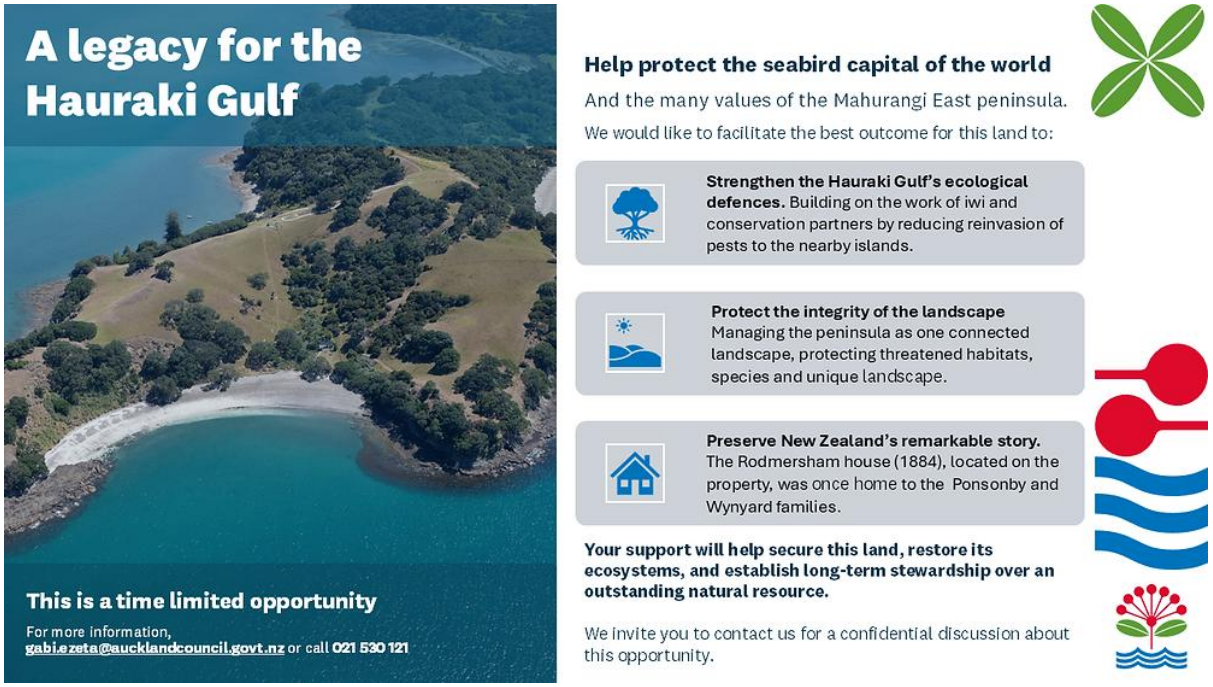
Community Newsletter from the Committee of the Mahurangi East Residents & Ratepayers Association (MERRA)

October 2026

www.scottslanding.org

Mahurangi East Property Proposition



A unique coastal property located at the southern end of the Mahurangi East Peninsula has been offered to Auckland Council. The property possesses outstanding ecological, cultural, historical, and landscape values and occupies a strategically important position within the Hauraki Gulf, recognised as the seabird capital of the world.

Auckland Council is seeking funding partners to support the acquisition, restoration, and long-term stewardship of the land and is open to discussing a range of partnership models.

This opportunity is only available for a limited period before the property is placed on the open market. Potential partners can express their interest and further discuss this opportunity by contacting Auckland Council.

For more information contact

gabi.ezeta@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or call 021 530 121

or click on the link here.

https://www.restorerodneyeast.org.nz/post/an-exceptional-conservation-opportunity-on-the-mahurangi-east-peninsula

Labour Weekend Weed Waste Bin



Remember to store up your pest weeds for the Labour Weekend Bin. It will be located at 9 Charles Street. Thank you to the Mazda Foundation for funding the bin hire and Helen and Chris Russell for having the bin on their driveway.

Community Garden



Did you know that there is a Community Garden on Young Street in Scotts Landing? Every Monday from 9am a group of local women head on down for a few hours of gardening and chat. It's a great way to learn more about planting vegetables and flowers and there is even a food forest at the back with fruit trees. It is also a wonderful way to meet other local people.

Sometimes we go off to collect sea grass and other times we go off to have coffee somewhere. If you are interested come on down we could always do with extra hands and help.

Certificate of Appreciation



MERRA recently received formal acknowledgement for our involvement in the recently completed Mahurangi Land Restoration Project (MLRP). The project involved a range of initiatives aimed at reducing sediments entering the Mahurangi Harbour, including riparian planting and sealing of Ridge Road.

Between 2022 and 2025, MERRA worked with the MLRP team to enable the funding and planting of eco-sourced native plants on private land throughout the peninsula, supplying over 8,200 native plants to 30 landowners, at a total value of over $20,000. The landowners were responsible for site preparation, planting and an annual weed release around the plants.

MERRA is proud to have been part of this successful project, which has had a significant impact on erosion control and biodiversity.

MERRA needs New Animal Pest Control Officer



Unfortunately Craig Maskell is having to step down from his role as MERRA's animal pest control coordinator due to ill health. We are indebted to Craig for his work in ensuring we stay on top of predators on the peninsula, and wish him a speedy recovery.

This means that we are on the lookout for someone to take over as our Animal Pest Control Coordinator. You get to oversee a really rewarding programme that makes a significant contribution to our environment and the abundance of birdlife that we all enjoy, with lots of support from a dedicated team of volunteers who are able to share the workload. If this sounds like you, or for further information, please contact Barry Mein at merra.chair@gmail.com.

We are also keen to hear from people who would be interested in helping with our quarterly predator trapping and baiting runs. Please get in touch at merra.pests@gmail.com.

Walkway Volunteers Needed



Auckland Council has agreed to provide materials to enable us to complete the upgrade of the walking track between Williams Street and Schoolhouse Bay, adjacent to Burton Wells Scenic Reserve. To take advantage of this offer, MERRA is seeking some volunteers to help with the track improvement project over the next few weeks. If you are able to spare a few hours to help out, please contact Chris Bradley at chris@pakenham.co.nz. Many hands make light work!