



GREAT BARRIER MARINE RADIO INC.

Newsletter 2017

Hello and welcome to another boating year. Not sure where the last one went. Thank goodness that winter is over as well.

It always seems to be a big lottery of what we might get for a season. Let's hope you will get the chance for plenty of sun and balmy days. I guess those of you that have sails need a bit of breeze too!

Firstly, thanks to AKZO Noble International Paints for their continued sponsorship. Wishing them luck with their boat in the Volvo Ocean Race.

Thank you to all of those who made prompt subscription payments, and especially those who added a few extra dollars in donations.

You may direct credit your subscription to our bank account: **ASB 12-3035-0471447-01**

Please include your **present years invoice number [makes life easier for us]**, **boat name and call sign** as identification.

A good many of you have sent in your email address. If you have not and would like to get your invoice by email could you please reply with your name and email to: gbmarineradio@gmail.com. I **understand Vodafone is no longer** going to be doing emails so a few of you may need to send me changes if you have made boat and or moved address changes and we haven't caught up with that, please drop a line.

We are hoping that this being our second year with the transition to emailing invoices we will have got it right! Apologies if you find things different.

For your next visit to Great Barrier, some things to think about:

- 1: **Fire** is an ever present hazard. Please absolutely no open flames of any sort including flares, fireworks and floating Chinese lanterns. The smoke house and hot water facilities at Smoke House Bay are okay but **it is still illegal to have an open fire. We have a complete Fire Ban** as has the rest of the island of the Hauraki Gulf.
- 2: **Island Medical Facilities.** We have a first class Health Team on the island. If you need medical assistance in the North, please contact the Rural Nurse on 094290047. For help in other parts of the island please contact the Health Centre on 094290356. For medical assistance after hours, the Health Centre answer machine will provide the number of the doctor on call. If you leave a message, at any time on either phone, with a cell phone contact number, please include the name of your boat with any relevant details.

Note if you move out of cell phone coverage the Health Team may not be able to get back to you. Great Barrier Marine Radio could possibly then make contact if there is a boat name. Otherwise please do not hesitate to contact GBMRadio when a problem arises.

- 3: **Rubbish** as you are all aware is always a big problem. All rubbish you drop off to the barge goes into our landfill which is rapidly filling up. If possible, please take your recycling and rubbish back to your home port. They have much better facilities on the mainland to handle rubbish: pack in, pack out.

If you must leave rubbish items on the island please separate out the clean recyclables from the land fill rubbish. **There are facilities at all the main wharf sites.**

Fish scraps can be disposed of in open waters.

Please absolutely no hazardous goods dumped on the barge.

- 4: **Unwanted Pests.** Great Barrier is part of the Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park. There are also two large reserves in the North. The same rules apply here as they do to the rest of the Gulf. Cats and Dogs are not permitted on these or any D.O.C. estate. **Please check your vessels for unwanted pests** such as Rats, Possums, Argentine Ants and Rainbow/ Plague Skins. Not forgetting, if you are walking, the **Kauri die back. Clean boots and walking poles.**

6: **Using Chan 01**

Emmy is on duty from 0700 hrs to 2200 daily, monitoring GBMR's own Chan 01.

Although Chan 01 may be monitored outside these hours, please keep calls for emergencies only. The operator thanks you for your consideration in this respect.

Many of you will have noted interference from Tauranga vessels. Unfortunately there is not a lot we can do. We have written to Tauranga Coast Guard asking if they could mention to their members via their newsletter that a sign off before Slipper Island could possibly ease the unwanted tripping of our repeater.

Please remember that Chan 01 is neither for chit chat or replacement for poor cell phone coverage. We realise that in some locations, use of a simplex boat to boat channel [i.e. 06 or 10] may not be possible. In that case **"Short and to the point!"** Do not be offended if you are reminded that we are a ship to shore station.

- 7: **Weather Broadcasts.** Weather details are broadcast at approximately 0745 and 1745 daily.

- 8: **Contact details.** You are welcome to leave GBMR as an emergency contact for your stay

Telephone. 094290281. Best way for contact and leave message if need be.

If you are bringing a cell phone, reception can be patchy and it does pay to have **both** Vodafone and Spark.

9: **AGM**

Our AGM was held on the 15th of July. Max Howard, Nikki Watts, Nick Clark, Lindsay Wright, Mark Durling and Emmy Pratt remain as Trustees.

So that just leaves Seasons Greetings. Wishing you all a safe, happy and very healthy Christmas and New Year. Look forward to talking to you all on the VHF.

PS: We have had some **stickers** printed promoting GBMR Ch 01. They are made to go onto your boat windscreen or even the back of your car. They are round and 80mm diameter. If you would like one please add another \$2.00 to your sub [\$1.00 is for postage] and we will send it to you. Emmy will be away for 3 weeks after the invoices go out, so bear with us they will arrive.

