



TAT RAZA NEWS



Newsletter of the Te Atatu Memorial RSA (inc)

December 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What another good year it has been for the RSA generally. Highlighted by several major functions including ANZAC Day, Veterans' Day, the Dine and Dance to mention just a few. Your support as members for all events and functions is commended and valued.

Congratulations must go to Dave Gillam our editor on producing this, his 40th newsletter- an outstanding effort over the past 8 years. Dave we all look forward to the next ten issues to make it 50 before you even contemplate a handover of your duties.

All members have now been informed by mail or email of subscriptions due. If you make payment by 22 December you will be in the draw for a 42" colour television. This draw will be made on Friday 23 December after The Ode.

Payment may be made directly to Stephen in the office, or by forwarding a cheque or by internet transaction.

The new Kitchen contractors are now in their settling in period. Feedback has been positive in relation to the extended hours. These are noon to 9pm Wednesday to Sunday with a good variety of bar snacks and bistro food. Come in and try the lunch specials, or enjoy a bottle of wine with an evening meal.

Finally on behalf of the executive committee and staff we wish all members and their families a very merry family Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

Bob Pettis
President

TE ATATU RSA SUPPORT SERVICES

Hi Everyone

It is the Festive season again! That means parties, celebrations, good times, summer holidays etc. Don't panic!!! The welfare team are taking a well earned break, but I will still be here 24/7. I will be on my own, so please be patient, as I may take a bit of time to get to you, but I will be there.

My contact number is 027 483 2593.

The Welfare team and I wish you all a very merry Christmas, and a safe and healthy new year! (stay sober)

Ian Henry
Support Officer



WOMEN'S SECTION

The last few months have been full on. September was our Annual General Meeting which always goes very well. Thank you to our Special guests President Bob Pettis and Our Auditor David Gillam. We have some new ladies join our executive committee this term, Jackie Crane who will be visiting our ladies who may be unwell or in a nursing home. Pauline Scott has set up our FACEBOOK PAGE so if you are computer savvy take a look and 'friend' us.

Your 2016/2017 committee is :-

President Deidre Rich

Vice president and Women's Representative on the executive committee Carroll Oliver .

Secretary Denise Mc Birney.

Treasurer Sharon Sybers.

Committee Joanne Argent, Barbara Smith, Julie Drent, Judy Fairweather, Pauline Moore, Pauline Scott, Elaine Waters, Nita Te tai, Jackie Crane.

October saw the Auckland District Women's Section AGM hosted by East Coast Bays. There was a lot of discussion over a remit to remove the Women's representative from the national Presidents forum. I'm happy to say this was lost when voted on at the National RSA meeting in Wellington. Next year we host the 2017 Auckland District AGM here at Te Atatu RSA. Also our ladies set the table for the annual Trafalgar day celebration.

In November we celebrated our 51st birthday in style with a barbeque. Thank you to Wayne and Ian for being our cooks for the day. The ladies made salads. Nita Te Tai and the girls did a great job setting up the tables. Elaine

Waters brought her beautiful massage candles. Many ladies purchased these on the day and have been raving about them since. It was a fun filled afternoon.

We also had our Veterans and Life members afternoon tea which was well attended in company with family members. It was great to see our Patron David Cox here on the day in the company of his daughter. Each guest received a small gift from the Women's Section .

Sadly we have said goodbye to one of our originals - Pat Vincent. Pat contributed in many ways over the years and last year I had an opportunity to sit and talk with her about some of those memories.

We have had a few funerals this year and I would like to thank all those ladies for their help, supporting our RSA families at these times. This is a very important function of the Women's Section. If you would like to give a helping hand with funeral duties please let Carrol or Deidre know.

The last night for Women's section raffles will be the 23 December 2016. We will start again on the 3 February 2017. We are always looking for volunteers for our raffle roster. This works out about once every 6 weeks if you would like to help. The Golf boys will be doing raffles on Fridays over January.

Donations this year went to our Preschools in Te Atatu Peninsula and our Intermediate, Women's Refugee and Ronald Mc Donald house and our Local Christmas Parade.

The Women's Section committee and I wish all members and their families a wonderful Christmas and warm relaxing summer.

Deidre Rich - President

Hi Everyone,

Another darts season has come and gone. As always, we had a lot of fun regardless of results; which were a mixed bag. Our season culminated with the Ben Anderson Trophy. This mixed pairs tournament is held in memory of Ben who played Darts for Te Atatu RSA for 40 years - great guy - loved by all.

Ben's family and many friends gathered on the 26 November for this fun tournament. Fantastic day, lots of laughs and some "interesting" Darts.

Two big THANK YOU'S.

Firstly to Ben's family and friends for honouring a great guy.
Secondly to our "new" kitchen people for putting on a wonderful spread.

Lastly our Darts A.G.M. is on Saturday 21 January 2017 at 2.30pm.

If our Darts section is to continue we NEED the support of our R.S.A. membership. It is fair to say that earlier this year we were on the verge of "Not having a Darts Club". I believe this would be a very sad day if that were to happen.

PLEASE come along on 21 January not only to have your say but more importantly to continue our great sport.

To all members have a merry and safe Christmas.

Cheers
Kevin Barlow
Club Captain



8' BALL NEWS

Another year nearly over. Oh how time flies when you are having fun!

On the 3 November the pool club went away for their annual four day trip. This year it was to Taupo and was enjoyed by all. Most of the people that went away played against the RSA on Saturday afternoon and they enjoyed the camaraderie and hospitality shown to them. The last time we were in Taupo was 2010.

The following are the results of tournaments played since our last newsletter:

Trevor Barker – Irene Stanaway Drawn Pairs
Winners: John Newberry & Ian Hyde
Runners Up: Roi Davey & Gordon Wright

Dave Harman Memorial Mixed Drawn Pairs
Winners: Joanne Kaiaranga & Ian Hyde
Runners Up: Roi Davey & Bob Seath

Ray Hart Champ of Champs
Winner: Chas Babbington
Runner Up: Gordon Wright

Thank you to all those people that participated in our Tournaments and to John Newberry and Sylvia Marchant for running them.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. If you are travelling over the holiday period take care and enjoy your time away and return home safely.

Noelene Ross Secretary.

Our season has ended in style with The Ladies Pairs, Margaret Mitchell Memorial Tournament, being won by Roweena Rooney and Dianne McKenzie, runners up were Bee Hansen and Annie Lancaster. As usual the ladies had a great afternoon with plenty of laughter, friendly rivalry and a good deal of quality shots. A big thank you to Bernie Steward for once again devoting his time to keeping the ladies happy.

One week earlier, Bernie had faced the final challenge for his on going position as "Top Dog". To his supreme credit, he defended his title with an emphatic eighteen wins out of eighteen frames played over the two days of competition. This year's runner up was Dave Gourley.

More recently, five of our players went to Henderson RSA to try and retrieve the Auckland District Singles Trophy. Four qualified on day one to go through to the championship last sixteen. The Sunday play wasn't as kind to them and no-one went on to the final eight, they were all involved in tightly contested frames but the 'rub of the green' just wasn't with them on the day. Manaia Babbington restored our pride with a very respectable runner up position in the Plate final.

Well done to everyone who played during the season and it has been a pleasure to add so many new faces to the mix. As usual our Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon friendly tournaments will continue uninterrupted throughout the holiday period, including Boxing Day if people wish to try and work off the indulgences of Christmas with a leisurely stroll around the tables.

Best wishes to all for Christmas and New Year.

Bob Wood (Chairman)

RAZZA RAMBLERS

Wow doesn't time fly or is it that we get older faster.

Here it is only a couple of weeks from Xmas and hopefully everyone has made plans for the holiday season. The Ramblers all have plans, some will travel, and others will holiday once the traffic eases.

The last couple of months have been a little quiet on the Ramblers front. In October three of our group had an enjoyable weekend at Shelley Beach. This is always a good spot although all the sites were full as it was Labour Weekend.

Yours truly and Larry didn't make that trip as we had decided to ramble by plane. We had a few days in Melbourne watching motorbikes race at Phillip Island. Larry & I have also made a trip to Dargaville to enjoy a day at the country races with Neil & Janice. Sometimes you just need to broaden your horizons.

The Te Atatu Xmas parade will see Te Atatu RSA participate and members of the Ramblers will once again be involved. A big thankyou to Greg & Barb for the use of their truck.

Once we get through the silly season we will get ourselves organised for more travel together in our motorhomes. No matter if it is only a couple or all of us we have a great time sharing memories, meals & a drink or two and realising how lucky we are to be able to indulge in such a great pastime as Motorhoming with good friends.

We are all looking forward to a very Merry Xmas & a great 2017 catching up with family & friends. TAT Razza Ramblers wish all Te Atatu RSA members the same.

See you all next year

Merle Dysart - Scribe

THE QUARTERDECK

Naval activity this past month has been busy. The Navy Club, which most on the quarterdeck table here in Te Atatu belong to was in full swing helping the Royal New Zealand Navy celebrate it's 75th anniversary. The RNZN was pretty well organized to run this event with Naval vessels from other countries due to arrive en masse into Auckland, displays, parades and open days all ready to go. Then CRACK - earthquake, with people and places in great need of help. The Navy was dispatched, not only NZ but some of the other nations sent ships and relief. HMNZS Canterbury carried tourists and those in need to vacate Kaikoura to Lyttelton then ferried urgent supplies back into the damaged zone. The armed forces of any country are not just to fight foes, more to help those in need be it on land, at sea or in the air. From the quarterdeck we are proud of our service and raise our glasses in salute to them. Well done Navy.

CHEERS and MERRY CHRISTMAS
Stokes.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Our September bus trip was to the Fish Pot Cafe at Mission Bay after a scenic tour along Tamaki Drive, up Kohimarama Rd, around Glendowie, Archilles Point, St. Heliers Bay and on to Mission Bay for some lovely fish and chips.

Coming up in December are our Christmas Lunch, Hamper Day, final Club day for 2016 on Thursday 15th, and Tuesday only indoor bowls organised by Richard Houghton through to the end of January 2017. The first official Club day in 2017 will be Tuesday 7th February.

This year we have celebrated the 95th Birthdays of two of our long-standing members--Audrey Eagle and Len Piercy who are great people and still playing great bowls.

Best wishes to all for Christmas and the new year,

Brian Craig; President Ph. 8346595

MENS GROUP

Once again, the group has been quite busy and has been on the following trips:

14/9 Had a guest speaker George Harder, the local community constable. He gave us an insight into his work and had also arranged for us to have a tour of the West Auckland Station at Henderson. Unfortunately, this had to be cancelled because of the sudden death of one of our members, Fred Warrington. Fred will be sadly missed and we were all shocked at his sudden passing.

19/10 On the recommendation of Ken Percy, we had a visit to Crystal Light at Albany. This has been described as being similar to Crystal Mountain, Ranui, but on a much larger scale. 16/11 We had another trip to St Heliers. Ken Percy knows the area very well as he spent many years living in the area and guided the group to Achilles Point and Savage Memorial. A great coffee and lunch was had by all. We also viewed the fleet of warships from various nations that were here to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Royal New Zealand Navy. //



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30/11 Lunch with our wives at our RSA.

I would like to thank the guys for all their loyalty to the group, particularly the help I get from Bruce & Lindsay. Also with Ken for assistance with a few of the programmes and his loyalty with his help to Brian.

We will finish for the year 14/12 and resume again 18/1/17.

Errol Schirnack - Coordinator. Ph 818 99980

AUCKLAND DISTRICT RSA YOUTH COUNCIL

Kiaora and Meri Kirihimete to you all. Well that was easy. Like the rest of you, I have had lot on my plate, and finding very hard to put together a newsy "report" on what is happening with both the above. Firstly, let us look at where we are with the reciprocal visit from the NSW RSL Youth. There is a contingent of 33 made up of 6 boys, 23 girls and 4 Adults and, guess what, they are arriving here in Te Atatu RSA on Saturday, 15th of April, which happens to be Easter Weekend.

So we are desperately looking for billets over this time which will be from, the Saturday through to the following Saturday where they will be transferred to South Auckland for the rest of their time here. We have Glen Eden RSA, New Lynn RSA, Titirangi RSA and of course us, supporting the Western Districts. So we are only looking to billet approximately 6 people per RSA. However, we understand that a week is a big ask, so the more volunteers for we get to help with billeting, the more we can spread the days. John and I have personally billeted two boys on one of their visits, and they were neat and besides you hardly even see them as they will be kept entertained during the day with various activities. Preferably, we would like either 2 girls, or 2 boys to be accommodated with one billet - this just helps them to feel a little more comfortable, and less likely to get homesick. Anyway, please give this some consideration and do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have. Home number is 8347066 or mobile 0275347066. Oh, by the way, Melanie Sybers, who was one of our representative youth on last year's tour to NSW, has been awarded a ten week German Scholarship to a small town called Bad Oldesloe. Out of 16 students in NZ, she was only 1 of 2 to be selected and the first time Rutherford College has ever had a student awarded this scholarship. We wish Melanie a safe and wonderful trip for her well earned award.

Waitakere Cadets Unit

I have just got back from our local Santa Parade, and I hope you all had a great time and supported the Cadets by purchasing their yummy Nachos and giving them a great welcome as they marched along in the parade. This group is not shy when it comes to making use of opportunities to raise funds for the Cadets. I found out at the last meeting that the most up to date stuff that these young people get up to, is on facebook. It would appear to be a much easier way to communicate and keep parents and friends informed. So just look them up on facebook by searching waitakere cadets.

Thank you for taking the time to keep up with what is going with our youth, and as I have already wished you a Merry Xmas, I will sign off with a Happy and Prosperous New Year to you all.

Annie Lancaster - Te Atatu RSA Youth Liaison

(See photo back page)



Annie's cadets on parade.
(See page 3)

THE FISHING CLUB

The weather has finally started to settle for the start of summer, been a lot of strong winds and mega tides which has generated much discussion on mother earth and the earthquakes being experienced of late. As we all know it's been a hard year for fishing but there have been a few very successful trips and looking forward to our last trip of the year on Cracker Jack in the Hauraki Gulf on the 10th December. A huge thank you to all fishing club members, committee and RSA members for your support through out the year.

On behalf of the Te Atatu RSA Fishing Club have a wonderful Christmas with family and friends.

Leave you with this little bit of interesting info on our most popular fish, the snapper is not actually a snapper, and it has many names.

We can thank Captain James Cook for the mix-up; for when he saw his first snapper in New Zealand waters in 1770 he thought it was one of the snappers he had encountered in North American waters, and named it accordingly.

Our snapper actually belongs to a family of fish known as porgies, which are commonly caught in shallow inshore waters in North America, and is the only member of that family found here. This member is also found in Australia and as far away as Japan.

True snappers include 14 different species found in north and central American waters, and include names like mutton snapper, cubera snapper, Guinean snapper, mullet snapper, red snapper and yellowtail snapper. Most grow to around 12 kilos, but the monster is the Pacific cubera snapper which tops 35 kilos.

Merry Christmas to all .



Graham Lange - Head linesman

EDITORIAL

Not much room left for me this time. Even the golfers risked their handicaps and reached for their pens ! Wow. We even get an education piece from the fishers about snapper. I have one other variety to add there. At school, a longer time ago than one cares to remember, our maths master bore the nickname "Snapper". He was a bit that way too. Anyway Gurnard is cheaper !! However - enormous thanks to all our contributors for your pieces over the years. 40 editions is—Wow! President Bob says 50 is the target !!! He's a tough B****. All the best for Christmas to all you readers, and a healthy wealthy and joy filled 2017. Does not even the Right Bow beat a trump?
Dave G. Ed.

The 2016 RSA National Golf Tournament was held 6th - 9th November at the Tauranga Golf Course. Sunday got away with a good size field of 90 competing in three divisions depending on handicap. The course was presented in great condition with the fairways like carpet and the greens running true and reasonably quick. All players were through by early afternoon. Monday morning arrived and so did the rain forcing cancellation of the day's play without a ball being hit.

A re-jig of the competition resulted in the Championship rounds being played on Tuesday and Wednesday and the four ball/best ball would be played "off the card" from Wednesday's Championship round. A small set back, yet gave the Te Atatu team a chance to relax. Tuesday's weather was slightly better - no rain but windy and I mean WINDY!. This was going to be a real challenge. About two hours into the round, and two trees had blown over . Luckily no one was hit and inevitably the organisers suspended play hoping the wind might drop in the afternoon. This gave those that had yet to finish their rounds a chance to get back to the club house and have some lunch.

Play was restarted after about an hour and half, although the wind hadn't abated much . All players completed their rounds albeit that there were some very weary golfers.

Wednesday was much better as the sun came out. The wind and rain had moved up the country and "the sunny" Bay of Plenty's name was restored. This was the business end of the tournament where a good round could promote one into contention. Everyone was looking forward to getting on the tee. The course was back to its best and everyone looked pleased that the day was going to be enjoyable.

All rounds were duly completed and we retired to the Motel, where after a swim and a tidy up, we got together for pre-dinner drinks and nibbles. We all agreed that despite a bit of a hiccup in the weather it had been a fantastic week thoroughly enjoyed. Prize giving followed with trophies and generous prizes awarded.

A good result for the Te Atatu Memorial RSA Golf Team, with wins in Best Gross (Graeme Shaw) and Best Combined Nett (Andrew Pollock and Graeme Shaw).

We are all looking forward to next years event to be held in Hastings. Thanks to the Te Atatu RSA Golf Team and wives for making this such a great trip.

Graeme Shaw - MID twice!



(LR) Jack McCurdy, Ian Wilson, Graeme Shaw, Bill Ashe, Andrew Pollock, Bob Pettis, Peter Newberry.