



MERRA Newsletter – Summer, 2021

<https://scottslanding.org>

Unsavory visitors: Please remain vigilant over the summer period as our unwelcome light-fingered guests will no doubt be operating over the summer period. Please report anything at all to your NS Co-Ordinator, or the police.

- Emergency or crime being committed = **111**
- Non emergency = **105** or report online 105.police.govt.nz

Vehicles to be particularly alert for are

- o Grey Mazda Bounty ute Rego: **APH661**
- o Toyota hatchback/people mover **MQL309**
- o White Toyota Hilux **XP1528**

As mentioned in previous newsletters, MERRA committee have been working on the installation of a very sophisticated high speed **Number Plate Recognition Camera**. Thanks to your many donations we are at about 70% funded at this stage and request those who planned to make their donation, but have not yet done so to please contribute to this worthwhile community cause. This installation will capture and record the details of all vehicles entering and departing our neighbourhood. This means that should we have a theft or burglary we will be able to download time-relevant data and provide the police with vehicle photograph and registration details, and a photo of the vehicle occupants. **MERRA** has already reinstated roadside Video Surveillance Warning signs. Many of our community have supported by contribution to this community benefit, however if (like me) you have not yet done so, please make your payment by direct credit into the **MERRA bank account 02-0480-0033353-00** using your “**surname**” and “**camera**” as references. Just \$50 per property would ensure this security measure is in place within weeks.

If you wish to contribute towards this worthwhile project, please make payment as above or contact MERRA treasurer at merra.treasurer@gmail.com

Fibre to door Broadband: After 7 long years of MERRA lobbying we finally have fast fibre broadband connections available to all residents north of Charles St / Ridge Rd. Some residents do not appear to have yet been informed that they can connect to this Fibre broadband, so please contact them to arrange your installation. It is expected that residents south of Charles St will have installation available by March 2022 (again delays are blamed on Covid!) You can check your address by Googling Chorus Broadband Checker. <https://www.chorus.co.nz/tools-support/broadband-tools/broadband-checker>

Coastal Erosion Mapping Concerns: MERRA are still to meet with the Auckland council coastal team regarding foreshore protection and community initiatives for foreshore erosion control. We hope to work with Council on a public land initiatives and through that seek clearer guidelines and support for those wishing to carry out similar work on their own land. We will keep residents updated through our website and newsletters.

Pest Control: MERRA intend to be predator free by 2023, however this is a difficult task with lockdowns, constraints with bait supply and constant changes. MERRA are actively working with other local groups to ensure a pest free Scotts Landing.

Please check our website for updates or contact us from our contacts page.

<https://scottslanding.org/contact/>

Mahurangi Regatta: This will be held again Auckland Anniversary weekend January 29th 2022 however this year due to Covid, this will be an “**on the water only**” regatta. No shuttle busses will be operating, however MERRA committee is working with the organisers to ensure that we have cones and traffic management & security in place to minimise the effects of this event on residents.

Native Planting on YOUR private property: MERRA committee are working with several Council contacts to establish a “Plant bank” for residents to obtain native seedlings **funded by council** to plant on your property. The principal purpose of this is to establish planting areas to reduce overland waterflows and reduce sediment leaching into our harbour. There will be guidelines to be met, but with MERRA oversight there should be a low level of requirement for property owners (other than preparing areas for planting; planting; then maintaining the plants). We have had some exciting discussions, but we are not there yet. To get the general approval we need your input please. We are also working on a public land planting plan and will update you next newsletter on this. We have another 1000 plants minimum for the current year.

If you are interested in being part of this initiative, please respond to us with the following information. We will make contact to discuss this with you in the coming week or two.

Please copy below and paste into an email or onto our “contact us” page – link below.

Name and Contact Details.....

Location/Address.....

Specific site details (rough area for planting eg 5 metres by 10 metres).....

Clearing / preparation work required.....

Species of Plants and number requested

(for guidance see <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/environment/plants-animals/plant-for-your-ecosystem/docscoastalplantingguides/coastal-forest-planting-guide.pdf>)

Please complete this on our website, or copy the above and email to <https://scottslanding.org/contact/> or merraweb@gmail.com

MERRA Membership - New or Renewal Memberships – It’s not too late.

Our annual membership runs from 1st April 2021 through to 31st March 2022 so if you need to renew or would like to join up you still have time to become a member for the current financial year. Maybe consider paying now?

We are all looking forward to summer and have our fingers crossed that we will be able to host the very successful Annual Community BBQ, so make sure you’re a financial member and enjoy a superb lunch on **MERRA** and a good old catch up with neighbours Covid permitting.

Our **MERRA** membership fee is \$12.00 per property which can be paid by direct credit into the **MERRA** bank account 02-0480-0033353-00. As **MERRA** is responsible for the many projects undertaken for the benefit of the community any donations will also be most welcome. If you would like a receipt for you membership or donation please email Susan Jelichich on merra.treasurer@gmail.com Please check our website for projects.

<https://scottslanding.org/>