

The RAZZA

WHANGAMATA RSA NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 104
FEBRUARY 2024

“If you see someone without a smile - give them one of yours”



PRESIDENTS REPORT

Geoff March

Mid-February already, we have done a bit already this year, the opening of Highway 25A was an influx initially but has slowed down now, the numbers were reasonable but not great.

The Christmas, New Year, Auckland Anniversary and Waitangi weekend went well, it is good to see people back to enjoying themselves and this summer has certainly made it a lot better. Sunday of Waitangi we held a Kids Club Kite Day at Williamson Park, the response was amazing, we sold 80 Kites, we hear lots of parents are now being asked to go to the park to fly a kite now. Will be bigger and better next time.

THE WALL, yes action is happening on this, the major part of the project is complete, it is now the details and finishing that will take shape. It has been a community effort, with a lot of supportive work done by our local tradies, keep an eye on it from now on.

Not sure if any of you have seen the negative articles in the Media about the RSA Organisation and bitter comments that are going around, unfortunately the reputation of the National Organisation is being affected, which impacts on how the public view their local RSA. We are lucky we have a friendly and welcoming RSA so when we get people who haven't been in an RSA before their experience is positive and enjoyable, our acceptance of families and especially kids makes us different to other clubs, long may it last.

Kevin Greaves passed away, sadly a loss of a great entertainer, fortunately Kevin's brother Lex has agreed to following in Kevin's steps, we have had him twice and he is an amazing entertainer attracting the same numbers as Kevin used to, a bonus to this, Kevin's son Lukas has performed as well, a bright future for both of these entertainers.

Saturday Night 17 Feb, we hosted the prize giving of the Surf Carnival, 160 people attended and had a great evening, Ying did the meal, so everyone was well catered for, thank you to our members for making them welcome.

BEACH HOP is on the way, we have a full calendar of bands from the Wednesday Night to Sunday Night, plus we are hosting the Truck Show in our carpark on the Saturday, more vehicles are registered this year, and the Beach Hop committee is predicting much larger attendance numbers than usual. The initial registration for this Beach Hop sold out in 16 minutes, staggering, as usual there will be a lot more vehicles around than those registered, EXCITING.

Our members are always out visiting other clubs and RSAs, if you see something that you think would benefit our RSA please let us know, we need a hand to improve our program and RSA operation.

Keep an eye on our RSA Website, Facebook page and Entertainment Board in the front entrance foyer and the TV by the BAR with what is happening.

Again thank you all for your support and involvement in our club.

Friday **QUIZ NIGHT**

Friday 6.30pm
Teams of up to 6 people \$2 pp

PROUDLY
SPONSORED BY

BAYLEYS

HOUSIE

Thursday 4pm

14		32
	27	37
	29	
14		36
2	21	34

100 100

DRAW NIGHTS

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
from 5.15pm

Must be in to win!

Raffles
Jokers Wild
Membership Draws

Whangamata RSA
N Z Returned and Services Society

FIREWOOD RAFFLE

Trailer load of mixed pine & gum
\$2 RAFFLE TICKETS SELLING NOW!

FREE DELIVERY TO WHANGAMATA

All members c'mon and get your tickets!
Winter is coming...

Whangamata RSA
N Z Returned and Services Society



WHAT'S ON

upcoming events and entertainment

MARCH

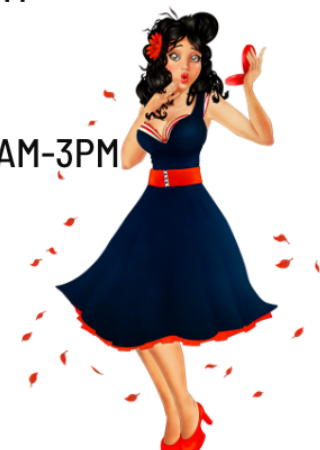
- SUNDAY 3** **COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB** 12PM
- SUNDAY 10** **LEX GREAVES** 4PM
- THURSDAY 14** **WELFARE BOWLS TOURNAMENT**
- SUNDAY 17** **ST PATRICK'S DAY**



BEACH HOP

JOIN US BEACH HOP WEEK 20 - 24 MARCH 2024

- WEDNESDAY** **TOUCAN** 7PM
- THURSDAY** **'HIGHLY STRUNG' UKULELE** 1.30PM-3.30PM
SPECIAL BEACH HOP SESSION
- THE BLAZE ROCKERS ELVIS** 7PM
"A TRIBUTE TO THE KING"
- FRIDAY** **RSA LINE DANCING** 9.30AM-12PM
- CROWD PLEAZERS** 7PM
- SATURDAY** **JCD CUSTOMS & MARINE** 8AM-3PM
PICK UP TRUCK SHOW
- CROWD PLEAZERS** 12PM-2PM
- CROWD PLEAZERS** 7PM
- SUNDAY** **GREAVES FAMILY** 4PM



CHECK THE NOTICEBOARDS | FACEBOOK | WEBSITE | EMAILS FOR ADDITIONAL INFO

VETERANS SUPPORT

If you served in any of the NZ Armed Forces and you have a NZ Operational Service Number, including CMT and National Service.

You may be eligible for assistance from Veteran's Affairs. Please contact one of our Support Advisors:

Pam Murray – 027 610 5599
Nick Penney – 027 654 8501
Doug Walters – 021 102 8602

Doug Walters is a JP here in Whangamata and is happy to offer his services to our Members.

DID YOU SERVE IN THE ARMED FORCES?

If so we would like to meet you

No matter how long you served,
with which Service or Country

We are meeting the first Wednesday of each month, 5pm at Whangamata RSA

A casual gathering to chat and if you want, have a meal

We hope to see you there!



**Everyone welcome,
we are a family friendly RSA**

Looking for something to do? We have...

Snooker and 8 Ball tables free to use

Library full of books, puzzles and magazines
(kids books and puzzles too)

Free Wifi

GAMES

Looking for something to do, have the kids/grandkids?

We have games available to play:

Cornhole, Quoits, Giant Jenga & Connect Four

NEW Table Soccer aka Foosball



MEMBERSHIP

Membership is available for Returned, Service and Associate

Over 18 years of age (\$40/year)

Veterans Returned and Service 75+ (\$20/year)

Junior Membership 16 to 18 years of age (\$25/year)

Current Serving - Serving Uniformed Members of the NZ Defence Force and NZ Police - this is a complimentary membership. (Free)

Paid your Subs but don't have your card yet?

Come in and pick up, your card will be at the bar waiting for you.

(This applies to members with a Whangamata address - if you have an out of town address your card has been posted, please contact us if you have not received your card).



JOIN NOW

\$40 until
30th June 2024

JOKES



WOMENS SECTION

Lyn Ward – President

Our first meeting for 2024 was held on Tuesday 13th February at the usual time of 1.30pm. This meeting was held a week later than usual as the RSA was closed for Waitangi Day on the 6th.

After the business part of the meeting a quiz was held with Trish Fagan being our quizmaster once again and as usual the quiz was good general knowledge and a lot of fun. Each member was given a number and each corresponding number made up the teams of four people. Twenty questions were asked, and the winning team answered 16 correctly winning a chocolate fish each.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 5th March at 1.30pm. We will have a guest speaker to talk about all things bees – an apiarist. I look forward to seeing our members there and any other ladies who would like to come along and join the Section.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

If there any ladies in the Whangamata and surrounding areas who would like to meet up with other ladies once a month the RSA Women's Section would welcome you.

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 1.30pm at the RSA. Our program is business (formal meeting) first followed by entertainment such as guest speakers, quizzes, housie and any other ideas the committee (and members) can organise. Any prospective member would need to become a member of the RSA (if not already) and then pay a sub of \$10 per year to become a member of the Section.

If this is of interest to you feel free to come along to meeting to meet with the members or contact me – Lyn Ward, President, 021 210 6755 for any further information.

HISTORY DEFINED



At the grocery store in the 1960s.

After realizing that poor women were using the flour sacks to make clothing for their children some flour mills started using flowered fabric for their sacks, 1939.

3 young women eat spaghetti on inflatable mattresses, 1939.



RSA Remembrance Wall taking shape

Article from Whangamata News

Project Remembrance update: The second pour of the concrete has been laid last week, leaving the RSA Heart to be finished in a different way. Watch this space...

Our local sculptor Ted Pickett has been giving his all, getting the electrical and plumbing complete (special thanks here to Tony Pitcher for electrical hook up and Simon for plumbing essentials). Our flagpole is with Brandon from Coastal Engineering to be resurrected very soon.

Our RSA President Geoff March, is working closely with the Menzshed on the template to reinstate the brass lettering – key to the design.

We are well on track for ANZAC Day for the big reveal, we are still seeking donations of native timber for slatting for the seats – perhaps you have some under your house, in the attic or leftover from a job... we would love to hear from you!

Call Jennie on 021 0232 1661 or our RSA Manager Kerry 865 9419.



ADJUNCT RESULTS

GOLDEN OLDIES SNOOKER

Golden Oldies Practice Round

30th January 2024 Players: 8

Highest Break: Bob 16

Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Graham W; 3 Wins, 174 Points

Runner Up: Jack T; 2 Wins, 150 Points

Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 19 Chips

13th February 2024 Players: 10

Highest Break: Bob S, 23

Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Graham W; 4 Wins, 174 Points

Runner Up: Jack T; 3 Wins, 205 Points

Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 18 Bob S.

20th February 2024 Players: 8

Highest Break: Bill S; e Wins, 200 Points

Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Bill S; 3 Wins, 200 Points

Runner Up: Ray; 3 Wins, 180 Points

Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 18 Rob

INDOOR BOWLS

On Tuesday 13th February we had our official opening day of our bowling year.

23 players were in attendance and it was good to see players back after their holiday break.

The players were sorted into 8 teams for the 3 games to be played. Much light hearted rivalry and banter made for a fun morning of bowls.

Indoor bowls is played weekly here at the RSA on Tuesday mornings with names in by 9.45am for start of play at 10am. We welcome anyone who wishes to give bowls a go and members are willing to help new players.

Results from our opening days play:

Winners - John Hares, Denese Braithwaite and Marilyn Steel.

Runners Up – Ellen McSkimming and Lynda Callaghan.

The raffle was won by Cynthia Colville.

KITE DAY

When I (Geoff) was overseas, I saw Kite flying everywhere, it is a huge family affair, and they even fly at night with LED lights on their Kites, that makes them look totally different. I came home and thought I haven't seen any Kite flying in Whangamata, so I searched out where to purchase kites and put together the Whangamata RSA Kids Club, Kite Day 2024 on Sunday 4th February at Williamson Park.

We purchased 100 Kites being optimistic and Sara put together an attractive Poster, talked to Enterprise Whangamata so they put it up on the website. I approached Toes in the Water (Beach Wheelchairs for all), they saw the value of being involved and so we set about making the day happen. The day before was the Naughty Girls Fishing Comp and the weather was horrendous, we decided to still hold the Kite Day on the Sunday, which surprisingly was a beautiful day sunny with light winds (We could have done with another 5 or 10 knots of wind).

We opened at 1pm, Toes in the Water had their signage and chairs out on display, we set up in the carpark opposite the Toes in the Water shed, Gavin from Enterprise Whangamata was there putting Kites together to keep ahead with the demand. Amazingly we sold 80 Kites on the day and looking around the area it was full of families all running around enjoying the experience of finally getting their Kites to fly, in fact in the end most of the kids were watching their parents running around like children again.

I have been passed Williamson Park a few times and seen our kites been flown there, Phil from Craft House tells me his kids want to go down to the park by the Fire Station to fly their kites each night.



With the total success of the day we are all talking about making it bigger and better next year.

It gave our RSA a great exposure to the community, Toes in the Water had three people use their equipment on the day, and Enterprise Whangamata has said they will be involved more next year.

A positive family day, kites are simple to fly but hard to master, I think that is what is the good thing about them, anyone can fly one, and turn into a kid again.

CLASSY ENAMEL
LEST WE FORGET
BADGES

\$10 EACH

Limited quantity available
but pre orders will be taken

Contact Kerry
rsamanager@outlook.com
Whangamata RSA



"show you are proud member of our RSA"

LEX
GREAVES

Sunday
10 March
4pm
Whangamata RSA

FRANCES AND BRIAN'S NEW YEAR HOLIDAY

Cruises, Islands and the sights of Sydney

Left Auckland 23rd of December and flew to Sydney, stayed at Brian's cousin Frances until the 26th then it all started on the 27th on the cruise ship Pacific Adventurer. Went on a comedy cruise for three nights to sea out of Sydney Harbour, each night had a different Aussie comedian, typical Aussie humour, if you understood some of their humour, enjoyable and relaxing time though.

Played Bingo using the tablets, you just watched and hoped for a win, jackpot got up to \$3000 before it had to go, no luck. Continued playing on the Vanuatu cruise, which we did after the ship came back. We had to get off for a few hours then get back on ready to sail approximately 4:30 PM. We went first to Mystery Island, got taken by a Tender Boat. Was supposed to go on a tour by a boat which broke down. We found out that morning, so we got our money back. Decided to have a look around ourselves, didn't buy any coconut or mangoes sitting in the hot sun. Decided to go for a paddle in the cold water a little way out after deciding to come back and turned around a little wave, all it took to lose my balance and fell in getting my shorts wet and the back of my T-shirt, so we spent approximately 1 1/2 hours there, kept an eye on the boat which was coming backwards and forwards often. Went back to the ship dried out mostly, got changed and Brian and I had lunch.

We then sailed to Port Vila the next day toured the museum, remembrance monument saw memorial of New Zealanders who lost their lives in the Second World War. Looked around the markets and stalls when I lost sight of Brian after only looking at a table of necklaces and bracelets for less than a minute. I thought that's great, strange place, strange people who can't speak and understand English the best so I tried saying and shouting help I'm lost can anybody help me. One lady did but really took me away not close to where I should be going. I saw some white little tour buses. After she took me to them, I said, "no not them" (She was trying to be helpful, so thank you to her) I'm going the wrong way, so I headed back the other way to where I came from after getting frustrated looking for and spotted the places we were looking at before. It was now time to get back on the bus. I spotted and shouted out there you are Brian don't leave me again keep together you bugger, from now on after really saying I'm not more pleased to you, Brian only laughed and said, "yeah after losing you" laughing "the woman kept bringing you back." "You bugger" I said, "I'll get you back love."

The 3rd and final island was Lifou. Went on a bus tour around the beach. Later after pulling things out of my small shoulder bag, I noticed I couldn't find a \$50 note I put down the bottom, must have dropped it somewhere. Before visiting the islands, we had New Year's Eve out at sea, sang at karaoke each night, went on top of the roof and saw the New Year in, noisy but the experience of it all was incredible. Reading the itinerary from our room each day for what was on, bands, shows, quizzes etc things were hard to get a seat for as other people had the same ideas to get a seat early on the popular days and nights. Bingo was on again nearly every afternoon and morning, Brian played a couple of times, I played in the afternoon and Brian trying to bring me luck, I tried to rub the bald front of his head, but it still didn't bring me any luck. Brian also when he did play used the tablets and waited for one number a couple of times on different days, so did I at least three times.



FRANCES AND BRIAN'S HOLIDAY CONTINUED

We thought \$700, \$800, \$1700 it was exciting to wait for and sweat but as the days went on more people played and it got more popular even children with adults were allowed to play. The last day everyone got to know about it Brian and I queued up but found the tablets were all taken so I played the hard way by buying a marker and paper form. People were sitting on steps in front, on the floor by the seats which I'm surprised they let them. They didn't seem to mind. With more staff and helpers checking the winning tickets, which was nearly mine especially the jackpot last game was up to \$17,000 and I was two off like a few others. "Bugger, could have done coming home with that aye love." What a trying but enjoyable experience first cruise for me, Brian's been on a few others.

We then got off the ship, spent another three nights in Sydney, went on a Sydney Showboat Dinner Cruise around the harbour. The Cabaret Show was very enjoyable, had a three course dinner, smoked salmon and prawn ceviche for first course, the second was oven roasted chicken breast, 3rd dessert sweet flavour platter shared by both of us. Saw the Opera House, Harbour Bridge view high up looking right over Sydney, big place alright.

Next day after the trams everywhere the only way we found to get to the Blue Mountains was by bus which took two hours each way then we found where to look for the double Decker bus which took you everywhere. You just got off when you wanted to and put your hand up when he came past to get back on. We stayed at the Blue Mountains and after getting caught in a short thunderstorm, which only lasted 5 minutes and getting soaking wet. Then crossing over, I waited for the bus didn't take too long to dry out being so hot it actually cooled Brian and I off.

Our last day, tried once again on the tram to go to the markets which are so big as we found out after a long walk there, they were shut, except others were advertised to be open. Don't know where, it could have been anywhere so more walking to find them. Brian said "Well Francis, at least you have been there. Now you know what I mean by a big place when it is full of things to buy and sell, it certainly was. Then we walked to get the tram back. We went up and down lifts and escalators when we knew what number platform to wait at. We saw a lot of old towns and houses etc. out the windows on the way. Brian pointed them out to me. I got a black handbag at one of the smaller markets earlier on.

Sadly, the cruises and holiday of three weeks came to an end. Very enjoyable, happy to have had our first Christmas and New Year away together. We are saving up for another, see what we can afford next time.

LIFE AS A BALL TURRET GUNNER IN WORLD WAR TWO



Serving on a bomber in World War Two was almost a guaranteed death sentence. Depending on the unit and time of the war, US bomber crews could experience anywhere from 50% to just over 70% of their personnel becoming killed, missing, or taken prisoner. With such appalling casualty counts, it is no wonder why those who stepped forward to volunteer did so to the shock and surprise of their compatriots.

But even with such a dangerous calling, some airmen in the community drew gasped shocks even from battle-hardened veterans at volunteering. These airmen were those that served as ball turret gunners.

During the early part of the war, bombers were covered with a tail gunner. There were also two gunners on the side, also known as waist gunners. There were additional personnel like the radio man or flight engineer who could also access a machine gun mount. But there was just one problem.

The most exposed part of the aircraft, the underbelly, was not covered by any of the available machine gun mounts. American engineers quickly fixed this problem by adding a retractable ball turret to the underbelly of most American bombers. The ball turret was only four feet in diameter.

The turret would be lowered and raised via a combined electro-hydraulic system once in flight. This system could be activated by the pilots remotely. In an emergency, such as a loss of power or battle damage, the waist gunners could retract the turret manually if there was time.

Inside the mount were two .50 caliber machine guns with a K-4 Sperry gun sight. These machine guns were modified versions of the infamous M2 machine guns in use in the Army and Navy. Feeding these beasts were approximately 1000 rounds of ammunition among both guns.

During World War Two, there were no fancy radars, electronic warfare suites, and stealth technology standards on modern bomber self-defense systems.

FRENCH VISITORS

On Wednesday 21st February a couple came to our RSA and asked if there was a chance of a shower and a place to stay, Sue and I said yes and took them home.

They were Bruno and Isabel (Issy) Frebourg from Normandy (Northern France), they have been traveling the world for the last 16 years, they have visited so many countries it would be hard to recall them all, covered more than 61,000 kms so far on their bicycles. They came into Auckland, travelled most of the North Island then went across to Blenheim, Nelson down to Westport across Arthurs Pass and back up to Picton via Kaikoura.

They are on there way back to Auckland via, the east coast, Mt Maunganui, KatiKati, Waihi Beach now Whangamata onto Hot Water beach, to Whitianga, Coromandel on there way back to Auckland.

They stayed the night and headed to Hot Water Beach early on Thursday morning, no it doesn't inspire me to take up cycling the world, but I must say they have done it on a shoestring budget.

Their comment is that they enjoyed New Zealanders, as they are open and friendly people, a great chance to meet new people and show them our town. We had a great evening talking about there extensive travels around the world and around New Zealand, the language difference was interesting, but we think we understood each other. They headed off into the rain, just part of their journey.



KIDS CLUB MEMBERS

OUR KIDS CLUB MEMBERS HAVE SHARED WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN UP TO.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH US?

ART, SOMETHING FUN, HOLIDAYS, SPORTS, SCHOOL, ACHIEVEMENTS?...



UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS

Not getting emails? Change your address?

If any of your details need to be updated email rsamanager@outlook.com put "Contact Details" in the subject line



BANANA JUNKET

Heat 1 pint of milk with a tablespoon of sugar, add rennet (directions on bottle), then put 2 very well whipped bananas (creamy and frothy) into a dish and pour junket over. Grate a little nutmeg over and leave to set.

JANUARY PUDDING

Line a pudding basin with slices of stale bread, filling up all crevices. Stew some fruit (raspberries, blackberries or plums are best), sweeten to taste and pour boiling hot into prepared basin. Cover top with pieces of bread pressing it down to make sure it is well saturated. Cover basin with a plate and set aside for 24 hours. When ready for use turn out carefully and serve with whipped cream or custard.

RASPBERRY TAPIOCA

Soak 4 tablespoons tapioca in cold water for an hour, drain, add 1 quart scalded milk and cook till transparent. Beat 6 tablespoons sugar with the yolks of two eggs. Pour milk and tapioca over eggs, pour back into pan and cook until thick. Then stir in the stiffly beaten whites of the eggs. Leave till cool and when nearly cold beat in raspberry jam to turn a pretty pink.

SIMPLE FRUIT SALAD

Cut 4 or 5 bananas into rings, add sliced peaches, 1 tin of pineapple cubes and juice and any other fruit desired. Sprinkle with sugar and add juice of orange and lemon and pulp of 3 or 4 passion fruit. Serve in glass dishes. Top with whipped cream and glacé cherries.



Foreword

This collection of pudding recipes is unique. Compiled by a New Zealand housewife, experienced in cooking with range, gas and electricity, it contains recipes for every day of the year without repetition.

One of its many valuable features is the correct seasonal arrangement of the recipes, cool refreshing delicacies for warm days and piping hot dishes for winter months, with special recipes for fruit when it is most plentiful.

Recipes both old and new are included, the favourites of yesterday interspersed with the more modern delicacies of today. Each has been selected not only for its food value but also for its attractiveness.

A special section of extra Christmas Pudding recipes is given at the beginning of December; and at the end will be found a selection of suitable sauces, also an index making it possible to locate particular dishes without difficulty.

APPLE SNOW

Peel 4 cooking apples thinly and cut into quarters, removing the core. Place in saucepan with 2 tablespoons sugar, 2 cloves, small piece of lemon rind and 1 gill of water. Stew gently till apples are tender. Beat to a pulp and when cool add the stiffly beaten whites of two eggs. Beat well with egg whisk till white and spongy. Place half in another basin and colour a pretty pink with cochineal. Place alternate spoonfuls of pink and white lightly in shallow glass dish. Serve with custard made from the yolks of the eggs.

ONE FOR EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR



come to Ying's

@ the RSA

OPEN TUESDAY - SUNDAY

LUNCH 11AM - 3PM

DINNER 5PM - 8PM

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 5PM - LATE

Dine in or Takeaway

Authentic Thai & European Cuisine



Catering and Buffet available | Vegetarian and Gluten free options

ADJUNCTS & GROUPS *All Welcome*



Whangamata RSA

Indoor BOWLS

Tuesday
9.45am

Whangamata RSA logo



Whangamata RSA

Golden Oldies SNOOKER

Tuesday 1pm

home and away games

Whangamata RSA logo



Whangamata RSA

TAI CHI

with Cherry

Wednesday and Thursday
9am - 10am | \$5

Whangamata RSA logo



Whangamata RSA

500 CARD CLUB

Wednesday 12.30pm - 4pm

We are a fun group of people, there are a few rules, but other than that we encourage friendship, laughter and enjoyment...

Come along and join in, we would love to see you!

Whangamata RSA logo



Whangamata RSA

MAHJONG

Thursday

Names in at 9.45am
Play 10am - 1.30pm
\$2

Whangamata RSA logo



Whangamata RSA

'Highly Strung' UKULELE

Thursday 1.30pm

Whangamata RSA logo



Whangamata RSA

SNOOKER

Thursday
6.15pm

STILL ON BREAK
check facebook, website or noticeboard for updated info

Snooker are looking for more players to join Expressions of interest please contact us or come along on Thursday nights

Whangamata RSA logo



Whangamata RSA

LINE DANCING

Friday

9.30am beginners | 10.30am - 12pm
(every 4th Friday 12.30pm)

\$3 | All ages, abilities welcome!

Whangamata RSA logo



Whangamata RSA

FISHING

fishing trips and info

See fishing noticeboard by 8 Ball tables

Whangamata RSA logo



Whangamata RSA

Whangamata COUNTRY & VARIETY MUSIC CLUB

Whangamata RSA
First Sunday of each month | 12pm start
Door Charge \$3 Members | \$5 Non Members
Great Entertainment, Guest Artists and Raffles

Whangamata RSA logo