

Thursday, 25 June 2015

Waihi Ward Reflections

This advertisement is authorised by the Hauraki District Council



AT THE HELM: Sailor Jarrod Hale, who uses a shoulder mounted transmitter controlled with his mouth and head, was an inspiration for the Jam TV production crew and also for New Zealand Radio Yachting Association registrar Grant Lane (pictured holding Jarrod's boat).

Nation's eyes on Gilmour Lake

Gilmour Lake is the envy of radio controlled boat skippers around the Bay of Plenty, and when scenes and interviews that were filmed there are screened on **TV One at 8.30pm on July 8**, that feeling could be echoed around the country, says David Hemsley of the Tauranga Radio Sailing Club.

The footage was shot for the Waihi and Coromandel episode of Jam TV's *This Town* series. The company's previous programmes with Hauraki highlights include *Off the Rails* with Marcus Lush, and shows presented by Te Radar.

This Town has no presenter, instead focusing on the stories of local identities like boatie Ian Verrall and carver Trevor Heighway, whose work marks the entrance to the Gilmour Lake reserve.

When the four-person TV crew hit Gilmour Lake on March 1, they were "blown away" to find so much more than they expected, including a flotilla of more than 30 radio controlled yachts, power boats, cruise liners and fisheries vessels. Ian had some of his fleet literally steamed up, and fellow Waihi sailors Roger Ward and wheelchair-bound skipper Jarrod Hale were also inspiring interviewees. David, as club coordinator for the event, even received a phone call from the

producer at 8.00pm that night – full of praise for the rich filming opportunities. "The crew spent almost five hours at the lake, instead of the one-and-a-half hours they had planned. It was an amazing day."

He says the Council went to extra lengths to help in the two weeks beforehand: raising the lake level which had dropped in dry summer conditions, and ensuring that the surrounding reserve was in top condition. "It was a real showcase for the district. Our Tauranga members are in awe of the wonderful venue facility we have and the support we get from the Council."

Filming some of the headstones at Waihi Cemetery that Trevor has carved was also arranged in liaison with the Council, and members of the relevant families.

"We're really looking forward to seeing the programme," says David. People can also see for themselves what the fuss is about at Gilmour Lake, when club members set sail there most Sundays.

"Radio controlled boating and flying has really taken off, and we get a lot of interest from members of the public. Anyone can come and talk to us, and they might even get the controls thrust into their hands."

Time to take care of DOG REGISTRATION

Calling dog owners – if you haven't yet registered your dog, do it now to avoid penalties!

The Waihi ward has about 1570 canine residents, and unregistered dogs in the District create more problems than registered dogs. We know that registration notices can be put aside with good intentions, but **fees for the coming year are due on July 1**.

Failure to register dogs aged three months or over by July 31 will incur a 50% late payment penalty on top of the registration fee, which can amount to as much as \$60 per animal depending on classification. An infringement fine of \$300 may also be charged for having an unregistered dog.

Your registration fee pays for the administration of an up-to-date dog database; educational and adoption programmes; dog pound facilities including feeding, care, and homing or euthanasia of stray dogs; general advice on dog care; property visits by Council staff; animal control; and a 24-hour call out service.

We keep the costs as low as possible, and overall, our fees compare well with those in neighbouring Districts.

This year we've introduced an online option for renewing dog registrations: owners can head to the Council website and make the appropriate payment by credit card or debit card. We will then post out the registration tags. As our online system can be used 24/7, we hope it will provide a convenient choice.

You can still register your dog by mail, pay by Internet banking, or in person at our Ngatea, Paeroa or Waihi offices. There we can accept payments by cash, Eftpos, credit card, debit card or cheque; and can issue tags on the spot.

If you've lost your registration form, or if any of the details have changed, contact Council straight away.



Get ready for the big ShakeOut

New Zealand

9.15am
15 October
2015

SIGN UP

GET READY GET THRU

shakeout.govt.nz

Big Shakeout on the way

What will you be doing on Thursday, October 15 at 9.15am?

We encourage you to **Drop, Cover and Hold**, as part of the world's biggest earthquake drill. The aim is to have 1.5 million New Zealanders practise the actions we would take in a real earthquake – at home, school, work, or wherever else we are.

Individuals, families, workplaces, schools, preschools, and groups can sign up to take part at www.shakeout.govt.nz. If you can't do the drill at 9.15am on October 15, you can choose another time within two weeks of that date.

We can't predict when an actual shake will occur, and the website has lots of tips and information not only for doing the drill, but being prepared for an earthquake. **ShakeOut** is a great opportunity for everyone to check their plans and their knowledge of what to do. Businesses and farmers can assess their continuity plans, families can stock up on their emergency supplies and refresh their household plans, and schools can remind children and parents of their processes during an emergency.

ShakeOut began seven years ago in California, and was last held in New Zealand in 2012, with 1.35 million people involved. This year, judging by previous figures, New Zealand will have the highest proportion of people joining in of any country; and we'll be the first in the world to Drop, Cover and Hold.

Talk to your families, neighbours, colleagues and workmates now about getting involved!

Holiday fun is on us!

Where are you headed for the school holidays?

Make it the Waihi Library, where our popular holiday programme will be on again every weekday from 1.00pm.

Last July, some activities drew almost 50 children, plus parents. This year's fun ranges from learning the basics of chess, to boosting your acting skills in a drama workshop. Chances to get crafty include fabric art, mask making, and even some clever fingerprinting. Most events are being run by volunteers from the community, with the help of library staff.

The full programme from July 6 to 17 is available from the library, or check out our Facebook page. The sessions will last for one to two hours, with all school-age children welcome. There's no cost and no need to pre-register – though some activities will have limited numbers of participants.

Wanted: mobile book buddies

Do you use the Waihi Library regularly? Would you like to help another library member when you visit?

Some of our senior patrons can no longer drive or have become less mobile, and really miss getting to the library as they used to. So we'd like to take the library to them – and would love to hear from any volunteers who could deliver books to a person in their local urban area and pick them up again within a couple of weeks for return.

Librarians would make the arrangements and get the books ready to go. The 'couriers' would just need to have a little time available, and an affinity with older people. If you're interested, please contact Karen Wickliffe at the Waihi Library.



Eight-year-old Nury Choi gets some tips from Waihi puppeteer Alison Collings after a show that was part of last year's holiday programme.