

ARAC NEWS



The Newsletter of the Akatarawa Recreational Access Committee Inc

Issue 13, June 2018

AGM 2018

Following on from last year's AGM, when a sub-committee was tasked with writing a replacement Constitution, that sub-committee presented the final draft and it was adopted unanimously.

Current Officers were re-elected for a further year.

Chair	Ken McAdam
Vice-Chair	Karl Palamountain
Secretary	Marcus Steeneken
Treasurer	Stu Barton
Press Officer	Andi Cockroft
Additional Officer	Peter Gernett

Sub-Committee Chairs were confirmed:-

Akatarawa	Ken McAdam
Waiotauru	Jim Johnson
Sutherlands	Rod Lonsdale

The new constitution can be downloaded from <http://arac.org.nz/index.php/assets/Downloads/ARAC-Constitution-2018.pdf>

Akatarawa Forest

In a historic meeting held at the Regional Council Depot, the document we've been struggling 8½ years to negotiate was finally signed.

We now have a formal MoU with GW to help keep a consistent and stable relationship. One item mandated as part of our major submissions to the Parks Network Plan (PNP) of 2010 was the introduction of a Track Protocol to be used in deciding whether any tracks (new or old) be considered suitable for recreational use.



In other news, the 2010 PNP is up for review and ARAC has already made representation to its initial drafts. GW have invited ARAC to a pre-draft meeting to discuss issues we raised in our submission.

You can get involved in this consultation process here <http://www.gw.govt.nz/parks-network-plan/>

Odlin's Road and Waioatauru Valley

Plans have been drawn for a new hut, and consents are in the process of being prepared and applied for.



Picture Courtesy of Paul Bretherton and FaceBook

On an immediate sad note, apparently a big slip has come down just before Renata, and may take some significant effort to clear.

If you want to help out, contact us via info@arac.org.nz and we'll put you in touch with the area coordinator.

Wellington South Coast

Again, heavy swells and significant localised rain have stamped their mark on the coast over the past year.

As many will be aware, Greater Wellington Regional Council have hit the news with intentions to prohibit vehicles on some beaches. See the Stuff article here



<https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/105285034/vehicle-ban-on-beaches-across-wellington-region-leaves-some-residents-dismayed>

Our reading is that whilst GW control the foreshore (i.e. up to high tide), the area above that is generally administered by the local Council.

Red Rocks round to Oteranga Heads is a legal road controlled by Wellington City Council.

Nonetheless, we will be watching events closely.

Aaorangi – aka Sutherlands

A lot of maintenance work was done on both ends of the track over Christmas, and the track is now in the best state many of us can remember.

Thanks to the Back Country Trust for the \$15,000 it took to allow us to do this.



Rules still apply to try and preserve the track, and don't expect to get a permit during especially wet periods until the whole place has had a chance to settle.

Also thanks to Rod and the boys for all their many hours spent supporting the machine operators. And naturally to the machine suppliers as well for doing such sterling works on our behalf.



Manawatu

DOC were preparing a discussion document regarding Takapari Road and the A-Frame Hut – submissions closed April 2015 but we've heard not a peep since from DOC.

However, we do know that the future of the A-Frame is being discussed by the Ruahine User Group with consideration being to look at limited renovation. It does not seem under immediate threat since it's the only survival hut up there.

Any Other News?

Anything we need to know about? Anything you want to know about? E-mail info@arac.org.nz