



# The Inlet

Newsletter for Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet

APRIL

2016

*The Inlet is a newsletter that brings together local and regional news affecting the Pāuatahanui Inlet and its environs.*

*The Inlet comes out three times a year and current or back issues can be downloaded from our website.*

*The newsletter includes items of concern that affect the area as well as general interest topics for everyone.*

*Please contact us if you would like to contribute to The Inlet.*

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## FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

As this issue of *The Inlet* reaches you the 2016 Photographic Competition is well under way. The entries will be with the judge and we will be looking forward very much to contacting all the winners. The competition is the most effective of our annual activities in achieving our aim to raise awareness of the Inlet in the local communities: the wildlife, the scenery, its value as a recreational resource and also the threats and risks facing it. We are very grateful for the continuing support of the *Creative Communities Scheme* in giving us a grant to help cover the expenses of running the event and Harvey Norman, Porirua, for providing free photographic printing for everybody entering the competition. We are also very appreciative of the prizes donated by 25 of the local businesses.



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We recently learned that the next stage of the Te Ara Piko Pathway project now has the required resource consents. The designs have been finalised and have gone out to tender. This is for the stage from Motukaraka Point to the Grays Road end of the Camborne Walkway. The project is a partnership between Porirua City Council and Plimmerton Rotary. To complete the stage Plimmerton Rotary now has to raise a very significant amount of funding: one million dollars. A full report on the current status of the project is on the Rotary blog at

<http://tearapiko.org.nz/blog?src=rh-panel> .

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Three of our northern ward Porirua City councillors have made it known that they will not be standing for re-election as councillors this year. Euan Murrell will instead be running for the mayoralty while Bronwyn Kropp and Tim Sheppard have decided it is time to move on to other things. All three have been effective supporters of the harbour and we wish them well for the future.

I would like to pay tribute to the contribution Bronwyn has made over the last few years. She has been the chair of the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour and Catchment Joint Committee since its formation and, since December 2014, a member of the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee. She has always been available to talk to and quick with responses to any email communication.

All the best Bronwyn.

**Tony Shaw**

## FUNDING FOR DUCK CREEK RESTORATION

**D**uck Creek Reserve, that area of wetland at the intersection of James Cook Drive and State Highway 58, is being given special attention in the coming months with a restoration plan now firmly established. The plan has been given a boost by the granting of funds from the newly established GWRC Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour Catchment Community Restoration Fund.

The *Duck Creek Community Care Group*, formed under the umbrella of the Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet, will begin to restore native plants in areas around the Porirua Harbour catchment, with Duck Creek itself being the first of these locations to receive the much needed attention.

The first task on this site will be to remove the non-native gorse and blackberry that are growing on the reserve so that room can be made to plant the native species. Part of the grant will be used to cover the cost of contractors to do this initial work, with the balance of the funds set aside for future work where non-volunteer help may still be needed. Then, with assistance from teams of volunteers, native plants will be planted to fill the gaps left by this removal process. These, it is hoped, will be more suited to the location, trapping soil and pollutants washed down the Duck Creek stream, thus helping to keep these from reaching Pāuatahanui Inlet itself. The extent of this replanting, and the species chosen, will be more clearly known after the initial removal.

The establishment of this restoration planting can be seen as very timely with the resource consent process in the pipeline to develop more residential properties on the land further up-stream from the reserve. (See our article on this subject below.)

Mary Dinniss, one of our committee members and a key member of the Pāuatahanui Wildlife Management team, is directly involved in the *Duck Creek Community Care Group* that is working on this project. She will be keeping us regularly updated on progress and we wish her every success as it gets underway.

Anyone keen to be involved with the *Duck Creek Community Care Group* can email Mary on: [maryd286@gmail.com](mailto:maryd286@gmail.com)

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## DUCK CREEK SUBMISSION

**Y**ou are probably aware by now that a resource consent application has been made to Greater Wellington, on behalf of Jagger NZ Ltd, for the subdivision and development of 149 lots at Duck Creek North, between James Cook Drive and Discovery Drive, in Whitby. Among several requests for consent associated with this development will be the diversion of parts of Duck Creek itself along with several earthworks and construction projects.

Regardless of the objections to this resource application that may arise the only real concerns that we have regarding the development is the risk posed to the Inlet from the likelihood of increased sedimentation and the damage to local ecosystems.

For these reasons we have made a submission to GWRC seeking assurance that four specific conditions be met during the construction, should approval be given for the development to take place. These are:

- a) ensure protection of the stream and inhabiting species;
- b) avoid deposition of sediment into the stream and harbour in rain events;
- c) ensure there are no construction and occupation effects (sediment and contaminants) on DoC reserve and related salt marsh;

## Duck Creek Submission cont..

d) ensure low-impact design measures are implemented for ongoing stormwater management.

Two preliminary hearings had already been undertaken in February, with the main resource consent hearings conducted on 4 and 6 April. GOPI committee member Lindsay Gow and our Chairman, Tony Shaw, attended this hearing where Lindsay spoke very eloquently, commenting on the main points in our submission and highlighting some points from the Applicant's evidence and Greater Wellington Regional and Porirua City Council reports.

Since then we have heard that the application has been approved, so the development will go ahead with GOPI being very interested in the results of the suggested protection measures and how they work.

## PORIRUA LAND SALE AT MOTUKARAKA POINT

Porirua City Council has identified and labelled 30 areas of land in the Porirua area as under-utilised or surplus to requirements. The council is therefore proposing to sell these properties, thereby creating funds that can be used elsewhere in the city as well as the possibility of adding to the total housing in the area, providing jobs for construction and further increasing the rateable value on its books.

One of these land areas is a recreation reserve on Motukaraka Point, overlooking Pāuatahanui Inlet.

From the Guardians' point of view there is a growing concern that the state of septic tanks servicing the properties on Motukaraka Point is deteriorating with age. Water quality, which was regularly tested up until 2011, was at that stage showing a 'fair to moderate' state with recorded levels of contamination put down to unrestricted grazing of animals in the Kakaho waterway. There was no real proof of this claim and we have recently questioned the validity of this assumption given the close proximity of septic tanks associated with the oldest dwellings.

PCC has stated that there is a preference for extending the wastewater treatment system to Motukaraka point but there does not appear to be a designated timeline for this extension and that 'pumping from Motukaraka is not currently within the existing asset management plan horizon'.

We have, therefore, made a submission to the council, regarding PCC's proposal to sell the designated surplus land area. We have advised PCC that it should retain the reserve at Motukaraka Point for possible use as a site for a community wastewater treatment plant, at least until plans are in place to connect Motukaraka Point to the city sewerage system and the feasibility of such a connection has been established.

We will let you know the response to our submission.

### ANSWERS TO THE FAMILY CORNER QUIZ - PAGE 10

1. Royal spoonbill; 2. Black swan; 3. Canada goose; 4. Pied oystercatcher;  
5. Black-billed gull; 6. Pied shag; 7. Mallard duck; 8. White-faced heron

## 'STATE OF THE HARBOUR' REPORT

On 21 March Porirua Harbour Trust (PHACCT) released its third annual 'State of the Harbour' report known as the 'Scorecard'. This is an annual report compiled with reference to a set of five indicators of harbour health with the aim of tracking the progress being made toward the restoration of Porirua Harbour to achieve a better physical condition that we would all be proud of.



The five indicators are:

- Progress on action being taken by the various agencies involved with the Inlet;
- Sedimentation data from the Greater Wellington Regional Council's sedimentation records;
- Education and Recreational Usage (feedback from recreational groups using the harbour waters);
- Ecological Health data from Greater Wellington's records on the water quality of major streams and of the harbour itself;
- Waste collected from the harbour at the Porirua Stream mouth by the Trust.

The results in the 'scorecard' this time round show generally positive and progressive actions plus improvement in harbour condition and quality over the last decade. Sediment deposition in the Pāuatahanui Inlet is clearly improving. The most recent data, averaged for the whole inlet, produced a negative figure of  $-1.25\text{mm/y}$  for 2015 (meaning a reduction in sedimentation), although many individual sites measured increases during the year. This negative result is unlikely to continue but the trend is definitely well down on past measurements. However, Greater Wellington Regional Council's scientific experts say that 'subtidal sediment plate monitoring, while still very preliminary, shows overall mean (average) deposition of  $+5.5\text{mm/yr}$  in the Pauatahanui Arm'.

There are, however, four notable exceptions to this improvement:

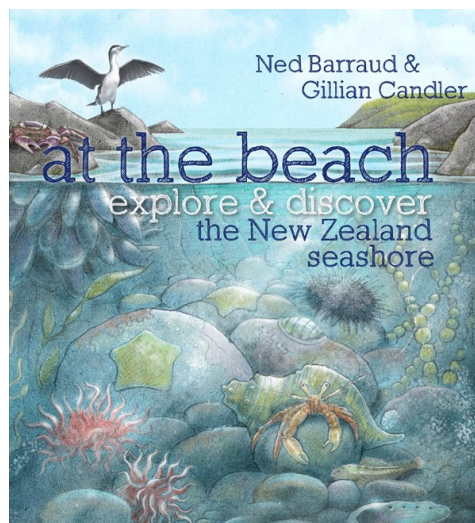
1. Significantly increasing amounts of soft mud are forming in subtidal areas. For example the Kakaho and Horokiri stream outflows show deep, soft mud in shallow subtidal areas has extended 20-30m closer to the shore in the last 12 months. (Mud causes problems for harbour life as it creates conditions where oxygen and nutrients are reduced. The result is a smelly, unhealthy layer that reduces diversity of plant and sea life.)
2. Generally poor water quality for swimming at the beaches and in the shellfish-gathering areas and, for the first time, the water quality at the Paremata Bridge area has been downgraded to fair.
3. The recent readings from the Horokiri and Pāuatahanui streams may indicate a decline in stream health which is of concern for the longer term.
4. The ecological health of the Pāuatahanui Inlet overall remains stable but the data does show that there is an increasing eutrophication risk in the shallow areas of the Inlet. So far this hasn't caused any nasty algal blooms but the risk is growing.

Overall the third 'State of the Harbour' report is encouraging in respect of the plans that are in place but it may be some years before we can really say that the tide has turned for the better in restoring the harbour to a healthy state.



## BOOKS DONATED FOR SEAWEEK

Seaweed, this year, took place between Saturday 27 February and Sunday 6 March. Many activities around the country were planned for the week with Wellington region being no exception. As reported in our 'On the Horizon' item of *The Inlet*, December 2015, GOPI's planned 2016 contribution to this annual event was the gifting to all pre-schools in the communities local to Pāuatahanui Inlet, a copy of one of Gillian Candler's books, either 'At the Beach' or 'Under the Ocean'. In December 2014 we interviewed Gillian Candler who discussed her ideas behind these wonderful publications. This was reported in the December 2014 issue of this newsletter. In the event we asked 16 pre-schools in the area which of the titles they preferred and accordingly ordered 12 copies of 'At the Beach' and 4 copies of 'Under the Ocean' from the publishers *Potter & Burton* and presented them to the schools.



The value of introducing the subjects in these books to young children was very well expressed in a thank-you letter from Mana Montessori Pre-school. 'It is great to make links with our wider local environment and to use this book as a tool to reinforce in the children the value of our natural environment and the importance of looking after it.'

If you would like to see all the events that were held in Wellington region for Seaweed you can do so by following the link: <http://seaweed.org.nz/events/wellington/>

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## SEAGRASS NAMING CONVENTION

If you have visited our website recently for research and have selected the Natural History page for *Zostera muelleri* (our marine 'eelgrass' species that is a vital part of the food chain in the Inlet) you may be surprised at the name-change we have made to this plant.



Dr Megan Oliver, Senior Environmental Scientist for Greater Wellington, has advised us that the modern name used to reference this particular species is 'seagrass', as it is a marine plant with a genus distinct from freshwater species of a similar nature and appearance (eg. the invasive *Vallisneria*). Globally these plants are known as 'seagrasses' as a group, and the name 'eelgrass' has only been used in a casual way because of the long, eel-like shape of the leaves. While this alternative name is in common use, even in books that feature the plant, it is not considered technically correct.

In accordance with this advice, our section on 'Eelgrass' is now headed 'Seagrass' and all references to the plant have been changed to this preferred name wherever they have been located on the website.

We have also updated the feature article in our December 2013 newsletter that was originally headed 'Eelgrass' and the edited copy is available on the website if you would like to refresh your memory about the natural history of this very important species.

## FEATURE ARTICLE

*The December issue of 'The Inlet' featured the first of two articles on Pollution in Pāuatahanui Inlet, and described the particular situation for our Inlet with respect to local conditions and the importance of stormwater to its environment. Now, in this second article, we look at the key pollutants that we should be aware of, their sources, environmental importance and what can be done to reduce the levels entering the harbour.*

### The Pollutants

While there are many different pollutants produced by modern human activity, fortunately for us, only a few can be considered to be of significant interest for the health of Pāuatahanui Inlet. These can be categorised as follows:

Heavy metals - PAHs - Pesticides - Nutrients - Pathogens - Sediment.

#### Heavy metals

Heavy metals are the metals we know from our chemistry class. There are only four we need to know about here.

**Zinc** is likely to be the stand-out element of concern for the future. Zinc is present at numerous sites throughout the Inlet, though only in Browns Bay is it above the minimum threshold for environmental effects.

Zinc is a naturally occurring essential trace element for all organisms as it is a component of up to 100 different enzymes involved in a wide range of biological roles and is naturally widespread in the environment. Human-induced sources of zinc however can exceed natural levels and become poisonous to micro-organisms, invertebrates and fish. The mechanism of poisoning is for zinc ions to mimic other elements, displacing these in specific enzymes that are thus rendered ineffective.

Zinc is used to galvanise iron building materials like roofing. While it provides ideal protection against rusting, if left exposed to the air the zinc slowly oxidises and washes off into the stormwater system. The other major source of zinc is vehicle tyres, where zinc oxide gives the strength and durability to rubber. Tyre residues cover all road surfaces and wash off each time it rains or cars are cleaned. Pāuatahanui Inlet, therefore, receives an influx of zinc oxide from at least two sources whenever it rains.

Zinc use worldwide continues to rise so any measure to reduce its prevalence is worth taking. Not a lot can be done about tyre wear, except improved driving technique, although alternative methods of vulcanising rubber are being investigated. Also street cleaning is a tool that could be considered as a way of reducing contaminants washing from the roads. All exposed galvanised iron should be painted to seal it from the weather.

**Copper** is also a naturally occurring essential trace element incorporated into many enzymes involved in aerobic respiration. In nature most copper is found bonded to sand and clay particles and as such is carried by river sediments to collect in the Inlet. Even at moderate concentrations copper prevents growth of micro-organisms in the same way that zinc does. There is also a risk that the combination of zinc and copper together can cause greater health issues than would be the case if taken on their own.

Copper is below minimum threshold for harmful effects at all monitored Inlet sites.

Copper is used in almost all antifouling paints on boats in New Zealand. These paints are designed to leach copper into the water column while vessels are in the water. Copper leaching from moored vessels represents a potentially significant source of copper in the marine environment. Dissolved copper, the most harmful form to organisms, is measurable in water samples from marinas and ports around New Zealand and significantly high concentrations are often measured in harbour sediments.

## Feature Article cont....

Copper is also found in plumbing, some roofing, and almost always in brake pads where it improves braking efficiency. These sources are the main contributors to copper in stormwater discharges so, again, with the Inlet's extensive road perimeter and urban development in the catchment, there will always be copper residue washed into the harbour.

Copper-free brake pads are slowly coming into use so changing to these is an option for individuals to reduce their impact on the environment. These days copper piping for homes is now much less prevalent.

**Lead** also occurs naturally in the environment but the higher levels generally seen today are largely due to human activity. Lead is not an essential biological mineral and has no known function in biological systems. It does not break down in the environment and will accumulate in biological tissues. Its primary effect, again, is its ability to mimic other metals, particularly calcium in this case, which is displaced by lead resulting in enzyme failure.

Concentrations in the Inlet are currently below minimum safety warning levels. Native lead is rare in nature and is mostly found in ores like galena. As a metal it was used in the building industry for paints (pre-1970), plumbing and flashings, and in the food industry for welding of tin cans. It is still used in the recreational fishing industry, ammunitions, electronics and lead-acid car batteries. The other main source, historically, was exhaust fumes from leaded petrol, the residues of which are still pervasive in the environment and continue to leach into our waterways and harbour.

Apart from this remnant from historical use in vehicles most other sources have now been eliminated but residual paint, flashings and dust in cavities are the legacy we endure. Care is needed whenever maintenance on homes is carried out to reduce the chances of these residual sources being inhaled or washed into the stormwater system.

**Mercury** is an extremely toxic metal, again because of its ability to substitute for other metals, rendering enzymes inactive. It is also found in the environment but is not part of normal biological systems. Mercury is present at monitoring sites within the Inlet but at concentrations below guidelines.

Mercury is rare on Earth and most releases are into the atmosphere with volcanoes contributing up to 50% of the natural sources while human activity, from a variety of production and energy industries such as cement, caustic soda and, in particular, the burning of coal, contributes ever-increasingly large quantities. It is also used in products such as batteries, fluorescent light bulbs and thermometers.

Fish and shellfish naturally concentrate mercury, especially as the organic methylmercury compounds, its most toxic form. It concentrates in the gut and fatty tissues and is not excreted. Predators of these organisms will experience a build-up of mercury. Currently there is no evidence that this is happening in Pāuatahanui Inlet.

However, because of the risks to wildlife, care is needed whenever the disposal of articles known to contain mercury is carried out. These should be taken to recycling stations set up for the purpose.

## PAHs

PAHs, or Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, are organic compounds, based on benzene, of which there are several hundred found in the environment.

PAHs occur naturally in fossil fuels (oil and coal) and are released when these are not burnt efficiently as in, for example, petrol and diesel engines. Human-created sources include tyres, leaking motor oil, crumbling asphalt, residual exhaust fumes from vehicles, fires and charring of meat. The toxicity of PAHs to aquatic organisms is affected by metabolism and photo-oxidation, and they are generally more toxic in the presence of ultraviolet light. PAHs have moderate to high acute toxicity to aquatic life and birds.

## **Feature Article cont....**

PAHs will get into the Inlet through atmospheric deposition, petroleum spills, cross coupling of waste water treatment systems and stormwater runoff. They are permanent compounds found bonded to sediments and particulate matter and as such are one of the most common organic pollutants. In the Inlet a range of concentrations can be detected but, to date, they are below minimum safety thresholds.

### **Pesticides**

The main pesticide of concern is DDT, the residue of which can still be found in the environment, reflecting historic rural land-use practices. All Inlet sites measured have levels above the minimum threshold. Only time will reduce this persistent product now that it is banned.

Dieldrin is also present subtidally at low concentrations .

### **Nutrients**

Nutrients, in particular nitrates and phosphates, are essential compounds needed for plant life and occur naturally in soils. In heavy concentrations, however, they cause their own problems which amount to pollution. Because these nutrients are very soluble in water they are easily conveyed by ground waters and streams. Increased nutrients in the water can cause nuisance toxic algal blooms (eutrophication). These blooms decrease oxygen levels, light intensity and habitats for other organisms. High nutrient levels are toxic to seagrass and possibly suppress growth of this plant in the harbour.

The highest concentrations of nitrates have been found in the Horokiri stream, while phosphates are greatest in the Kakaho stream. All sites measured have, so far, registered levels below those of concern.

The causes of high nutrient levels are often the heavy use of fertilizers and droppings from farm animals living close to waterways. However, in the Inlet, the most significant source of nitrogen is human waste from leaking sewer pipes and cross-connection to the stormwater system while farming activities are much less responsible. A much lower source is from the use of detergents which can contain up to 8% phosphorous.

### **Pathogens**

Pathogens are also washed into the Inlet along with excess nutrients with cross-contamination from sewerage systems that are inundated during periods of heavy rainfall from time to time. Livestock living close to stream beds is another well documented source but this is of lesser influence here in Pāuatahanui Inlet.

Specific sites in the Inlet where recreational activities bring people in contact with the water are regularly monitored. The most recent measurements set the risk to human health as 'moderate'. Infection of cuts and abrasions and gastrointestinal problems can occur for humans who have had contact with infected water. A number of signs around the harbour warn people not to eat shellfish because of the likelihood of contamination. This is particularly so after rainfall events, which commonly wash all manner of contaminants into estuaries. Browns Bay is considered the location of highest risk.

The recent sewer reticulation of Pāuatahanui Village is likely to have a positive effect on pathogens (and nitrogen) that were historically sourced from septic tanks. Ongoing upgrades to the stormwater and sewer network will also improve overall water quality in the Inlet.

### **Sediment**

All estuaries are subject to the effects of sedimentation and tend to fill as time goes by as part of the natural processes of erosion and deposition. The rate of shallowing is dependent on the daily cycle of tides and rate of sedimentation from the catchment. The history of sedimentation is measured by taking cores of



## Feature Article cont....

the basin muds down to the basal layer before the land was flooded. In the case of Pāuatahanui Inlet, the original central basin was about 13m deep 14,000 years ago while today it is about 3m deep. While the historic rate of deposition from the original fully forested catchment would have been around 1mm per year, deforestation during the 19<sup>th</sup> century and urban development in the 20<sup>th</sup> century resulted in a significant increase to this rate which climbed to around 9mm/y in some parts of the Inlet during the 60s and 70s. Since the adoption of the *Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy Action Plan* much is being done to regulate and reduce the influx of material from developments such as Transmission Gully and urban earthworks.

Sediment has two serious drawbacks. Firstly it can smother plant and animal communities reducing light levels and making it difficult for fish and grazing invertebrates to find food.

The other effect is in the accumulation of the other pollutants we have talked about, many of which bind to sand and mud particles instead of remaining in solution in the water column. Recent studies suggest that in the subtidal bed of the harbour, where there is little tidal action moving the sediments around, there are much higher levels of pollutants.

The Inlet itself represents only 2% of the total Porirua Harbour catchment area of 175km<sup>2</sup> but it is still very largely subtidal in character (60% remaining under water at low tide). This is a positive feature, probably due to the effects of waves and tidal flux in this harbour. Most other New Zealand estuaries are largely intertidal.

## Conclusion

The measurements taken around the Inlet in the past few years indicate that some pollutants have the potential to affect the health of this important body of water. It is also been shown that the greatest influx of pollutants of all types occurs after heavy rainfall. Thus stormwater is a vital element in the levels of pollution that occur, particularly in Browns Bay.

It is expected that when Transmission Gully is completed in four years' time and most traffic is then routed away from State Highway 58 around the Inlet, the contribution made to pollution from this source will be reduced. This will be due to the use of systems used to reduce contaminant run-off that currently don't exist on SH1 and SH58. It is for this reason that the Guardians and other groups concerned with the health of Porirua Harbour are generally in support of this highway. Indications are however that the urban development around the Inlet will continue to have a significant impact on the future of the ecology. Though the Whitby/Silverwood development has reached its eastern extent the proposed new rural/residential plans will include provisions that are expected to protect existing areas of bush and help create new ones or provide riparian protection.

So, recalling the council's 2015 Stormwater Bylaw, which we referred to in the December issue of *The Inlet*, we all need to be aware of our daily contribution to the stormwater running into the Inlet. This will of course include (but not only) car-washing on the street. The runoff into drains contains not just visible grime. There are the toxins, nutrients, heavy metals (zinc and copper), PAHs and the detergents etc. all contaminating the streams and harbour, introducing poisons to the fauna and flora in the Inlet and increasing risk to human health and our enjoyment of the environment.

If pollutants continue to enter the Inlet eventually they will reach environmentally dangerous levels. Reduction needs residents of the catchment to minimise output, or reduce it completely where they can, and also requires extensive work by the authorities to improve the quality of infrastructure like stormwater outlets and road run off.

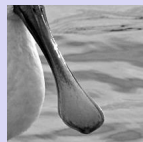


## FAMILY CORNER

### Bird Beaks

How good are you at identifying different birds from their beaks? This can be a challenge sometimes, especially when the colour has been removed and only the beak is showing.

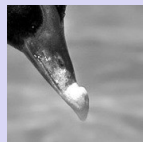
Here are eight different bird beaks just like that. See how well you can do.



1



5



2



6



3



7



4



8

Answers are to be found on page 3

## YOUTH PHOTO WORKSHOP



*Kaitlyn Payne of Whitby aims her camera at the shag roosting platform on the shore of the reserve.*

The third annual Youth Photographic Workshop, run by Destina Munro of the Kapiti Camera Club, took place on a beautiful evening with perfect lighting. Fifteen keen young photographers took part and had the chance to put into practice the guidelines that Destina explained could turn a good photo into a winning entry for our competition. After a 40min presentation, which took place in the Stout Cottage at the entrance to the Wildlife Reserve, everyone set off on the trail with their cameras to have a go!

We thank Destina for her time, given voluntarily, to support the Guardians with this excellent workshop that has produced several winning photographs in the past.

## ON THE HORIZON

As a very advanced notification to all our members, and any friends who are interested, the 9<sup>th</sup> triennial Pāuatahanui Inlet Cockle Count will take place at the end of this year. The anticipated date for this event is Sunday 11 December. Your keen participation will be welcome so if you are interested please enter this date into your diary. We will keep you informed of any changes to timing and as the day approaches more detailed plans for the exercise will be published. <<<

Our annual Photographic Competition is well underway and all the entries should have arrived by the time you receive this newsletter. Significant dates to put in your diaries are:

- Closing date for competition entries was: Wednesday 13 April
- Prizegiving at Helen Smith Room, Pataka: Saturday 21 May
- Dates for the display weeks so far confirmed:
 

Porirua Library:	Monday 23 May - Monday 6 June
Palmers Garden Centre:	Monday 6 June - Monday 20 June

Whitby Mall is unavailable for our photographic display due to planned renovation work. An alternative venue is being sought and the final two display dates are dependent on the outcome of this location.<<<

The Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet AGM is on the horizon so if you would be interested in attending we would love to meet you after the formal part of the evening for coffee and biscuits and good conversation.

As is normally the case there will be a feature event for the evening where a guest speaker is invited to give a talk on a specific subject related to the Inlet or the area in general. This year's topic however has yet to be confirmed but please check our website as these details will be posted on the home page before the due date. What we can confirm at this stage is the venue and date for the AGM. These are:

St Mary's Anglican Church, Whitby

7:30 pm on Thursday 23 June.

We do hope you can make it this time.

## PLEASE SIGN UP A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOUR

Sign up a neighbour, friend, or another family member. Just explain to them that membership numbers really count in giving us a strong voice to argue for what we all value about the Inlet. Membership forms can be downloaded from our website <http://www.gopi.org.nz/assets/membersForm/Membership-new.doc> or copied from the one at the back of this newsletter. Better still, if you've received this newsletter by email, just forward it to others with a note encouraging them to join.

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS FOR THE PĀUATAHANUI INLET

**Pollution:** Discharges of contaminants to air, land, storm-water drains, streams, rivers or sea and for after hours consent enquiries: Greater Wellington 0800 496 734 (24 hours)

**Boating infringements:** Greater Wellington 384 5708 (24 hours)

**Illegal fishing activity:** Ministry for Primary Industries 0800 476 224 (24 hours)

**Pāuatahanui Wildlife Reserve:** Department of Conservation 0800 362 468

Let us know what you have reported so we can keep an accurate record and follow up if necessary.  
233 9391 (Chairman, GOPI) or [pauainlet@gmail.com](mailto:pauainlet@gmail.com).



## Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet

[www.gopi.org.nz](http://www.gopi.org.nz)

[pauainlet@gmail.com](mailto:pauainlet@gmail.com)

### Membership Form: new members

To join the Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet, you can pay your subscription either online or by post. **IF YOU ARE PAYING ONLINE, PLEASE REMEMBER TO FILL IN THIS FORM WITH ALL DETAILS, AND EMAIL OR POST IT TO US.**

#### Online payment

1. Pay your sub via e-banking into our Westpac account 03-1533-0009387-00. In the 'Particulars' or 'Reference' columns, **YOU MUST** write your surname **AND** initials **AND** the period of your sub (1-yr or 5-yr).
2. Then fill in this form and either email it to us at [pauainlet@gmail.com](mailto:pauainlet@gmail.com) or post it (see next column for our postal address)

#### Postal payment

1. Write a cheque made payable to 'Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet'.
2. Then fill in this form and send it, along with your cheque, to: Membership Secretary, Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet, Box 57034, Mana, Porirua 5247.

Please fill in your details for our records. If you are filling in this form electronically, **click** at the beginning of a dotted line and then type.

Name: .....

Address: .....

E-mail: ..... Phone: .....

Please put  next to the subscription you are paying (electronic completion – **highlight** the box and type lower case x.) We are also very grateful for donations. (We are a registered charity for tax purposes: registration number CC47523.)

One-year individual (\$12.00)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Five-year individual (\$50.00)	<input type="checkbox"/>
One-year family (\$15.00)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Five-year family (\$60.00)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donation: \$ .....		Do you require a receipt for your sub? <input type="checkbox"/> or your donation? <input type="checkbox"/>	
Date subs paid: .....		Reference appears as: .....	
			<i>(e-banking only)</i>
We'd like to send you newsletters and notices via email. May we do this? <input type="checkbox"/>			

Please tell us which of our activities you would like to be part of.

Annual Clean-up day	<input type="checkbox"/>	Submissions to local bodies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Three-yearly cockle survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Our educational programmes for schools	<input type="checkbox"/>
Website and video clips	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	

**NOW EMAIL OR POST THE FORM. THANK YOU AND WELCOME**