

Christmas Cometh!

Round The Bays 2015 (Run...or walk!)

Don't miss the Annual Rakino Olive Groves Round the Bays, **8.30am, registration 31st December**, starting Sandy Bay. We look forward to your full support!

Of course, there'll be all the usual races on the beach after and the Event will conclude with the usual RRA lolly-scramble and the famous North-South Tug-of-War. Be there!

Dragon Boats

Brings the family and friends to the RRA Annual Dragon Boat Race, starting **Saturday 2 January at 11am**. High tide is at 1pm so providing it's not pouring or stormy, there'll be a great party going in Home Bay!

Come and join us!

Rakino Native Nursery Visit

Monday 26 October saw a good many Rakino-ites visit the new Rakino Native Nursery on Stephen Thomas' property.



The nursery will propagate native plants which will be available for islanders to purchase at cost for planting on your own property and enriching the flora of Rakino at no risk of bringing in mainland pests.

Everyone on the island is encouraged to get involved as the nursery develops with whatever time you can spare for potting and planting. **Just pop in and register on your next visit.**

There is also the opportunity to donate your freshly composted food waste (see over) to contribute to the volumes of plant compost which the nursery will need on an ongoing basis.

Green Waste

Thanks to all of you who attended the Labour Weekend AGM and approved RRA getting involved in the distribution of Bokashi Bins for composting domestic green waste.

The purpose of this initiative is to make the island 'greener' and reduce the burden and cost to carting green waste off-island.

Read more about the first step proposed: <http://www.compostcollective.org.nz/> and select the "Bokashi" option.

You do not need to register yourself: RRA has successfully organised a subsidised scheme that has the capacity to dramatically reduce the volume of green waste to help reduce costs and to demonstrate a proactive stance to Auckland Council to take pressure off our increasing rates!

It will cost you just \$20 (RRP \$112) to secure your very own set of Bokashi bins and Zing composting catalyst for your home. **We hope to have the first delivery of new bins on the island to distribute over the Christmas period on a first come-first served basis.**

Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Seminar

A few Rakino-ites attended the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Seminar run at the Museum 27th October. Broad-ranging talks were provided by a range of sector experts on the health of the Gulf and how it can be improved.

It was a surprise to learn that 35% of the catch in the Gulf is being taken by Recreational fishers. Sanford, who's CEO, Volker Kuntzsch, presented a paper, concluded by making an offer that his company would refrain from fishing the Gulf if recreational fishers would declare their catches. Could this be the start of a Plan to rebuild fish-stocks?

Prizes were awarded for Conservation efforts and it was a delight to see Rod, Sue and Zoe Neureuter (pictured), our nearest neighbours on The Noises, winning the Islands Award for

their conservation efforts on The Noises spread over three generations.



Water Safety Presentation?

Are you interested in having WaterSafe deliver a Water Safety Presentation in early January on island? If so, please email Mark Cornaga of WaterSafe at:

Mark.Cornaga@watersafe.org.nz

Phone Box

RRA has received a Grant to refurbish and repaint the phone box. We'll be getting this completed just as soon as possible.

Broadband

We await news on RRA's Application to be considered for the Rural Broadband Initiative.

Questions about this Newsletter?

Please email RRA Secretary:
garyandjude@orcon.net.nz

On behalf of the
Committee of RRA,

John Denton



Committee: John Denton (Chair), Rob Everall (Vice Chair), Laura Sutherland (Sec'y/Treas), Jude MacLachlan, Wayne Whittaker;

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Environmental Officer: Mark Lockhart
Fire Officer: Hank Postma
