Welcome to the Summer 2015 issue of the Port Underwood Association newsletter.

**Port Underwood Association**

### Contents

Committee

Contact details

Oyster Bay Development

Resource Consent Hearing

Neighbour-

Hood watch

New Rural Police News Letter

AGM

Minutes

I hope visitors to Port Underwood have enjoyed or are enjoying their summer here. This will be a brief newsletter as it follows shortly on from the last newsletter and also the AGM. The minutes of the AGM are enclosed at the end of this newsletter.

Marlborough Marine Futures

A new stakeholder group for Marlborough

There have been a number of changes to the committee. The committee contact details are given below. We welcome onto the committee, Arch Still, Dave Lindner and Michael Blaschke. We appreciate the contributions of members that are on the committee as it helps the Association make responses and fulfil the aims of the Association.

I would particularly like to thank the contributions of those departing the committee; Ali Kircher, Annabel Phillipson and Di Cranfield. Each has made a positive and substantial contribution for several years.

AND, speaking of contributions; these are welcome from all members at any time. These can be made at any time to our e-mail address [port.underwood.association@gmail.com](mailto:port.underwood.association@gmail.com) or direct to committee members.

Best wishes John

**Committee members**

President - John Davison jad793@gmail.com

Secretary and Treasurer –

Sara Roush sarakenroush@gmail.com

Members

Ken Roush sarakenroush@gmail.com

Arch Still archandmary@hotmail.com

**Port Underwood Association contact details:**

port.underwood.association@gmail.com  or

PO Box 59 Blenheim 7240

Davie Lindner davidlindner@yahoo.com

Greg Phillipson embryo.greg@gmail.com

Michael Blaschke mj.blaschke@gmail.com

Jeremy Ward jeremy@eastbywest.co.nz

David Whyte clintondale@xtra.co.nz

**Alison Kircher 1950 – 2015**

It is with extreme sadness that we inform the community of the passing of Ali Kircher on 29th January, 2015 due to complications from cancer. Ali lived her life to the fullest and touched many people on the way. She had a lifelong connection to Port Underwood and Ocean Bay where her parents built a bach which Ali and family continued to use. Ali felt strongly about preserving and enhancing Port Underwood and served on the Port Underwood Association Committee for 14 years. She was a tremendous motivator for the committee and spent countless hours as treasurer and membership secretary working behind the scenes for the betterment of the Port. Ali will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Our sincerest condolences go out to all of her family and friends.

**Marlborough Marine Futures**

The Marlborough Sounds Integrated Management Trust was established in 2012 to support a better future for the Marlborough marine environment. The current trustees are:

Eric Jorgensen (chairman), Raymond Smith, John Hellstrom, Lance Wichman, Roy Grose.

The trust is funded by Marlborough District Council and Canterbury Community Trust.

The trust is forming a stakeholder group; Marlborough Marine Futures (MMF). The aim of MMF is to get interested parties together to form a stakeholder-working group for the Marlborough marine environment.

Further information can be obtained from their website at:

http://www.marlmarinefutures.co.nz

An initial meeting is being held on 8 March open to everybody, with a further meeting a week later of selected individuals that will make up the stakeholder group. This initial meeting is open to everybody and members of the Association are encouraged to attend if they can. Further information regarding this meeting and concerning the stakeholder group can be obtained by going to the MMF website or to the MMF page on the Association’s website where there are links to various documents produced by MMF; <http://www.portunderwoodassoc.org/?page_id=248>

Registration is required for the initial meeting (for catering purposes) at: [info@marlmarinefutures.co.nz](mailto:info@marlmarinefutures.co.nz).

**Oyster Bay Development Proposal**

The details of this development and the Association’s response were outlined in the last newsletter.

Since the last newsletter notice has been received that the Resource Consent Hearing for the application (U140707 Oyster Bay, Port Underwood) originally set down for 20 January 2015 has now been postponed to 03 March 2015.

The Association is looking for members that can attend this hearing; I had planned to attend the hearing, but the date was changed and I cannot attend on 3 March. Any member attending will be briefed prior to the hearing.

Information concerning our submission and further background information is available on the Association’s website at: <http://www.portunderwoodassoc.org/?page_id=154>

**Neighbourhood support update**

The Police have issued a further rural newsletter. This concerns poaching. The newsletter can be found at: <http://www.portunderwoodassoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/7-Marlb-Rural-Jan2015.pdf>

**Subscriptions are now due**

The 2015 Port Underwood Association subs of $20 are now due. Enclosed you will find a subscription form that you should check to make sure we have all of your correct details. The $20 subs can be paid by direct deposit to Westpac Blenheim 030599 0216931 00 Please quote Bay and Surname as a reference. Alternatively you can post a cheque to the Secretary, Port Underwood Association, P.O. Box 59, Blenheim 7240. We appreciate your continued support.

**Snippets from the Past**

We thank Tony Flood for the following Contribution:

A Snippet of History by Tony Flood

In 1848 Jerome Nugent Flood arrived in Port Underwood with sheep from the Wairarapa for Clifford and Welds station. Because of a southerly storm, the ship "Bee" couldn't land at Cape Campbell, so the sheep were unloaded in the sheltered waters of Whangatoitoi Bay. The sheep grazed the hills there for a while and were shorn at Cutters Bay. Yards were made by barrels of whale oil stood close together. Daniel Doherty and his wife ran a whaling station from Cutters Bay for some time. After shearing the sheep they were rowed by whaleboat to Rarangi Bay and driven around the coast to Marfells Beach (part of the Flaxbourne run).

While living and working at Whangatoitoi Jerome took a liking to Mary Anne Register who was living there on her own with her children, after her husband Captain Robert Register had died. Jerome Flood and Mary Anne Register married in Wellington in 1852. Mary Anne had been given around 50 acres of land in Whangatoitoi by the Maoris at the time for some good deeds she showed them. The New Zealand law at the time was, land could not be owned by women if they were legally married, so her land was transferred to Jerome Flood.

Mary Anne and Jerome had 3 sons while living at Port Underwood. Their marriage was fairly tumultuous at times with Mary Anne trying a number of times to drown Jerome. His family has it that he always said that if he built a new house he would put a post in the middle of the hallway. He reckoned with Mary Anne being quite large and he a skinny little man, he could escape from her. Eventually Mary Anne had had enough of Jerome and walked out of the marriage, walking with her daughter first to Hakana Bay; then to Hakahaka and over the hill to Picton.

With Jerome Flood coming from Ireland, the Floods there had quite large farms, but a lot was leasehold. Jerome travelled to Wellington and managed to lease a block of land in Port Underwood from the heads right down to Island Bay, back over to Tory Channel and up to Rahotia where the phone goes through, down to the point between Whangakoko Bay and Ngakuta Bay; nearly 10,000 acres in all. This was the start of the farm "Starmount”.

Jerome Flood wasn't very energetic and spent a lot of his time living in the old telegraph hotel in Blenheim. About 1875 the 3 boys came back to the farm after working in the North Island, saw what the old man was up to and brought him back to Port Underwood. The farm was then split up into 3 with the sons taking a third share each. My father eventually sold his share in about 1950 but held onto the land where we have our baches.

Two of my sisters and I now own the land that has been in our name for over 160 years. I am the fifth generation to own this block and we now have sixth and seventh generations coming through so it appears one way or another, Floods will be in Port Underwood for some time yet.

Tony Flood.

**AGM Meeting Minutes**

**3 January 2015**

**Port Underwood Association Inc**

PO Box 59 Blenheim

[port.underwood.association@gmail.com](mailto:port.underwood.association@gmail.com)

www.portunderwoodassoc.org

**Minutes of the Twenty Second Annual General Meeting**

John Davison welcomed the members present at the Hinton Residence, Hakahaka Bay. Members were invited to introduce themselves.

**Present** Ken Roush, Susan Rutherford, Ali Kircher, Michael Blaschke, Anne Gregory-Hunt, Peter Gregory-Hunt, Greg Phillipson, Annabel Phillipson, Paul Blaschke, Diane Cranfield, David Whyte, Sara Roush, Lyn White, Terry Crispin, Peter Banks, Bryon Gleeson, Nadine Taylor, Dave Lindner, Rob Barclay, Ruth Simenson, Narelle Guard, Irene Ross, George Platts, Lawry Hinton, Mike Rutherford

**Apologies** Maureen Joyce, Ray Joyce, Mike Milligan, John Sanders, Gill Sanders, Dan Fleming, Bec Fleming, Rosemary Rutherford, Carole McArthur, Jeremy Ward, Annie Ward, Eric Jorgensen, Josie Smith, Patsy Platts, John Fielding, Jane and Ian Skinner, James Perry, Bruce and Gill Hearn, June Caines, Jenny Kennedy, Terry and Gill Schwass

**Minutes** The minutes of the last AGM, held 3rd January 2014 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

G Phillipson/ D Cranfield - Accepted

**Chair’s Report** John Davison presented his annual report.

Topics covered:

* Whataroa forest harvesting
* Whangatoetoe Bay mussel farm approved
* Treaty settlement for the area Ngati Toa Rangatira
* Marlborough District Plan
* Oyster bay Subdivision
* PUA Website

The full Chair’s Report is available on the PUA website.

**Treasurers Report**

Sara Roush presented the Financial Report

Sara overviewed the Associations accounts.

There are currently 111 paid up member and the Subs are to remain the same ($20.00) for the coming year.

**That the Treasurers Report presented to the meeting be approved.**

D Whyte/ A kircher - Accepted

**Neighbourhood Support**

Sara Roush gave an update on Neighbourhood Support.

2014 has been a very quiet year, with just two reports of minor burglaries. The Port Underwood Neighbourhood Support has joined up with the Blenheim Neighbourhood Support group. Updates on this are available on the website and in the Newsletter.

Tony Flood is asking for any possible emergency helicopter landing sites in the Port so he can determine the GPS co-ordinates for use by emergency services.

Ph: 5799432 PU/ 5788348 H

Neighbourhood Support stickers and signs were available to meeting attendees.

**Sounds Advisory Group**

Ken Roush advised the meeting that the Sounds Advisory Group held a meeting in Port Underwood last February that was attended by 15 members of the public. The group meets four times a year.

Topics discussed were:

A trial surface on some areas of Port Underwood Road between White’s Bay and Robinhood Bay The purpose is to retain a small amount of moisture in the surface which will remain hard. This will reduce the dust and increase the time before corrugations develop hopefully out to a 6 to 8 month period.

* Forestry on the Eastern side of Port Underwood. The MDC has ruled that public roads should not be used for transportation of logs from this site.

The review of the Marlborough Regional Policy Plan and Resource Management Plan continues and expected notification of the draft plans is July 2015 with an 80 day period for public submissions and hearings in March 2016. It should be finalised by September 2016.

As part of the central government review of Marine Protected Areas there is a discussion about creating a Recreational Fishing Reserve in the Marlborough Sounds. All discussions are in a state of flux at the moment but it is forecast that there will be a general document put out in February for review and feedback and then later a document more specific to the Recreational Fishing Reserve.

The Marlborough Sounds Integrated Management Trust has put out a request for persons interested to join a working party to establish an integrated management plan for the Marlborough Sounds. It will be called Marlborough Marine Futures ([www.marlmarinefutures.co.nz](http://www.marlmarinefutures.co.nz)). Two meetings are proposed, on March 8th and 22nd. The first is an open meeting but those attending should register first.

A full report from Ken Roush on the SAG is available on the website as well as the SAG meeting notes.

John Davison thanked Ken Roush for his contribution to the PUA.

Greg Phillipson notified the meeting of a website called NZTA On The Move where you can get notifications on road conditions or road crashes immediately. Sections of road can be singled out. See: <https://onthemove.govt.nz>

John Davison told the meeting he was putting a log on the website of road incidents and will include the NZTA website address.

Sara Roush talked about the PUA Newsletters, saying there had been great feedback on the articles relating to the history of Port Underwood. She asked for further contributions from members to add to future newsletters.

Paul Blaschke questioned Ken Roush on the Marlborough Marine futures forum. Ken explained that the Marlborough District Council is funding the formation of a Trust (Integrated Management Trust) and wants various groups to feed into this. It is currently in a formative stage.

Ali Kircher was thanked for her long service as committee member to the Association.

**Election of Committee**

President - John Davison - K Roush/ D Cranfield

Secretary/Treasurer - Sara Roush -J Davison/ G Phillipson

Committee - Ken Roush, David Whyte, Greg Phillipson, David Lindner, Michael Baschke, Jeremy Ward, Arch Still

Ali Kircher thanked Lawry Hinton for having the AGM in his family home.

John Davison declared the meeting closed at 4pm.