Bevan Cox

I'm Bevan Cox - I've been in the industry for 35 years as a chef or manager, owned a bistro in Sydney and lived there for seven years. I have international experience as an Executive Chef in large hotels. My partner Per Vilsbaek has had 18 years with Telecom IT, and more lately five years in hospitality with myself in front-of-house roles and motel management. We have owned a boutique motel in Taupo for four years. We are here on an experience-gathering mission looking to explore the options of the Beach House.

Our goal is to increase the customer base with functions and conferences, and to increase the awareness in NZ of what this beautiful Island has to offer. I'm passionate about food and quality and delivering a product that exceeds people's expectations. Modern Kiwi-style food

with an Island twist! But always using fresh local produce where I can.

We are looking forward to meeting more of the locals and we will be introducing themed nights and other function options to the local Kawau and mainland community.

I have worked all over NZ from here down to Dunedin and used to travel to Kawau as a child from our home in Auckland for fishing and cockles on the beachnot a lot has changed. Per's background is Christchurch and he has a Danish father. He works the front-of-house and we insist on keeping high standards of presentation for all the services we offer.

Any other comments - please call us at the Beach house: 09 422 8850 or 0274 652 761.

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Harbourmaster Report

Graeme Kearney

Unitary Plan

The unitary plan is changing as most know, in September.

One good thing to come from this that we will be able to place more vessels into Kawau in most but not all Bays. Schoolhouse Bay being one that is almost completely full. Other areas where we can place more moorings will be in the Mahurangi River and at Buckleton's Beach.

This will help those who have been patiently waiting on the mooring list.

Please ensure your vessel is securely locked up or alarmed. Christmas shoppers are on the prowl for easy pickings, we have had several stolen boats turn up in the Rodney area of late. Two vessels that were recovered are sitting in Sandspit at the moment.

Sandspit Marina

Kawau Islanders have been given a special deal by the yacht club. They are able to berth on the outside of the pontoons behind the rock groyne. Please be aware that this groyne covers and uncovers during the tide change. There will be signs placed soon indicating the cau-



tion to be taken due to the hazard below the high water mark and mid-tide

Wild Weather

Last month we had a lot of rain and high tides. This caused the more than the normal amount of trees, logs and other flotsam from upstream to float down amongst the moorings.

We spend a fair amount time recovering as much as possible. It is impossible to recover all, so a navigation warning is usually put out regarding the issue of danger to boaties.

We get requests to come and recover logs from all areas including the Kaipara Harbour.



Some of these logs could be secured by locals and cut up more quickly than it would take for us to recover. If this is at all possible that would be of great assistance to us and reduce the chance of an incident. This should be a good reminder for those who have waterside properties to check and make sure any fallen trees are cut and removed to higher ground.

Kawau Boating Club

Robyn Lee

After a fantastically successful season last year the Kawau Boating Club is to reopen for the summer on Friday 14th October – first drinks will be served at 10 a.m.! Until mid-December the Club will be closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

We welcome back Chef Derek, Olivia, Dave Crooks on the wharf, son Oliver and girlfriend Reisha, full timer Tracey, and Danie recently returned from Asia. Another fabulous mix!

Other than that David and I have been having fun in the sun over here, doing rather a lot of market shopping and seconds shops sourcing items for our little pop up shop we plan to have on the Island. Mainly clothing, with a huge range of Italian made linen dresses, shorts and tops and also vintage French linen and cotton sheets!

The Committee has spent many hours this winter working towards creating an even more welcoming place for everyone to spend some prime time. The library area is getting a make-over and a new walk-in chiller/freezer will soon be installed to free up more space inside the clubhouse.

Materials have arrived and work is underway to upgrade the ablutions block, thanks in part to a grant from the Rodney Local Board. Both the ladies and mens showers will have new plumbing and bright easy-to-clean linings. New washbasins and tile surrounds are being installed and the whole area completely repainted, inside and out.

Unfortunately, applying for the appropriate resource consents, engineering reports and building permits for a pontoon and new deck



in front of the Club, is still a work in progress. The resource consent was issued at the end of August and filing the building permit paperwork and delays with council mean actual work is unlikely to start until after this season when we hope to have sufficient funding in place to have it all completed for the start of the 2017/18 season. Also on the plan is the upgrade to 24/7 fuel supplies. This is dependent on other resource consent issues which look to be moving in the right direction.

A big celebration at the KBC has been planned for Labour Weekend, kicking off on Saturday 22nd October. The Pipi Pickers bluegrass four-piece band will perform starting late in the afternoon. The Pipis rejoice in laying down their energetic, contemporary, “full-bodied” style of bluegrass. Hailing from the seaside village of Leigh in New Zealand, many will have heard them at the Sawmill or Whangateau Folk Club evenings.

There is no cover charge but a donation on the day towards band costs would be appreciated. And bring \$10 for a copy of their latest CD. The Pipis are Barry Torkington on guitar, Garry Bigwood on mandolin, guitar and vocals, Nat Torkington on 5 string banjo, and



Jenine Abarbanel on double bass and vocals. Jenine's strong leading vocals have been compared to Natalie Merchant and Gillian Welch. Nat Torkington is considered one of the best Scruggs-style 5-string banjo pickers in New Zealand, and his licks will blow your mind.

Another interesting evening later in early summer will be with Lin Pardey for the launch of her latest release ‘The Talisman Tales’ - once again bring along some money to purchase a copy.... Lin is currently in the States doing the rounds of book fairs and speaking at seminars held by the wooden boat fraternity in both Canada and the US.

Also on the horizon we are hoping to have an afternoon/evening with guest speakers from the Ministry of Fisheries. Come along and learn all about what these guys and gals do, and learn a little more about your region. Questions welcome!



Lidgard House, big sister of the Kawau Boating Club, has undergone extensive winter renovations. A large marquee has been placed over the deck to protect furnishings whilst recarpeting has taken place. A new kitchen has been installed. It is expected that the final works will be taking place just two days before the first lot of Squadron guests arrive on 30th September.



KERT

Ken Wells, Chairman

Kawau Island Emergency Response Trust

Upcoming initiatives from KERT

Hi to all KIRRA members on Kawau Island. I am delighted to provide an update as to two pending initiatives from KERT.

First, we have been getting a steady stream of applications for the funded installation of water tank couplings, to assist the fire team in case of fire on the Island. A reminder of this offer:

KERT will allocate funds to enable up to 40 couplings to be fitted to existing tanks. This will include the cost of the coupling and also installation.

The couplings will be allocated firstly to dwellings that are furthest away from the water's edge, and on a "first come-first served" basis.

If you wish to be considered for this initiative, please register your interest with the Secretary of KIRRA by 30 September 2016. The installation will take place in the months following on a bay-by-bay basis. The plumber will communicate directly with you to ensure you are happy with installation arrangements.

KERT encourages you to take advantage of this free service for the safety of your dwelling and those of your neighbours

Second, we will shortly be organising a number of fully funded three hour First Aid training sessions for residents and ratepayers. These will be held over several months at convenient venues, and will cover all of the basic first aid responses that one is likely to need in an emergency situation on the Island or adjacent

areas. Areas covered will be heart attacks, broken limbs, strokes, burns, concussion, allergic reactions, cuts, electrocution, resuscitation and a number of other common accidents or medical conditions. Details of these sessions will be distributed through the KIRRA mailing list shortly.

KERT would like to once again express its gratitude for the very kind and significant donation from the Victoria Cruising Club. This organisation has supported the fundraising efforts of KERT for many years and their contributions have been instrumental in enabling a number of the projects we have instigated, Thank you very much VCC!

We are also very grateful for the contribution of funds from OPAK from the 2016 Music in the Gardens event. The several donations to KERT from this event has helped the Trust enormously in its own fund raising efforts.

I am delighted to report that we have two new trustees. Chris Carding and Trevor Hutchings have both joined recently, and are already throwing much enthusiasm and wise counsel into our meetings.

The work of KERT going forward will benefit greatly from their input. Since its inception in 2005 KERT has worked quietly but steadily to raise funding for the many emergency response requirements on Kawau.

The trustees are passionate about serving the Kawau community and are keen to add value to the Island's ability to respond quickly and effectively, to medical, fire and other emergencies on Kawau. My thanks to all the trustees for their continuing support.

Rodney Local Board

Meeting Report

Rodney Local Board members have been (perhaps with a push from our community pressure) sensitive to the interests of Kawau Island over their past three-year term. Realistically we perhaps remain, from their perspective a somewhat difficult and perhaps not especially consequential little group.

With upcoming local body elections there is likely to be the changing composition. However, under the steady and pleasant chair of Brenda Steele the RLB met at the cafe at Sandspit on 16th August rather than at their more formal office setting at Orewa. This was a welcome and appreciated recognition that Kawau Island has been continually in their focus, mainly due to the active persistence of the Lin and Lyn (Pardey and Hume) partnership.

Nonetheless, in that Sandspit Cafe there were 12 around the table: three of us from Kawau Island, three Board members and six bureau-

crats! Three board members! That represents one third of their tally and might eloquently express the reality of their interest in Kawau.

Beth Houlbrooke, who was present, has been a consistent presence at Island events and as a community we might hope that her re-election is successful. Greg Sayers is also standing again and he too has shown an interest in Kawau Island matters.

A significant amount of our Island focus has been in consolidating and formalising the role of KIAC within the Auckland Council structure. Regrettably this is still an ongoing battle. This Board have kicked into touch, using the excuse of the upcoming elections and the potential for a change in membership. In reality this reflects a resistance to recognise the unique characteristics and requirements of our Kawau community.

Continued overleaf



Sandspit Cafe RLB meeting - Lin Pardey (L) speaking with Chair Brenda Steele (R) listening intently

An Island Celebration

Michael Marris

It was a dark and stormy night..... well..... another dark and stormy night! And have we not had our fair share of these over this winter!

There needed to be an excuse for a party. Easy to come by. Lin Pardey was having a birthday. Katie and Zehn were leaving the Beach House. Reuben and Maree had a babysitter. Stephen Robinson and Louise had European tales to tell. Jacques and Kim and Doug and Helen were eager to escape the mainland.... so it went on. Around about 50 people gathered at the Beach House, around dusk on a gloomy Saturday evening, most transported by water taxi.

Ross West has already provided a well-observed North Cove perspective on the evening and that of a wider audience. This was an opportunity for the Island to come together from all of our scattered little communities. An opportunity to socialise and to share stories and forge friendships. This is sometimes not easy to come by given the somewhat fragmented patches of settlements around Kawau and the glorious but sometimes taxing necessity of water transport to visit friends.

Lin Pardey – more commonly and affectionately known as Mrs P – engaged a balladeer musician, Chris, who provided a great musical background. The fire at the Beach House roared. Katie and Zehn provided an ongoing parade of delicious food and wonderful wine. The evening rocked!

The room was packed full of classic Island characters. Stephen Robinson and Ross West looked nothing more than like those two wonderful Swedish characters from the Muppet Show! George Zylstra and Larry Pardey



found good company in each other. Maree was dressed to kill. The Vivian Bay contingent were as always warm and hospitable.

There were toasts, speeches, a birthday cake and there was merriment aplenty. In the comfort of the Beach House there was an evident reluctance to leave. The more so because over four hours another storm fronted rolled in and large waves were crashing around the wharf. However, we had our two “designated driv-

ers” – Reuben and Ben – so at the very least we were in safe hands. The voyage home was animated, exciting, and had that definite feeling of being perilous - large seas and fierce wind.

Of course, as always, each and every one of us was transported safely home. This was an Island night of coming together and yet another symbol of how our little community has developed a deep sense of cohesion, of togetherness and of warmth. This was our Kawau.

Rodney Local Board

Continued from previous page

The RLB were extremely eager to deal with the shocking state of the rubbish at Sandspit and that does represent a welcome attention. It is also an attention that does not carry any political threat. The discussion about Auckland Council moving away from mechanical edging of grass berms was utterly irrelevant to us. Again, this was a discussion unhampered by political threat.

Our Island community needs to now reflect carefully on the future of KIAC – to lose this long established and valuable channel into the political arena of Auckland Council would be a loss. However, that is very much a risk we

are facing. The reasons for the board resisting a formal relationship with KIAC were classically bureaucratic – the lawyers had said no. There was a predictable outpouring of words like “trust”, “retaining the relationship”, “legal cost” and so on.

Which simply reflected a lack of desire, perhaps with some fear about how that might open the door to other communities. Who knows? More importantly, Kawau Island needs to fight on with the preservation of KIAC as a formal and properly recognised channel between the politicians of Auckland Council and the community of Kawau Island.



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Kawau Real Estate

Dave Jeffery

It's certainly nice to be writing this report with the doors open, sun shining and no gale blowing dogs off chains, so hopefully the worst of winter is over.

Our resident beekeeper assures me that the bees are stirring already which is a good indicator of an early spring arriving soon.

In spite of some very high rainfall events over Kawau in recent months, it appears that apart from a couple of unfortunate exceptions most of the Island escaped serious damage. A lot of the loose ground cover in the bush ended up in huge piles at the bottom of most hillsides all around the Island but no doubt it will be replaced naturally over the summer and autumn; it makes good compost piles. Our sympathy extends to those who did suffer storm damage

as we know from past experience just how devastating that can be.

Property sales over the winter have been very slow this year but I think the awful weather has contributed to that, as we have had to defer or cancel several prebooked viewings due to adverse conditions, in one case 3 times in a row and the potential buyers haven't booked a 4th visit yet.

As usual we expect interest to increase along with the longer daylight hours so anyone who intends selling this year should be over soon to tidy up their property in readiness for any spring buyers.

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Ray Weaver – Memorial

Michael Marris

Saturday 2nd July was fine but wintery. It was also one year to the day since the very untimely death of Ray Weaver. Much thought and many discussions had gone into the consideration of a suitable memorial for a man whose love, passion and commitment to Kawau Island was abundant. KIRRA had resolved to allocate funds for an appropriate permanent recognition for a man who meant so much.

Ultimately, Gavin Brunton and Simon Wood were approached with the idea that their magnificent wood crafting skills might be utilised in the construction of a Memorial seat. They agreed and set about a thoughtful design process, and sourcing appropriate timber. The concept was for a bench seat with the backrest as a stylised pohutukawa leaf when viewed front on, and the seat shaped to fit the contours of those that sit on it.

Over some months their meticulous skills took some magnificent slabs of red gum which they had determined would be the wood with the most longevity, given the planned exposure to the rigours of the Kawau Island sea environment. A bronze plaque was commissioned. It was felt that an appropriate site would be somewhere around the pathway that leads from the Lidgard House to the Boating Club.

And so it came about that on this July Saturday around 50 members of our Island community gathered on the porch of Lidgard House, along with the mandatory collection of pets. Carl Weaver and members of the Weaver family were there. The group made its way along the path to the spot looking out onto the blue waters of Bon Accord Harbour, where the seat had been draped with a New Zealand flag. This was a poignant moment.



The ceremony was muted but warm. The eloquence of various members of our community who wished to pay tribute to Ray was outstanding. Les Mellars was, as always, thoughtful and gracious with his words. Others were invited to follow suit.

“I would like to open this very special occasion by suggesting that you are here today because in some way your life has been entwined with that of our dear friend Ray. Or indeed you are his family and we are pleased to welcome you here today”.

“You could be here today because you have been involved in Ray’s life over many years and you have shared in his commitment to the betterment of Kawau Island and its community.

Continued overleaf



Gardening Matters

Jane Myhre

Blame Sir George!

A weed may be defined as a wild plant growing where it is not wanted and in competition with cultivated plants. I have a suspicion that the esteemed one might have been responsible for some of our weeds here on Kawau Island.

At the “top” of South Cove the *Telecom Track* crosses the beach from Spencer’s boundary to a little picnic area South Covers like to visit in the summer, and from there runs up the hill to the throbbing metropolis of South Cove.



The *Telecom Track* follows a much older track, or roadway once perhaps, which would have run down from the ridge where the Mansion House Reserve conjoins the Spencer’s boundary. My imagination informs me that this road might have been the main walking route from Schoolhouse Bay and Bon Accord to South Cove back in the 1870s.

Where the *Telecom Track* divulges from Spencers’ land into the top of South Cove grows a massive carpet of agapanthus. Along the South Cove side of the *Telecom Track* grow spindly wilding cassias.

I don’t know for sure, but have a strong feeling that a few houses, perhaps with gardens, were scattered here around the top of the Cove in very early times. Certainly this must have been a pleasant, sheltered spot, and two streams run into the Cove here, providing fresh water year round.

In my own garden I have an invasive bulb which produces long slender blue-green foliage and spears of orange flowers. A search on the internet reveals that it may be a South African variety of ixia.

It happens that both agapanthus and cassia are also native to South Africa.....

In the days when it was my job to sit behind the desk at Mansion House viciously extorting \$4 each from tourists before they could enter, between visitors I read my way through a couple of biographies of Sir George, and discovered that the famous English statesman had come to NZ by way of South Australia and before that, South Africa.



The DOC website on pestiferous plants suggests that agapanthus was first brought back to NZ by soldiers returning from the Boer War.

But I blame Sir George.

Having a broad interest in horticultural matters, Sir George created a superb garden in Mansion House Bay, containing plants and trees from all around the globe. It is possible that some of the “weeds” I see in my garden now, originated from his garden. Sir George was of course living on Kawau Island prior to the Boer War.

From Mansion House, Sir George’s staff would likely have taken seeds and cuttings to other parts of the Island.

Weeds annoy me probably more than is healthy for an adult human. A Christchurch upbringing ensured I would become a fastidious gardener, like it or not.

I don’t have any better method for removing agapanthus than slogging it out with mattock and fork when the ground is wet after heavy rain. I am grateful the cassia has not made it up to South Cove yet, although I know it spreads because I have also seen many along the roadside between Spencers’ and Pah Farm. I have no clue how to deal with the orange ixias. I suspect the wekas scatter its hundreds of tiny bulbs around when they are scratching around for worms, thus infesting all sectors of my garden. I don’t know how to kill the things – yet! (the ixias I mean)

As for thistles and the like my favoured method is to pour boiling water onto them and watch them shrivel.

Next time you boil the kettle for a cup of tea, try it.....

Ray Weaver Memorial Continued from previous page

Our regenerating pohutukawa trees bear witness to this.... Have you ever climbed Mt. Taylor with or without Ray’s permission and had the pleasure of looking out from this amazing vantage point and in the process, been absolutely captivated by the incredible view in all directions - something that Ray so dearly loved?

And if you have on the odd occasion just wandered up there, do you know what, Ray didn’t really mind! What he had, he was very willing to share with others. Providing they didn’t cause any damage!”

Carl and his family were invited to remove the flag, to uncover wonderfully poignant memory of a man who meant so much to so many on this Island: a top hat, white gloves and a silver tipped cane!

Echoes indeed from Ray’s funeral. Perhaps even a side of Ray that few had seen.

After the various tributes had been offered the group linked arms and had some moments of thoughtful contemplation for a man whose contribution to the Island ecology and our Island community will not in any short time be surpassed.

Fire and Civil Defence

Chris Carding

Hi there everyone.

One of the most difficult issues facing us on Kawau Island is communication, how can we alert people to an emergency situation quickly

To try and do this, by face to face contact, by ringing landlines or mobile, by using loud hailers, by email or text to neighbours and friends or most other things you can think of is far too slow. Especially if the impending emergency is a tsunami for example, originating from the Kermadec Trench with a landfall of three hours and a wall of water the length of NZ, and a continuous flow of water up to seven metres high and stretching back two kilometres.

I can hear the laughter already, but Google "Kermadec Trench" on the east coast of NZ and see what an earthquake of magnitude 8-9 will potentially produce in the way of a tsunami - and you might just rethink.

Oh - but we have Great Barrier and the Coromandel Peninsula which will take the sting out of any tsunami from the east, and the back of Kawau Island will stop the water if there is still any coming to our area.

The reality is that the magnitude and power of that body of water has the potential to drive past many obstacles: going around some, and travelling many kilometres inland on the east coast of New Zealand. When it stops just like the water in a bath tub, it will roll back out and straight onto Kawau Island's west coast, inundating the harbours and all low-lying coastal areas.

On Kawau Island all our larger community facilities are on or very near sea level, so none of



these are useful refuge. We will have to rely on sheltering in private homes high on the ridges.

The Kawau Island community could be stranded for many days if this scenario was to happen - the rest of NZ will be busy with emergency rescue agencies and with resources stretched, we could be on our own for some time.

So in summary, two things which you might care to consider:

One - load the new Red Cross app which has superseded the old Civil Defence app. If you haven't done so already, this app will advise you of events like a tsunami and give the emergency responders a headstart organising evacuations to high ground. It's easy to load and is packed with good advice;

Two - consider the possibility of having a high ground facility yourself on the Island, and think where that could be located.

Let me know your thoughts -

Email: penthouse2piha@xtra.co.nz

Kawau Island Civil Defence Coordinator and Rural Fire Force member.

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Coastguard Kawau

Luke McCarthy

New President, new crew

Coastguard Kawau now has a decidedly youthful look about it.

Peter Garman tendered his resignation as position of president at the last monthly meeting. Vice-President Luke McCarthy was nominated as his successor and elected by the executive committee. Brett Howlett has moved into the VP role as well as Maintenance Officer for the unit.

We still maintain a full complement of captains and senior crew, and we have five new recruits about to join us as full crew members. But we are always on the hunt for new and enthusiastic members to join our highly skilled and dedicated team.

Maintenance

Winter maintenance was concentrated on a thorough refit of Kawau Rescue's trailer, a very important piece of the unit's kit. The trailer is both our means of launch and retrieval, and our out-of-water storage platform. It gets a hammering in the normal course of events as it is involved in more than 100 launches each year.

The trailer now has two new tyres and has been zinc sprayed and painted.

Thanks to all the businesses who assisted with the trailer parts supply and logistics – Beaurepaires Warkworth, CMA Recycling, Metspray and Bremick Fasteners ... to name a few.

Our thanks must also go to our other generous donors who make it generally possible to continue to carry out this kind of work. Spe-



cial mention here must go to the Music in the Gardens event and the local Ladies Lions Club.

On the water

It has been a reasonably quiet winter but as the weather improves we are prepared for the usual increase in callouts.

On Sunday morning 0530 28 August Kawau Rescue was tasked to an urgent job in Mahurangi harbour involving the police, the Westpac helicopter and Hibiscus Rescue 2 – a successful outcome. We have also had a busy start to the official spring period with a number of callouts already in September.

Tsunami threat

On Friday 2 September many people awoke to hear in the news about a possible tsunami threat to the east coast of the North Island. For our Coastguard crew, however, pagers had been going off with updates soon after the earthquake that occurred just before 5am.

At 0600 it was decided to activate our tsunami action plan. We launched our rescue vessel and made way to a safe point south of Kawau Island

to await further updates. At 0830 the warning was lifted by Civil Defence and Kawau Rescue returned to Sandspit.

This provided our crew with good training for such an event, but some reminders for all about tsunami readiness, particularly as there is always the threat of an event similar the devastating 2011 Tohoku earthquake in Japan happening. As has been reported, the worst case scenario is probably a significantly larger earthquake where the Pacific and Australian plates meet at the Kermadec Trench.

If such an event occurs:

- Stay out of the water including sea, estuaries and connected rivers
- Call off planned boating activities
- If you are already out on the water, consider your options for moving to deeper water
- Monitor your mobile website, emails, TV, radio, or your local VHF radio channel for updates
- Make sure family, neighbours and friends are aware of the threat.

To be prepared for such an event, know where you are going to evacuate to, and have an emergency grab bag with water, food, light source, first aid kit and other items that may assist you. Having a battery operated radio as part of this is a good idea.

Are you ready for summer?

It's boating time again, so a few reminders to make sure you do not become one of our callouts:

- Check that your motor has been recently serviced
- Make sure your flares are up-to-date



- Check your lifejackets are still in good working order, especially the inflation canisters in your inflatable lifejackets
- Don't forget to check your hull carefully, especially if you have a pontoon boat. As we well know, wear and tear and ultra-violet rays on pontoons eventually makes them more susceptible to punctures
- Make sure you have two forms of communication device available to take with you and that they are working properly.

And when you do go out, don't forget to tell someone where you are going and when you will be back (you can radio your trip report to Coastguard on *500 from your cellphone or on channel 82 from VHF radio). If no one knows you are overdue, no-one can call for assistance.

Don't forget to get a Coastguard membership!

VHF channel changes

National VHF radio channels will be beginning to be changed over the next few weeks. If you are going out please ensure you know the correct channels for your area. For more information on these changes please visit the Coastguard or Maritime New Zealand websites.

Look out for our Coastguard raffle ticket sellers over the holidays. Crew members and the support team spend hundreds of hours selling tickets every year, so if you see any of us please

Continued on page 49

Northern Action Group

Bill Townson, Chair

I am very pleased to report that at long last, and after lobbying by the Northern Action Group (NAG) for seven years, including winning a High Court appeal, North Rodney will get its local governance arrangements examined by the Local Government Commission (LGC).

(This process was undemocratically denied us back in 2009 when we were forced unilaterally into Auckland Council against the overwhelming majority's wishes).

The LGC will shortly begin consultation with our community at large with a view to learning firsthand what the issues are and what the community would like to see in our local administration.

They will conduct a series of evening public meetings as well as one on one daytime interviews at various 'drop-in' centres, commencing on September 20th.

From these and other resources, including independent analysis (not AC) they will identify two or three reasonably practical (and hopefully popular) options. (One of these options must be the status quo).

Unless it is the status quo which is to prevail, they will then choose a preferred option from which they will develop a draft reorganisation proposal. This draft then goes out to the community and other stakeholders (including us) for submissions.

So this is "crunch" time for our community if we are to avoid LGC choosing the status quo as a preferred option (i.e. more of the same)

I cannot stress enough how important it is that we all make every effort to take part in this process of consultation by attending at least one of the meetings and/or the drop-in interviews if you possibly can.

Please mark the dates in your diary and also encourage your like-minded friends and neighbours to participate as well.

This whole process will succeed or fail on how passionate the community is about getting a better deal with our local governance.

Remember public apathy is the number one enemy of democracy so let's give LGC the message loud and clear that we will not tolerate more of the same!

Tues 20 September	WellsfordWar Memorial Library	Drop-in centre 11am – 4pm
Tues 20 September	Wellsford Community Centre	Drop-in centre 11am – 4pm
Wed 21 September	WarkworthLibrary	Drop-in centre 11am – 4pm
Wed 21 September	Warkworth Shoesmith Hall	Drop-in centre 11am – 4pm
Mon 26 September	Matakana Cinemas	Drop-in centre 11am – 4pm
Mon 26 September	Matakana Cinemas	Community meeting 7pm

Tank Coupling Offer

Ken Wells, Chair

The Kawau Emergency Response Trust (KERT) has allocated a portion of its past fundraising efforts to helping property owners on Kawau improve their ability to fight fires on their property (should this unfortunate need arise).

In the case of fire, it is hugely beneficial for the volunteer firefighters and others to be able to connect fire hoses direct to couplings at the base of water tanks.

This is in contrast to having to drop hoses into the tanks through the top opening and having to hold them in place.

Owners of new dwellings have been encouraged to include the couplings in their tank installation; however there is a number of existing dwellings without the couplings.

Coastguard Kawau
Continued from page 47

consider stopping and buying a ticket or just come and have a chat....we welcome you!

For every \$10 ticket we sell ourselves, \$8 comes right back to our Unit. The prizes are amazing

KERT will allocate funds to enable up to 40 couplings to be fitted to existing tanks. This will include the cost of the coupling and also installation. The couplings will be allocated firstly to dwellings that are furthest away from the water's edge, and on a "first come first served" basis.

If you wish to be considered for this initiative, please register your interest with the Secretary of KIRRA **by 30 September 2016**.

The installation will take place in the months following on a bay by bay basis and the plumber will communicate directly with you to ensure you are happy with installation arrangements.

KERT encourages you to take advantage of this free service for the safety of your dwelling and those of your neighbours.

and Coastguard Kawau has sold some of the big prize winning tickets in recent years.

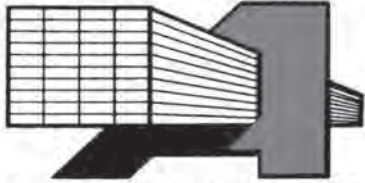
For any further information contact the Coastguard Kawau president Luke McCarthy:

Phone: 021 263 1586 or

Email: luke.mccarthy@vodafone.co.nz



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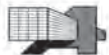
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Fire Team Report

Gavin Brunton

Contemplating how to combat a raging fire from spreading across the dry Kawau landscape is a little abstract while hearing the winter rain beat down upon the roof. But that is what myself and my fellow volunteer firefighters have been doing to prepare for the dry months that are certain to come again.

The depots, the fire pumps, and all the associated gear has been checked and checked again to make sure that everything that may be needed is ready to go.

In addition to the equipment, we know that having the skill (and wisdom) to make the right decisions and safely do what needs doing is, if anything, of more importance. With this in mind, the fire team have been upskilling with multi-day courses both here on the Island and on the mainland.



As a result, we as a team are feeling positive about the coming year.

When summer time comes rolling around again, if you see smoke: Call 111 and **then** go investigate where it is coming from, if you will, rather than the other way around. As we would much rather have a couple of false alarms than arrive five minutes too late to stop a rapidly spreading fire from getting out of control!

Bookworms Club meets monthly around the Island and always attracts an enthusiastic group of residents. Phone Ruth Henderson 422 8944 or ruth_e@farmside.co.nz



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Afloat Around Kawau

Lin Pardey

Should I or shouldn't I? What is the most logical thing to do? Is it vanity or practicality? I keep asking myself these questions as I stare out towards my sorry looking little fizz boat. From where I sit in my office a hundred meters from her jetty-side berth, *Jay Dee* looks to me to be even more forlorn than usual with its motor out of commission.



Up close it looks downright shabby; seats ripped and ragged, deck paint crazed and worn down to the underlying fiberglass through overuse and downright abuse, deep scratches where rough construction timbers had been thrown hastily across the cockpit, a crack in the bow where I hit a jetty piling harder than I would have if I'd put the motor in reverse sooner, hastily mended cracks around cleats Larry overstressed by towing five tons of building materials from Sandspit to North Cove on our bulky barge. I'd gotten quotes to spruce her up, make her deck look almost like new. The numbers were almost as much as we'd paid for her ten years ago when she was a very tidy looking 30-year-old.

Then I decided to look for a newer boat as a replacement. Everyone had suggestions for the perfect Kawau commuter based on what they already had. The only problem is, I really like *Jay Dee*, a 14'6" Sea Nymph fiberglass boat that is just the right size for me to handle. I like being able to move around on her flat side decks, I like her wide open cockpit area and simplicity. So I got smart and began scouring the internet for other Sea Nymphs figuring most would have spent their lives in garages, only to be taken out for occasional weekend fishing trips and few would have been loaded with shingle, rough construction timber and assorted junk like *Jay Dee* had been used for and was used to!

I found four likely suspects in Auckland. Great excuse to head in for a night with friends. An old business partner of ours once said, "Nothing is as good as it looks or as bad as it seems." This could sum up my boat viewing. Three boats definitely did not look nearly as good in person as they had in photos. But there was one boat which glowed proudly, her hull and deck in lovely condition – almost like *Jay Dee* had been when we bought her. The engine gleamed white and polished.

I know absolutely nothing about engines. When the owner asked if I wanted to hear it run I said no. But I did get an outboard specialist to go over a few days later and test the engine for me. His report, as can be expected with a 15-year-old outboard which had been sitting unused for three years, was less than glowing though not fully discouraging.

I wandered down to the jetty and climbed on board *Jay Dee*. I recalled the unbelievably strong emotional ties I had with the two wooden cruising boats Larry and I built and sailed

together. Each nook and cranny held memories of adventures and mishaps, moments of intense pleasure, other moments of concern as we crossed vast expanses of ocean.

But I didn't think I'd formed any emotional ties to this little motor boat, not until I seriously considered replacing her. Now memories of buzzing back and forth to Sandspit across sun sparkled flat seas, or struggling slowly homeward against steep chop caused by a fresh southeasterly bucking against an incoming tide flooded my mind.

I thought of the days when Larry and I used her to drag a dredge slowly across the channel near South Cove ostensibly trying for a feed of scallops when in reality we were just looking for an excuse to be out on the water far from any work or responsibilities, and other days when we took special visitors on a tiki -tour around the bays of Kawau, wine glasses in hand, nibbles in a picnic basket and plans for a stop at the Boating Club for dinner.

With these thoughts in mind, I called Ross West, who lives not far from me in Starboard Arm. With his practical boating experience and deep knowledge of engines and mechanics I asked him to run through the pros and cons of buying a replacement for *Jay Dee*.

He had a good handle on the maintenance problems for different types of outboard motors and he was the perfect sounding board. "No matter which choice you make, you are still going to use the boat the same way, hauling things, hitting jetties a bit harder than you would like, getting too close to oyster covered pilings. So whatever boat you have, it won't stay looking good all the time," Ross reminded me.

A half-hour-long conversation and I'd decided: vanity be damned, this is Kawau Island, a place where boats are used as much for work as for



play. So the decision is made; an engine overhaul, a few fiberglass patches, a quick coat of paint to cover the worst wear spots, new seats, a good scrub and polish. When spring comes I won't be riding around in something shinny and new looking. Instead my trusty, practical old friend *Jay Dee* and I will once again be - afloat around Kawau.

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A question In My Defence

In my defence I face the lowest common
alligator and his cryptic wife four down
and nineteen across; the shameless missing page;
a condemned judge, damned by every sentence
however punctuated; the tedium
of dependent contingent retracted clauses;
and Hey little rippler tipping in my favour.

A long stretch at the gym should put matters
to rights. If tomorrow comes it will be
another one, brighter, better, shorter
than this. I can improve my times only
if I practise. The chronometer is set
for the trial.

Every single poet wishes to adopt
the characteristic position, alone
in a dark room, gazing at the mirror
for another, a dictionary open
if only there was enough light to read.

The rhythms of counting time or finding rhyme
stamp stamp stamp in my head. I wanted to go
to town without my own name but I was nobody
else, even in another tense.

At the try, I sift, I pick out; it is a strain
but my quarrel with myself must be settled
in battle. Take a trying plane and smooth crisp
strokes will flatten the surface.
Knee-deep in peel, how can I delight

in one clean line among so much rubbish?
What settles? At my trial
what comes out?

So far, I have no answers but a question
could be of use. Let me list the tests in order
to gauge what proof will be required. The Rapunzel
hair test will surely not let me down. Cinderella
asks if my feet look big in these shoes: take a walk
and keep your eyes on the prints. I flinch at
the big teeth test of Red Riding Hood,
so scary. Tom Thumb says size ain't everything.
I have little confidence in the Valiant
Little Tailor's flyblown boast of seven
at one blow. Hansel and Gretel demonstrate
scientific rigour where breadcrumb control
proved the stone effect and they were not lost
to their father after all. I am drawn to
Sleeping Beauty's attempt – just take a good night's
sleep and all will turn out fine when you wake up.

Early or late, we lose our children: their deaths
or ours, circumstances beyond our reach.
The generous hand stretches down a long table
but sometimes pulls back before our portion
is delivered. How does one maintain a clear
heart? Where can a fund of generosity
be engendered? If only I knew the name
of the answer.

John Adams

*A recently retired Judge whose professional legal life involved saying a lot
of words, hearing a lot of words and now...writing a lot words*

Pohutukawa Trust

Carl Weaver

Hello to everyone,

Spring is here.....well did we even really get a winter?

Following the Trust's successful program last year, the Pohutukawa Trust is pushing ahead with its goal of creating an environment on Kawau where native trees and animals can flourish.

We have launched our 2016 pest control programme which will help us achieve our ambition. Last winter we had great success, and assessments for the Trust suggest that a committed targeting of pests will go a long way towards eradication. The work involves shooting opossums and wallabies and laying bait for rats and stoats. We are inviting landowners to join in the programme, which involves culling the pests which cause so much destruction in what should be a beautiful environment. Reports from long-time landowners on the Island are indicating increasing bird calls and a flourish of plant life.

I was on the Island last week with my sons Oliver and Thomas. We were clearing some tracks, and saw that pohutukawa that we had long since given up as dead had begun to sprout new growth. Their persistence against the odds is truly remarkable.

We have contracted the same pest control team to undertake the work this winter - they have carried out this type of work for governmental agencies in New Zealand (and overseas) for many years.

The hunters have begun the first round of this vital work on the Island. Round one com-



menced on the 5th to 14th September. Further dates for the 2016 round of the Pohutukawa Trust shooting program have been finalised.

The dates are as follows:

Second round: 3rd to 12th October

Third round: Tentatively 1st to 10th November

The larger the land area that we can treat, the quicker the program's success will come.

The Trust is committed and we want as many landowners as possible to come on board, the Trust is therefore prepared to assist financially.

The Trust is able to subsidise landowners this year by covering two thirds of the cost. By signing up to be a supporter of the Trust, landowners will ensure the team includes their property in their work.

It is difficult to estimate the cost of the team visiting a property and returning to carry out their work, but it will be modest. If you would like more details including a cost estimate please contact Carl Weaver.

The rewards however will be immense, given that we expect to make deep inroads into pest populations.

You can help by joining up to the program to be included in the next round of treatment, send your details by email to me: carl@work-wise.co.nz

Sandspit Carpark Changes

Michael Marris

Residents and winter visitors will have noticed in the last two weeks a flurry of reconstruction work around the carpark barrier arms, which have been out of commission for several months. As a result the automated fee machine has also been out of commission. The new system will be in line with ordinary practice - you take a ticket on entry and pay when leaving, according to the time you have been there. Security cameras will record number plates of each vehicle on entry.



AT also plan to move the Harbourmaster's office away from its long-established location at the end of Sandspit Wharf to Warkworth - arguably almost as far away from the water as one can imagine. There is presumably some deep and meaningful bureaucratic logic in this.

Auckland Transport also plan to renovate the office attached to Winnie's house, including the provision of toilet facilities. As well, they

want to co-locate some of the Harbourmaster's functions in a portable building placed on the car park area.

The one bright spot in a somewhat chaotic circumstance is at the new fee regime seems to be working well and has found (relative) satisfaction with most Island people, tradesmen and tourists.

Sandspit Parking Concession

Remember to use your special visitors, tradesmen and guest rates

As negotiated with Auckland Transport, Kawau Island residents and ratepayers can arrange to pay just half the normal daily rate for parking at Sandspit, i.e. \$3.00 per day during low season, \$6.00 per day during summer holiday season for their own cars. This concession price also applies to your visitors, family and tradesmen. But to get this discount you must inform the parking attendant of the arrival date and registration number of your visitor.

Contact: email winifred.topia@aucklandtransport.govt

Your visitors will, at present, have to arrive or depart during the hours when there is an attendant available to pay these special rates. It is hoped the new barrier machinery, which was supposed to be in place in July, will, when it finally arrives, allow for automatic payment of this reduced fee.

LegaSea

Scott Macindoe

Dear Kawai friends and Kookaburra readers

Leaving Vivian Bay on the ferry a few weeks ago an old friend said to me 'I like what you have to say but I don't really understand who LegaSea are and what you are all about'. I realised that I have not properly introduced or explained LegaSea since we launched the initiative in 2012. Thank you for the straighten up Jenny.

LegaSea is the public outreach and fund raising arm of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Inc. The Council has been serving the interests of its 59 member clubs since 1957. These clubs, almost all of which are Incorporated Societies, today have over 33,000 members nationwide. The Warkworth Gamefish Club have been affiliated since 1987. Each of these people pay an annual affiliation levy of \$9 and also donate \$1 to the New Zealand Marine Research Foundation, a Charitable Trust committed to delivery of relevant research that helps to ensure abundant fisheries.

Many of the clubs go well beyond these contributions as important matters require additional support (e.g. the Kahawai Legal Challenge and the recent economic research on the value of recreational fishing www.nzsmrf.org.nz/files/New-Zealand-Fishing-Economic-Report.pdf).

The Council has earned a solid reputation for its consistent advocacy for reduced catches, elimination of wasteful and destructive fishing practices and all round smarter behaviour by all fishers as required to rebuild our fisheries. Our team of advocates are backed by experienced science, policy, and legal and economic research contractors. We are fully engaged with all relevant Ministry-led science and fish-



eries management working groups, as well as a wide variety of strategic planning processes. Usually there is no one else in the room representing public recreational fishing interests (not to mention rebuilding the fisheries). We report on all engagement and maintain complete, accurate and timely records of our inputs online-www.nzsportfishing.co.nz/fisheries-management/

All of this costs lots of money. The Council set up LegaSea in 2012 to help the wider public better understand what is going on and facilitate donations to help resource the work the Council has undertaken. Thanks to a steadily growing corporate "Partner and Sponsor" support base we have been able to assemble a team of communications and fund raising specialists. The results are encouraging with over 50,000 people regularly reading the LegaSea Updates, many thousands of people making donations and 900 LegaSea Legends committed to investing \$10 per month to support the work.

The LegaSea Legends contributions are made under the '100% Commitment' model whereby 100% of contributions are distributed to the NZSFC who carefully invest in the Advocacy, Research, Education and Alignment work

streams designed to achieve abundant inshore fisheries. All accounts are subject to full annual audit and are available online.

Back in 2001 we were advised that 'an organised recreational fishing lobby is an oxymoron' - today we believe we are on track to disproving that. If you are interested in being part of this

"coalition of the willing" please subscribe to receive email newsletters from LegaSea www.legasea.co.nz/subscribe.php or step up to the LegaSea Legend commitment - www.legasea.co.nz/legend. If you would like more information, please feel encouraged to call me on 021 622 463 or email scott@LegaSea.co.nz

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Rescue efforts underway after well known catamaran *Lionheart* sank calamitously at her usual anchoring spot off Snells Beach. Many Sandspit operators and other mariners assisted in her salvage



Samantha Lane

Spring Chorus

All Winter the Island lay undisturbed,
absorbed in the slow greenness of growing.

Tick Tock, went the clock. Tick Tock.
And the world tilts and spins into Spring.

Clack, clack, went the helicopter as it
delivered another plastic water tank.
Bang, bang go hammers all over the land.
Grumble. Mumble. Roar and Rumble,
went the front-end-loader, the tractor,
the test pulls to an outboard motor.
Roar and struggle went wood-chipper
and chainsaw, the ubiquitous quads
with a loaded trailer. Then, Bang. Smack
- timber being unloaded and stacked
alongside the grinding concrete mixer.

A typical Island Spring – the season
of frantic anxiety to create the perfect
Summer holiday of peace, tranquillity
and happiness.

lois e hunter

Tall Ships Fleet

John Lister OBE

Hi Kookaburrows

Just to let you all know the Tall Ships of the
World will be join us in 2019 in a celebration
visit to NZ of what would have been Captain
Cook's 250th birthday!

The fleet will first visit Gisborne on 5th October
2019, as that was Cook's first landing in New
Zealand.

We are still in discussion as to how best follow
his program, but after Gisborne it will be on
to Mercury Bay and up to the Bay of Islands,
which I believe will be the best place to start
the voyage as a Tall Ships Fleet.

Much depends on the replica barque *Endeavour*,
which the New Zealand Government has
commissioned to follow Cook's programme.
However, we, the Tall Ships of New Zealand
committee, have strongly advised the *Endeavor*
that a voyage from the Bay of Islands
around the top of New Zealand and down the
west coast at that time of the year is not advis-
able, due to strong westerly winds and possible
cyclone conditions in the October-November
period.



The Ministry of Heritage, on behalf of the NZ
Government, is still conducting a feasibility
study on the cost to cover the expenses of the
Tall Ships, wakas and all the arrangements that
will be required to accommodate the Voyage
of Discovery in celebration of Captain Cook's
250th birthday.

Watch this space: I will again update the
Kawau Island community as and when the
programme is developed.

All the best to my many friends on the Island.

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Unitary Plan

Celia Davison

Notice of decisions by Auckland Council on recommendations by the Auckland Unitary Plan Independent Hearings Panel on submissions and further submissions to the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan

We are writing to let you know that the Auckland Council (Council) has made its decisions on the recommendations by the Auckland Unitary Plan Independent Hearings Panel for the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan.

The Council published a notice in the New Zealand Herald on 19 August 2016 and is uploading its decisions to the Council's website at 5pm on 19 August 2016. A copy of the public notice that was published in the New Zealand Herald is attached.

The public notice contains information addressing 'out of scope' Panel recommendations, appeal rights, and special arrangements for certain appeals to the Environment Court.

Anyone contemplating filing an appeal with either the Environment Court or High Court is encouraged to seek legal advice.

Please contact the Council's Unitary Plan team (unitaryplan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or phone 09 365 3786) if you have any queries in relation to this notice. For questions relating to the lodgment of appeals, please contact the Auckland registrar of the High Court or Environment Court (as appropriate).

Celia Davison, Manager Unitary Plan

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Residents' Marina Concession

Lin Pardey, KIAC

To make access to the mainland easier for residents who wish to use their own boats when heading off for a day of shopping or work, KIAC and the management of the Sandspit Marina have agreed to trial the following plan:

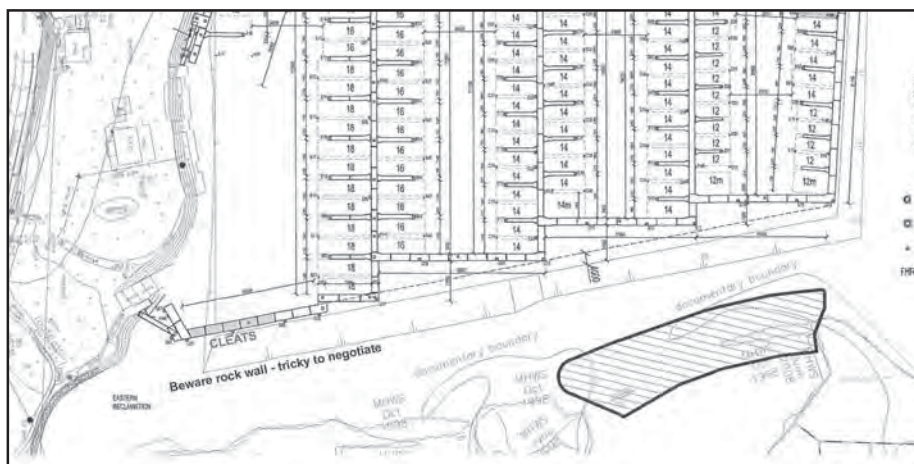
- For a fee of \$5.00 per day, Kawau residents may secure their small motor boats (up to approximately 6.5 metres) to the cleats on the east side of the access pier before the security gate (i.e. area closest to the shore) and between the main pontoon and rock seawall edging the mangroves as indicated on the attached drawing. Payment will be on an honour system and it is suggested that first-time users identify themselves to the Marina office and pay for the first use. For those who prefer more security, gated mooring is available for Kawau residents at \$10 per night and boats up to 8.5 metres can be accommodated.
- There is a strong caveat for those interested in using this area. It would definitely pay to visit the marina, both by land and by boat

near low water so you are aware of the narrow approaches to this mooring area. At low tide there is very little room between the mooring area on this pier and the stone retaining wall. Also, there is a strong tidal flow as you approach between the outer pier and stone breakwater during the height of the incoming tide.

- To ensure there is no overload during holiday times this does not include holiday makers, i.e. those who only use their baches on an occasional basis, who must make their own arrangements. If you are interested in a yearly rate, please discuss this with the marina manager Graeme Maker or the Dock Master Grant Brown by calling the Marina office 425 0099.

This is a trial offer which will be reviewed by KIAC and the Marina managers in six months. If it works well for you, please let me know. My contact details:

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Silver Bay

Marjorie Holmes

This article has been taken from the January-February 1982 issue of Kookaburra. It puts some context around a very topical issue: what will become of Two House Bay. The Bay and its houses are said to be earmarked for a Treaty settlement, and have been allocated to a tribe based in Manukau.

Originally there were two cottages in Silver Bay, now known as Two House Bay. These cottages were reputed to have been built in 1837 for early European owners of the Island. In 1949 they were owned by Mr Edward Knops, an Englishman who at one time owned a very large part of Kawau Island, and who had refused hundreds of offers to buy this particular property.

However, a Mr and Mrs C F Leighton had been searching for a coastal home for some time when they visited Kawau, and fell in love with the Bay. When the Leightons explained carefully to Mr Knops what exactly they would like to do, he said "Most people want to spoil it, but I'd sooner see you develop it than have someone spoil it later."

Shortly after they moved into cottage number one, it was burnt down when a gas bottle exploded, and then they were left with cottage number two – described by a government valuer in 1939 as being in a "bad state of repair." But the Leightons left it in almost its original state, and according to them it was the second oldest house still in use in the country, in that state. The oldest – missionary Kemp's house at Kerikeri. Said Mr Leighton at the time "I don't know of any others not altered beyond recognition."

The four roomed cottage was a gem of colonial architecture. Still in good condition were the 9-inch boards pit sawn from kauri, and the blocks cut from puriri. The steeply sloped roof was shingled, but replaced by iron about 1880.

In the roof, the rafters were the original 6 x 2's, the corner studs 4 x 4's, other studs 4 x 2' and all morticed. The cottage had not been painted for 40 years, and had been lived in by opossum trappers and wild dogs. There was no rotten timber and no borer when the Leightons bought it.

The Leightons spent a great deal of money on the property – a new wharf, with letters from HMS *Philomel* and the sailing ship *Rewa*. Thirty-two logs were shifted from the Bay, and with the help of a bulldozer barged from Panmure, created a causeway from the wharf to the house. Using a stream and waterfalls in the bush they installed power, water supply and a sewerage system. They added an extra bedroom to the back of the cottage, keeping intact the high-ceilinged, wide boarded front dining room and bedroom. They added a veranda at the back, and installed a colonial-style window. The kitchen was kept in character, Mrs Leighton cooked at a wood range and used old-fashioned kettles. Her sentiments were synonymous with those felt by so many of us who love Kawau life: "I just love being here, next to nature, and giving pleasure to others. I enjoy the winters as much as the summers. There is an atmosphere of quality about this house which I love."

Two House Bay with the one remaining early cottage is now part of the Hauraki Golf Maritim Park. It is home for the Kawau Ranger. An enclosed veranda was added after the Leightons time, but still to be seen is that distinctive old steep roof and chimney.

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Pam's Recipes

Pam Dallow

We are waking up with some relief to the slightly more pleasant reality of spring. The evenings are getting longer despite some bursts of cold sou-westers. Here are some recipes specifically geared for just those "in between" sort of spring days and evenings. Try them and enjoy them!

Lemony Lamb Kebabs

Soak bamboo skewers in water for several hours

1 kg lamb, cubed

Marinade:

2 onions chopped

2 cloves garlic, crushed

½c olive oil

¼c lemon juice

1 tsp ground cumin

¼ 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

1c milk

1 l chicken stock

1 tsp ground nutmeg

Salt and pepper

Toss ½ the pumpkin in oil and cook ½ 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 muscavado 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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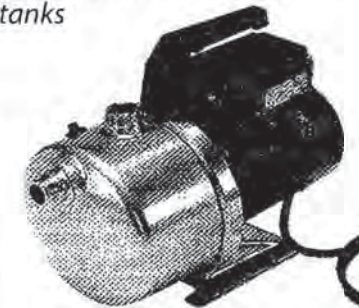
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Kawau Colonial Settlement

The Pohutukawa Trust

Ray Weaver had a prodigious knowledge of Kawau history. Shortly before his death he was extracting material he had written for publication in Kookaburra. This piece is the first of a series of three. It can also be seen on the website of the Pohutukawa Trust.

Kawau Island has a long history associated with human activity. Kawau has been used as a base for centuries during fishing expeditions in the surrounding waters.

The present settlement originated in January 1840 when Mr W.T. Fairburn arranged to buy the island of Kawau on behalf of Mr Henry Tayler, an arrangement that led to the sale of Kawau Island to Mr James Forbes Beattie, who was acting on behalf of the North British Australian Loan and Investment Company. The purchase cost 197 pounds nine shillings.

There was a delay in confirmation of the purchase due to a proclamation issued by Sir George Gipps, then Governor of New South Wales just three days after Mr Fairburn made the arrangements, but a Crown Grant in favour eventually resulted.

In 1842 another of Mr Beattie's agents, Mr John Aberdein was sent to Kawau Island to assess possibilities for a settlement based on pastoral farming and agriculture. Mr Aberdein reported favourably and early in 1843 Mr Beattie chartered the ship *Georgiana* in Sydney. The ship's master was Thompson and the *Georgiana* cleared Sydney Heads, and headed for Newcastle in New South Wales under charter.

At Newcastle the *Georgiana* was loaded with cattle, sheep, farming implements, and stores before setting sail for Kawau. The total cost was one thousand and three pounds nineteen shillings and fourpence, inclusive of the freight.

Mr John Aberdein, who had made preparations at Kawau received the shipment.

Meanwhile on nearby Great Barrier Island, extraction of manganese and copper ore had commenced under the direction of Mr Alexander Kinghorne. A shipping service was established and the brig *Tryphena* of 136 tons was making regular trips between Auckland and Sydney under the command of Captain Horn. Mr Kinghorne was given approval to prospect for manganese on Kawau, and before very long news was received that radically changed the direction of the little Kawau settlement, although some farming was to continue.

The brig *Tryphena* was in Auckland on one of her regular visits at the time, and it appears that Henry Tayler was also in Auckland when he received news that copper had been discovered on Kawau Island.

Henry Tayler wrote the following letter (with postmarks "New Zealand. 12 Apr 1844 Ship letter Sydney. May 5 1844") to Mr Beattie in Sydney:

Auckland 12 April 1844

My Dear Sir,

I have scarcely a minute left to write a few lines by the Tryphena.

I am quite delighted and I am sure you will be too, to hear that Kawau abounds in copper.

I have just seen a specimen brought up here by Mr Kinghorne who has been superintending the copper mine at the Barrier.



It is a very rich specimen of grey copper ore, the locality is exceedingly convenient for working, and to cut the matter short, the place is worth, at least, from 20 to 80 thousand pounds!!!

Accept my warmest congratulations.

I am too overjoyed to write more if I had time at present.

Yours faithfully

(signed) Henry Tayler

The *Tryphena* sailed from Auckland on 14 April 1844 with the letter and passengers, a Mrs Wright and two children, and Messrs Joseph, Bradbury, and Keen on board, and a cargo of manganese ore. She arrived in Sydney on 5 May 1844.

The Kawau Company, formed by Mr Beattie, instructed another of their agents Mr John Taylor to engage a professional copper miner in Sydney. Taylor came to Auckland with instructions to employ miners and open the Kawau mine.

He inspected the workings in November 1844, shortly after the mine had opened and then returned to Sydney, reporting to Mr Beattie that the copper prospects were good.

His advice was passed on to the investment company back in Scotland where it was well received, and capital was increased to 50,000 pounds. A mining Captain (Ninnis), carpenter, and miners from Cornwall were engaged, and these men sailed from Falmouth in June 1845.

KIRRA Minutes June

Helen Jeffery

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE KIRRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING held Saturday 11th June 2016 at Kawau Lodge, North Cove, Kawau Island

PRESENT: Martine Fernandez, Helen Jeffery, Peter Buckton, Paul Strauss, Colin Bright, Alan Marshall, Andrew Fyfe, Lin Pardey, Les Mel-lars, Michael Marris,

APOLOGIES: Gael Archer, Shelley Futch-er, Pam Dallow, Ian Henderson, Simon Pirie, Beth Houlbrooke, Greg Sayers

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Minutes had been circulated it was moved by Peter Buckton and seconded by Andrew Fyfe that they are true and correct. Pam Dallow still to report back to Colin B re Lidgard connection with Sunny Bay. Letters of support need to be sent to DOC for Pine Tree project.

CORRESPONDENCE: Inwards: Nil

Outgoing: nothing outgoing

TREASURER'S REPORT: financials were presented, Ian has put a further \$10k on term deposit. The financials were moved by Les Mel-lars and seconded by Colin Bright. Member-ship sitting at 217 members, secretary to follow up all overdue. Members who have not paid will receive an overdue reminder in the winter issue of Kookaburra magazine and if they don't pay, they will be removed from the database. It was also suggested we put up the form on the website, Taz will do this.

Michael Marris has given our \$1,000 dona-tion to Greg Barron, CEO Westpac Helicopter Trust. There was general discussion regard-ing a fundraising project associated with the

Auckland Rescue Helicopter – they are want-ing to set up GPS co-ordinates on Montello Rock just outside Bon Accord Harbour. It was moved by Peter B and seconded by Helen J that Andrew F will spearhead this project along with Michael M and Martine F in liaison with the mainland community (Snells Beach) and the Auckland Regional Helicopter Trust. The aim of the project is to secure GPS way-points and a safe, secure flight path for helicopters who need to approach Kawau under difficult flying conditions. This project could cost in the vicinity of \$26k so we aim to fund raise for this project along with the mainland community.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE:

There has been changed in Auckland Trans- port, Russell Derecourt has gone and the new contact person is John Strawbridge. There is a proposal on the table to form a Trust to manage the carpark. The concept is still in the planning stages but this has potential to be very good for the car park's future and Kawau Island users.

Lin has a meeting with the Local Board on the 13th June and one of the issues is KIAC's costs plus preparation for elections in Novem-ber 2016. Lin has been in contact with Tracey Martin, NZ First, regarding the Super Gold Card and endeavoring to get discounted ferry fares for over-60s. At present, Kawau Island has around 40 Golden Age residents living on the island.

in also meet with Graeme Maker, Sandspit Marina, about Kawau small boat owners (6-7 metres) having access to "Cleat Rentals" that the marina is proposing. We need to open the door and ascertain what conditions, rental etc are offered.

Unitary Plan – Unfortunately the Auckland Harbourmaster is not totally comfortable with the Kawau mooring plan. There are at least five moorings outside the plan, so more work needs to be done in this area. We should look at what Great Barrier has done and work on a similar plan.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Kookaburra: Winter issue is underway, goes to printer next week. A few advertisers have pulled out, Shelley working on getting more onboard. All advertisers will now have an ad-vert on the www.kawauisland.org.nz website along with a link to their own site.

KIRRA Website: nearly ready to go live. Con-tributions are still 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, OPAK, accommodation places. There is an opportunity for www.kawauisland.org.nz to sponsor an advertising board at the Wark-worth ISite / Matakana Coast Tourism office. The Kawau Business Group asked KIRRA if they would sponsor the cost of the board for one year. It was moved by Les and seconded by Taz to do this for one year only and to survey the Kawau Island businesses involved prior to renewal.

Ray Weaver – memorial service and memorial bench – bench is being made, invitations have

been sent and event is scheduled for 3rd July 2016. Lin has made an offer of bronze rivets and fastenings. Andrew to look into securing some NZ flags to use as the "unveiling"; he re-quires dimensions.

Pine Tree Project – no new news on this pro-ject. The mansion house park is closed at pre-sent, there have been too many trees falling down and it's a serious health & safety issue now.

Sandspit Carpark – ongoing, refer to KIAC report.

Music in the Gardens – new date set for Sat-urday 18th February 2016. New bands – Nai-robi Trio and Renegades cover band. Lin P and Maree Pickett will be meeting with DOC regarding OPAK funding a covered BBQ area at Mansion House reserve – if acceptable this will become one of the fund raising projects for MIG along with KERT and Kawau Volun-teer Coastguard.

The water quality in Bon Accord harbour was also discussed, apparently samples were tak-en recently and there is an alert out for algae bloom in the whole Kawau Bay area. Michael to source this statement and send out to the Kawau database.

Meeting closed at 12.30pm. Next meeting will be at 5.30pm Wednesday 17th August 2016, Ponsonby Yacht Club, Westhaven.



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TIMBER

SEE BUILDING SUPPLIES & TIMBER

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RANSOM WINES* • Call in or phone en route to the Island • We deliver to Sandspit 6+ bottles • Open Tuesday - Sunday 10am to 5pm • Valerie Close Warkworth (5km south of town) Ph 425 8862 • E: info@ransomwines.co.nz

Please support our Kookaburra advertisers as they support the Kookaburra. Have a look through our directory...these advertisers recognise and understand the unique characteristics of Kawau Island.

KIRRA MEETINGS 2016

NEXT MEETING:

SATURDAY 08 OCTOBER 9.30am KAWAU LODGE, NORTH COVE

WEDNESDAY 12th OCTOBER 5.30pm — PONSONBY YACHT CLUB, WESTHAVEN
TO BE RESCHEDULED

*SATURDAY 10th DECEMBER 9.30am KAWAU ISLAND TBA

*(set AGM at this meeting)

SANDSPIT MOORING

Pam Dallow manages bookings
for the KIRRA mooring at Sandspit
call Pam on 444 3378 or 021 1186 049
usual maximum is 24 hours depending on pressure

Contributors to this Issue of Kookaburra

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Emergency Numbers

FIRE	111 (Service will alert DOC & Rural Fire and will activate the siren)
CIVIL DEFENCE Chris Carding	021 041 7868
ST JOHN AMBULANCE	111 Kawau Island First Response
Non-Urgent	0800 4 AMBULANCE (0800 426 285)
HEALTHLINE (24 hours)	0800 611 116
POLICE Warkworth	425 8109
COASTGUARD Auckland	09 303 1303
FAULTS	Vector 0508 832 867 Telecom 120
MEDICAL	Warkworth Medical Centre 425 1199 Kowhai Surgery 425 7358 Mahurangi Medical 425 5055 Kowhai Coast 425 6666
AUCKLAND COUNCIL	09 301 0101
SANDSPIT WHARF	425 7315
SANDSPIT CAR PARK	425 7039
MANSION HOUSE	422 8882
KAWAU KAT BOOKINGS	425 8006
WARKWORTH TAXI	425 0000
WARKWORTH INFORMATION CENTRE	425 9081
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SUMMER TIMETABLE

15 October - 31 March 2016-2017

ADULT	\$55 return	\$240 ten-trip ticket
CHILD (5 - 15)	\$31 return	\$120 ten-trip ticket
UNDER 5	no charge	

TIMES FROM SANDSPIT

Daily	8:00am	10:30am	2:30pm	4:00pm	6:30pm
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TIMES FROM KAWAU

DEPARTURES DAILY	SOUTH COVE	BON ACCORD	NORTH COVE	VIVIAN BAY
	7:20am	7:05am	6:50am	6:40am
	9:05am	9:20am	9:35am	9:45am
	2:05pm	1:30pm	1:00pm	12:50pm
	4:35pm	4:10pm	3:55pm	3:45pm
	N/A	5:20pm	5:35pm	5:45pm

Please ensure bookings are made at least two hours before departure

All times given here are for departure only

"Kawau Boatshed (Ltd) reserves the right to amend timetables, substitute plant or equipment at any time"

"** Ten-trip tickets, or concession cards are valid on shuttles & private taxis"

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Free Phone 0800 111 616