

RAKINO

RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

March 2017

Kia Ora

Welcome to the March 2017 newsletter. By the time you read this your tax return should have been done and you most likely deserve a relaxing long weekend on Rakino. In this edition we are promoting the Easter events and moaning about rubbish and rusty cars.

Christmas and New Year

Thank you to all those who organised and participated in the events over the summer.

Of note were the Fun Run and games organised by Colin McLaren and the Raft Race that was organised by Sue Plummer and Les Chapman.



A Load of Rubbish – Inorganic Collection

We are working with Auckland Council to get a resolution on the rubbish situation at Home Bay. There have been repeated requests for people not to dump rubbish in this location. Please respect that. Council representative Hazel Durkin hopes to be on the Island on the 15th of April to discuss matters.

To help us out, the Council have organised another inorganic rubbish collection after Easter. Unlike future mainland collections, you do not have to book it individually, which is really helpful.

The dates are: **17-22nd April** for placing rubbish on the roadside. It will be collected on the **23rd**. Please see the Council website for details about what you can / can't place out for collection.

<http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/en/environment/waste/rubbishrecycling/pages/inorganiccollections.aspx>

Owning a Rusty Car

If you take the time to travel to isolated NZ communities, you will seldom see great numbers of unregistered, unwarranted cars. The ability for most NZers to get away with driving the rusty 'beach mobile' on public roads is rapidly diminishing. It turns out that Rakino is an exception. Some residents welcome the opportunity to have cheap unreliable transport and others don't like it at all. It is becoming an increasingly contentious issue. Personally, I would prefer a fleet of donkeys like they have in Santorini.

One thing is becoming increasingly clear; parking unregistered and unwarranted cars on the roadside leading up from the wharf is starting to attract the attention of those who can (and will) impose more draconian measures on the owners if we cannot find a way to work with them. We think that Auckland Transport has actually been very fair with us so far. Please move these vehicles from public land.

Fire!

A big thanks to Hank and Bev Postma for organising fire training; the event was well attended and it is great to have a pool of people who can now operate the Fire Lords. Of course prevention is still the best defence, so please continue to be vigilant.



50 Years

We are still looking for volunteers to help organise a 50-year bash for Rakino. If you would like to volunteer to be part of this, please contact: secretary@rra.co.nz.

West Bay Track

The hard working and dedicated team of Kevin Wragge, Dylan Hinchey, Rob Everall and Stephen Thomas have installed signage on the West Bay DOC track. Thanks Guys! Unfortunately, the recent deluge damaged lower parts of that track. DOC has been notified.



Bokashi and Going Green

If you haven't already purchased your bins, we urge you to do so now. Call Rob Everall on 021 996 796 or write to rob@marinejobs.co.nz to reserve your set.

They represent truly outstanding value at just \$20 for a pair of nested bins, which normally retails for \$112. The only proviso is that they must be used on the island, and Council is auditing us to ensure this happens.

RRA Easter Meeting and Community Hall

The RRA have been continuing to discuss the Community Hall with Auckland Council and concerned residents.

To be clear; it is our intention to preserve the Community Hall for the dual purpose of providing a centre for community activity and as a ferry terminal.

We have decided to form a Sub-Committee to review options for achieving that purpose, including cost estimates and risk assessment. We will continue to consult with the community during this process and, once we have a clear idea of which option we wish to pursue, we will then engage formally with the Council.

The RRA understands that the issue of the Community Hall is important to all Island residents and visitors. Our intent is to consult widely with the community and other stakeholders and to ensure we maintain a robust and objective process. With that in mind, we would like to defer the Easter RRA meeting until we have a more

detailed understanding of the options we have available. This will also allow the Community Hall to be used for more leisure-oriented activities over the Easter break.



Wasp Study

Univ. of Auckland researcher, Julia Schmack, is conducting a *Vespula* wasp study on Rakino and neighbouring Gulf islands during the **first week of April**. Anecdotal observations suggest three offshore islands in the Hauraki Gulf have become *Vespula* wasp free, following mammal eradication. This study aims to investigate the drivers of successful wasp suppression and the prevention of reinvasion.

The key thing is that she traps some *Vespula* wasps for testing. If you know of a wasp nest location on your property or elsewhere on the island where they have been spotted, it would be much appreciated if you notify Julia in order to make the most of her opportunity on Rakino, which could benefit us all.

Julia's mobile is 027 486 8644 – she is happy for people to contact her directly.



RRA Contacts

For RRA correspondence please contact the very capable and diligent Secretary and Vice Chair, Rob Everall on 021 996 796. rob@marinejobs.co.nz

If you want something in the newsletter, need a hug or want to yell at someone, please contact the Chair, Steve McCrone 027 2743 460. steve@cornwallstrategic.com

Easter Activities – Saturday 15th April

Kids Fishing Competition.

Where: Rakino Wharf
Start: 8:00am
Ends: 11:00am

Les Chapman has organised the competition, he will be the official weighmaster and will go over the rules on the morning. Bring rods and reels and bait.

Please remember to respect the legal size limit!

Big thanks to Burnsco Westhaven for supporting this event.



Easter Egg Hunt

Immediately after the Fishing Competition there will be an Easter Egg hunt. Kids will assemble at the Hall at 11:30am and await instruction.



Market Day

Market day is happening down at the Hall on Easter Saturday at midday.

As per last Market Day, there will be a bit of everything, Dylan will be doing his sausages out the front and Cathy Lewis' people are doing hot and cold drinks.

Jenni Cruise will be busking. Rakino T shirts and tote bags will be for sale. You can also buy your Bokashi Bins and Zing stock from the RRA table.

Thanks once again to Stacey Thomas and friends for taking the time to organise this for us all to enjoy.



Movie Night

Where: Homestead, Home Bay
When 6:00pm
Gold coin donation

"Great Classic Movies for all the Family"

There will be popcorn, Ice Cream and Hot Dogs. All money raised will go to Leukaemia and Blood Cancer NZ.



For more information contact Stephen Wong
021 368 542

One Night Only!

Holly and the BlueBenders

Community Hall 8-Late.

Holly Shephard (Rakino Local) has given us a rare opportunity to see a live band on the island.



You are promised blues, ballads and a good serving of 'angry

woman' songs. Original material and tunes from the wide world of blues are executed with enthusiasm and skill for your delectation.

Attendance is urged - dancing is welcome but optional - enjoyment and appreciation is mandatory.

See you there!

There is no cover charge but Koha/donations to the band are welcome and encouraged at the door.

Due to licencing laws, no alcohol will be sold at the event.

Check out the band via this link:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Oo3yEZmnMFI>