

May 2013

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# Coastal News

www.mapua.gen.nz

email: [coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz](mailto:coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz)

covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,  
run by volunteers

## Vehicle-free Wharf Area Favoured

Over the summer, as a result of community feedback more than 12 months ago, the Tasman District Council and the Mapua Wharf Advisory Group decided to trial a pedestrian-friendly zone on the Mapua Wharf precinct.

The trial stopped cars from being parked on the wharf area and allowed for boats to be dropped off and deliveries to be made.

The trial period began on 21 December 2012 and finished on 7 February this year. This fitted in with the school holidays. The general feedback from this trial was very positive so it was thought it could be extended to Sundays until Easter as well as the Easter holiday weekend.

The council asked for feedback on the trial and we would like to thank all those who responded. What they have said has been most helpful.

Apart from a couple of respondents, everyone else who provided feedback found the experience of no parked vehicles on the wharf a very positive one.

One person wrote, "Our family loved the no-cars trial. It was more family friendly and an easy, relaxed zone was created."

Out of those who responded positively to the trial, more than 50% went on to add that they would like to see the trial period extended – some for a longer period over the summer and some permanently.

We also asked for improvements for next summer and the message sent back to the council was that better signage was required, so that there was less confusion to people. That issue has been looked at and still requires some refining (ie, lowering the new sign so that people can read it without cricking their neck). However, it is a work in progress and we are always receptive to good ideas that are easy to implement.

A good number of people also expressed a wish for better enforcement. Generally, the local people acted with

great responsibility and ensured that they used the parking space available. This is an area that we do need to make some considerations on. The council will probably require a parking bylaw change so that enforcement can be done.

Other ideas included better lighting and more rubbish bins.

At the last meeting of the Mapua Wharf Advisory Group on 11 April, the group agreed to talk to their various groups about making the wharf precinct pedestrian-friendly next summer. The discussion was focused on whether we should make the summer Sundays official from Labour Day weekend right through to Easter as well as over the summer school holiday period.

This feedback will be brought to the group's next meeting on 22 May 2013 where a decision will be made about the dates for making the wharf precinct pedestrian-friendly.

If you wish to comment on this please email me at [sarah.downs@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:sarah.downs@tasman.govt.nz). I will ensure that your voice is heard at the meeting.

*Sarah Downs, Transportation planning, TDC*

### Advertising Costs

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*Edited by Andrew Earlam (advertising) 540-2845, Terry Smith (editorial) 540-3203, and compiled by Barbara Mercer, 540-3022. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editors. We aim to have the newsletter out by the 1st of the month. Deadline for paper copy at the Mapua Store and e-mailed items (preferred) to [coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz](mailto:coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz) is the 20th of the month. Small ads are by gold coin donation in the collection boxes, club notices free. Printed by the Tasman District Council.*

# Under The Bonnet with Fred

## *The Pumpkin Competition, Where Size Counts*

It's that time of the year in Mapua when the apples are being picked and the area is alive with its core business so to speak. It's also the highlight of the year for Club Mapua for its Pumpkin-Growing Competition weigh-in at the Mapua Tavern. All money raised at this event was donated to the Mapua Hall Fund.

My mate Rex's pumpkin weighed in at 120kg so three of us trying to pick up a round pumpkin just didn't happen. I used my trailer as its only 500mm off the ground and by adding a couple of scaffold planks between three of us we rolled, walked and pushed Rex's pumpkin up the planks on to the trailer. There was also another pumpkin there weighing 102kg so now there was 202kg of pumpkin on the trailer. Both were centred over the axle for easy handling but there was one thing wrong—none of them was mine. Rex's secret for growing up from 45kg last year to 120kg this year? He's not saying.

If some of you passed the Mapua Tavern you would have seen the venue surrounded by hay bales set up to give a country theme and safety. Mitre 10 Mega Store provided a Hiab truck to lift the heavy pumpkins to the scales. The Mapua Hall fund-raising committee provided a barbeque and there was a non-stop chocolate wheel going. The chocolate wheel was sold out by 6pm with all those prizes donated by club members or sponsors, and again all money raised donated to the Mapua Hall Fund.

Despite that blonde lady on the TV One weather telling us we would have a fine day it started raining about 2pm and never stopped, so the number of pumpkins brought to the weigh-in was down this year. Most of the volunteers got wet, but sometimes you do. Standing outside watching the weigh-in could be called wet fun?

This year's winner was Waimea College with 170.5kg. Second was Brook Syndicate with 144.5kg which also won the Ugly Fugly prize for the ugliest pumpkin and I've got to say it was ugly. Third heaviest was Rex Dasler (he is still talking about it but he did shout). Average weight was Jack Davis. Up to 50kg was the the Shoiz Family, Prettiest pumpkin was Benjamin Munro, Arty Farty prize went to Kathryn Barlow. Children's Arty Farty prize went to Tyler and Emma Taffe, and Children's Best Dressed was Jack Munro.



Thanks to the sponsors Mega Mitre 10, More FM, Speight's and Woodstock Bourban. But there were local sponsors also and I want to thank them as often they are never mentioned. Thanks to Mapua 4 Square, Graham and Juile Cox of Karpaints, Graham Snook Originals, McGlashen Pharmacy in Richmond, Accent House B&B in Mapua and Fred Cassin Scaffolding for providing all the smaller prizes.

Special thanks to Dave and Wendy, owners of the Mapua Tavern, for providing the venue for the weigh-in.

Special thanks to Martin Barlow for the organising and meetings with the major sponsors. Also for the volunteers for the pre-event set, working in the rain on the day and everyone turned up for the dismantling on Sunday. Martin Barlow, the president of Club Mapua, said money raised for Mapua Hall Fund was \$2500.

Growing a giant pumpkin takes six months, right from deciding where to plant, the right soil, watering, shade to stop your over-watered pumpkin from exploding from heat of the summer sun and pruning the vine so all the goodness goes just to the pumpkin. All this requires much boosting and interaction with friends and other growers. Sadly with the dry summer my pumpkin never got past flowering. One person said he never grew a pumpkin because the cost of watering was too much with recent increase in TDC water rates!

Allan Rankin, the agricultural tutor at Waimea College, says it was a lot of fun for the kids and he challenges other colleges to better it next year.

*Fred Cassin*

# Out and About with Hugh

**W**oof woof! No, this is not about dogs, at least not for now. The dog part of this story comes later. This is about a different kind of “woof,” a two-legged one.

Last summer, I met a young man at Grossi Point who told me he was from the USA and was travelling around New Zealand on a working holiday visa. He said he was “woofing” and at the time living and working on a property in the Mapua area.

Fortunately I had some knowledge of what he meant by “woofing” so I figured he wasn’t “spoofing”. But for those of you who may not know, he was a identifying himself as a “WWOOFER” and was not spoofing and having me on.

He spelled it out for me, explaining that it stood for “Willing Workers on Organic Farms” and that he was WWOOFing his way around New Zealand working on a variety of organically oriented properties ranging from large farms to family gardens, organic orchards and vineyards. Previous knowledge notwithstanding, this rang more than a few curiosity bells for me. So, who, why and what is WWOOFing all about and where did the name come from in the first place? Off to Google and here you are!

The WWOOF movement was started in the UK in 1971 by Sue Coppard, a London secretary who recognized the need to provide access to the countryside for people like herself, ie, urban dwellers, who had neither the means or the opportunity and who also supported the organic movement. Fortunately, she was able to arrange for herself and a few friends to spend a weekend on a biodynamic farm and to help with the farm work in exchange for their meals and accommodation. That weekend was so successful it led to others. The word quickly spread. Other London-bound participants joined in, eventually calling themselves “Weekend Workers on Organic Farms”.

As can sometimes happen with an idea, this one ended up blossoming all out of proportion. It is still blossoming. Week-end Workers became Willing Workers on Organic Farms and then Worldwide Opportunities for Willing Workers. Today, either term is used and the movement has become a loose network of national organisations that facilitate placement of volunteers on organic farms. There are hosts in 99 countries around the world. No central list or organisation encompasses all hosts or participants; each country having its own organisation and membership criteria with all striving to maintain similar standards. WWOOF came to New Zealand in 1972 and identifies itself as “WWOOF Aotearoa New Zealand”. On the net at [www.woof.co.nz](http://www.woof.co.nz)

The bottom line if you are WWOOFer? Four to five hours of work a day for your room and board and the opportunity to experience first-hand organic methods and life in a rural setting. If you are a WWOOFer host? An opportunity for assistance with a multitude of farming and gardening activities depending upon the situation on your property. It’s a win win arrangement with benefits everyone involved.

Now for the four legged “woof”. The other “WOOFERS” in our lives.

Last week I was approached by a gentleman who identified himself as an *Out & About* reader. He asked me if I would mention the barking dog problem in my column. That stopped me. What barking dog problem? I wasn’t aware there was a barking dog problem in Mapua. However, he assured me this problem was real and could I please write about it. Okay, dear reader, after due consideration I am mentioning it. So, for any reader who has a barking dog which might be a major player in this “problem”, please consider your neighbours. In particular my reader, who mentioned this in the first place because his neighbour’s barking dog is a darn nuisance.

**Local Stuff:** Slowly but surely the TDC Commercial Sub-Committee has taken shape. Its members are Crs Tim King and Brian Ensor from the TDC and Allan Dunn, Phil Grover and Roger Taylor from the private sector. The committee will provide oversight and management of the TDC’s commercial assets. They will meet for the first time on 18 May, with the first business session scheduled for 28 June.

Hopefully, among other things, the committee will unravel the tangled mess of head-leases and sub-leases of council property; in particular at Port Mapua. Leasing from the TDC and subsequently sub-leasing at a profit might be considered good business by some. Actually it’s not. Income from council leases belongs to the council, ie, the rate payers of the Tasman District. The sooner the present practice of allowing sub-leasing for private profit is eliminated, the better.

Interested in what is in the TDC Commercial portfolio? Briefly: 36 properties valued at \$17,554,000 generating an income of \$538,495 plus four campgrounds, two aerodromes, Motueka Harbour and 4000ha of forestry land (3000ha planted out).

**More Stuff?** Not this month. No more space. Rates, cycleways, TDC Long Term Plan, sea level rise, Community Association, Seaton Valley stream etc—up-dates next month.

# MAPUA COMBINED PROBUS

The guest speakers at the April meeting of the Combined Probus Club of Mapua and District were Bob and Ann Phillips, of Mapua. Their subject was tree cropping. Bob introduced the subject by giving some information on the Tree Croppers' Association. Ann and Bob are early members of the Nelson Tree Croppers' group. Eight members had their first meeting in September 1984. Today they are one of the largest groups in the country with a membership of 135. The Nelson group holds nine field days a year. Their object is to support and promote the development of a variety of exotic and fruit trees. The club members work with hobby and commercial orchardists in planting and developing a range of unusual fruiting plants.

Ann continued their talk on some of the variety of trees they work with, such as macadamia, olive, ginkgo, and almond trees. There are about 16 varieties of almond trees, but due to often humid conditions only eight varieties develop well. On their one and half-acre section on Mapua Drive they do trials with small groups of trees. Periodically they send out templates to orchardists for reports on development of their trees. Ann showed a variety of macadamia nuts coated in different chocolates. These items are produced by club members and sold at the local markets.

Hardy tamarillos are a fruit susceptible to frosts, but they are able to grow some 30 varieties on their

property. Ann and Bob do local trials on various fruit varieties to supply information for local orchardists. There are 20 varieties of blueberries; they are cheap to grow and useful on small properties. Their next project is the development of apricot trees of which there are about seven varieties.

Bob concluded their talk by showing a large pruning bag containing a variety of tools. He demonstrated how to sharpen secateurs using mentholated spirits and a sharpening tool.

The mini speaker was club member Anne Evans. She spoke of her recent tour of the North Island with husband David. At Paraparaumu they joined a day tour group to spend time on Kapiti Island. Before they could board a boat for the island they had to obtain a DOC concession pass and all personal baggage was checked. On the island there is one main walking track that leads up to the highest point. Anne and David walked the lower part of the track through native bush, watching and listening to the native bird life. They found saddlebacks and stitch birds were fascinating to watch. The DOC staff on the island gave a talk about the island and its wildlife.

After the Kapiti Coast their next stop was a look through the Waitomo Caves. They continued north as far as Gulf Harbour, north of Auckland. There they had a 20-minute boat trip to another nature reserve at Tiritiri Matangi Island. They walked to the visitors' centre to see a very early light house. They saw saddlebacks, takahae and stitchbirds in the bush. There was no permit required to visit the island. Some of the land area was once farmed, but there are now many areas being planted in native bush by volunteer groups.

*David Higgs*

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## Out and About

Writer's literary license took over. Sometimes that works, sometimes not. Bryce Courtenay said, "Those of us who write are literary magpies gathering bright objects for later use in our work". Since I'm a writer, I plead guilty to that and end this month's Out & About with a "bright object" I picked up along my way: "Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is the future. Today is a gift and that is why we call it the Present."

*Hugh Gordon*

# Animal Health File

Dr. Paula Short, Tasman Bay Vets, 69 Aranui Road, Mapua, ph 540-2329

## To Spey or Not to Spey...

Picture this, your much loved family dog is suddenly not at all well. Thinking back you realise she may have been a little quiet lately, maybe picky with her food or drinking a bit more. Now she's very lethargic, and has started to vomit. Worried, you take her to the vet, after some tests it's realised that she has a life-threatening infection of her uterus – a pyometra; and now needs major surgery to save her. Worse, you learn that this simply wouldn't have happened if she had been speyed.

This situation not uncommon, sometimes it's the family dog, but working dogs and ex-breeding bitches are also often seen with a pyometra. Severe pyometra's are a particular problem with bitches because of their cycle pattern. Whereas, most other animals we work with cycle all year or have a season where oestrus cycles are continuous, the bitch doesn't, on average having just two seasons a year. This creates a situation where infections can build up to extreme levels without obvious signs.

Recently at Tasman Bay Vets we operated on a case where the uterus, normally about 5mm in diameter, had expanded to about 80mm on each side and was full of pus. This ability of the infection to be contained within the body to such a massive extent can often mean that by the time we are aware of it, life-threatening complications like kidney failure,

toxaemia, septicaemia and ruptured uterus may have developed.

Although most common in middle-aged to older bitches, pyometra's can occur at any stage of life. Dogs that have a record of unusual season patterns and false pregnancies are more likely to develop them. Here are some signs to watch for:

- Less energy
- Weight or condition loss
- Increased thirst
- Reduced or loss of appetite
- Vomiting
- Vaginal discharge
- Bloated abdomen

You can quickly see how most of these signs are not very specific. Unfortunately in some cases the telltale discharge doesn't show, meaning that secondary tests like blood work and ultrasound scans are often needed to reach a diagnosis.

If you have an entire bitch and she's not 100% well do at the very least contact us and discuss her signs. Outside of seeking prompt attention there is one very simple take-home message: please get your dog speyed. The cost of treating a pyometra is generally around 5-6 times the cost of a simple spey.

If you have any questions about getting your dog speyed, please get in touch with us at either our Mapua or Motueka clinics. We can then discuss the surgery and make all the arrangements for you.

# Mahana School

The Mahana community is well known for its support and encouragement of the school. This support was on show once more at the recent 'Family Fiesta.' A beautiful setting, great food, music and families all combined to make it a wonderful event. Nic Picard and the Home and School team worked very hard to make it a success, and they did a fantastic job. Organising a school event like this is a considerable task. There are rosters to organise, decisions to make about what time, what food, what costs? Where do we put the advertising signs? All of these decisions are crucial and take time and energy. But the end result is worth it. We like to think we have a unique event that goes with our unique school. We need those extra funds, and we like to put our school on show and let people see how great it is.

This term Mahana has experienced an increase in our junior school roll. It has been great to welcome eight new entrant/year 1 students to join our five year 2 kids in Piwakawaka Room. They are all having a great time with Mrs D in their brand new state-of-the-art classroom. It truly is an incredibly good environment to start school, and starting school well is incredibly important. Success in the first day, week, month, and year is the key to a successful time at school and we work really hard to make sure that our kids are well looked after during this time.

And looking after our kids is what we do well. One of the key features of this is our buddy system. All our students are teamed up with someone who is responsible for looking out for them during break times, on school visits, and during 'buddy time.' Buddy time happens each Friday afternoon and gives senior buddies a chance to teach their 'little' buddy a new skill or game. Sometimes this is simply buddy reading, sometimes this might be a new skill in art, or sometimes it might be playing a game together. During break times big buddies help patch up grazed knees



with a plaster and a story, or help play a game or patch up friendships when needed. Being a buddy is an important part of being a responsible Mahana contributor.

Recently we held a Mahana School Piwakawaka parents' dinner to allow our 'new' families to get to know each other as well as some of the other parents at school. It was just great to see people making connections and sharing together, as starting school can be a bit bewildering, especially for a mum or a dad! Providing a chance to catch up and just ask questions to someone who has been there before or have a talk with someone in the same situation is really important.

Mahana has experienced success in jam-making! Kotuku Room students Theo Field, Lottie Stow, Hannah Gale and Lucy Chung won the prize for best jam during the recent Moutere Gold jam competition. Thanks to Moutere Gold and The Old Post Office Store for running such a yummy competition.

Please remember that families are welcome to visit us anytime, or check out our website at [www.mahana.school.nz](http://www.mahana.school.nz), check out our class blogs, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter. We have an excellent school that is not far away. We have a student – teacher ratio that allows us to put kids learning first. We have a special place and we are proud of it. Come and take a look!

*Justin Neal. principal Mahana School*



*Theo - making jam*



# BOOK REVIEW

*The One Hundred Year old man who climbed out the window and disappeared -  
By Jonas Jonasson - reviewed this month by Barbara Mercer*

It is Allan Karlsson's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and at the Old Folks' home where he lives, a big party is planned. The mayor is due to arrive, the local paper is in attendance, along with all the other residents and staff led by the formidable Director Alice. With less than an hour to go, Allan makes impromptu decision – climbs out of the window of his room into the flower bed and sets off in his carpet slippers for destination unknown.

Just as his creaking knees are giving out, he reaches the bus station and decides to take a bus to wherever his limited funds will allow. A scraggy, greasy haired youth with a large suitcase also waits at the terminus. It is obvious that he requires the rest room with some urgency but cannot negotiate himself plus the suitcase through the door. He asks Allen to watch the case and hastily makes for the rest room. Allan's bus is about to leave with no sign of the youth returning, so on another whim Allan takes the suitcase and boards the bus.

Thereafter his adventures become more and more bizarre. Picking up two or three very diverse travelling companions en route including an escaped circus elephant called Sonya, they are all pursued by a gang of villains who want the contents of the suitcase, and a rather slow

witted police chief. The characters are wonderful and beautifully drawn, the story is action packed with never a dull moment. Purely by misadventure, they leave a few corpses in their wake, turning the police search for a missing geriatric into a hunt for a bunch of serial killers. It is very, very funny, and if you like a book that makes you laugh out loud try this one.

Interspersed with the narrative of the centenarian's adventures is the story of his long and eventful life as an explosives expert. His close interaction with almost every important world leader over his lifetime influences the course of history. One of the funniest bits is when Joseph Stalin's incompetent aide decides to kidnap Einstein in an effort to obtain the secret of the atomic bomb for Russia, but by mistake kidnaps Einstein's identical younger sibling, who has not in any degree inherited his brother's intellect. He and Allan end up banished to the same Siberian Gulag.

It stretches credulity more and more as the story unfolds, but it was never going to be a serious novel, just an extremely entertaining, amusing and well written story.

If it isn't yet available in Mapua Library – ask them to get it in for you.

# MAPUA LIBRARY



We are excited to receive a brand new, state-of-the-art photocopier. This was donated by the Copy Company, facilitated by NBS (one of our sponsors). It will be available for use by the public at 20 cents per copy with a limit of 10 copies.

On Tuesday 14 May at 7.30pm it will be our annual meeting in the library. All patrons and volunteers are invited to come and show their support, have their say, or perhaps go on the committee (no pressure!) There will be nibbles afterwards.

At this time, in this column I would like to acknowledge the work of all our wonderful volunteers. Firstly, I thank this year's committee, Yvonne and Penny, secretaries, Dennis, treasurer, Analee, roster, Heather and Vicki, grants and Hugh, vice-everything and my sounding board, for their friendship and the professional way they have done their particular tasks as well as the general business of the library.

Other valuable members working mostly in the back room are the Koha team, Val, Janet, Dot, Anne and Maggie, and Jed who keeps our computers computing; our book buyers Rose and Ali; Anne and Mary who prepare new books for shelving and repair the old, and Hugh and Val who email or phone you for overdue books on Mondays.

Then there is the backbone of this library, the desk volunteers, who are most of the above, plus the smiling faces (wearing their name tags) behind the desk each session. There are eight sessions per week with two volunteers per session. With public holidays removed it is still 800-plus volunteer times a year.

None of the above gets paid. The grants from our major sponsors, Canterbury Community Trust, Lion Foundation, Tasman District Council and Mapua/Ruby Bay District Community Assn are for books and other specific projects. We are grateful for these but also contribute a third of the book-buying funds. About \$12,000 a year is spent on new books. That is what a library is all about, books! The TDC maintains the grounds and pay for utilities but for general expenses, book preparation, fittings etc we rely on the book sales and Christmas raffle revenue to run the library

It is only with this support that we can continue to have and enjoy this unique community library here in Mapua.

*Eileen Dobbie*

## Library Hours:

Monday	2-4.30pm	Thursday	10am-12.30pm, 2pm-4.30pm
Tuesday	2-4.30pm	Friday	2-4.30pm
Wednesday	2-6.30pm	Saturday	2-4.30pm

# Mapua School

What to do with an assessment of knowledge? Whether you agree with them or not, National Standards help measure the knowledge of a child at a moment in time. Fortunately for all children, especially those who are not "test-takers", there are other means of assessing understanding and capability. We are fortunate that at Mapua School our teachers are passionate about learning. Although there might be 25 children in their care, they have the resources and skills to teach each individual child which ensures that if there are any gaps in capability, measures can be put in place so that the child has every opportunity to succeed.

I congratulate our teachers for all their efforts to incorporate National Standards into their teaching and assessment programmes. It was a huge task and took hundreds of hours. It is interesting to note that the

results of the tests mirror the individual assessments previously made by the student's teachers.

As a board we have made a commitment to ensure that the resources required to support each child's learning objectives are made available. We are confident that allocating our limited resources to fund specialist teachers and targeted maths, reading and writing programmes is in the best interest of our students, families and our community. We want all of our children to succeed and feel good about themselves and their capabilities. With the teaching professionals at Mapua School we are on the right track to do so.

*Lisa Dunn, Trustee*



# Mapua Hall Showing Shape and Style

Over the last month progress has enabled everyone to see the new “doubled footprint” of our hall and there have been lots of positive comments as the final shape becomes clearer.

The tentative finish date for the build is still late July and the timeline noted in last month’s *Coastal News* still stands with our rejuvenated hall being officially re-opened late August and available for bookings and events again from September.

Moving along...Most roofing is now in place and the new windows are going in. Exterior walls and flashings will be whitewashed to retain the links between the past history and the contemporary present. There are still many other “colour choices” to be made.

With regard for the users’ and general public’s strong positive feelings for the existing floor in the main hall, the option for a full solid matai floor in this area has been taken. This is seen as a significant feature of our hall.

Options for fully retracting doors between the Bill Marris and supper rooms are being explored with the intent of providing more flexible small and larger spaces.

The TDC is still in negotiation to determine how to progress the lodged resource consent application for the Domain-facing deck

## **Fitting out and funding**

As noted last month, with the inevitable variations in costs, there is still a shortfall in the actual building costs as well as a projected budget of around \$100,000 for fixed fittings and equipment.

The committee is now seeking donations and support from individuals, businesses and companies making approaches by letter, phone and personal visits. Funding applications for specific equipment are also being made. Any offers of or suggestions for potential funding sources will be gratefully received via Margaret Cotter [rmcotter@tasman.net](mailto:rmcotter@tasman.net).

Offers from those able to either donate or fund such specific requirements will also be gratefully received and should also be directed to Margaret Cotter.

## **Bookings**

Current regular hall users have been contacted this month with the updated schedule of hire costs applicable for the current financial year. These groups have been invited to indicate their ongoing booking requirements before any other regular bookings are arranged. No bookings are being taken at present but future major events such as exhibitions, weddings etc can be conveyed to Trish Smith at [smiffsnz@hotmail.com](mailto:smiffsnz@hotmail.com) so they can be included when

general bookings do reopen. We are all looking forward to that time! Meantime, a reminder that the tables and chairs are still available for hire – contact made through Trish.

## **Fund-raising**

As noted above, the major focus for fund-raising will be on seeking significant donations and funding grants. No specific fund-raising event is planned for the immediate future.

The society is very grateful to Club Mapua and the support of Mega 10 for donating the \$2500 proceeds from this year’s 8th Mapua MEGA pumpkin growing competition, to the hall restoration fund. Congratulations to the Waimea College horticultural students for their “whopping winner” and thanks to the community for their ongoing support for such fund-raising ventures (even in the pouring rain!)

**Constitutional update** needed to ensure the Hall’s ongoing community status for the future:

We are all eagerly anticipating a new era for the Mapua Community Hall which is COMING SOON! We now need to strengthen the rules of the Mapua Hall Society to ensure that the newly upgraded facility remains Mapua’s Community Hall facility through the years ahead. The rules of the society (clause 18) state that, in the event of a possible winding up of the Hall Society, the assets only have to be used for a “charitable purpose”. In order to give the community and stakeholders the protection that they expect for the hall, no matter what the future may hold, we believe that this section needs to be stronger and more specific. The committee of the Mapua Hall Society believes that changing clause 18 of our Charitable Trust constitution to specify that this ‘charitable purpose’ should be solely to provide a community hall facility for the Mapua district, will provide this certainty.

Hence the committee of the Mapua Hall Society is giving notice of a Special General Meeting of Hall Society members to be held on Tuesday 7th May, 7pm at the Boat Club. The purpose is to review clause 18 of the Constitution with the following remit:

*That clause 18 of the Rules of the Mapua Hall Society be amended to provide that:*

*On the liquidation of the Society, or on its dissolution by the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, all surplus assets after the payment of all costs, debts, and liabilities shall be distributed to a charitable organization having objects similar to the Society.*

*Namely to enable it to hold, maintain and use the Mapua Hall, and the land on which it is situated, as a*

community hall facility available for public use. The rules or trust deed of the said charitable organisation must have a clause providing for division of surplus assets on winding up with same or similar terms as this clause. No member or members shall derive any personal pecuniary gain from the liquidation of the Society.

Paid-up members of the Society are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting to discuss and vote on this proposal.

The committee continues to be most appreciative of the ongoing community support, and understanding at this time of maximum expenditure and change. We encourage everyone to maintain the present momentum for individual, business and companies' fund-raising so that we are able to confidently plan to re-open in the spring with a fully refurbished and functional facility which meets our community's contemporary needs.

*Elena Meredith, Information and Liaison Sub-committee*

Home cooking: Where many a man thinks  
his wife is.  
*Jimmy Durante*

The best cure for seasickness is to sit under  
a tree.  
*Spike Milligan*

## MAPUA Bowling Club

The sunshine has certainly been a welcome addition to our bowling this season. With just a few days left until we finally stow the equipment away for a few months, we don't mind if it rains now! "Winter Bowls" in Mapua takes place indoors and looks suspiciously like a pool table, a pack of cards, two sets of carpet bowls and plenty of hearty suppers.

If I had been given the opportunity to play lawn bowls when I was young, I would have rejected it as too stuffy, too slow, too easy, not competitive enough and totally for old people. And of course I would have been wrong, mostly ... it was stuffy! Shirts, ties, blazers, hats and handbags ... yuk!

Certainly bowling is a sport that older generations can enjoy and be competitive at if they wish but the top bowlers these days are all young and bring with it a fresher, younger image. If you believe in all those

negative aspects as I once did then let the friendly folk at Mapua Bowling Club prove you wrong. Come and meet us on Friday evenings during the winter months and when September comes around we can show you out on the green that lawn bowls really is a sport for all.

Our clubhouse and facilities are available for hire throughout the year. For information and bookings please contact Dave England (as below) or Nancy Coeland (544-2847).

For any other information about bowling including the winter social events please call the secretary, Jean Daubney (543-2765) or the president, Dave England (540-2934), or email [s1ad2as3@xtra.co.nz](mailto:s1ad2as3@xtra.co.nz)

*Sue England*

# Coastal Garden Group



Our monthly meeting on Thursday 4th April was once again held in the Tasman Bible Church, our temporary home while the Mapua Hall is being upgraded. John Barnes, the founder of Fertiliser New Zealand Ltd, which commercially produces a full range of biological fertilisers, gave us a brief history of how he started and developed this company, then a simple explanation of microbial activity and the symbiosis that forms between plant rootlets and fungi in the soil. A complex subject.

He brought along some of his products suitable for the home garden to sell to members. They were sought-after and a rebate on each product sold came back to the club. Thank you to John Barnes.

A welcome afternoon tea with delicious home baking followed, before hints on making quince paste and crab apple Jelly. Not so many flowers on the exhibit table but plenty of produce and attractive plants made for lively bidding at the sales table. The meeting finished at 4pm.

The next meeting will be Thursday 2nd May when Desiree from 'The Shed' will tell us about the products and services available from her business here in Mapua. A 1.30pm start at Tasman Bible Church. All welcome.

*Rachael Stringer*

## **Garden Visit**

On Wednesday April 10th a number of Coastal Garden Group members and friends completed a very enjoyable visit to the garden of Kerry and Caroline Walker in Westdale Road and then on to the Nursery of Frank's Trees in Golden Hills Road.

Kerry and Caroline's garden has been created in only four years and features a large collection of beautiful roses, perennials and ornamental trees. Most of the trees have been sourced from Frank's Tree Nursery and many were just starting to show their beautiful colours. Members were all impressed by the Walkers' landscaping of their sloping section where they have created lush flat lawn areas, steps and path areas, rose-covered pergolas and sloping planted banks.

The spectacular views from the house across the lawn and gardens, out to the Waimea Estuary to the North were admired as we drank our tea/coffee with fresh scones, and apple slice. Thank you Caroline and Kerry for your generous hospitality. Very much appreciated by us all.

We eventually made our way to Frank's Trees where Frank and Tracey gave up their valuable time to show us around the nursery. They explained how they graft, grow, bag and sell their trees and gave us good advice on how to select trees for our gardens.

After an hour or so there, we retired to the Stoneridge Cafe for coffee/muffins/lunch, more talking and friendship before we reluctantly dispersed after enjoyable and interesting time..

We all wish to extend our grateful thanks to Kerry and Caroline, Frank and Tracey and staff of the Stoneridge Cafe for looking after us so well. A great time was had by all.

*Brian King.*

# Art plan for Ruby Bay toilets

The Pinehill Reserve toilet block is a familiar, but forgettable sight along the coastal route. Imagine what could be done to change this into one of the attractions of our area.

With a preliminary nod of approval from the Tasman District Council and support from the Mapua & District Community Association, a couple of locals would like to turn this into a community project, with the vision of mosaics and a stunning design. Bridget Castle and Maxine Day have teamed up to coordinate the project and will seek community involvement in all stages of the process.

“Our community has undoubtedly a few balls in the air at present, with the rebuilding of the Mapua Hall, the wharf precinct upgrade, and the Ruby Coast Initiative Gateway sculptures project,” acknowledges Bridget, “But this is a project on a different scale, which has the potential to involve anyone who is interested, to take part directly.”

For Maxine Day, the inspiration for the project came from seeing a number of examples of creative community-led public utility art projects within New Zealand and abroad. “Given the prominent beach-front location of the Ruby Bay toilets, and their regular use by passing motorists, it seemed fitting to target them as the first of many potential public art projects,” says Maxine.

At this stage, the design is the first focus, and this is why Bridget is interested in hearing from YOU if you would like to become part of the design brainstorming team.

Another way each household can begin to help, is to collect broken china, and dig out those wall tiles left over from the last tiling job. “I’m hoping people will enjoy the idea of their favourite, but



broken, plate having a new life,” says Bridget. “Not everything is suitable to use, as we’re aware of safety issues with sharp edges to consider. Also, some tiles, especially floor tiles, are too thick to work with. We can easily sort through what people bring along. The overall colour palette will depend on the design, but I’m anticipating it will be BRIGHT. The great thing about mosaics is that all sorts of treasures can be incorporated in amongst the main colour bands. I am expecting to have to buy some of the brighter colours we’ll need, but it will be exciting to see what people find at home.”

The project will seek some funding from the Creative Communities grant administered by the Tasman District Council to assist with purchasing some tiles and grouting.

“This is not something we’ll achieve overnight, but I really hope there will be a good response and that many people in our community will be involved one way or another,” adds Bridget.

For more information or to get in touch with Bridget, please email her [bridgetcastle@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bridgetcastle@xtra.co.nz), or phone her on 540-2461.

# Mapua Health Centre

We are very pleased to welcome Caroline back to our team. She will be working part-time.

You may have heard in the news recently that the Nelson Marlborough DHB has had a major budget blowout. As a community we have an opportunity to help reduce this deficit. This will in turn ensure that we continue to receive the high quality healthcare that is currently available. Some of the ways we can help

- Let the hospital know in advance if you cannot make an appointment. This not only saves wasted time but ensures that someone else on the waiting list can be seen sooner.

- Do not use the emergency department unless it is an emergency. We are open Mon-Friday 8am to 5.30 pm. If you need health care outside these hours the Medical & Injury Centre is right next door to the Nelson Hospital emergency department (bright orange building).

- Tell us or the pharmacist if you are being given medications you are not using.

- If you are taking more than five medicines ensure this is checked regularly with your doctor. (The risk of interactions increases the more medicines you take).

These are simple measures that will not impact on our health care but will help reduce funding issues within the DHB.

The PHO is also supporting the routine prescribing of vitamin D to people over the age of 65, which simply means taking a tablet every month. This has come out of numerous research articles showing the high

incidence of vitamin D deficiency and the importance that this vitamin has to our health in terms of strong bones, fighting infection, cancer prevention, and decreasing heart disease and diabetes (*BMJ* 2010, 340:b5664).

This month includes asthma awareness week and recent research has shown that an increased intake of antioxidants through vegetables and fruit (*Am J Clin Nutr.* Aug 2012) and vitamins C & E (*Public Health Nutr.* Oct 2012), decreases the incidence of asthma, as can Vitamin D through epigenetic improvements in immunity (*Pulm Pharm Ther.* April 2012). A somewhat worrying article points the finger at a common toxin in our environment, BPA - bisphenol-A, which is used in plastics (food can liners, some plastic bottles and food wrappers, etc) as being linked to the risk of developing asthma and perhaps helping to explain the dramatic increase in asthma over the last 30 years (*J Allergy Clin Immunol.* 2013).

This year's flu vaccine is now available. The vaccine is free for those over 65 years and for anyone with respiratory problems requiring regular use of inhalers, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, kidney disease, cancer, certain neurological conditions and autoimmune disease. If you would like to receive immunization please phone the practice nurse.

Nelson Bays PHO in conjunction with Arthritis New Zealand are organising a seminar on the management of gout. If you are interested in attending this seminar please call and speak to one of our nurses on 540-2211.

This month's health and school events include:

4-10 Youth Week	<a href="http://www.arataiohi.org.nz">www.arataiohi.org.nz</a>
5 International Midwives Day	<a href="http://www.midwiferycouncil.org.nz">www.midwiferycouncil.org.nz</a>
5 World Hand Washing Day	<a href="http://www.handhygiene.org.nz">www.handhygiene.org.nz</a>
8 World Red Cross Day	<a href="http://www.redcross.org.nz">www.redcross.org.nz</a>
12 ME Awareness Day	<a href="http://www.anzmes.org.nz">www.anzmes.org.nz</a>
12 International Nurses Day	<a href="http://www.nursingcouncil.org.nz">www.nursingcouncil.org.nz</a>
13-2 Hospice Awareness Week	<a href="http://www.hospice.org.nz">www.hospice.org.nz</a>
15 International Day of Families	<a href="http://www.un.org">www.un.org</a>
20-26 Balloon Day - asthma awareness	<a href="http://www.asthmanz.co.nz">www.asthmanz.co.nz</a>
26-1 Coeliac Awareness Week	<a href="http://www.coeliac.org.nz">www.coeliac.org.nz</a>
29 Multiple Sclerosis Day	<a href="http://www.msnz.org.nz">www.msnz.org.nz</a>
31 World Smoke-Free Day	<a href="http://www.who.int">www.who.int</a>
31-6 Infant Gastric Awareness Week	<a href="http://www.cryingoverspiltmilk.co.nz">www.cryingoverspiltmilk.co.nz</a>

And on the subject of cyberspace, ACC now has some websites aimed at helping more Kiwis who play sport or enjoy physical activities to stay injury-free.

[www.activesmart.co.nz](http://www.activesmart.co.nz) (aimed at runners, walkers and cyclists)

[www.snowsmart.co.nz](http://www.snowsmart.co.nz) (for skiers and snowboarders)

# Three-day Quilt Show

The Motueka Quilting Connection Quilt Show 2013 is being held at a replacement venue, the Motueka Recreation Centre, Old Wharf Road. The show runs over three days as usual—Saturday, Sunday and Monday, 18-20 May and this fabulous annual event again showcases our members' work.

(At the request of the venue management—*No stiletto heels please*).

The change of venue was brought about by the unfortunate fire at our usual venue, the Moutere Hills Community Centre. A sad blow to the community and we hope to see a speedy reinstatement of this valuable community facility. We thank the Motueka Recreation Centre for stepping in in our hour of need.

Mary Transom, well known quilt artist and tutor from Ohope, will be our Guest Exhibitor. This year's show will also have on display the Bernina 'Seven Deadly Sins' Challenge Quilts from quilters around New Zealand, and the MQC Members Challenge.

As well as enjoying the stimulating exhibits, the public will have a chance to vote for their favourite quilt, along with the club challenge quilts.

Anyone interested in seeing just what can be achieved with needle and thread will not be disappointed. **The show runs from 10am to 4pm, Saturday 18th May until and including Monday the 20th May.** Admission is \$3 – complimentary tea and coffee. Raffle \$2 (five prize draws with the 1<sup>st</sup> prize being a Bernette sewing machine donated by

Bernina Sewing Centre). Dave and Margaret Prebble from Bernina Sewing Centre, Nelson, will have a stand at the show and will be available to help with any machine issues. We will also have a small Merchants' Mall.

This year part proceeds of the raffle will be supporting the Fifeshire Foundation and Westpac Rescue Helicopter.



## QUILT SHOW

Sat, Sun, Mon, - May 18, 19, 20

Motueka Quilting Connection

Motueka Recreation Centre Old Wharf Road

*Venue request – no stiletto heels please*

Includes the Bernina Challenge Quilts,

Mary Transom – guest exhibitor,

Members challenge, Small Merchant Mall

**Daily 10am-4pm**

Admission \$3 incl. refreshments

# Walking/Cycling Tracks Map Online

There have been requests for the recently released map showing walking and cycling tracks around Mapua. It is available to download from [www.rubycoastmouterehills.co.nz](http://www.rubycoastmouterehills.co.nz). It will be available in paper format again when the Great Taste Trail route out of Mapua has been finalised.

In the meantime Roger Olds has shared a favourite cycle route for you to try:

“What do you do in your retirement in Mapua? Many people ask me this question since our move to the Tasman area permanently six-odd years ago.

We had planned on retiring to Mapua from our business interests in Christchurch some 20 years ago, and after viewing the Tasman district decided on a section in Mapua.

We went ahead and purchased the land and over the following years built a house and landscaped with trips from Christchurch to keep up with the build.

Since moving to the district we have meet many of the locals, and some two and a half years ago started biking three mornings a week with Graham Snook and Russell Papworth.

Graham had been biking in and around the area for some time and Russell had moved into the village about three and a half years ago from South Africa to start a functional art business which he and his lovely wife Charisse manage.

We meet at Snooky’s place at 6.30am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, weather permitting.

After meeting we all agree on where we will go for the morning ride, and generally cover alternative trails from Mapua to Motueka. We have also checked the new bike trail from Mapua to Brightwater, via the new Waimea River bridge walking and bike track. This trail took us to Richmond, where we diverted to the trail on the waterfront, then down Queen Street, and we continued onto Rabbit Island, where there are some great back tracks all signposted.

From there we catch the ferry back to the Mapua Wharf.

Not only do we have road trails but there is ample of off-road which is just great. The local drivers are very courteous.

The above is just a snapshot of what is available in this great and beautiful area. The surrounding area is just great for getting out and either walking or riding.

We see many walkers and bikers on our travels. We look forward to meeting you all.”

*Roger Olds*

Please keep sending your favourite walk or cycle routes to Nicky ([nicky@wheeliefantastic.co.nz](mailto:nicky@wheeliefantastic.co.nz)) and they will get passed on to the *Coastal News*.



*Thanks to reader John Burland for his great picture of a chip-stealing seagull*



# Looking for a Winter Getaway?

The leaves are turning golden, dew is heavy underfoot, fires are being lit at night. Time to plan a warm winter getaway!

Let me introduce myself – Karen Inwood, Travel Consultant. I have been in the travel industry for 15 years in this area, mainly Richmond, and now Mondo Travel Motueka. I live just around the corner from you in Mapua. Having lived all around the Tasman area, Mapua would have to be my favourite place for community and environment, with plenty for my children to do at the weekends.

Back to that winter getaway – this time last year I headed up to Vanuatu for a few days.

Warm, yes. Great fresh, tasty food, yes. Along with friendly locals, beautiful beaches and lagoons and comfortable hotel accommodation. Flights connect from Nelson without any overnights, the international flight is just three hours from Auckland to Port Vila and then you are only minutes away from pools and beaches.

A highlight was an overnight trip out to Tanna Island, home of coffee and a live volcano. I must say a rather special experience to be able to sit near the crater edge and watch the explosions and lava flow!!

Speaking of volcanoes, my colleague Silvana Gottini has just returned from a week's holiday in Hawaii. I'll let her give you a quick snapshot of the experience:

“We started off in Waikiki staying in a high-rise studio apartment with a balcony overlooking the city and canal. It was only two blocks from the beach and just around the corner from the bus stop to visit Diamond Head Crater, Ala Moana mall and Pearl Harbour.

“The Japanese food in Hawaii is superb and I'd go again just for the BBQ and Udon restaurants! Central Waikiki was all about shopping, with the outlet malls and Ala Moana Mall very good value now our dollar is so strong. We were glad to have extra room in our bags!

“Our favourite by far, was the big island of Hawaii, which is a short 40 minute flight from Honolulu. A rental car is a must and we hardly made it out of the airport before stopping at our first lava field to explore a lava tube beside the road. Then another half-hour north and we stumbled across a stunning beach for swimming and body boarding.

“We drove right around to the tiny village of Volcano beside the Kilauea National park and crater rim. There are so many walks in and around the crater, and sights along the Chain of Craters Road, that it's worth a couple of nights here. It is also close to the entry point for lava flowing into the ocean!”

I would highly recommend a short winter break in Vanuatu, or a longer break in Hawaii (for shopping!) and its islands and would be happy to assist with any arrangements.

*Karen Inwood*

## Winter workshops

Twenty workshops are planned for the winter season via the Motueka Arts Council. The season will open at Queen's Birthday weekend with two plays by Paul Maunder at Motueka's Imagine theatre. It ends mid-August with a concert in St Thomas's auditorium.

Included will be mask-making, French cuisine, cheese-making, stone carving etc ( see advertisement) The co-ordinator, Jane Wells, hopes to have the brochure printed and sent out to previous participants during the first week of May. Copies will be available at libraries, Westrupp Jewellers, Motueka's Hospice shop and via Motuekaonline. Look out for the workshop display in the Hospice shop window from the beginning of May.



# Village Milk is all go!!

The cows are grazing happily in the paddocks, the milking shed is geared up, the vending machines are ready – the new Village Milk outlet selling fresh unpasteurised milk on Holdaway Road, Lower Moutere, is now open for business.

Village Milk has been so popular in Takaka, the company wanted to open a franchise in the Tasman region. “I love the concept,” said Julia Young who together with husband Andrew has put many hours of hard work into getting things ready on time. “We have a small-scale dairy farm which allows us to get to know our cows really well. It’s a pleasure milking them every morning.”

Andrew grew up on a dairy farm and the couple used to run a herd of cattle as part of a share milking business, so they know all about cows and milking. “We are really excited to get back to basics in dairy farming and be able provide customers with an extremely high quality product. The flavour and texture of the milk is great,” said Andrew. “It really takes you back to how milk used to be.”

Unpasteurised milk has not been readily available in our area before but is in high demand from people who do not want highly processed milk. And Village Milk ensures hygiene standards practised on the farm



surpass what is required by ministry standards, making it a very desirable alternative.

The milk is available anytime from refrigerated vending machines which customers will need cash to operate. You can bring your own container to fill or you can purchase a glass bottle. The milk retails at \$2.50 a litre.

If you would like a guided tour of our farm please contact us

Village Milk originated in Takaka, Golden Bay. We are a new franchise covering Motueka, Mapua and Upper Moutere. Vending machines are open 24/7



Tena koutou, hello to everyone, and welcome to more frequent rainfalls as we move into autumn. We did appreciate all the sunny days and balmy evenings as our families gathered to celebrate Easter with a much anticipated Easter egg-hunt and a shared meal. This year the younger children enjoyed a hunt through the forest discovering where the Easter Bunny had left his eggs, while older siblings loved the challenge of a hunt in a separate location where they had to read clues to find where the Easter eggs were hidden. See you next year, Easter Bunny!

Caterpillars and butterflies have been an engaging topic of interest recently after one of our children brought in an emperor gum moth caterpillar. Children were intrigued to observe the caterpillar’s growth which led to some interesting questions and discoveries. Thanks to Anna Barnett, who gave us various caterpillars and chrysalis of both monarch and native admiral butterflies, we were able to support children’s learning through observation and hands-on experience with these fascinating creatures.

Children were thrilled when butterflies would crawl onto outstretched fingers and hands, giving children a close-up opportunity to observe and admire the butterflies in all their splendour.

As part of supporting our children’s transition to school a group of our four-year-olds recently enjoyed a visit to Lower Moutere School. Thank-you so much to Mrs Wilkinson and her class for making us feel so welcome and showing us what happens at school. It was such a positive experience for all the children involved, two weeks later we are seeing children revisit what they learned during their visit.

The Harakeke truck has seen a great variety of food items so many thanks to everyone in the community who are sharing surplus from their home gardens.

*Ka kite ano, the Harakeke team.*

# Fire Brigade

## March 13-April 13 call-outs



Mar 16: Beach fire at Kina, put out by brigade.  
Mar 26: Permitted burn at Kina, no action taken  
Mar 29: Kaiteriteri to assist Motueka at house fire.  
Mar 30: Fire on beach at Pine Hill Reserve, no permit, brigade put fire out  
Apr 9: Real Estate sign on fire Aranui Road  
Apr 12: Moutere Hills Community Centre fire. Fire at Kina, re-directed to Community Centre  
Apr 16: Permitted burn Brook View Heights, no action by brigade.  
22 calls this year.

### **Safety Tip – Have your chimney swept and checked**

The Brigade would like to welcome Nelson Batt to the Mapua Brigade. Nelson has transferred from the Nelson Volunteer Brigade which helps to back up the paid staff.

For the last few call-outs we have been a bit short of person power. If you work in the Mapua area and are fit and think you could be a fire-fighter contact or visit the Mapua fire Station on a Thursday night. We would be happy to see you.

## PANZ

The PANZ Convention was held in Auckland with five members from Nelson attending. A variety of ideas and techniques were demonstrated with amazing use of colour. Everyone was able to share ideas and swap information. It was also a time to renew friendships and meet like-minded people.

En Pleine Air with David Freedman from Australia was a great success. We sat on the shore at Ruby Bay with him telling us that those cliffs are red so that's how we had to paint them and it worked. The end result was a vibrant landscape that had warmth. Each painting was different.

Last weekend we had another of Maxine Thompson's workshops; portraits of people and animals. The first day was an in-depth study of noses, mouths, eyes and ears. The second day was when we put that all together to make a face and the people doing animals did their appropriate animal. We all came away enthused and keen to try more. I personally was duly impressed with the quality of work performed by the Nelson pastelists

Any person interested in trying pastels should contact Glenys Forbes, ph 540-3388.

*Jill Reid*

# Police Report

Hi everyone. As I write it is pouring down and after such a long dry spell the rain is certainly welcome.

With the wet roads and shorter days we all need to be extra careful on the roads. I have just dealt with an accident in the country where a person was speeding on a wet road and collided with another vehicle. The driver wasn't wearing a seatbelt either! Very lucky to get out of all that mess with a sore head and gash on their forehead.

There has been a spate of scrap metal thefts in the Motueka area. Thankfully I am not aware of any such problems in the Mapua area, but the thief could well come your way. If you have an old hot water cylinder sitting in a yard or open shed be aware.

The Mapua Fair was very well run and last year's traffic congestion didn't occur this year. Good to see the hall renovation progressing quickly.

*Grant Heney, Community Constable, Motueka,  
03 528-1220.*

### **Occurrences:**

Mar 24: Car and cyclist collided Stafford Drive. Female driver charged with careless driving  
Mar 27: Battery stolen from farm Gardner Valley Road  
Mar 28: Theft of 5hp Yamaha outboard motor. Model SEMH623K 2005, dark grey, Higgs Road  
Mar 31: Minor assault at Mapua Fair. Offender warned.  
Apr 9: For sale sign set alight on Aranui Road.  
Apr 10: Ruby Bay man driving while disqualified. Vehicle impounded  
Apr 12: Called to a domestic incident Gardner Valley Road  
Apr 13: Ring stolen from local business. Located at jewellers awaiting valuation. Enquiries continuing  
Apr 16: Domestic incident Gardner Valley Road  
Apr 18: Domestic incident Mahana

# Hills Community Church

A few weeks ago much of the country was suffering with a record-breaking drought, with little or no rain falling for months in places. But as I write this Nelson has been under a deluge, with Stoke receiving 100m of rain in one hour alone, close to a New Zealand one-hourly record...From one extreme to the other.

Just as it is with weather so it is with life, sometimes it will seem like we are stuck in a drought. I like to call these times of inner dryness, or barrenness, desert experiences. We all face them, and when in one no amount of planning or willpower seem to bring about a change.

But just like rain breaking a drought, we never know what is around the corner.

Perhaps the greatest promise that we read of in Scripture is that God will be with us. Whatever our circumstances, no matter how we are feeling—God promises that he will be with us. He will be with us, and will stay with us in the desert.

But a second great promise we read in Scripture is that God's ultimate purpose for us, and for the world, is not drought, or the desert, but rather blessing and new life.

The prophet Isaiah wrote these words of great hope for all:

*Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.*

*See I am doing a new thing!*

*Now it springs: you do not perceive it?*

*I am making a way in the desert. And streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 43:18, 19)*

Through Christ and his Spirit, God has broken the drought. And whatever our circumstances wherever we find ourselves— may we come to know the hope and promise that God has prepared for us.

*Blessings, Rev John Sherlock.*

**Hills Community Church** is a community-based church with historical roots in the Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist and Pentecostal traditions. We offer traditional and contemporary worship in an informal and relaxed style. Visitors and newcomers are most welcome.

**Sunday Worship:** Traditional service 9am, Contemporary service & Children's programme including crèche 10:30am; Holy Communion celebrated at both services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays with morning tea in-between. 1st Sunday of each month: one family-style service @ 10:30am followed by a shared lunch.

**Weekly Calendar:**

Wednesdays: 10am-noon—Kidz n Koffee Open to parents-caregivers-pre-K kids—a great way to make new friends!

Fridays: 10am-noon—Craft n Coffee—learn a craft & share a laugh! Open to all, crèche provided. Drop-off for area food bank – Bring your non-perishable food items to the church (122 Aranui Rd) on Friday mornings between 9am & noon.

We offer numerous activities throughout the week.

Contact 540-3848 for more information on our ministries

# Komate, Komate, Koha, Koha!

By Peter O'Halloran, Ruby Bay

"It's a total mystery nobody in the Mapua library has been able to solve. I've researched every resource I can find at the Mapua and Nelson libraries and asked all of the old Mapua identities, but nobody's got a clue how it came to be here," I told my old school friend, Tipene, as we paddled our kayaks past the rusting skeleton of the submarine in the Mapua estuary.

"Why don't you pull in here, I'll uncork the Sweet Agnes riesling and maybe I can try to solve your riddle," said Tipene. As I unpacked our picnic lunch and began filling the bread rolls, Tipene carefully decanted two small plastic glasses of wine and began recounting an amazing story.

"So Peter, have you never wondered why so many Nelson wineries have German names like Neudorf, Himmelsfeld or Siefried or why just a few local Maori own over 50% of New Zealand's seafood industry?"

"Hell no, I've never even given a thought to either of those, ."

Chewing on his bread roll, Tipene continued: "Well, it all began around 1830, when Te Rauparaha's fierce war parties, heavily armed with muskets and opposed by only sticks and clubs, almost annihilated most tribes of the upper South Island.

"During the Tasman Bay raids, rather than be murdered or enslaved, many of the local women retreated to the Ruby Bay bluffs, from where they threw their babies to their deaths, then jumped after them."

"They killed their own babies! Surely you must be joking!" I exclaimed, coughing on chunks of filled roll.

"No, believe me, it was no joke to be captured by Te Rauparaha. However, few people know that a small number of the Mapua hapu evaded capture by retreating to an undersea cave concealed just below the shoreline of the Bluffs, which could only be accessed at low tide. The survivors' descendants kept the location of this cave secret, until one night in 1945 when a German U-boat sneaked into the Mapua entrance".

"Is this really a true story or just another Maori fairy tale?" I asked, wide-eyed.

"I'm very disappointed you even think I might bull shit you." As I topped up his glass, Tipene took another bite of his roll and resumed his incredible story.

"The miniature submarine, U888, whose commander had been mortally wounded in an aircraft attack, was on its way to Japan with a treasure trove of gold Reichmarks to support the Japanese war effort. While committing their captain's body to the deep, the crew heard on their radio that Germany had surrendered. Realising that if captured they could either be killed for the gold, or tried as war criminals, the officers decided to keep the gold and make it appear

that their vessel had sunk. Because one of the crew had family links to people living in Moutere, near Nelson, they decided to seek refuge in Tasman Bay,"

"On a dark winter's night as they silently moved their small craft past the Mapua wharf, only one person saw them. He was a young Maori man fishing for flounder and he challenged them with Te Rauparaha's haka. Desperate not to be exposed, the U-Boat's second officer offered the fisherman a substantial share of their gold if he would help them hide it.

Fortunately for the crew, he was one of the descendants of the Maori who had hidden in that undersea cave so long ago. While waiting for the tide to recede, the fisherman concealed his portion of the treasure and the crew scuttled the submarine behind Rabbit Island. The Maori man then led the crew to the secret undersea cave, where they buried their remaining gold. He then took them to Moutere to meet the German relatives."

"I bet they were happy to see them, especially bringing all of that gold with them," I said.

"Well, no, not initially," said Tipene. "Don't forget there was a great deal of anti-German sentiment in New Zealand at that time. At first the relatives were most unwilling to become involved, but eventually (apparently deciding that gold weighed heavier than a conscience) they agreed to conceal the crew from the authorities."

"Did the authorities ever find out a German U-Boat crew was living in Tasman?" I asked.

"No never. Wisely the crew quietly assimilated into the local community, joining in all their farming/horticultural and social activities."

"Many of their neighbours have puzzled for many years, how come a handful of lucky Horticultural businesses seem totally immune to market downturns, those owners merely had to wait for a late night low tide, enter the hidden undersea cave and dig up more of their buried Gold Reich mark. That's why so many very successful local wineries have German names".

"That's incredible, but what about the Maori fisherman, surely it must have been illegal for him to take all that German gold."

"Oh no Peter, under our culture that's called 'koha.' As for the Maori fisherman, he wisely invested his gold—buying war surplus vessels and converting them to fishing trawlers, gradually building a huge fishing fleet. That's why Dad's whanau is now the biggest player in New Zealand's fishing industry," said Tipene.

"Is there any of that delicious wine left?"

# Noticeboard

**Coastal Connections Social Group.** This month's luncheon will be at the Appleshed Cafe, Shed 3, Mapua Wharf on 9 May. Look forward to seeing you there. Julie H.

**S\*T\*A\*R groups:** Stephanie Parashar, a qualified Social Worker, will be facilitating S\*T\*A\*R groups for children and teens starting in the first week of Term 2, covering many topics aimed at building a strong sense of self through activities, games, art, open discussion and relaxation techniques in a peaceful setting. Thursdays weekly from 9 May, 3.30-4.30pm for 6-12 yrs, and 5-6pm for 13-18 yrs. Ruby Blu Studio, 155 Stafford Drive, Ruby Bay. \$5 per person per session.

Contact Stephanie for more info, 027-5677752 or [divinelight1@gmail.com](mailto:divinelight1@gmail.com)

**Childcare Services:** Professional Nanny just moved to Ruby Bay available for any nanny work or babysitting. Police checked and excellent references. Phone Keryn 0273585227.

**Probus Club** meets first Fridays. All retirees most welcome. Enquiries to Pres. Letty Thawley; 540 2876, Secr. Margaret Butchart 540 2686

**Moutere Hills Rose Society.** Are you a gardener with a special love of roses? We meet monthly - contact Margaret 03 5288477 or Cynthia 035288664.

**Kidz 'n' Koffee playgroup:** 10am – noon, Wednesdays during school term at Old Church Hall, Aranui Rd. All parents and caregivers welcome, we cater for 0-6 yrs. Gold coin donation for a delicious morning tea. Come and make some new friends. Info: Debbie, 5432915

**Daytime Book Group:** Meets first Tuesdays at 9.45am. New members welcome. Phone Mary 5402450 or Anne 5403934

**Yoga in Mapua:** Mapua Scout Den during School Terms, Tues & Thurs 9:15-10:45am, Tues 6-7:30pm. Contact Anna Timms, 027 540 3944 or [atimms68@gmail.com](mailto:atimms68@gmail.com)

**Mapua Friendship Group** meets once a month to socialize. We play a game of indoor bowls, and enjoy afternoon tea together (please bring a plate). We are presently meeting at Tasman Bible Church

hall. There is a small door fee and a raffle. Info: Valerie 03 540 3685.

**Need technical help?** Bought a new smartphone /tablet /computer and can't set it up? Can't connect your Blu-Ray player? Don't know how to transfer photos from your camera? Local help is at hand! Average job price only \$30! Basic web design also available - pages start from just \$35. Call Sam, 544 0737. – [sam@sambennett.co.nz](mailto:sam@sambennett.co.nz)

**Fair Exchange:** We meet the second & fourth Wednesdays of the month. 9am at Hamish Café to exchange homemade or homegrown items. Info: Debbi, 540-2942 or [DLBamfield@gmail.com](mailto:DLBamfield@gmail.com).

**Ruby Coast Newcomers Coffee Group:** meet new people, make new friends. 10am last Friday of month, Tasman Store. Info: Richard & Viv, 526 6707, [rsclément@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rsclément@xtra.co.nz) or just turn up. Everyone welcome.

**Mapua Art Group:** Painting/Drawing Thursdays 9-12.30, Old Church, Aranui Rd. Like-minded artists get together to paint and help each other in a fun, social environment. All levels & media welcome. \$4 session includes morning tea. Tables, chairs provided. Lisa Chandler, 540 3933

**Women's Recreation Group** - meets outside Mapua Mall Thursday mornings. Leaves 9.15am for 1½ hour walk. Route varies. Join us whenever you can. Some members may cycle. Info Lynley 540 2292.

**Recycling:** Printer & Photocopier cartridges can be left at Tasman Bay Vets, 69 Aranui Rd, 8am-noon & 3-6pm. Consider reducing landfill and support fundraising. Managed by MDBA with thanks to Tasman Bay Vets.

**Toy Library:** extensive selection of toys, puzzles & videos for children 0-5yrs. 136A Aranui Rd every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 10-11.30am & 6.30-7.30pm. Phone Anja, 544 8733, about membership or casual hire.

**Coastal Garden Group** meet first Thursdays, 1.30pm, Tasman Bible Hall. Members, guests & visitors welcome.

**YOGA with Robin** - Classes weekly. All levels welcome. Call 540 2113 for class times & information. [www.rubybayyoga.com](http://www.rubybayyoga.com)

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