

Kuaotunu Konnections

Combined Kuaotunu Residents & Ratepayers Association
& Memorial Hall Committee Newsletter

Winter 1999

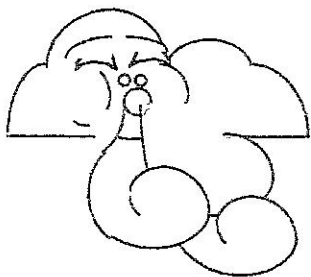


Mediaeval Madness!

Saturday 11 September

Our hall committee has done it again! ! The theme for this year's hall fundraiser is a beauty ... we're all going Mediaeval. Come along and prove that the spirit of the Age of Chivalry is alive and well in Kuaotunu. Happy hour (with a wicked mulled wine to get you in the spirit of things) starts at 7.30pm, so you can catch up with all the people you haven't seen through winter.

Just bring your wimple, a plate, a bottle and some cash for raffles. Tickets are available at the store or from Committee members (see contact list on back page).



Joining Forces!

Welcome to the (almost Spring) Winter Edition of Kuaotunu Konnections. We think it makes sense for community groups to work together, so the Ratepayers' & Residents' Association and the Hall Committee have joined forces to bring you a combined edition of Kuaotunu Konnections. Hope you like it ... feedback (and news for summer edition) welcome!

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Emergencies, including	
Ambulance, Fire & Police	111 (24 hours)
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By-laws, including noise control, jet skis, dogs, etc (24 hour service)	TCDC by-laws officer 866 4216
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Fire Ban Information	TCDC 866 4216
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TCDC Mercury Bay Service Centre	866 4216
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Civil Defence	TCDC or Dave Wight 866 2545 or 025 932 692

Another Busy Year Reports Reserve Management Group

Under the new "lean and mean" group we now only have six members. However the "new" committee continues to represent all parts of Kuaotunu and Rings Beach. Alan Hill has been elected as chair, with Mary Patullo continuing as secretary. Other committee members are Julie Heraud, Craig Lidgard, Patricia Olsen and Vivienne McLean. Thanks to Cliff Heraud, Piet Kee, Harvey Collings, Warwick Lidgard and Kath Simpson for their input in recent years.

Work completed in 1998-99 include three new picnic tables. Sand ladders have been repaired at Rings Beach and opposite Jacksons' Motor Camp. A new ladder has also been installed east of the camp, to cater for the increasing numbers using the beach. The steps washed out at Kuaotunu West have been rebuilt. Reserve Management Group members have again carried out extensive dune, reserve and estuary plantings with plants provided from our annual budget and by Environment Waikato. Releasing and fertilising of previously planted trees continues.

The old wire barrier fence at the soccer field reserve has been removed and a new bollard-style barrier installed to channel car access. Planting has been undertaken along the dune edge of the reserve and further planting of pohutukawa is planned.

Preliminary work on stage two of the Black Jack Track has been completed, with track formation and steps to be carried out as funding becomes available. The existing track is proving increasingly popular and provides excellent views of Kuaotunu Beach and across to the main Coromandel range.

A pleasant picnic area has been created above the rocky beach at Kuaotunu West, with a large grassy clearing, picnic table and seating. Over eighty trees have been planted up the steeper slopes and on the banks.

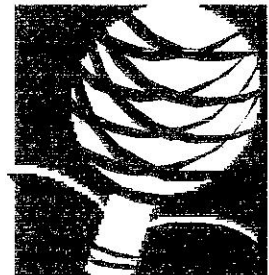
A ceremony was held at dawn on the Sunday of Queens Birthday Weekend on the Maori Reserve. A commemorative plaque was unveiled by the descendants of the chief Ruihana Kawhero who was buried close to this site in the late 1800's. A puriri tree was also planted.

1999/2000 Activities

Group members are currently preparing work plans and budgets for the new financial year. These will be finalised at our next meeting in the first week of September. If you have ideas or concerns about any of the Council reserves now's the time to get in touch! And remember ... we always need helpers!!!

Kauri 2000: Kuaotunu Initiative Gets National Reaction

The recent launch of Kauri 2000 was an emotional occasion for Cliff Heraud and fellow Trustees as months of planning finally started coming to fruition.



Twenty young kauri were planted at the Department of Conservation Visitor Centre in the Kauaeranga Valley to mark the occasion, with the first tree being planted by Patron Dame Catherine Tizard.

**KAURI
2000**

Kauri 2000 is a charitable trust set up to mark the new millennium by starting a long term programme to replant the once great kauri forests of the Coromandel. DOC has made 294 hectares of land available on 22 sites around the Peninsula and the project is being supported by Environment Waikato and Thames-Coromandel District Council.

"We've been staggered by the response from all over New Zealand," says Cliff. In just 10 days following coverage on TVNZ News, nearly 300 letters were received from people from Invercargill to Keri Keri, enclosing donations of more than \$5000.

A major promotional campaign starts in October and the Kauri 2000 logo, designed by Warren Howie of Kuaotunu, will soon become a familiar sight!

For more information and a free brochure about how you can take part phone Cliff on 866 4082 or Vivienne McLean on 866 5776.

Subs Are Due

A quiet reminder that Kuaotunu Residents' and Ratepayers' Association subscriptions fall due at the AGM each year — \$10 per family, \$5 for individuals, in case you forgot!

What's The Goss?

Kuaotunu Kids Athletics/Sports Club

The Kuaotunu Kids' Sports Club starts up again on Tuesday 5 October and organisers Janice Jackson and Diane Hotham are again looking for parents, caregivers, neighbours and friends to help make this a fun time for all. You don't have to be an Olympic champion but Janice and Dianne can't do it all on their own — last year they had up to 45 children turn up regularly! Help our kids learn sports skills — after warm-ups, half of each session features a particular sport then the rest is devoted to athletics. Ring Janice (866 5172) or Dianne (866 4849) if you can help.

When: Every Tuesday from 5 October till 7 December.

Where: Kuaotunu Domain (next to Tennis Courts)

What Time: From when the school buses get in (approx 3.40pm-ish) till 5.30pm

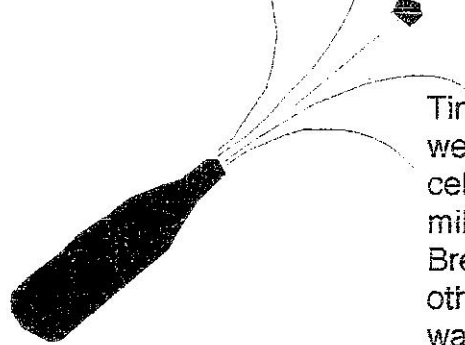
Use it or Lose it!

Just a reminder about our excellent library ... it's tucked away in the corner of the hall but in the words of the Ferret, it's small but perfectly formed ... a wide selection of books to suit all tastes, from novels to non-fiction, plus a selection of popular magazines. Librarian Carol Gillard says TCDC has increased the library grant slightly this year which is helping with expenses but she'd love to see more people using the facility. Small rural libraries are a vanishing breed so let's make sure we keep ours!

For information: phone Carol Gillard on 866 5162.

Opening hours: currently Mondays 1—4pm, may change once Craft Group finishes.

Millennium Celebrations



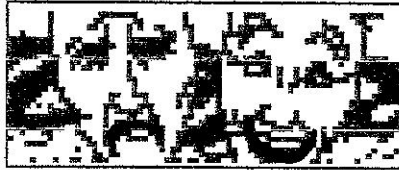
Time is running out how do we as a community want to celebrate the dawn of the new millennium?

Breakfast party in the Hall? Any other ideas? The Hall Committee wants to know your ideas, so we can give Kuaotunu a grand start to the Year 2000! Give your Committee a call!

SH25 Ahead of Schedule

Work on the Kuaotunu Hill has eased back for winter, with only minor drainage works being undertaken. However it will only be another month or so before contractors are back into completing the earthworks, with sealing to follow over summer.

At this rate the project could finish in May/June, a month ahead of schedule. The Te Rerenga seal extension is working to a similar timetable.



Attention Budding Oscar Winners!

Many small communities like ours have their own drama or play reading groups. Would you like to see an annual concert showcasing local talent? If you or your friends are nurturing hidden talents or secret ambitions to be Kuaotunu's answer to the Redgraves, Cruise or Kidman, call! Hall Committee secretary Faye Bunyan on 866 5223 to register your interest.

Fire Brigade News

Just a reminder that permits are still required for all open fires ... contact the Mercury Bay Service Centre if you need more information. Talk to Graeme Bainbridge at the Kuaotunu Rural Fire Force if your fire could be sizeable or you're unsure how to manage it, so any obvious problems can be identified. The guys would rather help out than get called out!

Graeme says the volunteers have been busy this year with motor vehicle accident training and also more rural fire training.

"We've had plenty of help and plenty of training this year ... it's been excellent," he says. The brigade now has a standby generator ready for the Year 2000 as well as new radios and fluoro green helmets. Funding is still a big issue though — just taking the fire tender over the hill costs \$60 in petrol!!! The Brigade gets an annual grant from the Waikato Community Trust and hopes to apply for Fire Service funding, but they really rely on that Christmas raffle.

HALL BOOKINGS

If you want to book the Hall talk to Sue or Stu Kaska at the Kuaotunu Store (866 5543). They have kindly agreed to hold the Hall diary and also have all the information you'll need to know about charges and conditions of hire, keys etc.

Hall charges and conditions remain unchanged from last year.

New Hall Committee

The Annual General Meeting was held recently and a new Hall Committee elected (see below).

Our special thanks to outgoing chair Corinna Mansell and secretary Doreen Gardner for the many, many hours they've devoted to making sure this vital community asset is maintained and upgraded.

Keep your eyes peeled for news about next year's GRAND BALL. In keeping with the start of the new millennium, the theme will be *the Past & the Future* — should be plenty of creative opportunities here!

Chair: Percy Temple 866 5776
Secretary: Faye Bunyan 866 5223
Treasurer: John Twemlow 866 5735

Committee:

Cliff Heraud 866 4082
 Chris Thomassen 866 4985
 Cindy Glen 866 2872
 Nedilka Radojkovich 866 5373
 Stu Kaska 866 4707
 (Shop) 866 5543
 Annie Forgie 866 5733
 Doreen Gardner 866 5158
 Corinna Mansell 866 2061

Kindy Teacher: Liz Kershaw 866 0216

Librarian: Carol Gillard 866 5162

Ratepayers' Association Update

The Ratepayers' & Residents' Association has been relatively quiet through winter. Submissions have been made on Environment Waikato's Annual Plan, the Thames-Coromandel District Council and Mercury Bay Community Board's draft plans and to Environment Waikato regarding Ansky Holdings' stormwater consent application.

The Association continues to push for meeting with Transit New Zealand and the Land Transport Safety Authority to discuss speed limits through the main beach front area.

Transit New Zealand has set up a Partnering Committee as part of the Kuaotunu Hill sealing project. Your community representatives are Alan Arrowsmith (025 853 737 or Birgit Chilwell (866 5165) if you have any queries or concerns you want raised at the monthly meetings.

The next General Meeting of the Association will be held at Labour Weekend, Saturday 24 October at 7pm. All welcome!!!

New millennium ... new building!

The Kuaotunu Kindergarten has received a \$10,000 grant from the Waikato Community Trust to add to its building fund. Annie Forgie reports the Kindergarten hopes to build on land behind the tennis courts acquired by Council as part of the subdivision reserve contribution. All going well, building could start early next year!

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

(Note, some of these groups may not operate through school holidays or winter so check with organisers first.)

- Aikido** — Contact Ian Bainbridge, Awamarire Farm.
- Beach Care Group** — contact Alan Hill 866 4261
- Church Services** — Sundays at 10.30am in the Kuaotunu Hall, contact John Twemlow, 866 5735.
- Craft Group** — Monday afternoons at the Hall. Phone 866 5915.
- Fire Brigade** — 866 4569 (but use 111 for emergencies)
- Kauri 2000** — Phone Cliff Heraud 866 4082 or Vivienne McLean 866 5776
- Kuaotunu Kiwi Sanctuary** — contact 866 2266
- Kuaotunu Junior Athletics Club** — Thursday afternoons, 5 October till 7 December, at the Sports Field. Contact Janice Jackson, 866 5172, or Diane Hotham, 866 4849.
- Kuaotunu Kindergarten** — Tuesdays to Friday morning in the Hall, contact Liz Kershaw 866 0216 or Annie Forgie 866 5733.
- Kuaotunu Library** — Currently Mondays 1-4pm. Contact Carol Gillard 866 5162.
- Kuaotunu Play Group** — Monday 9.30am-12 noon in the Hall, contact Cindy Glen, 866 2872.
- Kuaotunu Reserve Management Group** — Chair Allan Hill, 866 4261, secretary Mary Patullo, 866 5915
- Kuaotunu Residents & Ratepayers' Assn** Chair Vivienne McLean, 866 5776, secretary/treasurer Alan Hill 866 4261
- Yoga** — Friday mornings 8am at the Fire Brigade. Contact Birgit Hoffman, 866 2651.