

Coastal News

email: coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz

covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,
run by volunteers

Clean-up outcome provokes debate

The state of the Mapua FCC clean-up site prompted a great deal of sometimes robust discussion at the August meeting of the Mapua and Districts Community Association, and it was moved that the Minister for the Environment be advised that association members and other members of the public would not accept the audit report in its present form. Points raised by those at the meeting included:

- 1) The TDC failed the community during the monitoring process
- 2) The resource consents were not adhered to.
- 3) The monitoring of noise levels had been inadequately responded to.
- 4) What assurance was there that people were better off now?

It was also moved that the Waterfront Park sub-committee would prepare an "appropriately worded letter" to the Minister expressing the views of the association and the community in general on the matter.

Annette Walker, who lives next to the proposed waterfront park, said that while the audit report might be a milestone, she still had concerns about two issues—what pollution remained above ground level, and the shape in which the ground had been left.

She could not understand how the two very important issues were not addressed in the report and wondered if piles of soil that were above the natural ground level had still had pollution in them. One pile was as high as her fence and very close.

Miss Walker asked the team to consider why that site was used to dump left-over soil. If there was such low level of contamination, why was it not removed from the site altogether? The residential area on the western side which would more than likely have expensive sections for sale now faced a green wall of polluted soil buried above the natural ground level. The next generation will be asking, "what on earth were they thinking?" In 40 years time that soil will have to go! This sorry saga was not finished.

Cr Trevor Norriss responded that the suggestion of moving some of that soil to underneath the Ruby Bay by-pass would require consent and furthermore, the agency concerned in that project would not even entertain that notion. He reminded the meeting that the Tasman District Council wanted to move the soil originally but the community would not allow it.

Elena Meredith, leader of the Waterfront Park sub-committee, strongly supported Miss Walker's comments and concerns. The re-contouring required to achieve an acceptable plan made it difficult with the site the way it had been left. This concern had been identified through the TDC and at association meetings on a number of occasions. It had been a major frustration for those involved.

"It's not OK to just tell us now, after all those years and dollars, that we just have to take it and suck it! The community has worked very hard to create something we can all use and celebrate. As it currently is, it cannot be developed and neighbours have the additional problem of having it right next to their properties."

Dennis Bush-King said that it was a cost issue; a question of whether the community was prepared to dig deeper to find more money. As far as the waterfront development was concerned, it was down to dollars.

Mrs Meredith refuted that suggestion: "Lobbing a big pile from the west side to the east side was simply the wrong thing to do... This is one time when basically cost be damned, the council is going to have to eat crow, instead of making the community accept it, admit a mistake has been made. It's a mistake that needs to be fixed."

She added that it should be in the audit report. "Since it is not and since the Government has put money into some outlying issues for that site, it should be in the audit report and the Government should earmark some money for moving the soil."

Representing the Ministry for the Environment and the Tasman District Council were guest speakers Todd

Clean-up contd

Krieble, Bruce Croucher, Jenny Easton and Dennis Bush-King. They responded to a number of questions.

Mr Bush-King noted that the Parliamentary Commissioner's report conceded there were lapses. While it was important to know and to talk about the audit report and the results, "it's not about going back but to focus on the site, its condition and its intended use."

Ms Eason pointed out there was to be monitoring processes which involved additional testing of sediment samples, oxygen levels etc. These would be benchmarked against ongoing monitoring. Groundwater contamination would also have continued monitoring – samples would be taken and if something was required, remediation would be done by experts. The council certainly wanted to report

that process back to the community. However, it was important to provide that information in context with earlier results to make it understandable and not trivial. There would be an approximate two-month timeframe for that process to get under way. She suggested that when that information was available it could be made known through the association and posted on the TDC's environment website for general viewing.

The Health Report was meanwhile awaited. The officials compiling that report were the same involved in pandemic and seasonal flu planning, the latter having to be given priority. The awaited Department of Labour report would use some of the data in the health report.

More Community Association News on p23.

VIPs attend site announcement

A formidable line-up of leaders and decision-makers greeted residents who attended the public release of the audit report for the Fruitgrowers' chemical Works site on 31 July. Among those on the panel of expert speakers were from left: TDC environment and planning manager Dennis Bush-King, Environment Minister and Nelson MP Nick Smith, Tasman District Mayor Richard Kempthorne, Ministry for the Environment chief executive Dr Paul Reynolds, and the

chairperson for the meeting, West Coast-Tasman MP Chris Auchinvole.

The meeting proved a testing affair for the experts, with many residents there criticising the clean-up process and airing concerns about the additional quantities of contaminated soil that had been dumped on the proposed Waterside Park site, on the eastern side of Tahi Sreet.



Coastal Garden Group

The Coastal Garden Club celebrated its 5th birthday at the Annual General meeting on 6th August in the main Mapua hall, preceded by a fantastic lunch. The club members did a great job bringing lots of excellent and tasty food. Special thanks to Anne-Marie, who did a wonderful job organising the festivities. The meeting was attended by 49 members. First on the agenda was a discussion of the questions from the Coastal Initiative Group regarding the naming of the new area of coastline created after the by-pass is finished. The club is still solvent; in fact it is a very healthy state and made a small profit last year.

Barry presented his chairman's report, where he thanked everyone for their support throughout the year. He recollects the highlights of the year, one coming to mind was the meeting held in Aranui park. And the lowlights: the gale-force winds at the Christmas party, where we had to hang on to our hats and to the tent guyropes to stop the tents blowing away. He especially thanked Anne-Marie, who is stepping down from the committee after five years of dedicated service to the club, and Diana who was also a founding member of the club.

The outgoing committee then stood down, and incoming committee were elected. Five of the existing

committee stood for re-election and three new committee members were elected.

Anne-Marie then presented the results of the Bloom, Cluster and Shrub competition for the year. We had a tie for first place, with Barry and Richard with equal points and Jenny Ralfe a close third. There was no competition for August, but still we had an impressive assortment of plants. Barry explained the more unusual of these, and a prize was awarded to anybody who could identify one of the most unusual. We broke for tea at 3pm and had the richest birthday cake imaginable to celebrate the club's 5th birthday.

To wrap up, various travellers in the club spoke of their recent journeys, with Judith talking about her trip round Europe and Croatia, Ann-Marie about her tropical cruise, and Barry entertained us with his experiences of flooding in Australia.

At the September 3rd meeting we will hold our Spring Show competition in the Mapua Hall. Floral entries will be accepted from 8.30am to 10.30am, when the hall will close for judging the exhibits. At noon the hall will reopen to the public for viewing. The meeting proper will start at 1.15pm. Please feel free to pop in for a viewing or join us for the meeting. All enquiries to Barry Highsted on 540-3139.

Richard Bamfield, Secretary

Garden Notes

Spring is officially here at last. This is an exciting time as the garden gets ready for its major growing period. After such a hard frosty winter garden lovers literally hang out for any sign of spring—daffodils, blossoms, daphne, tulips, hyacinths—to name a few.

Most garden plants will benefit from a light dressing of fine compost, general fertiliser, chicken manure, or liquid fertiliser as they begin to grow.

Drainage is of vital importance to grow healthy plants, to heavy soil add sand, to light soil add compost to retain moisture. Blood-n-bone is always a good pick-me-up for any plant and it is natural.

Tasks for September are:

Prune and shape ornamental shrubs after flowering and before strong growth starts. Plant out new lawns as soil warms. Protect seedlings from snails and slugs. Propagate cuttings in sharp sand then place in a warm, shady place. Divide herbaceous perennials. Repot

cymbidium orchids after flowering. Raise veggie seeds in trays for planting later, or direct into soil as it warms up.

Weeding is full-on now, the earlier the better before seeding gets hold, then things get tough and hard to handle. Speaking of weeds, Having just returned from nearly three months in Australia, I did manage to pick up a tip by listening to a radio garden session,

It was this: take a bucket, fill it quarter full of all types of weeds, top up rest of bucket with water, place a lid on top and put it in a corner until it becomes rancid, then use it as a liquid manure. Simple is it not? One can add horse or chicken manure if you wish. This is very popular in the northern New South Wales area and is called "Weeds wees." Trust the Aussies! However, go and enjoy. Happy gardening as always.

Barry Highsted



Busy time for Coastal Initiative Group

It's been a busy time for the Coastal Initiative Group keeping a track of the developments down on the estuary fringe as well as following up the community's interests as the new by-pass changes the shape of our district.

The Coastal Initiative Group was formed at the beginning of the year in response to the Ruby Bay by-pass challenges. It is made up of members of the three key community organisations in our area—The Mapua and District Business Association, Tasman Community Association and the Mapua Community Association. The idea of this grouping was to evolve a unified approach to some of the challenges and questions that revolve around the planning and delivery of the new roading configuration.

Members of this group include Janet Taylor, its secretary, Ron Oliver is the group's chairperson; others include Steve Richards, Marion Satherly, Graeme Stradling, Devin Gallagher and Robin Simpson.

As the talk got under way and the meetings progressed, not only challenges and key decisions were identified, the group soon focused on the opportunities and the potential for getting some really good outcomes from this more unified approach to the agencies who were managing and delivering the changes to the shape of our district. The group has met with the Mayor and top Tasman District Council officials as well as our councillor representatives, highway engineers and project managers.

This unified approach to these agencies is delivering benefits; such as changes to lighting, access and signage around the new road; it is also developing the awareness in our community that there is a lot of common interest across our coastal villages. Lifestyle and environment, a need to have a sustainable community, the issues of transport, sea level rise—the list goes on.

The Tasman District Council has been very supportive of the group, its aims and its progress. The council has its own problems dealing with the endless requests for funds across the region. The Coastal

Initiative Group was involved in the ten-year planning exercise that the council went through a few months ago. The message was clear from TDC—the community needs to help direct the future budget by helping to set its priorities and identifying the issues that are at the top of the list so that over the next decade the progress that occurs is the progress that the community wants.

There are many hard working community groups making our place a better place, from the Coastal Garden Club, Probus, Cycle and Walkways Group, Reserve Committees, churches and schools. Members of the Coastal Initiative Group are also involved in some of these associations. The feedback from these groups is invaluable for getting a feel for where we are at. Sometimes the way forward is not clear, as groups or individuals pursue different agendas. This has been a past mistake of our community and there is a strong mandate in the Coastal Initiative Group to consult widely on issues, but to have the confidence to identify the decisions that are in our best interests to follow up, and to persevere with these.

The tourism signage at both ends of our “coastal loop” road are an example of this. As part of a broader strategy for our communities and our future, the Coastal Initiative Group has ratified the name “Ruby Coast” as an inclusive name for this area, and this is to be applied to these signs, which also feature information about attractions and amenities here. There's no plan to rename any of the coastal villages in which we live, the idea is to have an attractive identity for this coastal area between the estuaries that can be used in marketing and promotion. This key decision is now in place after months of consultation and discussion.

Next on the Coastal Initiative Group agenda is more consultations. This time its about those priorities, meetings are planned in the next few months to informally look into this crystal ball, have a bit of fun, and to help establish the baseline in the community for our future.

Mahana School

When you're next thinking about dinosaurs and realise you aren't quite sure how long a Diplodocus was, or what a Pterosaur ate then there is every chance you could ask any of the Mahana School students to put you on the straight and narrow.

The theme for last term was health and nutrition. Our teaching staff found a way to involve the whole school and make it interesting so it was always going to be a hard one to top. But this term's theme "prehistoric" has sparked an inevitable interest in the Jurassic era. The recent trip to Nelson Museum to the fossil exhibit followed up by a field trip to the Richmond foothills to unearth some fossils (or "scallop ancestors" as the Mahana reporters informed me) was a great experience for pupils and parents.

The fascination with these ancient beasts is apparent with stories and artwork appearing around the classrooms with some incredibly accurate artistic interpretations and interesting accounts of Dino-trivia.

Alongside a brilliant sketch of a Plesiosaurus one of the media team had recorded some results from the recent interschool cross country held at Rabbit Island that included some commendable outcomes for the Mahana School representatives – year 5 and up. Thanks also to Dovedale School for hosting the junior event for our younger pupils.

The school as always encourages parent participation. The school constantly has a busy out-of-school schedule and these are all well supported with parents assisting with transport and supervision at the events. A recent open day allowed parents to have a look inside the classroom, giving them a chance to experience and participate in a working class alongside their children.

Extending from that the school has introduced activity clubs this term. The clubs include bike skills, music, gardening, mosaics, sewing, animation and science. The teachers along with a handful of talented parents hold sessions for an hour and a half once a week and they have proven to be very popular amongst the pupils. The parent volunteers also seem to be enjoying the experience.

Parent input in a small school environment is important and the teaching staff will host our annual

community consultation evening in late September. This forum allows staff to share the curriculum with the parents and caregivers as well as encouraging input from the community. It gives us the opportunity to judge the success of the school against the vision.

For further information about Mahana School and to view our children's recent activities, visit us on www.mahana.school.nz – much of the content on the site has been contributed by our pupils.

If you are considering a school in the district and would like to have a look around, please call Jenny in the office on 543-2887 to arrange an appointment.

Thanks to our school reporters for this content: Briar (11), Hannah (10), Josie (9), Kate (9), Sapphira (8), Elizabeth (8), and Thomas B (6).

Tony Brown – parent, on behalf of the Board of Trustees

Police Update

I thought I caught the first signs of spring recently which will be great. Unfortunately there has been a spate of crime in the Ruby Bay area in the last week of July, as you will see from the incident list. I know this sounds like an old record being played but please don't leave your houses, sheds or vehicles unlocked—it doesn't matter if you have lived there for 30 years and haven't had any problems. It takes only one dishonest person to be snooping around and they could have a field day at your expense.

*Grant Heney, Rural Community Constable,
Motueka, Direct Phone 528-1226*

Mapua Occurrences:

July 21-22: Five fuel containers stolen from vineyard at end of Pinehill Road, Ruby Bay

July 24: Burglary Brabant Drive, Ruby Bay. NEC laptop, wallet and cash stolen during the day from unlocked house while occupants out walking

July 27-28: Unlocked house in Korepo Road entered overnight. Doors left open and lights turned on. Nothing taken.

Ruby Bay By-pass Progress

The Ruby Bay by-pass project progressed at a slower pace last month with rain impeding work, though not stopping it for any extended period. Work continues through the forest corridor from the Seaton Valley intersection north, also around Dominion and Apple Valley roads and more recently Trafalgar Road. We have shifted over 960,000 cubic metres of material to date on the project and work has begun on four of the seven major culverts.

Major milestones were:

- 1) Continued bulk-fill work in Dominion flats and Higgs Reserve area with fill from Apple Valley West area;
- 2) Began cutting waste material for the Apple Valley West tie-in;
- 3) Began both upstream and downstream culvert extension work on Trafalgar Road existing culvert, including riprap (large rock) basin at inlet and outlet;
- 4) Disestablishment of flume through Trafalgar Road box culvert so water can flow through the finished culvert to allow for fish passage;
- 5) Began Rushes Orchard pond reshaping and the stream diversion of Field Creek at Tasman 1 box culvert outlet.

Looking forward this month:

Earthworks will continue along Apple Valley West with cut material being carted to fill Higgs Reserve area to



Trafalgar Road culvert

raise the level closer to final elevation. Then earthworks will move back to the forest corridor alongside Dicker Road with final trim of batters, water tables and sub-grade in preparation for laying sub-base (road pavement).

Drainage work will be completed at Trafalgar culvert inlet and outlet extension including riprap basins. Rushes Orchard pond and stream diversion will be completed, including a fish and eel transfer, once the water has been put through Tasman 1 culvert and into the new stream diversion. Preparation work will begin shortly for the single box culvert in Dominion flats and then the subcontractor will begin culvert construction.

Jo Orr, Environmental Manager, Downer EDI Works

Big Night Out Clothes Swap – a great success

What a night! Wafts of cinnamon-laced mulled wine floated out as women hurried in, desperate to attack the vast hall-sized racks of clothes in the Mapua Hall. The mirror-lined supper room was soon packed full as the women mixed and mingled over their complementary winter-warming glass of delicious mulled wine.

After a brief introduction it was all go. Watching nearly 60 women swarm towards Fred Cassin's clothes-clad scaffolding was a sight to behold! The beauty of it was that after the first rush, clothes would reappear on the racks ready for someone else to try. By the time supper had come and gone, the massive L-shaped racks were well picked over, but women were still finding amazing scores.

So – what was it all about? The main objective was to give women from Mapua and environs a social networking opportunity that encouraged community participation, recycling and resilience and that introduced people to the Transition Town concept. We also wanted to fund-raise for Mahana School which provided a sumptuous supper and for Transition Town Mapua to set up a trust fund for future community environmental projects.

We received great feedback and we would like to thank the many people and firms who helped to make it a success:

Tessa Mae's for excellent ticket sales; Zoom, Mapua Country Trading and Mahana School who were also ticket sellers; Fred Cassin Scaffold whose subsidised scaffolding made the night a success; Tasman Bay Vets for loads of printing, paper photocopying, the till, many woman-hours and some man-hours; Corru Gate Accommodation for lemons, paper, printing, advertising, many woman-hours and some man and teen hours; Coast to Coast Helicopters for oranges and mulled wine extras; Networks Nelson for lending an Eftpos machine – (shame about the lack of Vodafone coverage at the hall!); Browns of Remuera, Auckland, for hundreds of coat hangers, the *Coastal News*, *The Grapevine*, *The Motueka* and *Golden Bay News* and *The Leader* for printing our articles and advertising; Mahana Home and School Group for the amazing supper;

Transition Town Mapua for the inspiration; and all the wonderful volunteers and helpers on the day/night – chocolate-makers, mirror providers, mulled wine makers, clothing receivers and displayers, door people, ushers, cleaners, kitchen helpers tidy up crew etc

Finally a big thank you to all of you who supported us by buying tickets, bringing clothes and being there on the night – without you it couldn't have happened. See you there next year!

Animal Health File

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

Horses for courses

I normally write my monthly column about cats and dogs as that is what the majority of Mapuans own but I thought I would change tack (if you'll excuse the pun) for this issue as we are doing more and more horse work on the small lifestyle blocks surrounding Mapua.

Unfortunately for me a lot of my horse work lately has been after-hours calls to horses with colic. Now those of you who are not horsey will probably have heard of colic only in reference to colicky babies. But for horse owners the word 'colic' strikes fear into their hearts as colic in horses can become severe and life-threatening.

Colic is just another word for a sore tummy and a horse with a sore tummy is not a pretty sight to behold. A colicky horse will often be sweating and pawing at the ground or at his tummy, looking around at his belly, and in the worst cases rolling around or thrashing about on the ground. Of course, there are a huge number of things that can cause a sore tum. Fortunately most cases of colic turn out to be due to nutritional changes or worms.

Nutritional causes of our latest cases of colic include too much hay, a sudden change on the type of hay given, a horse that was fed later in the day than usual and scoffed its food too fast, and a horse that got too many apples thrown over the fence by well-meaning passers-by. Some horses sure have exquisitely

sensitive tummies and they give their owners (and vets) sleepless nights!

One of the first questions we always ask horse owners when we see a colicky horse is, "When was the horse last wormed"?

A lot of horses with colic have large worm burdens as a contributing factor. We recommend that people worm their horses regularly to prevent this cause of colic. However, it can be expensive and incorrect worming and over worming of horses leads to drench resistance, so that we now have worming drenches that no longer kill worms.

The clinic is currently encouraging people to do regular faecal egg counts on their horses so that they have an understanding of their horse's worm burden prior to using an anthelmintic. This can also help us to pick up cases of drench resistance early. We are now stocking the new Triumph horse paste made by Merial Ancare. This paste is a triple combination of ivermectin, oxbendazole and praziquantal and is particularly good for worming foals, quarantine drenching of new horses coming on to the property and in cases where we know that drench resistance is present on a property.



Letters to the Editor...



By-pass and other matters

The past month or so has been a testing time for the by-pass project contractor with wet weather materially slowing down some of the work. The site engineer, Marc Papke, says they are still ahead of schedule and is optimistic they will stay that way. The project Newsletter No. 3 detailing progress is available at the Mapua Community Library and in the TDC libraries in Richmond & Motueka. Also a display/information board has been installed at the TDC offices in Richmond.

As the project proceeds we are becoming more aware of the longer-term benefits and effects the project is going to have for our area. For instance, the recently formed Coastal Initiative Group is pin-pointing the road and area that will no longer be graced (or cursed) by being a part of the present route of SH60. They are determined it be known as just the “the old highway”. By coming forward with the name “Ruby Coast” they are giving that route and that area a unique identity. Both the Mapua/Ruby Bay and Tasman communities can take advantage of this opportunity to promote their respective communities and surrounding area

On to other things: The life and times of a community are a series of ups and downs. The positives and the negatives. Sometimes both at the same time. Plus and minus. That’s life. That’s the situation in Mapua today as I see it.

One “Plus” is the Ruby Bay by-pass project. The spin-off effects from that will be positive for Mapua/Ruby Bay and Tasman and present both an opportunity and a challenge. For Mapua, the opportunity to make our village and its area both a desirable destination for visitors and a also good place to settle and to live. A challenge to make sure the upcoming TDC Structure Plan for Mapua is not just another future zoning map.

Another plus is the upgrading of the Mapua Domain. A direct result stemming from the energy and commitment by the members of the Mapua & Districts Community Association. “domain sub-committee”, who grabbed an opportunity and rose to the challenge to do something positive with it.

I said “ups and downs.” Hang on to your hat! Mapua has been much in the news of late. Not just the local news, but the national news. It’s all about the clean-up of the Fruit Growers Chemical site at

Port Mapua. Big guns from the Ministry for the Environment on deck. Dr Paul Reynolds & his MFE staff, the Minister for the Environment, Nick Smith, TDC counsellors and staff—all for the release of the MFE Audit Report on the clean-up.

Unfortunately, the report does not address some items that are of serious concern to both our residents and to the public at large. In the last stages of the clean-up, some critical decisions were made by the site management team as to placement of surplus treated soil. These decisions have created a situation that is untenable. That is unfortunate. Why did this happen? Hopefully by the time you read this letter after the 1st of September, some answers will be forthcoming. I certainly hope so.

The FGC site has long been touted, held-up and publicised as the most chemically polluted site in New Zealand. The treatment clean-up process undertaken by the Ministry for the Environment on this site was to set the “standard” for acceptable clean-up procedures for the many other chemically polluted sites throughout the country. At Mapua so far this “standard” has not been achieved. It is up to the ministry to get it right first time if New Zealand is to present itself as “Clean & Green” to the its own citizens as well as to the rest of the world.

Hugh Gordon

Mapua doctor leaving

I would like to let people know that from the end of the month, I will no longer be working at the Mapua Health Centre. There are a variety of reasons for this, but I am going to be taking up work in Nelson, working amongst communities who are currently struggling to access Primary Care. I have done similar work when in the UK, and so now that this opportunity has come up and now that I am wanting to increase my hours with both my children at school, it seemed the right time to be moving on.

However, I really want to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed looking after those of you that I have seen at Mapua Health Centre. It has been a great privilege and a joy to get to know so many of you. Thank you to you all. I would like to wish you all the very best and I hope that I will still see some of you from time to time in the village—I still intend to be a part of what is a great community!

Sally Harris

Letters to the Editor...

Thanks for support

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Waimea College junior boys' basketball team fund-raising raffle. Congratulations to the winners who were: D Brown and J Taylor. The team went to Dunedin on the 28th of August. Thanks for your support.

Hamish Worsley

Bowls Opening

A reminder to all members that this season's bowling activities start on Saturday the 19th of September. The green looks in excellent condition, and with the hope of some warmer days ahead we should all be looking forward to getting back to summer bowls.

Any one interested in joining the club are welcomed to come along and be part of our friendly group. Instruction will be available to those who have not played before.

For league bowlers watch this space for a starting date announcement in due course.

Moreland Reserve planting

On Saturday 22 August a group of willing workers armed with spades joined forces with Steve Richards from the Tasman District Council and two Sicon staff to plant an area of the estuary edge in the Moreland Place reserve.

The council provided the plants which included kowhai, cabbage trees, Flaxes and coastal ribbonwood.

After about an hour and a half of enthusiastic digging and planting more than 200 plants, we enjoyed a cup of coffee while we stood back and admired the finished result.

It is a nice feeling to live in an area where people are willing to give their time to enhance the beauty of Mapua.

Helen Bibby for the Mapua and District Community Association

MAPUA COMBINED PROBUS

The guest speaker at the August meeting of Probus was Kay Mc Nabb, manager of Nelson Airport. Kay spoke of her earlier days being brought up on a dairy farm close to Hokitika. Her first job was working with a shearing gang. Her first paid job was working in a milk bar earning a big sum of 10 pounds and 5 shillings a week. Kay's next job was nursing and she eventually gained a nursing degree.

Kay moved from Hokitika to Nelson to take on an administrative position for the Port Company. Her work was somewhat demanding having to work with male wharfies and port staff. Kay was able to continue part-time with her studies, and she gained a master's degree in health science.

In 2003 she took on her job as airport manager, being responsible for all ground activities around the airport. These include security, bird control, and air traffic management. The airport is the fourth busiest in the country with up to 65 Air New Zealand aircraft and 67 private aircraft movements a day. The airport operates daily from 6.30am to 9pm. Kay said that with the recent economic downturn there had been a noticeable decline in passenger numbers over the last six months. With Air New Zealand operating the larger Q300 aircraft their flights will operate only between Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch.

The mini-speaker was club member Laurie Metcalf, who gave an interesting talk on a recent eight-week tour around Europe and Scotland. During his time in Europe he was able to visit various cities including Florence, Venice, Barcelona, and a seven-day tour of the Pyrenees. From Lyon in France, Laurie flew to Edinburgh to spend time with family members there and then on to the Shetland Islands. From there it was south to Cambridge and a slow coach ride to Heathrow, due to road works, before flying home. It was a very memorable tour, with only one wet day during the eight weeks.

On 13 August several club members joined the Motueka Ladies Probus Club to watch the film, "Stone of Destiny" at the Motueka Cinema. It was an enjoyable film from the 1950s. The story is of four Scottish university students who planned to take the historic stone (also known as the Stone of Scone or the Coronation Stone) from Westminster Abbey and return it to Scotland with the hope of gaining independence from England. For anyone who was living in Britain at that time the humorous film would bring back a lot of old memories.

David Higgs

Sam's Spam

September 2009

Recycle your unwanted electronic waste

Hi readers. Did you know that Saturday 12th September is eDay? What is eDay? Well, according to <http://www.eday.org.nz>: "eDay is a community initiative designed to raise awareness of the benefits of recycling computers and the hazardous nature of electronic waste (e-waste), while offering an easy way for households and schools to dispose of old computers and mobile phones in an environmentally sustainable manner."

In other words, you can recycle your old computer and mobile phones etc that day instead of them ending up in landfill. The website also has advice on recycling e-waste when events like this are not taking place so it is really worth checking out.

Anyway, back to the event, eDay is a car-only (no trucks or trailers) drive-through recycling event. Last year in New Zealand over 16,550 cars dropped off 87,056 items. A total of 946 tons of e-waste was diverted from our landfills. All equipment will be sorted at the drop-off site on eDay before being transported to recycling plants overseas. Recyclers have advised that over 95% of the materials in a computer can be recovered and re-used.

What can be disposed of: computer hardware; monitors; networking equipment (e.g. modems, routers, hubs); scanners, keyboards, mice, speakers; laptops; printers, game consoles; toner and ink jet cartridges; mobile phones; fax machines; digital cameras.

What can't be disposed of: televisions; radios; stereos; DVD players, video recorders; other home appliances; furniture.

The contact person for our area is: Mary Curnow, Ph 03) 545-9176, or marycurnow@nec.org.nz

The drop-off points are: K & F McLean, Hursthouse Street, Lower Moutere, on Saturday 12 September, from 9am to 3pm, or ENZA International, 484 Nayland Road, Stoke, at the same time.

On Tuesday 8th September there are also special arrangements for schools who want to recycle e-waste – see the website above for more details.

What to do before eDay: Wipe all data from your computer's hard drive and remove any removable media such as floppy disks or PC cards, and ensure that your mobile is disconnected by your service provider and that contacts and other stored information are erased from the phone's memory. Also remove your phone's SIM card if it has one.

This month's free software is "Eraser". Eraser is an advanced security tool for Windows which allows you to completely remove sensitive data from your hard drive by overwriting it several times with carefully selected patterns. I would recommend using this software if you are planning to dispose of your computer.

Visit <http://eraser.heidi.ie/> to download.

BOOK REVIEW

Sue England reviews *Acid Song* (2008) by Bernard Beckett, available from the Mapua Library.

Fiction by New Zealand authors is a recent discovery for me, being the new girl on the block. Some excellent reading is tucked away on the shelves at the Mapua Library and the librarians will always be happy to help you seek out these gems. I have thoroughly enjoyed Catherine Chidgey, Maurice Gee, Lloyd Jones, Fiona Farrell, Stuart Harrison, Sarah-Kate Lynch, Michael Wall and now, another find, Bernard Beckett.

Beckett was runner-up in the 2009 Montana Book Awards with his latest piece of fiction, *Acid Song*. I loved it. This powerful, contemporary novel keeps you hanging until the last few pages for resolution, that moment when you say, 'Ah, so that's it.' The 'ah' in this case is quite disturbing.

We are given two days to follow the paths of a disparate group of characters. Any link between them is impossible to detect and yet you know there must be one. The writing is compelling. You are sucked in to discover what unites a university biology lecturer with a disillusioned schoolteacher, a group of skinheads, a documentary filmmaker, a young girl with a broken heart and a psychologist out on a limb with his radical claims.

The pace is fast and switches rapidly between one character and another and the families around them. We see them at home, at school, at work and soon become aware of their dreams and limitations. You start to care. It is absorbing and involving and in Beckett's very skilful writing it is all too easy to recognise the awkward situations that every family finds itself in once in a while.

Biology is the key to this novel, but I am not going to reveal the secret. You need to find that out for yourself.

MAPUA LIBRARY

Ph 540-2545

We have been in planning mode recently with many wonderful ideas coming forward from our volunteers.

First up will be our participation in the Coastal Garden Group's day on 19 September outside the Mapua Hall where we will once again hold our popular second-hand book stall. If anyone has surplus books they wish to donate please leave them at the library before this date, or, if you wish to find some bargains do come along and patronise our stall. There are always good books to be found and enjoyed and of course the funds raised on the day enable us to increase our library stock for your further enjoyment.

School holidays begin on 28 September and we are eager to provide a special day for our younger readers during this time. Therefore we have approached artist Janet Marshall who has agreed to run a workshop for children who would be interested in learning how to sketch birds. Janet has run these popular workshops in schools so in the second week of the holidays we plan to hold a class for children aged seven and older. The date and further details will be advised through the schools and in the October *Coastal News*. If your child would be interested in participating please phone either Val on 540-3931 or Dot, 540-3276 to reserve a space – they will be limited. It should be great fun. Have a peep at Janet's website: www.janetmarshall.co.nz

Our very, very exciting announcement though, is that in March next year we will hold the inaugural Mapua Library Literary Festival. This will be held the weekend the 26th, 27th and 28th of March and it is being tailored to include all age groups within our community and indeed the greater area of Nelson/Tasman. Writers' workshops, short story competitions for all age groups, readings and many other wonderful ideas are currently being explored, so, watch this space for more information as our very entrepreneurial group led by Sue England plan this special event.

First things first though, see you at our bookstall, 19th September from 10am.

Dot Moriarty

Library Hours:

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 2pm – 4.30pm
Wednesday 5pm – 6.50pm
Thursday 10am – 12.30pm

Mapua School

It's been another busy, exciting, and positive month here at Mapua School. Students have been involved in a broad range of stimulating activities and, as it is that time of the year when we review their attainment, they are recording some stunning academic gains.

A number of our students choose to sit the International Competitions and Assessment Exams run annually by the University of NSW and their results are impressive. Of particular note is the achievement of Oliver Sircombe-Kohen who achieved a High Distinction in Science that placed him in the top 1% of New Zealand students along with a Distinction (top 2%) in Computer Skills. Oliver's success is not limited to the sciences, he was also recently placed runner-up in the Junior Section of the New Zealand Poetry Societies International Poetry Writing Competition. Hayden Bannister joined Oliver with a Distinction in Computer Skills.

Two targets that the school has focused on this year are achievement in spelling and basic mathematics facts. Results coming in after two terms of focus in this area show that real gains have been made and we wish to congratulate students on their skill development in these areas.

August is the month for cross-country running events and our students have many opportunities to shine in this discipline. The weather played havoc with the Mapua School Cross-Country with a squall of rain beating down on the area at the 11th hour. We continued with the senior school events, senior and intermediate students, but postponed races for the junior and middle school.

A separate event was run for our younger students in fine conditions and supported by a large group of vocal families. Top runners from the senior/intermediate school cross-country went on to run in the Motueka Schools Cluster Cross-Country on Rabbit Island and high achieving students from this event are now going on to the Nelson District Cross-Country event ... and possibly the Regional Event (Top of the South, Bottom of the North) Cross-Country which is being hosted in Nelson this year. In particular we congratulate Kaisa Tsuruta, Alice

Reade, Samuel Wilson, Emily Calteaux, Lara Endersby and Hugo Peckham on their successes to date and wish them every success at the regional events.

Mapua runners can be proud of their successes at the Motueka Schools Cluster event, taking home five out of a total of eight teams events.

Property development is a major focus for the Board of Trustees this year and steady progress has been made on upgrading our toilet block, construction of a new classroom, and upgrading of three classrooms. Also coming up is the construction of a resource room and library. All very exciting and we look forward to the completion of these spaces. As our school roll continues to grow these new spaces will provide students and teachers with modern and well resourced learning spaces.

Neil Chalmers, Principal

Passion for Plants

an evening with

Jack Hobbs

One of NZ's best known gardening experts!

Curator Manager of the Auckland Botanic Gardens, President of the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture, TV presenter, plant breeder, author & photographer.

Tickets \$25per person

Includes complementary wine, cider or juice & nibbles on arrival, a fun informative garden themed evening, goodie bag, coffee & cake.

Tickets available at Mapua School, Bay Nurseries, Tessa Maes & The Mapua Trading Company.

Mapua Hall

Thursday 17th September 2009

Doors open @ 7pm

*Gardening Talk, Gardening Stalls
& your chance to bid on the Silent Auctions.*

This is a fundraiser for Mapua School.

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 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.

Mapua & Districts Soccer Club



The Rangers Senior B team had a year of rebuilding this year with only five of last year's players playing the season out, with some injuries stopping people playing and a few players moving out of the area. Good to see some young blood in the team though; that will put us in good form for next year. Check out the season footage on Youtube.com. Search the key words "Rugby", "Rangers" and "Moutere".

Some of the spectators may have noticed a Crusader/Makos player. Dan Perrin was having a run for us while rehabilitating from a knee injury.

Thanks to the sponsors for the help over the season: Moutere Inn, Moutere F'N Chippa; George Perry; Acclaim Finance; Superliquor Richmond; Speights; Perry Auto and Redwood Cellars. Without their help we wouldn't be able to function. Thanks also to the supporters for all the support.

Prize-giving is planned for Saturday 12th September with dinner at the Moutere Inn followed by a mystery bus tour. Tickets from Anne, \$15 for the meal and \$20 for the bus.

Social touch is being played at the Moutere Hills Community Centre at 6pm on Wednesday evenings for anyone that wants to turn up for a run around.

Mark Forward

St John Tea Dance

We have a date for our next Tea Dance, do you? It is Saturday 12th September, from 2pm to 5.30pm at the Suburban Club in Tahunanui. Our goal is to raise funds toward a replacement Health Shuttle vehicle—a cost of \$97,500.

The present 1991 Nissan van, bought in 2001, has travelled 311,000km. The Shuttle Service mainly transfers passengers to medical appointments at hospital, doctors' rooms, and all other treatment centres. A full-on day sees up to 10 transfers coordinated over a wide territory from Atawhai to Brightwater and beyond. Busy days are more frequent than not, demand exceeding capacity, which needs to expand. Many of you will know Heather Russ, the dedicated driver of this shuttle.

Previous Tea Dances have drawn incredible feedback and we are really excited about The Bourbon Street Beat and Jane Winter providing fantastic swing music to dance to. The Schiehallion Scottish Country Dancers will entertain us with a dance demonstration. Please come and dance the afternoon away.

The "yummiest home-made afternoon tea" is being provided by The Nelson Haven Lionesses, The St John Fellowship Group, Nelson Lionesses and St John Area Committee using a vintage tea service by Lynley Kay and Richmond Antiques

If folk can't make it on the day but still wish to support the replacement Health Shuttle St John, \$10 will buy a "chance" in each of the generous raffles. You could post in the \$10, names and phone numbers with the order and we'll see to the rest.

If any group wants to consider a novel way to raise a donation to boost funds for the replacement Health Shuttle project – Please call me, Fiona Newey, Project Management, ph 546-6180, St John, Nelson, or fiona.newey@stjohn.org.nz

Please make a note of the dance on your social calendar, get a group together and come join us at this fabulous occasion.

**Transition Town Mapua presents the
film**

In Transition

Friday September 11th

7:30 pm, Mapua Hall, Supper Room

This 1 hour feature film is about the Transition Town network which began in the UK in 2005 and has spread rapidly across the World. Transition Towns aims to inspire communities to become more sustainable and resilient in the face of climate change and peak oil. This positive and motivating film has been widely acclaimed and includes footage from many transition groups including several here in NZ.

Come along and find out more about what Transition Towns is all about and be inspired by what other communities are achieving.

Koha appreciated

School pupils ‘all aboard Tane’s Ark’

A display by Mapua School pupils in this year’s Ecofest proclaimed that they were “all aboard Tane’s Ark”.

The display by 15 pupils involved in an outdoor programme of conservation tasks showed plans for Tane’s Ark, a proposed native planting project for the little-used south-western corner of Aranui Park.

It also showed results of tests done recently by the children to determine the height of the water table and acidity of the soil in that part of the park – vital information that will help in planning the planting for the Tane’s Ark area.

Under the plan, contractors will clear the land, with the planting to be done by the community

Tane’s Ark is a joint project of the Tasman District Council with the Friends of Mapua Wetland and will be implemented as the council upgrades and improves the drain that flows from the south-west across the park.

The stream will be cleaned out with the aim of a healthier flow and a greater ability of the stream to cope with floods. The banks of the stream will be changed so that they are not so abrupt and they will be planted with native grasses.

As part of the work, contractors will remove rampant blackberry which is prominent in this corner of the park, clear weeds, and remove wilding willows and poplars, which have established within and along the edges of the drain.

A cycleway, proposed by the Mapua Districts Cycle Walkway Group, will also be created, following the streamside and heading from the park and up toward the former Mt Hope Orchard area, where residential housing is planned. The cycleway will link with existing paths in the park and provide a safe route to Mapua School and the Old Mill Walkway.

The ‘ark’ name was chosen because the planting will include Moutere native swamp forest including kahikatea, rimu and other trees that formerly featured in the 320ha Korepo Swamp, in pre-European times, a dominant feature of the district.

The Friends have applied for support for Tane’s Ark from the Department of Conservation’s Community Biodiversity Fund and the application has been supported by a wide range of organisations, including the Mapua District Community Association, Mapua School and the Tasman Environmental Trust

Hills Community Church

Twitter That

Twitter. It's all the rage but I don't get the concept. Please don't explain it to me—I spend enough time on the Internet. Some days I become so engrossed researching this, that or the other thing that my husband will look into my office and say, “If you're not careful that computer is going to swallow you whole.” I stumbled across this article (yes, on the Internet) from Reuters out of Jerusalem entitled—“Want to tweet God?”

An Israeli university student has opened a Twitter site, twitter.com/thekotel, where prayers can be sent for placement in the crevices of Jerusalem's Western Wall, a Jewish holy site that faithful believe provides a direct line to the Almighty.

“I take their prayers, print them out and drive to Jerusalem to put them in the Western Wall,” said Alon Nir, a resident of Tel Aviv. He said he hoped his initiative on the popular Internet social networking service, where users post brief messages known as tweets, would be “beneficial to people all over the world.”

Nir promises to deliver the prayers—each no longer than a tweet's maximum 140 characters—on a regular basis. Prayers, which are sent via a direct message link on Nir's Twitter site, cannot be viewed by the public.

At the Western Wall, where he placed some 1,000 rolled-up papers, Nir told Reuters: “People trusted me with their innermost feelings and secret thoughts ... and it's my duty to provide them with what I promised.”

Several services deliver prayers sent by email, text message or fax to the wall. Israeli postal authorities say prayers also arrive from overseas by regular mail, some in envelopes addressed “Dear God.”

I must admit, I was tempted to have my first venture into “Twitter-Land” but I resisted. I opted instead for the more direct approach. I bowed my head, closed my eyes, quieted my thoughts and simply said: “Hey, God. How's it going? I've got a few things on my mind—care to listen?” And then I had a little one-on-one time. Didn't have to boot-up the computer or trot down to Four Square to post a letter or anything.

Some folks can't fathom that it's that easy to talk to God. Some folks can't fathom talking to God. But for me talking to God is a stress-buster, anxiety-dissolver, clarity-giving exercise I can't fathom living without. And it's not just a one-way conversation. Yes, I get messages back from God—nothing terribly profound or dramatic—just simple, inward confirmations that God heard what I was saying and has an opinion about it (and not always what I *hope* to hear—God can be brutally honest).

Simple, efficient and direct. Uncomplicated and low-tech. Prayer.

All a-twitter, Rev Marilyn Loken, Minister, Hills Community Church

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”
Philippians 4:6*

New @ Hills—Drop-off for Area Food Bank: If you would like to make a contribution to the Community Food Bank in Motueka you can bring your non-perishable food items to the church (123 Aranui Rd) on Friday mornings between 9am & noon. There is a basket marked “Food Bank” in the front entry. We deliver these items each monthly to the food bank. Happening @ Hills—we are a community-based, multi-denominational church with historical roots in the Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist and Pentecostal traditions. We offer both traditional and contemporary worship in an informal and relaxed style. Visitors and newcomers are most welcome. For more information call: 03 540 3848.

Sunday Worship: Traditional service 9:00am, Contemporary service & “God's Garden” for Kids 10:30am; Holy Communion celebrated at both services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays with morning tea between services. First Sunday of each month: one service @ 10:30am followed by a shared lunch.

1st and 3rd Tuesdays: 12.15pm—NZ Prayer Book Communion service followed by intercessory prayer
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

We also offer numerous home groups and youth activities

Mapua district history proposed

At the August meeting of the Mapua and District Community Association David Kemp said that with numerous interesting pieces of history such as the original bridle path and original flax mill buildings, a “picture” of the history and heritage in the area could be used to tell a story for both visitors and the community.

Ways in which to celebrate the good fortune of those who lived here included a mid-winter festival when visitors had gone but the weather was still very settled—singing, dancing and show-casing the many talents that were in the community.

Tony Pearson noted that Tasman had an active heritage group, a book had been compiled, and they had Taste Tasman which took a large amount of organisation.

Andreas Niemann suggested the installation of outdoor table tennis facility at the waterfront park area – something for teenagers – solid concrete, permanently placed. These were used all the time in Europe.

He said Aranui Park was a problem with youths taking their cars into the park, using the shed, drinking and causing concern to neighbours. They entered the main entrance which was gated but not locked. Andreas had approached Tasman District Council about locking the park at night.

A letter from the TDC about the park sought the views of association members on locking of gates at night. The meeting unanimously agreed that the gates be locked at night and re-opened in the morning by neighbouring property owners, who had indicated their willingness to help with this.

The association approved a motion that the existing gates be repaired to lockable state, appropriate signage installed noting opening/closing times, and arrangements made to lock/unlock gates at agreed times.

Mapua Domain

Nadienne Cookson provided an update on the installation of cricket nets; the possible installation of basketball hoop facility with concrete pad; bollards/gates to be completed; drinking fountain; trimming of large oak by skate park. Plans also being worked on to upgrade the small playground area. The TDC will submit proposals and drawings to the sub-committee.

David Kemp has been involved with coordinating painting of the refurbished toilet block. It was agreed that the association should apply to the Arts Council for a \$500 grant to cover David’s fees during the co-ordination and painting process and that the association would pay for the cost of up to \$300 for special paints for the project.



Hanging out at the wharf

Mapua Health Centre

Dr Sally Harris is leaving our practice this month to take up a new job and we wish her great success in this challenging and very worthwhile work. She has provided a greatly appreciated and caring service to the health care of our community and will be missed by staff and patients. (See Letters to the Editor).

As we start emerging from the frosts and flu's of winter into the new life of spring its good to become aware of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. The main factors that can improve our risk for heart disease (the No. 1 cause of death in our society) are:

- Stress management
- Exercise
- Nutrition
- Social/Spiritual interaction
- Education (including non-smoking, etc) [Ornish,

D. et al. (1998) JAMA, 280(23): 2001-7]

So what is happening in Mapua to help develop our common SENSE? You might be surprised to know that the following activities and classes are available:

Exercise – pilates; tennis; walking groups; yoga; tai chi; meditation; aqua aerobics (Richmond); stop smoking (Mapua Health Centre); healthy lifestyles (Mapua Health Centre) + green prescription.

The practice nurses at the health centre can help you find out more about any of these. Please let us know if you are aware of other healthy lifestyle activities or groups happening in the area.

TXT to Remind: We are trialling this new system with appointment reminders only and so far the feedback has been very positive.

What is it? It is a reminder service (sent by text message) advising you of: Your next appointment; recalls for blood tests, diabetes checks, mammograms etc

Who can access this service? Anyone who has a cellphone number recorded in our records. If we decide to proceed with this service we will send a text to all patients who have cellphone numbers listed with us requesting their consent. If you have any concerns or would like to check we have your details to ensure you receive texts please do not hesitate to contact us. Here are some of the local and world health initiatives for September;

1-30 Cervical Screening Awareness Month
www.nsu.govt.nz/

1 Gamble-Free Day www.hsc.org.nz/problem-gambling.html

6-12 Conservation Week www.doc.govt.nz/

7-13 Epilepsy NZ Awareness Week www.epilepsy.org.nz/

7-13 Contenance Awareness Week

www.contenance.org.nz/

3-9 ADD/ADHD Awareness Week www.adhd.org.nz/

7-13 Stroke Foundation Awareness Week

www.stroke.org.nz

14 Maori Language Day www.nzreo.org.nz/

15 World Lymphoma Day www.lymphomacoalition.org/

21 International Day of Peace www.unesco.org.nz/homepage.htm

21 World Alzheimer's Day www.alzheimers.org.nz/

21-27 Deaf Awareness Week www.nfd.org.nz/

25-2/10 Arthritis Foundation Annual Street Appeal
www.arthritis.org.nz/

MAPUA PLAYCENTRE

The children and adults of Mapua Playcentre have been very busy over the past month. The children have been busy making concrete, building kites, making huts and climbing structures, dancing, gluing and sticking and sliming and generally having a fantastic time exploring the endless possibilities for play and learning at Playcentre.

The adults have been very busy supporting the children in their play, and it has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm of the parents who are now even more involved in the sessions than ever. The parents have been largely able to keep clear of the office duties, now that these are the role of our talented new centre administrator. This has enabled parents to come to Playcentre and focus on sharing in those wonderful moments when their child covers themselves in paint for the first time (and then starts painting their mum).

Our rolls are increasing at the centre, with at least three babies due soon and the enrolment of numerous new families this term who we would like to extend a warm welcome to. One new family are a second generation Mapua Playcentre family, the mum of which can remember having fun at Playcentre in its previous premises at the back of the hall.

We have two trips planned this term, one to McKee Domain for a morning of fun, sun and marshmallow toasting, and a trip to visit the new entrant class at Mapua School.

If you would like to experience high quality early childhood education together with the joys of Playcentre for you and your child(ren), call in on a Monday or Friday for three free no-obligation visits. We cater for all ages, from birth to six years.

Michal Gray

Under The Bonnet with Fred

A Stranger in Town—an Eldorado

An Eldorado? If you remember a Frank Sinatra song from 1974 about “Bad, bad Leroy Brown, the baddest man in the whole damn town,” which was about an infamous Chicago gambler. It mentions in the song Leroy Brown owning a Lincoln Continental and an Eldorado. Well, in 1974 my hair was long and Frank Sinatra was not cool like Santana so I never knew an Eldorado was a Cadillac sports coupe. Top of the coupe range with all options inside and under the bonnet.

This car is a 1989 Eldorado, front-wheel-drive, a nice blood red with polished mag wheels embossed with Cadillac crest and coat of arms. Sold new in Canada to Hilary & Alfred Macinnes who retired to California for about six years and later moved to Auckland. I understand Alfred died and the car went to two dealers to dispose of, but 20-year-old odd cars like this don't sell well in New Zealand, so the Eldorado ended up on Trade Me with a must-sell price tag and luckily a local Cadillac man got a gift.

Sports cars usually have fast-sounding names or numbers but why Eldorado? In 1954 General Motors' Cadillac car division wished to market their new luxury sports coupe. They needed a name which would appeal to the rich and the famous so they adopted “Eldorado,” the mysterious Inca city reputed to have streets lined with gold. According to the internet, Sir Walter Raleigh spent a year exploring South America looking for the city of Eldorado but without luck.

At first glance the Eldorado appears a bit Japanese-coupe in body shape except they got it wrong—it's too wide. The boot line raised above the window sill line gives the car a low-down look or was it to increase boot capacity? On opening the long, heavy door the car says “Hello America” with the wide, comfortable leather seats, leather-bound steering wheel, T-bar shift, digital instrumentation with all upholstery the same colour as the blood red paintwork. Cadillac, you still don't put rev counters in your cars and it's time those big brick radios were superseded. The comfort of sitting in this Cadillac Eldorado matches all their big luxury sedans.

Under the flat bonnet is a 4.5 litre east-west mounted engine with a four-speed transmission, 155bhp, 9:1 compression ratio with digital fuel injection. Fuel economy is good for a go-fast V8 engine of 10.5 litres/100km or 26mpg. Power-to-weight ratio down from the Mustangs with 155bhp to 1553kg but that close-ratio transmission and computer engine control still manages 0-60mph in 9 seconds.



Would I like to take it for a drive! Me? Yes! I could not miss this opportunity. Once I was seated and seat belt on it was almost rally-like. The engine started with a nice V8 rumble, pulling the T-bar into drive the car lurched waiting for further command from the accelerator.

We glided down Aranui Road and stopped at Perrys Auto to fuel up but much to the owner's embarrassment we could not find a way to open the filler cap. Moral of this story—you don't look cool if you don't know how to put petrol in your new Cadillac. Later the release was found in the glove box along with the boot opener.

Sitting at the Tavern corner turning left towards Richmond, I gave a squirt on the accelerator and we were up to the speed limit in a few seconds. Nice having the bonnet mascot to centre the car, especially with left-hand drive. As we passed the by-pass earthworks and on to the passing lanes the owner said to ‘make it go’ so I floored it, down to 2nd then a quick change as it held on to 3rd, somehow from the exhaust a nice brrrrmm to add to the feeling of speed as we passed a chrome yellow Mustang, the suspension rose up as went over the crest of the hill only to float down slowly as the transmission did its final change. The Eldorado was in its comfort zone of US highway speeds with the exhaust now quiet. Great to handle with steering steady and slightly heavy, giving a nice feeling of total control. On the return we were passed by a dark blue Jaguar XK140 which the Eldorado could not tolerate. The noise appeared from the exhaust and we pulled out to pass, now parallel with the XK140, I buttoned off deciding I would sort it out another day. Hmm, a 1989 Cadillac Eldorado, not a muscle car but at 20 years old a modern sports coupe putting fun back into motoring.

Fred Cassin

(PS. Some parts of this story are fictional)

Korepo new name of gallery

Ruby Bay's Editions Gallery is getting a name change and refocus as the spring takes hold and the visitor season begins. The new name is a more local one and better reflects the mixture of activities I now pursue. I developed the gallery building, and the site opposite the Ruby Bay store, over the last seven years as a purpose-built creative studio and gallery for my print-making. Although the print-making is still central to my work in the visual arts, an increasing interest in broader creative work, from painting and design through to a framing and consulting with collectors and art owners, has made the old name less descriptive of what is happening here. I also am increasingly focusing my creativity on the local and my own deepening sense of place here on the coast.

Korepo was the name of the large flax swamp area that used to be a feature of the coastal flats behind Ruby Bay. As well as the waterways and the versatile flax, giant kahikatea trees grew around it and in pre-European times this was a valued community resource full of eels, birds and native fish species.

Flax was highly valued by Maori and by the early settlers who developed the resource as a fibre commodity and early industry of the area. With the demise of the flax industry in the mid 20th century, due to the abundance of sisal product available from Asia, the flax swamp was drained and the area now

is either residential or grazing land. The Korepo name continues on as the name of the road on the escarpment ridge above Ruby Bay. The Korepo road walkway continues down the escarpment to the main road just next to the gallery.

Although the name has no defined meaning, it does have a rather nice poetic one for me. "Kore" is the Maori emphatic "never" and "Po" means "total darkness". So this allows a translation as "a place where it is never completely dark". Being by the bay and with abundant waterways and a well exposed western horizon, you can see the sense in such a naming for the pre-European settlers and visitors. It also suits me and my artwork just fine too!

I intend to offer a full picture framing service from the gallery as well. This is an area I have much experience in, having owned an art shop and framing business previously and being a consultant art framer for both the Provincial Museum and The Suter Art Gallery.

Spring is a busy time for local artists, producing new work for locals and visitors to enjoy, and I'm no exception. We have some very talented artists and wonderful studios in this area. The new artists' guide brochure that we launched earlier in the year at the Refinery Gallery in Nelson is available widely and is a great way to introduce yourselves and your visitors to this contemporary resource, the coastal artists' studios.

Graeme Stradling

Toastmaster achieves speaking milestone

The Motueka Toastmasters Club was celebrating last month. Foundation member and club President Roger Hynd became the club's first Advanced Toastmaster, with the award of Advanced Toastmaster Bronze.

Toastmasters provides a structured programme and a supportive environment to learn speaking and leadership skills. Members progress by delivering prepared speeches to develop their abilities and also take part in the running of meetings, to learn leadership. In order to achieve his award, Roger delivered 20 prepared speeches in two and a half years. He has completed half of the Toastmasters speaking programme.

When he presented Roger with his certificate, the club's vice-president for education, Don Grant, noted that the first 10 speeches are designed to impart basic

skills. All speeches after that are from specialist advanced manuals that teach specific styles. Roger's 10 specialist speeches were from the "Storytelling" and the "Persuasive Speaking" manuals.

At its meeting on 5 August, Motueka Toastmasters Club also inducted new members Peter Canton and Rainer Bonda. The club has enjoyed significant growth in the past three months, attracting six new members. President Roger Hynd commented that he believed more people were realising the benefits of sound communication and leadership skills. That was particularly true in the present employment climate, where competition for many jobs was quite intense.

"Employers are expecting developed communication skills as a basic requirement", noted Roger. "We help to grow those skills in a friendly and supportive way".

Acclaimed Mapua writer enjoys rural outlook

Living in Mapua is important for acclaimed children's writer Melanie Drewery, who says she can't imagine living anywhere else.

Melanie, a winner of numerous awards and twice chosen for the Library Association's Biggest Storytime read, has been living on a farmlet in the Seaton Valley flats for the last 13 years. "I love it," she says of Mapua.

However, Melanie's admiration for the place comes with a qualification. She likes the rural life, pace and character of our district. It is something that suits her outlook. However, she emphatically does not like the sort of blanket suburban development she sees happening in parts of Mapua, where she feels a charming country village is being transformed into what she calls "Stoke-on-Sea".

As long as Mapua retains its rural charms, Melanie has no plans to move—and she is understood to have turned away at least two hopeful callers who had tantalising offers if she might be prepared to sell.

On her farmlet, Melanie looks after several horses and a small flock of Arapawa-crossbred sheep that have been bred for their coloured wool.

From her home, she enjoys looking out over a rural landscape of fields, trees and hills. She also likes the fact that she can continue to ride a horse through Mapua's main street if she chooses to. She appreciated the way she used to be able to drive her tractor to the petrol station to fill up. And she enjoyed the look on people's faces when she took a favourite sheep, named 'Tex', for a walk to the store during shopping trips.

Horses are obviously an important part of Melanie's life and she continues to enjoy riding, while the horse poo sold in sacks outside her gate is a handy source of pocket money. The personalities and antics of her horses also provide subject matter for her writing, with one pony being the subject of Melanie's most recently published book, *Jiminy Shows Off* (2008), her first chapter book written for older children.

Mapua's beach is another reason for Melanie's love affair with the area, and the beachcombing and other activities that feature in her popular Nanny Mihi series of books link back to activities Melanie enjoyed as a child in Auckland and later with her family on our beach here in Mapua.

As a child, her favourite book was *Badjelly the Witch*, but it was New Zealand children's writer Margaret Mahy who inspired her to write. Melanie's



great talent now is to draw children into a story that introduces them to aspects of Maori culture and life.

Her published writing ranges from a book for children about the Maori New Year festival of Matariki, her biggest seller, to a more recent colourful book for smaller readers about mythical (Maori) monsters that might be causing trouble in the bedroom at night – the *Grumble Mumble Rumbler* (2007), beautifully illustrated by Josh Smits. This is her personal favourite of her own books.

Nanny Mihi is probably Melanie's best known character, a beloved kuia living in a house by the sea, who provides a series of charming adventures for her two visiting grandchildren in a series of five books, which have been illustrated by Mahana-based artist and writer Tracy Duncan.

Many of Melanie's books are published simultaneously in English and Maori and another of her books *Koro's Medicine* (2004) won the Te Kura Pounamu Award at the Library Association of New Zealand's Children's Book Awards in 2005, while another of her books, *Child of Aotearoa* (2004), was a finalist. Last year,

Melanie won another outstanding award when one of her latest books, *Tahi: One Lucky Kiwi* (2007) won the Picture Book section of the 2008 New Zealand Post Children's Book Awards. The judges called the tale of a bird who survived being caught in a trap "a story to inspire all age groups, where unobtrusive facts about kiwis sit comfortably alongside the snappy, and humorous text."

Her books have twice been chosen to be read in every library in the nationwide Biggest Storytime event during Library Week. This year, it was *Itiiti's Gift*, the story of a girl who feels clumsy and shy next to the rest of her talented family. Itiiti doesn't think she is good at anything, but her mother tells her that she will find a gift of her own. When Itiiti sets out to find it, to her surprise, her gift finds her. In 2007, the chosen book was Melanie's favourite title, *The Grumble Mumble Rumbler*.

Melanie is part Maori, with links through her father's side to a King Country iwi, Ngati Mahanga. She was brought up partly in Auckland, where she learned about everyday Maori activities, like gathering kai moana.

Melanie still finds her own oysters and mussels—although she says she opts for Motueka rather than risking sea food from what might have been near Mapua's toxic site. Her interest in the Maori world was intensified during a period when she lived in Picton and formed close friendships with people involved with the marae at Waikawa Bay.

Mapua has obviously proved a creative, productive base for Melanie as well as an attractive place to live. Another of her titles is due to be published shortly, *Stories from Our Night Sky*, a collection of poems, songs and short stories.

Melanie, who has two teenage daughters, has worked as a children's librarian and a pre-school teacher and, in addition to her writing, she continues to work as an artist and potter. She has been a popular personality on book tours to schools and libraries nationally. A Mapua School last year Melanie taught writing skills to a group of promising young students over a three-week period.

As a young child, her favourite book was Spike Milligan's *Badjelly the Witch* and the author who inspired her to become a writer was another writer of children's books with a zany sense of humour, Margaret Mahy.

Melanie's advice to budding young writers is simple. "Write, write, write," she says. "Don't worry about how tidy you are, or if you make spelling mistakes, just get your ideas on paper, then tidy up later."

David Mitchell



The committee is pleased to report that all display spaces at the Mapua Show to be held on the weekend of the 11th and 12th of November have now been filled. We believe we have an exciting range of exhibitors from local artists and craftspeople. Some of these exhibitors are relatively new to our area and have not previously displayed their work locally. Come along expecting some pleasant surprises.

A number of acrylic and pastel artists will be exhibiting. Some of these are emerging talent while others are already recognised and well established. We also have rag dolls, stone art, glass art, copper work, copper jewellery, mosaic art, hand-made cards, wooden furniture and quilting. Locally made wine will be available for sampling and for sale and the Mapua hall will be awash with colour and flowers provided by local groups and enterprises. While exhibitors are keen to promote their work, most items will also be for sale.

Our organising committee is small and nearer the time we will be looking for willing volunteers to help with setting up the hall on the afternoon and evening of Thursday, 9th of November. Tasks include the erecting of a wooden framework to support trellising and decorating the hall. The latter may involve working from a ladder. Should you be willing and able to help, please contact either Richard or Joyce Bullock at 540-2311 or on richbull@clear.net.nz We will be delighted to hear from you.

Richard Bullock, chairman

Putting your building dream into final shape

In the last instalment I discussed the sort of information and preparation that can be brought into the design process to make it all go smoother and save you money in the cost of putting together a building consent document ready to lodge to council.

In this the final chapter I will briefly outline the process of putting your ideas, dreams and wishes into a working document ready to present to council and the building professionals that will transfer the document into concrete, bricks, weatherboard, windows and all the material components that make up the physical expression of those dreams and wishes.

In the first meeting with clients I am usually presented with information ranging from elaborate technical sketches on graph paper to wild gesticulations of arms and legs and occasionally just a chat to find out if their schemes are even doable or not. I never charge a fee for the initial meeting as it allows people to lead up to discussing their project in their own good time. Often there is quite a lot of background to the proposed work that contains useful information that can be applied later on. And in many cases people are just curious and it's always good to be able to have a nice informal discussion which is easier to do if the meter is not running.

From that initial meeting I will try and produce some clear yet simple plans and 3-D models which are easy and inexpensive thanks to the incredible computer software available today. These are the concept plans which just insure that I am interpreting your input correctly and also these give you a clear and easy template to make adjustments and changes while introducing the language of building design. There is a lot of jargon involved and the more important principals of good building can be clearly understood from the concept plans.

Using the 3-D as an illustrative tool we can generally sort out most of the spatial, material, doors and window, sunlight angles, energy, colours, views, siting, and engineering requirements with a few visits and a bit of time for the client to make the important and often difficult decisions which represent a huge commitment in terms of expense and aesthetic considerations. I like clients to take all the time necessary to get these choices right and often It will be weeks before the working drafts are ready for signing off and become working drawings.

With relatively simple jobs we can often do cost estimates from concept plans which saves the expense of producing working drawings before discovering the budget and desired outcomes don't quite match up.

For larger projects and new houses full sets of plans are required for accurate quotes by professionals. The working drawings contain considerable amounts of specific information to ensure that all materials and building systems will comply with the building code, and just as importantly, the requirements of the client.

Clarity and accuracy in detail is paramount and when engineers and consultants are engaged the need for good quality information becomes critical in saving time and money. As a design professional I am absolutely accountable for the information that I present to my clients, council and building professionals. Also, good plans go through council promptly and avoids costly delays for the builders, which creates confidence in the process and the outcome. This helps pave the way for a smooth and controlled build by guiding the contributors through all stages with clear and comprehensive information.

The time frame for putting all this expertise into place can vary enormously. The following are the stages of the process and when these stages are worked through you can see how easily weeks turn into months:

- ~ Consultation
- ~ Concept plans, 3-D sketches
- ~ Briefing consultants and engineers
- ~ Working drawings and site plans
- ~ Lodgement of plans with local authority
- ~ Liaise with local authority and supply further info if required
- ~ Getting quotes, and organizing building professionals and subcontractors
- ~ Start construction
- ~ Complete construction, get Code of Compliance

I think from the design point of view that the file on a project should be kept open until the Code of Compliance is issued, and that it is important that advice and support be available to clients and contractors all through the above stages of a project. This support is becoming more critical to the process as the design brief is expanded to include precise product and material specifications as well as very detailed design criteria. It is now quite difficult to make changes in design during the build and will soon be against the rules to substitute products or materials without approval through the consents system. I personally think much of this legislation favours the

corporates and inhibits freedom of expression and choice in what should be an expressive endeavour.

There are always challenges, especially if you want to apply any changes to the planet, from shifting a window to placing a couple of hundred square meters of building on a new bit of real estate. There are lots of people who want to know what you are going to do and how you are going to do it. Good luck and if you need a hand, drop me a line. davedegray@xnet.co.nz, or to 162 Tarrant Rd. RD1 Upper Moutere.

Dave DeGray

Moutere Hills RSA

The monthly meeting was held in the RSA rooms at the library on 10 August. President Norm Thawley recited the Ode and recorded the passing of Helen Hyatt of Upper Moutere on 20 July at the age of 98. Helen was the widow of our member Austin Hyatt. The question of membership of the Suburban Club for our members was discussed. It appears that we may have to pay a small fee in addition to our RSA subscription for full membership. The amount is to be defined in December when our current cards expire. On the motion of K Broady and P Butchart we agreed to make a donation to the Air Force Association towards the cost of the plaque to be erected in the Nelson Cathedral.

Our project involving assistance to local young people wishing to join the Motueka Cadet Unit proceeds. Members recently attended a parade night. So far we have very little response from the people we are aiming at but we will keep trying. This should be an interesting programme for young people.

Peter and June Latter have moved to Tasman Park Rest Home in Nayland Road, Stoke. Rosina Robb is in hospital with a broken foot.

Arrangements for the winter lunch to be held on 26 August at the Mapua Uniting Church were made.

F H Gibbison, secretary.

Park Planting



The Friends of Aranui Park met with Tasman District Council representative, Glen Thorn, on the 14th of August for the planting of 75 rhododendrons and camellias, in the Rhododendron Dell. When the work was done members decided “the look” was most impressive.

The planting was possible due largely to the generosity of the Mapua/Ruby Bay and District Community Trust and others. A big thank you from the Friends. A spokesman said it was good that the Community Trust was so encouraging of a local project being constructed for the enjoyment of many generations to come.

“New Zealand is made thanks to the work of thousands of volunteers who are willing to get their hands dirty, and this is just another example, with more to come.”

Pictured are, from left, Julie Booth, Diane Toole, Barbara Hosie, Helen Beere, Joyce Bullock, Barry Highsted, Ken Todd, Richard Bamfield, Alan Mulligan, and Glen Thorn. Jim Bryse took the photo.

Noticeboard

Coastal Connexions Group: Just to remind all members that the regular monthly lunchtime gatherings will resume at the Gothic Restaurant, High Street, Motueka at 11.45am on 10th September. Hope everybody can join together for this springtime event.

Wanted to Rent - House with dble garage or workshop. 4 bdrm or 3 with office/sleepout for local professional couple in the Mapua area. No children. Long term - 12 mths preferred. References available. Careful tenants. Pls phone 540 2172.

Taoist Tai Chi Society of NZ - New Beginner Class commencing Thursday 3rd September at 6pm at the Mapua Community Hall. Improve your flexibility, mobility and balance, and learn to relax. First session is free, so come along and experience the benefits of Taoist Tai Chi. Suitable for all ages. For information phone 03 545 8375. www.taoist.org

Barley available - bag or bulk - 5432715

Skye Harvest Extra Virgin Olive Oil available. Ph 540 2698. Orders delivered, or call in 113 Seaton Valley Rd Mapua. 2009 harvest Frantoio now available at the all new Dido's in Ruby Bay.

House Cleaning Fairy available for part-time work. Ph 540 3821

Rooms to rent for counselling, massage, health practitioners in Mapua village. tel Julie on 5402705 or email julie@inhealth.co.nz

Shop or offices for small business to let on Aranui Rd, Mapua (village centre). Julie, 5402705, julie@inhealth.co.nz

Doll Making Classes: We will be running classes from our studio in Tasman. If you are interested please contact Sarah, 5403889 or pumphrey@xtra.co.nz for more information. The designs are all original and can be viewed on www.thefarmstudio.net.nz

Dancemoves for Women: Improve your Posture, Co-ordination, Grace, and Confidence, while having fun dancing short low-impact Latin routines with a touch of Pacifica. Join us on Mondays 11am-Midday, Mapua Hall, Term 4 starts 12 October. Enrolments phone Catherine @ DanceMoves 03 5488046, 0273 232098, www.dancemoves.co.nz.

Raffle winners: Thank you to everyone who participated in the Waimea College junior boys basketball team fundraising raffle. Congratulations to the winners who were: D Brown and J Taylor. The team is going to Dunedin on the 28th of August. Thanks for your support.

Country Occasion at Neudorf, Sunday Nov 29, 10am until 4pm. 70 stalls under the trees at Neudorf. All proceeds to Child Cancer and the Moutere Community Centre. To enquire about a stall email judy@neudorf.co.nz

Friendship Club meets 3rd Thursdays, supper room at the Hall. Indoor bowls, Euchre & Crib, etc, afternoon tea (please bring a plate). \$1 donation and 20¢ raffle. We are a group of friendly people who enjoy a good laugh (some of us are not good bowlers!) We welcome old and new members. Val Roche 540 3685

Need technical help? Can't connect your DVD player? Don't know how to download photos from your digital camera? Computer running slowly? Local help is at hand! Average job price only \$20! Basic web design also available - pages start from just \$35. Call Sam on 03 540 2804. – sambennett@live.jp

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. For more info Lynley 540 2292.

Genealogy Computer Discussion Group: This year our bimonthly meetings will be 1.30pm on Saturdays on the following dates: Oct 10 and Dec 12. For information: Val 540 3931 or Peter 540 2686.

Mapua Art Group: Painting/Drawing mornings every Thursday 9am-12.30pm, Supper Room, Mapua Hall. A group of like-minded artists get together to paint and help each other in a fun and social environment. All levels and media most welcome. \$4 session includes morning tea. Tables and chairs provided. Lisa Chandler, 540 3933.

Spinners, Knitters, Weavers – Wool Gatherers meet at Mapua Hall, second Tuesdays, 10am. All welcome.

Coastal Garden Group meet first Thursdays, 1.15pm, Supper Room, Mapua Hall. Members, guests & visitors welcome. Barry Highsted 540 3139.

Kidz'n'Koffee Playgroup, every Wednesday (in school term), 10am-noon at Hills Community Church. Ages 0-5yrs. All parents & caregivers are welcome to attend, no cost, donation for morning tea. Come & relax & meet some neighbours. Lisa Gant 543 2530, Tressa Waynan 540 2632.

Toy Library: check out our extensive selection of toys, puzzles & videos for children 0-5yrs. Located behind the Mapua Hall every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 10-11.30am & 6.30-7.30pm. Phone Kerri 540 3386 or Gill 543 2195 about membership or casual hire.

Probus Club meets first Fridays, Mapua Hall 1.30pm. All retirees most welcome. Enquiries to Pres. Rosalie Wattereus, 03 582 9486, Sec. Margaret Butchart 5402686

PANZ (pastel artists of NZ) meet each Tuesday, Mapua Hall, 9am-noon. If you are interested in trying pastels as a painting medium, please join us. Glenys Forbes 540-3388.

Mapua Hills Rose Society (est 1949) meets 1st Mondays (except J months) 7.45pm, Supper Room, Mapua Hall. Rose lovers, growers, visitors and guests very welcome. Enquiries: Letty Thawley, 540 2876, Margaret Sinclair 03 528 8477.

YOGA with Robin - Classes weekly. All levels welcome. Call 540 2113 for class times & information. www.rubybayyoga.com

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.