

*The* **RAZZA**  
WHANGAMATA RSA NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 103  
NOVEMBER/  
DECEMBER 2023  
*Christmas Edition*



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



**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
&  
HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

FROM ALL OF US AT

**Whangamata RSA**

*in this issue...*

- RSA Christmas Lunch
- Women's Section Events
- Certificates of Appreciation
- Christmas Pet Photos

*and more...*

# PRESIDENTS REPORT

Geoff March

Welcome to the last President's message for 2023. This has been an interesting year where we have certainly achieved a huge amount and a lot of improvements to our facility. Pokie Machine upgrades, Main Hall refurbishment and LED lighting install, Bar refurbishment, plus our most important project the Remembrance Wall Area upgrade. This is an exciting upgrade that will benefit many in our community for many years to come and we are sure it will be a landmark piece that we can all be proud of. Not much more will happen on this until mid-January, when the Tradies are back.

On a personal note, I had a Hip Replacement at the end of August which went well. Sue and I went off on holiday that was to include a 25 day tour of Cambodia and Vietnam but the night before the tour was to start I fell onto the knee that I had the replacement on (the replacement is made of Titanium so that will never break, but landing on my knee I broke a lot around it). I then spent three days in hospital in Cambodia and got medivacked back to NZ.

We decided to get my leg checked out when we arrived back before returning the Whangamata, went to A & E had an x ray and they sent us urgently to Waikato ED where I had a CT scan and was admitted waiting another operation to secure my femur which I had a couple of days later. I got back home on Monday 11 December, and I am now a walking hardware store. A few quiet weeks ahead for recovery. Thank you for all your thoughts and offers of support, it is much appreciated, by Sue and I.

This years RSA Christmas Lunch went well, around 160 attended and they were treated to a fabulous meal with Santa there to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, prizes were awarded to the best dressed Mrs Santa plus Elves and Helpers. Five certificates of appreciation were given to deserving recipients. A fun day for all.

After the Christmas Lunch Kevin Greaves performed his last performance. Kevin is struggling with his health and made that very hard decision. We hope to see Kevin and his family around socially and we wish Kevin and his family health success, and an enjoyable Christmas Season and New Year.

Anticipation for the opening of Highway 25A is massive, with all the media coverage and talk around the opening we are expecting a Tsunami of visitors and Bach owners who have been denied the quick trip, the wait is certainly going to be worth it. We might have a celebration to commemorate the opening, check our Website, Facebook Page or Noticeboard and TV.

Sadly, we lost quite a few of our members again this year, we lost our Padre and Patron, Terri will be missed, we now have Padre Ross Falconer and Patron Alan Finney, so we are still in good hands. This is where I wish our Members, Staff, Committee, and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, let's see what 2024 brings.

Our membership is what sets our Club aside from other Clubs and RSA's, we are welcoming to guests, supportive to our members and look after each other in times of need, I am proud of how we do this with minimal fuss, it is appreciated by those who receive it.

Our activities and RSA programme is on our Website, Facebook page, Noticeboard in the front foyer along with the TV by the bar and our What's On board.

Thank you all, you make our RSA what it is.  
Geoff Ho Ho Ho Ho !!!!

**Final Quiz for 2023  
will be Friday 22nd December**

**Check our Noticeboard, Facebook, Website  
and Emails for date of First Quiz of 2024!**

**Friday  
QUIZ  
NIGHT**

Friday 6.30pm

Teams of up to 6 people \$2 pp

PROUDLY  
SPONSORED BY

**BAYLEYS**



We will be  
**CLOSED**  
Christmas Day  
and Boxing Day

**OPEN**  
7 Days  
in January



# WHAT'S ON

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## DECEMBER



Sunday 31st  
*New Years Eve*

**THE HARLEYS** 8PM

**PIZZA OVEN RAFFLE  
ONLY \$5/TICKET**



**ON SALE NOW!  
DRAWN NEW YEARS EVE**

# Happy Holidays

As we wrap up another year, to our members and guests we would like to express our gratitude for your continued support and patronage in 2023.

We eagerly anticipate spending more time with you in 2024, as well as welcoming new members and guests

From all of us at Whangamata RSA, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year!

Enjoy your Summer with us where the drinks are cold and the food is delicious!



### UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS

Not getting emails? Change your address?

If any of your details need to be updated  
email [rsamanager@outlook.com](mailto:rsamanager@outlook.com)  
put "Contact Details" in the subject line

## DRAW NIGHTS

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday  
from 5.15pm



Raffles  
Jokers Wild  
Membership Draws



## 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:

John Gillooly – 027 480 5456  
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.



**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



## 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!

## 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 is available for 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  
30<sup>th</sup> June 2024





# WOMENS SECTION REPORT

Lyn Ward – President

As November is our birthday month the committee organised lunch at a local café on Tuesday 7th. Twenty-nine members met at Smash Pipi for a get together and a lovely meal. Our President organised a delicious red velvet cake made for us by Fat Fairy Cupcakes (Val Chapman). Jocelyn Wright our Patron cut the cake.

As it was also Melbourne Cup day, we asked our members to come along in fancy hats and we had a competition for the best and second best hats as well as the most original. The staff at the café were our judges and the results were:

1st Joyce Deeming, 2nd Sara Sullivan, most original Trish Fagan (2nd year).

Some of our members then went along to the RSA for their Melbourne Cup event. A fun afternoon with 'RSA Stakes' being raced before the big race which was shown on the big screen. Hobby horses were used with owners bidding for a horse, picking their jockey and the race was run on the roll of a dice. Sweepstakes were sold and winners lined up once the Cup was over.

For our December meeting held on Tuesday 5th we had a lovely Christmas lunch put on by the RSA following our meeting. Members all brought along a gift for an exchange of gifts. Jackie and Joyce acted as helpers and gave out the gifts before the meal.

At the end of the meal, we were entertained by Highly Strung, our local ukulele group. They played a selection of Christmas songs, and the ladies all sang along. A half an hour of great music which we all enjoyed.

Our women's section will now have a break with our next meeting to be held in February 2024.





# CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Sunday 10th December 2023



On Sunday, December 10th, we hosted a memorable Christmas lunch that saw an impressive turnout of 150 people. Many showed up in festive outfits to celebrate, and a good time was had by all.

Ying and her team once again outdid themselves by providing an excellent lunch.



Decorated with sparkling lights, Christmas trees and other festive decorations. The atmosphere was filled with joy and laughter as people mingled and caught up with one another.

There was also a special appearance by Santa, taking his time to greet everyone and stop for photos.



After the lunch prizes were awarded for best dressed Mrs Claus, Big Elves, Little Elves and Pet photo competition from the "Dress it up" promo in which prizes were kindly donated by local businesses, thank you to all of our sponsors.











# KEVIN GREAVES

## Plays Final Show at Whangamata RSA

Sunday 10th December was Kevin Greaves final show at Whangamata RSA, it was a night full of family and friends with some of Kevin's brothers and sisters, nieces, son Lukas and fellow musicians Glenn Carley and Dan Cosgrove joining him on stage.

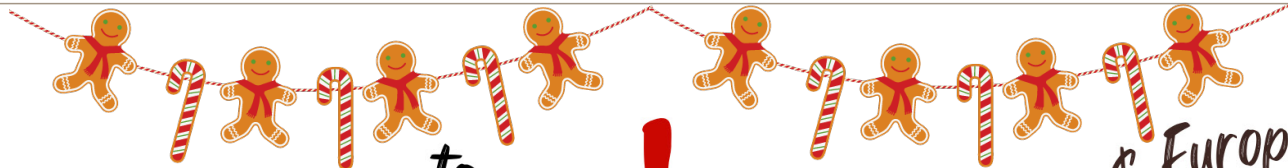


Photo Sheree Gause!



Although Kevin's final show at Whangamata RSA was a bitter-sweet occasion, it was also a night full of love, laughter, and celebration. His family and friends came out to show their support, and it was heartwarming to see. He will be greatly missed by all who have had the pleasure of seeing him perform.

We are grateful for all of the wonderful memories and fun nights of entertainment Kevin has provided us with over the years. Thank you Kevin for entertaining us and your ability to bring people together through music.



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

Open Mondays in January



YING'S @ THE RSA  
Thai & European cuisine

Catering and Buffet available | Vegetarian and Gluten free options

# KIDS CLUB

**COME JOIN OUR KIDS CLUB TODAY**

We have over 300 kids club members!

Kids will get their very own membership card and special Kids Club Member benefits. Kids Club Membership is Free!

**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?...



# WORD SEARCH

## Christmas

I	K	M	M	D	N	O	D	G	Y	M	A	S	B
J	O	S	A	A	C	L	E	I	T	A	E	N	H
A	C	A	A	E	T	N	D	M	I	N	Y	O	D
C	T	M	E	R	S	M	C	A	V	E	N	W	E
K	F	T	F	B	S	E	O	N	I	G	S	F	C
F	R	S	A	R	E	R	C	G	T	I	A	L	O
R	I	I	M	E	N	R	R	E	A	F	N	A	R
O	E	R	I	G	A	Y	A	R	N	T	T	K	A
S	N	H	L	N	C	C	C	Y	E	S	A	E	T
T	D	C	Y	I	Y	S	K	A	I	N	C	Y	I
E	S	R	N	G	D	E	E	A	A	C	L	G	O
R	G	G	K	O	N	T	R	E	E	L	A	N	N
F	J	E	N	I	A	S	S	S	O	O	U	L	S
A	N	G	E	L	C	F	M	J	N	A	S	A	I

CANDY CANES  
TREE  
JOLLY  
JACK FROST  
GINGERBREAD  
SNOWFLAKE

CRACKERS  
MANGER  
CHRISTMAS  
MERRY  
FRIENDS  
DECORATIONS

NATIVITY  
SANTA CLAUS  
GIFTS  
FAMILY  
ANGEL

Solution included

# The Harleys

## 3 Piece Dance Band

Rock'n'roll, Country Rock, Pop, Easy Listening

WHANGAMATA RSA

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER

*New Years Eve* **8PM**



*Come Dance and Party with us!*

# Project Remembrance

WHANGAMATA RSA

## A Significant Moment

Concrete being poured in the frames for the monument... is a significant moment in the construction process. The monument, once completed, will stand as a symbol of remembrance and honour for those it is dedicated to.

As the concrete is poured, it is easy to imagine the finished monument in all its glory, standing tall and proud for generations to come.



## Carefully Monitor the Pouring Process

The workers and designer Ted Pickett carefully monitor the pouring process, ensuring that the concrete is distributed evenly and that there are no air pockets or other imperfections. It has been a labour intensive process, but one that is necessary to create a lasting tribute.

As the concrete sets and the frames are removed, the true shape and form of the monument will begin to emerge, bringing the project one step closer to completion.



## Removal of Framing

Barry has been diligently working on the removal of the framing surrounding the concrete monument. It has emerged flawlessly.

Moving forward, some of the tasks at hand include Ted Pickett's sculpting expertise, installation of the water feature, and the addition of Remembrance lettering.

The water feature will add a peaceful element to the area and create a calming atmosphere for visitors. The Remembrance lettering will be a poignant tribute to those who the monument honours.

The team is excited to see the project come together and to create a meaningful space for all to enjoy.



## Thank You for Your Donations

Whangamata New World - Oceania Gold - EPL - Firth Concrete - NZ Veterans Association - TCDC - Waitomo Fuel Group - Tax @ Your Service Ltd Enterprise Whangamata Whangamata Coastguard - Robinson Family - HM Reynolds - K & S Brookes - G & S March - Ian Brookes - Ila Pellowe - J McLean & L Ward - Bruce Moore - RJ Brookes - Graham Fraser - B Watson - Anna Maria Slater - Elaine Molloy - J Michaels - Sandy Waugh - Tai Rapana and the RSA Donation Box **Total raised to date \$ 25,025.00**

# ASIA HERE WE COME!

Geoff & Sue head off on a month long trip, not all went as planned...



## SINGAPORE

We had planned this trip for a while, then I had to have a Hip Replacement at the end of August, luckily that went well, and we were cleared to travel.

So on Saturday 18th November we flew to Singapore, and spent four days there, interesting while we were there, Nigel from Bubbas where I work sometimes was in Singapore and staying across the road from us, also while we were there a Lions friend was on a cruise and they berthed in Singapore, coincidence or what. We didn't catch up with either.

We did the normal tourist things, Hop on Hop off bus for a couple of days, did a night tour which was spectacular, a totally different world, exciting, we went to China town, Little India and of course the Gardens by the Bay an ECO incitive that catches water to supply the area while attracting millions of visitors, some of the building we brilliant and shocking at the same time.



Word Search Solution

I	V	S	V	N	C	W	F	C	L	E	D	N	V				
S	L	U	O	S	S	S	A	S	I	N	E	J	F				
N	N	V	L	E	R	E	T	R	N	O	K	G	R				
O	G	L	C	V	A	E	D	E	G	R	N	S	E				
I	L	C	N	A	I	K	S	V	I	C	D	C	T				
T	A	E	S	A	E	C	C	C	N	L	H	N	S				
V	K	A	T	N	A	R	V	A	V	I	G	A	R	I	O		
R	N	A	F	A	R	E	R	N	R	E	N	I	M	R	I		
O	L	A	L	I	A	L	O	C	G	T	C	R	E	R	S	A	R
F	C	S	F	G	I	N	O	S	E	B	S	F	T	F	O	K	F
E	M	N	E	A	V	C	W	S	R	S	E	R	W	E	C	T	C
G	D	N	Y	N	I	W	D	N	D	A	E	T	A	A	C	A	C
H	N	A	E	I	T	A	E	I	E	A	C	L	E	A	S	O	J
B	S	A	W	A	Y	G	D	O	N	D	M	W	K	I			



### Why Should I Become a Member of Whangamata Coastguard?

It does not matter which Coastguard Membership scheme you choose to join, the services provided to you are the same.

**At only \$95**, Whangamata Coastguard Membership is the least costly option and you will be supporting the work we do as a local volunteer organisation.

You will be covered for free assistance wherever you may be boating nation-wide.

A cost recovery charge applies to non-members requiring on water assistance (\$350 per hour).

During the last 10 years:

Whangamata Coastguard has logged: 96,352 volunteer hours

Responded to 448 on water incidents

Returned 1,118 people safely back to their families

### Whangamata Coastguard Membership Enquiries to:

Our 24/7 Phone No. 07 865 8800 Email: [kathy.wvcg@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.wvcg@gmail.com)

Whangamata Coastguard Website Or call into our Operations Centre at 619 Beach Rd



# CAMBODIA

After four days we flew to Cambodia Siem Reap, we did the tourist thing there again, totally different to Singapore but still amazing. We had booked a 25-day tour through Cambodia and Vietnam. Looking forward this.



The night before starting the tour we had a briefing on what to expect and what was happening in the next couple of days, it was arranged to go to Angkor Watt which is the most famous temples in Asia.

We came back from sightseeing and got ready to attend the briefing, OOPS, I fell over in our room and landed on the knee of my hip replacement, ouch, everyone said you will never break your new hip as it is made of Titanium. I found out that is true, I spent three nights in hospital before being released so we could arrange early return home.



When we got home to NZ on Monday 3 December we went to A & E, they x rayed and sent me straight to Waikato ED, I had a CT scan and was told I needed surgery to secure all the femur bones I had shattered.

I was admitted into a single room as we had travelled and had to wait until Friday to get the op, had that and was sent home Monday 11th December looking more like a hardware store with all the screws, pins, plates and cables they had to put in to stabilise the bone.

At least I am back home so I can enjoy recovery at home, will have to try again next year.

## CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION



Certificates of appreciation were presented to 4 committee members Wayne Dick, Jennie Black, Colin Fairweather and Barry King, for their hard work and time given to the RSA over and above normal committee duties.

Donna Lowrie was also presented with a certificate for her time and effort in running the Gay Laurenson memorial mah Jong tournament held at the RSA in October.

*Congratulations!*

# GOLDEN OLDIES SNOOKER

## Golden Oldies Practice Round

10th October 2023 Players: 11 Highest Break: John N. 20  
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Jack; 3 Wins, 187 Points  
Runner Up: Bob, 3 Wins, 183 Points  
Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 20 Chips

17th October 2023 Players: 12 Highest Break: Graham W; 23  
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Rex; 4 Wins, 220 Points  
Runner Up: John N; 3 Wins, 192 Points  
Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 17, Rex

24th October 2023 Players: 10 Highest Break: Graham 31  
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Jack T; 4 Wins, 265 Points  
Runner Up: Graham W; 3 Wins, 235 Points  
Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 17, Graham W.

31st October 2023 Players: 10 Highest Break: 20  
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Grant, 20  
Runner Up: Graham; 4 Wins, 213 Points  
Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 7, Graham W.

7th November 2023 Players: 9 Highest Break: Ray  
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Graham; 3 Wins, 225 Points  
Runner Up: Ray; 3 Wins, 208 Points  
Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 20, Bill S.

14th November 2023 Players: 10 Highest Break: Chips, 24  
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Roger, 4 Wins, 189 Points  
Runner Up: Alex; 3 Wins, 265 Points  
Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 8, Ray H.

21st November 2023 Players: 11 Highest Break: Bill S. 16  
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Rex; 4 Wins, 195 Points  
Runner Up: Roger; 3 Wins, 205 Points  
Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 13 John N.

5th December 2023 Players: 13 Highest Break: Bob, 17  
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – John N, 4 Wins, 225 points  
Runner Up: Alex; 3 Wins, 202 Points  
Raffle: Meat at the Beach – 1st Prize No. 23 Roger,  
2nd Prize No. 13 John N.



## Golden Oldies Ham Tournament

28th November 2023 Players: 13  
Winner: Ham – Rex, 3 Wins, 242 Points  
2nd Place: Ham - Graham W., 2 Wins, 205 Points  
3rd Place: Ham - Jack T, 2 Wins, 202 Points  
4th Place: Ying's @ the RSA - Roger W, 2 Wins, 201 Points  
Raffle: 1st – No. 12 Rex; 2nd – No. 19 Chips

## Golden Oldies Tournament

1st November 2023 Home Game  
Played: Te Aroha RSA. Won 11 - 5

13th November 2023 Away Game  
Played: Waihi Beach RSA. Won 10 - 6

27th November 2023 Away Game  
Played: Whangamata Club. Drew 8 All



# FISHING

Ho Ho Ho from the RSA Fishing Adjunct

Whew what a year we've had it's been busy this year increasing our membership to a healthy 25 plus members.

The last newsletter we had our Father's Day raffle results, since then we've had another night fishing trip aboard the Te Ra and our Labour Weekend raffles consisting of two half hams and a couple of \$1.00 raffles with great success. The first half ham going to Gordon Pourau and the second to Puti Gage.

Unfortunately our attempt at a Saturday fishing trip fell short with our skipper having covid. Then the postponed date also being postponed by a death in the family, our thoughts go out to Chris, Karyn and family.

So after a lot of thought and a little organising it was decided that we halt the fishing this year and take it into the new year. Saturday the 9th was a good time to wind down for the year, we had our Christmas break up with a meal, couple of drinks and a gift for all the members that managed to make it, which was 17.

Anyway in closing, on behalf of the fishing adjunct we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

# INDOOR BOWLS

Our annual Barbara Watson Memorial Ham tournament was played on Tuesday 21st November with 30 players participating as teams of three. All teams played 5 games with some very close results and a number of drawn games.

At the end of play there were three teams with three wins and a draw and the winners were then determined by a count back of ends won. The eventual winners of Ann Costar, Joy O'Sullivan and Laraine Osborne had three wins and a draw with 22 ends won. The runners-up also with three wins and a draw were Elen McSkimming, Max Hill and Heather Dansby-Scott with 21 ends won. Third place went to John Hares, George McCartney, and Barbara Mathieson with three wins and a draw with 16 ends won.

An enjoyable day was rounded off with a nice afternoon tea and prize giving. Other results were – Ham Raffle: 1st Bruce Rollo 2nd Erin Wyatt. Consolation Lucky Number Draw – John Aislabie, Marilyn Steel, Bronwyn Sonntag and Ellen Martin. Draws for Lucky Lead – Lynda Callaghan, Two - Cynthia Colville, Skip –Jennie Harpur.

Barbara Watson was of stalwart of the RSA Indoor Bowls and her husband Bill had donated the trophy in her memory. The late Bill Watson had also been a patron of the RSA Indoor Bowls Club.



**For 2024 start up dates for Adjuncts and Groups please check our Noticeboard, Facebook, Website and Emails**

# 8 BALL

We had a fantastic time at the 8 Ball prize giving, featuring a night filled with exciting games and fun. A big thank you to our makeup committee for their efforts put into the club.

As we are having our Christmas break, we will resume in late January and will be looking for interested people to form a new committee. Be sure to keep an eye on the notice board for further details.



# CHRISTMAS

# PET

