



Welcome to summer in Rocky Bay



Finally the wind dropped and two visitors to our place enjoyed a dip off the end of the club jetty.

Fun time at picnic



Grant Dunlop arriving at the annual club picnic held again at the farm across the bay. Showing his sartorial elegance and stayed dry the entire trip.



Time for lunch as our aging barbecue fires up once again.



Mark Hamilton arrives at the picnic in style

The annual picnic was a great success, with the weather staying kind. Thank you to Magda Stanuch for being our host and Brad Atkinson for the sponsorship by Buildit



Brad Atkinson
L.B.P.

Ph: 027 834 2119 brad@builditnz.co.nz

Boat haulage

Service to members
Our haul out facility on Pohutukawa Ave can handle launches and yachts up to 9 tonnes. We also have water blasting and power supply to enable low cost maintenance and repairs

Contact Slipmaster Mike Lane on 027 475 6419

End of summer picnic

Saturday, 15 March. Whakanewha
This will be a bring your own food, drink and chair get together to celebrate the end of summer. Park in the main park at Whakanewha around noon and look for our group.

Wanted- a barbeque

Second hand but usable?
Our existing barbecue is on its last legs. Anyone out there have a replacement? Maybe an old one that still works?

Contact Mark Stratton 027 285 4114

THE REAL JOB OF THE NAVIGATOR --- tips from Captain V

Chart Plotters are the best thing since sliced bread. Pre GPS days knowing where you were entailed constant effort and persistent doubt. Always have your electronic charts updated and always work on the largest scale possible to see all the layers of hazards and dangers. Have a passage plan for every journey, 2 miles at sea is just as dangerous as a 2000mile ocean voyage. Carry a paper chart as a backup and know how to plot a bearing or two to get a basic position fix. If in doubt over your position stop your boat and reorientate yourself to the current surroundings. The chart plotter, MK 1 eyeball and common sense combined make for worry free cruising.

Fishing Competition heats up



The leading entry in the annual fishing competition measuring 38cm. While this is legal it is still just a tiddler so anyone who is ambitious can still enter and win the prestigious trophy awarded at the AGM at the end of the year. To enter pay \$25 in the bank account with the note FC Rocky Bay Memorial Cruising Club ASB - Waiheke Island 12-3114-0065789-00

Happy hours proving very popular

Our Happy Hours are held every second Saturday of the month in summer running from 4.00pm. Numbers have been growing steadily and this is good to see continue.



Plenty of tall tales and gossip at the November happy hour

A look back in time

A recollection by Stuart Reid, of life in Rocky Bay in the 1950's. We are pleased to continue the second installment here:

Stuart begins with a description of the wharf at the end of Pohutukawa Drive as it was in the 1940's.....

A small red shed held bulk cargo and was shelter for embarking passengers. The interior of this *waiting room* was well desecrated with carved initials of every kid who ever spent time at *Rocky* and had access to a sheath knife. An essential piece of apparel in those days! There may well have been other carved scripture but I cannot recall any of us having any literary sense or the time to indulge ourselves.

Mention of the shed leads naturally to Stan Peglar as feed for his horse was stored there. Stan was the local carrier with at least one cart and a horse named Bill. Prior to 1950 there were no motor vehicles in Rocky Bay and the bay was not connected by road to the rest of the island. Bill was a huge but gentle black Draft Horse with white blaze and socks. Every day he would saunter down to the grassy patch outside Stan's lodgings to await being harnessed to the two wheeled spring cart for the days work, which varied according to the seasons. Stan lodged with Annie O'Brien just a few yards up the road from McAuslins store. Annie was the local milk vendor and famous for other exploits.

During holiday periods there was always luggage to collect from the wharf for delivery to the accommodations of new arrivals. There were also the daily supplies of papers, bread and milk to be dropped off at the store and Annie's respectively. Bill, Stan, the luggage and as many kids as Stan considered appropriate would progress around the bay delivering kids and luggage to newcomers Bach's, or relatives' homes. The afternoon would be spent collecting luggage for the return journey of holiday makers reluctantly returning home. During the course of the day the ferry would have continued on to Orapui, Cowes and Chamberlains Bay before returning to Rocky Bay prior to the return trip to Kings Wharf in Auckland via Ostend and Surfdale. Besides luggage and hordes of kids Bill and Stan also had cargo to collect for delivery to both McAuslins and Leven's stores. They also spent their winters quarrying red rock and repairing the roads which if not kept metaled would soon turn into a quagmire of red/yellow clay. Building materials, coal and beer in two dozen crates were common cargoes, especially in the off season.

To be continued.....