

WHANGAMATA MARINA AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2012

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter. You might be wondering what happened to the summer one but as you are all aware, summer simply didn't happen this year.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

CLEAN MARINA

I am pleased to advise that our marina was inspected by a senior industry representative to check off our compliance with a 226 individual item Clean Marina audit covering Drainage, Storm Water & Outfalls, Management of external pollutants, Wastewater, Trade Wastes, Fresh water reticulation, Waste Management, Sewerage & Grey water management, Fuel Operations, Hardstand operations & vessel management, Emergency response, Medical emergency, Oil spill response, Emergency fire response and Storm response events.

In brief, it confirms the implementation of all encompassing best management practices by staff and marina users to eliminate or negate pollution dangers. While it is certainly an endorsement of design and management practices, it is also an ongoing template that everyone who has anything to do with the marina, and in particular marina users, can take ongoing ownership of.

On behalf of all marina society members and berth renters I extend thanks to John and Sue for their continuing dedication to the marina operation as evidenced by this Clean Marina certification.

A reminder to all society members that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday 2nd June , (Queens Birthday weekend)

FROM THE CROWS NEST (OFFICE)

FISHING

Congratulations to the following marina based vessels who have boated marlin this season: - Tin Top, Andari, Crowded House, Chekito, Diamond Lady, One Life, Santorini, Pasadija, Bijou and last but not least Alectrify with 2 in one day on 28 March. A pretty good effort considering the weather that we have had this season. A notable feature this year has been the abundance of good sized Skipjack tuna and a lot of the fish caught by the above boats were on live baits. My apologies if I have missed someone out. Meanwhile, reports of good catches of snapper are coming in. Change of light fishing is proving rewarding and good numbers are showing up in close and around the reef structures.

NAVIGATION CHANNEL

Dredging operations took place in November this year with approximately 3500 cubic meters of material removed and placed along the harbour foreshore as beach nourishment in accord with our consent. During unloading operations the

barge broke a portside pole on the marina side of the small boat launching area. A replacement pole is on hand but we await the outcome of the TCDC/Trailer Boat association initiative to install pontoons for the small boat launching area before we reinstate this marker pole. Of some further concern and, for all skippers to note, the first starboard marker pole as you turn in to the navigation channel from the main channel, was also recently broken (boat versus pole collision during the Classic tournament) and has been replaced with a green marker buoy (flashing green light at night.)

Our channel dredging activities at the confluence area (the first three poles when you turn into the navigation channel) are one of the hugely beneficial activities for the community that slip under the radar. It is a total win/win for the community, the council and foreshore users with clean beach borne sand being returned to the marine environment, where it is most needed, to counter the erosion that has taken place over time and largely been ignored because of cost, difficulty or regulatory barriers.

OFFICE HOURS

Beginning in April we revert to off season hours. 8.30am to 4.30pm Mon to Friday. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

BERTH USER FEEDBACK

We welcome feedback, observation, comment about any aspect of the marinas operations. Please feel free to contact us in the first instance, if you see something that needs attention or something we can do better. We will be considering the content of an “On Line Survey” soon so if there is a question that you think might be useful to gain the views of others – please let us know and we will see if we can incorporate it into the proposed survey

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Marina Society will be conducted on 2nd of June. Formal notice will be sent to members in 3 weeks time. Members are reminded that special items of General Business that may require a resolution by those present at the meeting or by postal ballot, must be notified in advance.

As previously, there will be an open forum session where members can speak but unless prior notice has been given the AGM cannot formally adopt an un-notified General Business item.

YACHT SQUADRON

For information on yachting activities contact

John Cullen 0274 993431

Brendan Pugh 0272 555440

VESSEL INSURANCE

The marina are looking into a group insurance scheme for its users. Early indications are that premiums are likely to be very competitive and items covered will be more extensive. If and when finalised we will send specific details to everyone for consideration. We could have something in place within the next 6 or 8 weeks.

RECYCLE AREA

Thank you all of you who are making the effort to recycle. We have had to work very hard to get the message through to everyone and we have been gratified to achieve about an 85% compliance rate. Your combined efforts not only save money for the marina but also help us comply with the “Clean Marina” and “Clean Boating” ethic that we strongly support. You can certainly help us further by reminding anyone you see ignoring this rule. Invited guests who go out for a day are one group who will probably be unaware of our recycle effort so skippers are urged to pass on our requirements to crew and guests.

NO WAKE ZONE

The rule in the marina is the same rule that applies until vessels clear the last starboard marker at the harbour entrance. No more than 5 knots thank you.

SHED HARDSTAND

Resource and building consents are about to be lodged for approvals. We still hope to have the shed operational for the winter. The actual positioning of the shed is planned for the Northern corner of the hardstand which may result in us having to re-position a few long term trailer park clients.

POLLUTION CONTROL

The hardstand & water blast pad are the two main areas on the marina that generate heavy metal pollutants. As mentioned in our previous newsletter, it is essential that hardstand users make every effort to contain dust and antifoul particles around their work areas. Effective pollution control is a whole series of small steps which in combination, add up to the whole and everyone needs to play their part in keeping our site clean. Drop cloths, vacuum sanding, minimal water use by way of trigger water nozzles, daily sweeping of the work area, are all important best management techniques that everyone must implement.

We are in consultation with the Waikato Regional Council and TCDC on the construction of a specialised water treatment system as the final stage of our environmental management (a significant capital investment) and hope to reach agreement soon which will allow the system to be constructed adjacent to the hardstand shed.

HOUSE KEEPING

- **Berth Lines** – please check for wear. If you haven’t got marina specification berth lines or, you have extended your lines with a non spec addition please see us and arrange for replacement lines. Our charges are competitive and barely cover cost.
- **Halyard slap.** To all you 23 yachts out there. Please be responsible in this area. Some of you Game Fishing enthusiasts also need to do something about the same nuisance created by outrigger lines.
- **Pier Clutter** – keep fingers and walk ways clear at all times please. Not for storage of dingys, cray pots and the like.
- **Hoses** – On the boat or wound onto a hose reel please. We are increasingly seeing hoses looped around pedestals or just laying about on the fingers. If you want to see a good set up check berth C07. It is a fully

retractable hose and reel set up on a swivel bracket that can service 4 berths for a total cost of around \$140 or \$35 each.

- **“If it’s going to be it’s up to me”** – To a very high degree, this phrase encapsulates how your marina will be in the future. Piers and fingers are already showing some dirt build up. Guess what! – It all washes off on a wet day with nothing more than water and a stiff broom. No detergent, chemical or abrasives required.
- **Berth Trolleys - reminder.** It is common courtesy and expected by all of us, that berth trolleys be returned to the pier heads before going out for the day.
- **Reminder –** We are a zero discharge marina which means no grey water from sinks, no bilge pumping and absolutely definitely no toilet discharges.
- **EWOF (Electrical Warrants of Fitness)** By law the marina is deemed to be an electricity supplier and as a consequence we must strictly comply with a range of rules and prohibitions. There are significant financial penalties that can be imposed on us for non compliance. Any vessel with an unattended power connection will be disconnected if we do not have a copy of a current EWOF.

PRODUCTS

Laser heat sensor – Instant motor temp readings. Nominal hire fee \$5 per day.

Prop Speed – The marina are now licensed applicators - see us for details.

Boat Bright Products – Check them out in the stand at the office. They are good.

Scrap Metal & Batteries – Recycle point is on the hardstand

Bilge Pads – We sell these at cost to make it easy for everyone to absorb any oil or fuel contaminants in the bilges. They are proving popular at 2 for \$5.

Antifoul – We supply both Altex and Hempel products at very competitive rates.

Retractor Lines. We can supply and fit retractor lines for forward off poles.

(Shark clip, saddle, D shackle, roller pulley, 6 meters of 7mm 3 strand polyester, 2 splices, 1 meter galvanised chain) \$50 fitted.

Regards

John and Sue