



Kia ora koutou katoa,

In this newsletter we bring you updates and news on a range of projects and activities on the Coast including;

- Progress of our Community Focus Groups
- Developments at the Ngunguru Skatepark
- Tutukaka Quarry/Pukearengarenga
- Proposal for Footpath along Kopipi Crescent, Ngunguru
- Ngunguru Seawall restoration
- Developments at the Mahinga Kai
- Updates on the Tutukaka Marina, and from our local Councillors.

Early notice – Annual General Meeting 2022

Our AGM will be held at **1.30pm – 3.30pm Saturday 13th August 2022**. This year it will be held in the Conference Room at the Tutukaka Marina Office, Tutukaka.

Following the AGM we will have updates from our Focus Groups, and there will be an opportunity to learn more about the Ngunguru Seawall restoration from the staff at Whangarei District Council.

• Community Focus Groups

Two of our Community Focus Groups are up and running. The Groups are tasked with developing and implementing responses to the issues identified through our Community Research project completed last year.

Road Safety and Environmental Focus Groups are established, and a third addressing Community Safety issues is about to kick off.

The **Road Safety** group are keeping an eye on the planned pedestrian crossings in Ngunguru. These will be installed later this year by WDC. They are the result of earlier efforts by local residents to address road safety concerns, particularly for children on their journeys to and from school, and other vulnerable road users.

A proposal has been presented to Whangarei District Council for a footpath along Kopipi Crescent, Ngunguru. The increased use of this road by vehicles, pedestrians and other road users highlight an obvious need of improved safety. The proposal was presented to WDC by Ron Ford, TCR&RA's co-chair and liaison person with the Road Safety Group. Local residents have indicated their support, and join nearly 60 people who signed a petition back in 2016 supporting a footpath for the area.

The Focus Group are also investigating options for a more connected Coast, including walkways and cycleways.

The **Environmental Group** is currently developing a plan to tackle the issue of sedimentation on the Coast. The winter rains have once again highlighted the vulnerability of our Coastline and its waterways to this issue.

The **Community Safety Group** will be getting together soon to identify its priorities and action plan.

All of our groups are keen to welcome new members, so if you have an interest in any of these issues and have some time to spare please get in touch with us through the secretary.

- **Our website - www.tutukakacoast.org**

We encourage you to visit our website if you haven't already. It provides information about the Association, and news and information about us and others on the Coast.

We'd particularly like to encourage the use of our Community Directory page.

You can add a listing for your local group or business. It also features an events calendar. If you or someone you know has an event coming up that you wish to list, or you wish to check out the calendar of events simply visit the site.

As the website is new we are still building its content so if you have any feedback or information to share please contact us.

- **Ngunguru Seawall Restoration**

The team at WDC have provided the Executive Committee with an update on the plans for the Ngunguru Seawall restoration, following a 'walk through' earlier this year.

The planned work now has resource consent from Northland Regional Council. As the work involves some work around existing trees a further resource consent application has been made for this. In addition, an arborist report is being prepared, as is a plan for the various facilities and plantings along the water front.

The final design for the seawall will align with the new pedestrian crossings planned on Ngunguru Road.

As this is an important piece of infrastructure, and of significant local interest we are liaising with WDC to provide a range of opportunities for the local community to view the plans and provide feedback on these.

Concept plans based on the engineering drawings will be available to view, and a number of "drop-in" sessions arranged so that the community can discuss the plans and provide feedback directly to the team from WDC.

More information and details on the feedback process will be available shortly. We encourage you to have a look and provide your local knowledge and insights to help Council refine the plans.

The plans will be finalised following the feedback process and a request for tenders will be made. It is hoped that work will commence later this year.

- **Tutukaka Quarry/Pukearengarenga**

The Executive Committee became aware of proposals to re-establish the Tutukaka Quarry by its owners Clements Contractors, and of some community concerns about the potential impact of this.

Murray and Sandra Clements were invited to attend our February meeting to tell us about their plans. The Executive was greatly appreciative of their willingness to come and share their plans with us, and respond to our questions.

In April, Clements Contractors submitted a resource consent (land use) application to Whangarei District Council for the re-establishment of the Quarry.

The Executive wrote to the Council to recommend that this application be publicly notified so that our community could express its views on the development. We believe other groups also made a similar request.

We have since been advised that Clements Contractors have withdrawn their application.

- **Tutukaka Marina**

Progress has been made on restoring the Marina following the Tsunami event in January. The insurance claim for the Tsunami damage was approved late February, and the recovery operation was completed early in March. Planning for the repair is now well advanced with tenders having been called for the repair and approval to proceed being targeted for late July. Some additional safety-related work is being done while the tenders are open for contractor bids, to ensure that a number of weakened piles are restored to full strength before the main repairs commence. Oceanography modelling work related to the breakwater performance is presently in progress and models of the modified breakwater options are presently being developed and tested.

Although some rented berths had to be vacated by their former tenants to accommodate the vessels previously moored at the damaged berths, only a few large vessels could not be re-berthed in the marina and had to find temporary homes elsewhere. Despite losing more than 50 berths, the marina management has been able to continue to accommodate all of the live-a-boards (i.e. people living permanently on their vessels).

The biggest challenge the Trust presently faces remains the role of the breakwater performance in the long-term insurability of the marina's and berth-holders floating assets and the need for resource consent approval to replace or modify the breakwaters. The Marina Trust Board expects there to be greater clarity on this later in the year.

- **Puke Kopipi flourishing**

Since February, a core group of Volunteers have been preparing the top west of Puke Kopipi for winter planting. Their mahi culminated in June at Matariki when the whole community was invited to help plant 2,300 plants on Friday and Saturday afternoons.

Imagine what a difference these native plants will make to what was a weedy steep site, helping to restore the whenua and hopefully prevent more erosion. The plants were raised locally from seed at Tawapou and funded by Trees that Count, Matariki Tu Rakau and WDC Pohutukawa Coast Programme.

In the lead up to planting, the core group removed a lot of rubbish and pest plants such as gnarly dock with huge tubers, copious privet, pea scrub, pampas etc. Contractors from Tom Burdak Arborist also helped to eliminate pampas and more recently Michele and Rocky from Coastal Care Gardening, reduced kikuyu and made plant spots to make things easier come planting day. It was a big job on the day before planting, volunteers collecting plants, unloading and then laying out the plants in their spots marked with a bamboo stake.

Previous annual tree plantings are flourishing including beautiful mahoe planted just two years ago, they are loving this year's rain.

Organiser Robyn Skerten thanks the group of regulars, saying more helpers are welcome anytime. "Come and join us, we need more volunteers. It feels good to connect and care for Papatuanuku, Mother Earth, enjoy fresh air and space, and to give back to the Community in a positive practical way."

Puke Kopipi is not just a native plant restoration project but also a walkway with the reward of awesome views to Ngunguru Estuary and Sandspit.

Volunteers meet most months at Puke Kopipi, the hill behind the Ngunguru Sports and Recreation Centre. To help volunteer, email robyn@skerten.com or visit <https://www.facebook.com/RestorePukeKopipi/>

- **Mahinga Kai/Community Garden**

Ngunguru Community Garden/ Mahinga Kai have a new Community Compost Hub.

This was funded by Ministry for Environment, provided through the Compost Connection programme and built/installed by Carbon Cycle and the Ngunguru community.

Despite a wet start, the sun came out and shone on this wonderful new asset for Ngunguru, which looks set to be a well-used by the wider coastal community. There was a great turnout of locals all ready to help get it set up and learn from Carbon Cycle how this hot compost system works.

And how beautiful does it look?!



The Compost Hub will service the gardeners, the church, playcentre, Tutukaka markets and hopefully a small scale collection service of locals and the cafe/ takeaways nearby.

If you'd like to learn more about the Community Garden/ Mahinga Kai and the Community Compost Hub, you can check them out via their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/323618338925167/> or by contacting Melissa: drmelissagilbert@gmail.com

- **Ngunguru Skatepark**

Further improvements have been made at the Skatepark with the erection of a viewing deck and seating in March. An access ramp was completed in April. Funding of the shade sail came through late March and the shade sail was installed in May.

The Skate Park Management Group is considering adding a safety barrier along the top of the backrest of the bench to prevent children from walking along it, to avoid the risk of them falling onto the deck structure

behind the backrest. Benches or a skateboard stop alongside the storm water channel on either side of the deck are being considered, funds permitting.

Work on decorating the platform and bench with skateboard motifs, aimed at reducing their graffiti potential is next on the agenda.



The work has been possible with donations and support from the Oxford Sports Trust, the Pub Charity Limited, Whangarei District Council, 30 Mpa Limited and Toots Timber and Hardware.

The project has been lead by Ces Burke and the volunteer effort provided by Dave Churcher and other members of the Ngunguru Golf Club.

Well done and thanks go to all donors and volunteers for their support and efforts!!

- **Local Body Elections - 2022**

Yes it will soon be time to vote for your representatives for our local councils. You will be able to vote from 16th September to 8th October 2022.

Look out for more on this and the candidates over the next few months.

- **New CEO's for local Councils appointed.**

As Cr McDonald notes below, Northland Regional Council has appointed a new CEO. You may also have noticed there has been a change at the helm of Whangarei District Council with Simon Weston replacing former CEO Rob Forlong.

- **Update from Cr Amy McDonald - Northland Regional Council**

Kia ora koutou!

It is election year for local government, and I'm happy to let you know that I will be running again. I have really enjoyed working in this role for our community and our environment, and I hope to be able to continue. At the end of April we went back in the office after 8 months working remotely, it was great to be face to face again. To save time, money and emissions our council will now work in hybrid, alternating between working from home and coming into the chambers.

As chair of the Joint Climate Adaptation Committee for Northland I've proudly been part of the development and sign-off of the Te Taitokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy. The strategy has been formally adopted by all councils in Northland, which is a really big step forward for getting efficient and effective climate adaptation action underway. It includes 48 priority actions which are the foundation for a regional response to climate change threats to property, infrastructure and our natural environment. You can view the strategy and action plan at catt.org.nz.

NRC has recently appointed Jonathan Gibbard as the new CEO. Jonathan is currently General Manager Environmental Services with NRC and will bring a wealth of knowledge to the role – particularly environmental management, planning and policy. Jonathan will be an excellent experienced leader through the legislative changes ahead, and will keep focus on delivering environmental outcomes for Northland.

As part of keeping up with local issues I regularly attend the Tutukaka Coast Residents and Ratepayers Association meetings and have also met with the Marina Trust. I am always happy to meet with community members and groups interested in environmental management and issues, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have a topic you'd like to discuss.

Take care out there! As always, I'm happy to hear from you – amym@nrc.govt.nz, or find me on facebook: [Amy Macdonald – NRC Councillor](#).

Ngā mihi nui,
Councillor Amy Macdonald
Northland Regional Council

Disclaimer – this is my personal opinion and not that of the Northland Regional Council

amym@nrc.govt.nz

www.nrc.govt.nz

To report pollution and environmental incidents call the 24/7 environmental hotline: 0800 504 639

- **Update from Cr Anna Murphy – Whangarei District Council**

Kia ora koutou,

My second term on council is coming to an end. I am not standing again in the next election, it's time for a change, to refresh and re-energise. It has been the most amazing experience - life changing: To really understand and appreciate local government processes, to see local democracy in action, to have used my voice and my vote in council decisions. To have met and worked with our hapu representatives and attended hui at marae across the Whangarei rohe. To have worked with elected members in Whangarei and across Tai Tokerau on issues important to our communities. There have been some incredible moments in our council chambers, moments of joy, of sadness, of tension, of hilarity, and sometimes pure disbelief! But the best part is that every day brings something different.

A highlight has been meeting so many wonderful people who give their time and energy as volunteers in the hundreds of community organisations across our district. Thank you for everything you do!

I have had the privilege of working with councils talented and professional staff, and I want to thank them for all their mahi.

Our council has achieved so many fabulous things in the last 6 years - too many to list. I hope council continues to grow our aspirations of truly reflecting and honouring the principles of Te Tiriti and swiftly helping move our city to carbon zero. This will depend on who we vote for and what the priorities of the next council are.

I am pleased to endorse Scott McKenzie of Ngunguru who will be standing for Hikurangi Coastal ward in the upcoming WDC election. I believe Scott will make an excellent councillor and represent our community very well. I am also very pleased that Amy Macdonald will be running for NRC again, Amy has done an excellent job on NRC.

Nga mihi ki a koutou!
Arohatia Whangarei Terenga Paraoa!

• **Your committee members:**

Aussie Malcolm (Co-Chair Governance - 021 922 679)	Ron Ford (Co-Chair Communications - 021 215 6343)
Rebecca Williams (Secretary - 021 862 250)	Lester Sherman (Treasurer - 027 233 5835)
Rose Wellington-Tana (021 115 3499)	Jenny Hammond (Mahinga Kai – 022 109 1640)
James Walsh (027 3636041)	Linda Donaldson (021 562 510)

How to contact and engage with us:

Email secretary@tutukakacoast.org or by phone on any of the numbers listed above.

Association meetings – These are held at 7.00pm every second Monday of the month at the Tutukaka Marina Office. The next meeting will be held on Monday 8th August 2022.

If you wish to attend meetings and/or raise an issue with the Executive Committee, please contact the secretary in the first instance.

Please feel free to share this newsletter with others who you feel might be interested.

We are keen to serve this community's best interests so are happy to receive any feedback you have.

Until next time we wish you well and hope to see you at our AGM on the 13th August.

Ngā mihi nui

Executive Committee