



## **Motu Kaikoura**

*An open sanctuary promoting wilderness education, ecosystem restoration and public recreation on an offshore island*

# **KAKA COMMENTS**

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**MOTU KAIKOURA TRUST SUPPORTERS' NEWSLETTER ISSUE 23 OCTOBER 2017**

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## **SPECIAL ISSUE**

### **FROM THE CHAIRMAN: ROD MILLER**

Exciting times with the construction of the new lodge underway and the foundations laid.

We now have this offer to upgrade the chalets on the island.

Below is the information that has been circulated to the Sandspit Yacht Club members by Jon, Ross and Peter. They are an experienced group and we appreciate their interest in upgrading the facilities on Motu Kaikoura.

They would like to issue an invitation to Motu Kaikoura supporters to be part of this project.

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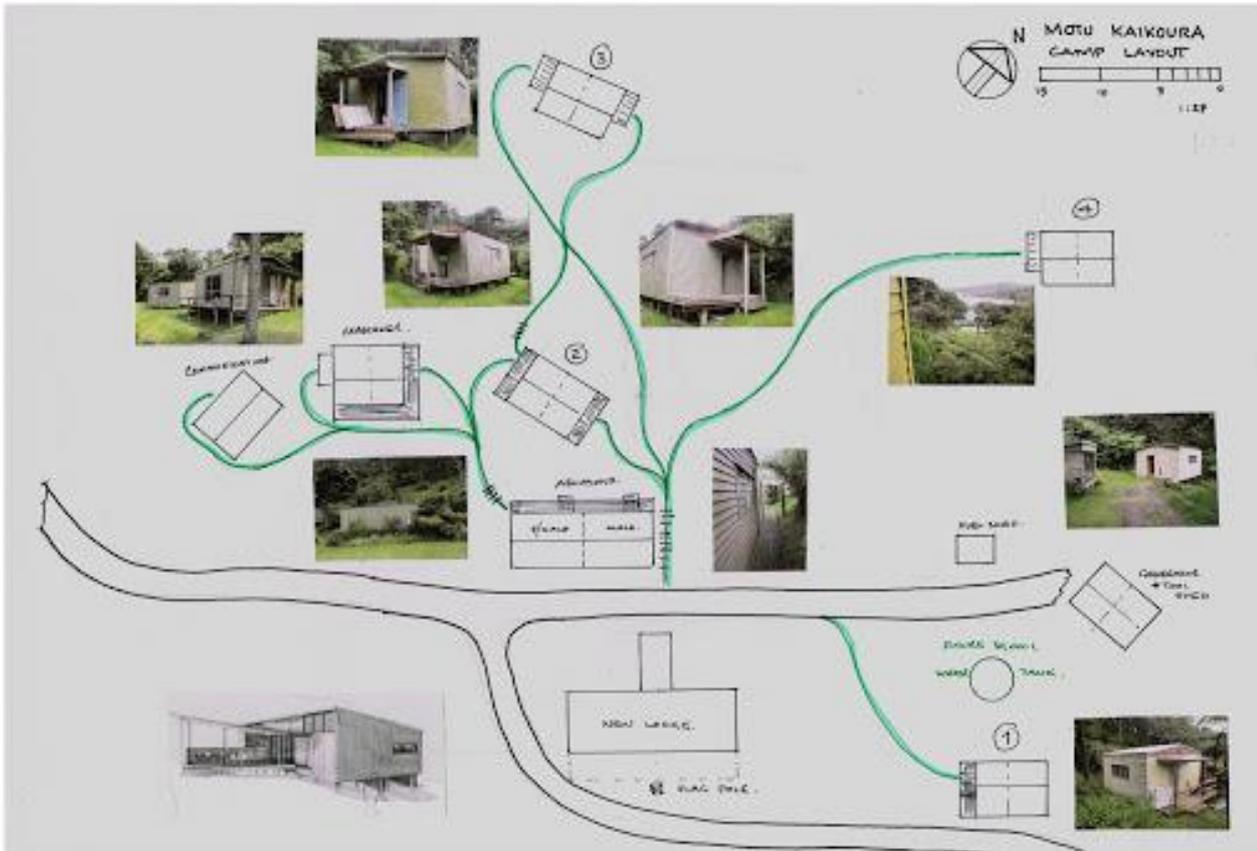
Most of you will have seen Motu Kaikoura, the island on the left as you go into Port Fitzroy harbour on the Great Barrier and be aware of its history. It was a farm, a resort and is now a conservation island owned by New Zealand and managed by a Trust, and is used on occasions by school groups from Hillary Outdoor Pursuits who run kayaking and camping nights on the island. The Chairman of the Trust is SYC member Rod Miller who lives along the Martins Bay road.

There has been a very successful program running for some time now to eradicate invasive species and the plans are to ultimately have the island available for Youth Outdoor Camps similar to Camp Benzon which Warkworth Community supported and which is now running successfully in North Harbour on Kawau Island. The problem on Motu Kaikoura is that the existing sleeping chalets have deteriorated since the main lounge / dining room was burnt down some time ago and all the available money is being used to replace this facility.

[www.motukaikoura.org.nz](http://www.motukaikoura.org.nz)

A group of Warkworth Rotary and Sandspit Yacht Club members have volunteered to help out by upgrading the facilities and have been planning what is needed to provide acceptable accommodation for volunteers. It is hoped that this accommodation can also be used over the summer by visitors to Great Barrier, Kayakers or Bird watchers? Boaties who want to reduce the number of people on board during the summer holiday cruise? Any funds raised in this way will go toward further upgrades.

Ultimately though, the plan of the Trust is to have school groups using the island for organised outdoor experience programs.



**Buildings in need of an upgrade. Bottom left is the new Lodge replacing the one lost to fire.**

Before anything more can be done the chalets need to be upgraded and we need a list of people who would be prepared to volunteer by helping out with painting, roof repairs, water system upgrades. The units are only small and three of us painted the inside of one in less than an afternoon just recently. It wasn't hard and it is a beautiful place in which to be doing this kind of work. We now have a job list so volunteers should be able to go over to do some work at their own convenience.

We also need people from SYC who have boats to help transport volunteers (who could be friends) to the island.

**FINALLY, IF YOU CAN ASSIST IN ANY WAY PLEASE SEND US YOUR EMAIL AND A MESSAGE AS TO HOW YOU CAN HELP - THANK YOU**

Send these to:

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