



February 2019

Hello Young Lifetimers!!

I hope you've all been able to get out and about and enjoying some of the lovely summer weather we've been having recently.

We had a good day for our Summer Walk in January. We took the train to the Takapu Road station then walked the very pleasant and easy track to Tawa station before returning to Takapu Road, via BB's in Outlet City for lunch. A very pleasant outing. The next scheduled event was the Operatunity concert *Luck of the Irish* but unfortunately we didn't have enough registrations for this, so had to cancel.



I know there will be a lot of interest in our next event. On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February we'll be off to **Matiu/Somes Island** in Wellington harbour. We've tried to achieve this trip a couple of times in recent years but have failed due to situations out of our control. One year the island was closed due to high fire risk and another time the weather was too miserable. The weather really does need to be nice to ensure that visiting the island is a pleasant experience. If the weather looks like it will be unkind to us then Lynda and I will make the decision about cancelling, and of course we'll get in touch with you.

We will get the ferry to the island from Days Bay so that we can maximise the time that we will have there (nearly 4 hours). We'll have plenty of time to walk the tracks, climb to view the lighthouse and gun emplacements, explore the old gravestones and admire the views. There's a Visitor Centre and plenty of picnic tables on the island so you can be as active as you like or just sit and enjoy the different environment.



The island is a pretty special place. The Department of Conservation information says "*Matiu/Somes Island is a predator-free scientific reserve. It is also a historic reserve with a rich multicultural history*". Because it is predator-free we will have our bags checked when we arrive at the island. A DOC staff member will check that you don't have any possums, rats or random insects lurking in your bag! It's also wise to check your footwear for soil and seeds before you get there.

Please note:

- Bring your lunch, drinks and whatever else you need (sun hat etc and a warm layer in case the weather changes)
- Be warned that the track from the ferry wharf up onto the island is quite **steep**. It's an easy-walking tar-sealed track but a bit of a climb, so just take it gently as we'll have plenty of time.
- The ferry is FREE if you have your Gold Card, otherwise you'll need to pay \$23 (return) for the ferry ride. Tickets are purchased on board.

So, as well as the long awaited Matiu/Somes Island trip we also have another great adventure to tell you all about!

How does a **Whanganui Excursion** sound? Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March is scheduled for this BIG day so put a ring around the day on your calendar! We want to pack as much as possible into our time in the “river city” so it will certainly be a big, and long, day. We’ll be departing from Te Rauparaha Arena at 8.30am SHARP, and will be back there about 6pm. We will just have a quick toilet stop between Porirua and Whanganui, so you might like to bring along a snack, a cold drink or your thermos to fend off any “hungry tums” (especially after such an early start!)



So what will we do and see? Lunch is always essential so we are booked into the Funky Duck café in the beautifully restored caretakers cottage at Virginia Lake. While we are there you can take a stroll through the Virginia Lake Winter Gardens and the Aviary, where there are about 30 different species of birds flying freely



around you. Whanganui is famous for its glass art so we’ll spend some time at the New Zealand Glassworks, the first national centre for glass art. We’ll be able to view the hot glass blowing process and hear a little about what happens, then take a look at some of the finished glass works in their shop. We will also visit the lovely Visitor Information Centre by the river and walk along the river-side boardwalk viewing the tramcar museum and the museum at the Waimarie Riverboat Centre in its lovely historic building. Hopefully we will get our timing right and will be able to watch the beautiful old paddle-steamer “Waimarie” coming down the river and docking at the Centre’s Hatrick wharf. It’s quite a sight to see. There’ll also be time to visit the Durie Hill lookout with wonderful views over the river and the city. An optional extra is to take a ride in the historic elevator that runs inside the hill between the lookout and the riverside (for just \$2). This will be a great day so I do hope you’ll join us. Just ring the Arena and put your name on the list!

Hope to see you soon!

*Pat*

**Lifetimers’ contact information:**

Te Rauparaha Arena: phone **237 1521**

Lynda: phone 237 3556; or email: [lynda.mcandrew@poriruacity.govt.nz](mailto:lynda.mcandrew@poriruacity.govt.nz)

Postal Address:

“Lifetimers Club”  
Te Rauparaha Arena  
Porirua City Council  
PO Box 50-218  
Porirua

Pat’s email: [pat.brocklebank@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pat.brocklebank@xtra.co.nz) / mob phone: 027 299 1798 (texts)

*A smile is the shortest distance between two people*



<p><b>Matiu/Somes Island</b>  Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February  9.30am to 3.30pm</p> <p>We will head to Day's Bay and get the ferry to the island from there.</p> <p>This is a great chance to explore the historic Matiu/Somes Island at leisure. There'll be plenty of time to walk the tracks, see the lighthouse and gun emplacements, enjoy the view and look for skinks and bird life. There's a visitor centre, lots of picnic tables and views in all directions!</p> <p><b>Warning: the track up from the ferry wharf is sealed but quite long and steep.</b></p>		<p><b>Lifetimer Member: \$28.00</b>  <b>Non-member: \$33.00</b></p> <p><i>Cost covers vehicle transport only.</i></p> <p>Ferry is FREE with a Gold Card</p> <p><i>Note that if you don't have a Gold Card you will need to purchase a ferry ticket (\$25 return)</i></p> <p><b>Itinerary:</b>  9.15am Pick up Titahi Bay  9.30am Pick up TRA  3.30pm Drop off TRA  3.45pm Drop off Titahi Bay</p> <p><i>Bring your own lunch &amp; drink</i></p>
<p><b>Whanganui Excursion</b>  Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March  8.30am to 6pm</p> <p>Join us for a great day out!</p> <p>We've got a comfy coach for you to ride in and a programme of interesting things for you to see and experience in the "river city". There'll be demonstrations and a talk at the NZ Glassworks centre, time to stroll the riverside boardwalk and browse in the riverboat museum, lunch by Virginia Lake with a stroll through the Wintergardens and the Aviary..... and more!</p> <p>We'd love you to join us!</p>		<p><b>Lifetimer Member: \$45.00</b>  <b>Non-member: \$50.00</b></p> <p><i>Cost covers transport and visit to NZ Glassworks</i></p> <p><b>Itinerary:</b>  8.15am Pick up Titahi Bay  8.30am Pick up TRA  3.30pm Depart Whanganui  6.00pm Drop off TRA  6.30pm Drop off Titahi Bay</p> <p><i>Bring along a snack, a cold drink or your trusty thermos in case you get an attack of the "hungry tums" during the journey!</i></p>



# Te Rauparaha Arena Lifetimers Club Booking Form

Name:			
Name:			
Address:			
Suburb:			
Phone:		Lifetimers Member?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Upcoming Activities:</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Non-Member</i>
Matiu/Somes Island [Wed 27th Feb]	\$28.00	\$33.00
Whanganui Excursion [Mon 18th March]	\$45.00	\$50.00

12 Month Membership \$18 <input type="checkbox"/>	
6 Month Membership \$10 <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>

I will meet the bus at  Te Rauparaha Arena  Whitehouse Rd shops

For all Events

For the following event(s):

<i>Method of Payment</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<b>AMOUNT PAID \$</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Eftpos	Receipt #
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque (made out to PCC)	Date:
<input type="checkbox"/> VISA/MasterCard/Bankcard	Received By: