



HAHEI BEACH RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION INC.

February 2012

What's Going on in Hahei

Free Willie or Wilimena

Rhys Cochrane from Cathedral Cove Dive rescued a young orca that had become tangled in the ropes of a cray pot. DoC contacted Cathedral Cove Dive to see what they could do to help the distressed whale. Rhys went in the water and cut the ropes to free the whale with the entire pod watching. Pretty brave stuff. Well done! TV3 carried the story.

<http://www.3news.co.nz/Hahei-local-rescues-orca-from-crayfish-pot/tabid/1160/articleID/242123/Default.aspx?src=email>

Charity seeks volunteers for Great Coromandel Coastal Clean-up

Charity group Sustainable Coastlines needs your help for a massive community coastal clean-up on the Coromandel. On Saturday 3 March, volunteers and boat-owners are invited to join the effort or support the cause to help remove man-made litter from our coastlines.

During their first Great Coromandel Coastal Clean-up in April last year, over 550 school students and volunteers as well as 18 boats joined Sustainable Coastlines to remove 58,000 litres – nearly two full shipping containers – of rubbish from the beautiful coast and islands around Coromandel Town.

Thanks to the generous support of the Thames Coromandel District Council and Club Marine Insurance, this year they are extending the event to both sides of the Peninsula, with clean-ups based in Whangamata, Pauanui, Whitianga, Thames and Coromandel Town on Saturday the 3rd of March.

For volunteers wanting to get involved outside of Coromandel Town, it's just as easy. Simply turn up between 10am and 2pm on the 3rd of March outside the Whangamata or Pauanui Surf Life Saving Clubs, at the Whitianga Wharf or at Kuranui Bay Reserve in Thames and the charity's friendly crew will get you ready to clean-up.

To register as a volunteer, book your camping spot for the event, visit the 'Education Station' or to find out more about Sustainable Coastlines and the Great Coromandel Coastal Clean-up, go to www.sustainablecoastlines.org or get in touch with Event Director Ryley Webster on 021 040 9014 or riley@sustainablecoastlines.org

Seaweek Community Snorkel Day – 10th March 2012

- Free guided community Snorkel Day
- Discover Hahei's own Te Whanganui-A-Hei (Cathedral Cove) Marine Reserve
- Saturday 10th March 10am – 1pm
- **Bookings at essential!** For further information or to book – phone DoC 07 8679180 or email: rduffin@doc.govt.nz

Objectives

- To engage with the community and visitors to Te Whanganui-A-Hei (Cathedral Cove) Marine Reserve
- To raise awareness of the marine reserve and its values – and to inspire people to explore and enjoy what we have protected
- To provide a free, safe guided snorkelling event that all can enjoy

Location

- Gemstone Bay Snorkel Trail, Te Whanganui-A-Hei (Cathedral Cove) Marine Reserve, Hahei
- Registrations and free use of gear on the grass below the Cathedral Cove Carpark.

To learn more about marine reserves check out these websites: www.emr.org.nz www.cathedralcove.marinereserve.org.nz www.doc.govt.nz Thank you to the Tindal Foundation for funding the Snorkel Day through EMR and the Marine Reserve Trust.

We are also looking for volunteers to help out on the day. If you are interested please contact Barb Ritchie – 07 866 3901 or e-mail barbritchie@xtra.co.nz

The Mercury Bay Art Escape

In the previous two years The Mercury Bay Art Escape has run over two 3-day weekends an open studio tour along with a formal preview evening for their artists. Following a review after the 2011 Tour it was decided that the open studio portion of this event will be run every two years. Therefore the next one will be in February/March 2013, preceded in early January 2013 by the traditional LONG LUNCH.

This year something different IS HAPPENING.

A month long exhibition of individual work by participating artists will be held at Hot Waves Cafe, Hot Water Beach from 10 March to 10 April 2012. Exhibits will be for sale and ART enthusiasts will still be able to make an appointment with the artists to visit their studios.

As a prelude to the exhibition THERE will be a special preview evening at Hot Waves Cafe on Friday 9 March from 5.30pm. Admission will be by ticket only. As a special treat, well known and popular New Zealand artist Dick Frizzell will be the guest SPEAKER.

Come along and enjoy a great evening, have a glass of wine, or two...(your ticket entitles you to a complimentary glass of wine on arrival from our local Mercury Bay Estate Vineyard), GOURMET finger food including fare from Cathedral Cove Macadamias, AND meet Dick Frizzell and the participating artists. BE ready to bid for the original painting of "The Falling Man" by Michael Smither. For those who have not yet bought our T-Shirt (cost \$25 and available on the night) "The Falling Man" is the design on the front of this T-Shirt.

You will be able to purchase additional beverages and food from Hotwaves so make a night of it.

Tickets are just \$30 each, available from either Hot Waves Cafe, through our website www.mercurybayartescape.com for credit card and direct banking options, a cheque payable to "Mercury Bay Art Escape Trust" and posted to PO Box 53, Whitianga 3542, or contact Gilbert Bannan on 07 866 3144 (gilbert.bannan@xtra.co.nz).

Leadfoot Festival 23-25 March

The Leadfoot Festival is a unique weekend bringing together a mix of classic cars, vintage motorcycles and motorsport legends. Limited tickets will be offered to the general public with an invitation to Rod Millen's private grounds at Leadfoot Ranch. The 140 acre, ocean-front estate features a long driveway that winds through the property designed to be the perfect hill climb. Guests will be given one of a kind experiences featuring unparalleled access to the drivers, pits and racecars. The event is a true celebration of motorsports and all things automotive.

The selection of machinery on Leadfoot Ranch will include a spectacular array of the world's finest competition cars and motorcycles. From classic formula and road racecars to off road machines and motorcycles, the Leadfoot Festival attracts drivers, riders and race vehicles reminiscent of many eras in an enthusiastic display of speed, style, sound, smell and colour.

The Leadfoot Festival pays respect to the most significant and outstanding race vehicles and drivers. Rod Millen personally hand selects championship racers from around the world along with their distinguished racing machines to receive the coveted invitation to participate in the Leadfoot Festival. A collection of static celebrated vintage cars and bikes will line areas of the paddocks to complete the weekend.

www.LeadfootFestival.com

Use the below link for a 15% discount:

HAHEI PROMOTION

<http://premier.ticketek.co.nz/ppredirect.aspx?pp=QFACE&sh=LEADFOOT12>

Entrance to Hahei roading update

Representatives of the committee met with Matt Busch (TCDC) and Alison Henry (Mercury Bay Community Board Chair).

TCDC has completed a revised design which incorporates the feedback regarding the extent of widening and the height of cut batter slopes on the left hand side (as you approach Hahei). TCDC estimate that the area requiring vegetation removal will be reduced from approximately 700 m² to approximately 100 m² as a result of the revised design.

The revised design will provide improved pedestrian and cyclist safety by providing a 1.5 metre wide shoulder on the right hand side (as you approach Hahei). This revised design means that the toe of the cut batter will be a maximum of 2 metres from the pegged positions not 10 metres as in the first design.

These design changes will achieve the desired service levels as well as improving road safety, particularly for the high number of pedestrians, joggers and cyclists, through this site. Work was programmed to commence on 7 February.

Surf Rescue Tubes

The Association has purchased and placed two more Surf Rescue Tubes on our beaches. At Hahei Beach there are two pipes, one near the Harsant Ave. car park/ramp and the second toward the north/west end of the beach. We have placed a third one at the bottom of the steps at the beach carpark. Last year Cyclone Wilma washed away the tube at Cathedral Cove so we have replaced that one. We would like to thank John North for organising the pipes and signage and Donovan and Son Contractors Ltd. for donating the pipes.

Park n Ride – a Success!

In spite of the dreadful wet weather over the holiday season the Cathedral Cove Park n Ride was a real success with more than 10,000 people using the service. This year it was once again subsidised by Waikato Regional Council and TCDC. We feel the reason for the success was due to John North volunteering to organise and run the service for the Councils. John had previous experience with the Park n Ride when he was the Chair of the Hahei Beach Ratepayers Association when it was first launched in 2008-09. Also, the restricted parking on Grange Road with the new kerbing and yellow lines made the service more popular.

Happy Hour

The Hahei Community holds a "Happy Hour" on the first Friday of the month from 5.30 pm at the Community Centre. All welcome, visitors or residents. Bring drinks and nibbles. Next Happy Hour Friday 2 March.

The Hahei Beach Ratepayers Association Committee
Hahei PDC
Whitianga 3591