

**> RRA Easter General Meeting**

The usual Easter Meeting of RRA Members will be held at **4pm, Sunday 5 April** in the Wharf Building. This'll provide an update on issues before your Committee and a forum for any members' questions. The enticement: a glass of wine, after!

The draft agenda is set out below:

<u>Welcome / Apologies</u>		
<u>Approval of AGM Minutes</u>		
<u>Updates</u>	roads/transport	vehicles
	hall update	fire training
	recycling/green waste	finances
	rhamnus	signage
	pukekos	midwinter planting
	membership promotion	Ivan's track
<u>General Business</u>		

**> AT searching out abandoned vehicles**

Some of you will have received a letter recently from Auckland Transport as they try and identify abandoned vehicles on the island. AT's Brenda Burdett has informed us that this isn't the start of a drive to have all vehicles registered and warranted, more an attempt to get some of the worst deceased vehicles moved off-island. For the record, this action came without prior notice.

For those who received a letter headed "Abandoned Vehicle Investigation", then RRA's advice is to confirm to them that the vehicle is yours. As an aside, vehicles parked on private property cannot be towed away.

**> Art Treasures found!**

You may recall the considerable embarrassment after the last Jazz Festival when certain monies couldn't be found. Well, surprise, surprise, whilst clearing out old boxes in the Art Room, Lorna discovered the considerable sum that had reputedly 'vanished'.

RRA had previously stepped in and settled all shortages, despite the Art Show never having been one of its responsibilities. But innuendo remained.

So now we can forget the rumours that created such problems for the then RRA Officers and their families. It's now clear why and how the books didn't balance. All has been corrected! Good find, Lorna!

**> Start of Repairs of Sea-Wall**

Auckland Transport are starting the repair of the Sea Wall along the Road leading to the Hall on **April 10<sup>th</sup>**. They have advised that **ALL CARS ARE TO BE REMOVED** from the Wharf car park and along the road **before 10 April**.



The road has been severely undercut and is in danger of collapse in some places. Please assist by moving vehicles as soon as possible!

### > **Further Fire Training**

21 people undertook a 3-hour training course on island in December. A further NN did additional training, attending the Fire Services' Warkworth training course over a weekend recently.

The suggestion is that our resident Fire Officer, Dylan Hinchey (mob **027 555 1590**) holds a list of all Fire-trained personnel for use in emergency. Contact can then quickly be made using a group text-message. This requires all trainees' endorsement and will be an issue discussed at the Easter Meeting.

Equipment has recently been checked and enhanced – we now have several pairs of fireproof gloves.

### > **Beware: Burglary Alert!**

Your Committee has been informed of certain on-island burglaries. Do please be aware and keep things secure and, if you do suffer burglary, report it to Police.

### > **Better Internet on Rakino!**

At the last AGM, your Committee was charged with investigating how improved Broadband access could be gained for Rakino. Steps have been taken to the end and we await to hear whether access to central Government funding might be possible to improve internet access. Watch this space – but don't hold your breath!

### > **Rhamnus control**

The Auckland Council Biosecurity team will be continuing with their programme of rhamnus control through their contractors in the coming months. Support from residents and landowners would be appreciated with continuing to check for and control this pest plant on your properties particularly in those areas we have controlled. There is herbicide available for community use you can access this by contacting [Mark Lockhart on \(027\) 290 2811](#). If you would like more information on this programme, assistance with identification or ideas on ways in which you could assist with this important programme please contact by email [Deryn.Dromgoole@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:Deryn.Dromgoole@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) or phone 890 4969.

### > **Have you seen this plant?**



This is Moth Plant. It's flowering now and easy to spot. Auckland City needs your help to get rid of it.

It's a major threat to the island's native bush and gardens. It is a climbing vine that eventually smothers trees. If a single pod manages to seed, 250-1000 seeds are released and these can spread up to 30kms. Seeds are spread on the wind and also by animals and on clothing. While many seeds are likely to fall on adjacent land some will inevitably be carried further afield.

Due to public submissions it is a containment plant pest in the Auckland Regional Pest Management Strategy. This means that as a land owner or occupier on Rakino, you are responsible for its removal.

#### To Get Rid of it

Locate the main stem by following the cord back to the ground and dig out the entire root and leave the plant hanging in the trees, it will rot quickly. Use gloves and long sleeves as the sap is an irritant or cut the vine at the base and paint the stump with picloram (gel containing this active ingredient is available at most garden centres)

If you are unable to destroy the plant using these methods or have difficulties in identifying the plant or need help with its removal or simply want to report a location of the plant, phone Deryn Dromgoole on 890 4969 or email:

[Deryn.Dromgoole@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:Deryn.Dromgoole@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

That's all for now. Enjoy your Easter and hope to see at the General Meeting.

From the RRA Committee,



John Denton

Chair

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