

# Still riding the wave of success

In January, the New Lynn Sea Scouts defended their title as NZ's top Scout Group when they won the National Regatta held at Narrow Neck on the Shore. One of their many achievements at the regatta was to become the first Group since the National competition started in 1924 to make clean sweep of all the rowing events winning the Junior, Intermediate, Senior and Open events. Moving forward a few months to April, the Group went to the Auckland Regatta in Whangaparaoa to try and back up their National title with the local title. However it was not until June that the title was finally secured as the last day of the April regatta had to be called off due to poor weather conditions. So the Group headed up to Orewa for a day in June to take part in the rowing finals that had been postponed. Despite being unable to train in the intervening weekends due, again to poor weather, the Junior, Intermediate and Senior crews cruised to relatively easy wins. However their leaders had to fight all the way in a very tight race and only managed a third placing in the Open event with less than a boat length in it at the finish line, so could not quite replicate their National Regatta success.

The youth crews were very pleased with their wins said Andrew, one of their leaders, 'however I think they got even more enjoyment at being able to outperform their leaders this time round. There were plenty of offers from the kids volunteering to train us!' In claiming the Auckland title New Lynn has now become the most successful group at the local regatta with 10 wins edging ahead of Hawke and St Aidans, each on 9 apiece. The Group is now looking forward to the winter sailing programme where they will sail against other Groups from across the region. While many tend to think of winter as a time to stay inside where it is dry and warm, the Scouts enjoy testing themselves against the elements and their peers. The challenging weather conditions that winter brings can 'provide for some of the most exhilarating boating that one can do' says Andrew.

The aim of Scouting is to help to encourage the growth of a large range of life skills such as teamwork, leadership and perseverance to name but a few. This is typically done through the delivery of an action packed adventurous outdoors based programme. New Lynn does this with a focus on water activities, but still has a nice balance of traditional land based activity as well such as tramping, camping, rock climbing and pioneering.

The Group caters for boys and girls aged from 6 to 19 years. For further information, contact Andrew on 027 6939 756 or visit the Group's website [newlynn.seascouts.org.nz](http://newlynn.seascouts.org.nz).



*A few of the New Lynn Scouts and Venturers at Orewa with some of their trophies from the Auckland Regatta.*