



## Marahau / Sandy Bay Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc.

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Welcome to the MSBRRA's first Newsletter of 2019. The newsletter is a great way for the community to be informed about things that will affect all of us. It also gives members of the community the opportunity to provide feedback and input on issues of concern. We are always interested to hear back from you about this Newsletter on any of the matters touched on by contacting the Secretary at; [marahau.sandybay@gmail.com](mailto:marahau.sandybay@gmail.com).

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### Committee Meetings / Agenda for 2018

The committee have regular meetings every 5 to 6 weeks split between either a Sunday or a Monday at 7 pm at the Marahau Fire Station/Community Hall. All residents are welcome to attend these meetings to raise an issue or provide feedback to the committee. We encourage anyone who wants to raise any matter to

come along. The committee's areas of focus for 2019 include:

- Continue to support the TDC's 'Feasibility Study' which commenced late 2018
- Progress the Beachfront 'Promenade Gardens'
- Progress cell phone coverage
- Progress & investigate 'Dark Sky' status for Marahau
- Progress the proposal for a sculpture at the entrance to Marahau
- Speed limits in Marahau

### 1. Committee Members 2017/18

Scott Hendry (Chair) - [scott@thehendrys.co.nz](mailto:scott@thehendrys.co.nz)

Deb Skelton (Deputy Chair) - [skeltondeb@hotmail.com](mailto:skeltondeb@hotmail.com)

Chris Rutledge (Treasurer) - [chris.kim@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chris.kim@xtra.co.nz)

John Ayling (Secretary) – [split.ridge@xtra.co.nz](mailto:split.ridge@xtra.co.nz)

Gavin Alborn - [gavin.alborn@aquataxi.co.nz](mailto:gavin.alborn@aquataxi.co.nz)

Lynette Freeman - [eandlfree@gmail.com](mailto:eandlfree@gmail.com)

Dave Gunter - [davidheather@xtra.co.nz](mailto:davidheather@xtra.co.nz)

Phil Hodges - [philandrebecca100@gmail.com](mailto:philandrebecca100@gmail.com)

Sarah Rees - [sarah23rees@gmail.com](mailto:sarah23rees@gmail.com)

Tim Wraight - [sealevel@ts.co.nz](mailto:sealevel@ts.co.nz)

Please contact any of these people with things you feel are relevant to the Association.

### 2. Join the Association

If you aren't currently a paid up member of the Association we would strongly encourage you to join up. The Secretary and Treasurer are presently reviewing the payment status of all members with reminders being sent to those who have yet to pay their 2019 subscriptions. The subscription is \$20 and enables the Association to fund and support various activities. Payment can be made by direct credit to our bank account at Westpac 03-0603-0166109-00. Please enter your name as the 'Reference'.

To join the Association please contact John Ayling at

[Marahau.sandybay@gmail.com](mailto:Marahau.sandybay@gmail.com).

### 3. Otuwhero Beach Access & parking

The previous Newsletter noted that back in 2018 the Tasman District Council [TDC], commercial operators, residents and the Association agreed to work together to improve the then current situation at the carpark. The outcome has been a much improved set of arrangements for residents, visitors and operators. It demonstrates the benefits of working collaboratively

with all involved to achieve outcomes than enhances the quality of the user experience.

#### 4. Playground

The new playground was commissioned in late January 2019 and is a welcome addition to community amenities in Marahau. Thanks to all involved, TDC for making the funds available, Amelia Opie who restarted the project and Scott Hendry for getting it over the line.

#### 5. Revetment Gardens

This is the first update on the revetment gardens renovation project.

Our objective is for the revetment gardens to showcase local flora and fauna and enhance the revetment as a pedestrian walkway for visitors and residents to enjoy. We are tackling 4 sections of the revetment in the first phase of this project. Each section is being co-ordinated by the following members:

- Will and Jenny – from the Marahau Bridge back to the start of Wakatu land on the Village Walkway [will@ecokiwi.co.nz](mailto:will@ecokiwi.co.nz)
- Renee and Matt - from the Wakatu beach to opposite Hooked [Renee.Thomas@wakatu.org](mailto:Renee.Thomas@wakatu.org)
- Pic and Anthea – the section opposite Newhaven Cres bounded at each end by substantial flax clumps [pic@reallygood.co.nz](mailto:pic@reallygood.co.nz)
- Sarah and Lynette – from Kelvin Goodman’s memorial seat by the Boat Ramp to the Otuwhero car park [sarah23rees@gmail.com](mailto:sarah23rees@gmail.com)

The first task has been to get on top of the weeds, Phil Hodges has been spraying the weeds and it’s great to see the dead and dying weeds along the revetment.

We will have several areas ready for planting this autumn. Sarah Rees has contacted Tim Le Gros from Titoki Nurseries and Tim is advising on plants that can survive the tough conditions along the foreshore.

**How you can help?** Our approach is ‘a little often by many’. Even just pulling a few dead weeds out when wandering along helps in the long term goal of a tidy foreshore.

We invite you to adopt one of the areas above and work with the co-ordinators who can be contacted directly or to Chris who will connect you with them [chris.kim@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chris.kim@xtra.co.nz).

**Habitat for Lizards and Skinks** You may have noticed drift wood piles appearing along the revetment, these are habitats for lizards and skinks. If you are walking along

the foreshore and see drift wood on the rock wall please feel free to add it to one of the piles.

#### 6. Fire Station/ Community Hall

The Hall continues to be available for use so if you want to use it get hold of Ginny Strong at 527 8099 or 027 528 4467 .

#### 7. Tourism Infrastructure Fund [TIF] and the current Feasibility Study

As earlier noted the TDC successfully applied to the TIF for funding to undertake a Feasibility Study “to identify and respond to parking and visitor beach/water access facilities and issues”. An initial workshop was held in late November and a follow up workshop is scheduled for late March to address options from the issues raised.

#### 8. Cell Phone Coverage

Subject to finalising some outstanding consenting issues, it is understood that Spark will locate a permanent tower on Sandy Bay Rd. The Association has been advised that calling 111 from any mobile will connect the call to the emergency services irrespective of what provider the caller is with. This is welcome confirmation which satisfies the ‘public safety’ interests of the Association.

#### 9. ‘Dark Sky ‘for Marahau?

In response to a suggestion from a member, the Committee at its January meeting heard from a representative of the Nelson Astronomical Society who spoke to developments and recent announcements of ‘Dark Sky’ designations for Great Barrier Island and Rakiura [Stewart Island]. Local people associated with the NAS have already initiated a program of light meter readings in and around Marahau. Mr Goodman indicated that it could take up to 2 years for all of the requisite interests to be consulted and designations agreed to. He commended the Association for considering this matter.

#### 10. Membership

Thank you to all those who have paid their 2019 subscriptions.

#### 11. Civil Defence

Our recently formed Civil Defence Marahau Community Liaison Team is in the process of updating our community resources database and needs [your help](#). This database will be a ‘go to’ list during an emergency to:

- check on our community’s welfare; and
- coordinate resources to help our community respond to an event.

Right now the Team would like to check your contact details to ensure they are correct and what resources (machinery, equipment and skills) you are willing to contribute during an emergency. They will be contacting each household and business over next few months to introduce themselves and get that information from you.

Check out the attached flyer that provides a little bit more information about who they are and what they are trying to achieve. If you have any queries or would like to register your volunteer interest, please email [marahauemergency@gmail.com](mailto:marahauemergency@gmail.com).

**SOMETHING YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW:** FIRST AID KITS – it's a great time to check your first aid kits. Do you have one in all the right places (home, cars, workshops, boats etc) and is it restocked and ready to go? Click on [this link](#) to get a recommended list of items to have in your basic kits.

### 12. Marahau Volunteer Rural Fire Force

Grateful thanks to members of the MVRFF for their efforts in responding and dealing with the recent fires in Tasman.

### 13. Pre Xmas BBQ

Our grateful thanks to Wakatu [and particularly members and kaitiaki Renee and Matt], for hosting the pre Xmas BBQ which was well attended by locals, as is attested by the photo below.



**14. Post Gita –** A well-attended and successful event and outdoor screening of the Gita documentary to acknowledge the impact of Gita on the community was hosted by Wakatu on March 16.

See also an item posted on Stuff at <https://www.stuff.co.nz/nelson-mail/news> - 13 March '19

***“Erosion-prone land behind Marahau to be switched from pine to native forest”*** “Native trees are to be planted on 114 hectares of erosion-prone land behind Marahau as a replacement for radiata pine.

*The area, which was badly damaged in February 2018 when ex-Tropical Cyclone Gita slammed into Tasman district, is to be replanted with 114,000 mānuka trees. Tasman District Council environment and planning committee chairman, deputy mayor Tim King, said the replanting project was proposed in an effort to mitigate the effect of adverse weather events in areas with Separation Point granite.”*



### 15. Submission on Draft Motueka Reserves Management Plan

The Association has made a submission to the current review by the TDC on reserves and parks within the Motueka Ward. The key point in the submission is that public space at Marahau is very limited and given the number of visitors each year, which will continue to increase, that consideration should be given to adding more reserves and augment the existing reserves to enhance the resident and visitor experience. Thanks to Sarah for preparing and presenting the submission to Council. A copy of the submission is available from the Secretary

### 16. Cockles

A member has sought clarification on whether hand held tools [trowels, forks, shovels, spades etc.], can be used to collect cockles. Fisheries [Ministry of Primary Industries] advise – yes. Cockles are managed by numbers [50 per person per day], not the method of collection such as for example set net mesh size for fish.

# CIVIL DEFENCE

## Looking after our community...

Nelson Tasman Civil Defence has helped setup a team of volunteers to assist with emergency response in our area.



### Why set up a team?

Following Cyclone Gita, community feedback identified a need to be better prepared for future emergencies.

### What will the team do?

The Marahau Community Liaison Team will assist Civil Defence with responding to emergency events in the Marahau area. This area covers the Marahau village, Marahau Valley, Moss Road, Otuwhero, Sandy Bay, Split Apple, Tokongawa and the northern side of the Marahau Hill.

The team's key focus is to improve communication between Civil Defence and our community. The team's role will include:

- ▶ keeping community members informed during an event;
- ▶ liaising with Nelson Tasman Civil Defence; and
- ▶ Working with Civil Defence to coordinate volunteers and resources in our community.

### Community Open Day

Keep an eye out for our Open Day (invite to follow soon). This will be your opportunity to meet the team. We would love to have your input. Register your interest as a volunteer at [marahauemergency@gmail.com](mailto:marahauemergency@gmail.com).



Marahau Community Liaison Team



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