

"WIND UP"



RAGLAN SAILING CLUB  
NEWSLETTER APRIL 2012

## Birds of Raglan Harbour

### Banded Dotterel (tuturiwhatu)

**Status:** Protected, endemic. Widespread and moderately common.

**Distribution:** Breed only in New Zealand, found throughout the North and South Islands and several off shore islands. Birds may be found on the Raglan harbour north head.

Banded Dotterels breed around the sandy coasts and around stream or river mouths. The main stronghold is Canterbury where 5000 pairs breed on river beds and river terraces, coastal lakes, lagoons and beaches, another 5000 pairs breed on rivers in the Mackenzie Basin. After breeding most birds from the inland and high-altitude southern South Island, migrate to Australia in March, whereas those breeding in the northern South Island mostly migrate to northern New Zealand in February. The oldest banded bird lived 10 years.

**Size:** 20cm,60gr.

**Population:** c.50,000, mainly in the South Island.

**Diet:** Includes a wide variety of terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates, supplemented by occasional berries, on pasture they mostly take beetles, earthworms and beetles.( info.Field Guide Birds of NZ )

### Banded Dotterel



## Club Days

March 10<sup>th</sup>. Learn to Sail Day.

Sailing conditions were good for beginners and the old salts. Once again a good turn out with some new members. Welcome to these people, enjoy your time with us and feel free to ask for help.

The first hour of the day was spent in the shelter of the bay with the Learn to Sail people sailing under the watchful eyes of senior members. With tuition time over the course was set for some racing, conditions must have been a bit tricky out in the harbour judging by some of the mishaps.

One version of an "event" by an anonymous observer tells of three boats heading towards the wind indicator which is a turning point for the race.

"Tony goes wide. **MAYBE** Chris in Wakatere tries to cut inside.

Somehow he cuts it too fine and gets hooked up on the pole of the wind indicator. He stops. Tom comes along in his boat, but with a lack of breeze, drifts into Wakatere who slides backwards off the pole. Tom "parks up" on the windmill and bends it over".

The editor knows of one other yacht which had a close encounter with the marker. (footnote, thanks to local witness Ray Brown the bay now has a more robust marker.



## Okete Beach Picnic



March 25<sup>th</sup>. Okete Beach picnic day.

With high tide at 12.40 an early start was needed and so we were on the water by 11.00. The fleet was fairly spread out which made for some challenging work for the rescue boats.

Steve and Sarah had a late start after making a few adjustments to their new "cat" mid harbour, it was their first time with her on the water and boy she's hot!

Another new boat owner on the water was Grant and his recently renovated Farr, a credit to Grant a magnificent paint job!

The wind was moderate and all the boats arrived at the beach for the picnic lunch.

Balissimo had a minor breakage which made the trip to Okete difficult and resulted in the boat having to be towed back to Lorenzen Bay.

After our picnic lunch the trip back to Lorenzen Bay was not without incident. The wind strength had increased resulting in several mishaps, three boats **needing** to be towed back to base as a result of breakages.

In spite of these incidents a great day was enjoyed by everyone, the weather was perfect and everyone came safely home.

### Scenes from Okete beach



## **Coming Events**

Please note there are only one more Learn to Sail day this season, make sure you don't miss it. We then go into the winter sailing season.

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April Lorenzen Bay**

End of Summer Sailing Season shared BBQ party.

H.T.10.40, 2.8m Launch time 8.40 for sailing or come for a shared BBQ at 1.00.

“Pirates” is the theme for children (adults too maybe!).

## **Winter Sailing Series**

May 6<sup>th</sup>.H.T. 9.50, 3.1m Launch time 8.00 Lorenzen Bay

June 24<sup>th</sup>. H.T.13.10, 2.7m Launch time 11.10 Lorenzen Bay

**Car Boot Sale 7<sup>th</sup>.April, 9am. Easter Saturday at the Raglan Club car park.**

If you can help with cakes, lollies or other saleable items, Jackie will be at the car park at 8.30.to receive them.

Proceeds are in aid of club funds.

## Snippets from the March committee meeting.

Rescue boat instruction will be held over the winter season. It is expected that members will help on the rescue boat when needed and to this end training will be available.

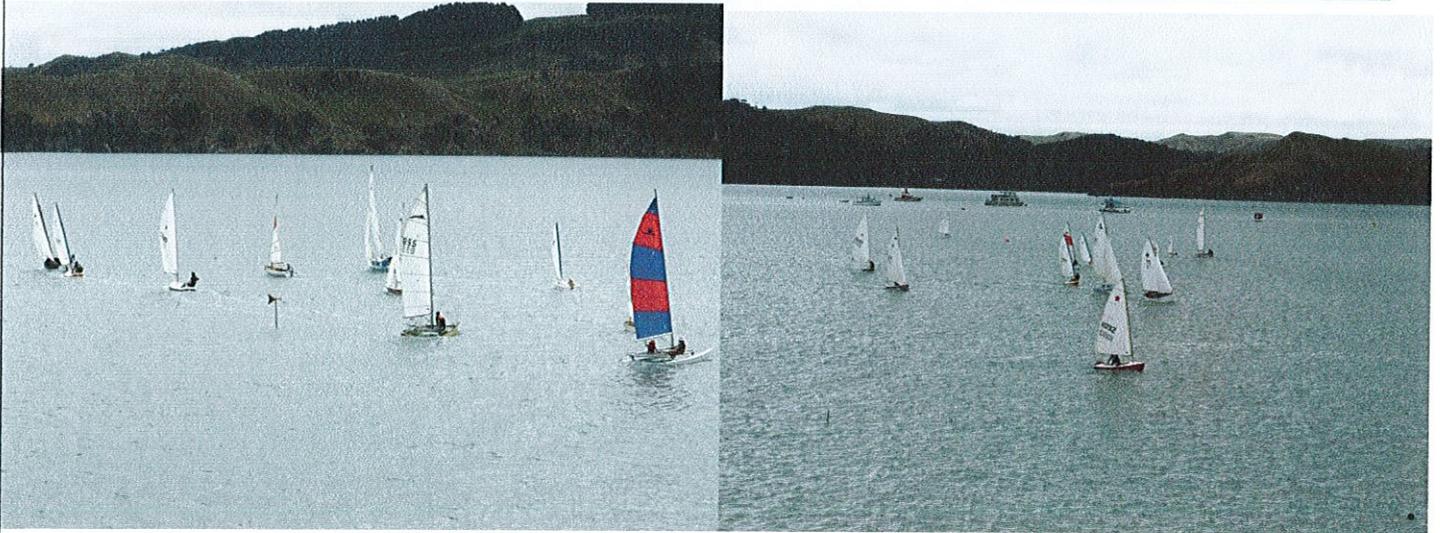
Yacht Breakages Members must report any fault or breakage to yachts.

Record this on the signing in/out form.

Shackles on yachts must be tightened before and after yacht use.

Blue and yellow tool bags, please make sure you return any tools that you use.

**Club Races 10<sup>th</sup>. March**



**To Yann and Chris, please accept the deepest sympathy of all of your friends at the sailing club on the recent sad loss of your father Chris.**

**Patron                      Dave Currie**

**Committee**

**Commodore              Chris Mitchell**

**Treasurer                Sue Kendall**

**Secretary                Yann Bordier**

**Jill Lankshear**

**Committee                Craig Purcell**

**Gus Kendall**

**Newsletter Editor      Pam Bovill**

**Contributions to the newsletter are most welcome**