

NEW ZEALAND



RADIO YACHT SQUADRON

# 'UPWIND'

December 2007

THE HOME OF UNMODIFIED RADIO YACHTS.  
KYOSHO SEAWINDS - TAMIYA YAMAHAS - FAIRWINDS -  
WHITEBREAD 60's - ONE CLASS DESIGNS

## From the President

I want to thank last year's committee for continuing into the new year. I think that we all worked together well and decided issues with a consensus and that this has been reflected at the pond in friendly sailing with few conflicts. I welcome Neil as an additional racing committee member, we do need to have some fresh ideas brought in each year.

The racing schedule for the coming has been revised to incorporate the results of the AGM voting and suggestions. Each fleet series is now 7 weekends of which 4 count to the final positions. This gives more flexibility to the members in attending and should make the series more competitive, with fewer feeling excluded by missing a weekend or two. We have had good turnouts of members for the events, even when the weather was adverse, and we hope that the format continues to meet the expectations of the sailors and that this is reflected in the numbers that sail each club day.

Some members also sail on weekdays, if you want to find out more and join them then please contact Bruce.

## Onepoto environment

Peter, our secretary, has passed me a copy of the "Reserve Management Plan" for Onepoto Domain from 1997. This specifies that the pond is for Radio Control Yachts and Boats and obligates the council to maintain it by dredging and weed removal. It also ensures that that the free flow of air is not to be disturbed by trees or building nearby and that footpaths and access is to continue around the pond for spectators.

I will continue to lobby the council to remove the silt from the pond, the Plan specifies that dredging is required to maintain a depth of 350mm. Many places would be much less than this, especially on the eastern and south eastern edge as anyone who has had to recover a boat there has found out.

The council is aware of the problems that we have been having at the pond recently. I had a note from Megan Beard, who is the Wai Care Facilitator at the council:

"I was down at the domain last Friday and noticed the rotting material rising to the surface. It had come to the attention of a local resident who rang Actionline concerned about the smell and she was put onto Bob Wallace who explained about the anoxic conditions. Not all natural processes smell sweet unfortunately!"

The fountain, which was reported on in the September 'Upwind' newsletter, has apparently been given the go ahead. The Northcote Borough will celebrate 100 years since its formation in 1908 and the fountain, apart from being an oxygenator for the pond, will also be the 'Centennial Fountain', it may even be illuminated. This will ensure that it is installed before the formal celebrations.

The fountain will help keep the weed down by raising the oxygen levels, but the anoxic conditions will reduce the effect until the silt, with its embedded dead matter, is removed.

Also from Megan I have received the 'Newsplash' Wai Care newsletter for November. This includes a short article, and one of my photos, about Onepoto Domain and pond and the Wai Care monitoring group. Copies available on request.

## Match Racing Cup Finals

Ivan and David have yet to sail the final races for the Match Racing Cup. To date, Ivan leads 2 to 1 in a best of 9 series.

Every week they have attempted to race but have been thwarted by;

- Lack of wind
- Too much weed
- Too much wind
- Wind across the pond

We'll keep you posted.

## Life of the Pond

Welcome swallow (*Hirundo tahitica neoxena*)

The 'welcome swallow' is self-introduced from Australia and first recorded as breeding in Kaitaia in 1958 – a good year for immigrants. Since then they have spread throughout the mainland, except for the central South Island mountains. They are also found on the Chatham and Kermadec islands.

Welcome swallows are dark blue and white with variable amounts of rusty red on the head and breast. They have streamlined bodies with a short neck and long, pointed wings. The tail is a deeply forked "swallowtail".



Welcome swallows feed on a wide variety on insects. They catch prey in flight, using their acrobatic flying skills. The prey is guided into the bird's wide, open mouth with the help of short modified feathers that form rictal bristles bordering the bill. These bristles also help protect the bird's eye. Sometimes, aquatic insects are caught from the surface of streams and pools.

These birds often fly fast, up to 40 km/hr, and low to the ground on open fields in large circles or figure 8 patterns. They will often swoop around animals or people in the open.

Breeding is from August to March. During courtship, pairs hover and flutter then pursue each other high into the sky. The half cup nests are built from mud and grass,

and lined with hair wool and feathers. Nests, which are built by the pair, are located under an overhang on buildings, bridges, or even in neglected boats.



Once there are young to feed, adults dart swiftly from the nest, flying in long arcs to and from favoured feeding sites – often over water or grasslands.

In winter, large numbers of swallows flock together and head for reliable food supplies. They move southwards to Otago and Southland, and northwards as far as Norfolk Island. Rows of swallows are often seen perching along fences or power lines during the day. Mass overnight flocks may form in raupō wetlands.

### Life of the Pond - 2

There are many strange wildlife happenings at the pond especially in light of the welcome swallow mentioned above.

Below is a photo of a 'welcome shag' – we ask that they are not disturbed during the mating season. It would appear that the female is the dominant partner.



### Leaking Rudder Post

The rudder on the club boat appeared to have seized again so it was removed and greased. On replacing the tube this still turned with the rudder which eventually unscrewed it enough to leak.



Inspection inside revealed that the bracket taking the rudder tube had split and thus it failed to grip the rudder tube thread. The bracket was removed, notches cut in the sides with a file and cables ties were used to hold the split together while epoxy glue set.

The notches ensured that the cable ties stayed in place and didn't slip along the tapering sides. Leaving the ties in place would reinforce the bracket helping to prevent re-splitting.

### New racing yacht

Thunder Tiger ETNZ 1-Meter America's Cup Racing Yacht

#### FEATURES:

- Completely factory built fiberglass hull
- Fully factory painted hull
- Low drag hydrodynamic steel ballast
- Light and strong extruded aluminum mast and booms
- High performance tear resistant racing sails
- Black anodized aluminum display stand

INCLUDES: Voyager 1/25 scale ETNZ 1-Meter America's Cup Racing Yacht, deck fittings, display stand, sails, epoxy, rigging thread, decal sheet, and instruction manual

#### REQUIRES:

- Radio: 2-channel with one standard servo, one sail winch servo
- Battery: 4.8V for receiver
- Building and shore equipment

#### SPECS:

- Length: 39" (993mm)
- Beam (width): 6.75" (172mm)
- Sail Area: 744 sq in (48 sq dm)
- Mast Height: 51.4" (1306mm)
- Overall Height: 67" (1700mm)
- Overall Weight: 7.7 lb (3.5kg)



Price: \$489.00 plus radio gear.  
Available from Ace Hobby

Is it eligible for our 'one class' club ?

## Korean Garden

The headline on page 5 of the North Shore Times caught my attention and the article contained some worrying comments.

The Korean Garden Committee has been asking the North Shore City Council for some land to make into a Korean garden. They had tried to get a part of Stancich Reserve in Northcote but ultimately this was disallowed because that park is designated as a native reserve and foreign garden plants would not be appropriate.

The Council parks department suggested that they pick a site from Barry's Point Reserve, Marlborough Park, Diana Reserve and Onepoto Domain.

The committee chose Onepoto Domain because, they say, it has a pond which is "vital and essential" to the concept of a Korean Garden. The proposal is for a garden of 2500 square metres. Of course, they may want to request that this be extended in the future.

Incorporating the sailing lagoon into a garden would present us, and the other clubs using the pond, with some problems.

Onepoto Domain has two ponds, plus the western arm, so until we see where the garden is intended to be sited we will not know if this would be a problem to the various groups that sail at the lagoon. For example, if the garden was to be sited on the western arm which runs from the southern pond towards Puawai Place then it need not concern us greatly.

The Ancient Mariners occasionally have races with the 'footies' down that arm, past the island and under the bridge into the lagoon.

Fortunately, there are coverments on the area around the ponds as these are designated for model yacht sailing. The Council's Reserve Management Plan requires that there be "Free flow of air near the pond, i.e. no large trees nearby to disturb airflow" and "No buildings for same reason as above". The "footpath to continue around pond for spectators".

This has been used previously to prevent the football club rooms being moved to the pond side of the road. If the garden intends to have trees, buildings (such as pagodas), or even rockeries then it should be kept sufficiently far away from the sailing pond to ensure that it meets the Management Plan.

The plan also requires that the "Lakes be kept free of weeds". To achieve this, it is kept salty by flushing and replacing the water from the estuary as required.

Onepoto is a volcanic crater formed about 30,000 years ago and was, until the 1950s, similar to Tuff Crater which is the other side of Exmouth Road just to the north. It was a tidal mangrove swamp and wetlands. When the Harbour Bridge was being built the tailings from the foundations were dumped into the crater and a dam forming the bottom end of Tarahanga Street was made to keep the high tide out.

This means that the whole floor of the crater is made from estuary and harbour mud that has a high salt content. The plants that survive there have been chosen to be suitable for such conditions and many are barely surviving. I am not aware of the best conditions for Korean garden plants but it is unlikely that Onepoto Domain will provide them.

The whole domain is below high tide level. The lagoon surface is about 2.2 metres relative to tide reference while the tide's average range is from a low of 0.4 metres to a high of 3.1 metres and may go as high as 3.6 metres on spring tides.

Inflow during high tide is prevented by flap valves which are held closed by the water whenever the tide level is above about half tide. When the flaps are closed, which is for between 5 and 6 hours on each tide, twice a day, there is also no outflow.

When there is rain the whole of the crater catchment area, which is about 40 hectares, including 26 for the domain and about 14 for all the housing areas up to the crater rim, will drain into the ponds, which total less than 2 hectares, and out through the flap valves which is the only outlet from the crater. When the flap valves are closed then the rain will overflow the ponds until the tide drops and allows outflow.

The coinciding of high tide and heavy rain occurs several times every year and there is regular flooding with the water rising half a metre above normal level. This can go as high as a metre or more on spring tides if there is heavy rain over several days.

If there is to be a garden where the pond or stream is "vital and essential" then that would need to be prepared to be often inundated with salty water that will leave behind silt and other debris, because that is what Onepoto does.

The Onepoto Lagoon Coordination Committee has written its concerns to the Council on behalf of the clubs that sail and the Council has advised that they will be included in discussions on this issue.

Richard Plinston, chairman OLCC.

## 2007 – 2008 Racing Schedule

# Onepoto picked for Korean garden

By Jodeal Cadacio

The Korean Garden Committee has chosen the Onepoto Domain in Northcote as the site for its garden project.

Committee member Ben Lee says it is the top pick of four sites identified by the North Shore City Council parks department.

The council earlier turned down the group's bid to create a Korean garden at Glenfield's Stancich Reserve and suggested instead they choose between Barry's Point Reserve, Diana Reserve, Marlborough Park and Onepoto Domain.

The group looked at the four parks and the vote was

unanimous for Onepoto Domain.

"It has nice and calm surroundings, it complies with oriental philosophy and it is the best place for a Korean garden," Mr Lee says.

He says the reserve has a pond, which is "vital and essential" to the concept of a Korean garden.

He says they've presented the proposed site to committee members, who are keen to see the project start.

The group includes Korean consul-general Jun Hyung Kang and Korean Society of New Zealand president Si Chung Yu.

With the choice of a new site for the garden, the project is

expected to progress rapidly.

Parks liaison manager Gerry Fitzgerald earlier assured the committee that once a site has been selected, the proposal can begin to move forward.

Mr Lee says the planned 2500 square metre garden will be built in three stages, with Korean residents volun-

teering for the project.

The Korean community has been lobbying the council to establish an oriental garden on the Shore, where about 15,000 Koreans live.

Committee members on Tuesday met with mayor Andrew Williams and deputy mayor Julia Parfitt at council.

Month	Date	Round	Race type
Dec	16th	Special prize fleet	
	23rd	Special prize fleet	
	30th	Summer break	
Jan	6th	Summer break	
	13th	Summer Series 1	
	20st	Summer Series 2	
Feb	27th	<b>Auck' Anniversary</b>	-
	3rd	Match Racing Aggregate	Match Racing
	10th	Summer Series 3	
	17th	Summer Series 4	
Mar	24th	Summer Series 5	
	2nd	Match Racing Aggregate	Match Racing
	9th	Summer Series 6	
	16th	Summer Series 7	
Apr	23rd	<b>Easter</b>	
	30th	Autumn Series 1	
	6th	Match Racing Aggregate	Match Racing
	13th	Autumn Series 2	
May	15th	Autumn Series 3	
	20th	Autumn Series 4	
	27th	<b>Anzac day</b>	
	4th	Match Racing Aggregate	Match Racing
	11th	<b>Mothers day</b>	-
June	18th	Autumn Series 5	
	25th	Autumn Series 6	
	1st	<b>Queens Birthday</b>	-
	8th	Match Racing Aggregate	Match Racing
July	15th	Autumn Series 7	
	22nd	Fun/Spare Day	
	29th	Winter Series 1	
	6th	Match Racing Aggregate	Match Racing
	13th	Winter Series 2	
Aug	20th	Winter Series 3	
	27th	Winter Series 5	
	3rd	Match Racing Aggregate	Match Racing
	10th	Winter Series 5	
	17th	Winter Series 6	
Sept	24th	Winter Series 7	
	31st	Fun/Spare Day	
	7th	<b>Fathers day</b>	-
	14th	Spring Series 1	
Oct	21st	Spring Series 2	
	28th	Spring Series 3	
	5th	Match Racing Aggregate	Match Racing
	12th	Spring Series 4	
Nov	19th	Spring Series 5	Challenger v Defender - 2 races
	26th	<b>Labour Day</b>	
	2nd	Spring Series 6	Challenger v Defender - 2 races
	9th	Spring Series 7	Challenger v Defender - 2 races
	16th	Special prize fleet	Challenger v Defender - 2 races
Dec	23rd	Special prize fleet	Challenger v Defender - 1 race
	30th	<b>AGM</b>	
	7th	Match Racing Aggregate	Match Racing 2009
	14th	Special prize fleet	
	21st	Special prize fleet	
	28th	Summer break	

## New club member

Please welcome Gordon Stevenson.

Sail # 89

Name of boat: X Factor



## Sunday December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007

A typical recent Sunday – no wind !

Who can float the fastest ?



The Match Racing Cup in the above schedule allows for 2 races per fleet racing weekend. If weekends get cancelled due to weather or a finalist being absent, then more than 2 races per weekend need to be sailed, best of nine.

## Current members and allocated radio frequencies

All members are financial apart from those marked '#'

To prevent your frequency from being re-allocated, please forward your 2008 \$30.00 club fees to the Secretary, Peter Andrews.

	Bruce Watson	26.975
	Harry Bowles	29.850
	David Harley	29.905
	Simon Adamson	29.925
	Kevin Whitehead	26.995
	Richard Plinston	27.020
	Neil Purcell	27.045
#	Ross Carrick	27.075
	Jayden Garnett	27.095
#	Paul Goddard	27.120
#	John Goodacre	27.145
	Murray Furness	27.170
#	Gavin Rees	27.195
	Gerald Moss	27.245
	Gordon Stevenson	27.255
	Peter Wilcox	29.725
	Harry Bowles	29.750
#	Tom Clark	29.765
	Kevin Webb	29.775
	John Dowler	29.785
	Club boat	29.805
#	Peter Van Helmond	29.825
	Peter Andrews	29.865
#	Trevor Watts	29.885
	David Harley	29.945
	Simon Adamson	29.955
	Geoff McGill	29.965
	Simon Martelli	29.985
#	Ryan Clark	40.750
	Club tug	40.790
	Trevor Speight	40.810
	Ivan Fraser	40.850
	Struan McCulloch	40.875
	Bruce Watson	40.890
#	Rob McPherson	40.950
	Geoff Atkinson	72.350

### Summer Cup 2007/2008

Eat, drink and have a very happy Christmas, but be ready in the New Year for the Summer Cup Series, starting January 13<sup>th</sup>. Have your radio gear checked and batteries charged, for the battle is soon to begin!

Steeped in history, this Cup is much sought after and competition will be fierce as usual.

Of course at the series end we can all have a laugh and claim the winner got all the luck and better wind shifts, in the finest traditions of the club's aim of friendly but competitive racing.

As well as the cup, there are two place getters' trophies at stake and very nice they are too. Consistent performances over the series will put you right in contention.

The weather usually provides a series with fine days but unpredictable winds, often with strong sea breezes by mid afternoon.

This year the committee has increased the number of days of all four series to 7, with the best 4 days counting

for the final results. If one, two or three days are lost to sailing because of unsuitable conditions, the bests 4 days still count.



Shore Hobby World and proudly displayed by last year's winner – John Dowler.

#### Cup History

Recent previous winners of the cup include:

97/98	Allan Fox
98/99	Allan Fox
01/02	Dean Cadwallader
03/04	Tony Grey
04/05	Tony Grey
05/06	Kevin Whitehead
06/07	John Dowler

The Summer Cup was generously donated by North



North Shore Times | Tuesday, December 11, 2007

## Model yacht owners raise protest flag

By Hayden Donnell

Plans to plant a Korean garden on the North Shore have raised a storm among model yacht enthusiasts.

Objections have been raised to the proposed garden site at Onepoto Domain in Northcote by several radio control yacht clubs.

A garden taking in the domain's pond could interfere with radio control boating, says New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron president Richard Plinston.

He says North Shore City Council has given his club official rights to hold regular races and events on the pond.

"We'd be stamping over their garden. They'd get upset and try to kick us off and we'd try to kick them off. It's designated as a model yacht pond and that's what it should stay as."

Ancient Mariners member Mark Steele is upset at what he says was a lack of consultation over the proposed garden site.

He fears garden plants will create wind hazards that make sailing difficult, even if they don't occupy sailing water.

"I am absolutely astonished and both bewildered and disappointed," he says.

"No consultation with existing users of the lake, just a signature presumably and a decision that seems to suggest an attitude of 'to hell with existing users'."

A proposal by the Korean community to put a garden at Stanich Reserve in Northcote was axed in October.

The council's parks department said the 1977 Reserves Act stopped exotic plants being introduced to the reserve.

It floated four alternative

garden sites, of which Onepoto Domain emerged as the Korean community's favourite.

There should be room in the domain's waterways for radio controlled yacht racing and a garden, says Korean garden committee member Ben Lee.

"Of course we will be able to live in harmony. Our proposal is very far away," he says.

A final decision on the garden site is still a long way off, says the council's parks liaison manager Gerry Fitzgerald.

All the boat clubs using the Onepoto Domain will be consulted on where they think the garden should go, he says.

The final garden site has to be approved by community board members and councillors.

"No decision has made on the location," Mr Fitzgerald says.



Stern stuff: Richard Plinston, right, and fellow club member David Harley don't want a proposed Korean garden at Onepoto Domain to ruin their boat racing.

Photo: BEN WATSON