



## Community Newsletter from the Committee of the Mahurangi East Residents & Ratepayers Association (MERRA)

April 2025

[www.scottslanding.org](http://www.scottslanding.org)

### Easter Weed Blitz



MERRA is once again organising an Easter weed blitz, following two successful initiatives last year. With support from Northland Waste and Chris and Helen Russell, a skip will be available to take your pest weeds this coming **Easter Weekend, 18-21 April 2025**.

Pest weeds are those considered to be invasive and a threat to our environment if not controlled. We are particularly targeting Wild Ginger and Woolly Nightshade (tobacco plant). You should also be on the lookout for monkey apple, cotoneaster, Agapanthus (flower stems only please), Chinese privet, tradescantia, moth plant, gorse, jasmine, and bush lawyer.

For information on what these species look like, and how best to dispose of them, check out the plant pest information on the MERRA website ([link here](#)), or the Auckland Council site [here](#).



Arrangements are the same as last time: we will have a 9m3 Northland Waste skip placed on the gravel patch leading to the stock yard at Rosedale (9 Charles Street) from Friday 18th to Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April. Residents are welcome to dispose of your pest weeds into the skip over the long weekend.

To make room for everyone, **please only use the skip to dispose of targeted pest weeds – no flax, cabbage leaves or yuccas please.** Do not dispose of any plastic bags (your weeds need to be emptied out), household rubbish, construction rubbish, garden rubbish grass clippings, prunings and weeds (excluding pest weeds). In short, if you see it on the Auckland City Council Weed Pests page or on the Scottslanding.org website you can put it in the bin. **NOTHING ELSE**, no exceptions.

Please also respect the area surrounding the bin and keep it tidy.

MERRA has a supply of paste to use if you are cutting and pasting your weeds. Please give Chris Russell a call on 027 4933881. Chris can also provide advice on how best to treat and dispose of weeds.

## MERRA AGM



The 56<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Mahurangi East Residents and Ratepayers Association (MERRA), will be held at **Scott House on Sunday 4 May, 10.30am.**

All residents and ratepayers are invited to come along to hear about MERRA's achievements over the past 12 months, and to elect our new Committee for the 2025/26 year. Morning tea will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

Nominations for Committee membership should be lodged with the MERRA Secretary ([merrasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:merrasecretary@gmail.com)) prior to the meeting.

We are particularly keen to hear from anyone who would be able to take on the role of Treasurer, to replace Debbie Mickelborough who is stepping down at the AGM. While we are ideally seeking

someone with some accounting experience, especially use of Xero, we are able to provide training and support to anyone who needs it. Please contact Debbie ([merra.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:merra.treasurer@gmail.com)) or our chairperson Barry Mein ([merra.chair@gmail.com](mailto:merra.chair@gmail.com) or 021 654 280) if you would like to discuss this further.

The meeting agenda will be posted on our [website](#) a week before the meeting. [Click here](#) for the minutes of last year's AGM.

## Rubbish Collection Changes



Along with the rest of Rodney, Scotts Landing will be moving to a new rates-funded rubbish service from 2 September 2025. This will replace the current Northland Waste collection with Council-supplied wheelie bins.

Standard 120 litre bins will be delivered to all households from Monday 30 June 2025. You can [request](#) a larger (240 litre) or smaller (80 litre) bin, but you need to do this before 18 May 2025 to get your preferred bin size before the rubbish service starts. Note that a \$40 admin fee will apply for bin change requests made after 31 August 2025.

Residents in rural parts of Rodney (including Scotts Landing) can choose to continue using rubbish bags instead of a bin. If this option is chosen, the council will deliver a bag pack which will last approximately 6 months. You can choose a bag pack size based on how much rubbish your household makes every week:

- Small bag pack: 35 bags, 60L each. Roughly equal to an 80L rubbish bin.
- Standard bag pack: 52 bags, 60L each. Equal to a 120L rubbish bin.
- Large bag pack: 104 bags, 60L each. Equal to a 240L rubbish bin.

Requests for bags must be made by the property ratepayer or landlord. To request this option, email [ruralrefusebags@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:ruralrefusebags@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) by 18 May 2025 with:

- 'Rural rubbish bags request' in the email subject line
- your rural property address or rates assessment number
- the bag pack size you want.

For more details on the new arrangements for Rodney, visit the [Auckland Council website](#).

## Fun in the Sun - Community Picnic



It was great to see so many people enjoying the sunshine and the company at the annual Scotts Landing community picnic on Sunday 2 March at Scott House.

Over 80 people attended and took the opportunity to mix and mingle with others in the community over lunch. The ham rolls and salad again proved popular, and the array of tasty treats from the pot-luck dessert was outstanding. It was especially pleasing to see so many new residents coming along to meet their neighbours.

Thanks to all who made it along, and to those who gave up their time to help set up and clear up. A special thanks to Michele Revell for stepping in to organise the catering.

MERRA also gratefully acknowledges the generous financial support of **New World Warkworth** towards the costs of the picnic.

## Save the Date

**18 - 21 April 2025** – Easter weed blitz – dump your pest weeds in the skip at 9 Charles Street

**Sunday 4 May 2025** – MERRA Annual General Meeting, Scott House 10.30 am

**18 May 2025** – last day for requesting alternatives to your 120 litre wheelie bin

**2 September 2025** – new rubbish collection commences