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Good News

An application for \$1,771. to repair or replace our damaged sign was made to Marlborough District Council by way of a submission on the Draft Annual Plan in May. I'm happy to report that funds have been made available by Council for the repair or replacement of our sign.



For further information

Anyone interested in landcare can contact any Core Group Member:

John and Betty Petterson	570 5534
Barry and Trudie Lasham	570 5073
Helen Palmer	570 2262
Trish Horrey	570 2088
Neil and Irene Martin	570 2207
Christine Baker	570 5834
Roseina Howe	570 5892
Dympne Swain	570 5811
Glen Vile	570 5587











RARANGI LANDCARE GROUP INC.

LANDCARE UPDATE AUGUST 2003

Rarangi Landcare Receive Award

It was a lovely surprise when the Department of Conservation letter arrived to say our Group was to receive an award from the Department in recognition of our efforts to protect threatened native foreshore plants in the area. Two of our members, Helen Palmer and Roseina Howe, went along to the ceremony held in Seddon on August 5th, to receive the Certificate of Recognition on our behalf. It states:

"The Department of Conservation acknowledges the valuable contribution Rarangi Landcare Group have made to species conservation in New Zealand Nga Taonga o Aotearoa".

In accepting this award we acknowledge and appreciate the continued support of the Department of Conservation, Marlborough District Council, NZ Landcare Trust and Outward Bound in helping us ensure the survival of many of our native foreshore species.



Landcare member Helen Palmer with certificate



Preserving our native foreshore plants

When three and a half year old Fynn Sawyer saw people planting native shrubs on the foreshore in June he wanted to help. So a hole was dug by Outward Bound then prepared for planting by Landcare which allowed our little environmentally aware member Fynn to place a Tauhinu plant carefully in the prepared hole (see picture). A real team effort.

Pebbles were put around the base of the plant in the shape of the letter 'F' and Fynn said he would look after it.

'Welcome to landcare Fynn'.

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June Working Bees

June 5th (Arbour Day) and 6th Outward Bound helped us out again by sending a great team of students to carry on with the weeding and planting.

The new foreshore areas, established in March, had to be reweeded again before planting to give the young plants a good start. The plants were supplied by the Department of Conservation and the planting mix with slow release fertiliser was supplied by Marlborough District Council.

We planted several hundred plants over two days, mainly shrubs like Tauhinu and grasses like the sand tussock. The advice is once these plants become established they should be able to cope as this is their environment. But watch out for garden escapees such as lupins and pull these out when you see them. They are vigorous growers and a threat to our native foreshore species.

Thankfully there was only one area planted out last year where the plants may need to be relocated closer to the sea. That's pretty good when you consider the hundreds of plants being reestablished.

Beach Clean Up.

June 6th started with a beach clean up. Although it was raining everyone remained in good spirits and quite a bit of rubbish was collected.

Thanks

Thanks once again go to the Outward Bound Team for a job well done.



The Outward Bound Team



Beach Clean up



Council and DOC Officers Nicky Eade (extreme left) and Colin Davis (third left) help with the planting. Pieces of old carpet supplied by Landcare member Sue Garing (centre) were laid around the plants to deter weeds.

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Other Groups show an interest in Rarangi Landcare Project

Interest in our foreshore project is coming from other Groups in the area. The Picton Garden Club was the first to pay us a visit in March followed by Forest and Bird in June.

There was a good turn out of members from both groups averaging two dozen or more. Each group was given a talk on the project before proceeding to the foreshore to have a look at planted areas. Thankfully, their questions were not too difficult!

The spokesperson for each group expressed admiration for our endeavours in trying to preserve Rarangi's foreshore natives and encouraged us to keep up the good work.



Financial Matters

RARANGI LANDCARE GROUP INC. INCOME & EXPENDITURE For the year ended 31st MARCH 2003

INCOME:

Grant 3.015.00 add: Interest received 5.68

GROSS INCOME

\$3,020.68

Less:

EXPENDITURE:

Bank charges(chq.book) 2.50

TOTAL EXPENDITURE

SURPLUS of Income

over Expenditure

\$3,018.18

(2.50)

Note: Grant received is from the Community Trust for the purchase of one large information sign and several small plant identity signs





