

# Coastal News

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

covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,  
run by volunteers

## Community praised for clean-up role

A new publication from the Ministry of the Environment praises the Mapua community for its role in the Fruitgrowers' Chemical Company (FCC) saga.

*Cleaning Up Mapua* is a 60-page booklet on the FCC and its polluted site and is well illustrated with photos, maps and diagrams. It briefly describes the history of the Mapua-based company, the community-led fight that resulted in its demise, and the long and expensive effort to clean up the chemical pollution FCC left behind.

In an introduction to the book, Secretary for the Environment Paul Reynolds says that the Mapua story "is of a community working together to improve their environment". Author Jill Harris says that the most positive outcome of the story has been that "impossible things can be achieved when a passionate community works alongside a dedicated council".

In the book, Ms Harris has a good description of the Mapua context of the factory and the change in public perception of FCC from an innovative industry pioneer supporting the local apple industry in the 1930s '40s and '50s, to what she calls a "pariah" status in the 1970s and 1980s.

Ms Harris's summary of FCC's activities shows how it broadened its range of products from simple sprays for the apple industry to a bewildering list of 124 different chemical products in the 1970s, including dangerous defoliant sprays like 2,4,5-T (the feared Agent Orange used with devastating effect in the Vietnam War) and its related cousin spray, 2,4-D, as well as highly toxic organophosphate sprays, that were used by orchardists.

Ms Harris paints a concise picture of a very different Mapua in the 1950-70 period when the FCC plant was at its peak. Mapua was a relatively isolated, small

estuary-side settlement with a few houses and some baches with a shop, a garage and post office serving the surrounding orchards and the chemical plant. The social centre was the Mapua Hall, where catering for the popular annual Shipwreck Ball included "sacks of mussels, strings of saveloys, endless loaves of buttered bread, big wooden trays full of cakes, and a line of kettles for making tea and coffee". The social activities centred on the seasonal apple harvest obviously played a big part in building a sense of community.

Two different activists portrayed in the book played a big part in identifying the problems at the chemical plant, the late Tahiti Street potter Chris du Fresne and former Residents' and Ratepayers' Association chairman Bill Williams.

The story of the change in perception of the chemical company is important because the fight between activist and company seemed a David and Goliath struggle. Eventually, the residents' group opposing the plant won. What is less clearly portrayed in the book is the long period of frustration as the local council, the Waimea County Council, and Ministry of Health officers turned a Nelsonian blind eye to steadily mounting evidence of chronic toxic pollution of the site, water supplies and the estuary.

One of the contradictions of the FCC which is described in the booklet was that it appeared to be a generous and caring firm in terms of pay and conditions for its employees. However, at the same time, it was lax in health and safety management and totally irresponsible in the way it dumped its chemical waste.

The later half of the book deals with the problems and achievements of the clean-up. It describes some key figures, such as the TDC's employee Jenny Easton and site manager John Roosen.

The team at The Coastal News would like to wish all our readers, contributors and advertisers a joyful Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year



*FCC plant about 1950. Aranui Road runs down to the wharf, with Iwa Street joining on left.*

Also explained are the use of a new type of remediation technology, and, finally, the necessity for the Ministry for the Environment itself to step in when the main contractor withdrew from the clean-up project in 2004.

The book takes the story as far as 2009, when the site auditor's final report was published and the TDC signed a certificate of completion for the work.

However, the book ends with a more recent photo showing another aspect of the community's involvement in the clean-up, the handsome new Waterfront Park. This new asset was the result of community pressure for some positive benefit for local people from the clean-up. The Government agreed, and ensured that 40 per cent of the polluted FCC land would remain as public land.

The booklet does not deal with ongoing controversy about health problems for some workers involved in the clean-up or with some of the shortcomings of the operation, such as the excess of fill material left on the Waterfront Park site.

However, through clear presentation and use of some evocative historical photos, diagrams and clear layout, this booklet provides useful summary of the Fruitgrowers' Chemical Company saga. It is also a reminder the terrible legacy of discarded chemicals left by this company for ratepayers and taxpayers to clean up. In retrospect, we are lucky that the clean-up was, in the main, successful. But it was complex and costly operation and, sadly there are still some unresolved issues.

The booklet is not without flaws. A key chemical made at the plant, "guasathion", is mis-spelt, as is the name of a former Minister of Health and Local Government, Michael Bassett. The name of what was the local activist group, Chemical Action Network

(CAN), is incorrectly recorded, and the oil company BP is named as being an owner of the FCC plant at one stage. I stand to be corrected, but I don't believe this is correct. FCC did make agrichemicals for the big oil companies, particularly Shell. My understanding was that the oil firms marketed a range of FCC's products under their own brand-names, but showed no inclination to be involved in owning or running the company.

It also seems inappropriate that prior Maori use of the area from the wharf to Grossi Point is not acknowledged in the book. After all, evidence shows Maori used that area fairly intensively for food-gathering over a 400-year period before European settlement, but left no scars on the environment. That is also surely a relevant matter in the story of the FCC site.

*David Mitchell*

*Cleaning Up Mapua – the Story of the Fruitgrowers' Chemical Company Site*, Published October 2011. Text by Jill Harris, edited by Marieke Hilhorst, Ministry for the Environment, Wellington. Available from the Ministry and also available on its website.

# Good Spirit and Fun at The Spring Fling

What better way to christen the new Waterfront Park than with the 5th “Spring Fling”!

Once again a great crowd of 300 + got together to help foster community connections. It was a fantastic opportunity to socialise, play games and enjoy that free sausage, home-made lemonade and an ice-cream. Our aim is to make community connections and bridge the town’s generation gap. It is planned as an event for everyone in the community regardless of age to come and mix and form links with other community members.

We were fortunate to have the continued support of the community recreation adviser Mike Tasman-Jones with the

Tasman District Council’s Way-2-Go trailer. Kids just hooked into the gear and created their own games. It was a delight to see all sizes of kids, their parents, neighbourhood and whoever join in. The weather was kind to us to enable a truly active, community spirited twilight event.

A bit of background on the event for newcomers...The inaugural “Spring Fling”, in 2007 and subsequent ones have been largely supported by donations and volunteers. This group began from

work with author and educator Celia Lashlie in 2001 when there were concerns expressed about disaffected youth in the community and we looked at the African proverb “It takes a village to raise a child”. Regular meetings were held over two years with the community using Celia’s insight and experience. The Mapua Strengthening Our Village group evolved. This event was a product of a few people getting together



and making it happen. We are now in the 5th year which is something we are very proud of.

Our special thanks have to go to the generous donation from Club Mapua, Hamish’s for the cones, Talleys for the ice-cream and a kind donation from New World in Motueka.

Thanks everyone for making this a success.

*Tina Johansson*

## 'Fundometer' for Hall Renovations

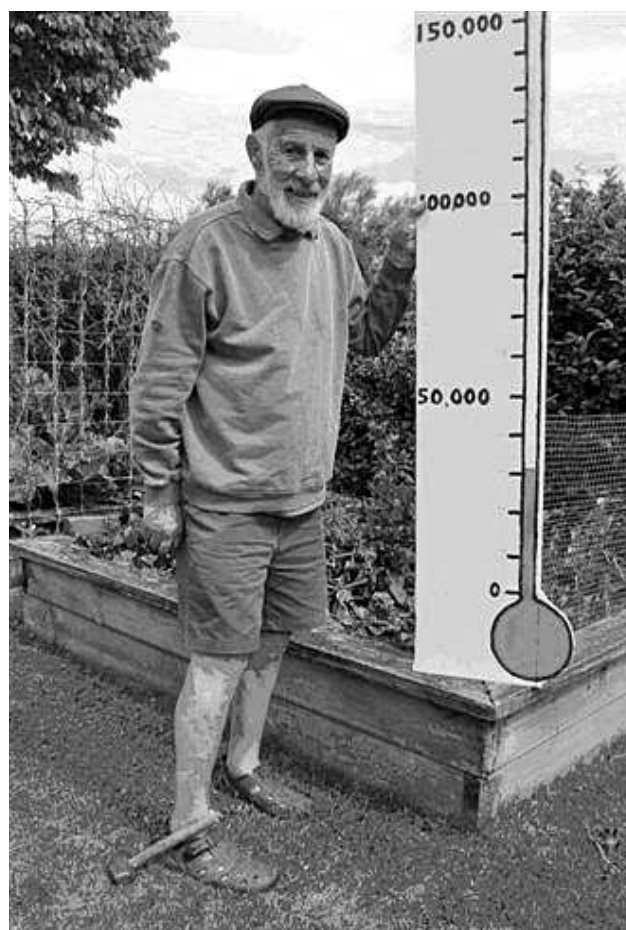
The preparations for the renovation and the extension of the Mapua Hall are progressing. An application for resource consent has been submitted and we have applied to the Canterbury Community Trust for support.

Local fund-raising towards our target of \$200,000 from the community by June 2012 has started with good results. The very successful Spring Show organised by the Coastal Garden Group was a great boost, and many, many thanks to the members of that group for making this event so successful.

Now we have a "Fundometer" created by Bill Williams (see photo) as a way to keep track on our fund-aising efforts. We had by early November already reached \$31,500: the red mercury is rising on the "Fundometer."

The hall renovations with a modern kitchen, new toilets, changing rooms for sports activities on the Domain, and expanded hall rooms and storage spaces are, of course, developed to provide space and facilities for various community activities in Mapua, Ruby Bay, Mahana and surrounding areas. The Hall Committee is only a facilitator of these renovations. All community groups that use the hall are encouraged to contribute to the fund-raising via their own initiatives.

*Tord Kjellstrom, Chairperson, Mapua Hall Society*



*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.*

# MAPUA LIBRARY

Yes, the end of the year is fast approaching. Yes. It is time for our big Christmas hamper raffle. This is our main fund-raiser for library administration. We hope you will support it as generously as you have in the past. Tickets will be on sale outside the store from the 5th to the 10th Dec.

The library will be closed for the public holidays on Monday the 26th and Tuesday the 27th of December, Monday the 2nd and Tuesday the 3rd of January, and Waitangi Day the 6th of February. So make sure you get your holiday reading early. If you have visitors or are letting your house they are welcome to take out temporary membership,

We have an offer from a member to select and deliver books to anyone in the village, or close thereto, who is

housebound. Please ring 540-2250 if you wish her to do this for you or anyone in your family.

There is a new exhibition of colourful textiles in the library this month. It is the work of Rowena Lukomska. Do check it out.

We send Christmas greetings to all and wish you good health and good reading in the coming year.

*Eileen Dobbie*

## Library Hours:

Monday: 2—4.30pm

Tuesday: 2—4.30pm

Wednesday: 2—6.30pm

Thursday: 10am-12.30pm; 2-4.30pm

Friday: 2—4.30pm

Saturday 2—4.30pm

## BOOK REVIEW

*The Madonnas of Leningrad by Debra Dean, reviewed by Adrienne Taylor. This book is available in the Mapua Community Library.*

This is an impressive first novel by American, Debra Dean. The story revolves around the life of Marina, during her young life in Leningrad during World War 11 and as an elderly women living in contemporary America when she is suffering from Alzheimer's. While the elderly Marina cannot hold onto fresh memories, she has vivid memories of her distant past when she a young student and guide at Russia's famous fine art museum, the Hermitage. In the autumn of 1941, the German army began a long and torturous siege (900 days) of Leningrad that trapped citizens without food and basic amenities of life.

Many of the city's residents lived in the museum over a long and bitterly cold winter. Marina and other staff members were instructed to remove the museum's priceless masterpieces for safekeeping, leaving the frames empty on the walls ready for their eventual return. As a survival mechanism during bombing raids, terror and starvation, Marine creates a "memory palace" of the missing artworks. She recalls exquisite details of the works. The title of the book, "The Madonnas of Leningrad" refers to the many classical religious masterpieces that hang in the Hermitage.

The present day part of the book sees Marina married for decades to Dmitri, a young soldier she

met in Leningrad. They have raised their children in a comfortable fashion in America and are preparing to attend the wedding of a granddaughter. This event is a stark contrast to the dark memories of people gathered together during the siege but Marina's children really struggle to understand their mother's experiences during the war.

The characters are well drawn but the essence of the book is the power of memory itself. The historical background sensitively portrays the suffering of non-combatants during war. Marina's "memory palace" not only gives her a place of refuge as a terrified young woman but continues to offer solace when she is an old woman succumbing to dementia – she can still revisit the Hermitage, room by room, painting by painting.

Dean's writing is sparse and elegant and the transition between the two time periods in Russia and the USA is seamless. I felt the end of the book was a little sentimental and I would have liked to have known more about the character of Marina's daughter but overall this is a really enjoyable book and I look forward to more novels from Debra Dean.

# Hugh's Musings

*For some time now many of our readers have enjoyed the musings and opinions of Hugh Gordon in the Letters to the Editor column. Hugh has praised and chivvied, exhorted and extolled, given us lessons in word meanings and commented on life in general as it affects Mapua and Ruby Bay. He will continue to do so, but we have decided to run him under the heading, "Out and About with Hugh."*

*This means we look forward to getting letters from others in our community to fill the gap in the letters column. If you don't like what we publish, write and say so. Better still, if you do like it, let us know. Give us some indication that we are reaching somebody. And thanks to those who do write—keep it up.*

*The Editors*

## Out and About with Hugh

**F**acts, Fiction & Speculation: By the time you read this, the election results will be a "fact", something supported by evidence and an actuality, a reality, a truth. That's the definition of the word "fact" in *Webster's New Dictionary*. A noun, stemming from the Latin "factus". Fact is an interesting word. It's a take-it-for-granted word. We all use it a lot. "The fact is" and "the facts are" are quite common in our everyday conversations. In "fact" we've been inundated with "facts" by the aspiring politicians the past three weeks!

We've also been inundated with a good dose of fiction. Fiction, according to Webster, is something imagined or made up. Some of the more imaginative bodies engaged in the political scene espouse ideas or propose policies which fit quite neatly into the fiction category. By the way, "fiction" springs from the Latin "fictio". And, as for "speculation", well, the sky's the limit. No need to say any more except to give Webster's the last word: "To speculate is to meditate or reflect on a given subject". Comes from the Latin word "speculari"

Last month I spoke of "moving on" from the welcome pause provided by the World Rugby Cup. Now, we've got to move on from the not so welcome pause provided by all the electioneering. And, now that we know (or at least have a pretty good idea) who is going govern us for the next three years and the result of the MMP Referendum, we can catch up with what's going on close to home. Keep reading. I'll try to bring you up to date with a "fact" or two. The "fiction & speculation" part you can supply yourself. Or, if you're struggling with doing that, the Mapua rumour machine is in full swing. You can tap into that.

**Mapua Wharf:** Facts, Fiction and Speculation abound concerning the future for the Mapua Wharf area. Hopefully, it will no longer be referred to as the waterfront "Precinct". Shades of 52nd Street! One might "speculate" there is a police station there. Well yes, I would say that wouldn't I, considering where I came from. However, the Mapua Wharf area has been much in the news the past two months with the aquarium arson fire, the opening of the Waterfront Park

for public use and the Flat Bottom Fairy (Ferry) getting under way, not to mention the sewage pumping station, parking and traffic control etc. Plenty to report on and talk about.

**Aquarium Clean-up:** Rubble-A Health Hazard—Headline in the *Nelson Mail* 22 November. Demolition and clean-up hopefully to start by 25 November. By the time you are reading this it just may or may not be a "fact". After consistent delay by the insurance company involved, maybe finally some action. No credit to the TDC for allowing this situation to continue. There will be a bureaucratic answer forthcoming no doubt regarding consents etc. All that is history. I just hope I don't have to write about this again.

**Waterfront Precinct Advisory Group:** Remember them? Just to remind you, this is the group selected by Mayor Richard Kempthorne to represent those who have businesses at the wharf, the TDC and other interested parties. Cr Brian Ensor is chairperson. On their agenda on 9 November was the Waterfront Park. Stage 1 & 2 completed. Sewage pump station not to start until February 2012. The wharf pontoon. Contract documents now completed. Pontoon not to be started until after New Year, subject to financial approval. Traffic calming measures at the Wharf. A roundabout at the Iwa Street/Aranui Road intersection. Now in place, albeit in temporary form for the moment, is already slowing traffic to the wharf and providing a handy place to turn around and proceed back to the TDC parking lot on Tahī Street. Changes in signage for the area presented. Upgrading the public lighting at the wharf area discussed. The McIndoe Wharf Development Plan was discussed. There has been a good public response to this plan. Haven't seen it? It is on display at the Mapua Community Library. Want to make a comment? The TDC will still accept submissions.

**Wharf Q & A:** Who owns what at the wharf area? What are they doing with it? The ex-coolstore building and the land associated with it is privately owned. The balance of the land at the wharf is

owned by the TDC This includes the land occupied by the former aquarium. The brewery building is on TDC land. The restaurants, Boat Club and takeaway shop are on TDC land. The TDC owns the wharf. It leases some of its land to businesses and individuals. Some of these sub-lease to other businesses or individuals. Some of the TDC leases expire in April 2012. Management of the TDC land at the wharf is under the immediate direction of the Property Services Manager, Jim Frater

Watch this space in the *Coastal News* in February next year. Much more to come on developments at the Mapua wharf.

Meanwhile, use and enjoy this area for what it is—our priceless community asset.

**Speed limits:** The TDC is undertaking extensive changes to the speed limits in the Mapua/Ruby Bay/Tasman area. Go to the TDC website at [www.tasman.govt.nz](http://www.tasman.govt.nz) to see the proposed changes in detail. Last day for comments to be lodged is 22 December by 4:30pm. Most comments that have come my way are so far mostly favourable for the proposed speed changes.

**Anniversary:** How quickly we forget. The Ruby Bay by-pass is one year old! Has it changed our lives? Yes! Some a bit, some quite a lot.. Just ask those who live along the former route of State Highway 60. Or, ask those who use the highway regularly between Nelson/Richmond and Motueka. But no question. The road change has had an effect on our community and everyone in it. Do you have any comments? Your emails would be most welcome. [hush@quik.co.nz](mailto:hush@quik.co.nz)

**Out and About:** No more Letters to the Editor. Management has consigned me to a new slot. Have a good Christmas and New Year and some welcome lazy days. See you next year. Cheers.

*Hugh Gordon*

.....  
● Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people once  
● a year.  
.....  
*Victor Borge*  
.....

# PANZ

October and November have been crazily busy for all of us but certainly productive and interesting.

We have had surprise challenges, painted a “Big Picture”, and held a framing workshop with Lance Trolle’. We also invited the Thursday art group (MAG) to visit us and share morning tea while introducing them to the art of using pastel as a painting medium. It was a great morning of sharing ideas and meeting other local artists. Come Thursday, we visited their group and shared their use of different mediums and styles. It was declared a success all round and we will do it again in 2012.

We have had our last meeting at the hall for this year as we are heading into the country for some sketching and photographs and will finish the year with a barbeque lunch on 29 November. Members have been set a “Christmas Challenge” for homework over the holidays. We are all given the same photograph and must produce a painting which does replicate it. These will all be displayed on Feb 14th when we have our first gathering at the Hall for 2012. It’s really fun to see all the variations.

For your calendar: Opening night for our annual exhibition “Top of the South” will be the 24th February and will continue over the weekend following (25,26) between the hours of 9am - 4.30pm

First Tuesday for the year is Feb 14th. New members always welcome so come and try pastel as a painting medium. Glenys Forbes 540-3388

.....  
■ The Supreme Court has ruled that they cannot  
■ have a nativity scene in Washington, D.C. This  
■ wasn’t for any religious reasons. They couldn’t  
■ find three wise men and a virgin.  
.....  
*Jay Leno*  
.....



### **What/who makes this community?**

I guess we define 'community' in our own mind and actions. It is a bit like 'home and what you make of it'. To me, it's a sense of belonging and the interdependence of people co-existing in a shared environment.

Anyway, upon further considerations, we should accept that the local hall and recreation field be the hub, or indicative pulse, of the community's socio-economic health and vibrancy...and then, we all should actively support the usage and maintenance of those/our asset facilities. Perhaps we are becoming too fragmented in our interests and disposal of that diminishing discretionary dollar? Dare I suggest that your rates went up to pay for the Recreation Centre in Upper Moutere.

Fortunately, we are indebted to those community-spirited volunteers (yes, there's room for more) who should be applauded for their efforts into such successful events as the Mapua Show and Art Trail, Spring Fling and the like, organised by the many special interest groups (and we probably have more of those per capita than anywhere else in the world). Indeed we have a wealth of talent and skills that can be utilised for the long-overdue upgrade of our hall. Gratitude must be similarly expressed to the Hall Committee who have taken on the mammoth challenge to raise funds to make the 'upgrade' a reality. You can participate in this renovation project by becoming a 'Friend (Guardian) of the Hall'. Personally, I have invited the Hall Committee to use the Summerfest event as a medium for fund-raising, and extend that invitation to all interested community individuals and groups.

Hope the warmth of summer allows you to get out and about and celebrate our community.

Have a safe and happy holiday season, hope to see you all in the New Year (if I survive the negotiation of all these road realignments).

*WK Darling, Ruby Bay*

### **Hospice says thank you**

I write to say thank you to the Mapua area community for their support of our monthly hospice raffle. We are hugely grateful to Glenys from Tessa Mae's for kindly donating many raffle prizes over the years. I also wish to acknowledge and thank our volunteers who allow the hospice to do so much more with our available funds and support our fund-raising programme.

In the last year, Hospice made 4124 patient visits and admitted 292 new patients to the service. In that time, our 362 volunteers gifted us more than 12,550 hours of their precious time – always a very special donation.

Hospice receives less than 65% of its funding from government sources and we are obliged to raise over \$1 million each year to maintain our service. Our monthly raffles raise \$16,000—\$18,000 towards that total each year—while a modest sum in proportion to the \$1 million, the raffle income is still a significant contribution to the service. Buying (and selling), \$2 raffle tickets is the simplest and easiest way anyone can support us for a modest contribution of time or money.

Hospice raffle tickets are available for sale outside the Mapua Store, on the third Wednesday of each month (except December, January and August). Mapua people have been very supportive over the years and we very much appreciate their generosity.

We would welcome one or two more volunteers/helpers to join our small but friendly team from next year. If you can spare a couple of hours every two months, I would be pleased to hear from you. Ph 546-3912 or email me at [mary.garner@nelsonhospice.org.nz](mailto:mary.garner@nelsonhospice.org.nz)

On behalf of Hospice, please may I extend to the Mapua Community, our very best wishes for a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas.

*Mary Garner, manager, Volunteer Services*

### **Thanks for Support**

Thanks to all those who bought tickets in the recent raffle for plants for the Tasman Golf club. The winner of \$100 worth of fuel vouchers was ticket number 37, Bruce T who has been notified. We were raising funds to continue to redo gardens around our clubhouse and golf course. This is now well under way because of support from our own members and our locals. Thanks to all who supported and helped us.

*Raewyn Bailey*



# Animal Health File

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

## Little Nippers, Good and Bad

Those of you who know me will have caught up with the fact there have been a few changes lately. Firstly, my husband and I have finally achieved our dream of owning a small lifestyle block and have moved out of Mapua and onto a wee piece of land at Tasman. Secondly, we have had our first child, currently nicknamed the Little Nipper, partly because of his sometimes dastardly feeding habits.

Unfortunately last week our two worlds collided. Happily ensconced on my bed feeding said Little Nipper, I felt something crawling up my arm. Not being one for creepy crawlies I assumed it was a spider but on closer inspection was surprised to find a reasonable sized tick. Jumping or any sudden movement was out of the question and I (reasonably) calmed, squashed this little nipper before he could latch on and suck any blood.

Ticks are common in the Tasman countryside at this time of the year. In fact once I had related my story to the mirth of my workmates they piped up that they had a lot of customers coming in asking for tick treatments for their pets, horses and farm animals.

The New Zealand tick is called the cattle tick, but is happy to attach to you, your cat, dog, sheep, deer and horses as well as cattle. It is a three-host tick, meaning it requires to feed on a host animal, fall off full of blood, change to a different larval stage, then feed again and repeat the process before finally

developing into an adult tick which lays eggs in the soil to begin the process again.

Ticks like the warm weather and appear from August on through the spring till finally completing their cycles by late autumn. The good news about our tick is that it is not known to carry any blood-borne diseases, such as Babesia, tick paralysis or encephalitis, as ticks in other countries do.

So where did this little nipper come from? Well given that it was on my bed – it most likely came from my cat who wanders freely out in the long grass and rushes which is ideal tick habitat and who had probably been visiting the cows next door. Upon her next appearance she quickly received an application of Frontline Plus which is the only licensed product for controlling ticks on cats. However the dog was also a possible culprit for bringing it inside so he got an update of Frontline as well!

To control ticks on dogs Frontline must be applied four-weekly instead of the normal eight-weekly application for fleas. There is also a new product available called Practic which we can order in for you which is more effective for ticks than Frontline. But as you can imagine I wanted instant results and had plenty of Frontline at home.

# Strong support helps school win Enviro Award

Strong support from pupils, teachers, parents and the community helped Mapua School win the 2011 Tasman-Nelson Enviro Award for best school project.

More than 400 people were involved over the past two years with the school's Tane's Ark planting project in Aranui Park. They ranged from five-year-old school pupils planting their first tree to veteran 88-year-old resident Ivan Wells, who was able to help with valuable historical information about the site.

All 240 children at Mapua School planted at least one tree each, many teachers at the school have been involved in some way and many parents and members of the Friends of Mapua Wetland have also helped.

The awards were announced on November 18 at the Theatre Royal in Nelson in front of a large crowd, with the Mayor of Tasman (Richard Kempthorne) and the Mayor of Nelson (Aldo Miccio) both present.

Mapua pupils were commended by the sponsor's representative, Bryan Newman of Resene Paints, for restoration of a small part of an ancient wetland forest, once a prominent feature in the district.

Mr Newman also praised the incorporation of a cycle-walkway path which, in future years, would provide a safe and attractive route from Higgs Road to Aranui Road for school pupils and the community. He noted that the school's environment group had started with only four pupils five years ago and had since grown to a team of 18.

Two year eight Mapua School pupils, Jake Perks, 13, and Kaleb Webster, 12, received a framed certificate and a \$1000 prize on behalf of the Tane's Ark Team and the school.

Jake thanked the Tasman District Council for work done to clear the site and realign the Aranui Stream and also the Friends of Mapua Wetland group for its encouragement for the project. Jake also thanked both Nelson councils for running the competition.

Kaleb thanked two Mapua teachers involved with the project in the past two years, Teressa Hosie and Simon Clearwater, and teacher assistant Monique Patterson.

Eleven school entries had earlier been narrowed down by the judges to a shortlist of three, and finally Mapua School came out ahead of the other finalists, Waimea Intermediate School and Greenwood Kindergarten in Motueka.

Tane's Ark is a community planting project involving Mapua School in a lead role, Tasman District Council and the environmental group Friends of Mapua Wetland.

One of the aims of the project has been to encourage and develop environmental leadership among pupils. Members of the 18-strong Tane's Team made some



*It was blowing up a gale when Tasman-Nelson Enviro Award judges Richard Frizzell (Nelson City Council) and Adie Leng (Tasman District Council) visited the Tane's Ark site in Aranui Park and met representatives of the Mapua School Tane's Team in late October. Photo: Neil Smith, Chocolate Dog.*

important decisions about the project, including selecting and purchasing some of the trees and planting the great majority of the 2100 trees, shrubs and grasses.

Financial support for the project has come principally from the Department of Conservation's Community Biodiversity Fund and the Kids Restore New Zealand organisation, which is sponsored by Air New Zealand

Land clearance, stream realignment and path construction for the project have been handled by the Tasman District Council and its contactors, and park maintenance contractors Sicon have helped with some of the weed control.

The vision for the cycle-walkway route came from previous Cycle and Walkway Group co-ordinator, Sarah McLeod. Support for it from the Nelson Cycle Trail Trust and also from the landowners for the route should mean it will go ahead. Meanwhile, a new project to monitor the insects, pests and fish in Mapua Wetland and Tane's Ark is now under way.

Supported by the World Wildlife Fund, the monitoring project involves identification and recording various species in the Aranui Basin. As part of this work, the Mapua School team was recently involved in electric fishing in the Aranui Stream, from its upper reaches to the confluence with the Seaton Valley Stream. The children were assisted by freshwater fisheries consultant Tom Kroos and Rhys Barrier from Nelson Marlborough Fish and Game. They found very few small fish in the stream, indicating that there are problems in the stream that will need further investigation.

An exhibition of photos and maps of the Tane's Ark and Mapua Wetland projects being held at the Mapua Library was due to finish in late November. However, following Mapua School's Enviro Awards success, the library has agreed to keep it on display into December and the school holiday period

# Mahana School

Most people can think of a moment in their life when they were part of something special. Sometimes it was a time when the sports team you were in did well in a big tournament, or when your family went on a special holiday that you have never forgotten. The mixture of pride, inclusion and achievement is both magical and difficult to replicate. These moments happen when all the variables such as having the opportunity in the first place, having the guidance, having the right attitude, and knowing that you belong all line up. Recently our school band, 'Wet Cement' (the name was chosen because they are not yet the finished product) performed in the Nelson Primary School's Rock Fest and achieved one of those special moments.

The band is the latest success story to come out of Mahana School, which is fashioning a legacy of 'over-achievement' following on from our brilliant Masked Parade effort in 2009, our UNESCO Living Heritage award in 2009, our athletics day successes of 2010, and the "Dicer Chicks" winning the South Island Maggi Intermediate Schools Cook-Off this year.

'Wet Cement' is a band that includes most of the Kotuku Class, and has students ranging from Year 5 to Year 8. They have three lead singers, Tom Taikato, Lilly-Mae Salmond, and Taylor Pumphrey, two drummers, Luke Peel and Leah Miles, electric guitar, Hunter Chung, acoustic guitar, Hannah Gale and Josie Huxford, keyboard, Safari Muir, and back-up vocals Izzie Taikato, Eylish Huxford, Harriet Webster and Sapphira Harrington. The band is organised and mentored by teacher Jane Bosecke who has developed the idea that everyone can be a star, no matter what experience or skills you have at the beginning.

The performance at the Rock Fest was one of those special moments, even more so due to it being the first time most of the kids had performed in front of an



audience. They sounded great, performing to a really high standard with songs that were not easy to sing or play. But it was the joy of actual achievement that was the highlight for me. The feeling that they had taken on something that was difficult, but had worked hard and ended up with a success that will last with them forever. And at the end of the day they won the guitar!, proving once more that fortune favours the brave! Go Mahana.

You can check out the performances by visiting us at Facebook.

*Justin Neal, Principal, Mahana School*



# MAPUA Bowling Club

## *The Write Bias*

There is a place for everyone at the Mapua Bowling Club. For some it is an opportunity to socialise and play friendly bowls, others are bolder and enter the club championships and local tournaments, while for some players the competitive edge of Nelson Centre open events is a must. So with this in mind, plenty has been happening throughout November.

Our championships are under way and already an outcome in the men's and ladies' fours. Well done to Don Sixtus, Michael Busby, Dave England, John Trotter/Les McAlwee, Vickie Sixtus, Margaret Busby, Sylvia Peter and Sue England.

The first open tournament held at Mapua was kindly sponsored by Guthrie Bowron and very well supported by club players and visitors. Seven rinks were in action all day but only one team won all four of their games, becoming the outright winners. This was a team from Richmond led by Pat Bailey; deserving victors and for their success they also gained the Enstone Cup. Fifty percent of the profit made on the day will be donated to the 'Blind Association' in memory of Mr Enstone and the original concept of this annual award.

League Bowls played on Monday evenings is another sociable occasion and of particular value to all those unable to attend afternoon sessions during the week.

Finally congratulations are in order for Don Sixtus who has been selected to represent Nelson Centre and will play in the Noble Adams Shield at Greymouth.

For any information about bowling please contact secretary Jean Daubney (543-2765) or president Dave England (540-2934).

*Sue England*

# Birthday Milestone

Long-time Mapua local Betty Higgins was joined at Hamish's Café at the wharf on Wednesday 16 November by about 30 members of the Mapua morning exercise class to celebrate "a significant birthday". The group made short work of coffee and delicious carrot cake, thus demonstrating an understanding of the healthy balance between Energy In and Energy Out.

Betty attributes her extraordinary fitness and flexibility to regular exercise – she has been coming to classes since they began in 1993, and attends four sessions a week. She's also often to be seen walking the beach circuit, rain or shine.



One benefit in achieving this milestone is that Betty can now come to class for free. In the past, three Mapua residents reached this benchmark – Sally du Fresne, Robyn de Fresne and Nella Wells. However, as one somewhat younger participant was heard to ruefully remark, "by the time I get to Betty's age and attend for free, Lynda will be 96."

With people like Betty as an inspiration to three generations, nothing's impossible!

# Police Report

Hi all. Not long now until the school holidays and another year of campers coming to our small town. Let's hope the aquarium building can get cleared before the visitors arrive. The local business assn has been organising the distribution of 600 letters appealing for any information at all about the terrible fire. As frustrating as it is there is still no positive line of enquiry towards identifying the person responsible.

Just remember that although most people come to the area for a holiday, not all of them are honest, and an opportunist can strike at any given chance. It still amazes me the number of valuable items that get stolen

from cars—simply because people are forgetful or lazy and leave them on display.

If you are going away for a time communicate with your neighbours and have your mailbox emptied and house checked regularly.

I hope you all have a safe and enjoyable festive season—be safe on the roads out there.

*Grant Heney, Rural Community Constable,  
Motueka. Ph 5281226 (direct)*

## **Mapua Occurrences:**

Nov 17: Domestic argument Aranui Road

Nov 9: Domestic argument Awa Awa Road

# Sam's Spam

**H**i readers – as this is the last *Coastal News* for the year, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I am not sure what's on your Christmas list, but on the top of mine is the new iPhone 4S. Although I might have trouble convincing my family it is not just a toy, it does also have many other practical uses.

There was an interesting article on how it is very useful for those with visual impairment.

For many the iPhone is a handy toy, with hugely popular games and applications but for the blind it is much more.

All the apps are accessible using the voice-over screen reader that they've built in – you can easily dictate into it.

You can ask the phone to check things for you on the internet just by asking – so much quicker than having to type in, eg, you can just ask it what the weather forecast for a particular area will be.

Functions such as the talking GPS global positioning system are fantastic for everyone.

One of the best features in my opinion is the ability for the phone to send a text message which you dictate instead of typing.

On the down side, although the voice-activated personal assistant can be programmed to recognise different accents, New Zealand isn't one of them. It does, however, understand UK,

US, and Australian accents, and according to reports the Australian accent does work quite well in New Zealand.

The phone also features upgraded specifications from its predecessor, such as an 8 megapixel camera, and a faster processor.

The iPhone 4S starts from \$1029 without a contract and is available in black or white.

[www.stuff.co.nz/technology/.../iPhone-4S-Life-changing-phone-for-blind](http://www.stuff.co.nz/technology/.../iPhone-4S-Life-changing-phone-for-blind)

## **Free software of the month: DC Universe Online**

Sony Online Entertainment has announced that players can now download and play its massively multiplayer online action game DC Universe Online for free.

As of this month, all new PC and PS3 players will have access to the game free of charge.

There are now three access levels in DC Universe Online: Free, Premium and Legendary. All three levels will provide access to the game and include all game updates and fixes to the game, with each level offering differing game options and features.

Download from: <http://www.dcuniverseonline.com/>

# Under The Bonnet with Fred

On the Road Again—Santa Cruz, Pacific Coastal Highway (part 2)

**S**anta Cruz: the home of surfing to the western world. One of the locals told me that in the 1930s the US government brought three Hawaiian princes to be educated at San Jose University. They were in Santa Cruz and pointed to the surf at the end of West Cliff and there just happen to be a steam boat leaving the pier. The misinterpreted reply was “Steamer”.

The three princes made surf boards out of timber and went surfing at “Steamer”, later locally named “Steamer Lane” as it’s a long break from the light house point to the beach. It is a dangerous break with nowhere to go except into the rocky cliff face if you lose it. Deaths happen in big surf. Advice on handouts is you should be Grade 11 surfer before attempting big surf.

Amazingly our 5-litre V8 Lincoln was passed by someone flogging a Toyota Prius to its maximum economy at 70mph up hill in a gorge crossing the Santa Cruz Mountains before dropping into a nice sleepy town with narrow streets and slow traffic—we discovered we were in Santa Cruz.

The buildings all have a Spanish design about them and every other shop had something about surf as their shop theme. There was a town fair going on with music, dance groups from a local school and stalls. Carolyn shopped for a summer dress and top. Could I say the 70s fashion is back again or maybe bright colours and tie-dyed never left Santa Cruz. The coffee was that bitter burnt Spanish style; not my cup tea, so to speak. There were a lot of people with tanned faces dressed casually wearing sandals. Which way was the beach? Both Carolyn and I had not seen the sea for two weeks and there was something refreshing about being by the sea again.

Accommodation was expensive but Carolyn wanted to stay right on the beach so we did for \$US286 a night and with a balcony right above the action. It was peak holiday season and the beach was full with people, volley ball courts, sunbathing babes, restaurants on the pier, amusement park and a train full of holiday makers which went past the balcony eight metres away. If you wanted to do it at Santa Cruz beach, it was here somewhere.

In the morning we had breakfast on the pier which had had a non-stop party during the night. Our hotel room was so close to the party action we should have gone to the party as we could not sleep. Walking up to the surf museum you can watch the surfers on Steamer Lane. It’s a great place to watch surfing as waves break at a right angle to the 1km long walkway. Even with only a 4ft wave we watched one surfer



pull out just before he hit the rocks in the Cove. There are two buzzes you get riding a surf board. 1) riding the wave and the challenge of beating the wave before it breaks. 2) is the danger of the wave location, Steamer Lane provided both.

The Surf Museum had a display of history of surf boards from the 1930s to the present plus history of surfing in Santa Cruz.

The last owner of the Lincoln invited us for lunch at his house in Monterey Bay, a very nice area with great sea views but in August on the coast of California there is always a lot of sea mist. Jim and Chizukc were very welcoming. Jim had been in New Zealand on a trout-fishing trip. After lunch they showed us the number coded for the driver’s door keypad lock and photos of the car in Hawaii where Jim had bought it before moving back to San Jose. We exchanged email addresses and photos were taken with a promise by me to send a photo of the car with its California number plate numbers used again on a personalised plate.

We headed south towards Carmel, the town which had actor Clint Eastwood as Mayor some years ago, but he did leave a legacy. The Best Western in Carmel was in the old area with nice redwood pine shingle roof, and looking around the nice quaint shops and holiday cottages they all had redwood shingle roofs. Redwood sequoia pine trees grew partly on the road—you just drove around them. No council diggers and chainsaws to remove this traffic hazard—the traffic was the hazard.

The quaint little cottages belonged to the rich and famous. We tried to have a meal at The Hogg’s Breath restaurant owned by Clint Eastwood but it was booked out. We booked at The Forged restaurant but only at 5.30pm where we had an incredible meal at a reasonable price. It included a nice local beer called Copper Wall.

## Under The Bonnet

What's amazing was what was parked outside when we left—six brand new Cadillacs, Maseratis, Mercedes Benz, Porsches and Lincolns. Wealthy America likes clean and green and are happy to pay for it. No wonder the waitress rolled her eyes when clearing the table—we had eaten all our dinner!

Clint Eastwood was the man who kept the developers out of old Carmel and this was his legacy. I thought of Mapua and how important it is to keep the greenery and tradition of the old village. We visited the Carmel Mission established in the 1771 as one of the way stations two days travelling apart along the Californian coast.

I refuelled the car for the first time since leaving San Jose at \$3.20 a US gallon (about \$1.07 NZ a litre). I told people we pay about \$6.80 a US gallon and I always had the comment, "How can you afford to drive your cars?"

As we drove south down the Coastal Highway there were groups of late-model rental Mustang convertibles doing the highway also. We stopped at a place called Cayucos for lunch and liked it. After a Cayucos Ale which did taste a bit like the Copper Wall in Carmel I thought I shouldn't drive so we stayed for two nights to rest in a nice lazy seaside town.

Highlights for this part of the trip for Carolyn was Carmel Mission Station and for me Santa Cruz and the car.

Merry Christmas and watch out for those camper vans on the road. They don't know whether they are stopping or starting or turning left or right!

*Fred Cassin*

# Mapua School

The end of a fantastic year! There is a ritual in our family. At the end of the school year we sit down together on the couch with our son and look at his class photo which has been pinned to the wall next to his computer. After 10 months, it is wonderful to see how each child has grown. New teeth, broader shoulders, a confident smile. And in James' case, about an additional 4 inches (100mm) in height.



But more than physical growth, we celebrate each individual. We ask our son what he has learnt from each child. What traits and skills does he admire and how have they helped him. More importantly, what has he done to make their year easier, happier, better.

We also talk about his teachers and how they have helped him learn new things. What are the things he will remember from his time in their care? What skills has he developed during his time in their class?

We also look forward to the future and ask – What do you want to achieve next year? Is there something new you would like to try? What would you like to do differently?

The school's Board of Trustees recently asked the parent community similar types of questions using our Mission and Values – To Be All We Can, as a basis for the survey. The responses will be the starting point for our strategic planning and decision-making process. The parent feedback will help answer the following questions: How will we use our scarce resources? What do we want our school to be – size, facilities, character. What are our areas of excellence? And what are our areas of opportunity for improvement?

Over the next few weeks, our school community will be celebrating the end of a successful year. Graduates will be toasted for their achievements and wished well as they move on to their respective colleges. Outstanding students will be recognised for their accomplishments and younger students will aspire to do the same.

For the entire school community, it is a time of reflection and of hope for the future. A time to come together and support those most precious in our lives.

As we break for the summer holidays, let's look forward to the New Year, appreciate those around us and aspire To Be All We Can.

Take care and travel safe.

*Lisa Dunn, Trustee*

## MAPUA COMBINED PROBUS

The club's final official meeting for the year was on the 4th of November. The guest speaker was Police Inspector John Dearing of the drug squad and his subject was "War on Drugs". John was born and raised in South London. One of his early jobs was as a crewman on a merchant navy ship. One of his voyages took him to Wellington where he "jumped ship," taking an unofficial three-day trip to Auckland before returning to Wellington. With that introduction to New Zealand, he persuaded his parents to emigrate with him and in 1963 all his family set sail on the passenger liner Rangitoto.

John completed two years national service in the army before joining the police force in Auckland, patrolling the waterfront and rescuing people that got into boating difficulties. From there he moved to Ngaruawahia for three years, working with the Maori Queen. He was most impressed with the Tanga wai wai marae meeting house, and the many treasures that were kept there.

John moved on to Ponsonby as a detective, working with the police car squad, before moving on to the drug squad. He showed photos taken during his investigating work on drug trafficking. He showed a small clear plastic bag, probably containing milk powder, that represented 10 grams of heroin. This would have a street value of \$10,000. The drug trafficker would dilute the heroin with other edible ingredients and on-sell the same quantity per bag for at least \$1000, giving a possible profit of \$40,000 on the sale of 50 bags.

One interesting experience was following up on a lead at an address. He introduced himself to the next door neighbors who were willing to allow the drug squad to use part of their property to study the activities of their neighbors over several weeks. The detective team was able to set up a radio system under the floorboards of the suspect's house. They were eventually able to prosecute after finding drugs hidden in the house. John found that drug trafficking also involved professional people, such as a politician and even a judge, who had plans to become

a multi-millionaire on the money obtained through drugs, before he was eventually prosecuted

John concluded his talk by showing several medals he received from the Commissioner of Police for his work with the drug squad. Two other medals he received for his involvement in identifying bodies from the Air New Zealand plane crash at Mt Erebus in Antarctica. One of the questions asked was, could he ever see drug trafficking being eliminated from our society. He felt the war on drugs could be reduced by the government legalising specific drugs.

The club's mini speaker was Audrey Kitto, giving a report on the club's trip to Karamea in October by 15 club members. Twelve members were able to travel on the Nelson Building Society mini bus, driven by club member Peter Butchart. They were fortunate in having fine weather every day. Their accommodation was in brightly colored batches in Karamea. The group went on various walks around the area including the Oparara Arches, Crazy Caving Caves, and along the coast north towards the start of the Heaphy Track.

New member Jill Reid was officially welcomed to the club. The final unofficial club meeting for the year will be a Christmas lunch at the Tap Tavern in Mapua at 12.30pm on Friday 2 December. The club's first meeting for 1202 will be on Friday 3 February.

*David Higgs*



# Garden Notes



Is it really December? The time has come to day goodbye to spring which was most enjoyable this time round with generous amounts of rain bringing that lush green growth. All keen gardeners will be aware to watch the abundant growth resulting in trimming back rampaging plants.

In the autumn one prepares for the spring display (mainly bulbs). In the spring one prepares for the summer display and this can consist of annuals, petunias, nemesia or perennials, of which there are many. I am growing Flamboyant begonias (red) in pockets which will give a great show, and blue nemesia (the Fairy) not widely known, from seed I have grown.

Those who know me know that I like colour. As soon as the frosts ceased we had colour right through, and as I sit here in my window looking out there are big red, pink and lilac poppies, Constance Spry, Compassion roses in full bloom and large pots of bright red geraniums, The well known rose called Eutensen is climbing over a gateway into a courtyard. Along our back area is over eight metres of the rose Albertine, just a mass of pink. As you can imagine the garden is looking great for a small town-size space.

I have learned a tip: grow flowers in pots to place in dull areas over summer.

The main tasks for summer are removing spent heads, mulch to conserve water, plant dahlias, lift any spring bulbs you need to put elsewhere and protect seedlings from strong sunlight. Water only morning or evening, not a little each day but a good water once a week is better. If you can afford one put in a tank then you can water to your heart's content.

No matter how small an area you have it can be a great joy, and it is yours to do as you wish.

I am about to go and Bandicoot my potatoes to see how they are doing. At \$6.99 a small box for Epicures mine will taste all the better.

May I wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a safe new year, also greetings to those volunteers at *Coastal News* who work quietly to bring this paper to us each month. Gardeners, do enjoy your garden over the summer months.

*Barry Highsted..*

# Hills Community Church survey

As you may be aware, our Minister Marilyn A Loken is retiring in July of next year. A nominations committee has been appointed and has now begun the task of finding a replacement.

It is a time, we feel, that we look at where we've come to as a Community Church and rejoice in this, but it is also an opportunity for us to seek direction and vision in where we would like to go into the future.

We are therefore seeking any feedback that you as a community group may wish to give us to assist us in our review and in the task of helping us make an informed and successful appointment.

Response to any or all of the following questions will be helpful to us.

1. How do you see Hills Community Church in this area? Has it a strong identity ?

2. What are Mapua's strengths and assets? What is missing?

3. What do you see as the main social need here in Mapua?

4. How best do you think that Hills Community Church could be of assistance to the people of this area? Where should we be more proactive? What resources could we share?

## Fire Brigade

October 11– November 11 call-outs



Oct 10: Permitted burn Aranui Road – no action  
Oct 21: Loose iron at Aquarium site blown by high winds, Left to TDC to flatten building.  
Oct 23: MVA Takaka, wrong station turnout.  
Oct 30: Vegetation fire Pine Hill Road. Fire too close to a bank of toitoi and wind came up.  
Nov 9: False alarm activation at Moutere Hills Center.  
55 calls year to date.

***Safety Tip – outside fire – have a good cleared area around fire, know the weather. Have water or/and tools/machinery on hand***

Thank you for consideration of this request and remember we would value any ideas you may wish to share. If you wish, phone any of the nomination committee, or write to c/- 64 Iwa St Mapua before the 13th December.

*Yours in faith, Nomination Committee: Jared Wayman, Helen Bibby, Paul Denny, Rod Gibson, Max Hornblow, David Martin, Andrew Smith.*

## Chance for local singers to shine

The Yulia and Friends concert, to be held at the Playhouse Cafe on Sunday 11 December, is a great chance for aspiring singers, young and old, to show off their skills, gain some knowledge and impress the best, with a chance to perform with Yulia that evening.

From midday on Sunday, Yulia will be holding workshops/tutorials for up and coming artists on the Playhouse stage. She will then hand-pick the most promising of these singers to perform with her on stage that night in her Yulia and Friends concert.

Participants are required to sing for Yulia at the tutorials, where they will receive feedback about their performance. Singers will need to provide a backing track (on Ipod/CD) or sheet music for their performance during the afternoon.

Singers will also need to sign up for the event by contacting the Playhouse Cafe.

The chosen performers will also gain a ticket to the evening show worth \$45.

The afternoon event is free to the public, as well as performers and a great way for family and friends to get together and experience some of the talent in our community.

The evening will consist of a classic dinner and show experience with the best students from the day performing alongside Yulia on the Playhouse stage.

Tickets range from \$45 for just the show to \$90 for show and fine dining experience (and the best seats)

Booking will be essential for the evening show, but please feel free to come along during the day to observe Yulia teaching the students.

Please contact the Playhouse Cafe on 540-2985 or email [ontheplayhousecafeNZ@gmail.com](mailto:ontheplayhousecafeNZ@gmail.com) for more information or to sign up yourself or someone else.

# Mapua Health Centre

Now that summer is here and it's time to wonder about shaking off some of those slothful habits of winter. This includes a diet with not too much meat and dairy fats but with plenty of plant foods, fruit and fish (diet sheets available at the Health Centre). Also, consider adding some regular aerobic exercise (e.g., brisk 40-minute walk, 4-5/week, gym programme or swimming, riding, etc) and loss of weight for those who are overweight.

You may also want to consider getting a green prescription which is a government-funded scheme where a programme can be specifically tailored for you. Free consultations are also available to help quit smoking which include free/subsidised nicotine patches, gum and lozenges which can reduce nicotine craving. For more detailed information please contact one of our practice nurses on 540-2211.

We would like to say thank you to all our patients for your support and understanding over the last few months while we have had a shortage of doctor's appointments. It has been a very busy time for all of us and we truly appreciate your patience. On that note we are pleased to report that we have a new doctor starting in January 2012. Dr Michelle Cliffe will initially be working part-time on Monday and Tuesday mornings and is looking forward to working with our patients.

Also, a reminder that Healthline is available. It is a free telephone health information service where calls are looked after by registered nurses using a computer programme that specifies the recommendations. The telephone triage may include symptom assessment, counselling, home treatment advice, referral, information provision, disease management and crisis intervention. To call Healthline phone 0800 611 116.

## Skin & Sun:

The long-range forecast is hinting at a wonderfully warm summer which means that there is likely to be plenty of UV light to zap our skin and potentially lead to skin cancer if we get over exposed. So please don't forget the sunsmart slogan of *slip under some shade, slip into some clothing, slop on some sunscreen and slap on a hat*. If you want to know how much time is OK the following table gives the safe times for getting sufficient vitamin D production for good health, related to different times of day and seasons, along with skin types (type 1 on is the fairest and most easily damaged one, with increasing pigment up to type 6) [adapted from Holick's book UV Advantage]

Minutes of Sun exposure				
Months:	Jun-Aug	Sept-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-May
Skin type	Time of day			
	8AM -11AM			
1	>60	15	10	15
2	>60	20	15	20
3	>60	30	20	30
4	>60	40	30	40
5-6	>60	60	40	60
	Time of day 11AM - 3PM			
1	>60	10	2	10
2	>60	15	5	15
3	>60	30	15	30
4	>60	30	20	30
5-6	>60	40	25	40
	Time of day 3PM - 6PM			
1	>60	15	10	15
2	>60	20	15	20
3	>60	30	20	30
4	>60	40	30	40
5-6	>60	60	40	60

While on the topic of skin, recent research has brought up some interesting ideas – it turns out that the pigments from eating red, orange and yellow fruits and vegetables may improve a person's perceived attractiveness as well as providing better protection from sun damage (*Evolution and Human Behavior, Jan 2011*). Olive oil, besides being good for the heart, the liver and the metabolism, may act as a natural moisturizer for smoother, firmer skin (*Wall Street Journal, Feb 2011*) and taking flaxseed oil can diminish skin sensitivity and improve skin barrier function and condition (*Skin Pharmacol Physiol. Nov 2010*).

## Local Artists:

We, as a practice would like to show case some of the amazing art work that our local artists do. If you would like to display your piece/s on the walls of our waiting room please give Sharon a call between Wednesday to Friday to arrange.

## Measles:

As you may be aware there has been an increase of measles throughout New Zealand lately and there is a concern that it can spread to unimmunised people. To help eliminate the risk of measles in our community we would appreciate your assistance with the following:\

A. If you are under the age of 42 yrs and have had received the measles vaccine previously please let us know in order to update our records.

B. If you or your child/children have not yet received the measles vaccine (MMR) and would like to do so please call us on 540-2211 to arrange an appointment. This vaccine is free.

# Hills Community Church

## Call for a Change of Heart

There has been a movement afoot these past few months called “Occupy Wall Street”. It has spread throughout the US to other countries including New Zealand. Although it is comprised of a wide cross-section of people with different agendas, goals and desired outcomes there are common threads: economic inequality, high unemployment, corporate greed and an intense frustration with the government to do anything about it. The outcome of this protest is yet to be determined.

God faced a similar situation around 700BC. Through the prophet Micah, God condemned similar social injustices. God’s mandate: “And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8). Unfortunately, these prophetic calls for reform achieved only limited success.

Seven hundred (plus or minus) years later, Israel was under Roman occupation. Their dream was for a saviour, a Messiah, an anointed one from God, to come and deliver them. So God determined to set up his own form of occupation by sending his love out into the world in the person of Jesus Christ—God’s one and only Son. With a message of grace, forgiveness and love Jesus called not for a change of government—but for a change of heart.

Ultimately, the ability to achieve economic and social equality does not lie in government programmes but in human hearts. We can strive to change people’s

minds, but only the love of God can change people’s hearts.

So once again, as we come to the season of celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ let us remember that gift of love and prepare ourselves to receive it. This Christmas, let Christ occupy your heart.

*Thoughtfully occupied with Christ, Marilyn Loken,  
Minister, Hills Community Church*

*“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts”  
(Colossians 3:15)*

### Christmas Schedule

Friday, 9 December

“Messy Church Christmas” 5-7pm

Food and fun for families

Sunday, 18 December

Carols-in-the-Park (Aranui) 5-7pm

Featuring the Motueka District Brass & Puppeteer,  
Richard deHamel

Thursday 22

Blue Christmas 7.30pm

A quiet service of reflection and remembrance for  
those who have experienced loss

Christmas Eve: Candlelight & Carols, 9pm

Christmas Day : Holy Communion, 8am

Family Service, 9.30am

### January Schedule

One service only, 9.30am

**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.

**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. 1st Sunday of each month: one family-style service @ 10:30am followed by a shared lunch. Morning tea between services.

### 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.

---

## Mapua Health Centre

### Minor Surgery & Spot Check Clinics:

Dr Tim Phillips is now holding regular minor surgery and skin check clinics every Wednesday. To date these have proven to be very popular and frequent pickups of things that could be serious or even life-threatening. The skin checks take about 15 minute consults (although some checks may take longer) and will be focused on checking for any suspicious moles or lesions. This is a full comprehensive body check and will give opportunity to discuss any issues that may arise. If you have any concerns about a skin lesion then please make an appointment with Dr Tim Phillips on a Wednesday so he can review and discuss options.

On behalf of the team at Mapua Health I would like to wish you all a safe, healthy and happy Christmas, and all the best for 2012.

*Dr Tim Ewer*

# Harakeke

The place 4 3 2 5 year olds  
EXPLORE, CREATE, ENJOY

**K**ia Ora Koutou. Spring has well and truly arrived and with it the opportunity to make the most of the warmer weather and get out into our gardens in between the showers, sowing seeds, pulling weeds and planting seedlings.

With spring we also welcome back our well-travelled families including Gundula and Leah who have been holidaying overseas and reconnecting with their families. It's great to have you all safely back. Our Air Tamariki focus has shifted to an interest in the mechanics of flying with children exploring the construction of planes, kites and rockets to name a few. This week we were lucky enough to be visited by a child's grandparents who flew from Taranaki to Nelson in their home-built Zodiac appropriately named "Rere ki Wairua" which means "To lift up off the ground with spirit or energy." Thank you Poppa Don for sharing your aviation experiences and musical talents with us. We were thrilled to hear how you built your plane and look forward to your next visit.

An added bonus was another exciting visit from the talented musicians of the Tasman School's Travelling Troupe. Room 3 delighted and mesmerised our children with their selection of ukelele, flute, percussion and singing skills. They also performed

several puppet shows which revisited some of our favourite stories such as 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff.' If you get the opportunity to see their performance we completely rate them, thanks so much Tasman School!

Our thanks and appreciation are also extended to the Chandrakirti Meditation Centre who have generously donated their tipi to Harakeke.

As part of our commitment to our sponsorship of Lhamo Lama who lives in Nepal we are looking forward to involving ourselves with Purple Cake Day as the country in profile for 2012 will be Nepal. Purple Cake Day encourages children to learn more about children from other cultures and empowers them to take action for children in need and is held on 1 March. We would like to extend an invitation to everyone and see how we can all share and support this experience as a community, enriching both our children and Nepalese children. For inspiration and more info see [www.purplecakeday.org](http://www.purplecakeday.org).

Inspired by The Tasman School Travelling Troupe's tale of the gingerbread man it's time now to make biscuits for our picnic tomorrow. We have been invited to one of our children's farms so we can find out exactly where our milk comes from

Until next time, ka kite from the team at Harakeke.

.....  
●  
● Mail your packages early so the post office can lose  
● them in time for Christmas."  
●  
● *Johnny Carson.*  
●  
.....

# Plant a Seed and Watch it Grow

I try not to be biased, but I had my doubts about hiring Stevie. His placement counsellor assured me that he would be a good, reliable busboy.

But I had never had a mentally handicapped employee and wasn't sure I wanted one. I wasn't sure how my customers would react to Stevie.

He was short, a little dumpy with the smooth facial features and thick-tongued speech of Downs Syndrome. I wasn't worried about most of my trucker customers because truckers don't generally care who buses tables as long as the meatloaf platter is good and the pies are home-made. I shouldn't have worried. After the first week, Stevie had my staff wrapped around his stubby little finger, and within a month my truck regulars had adopted him as their official truck stop mascot.

After that, I really didn't care what the rest of the customers thought of him. He was like a 21-year-old kid in blue jeans and Nikes, eager to laugh and eager to please, but fierce in his attention to his duties.

We learned that he lived with his mother, a widow who was disabled after repeated surgeries for cancer. They lived on their Social Security benefits. Money was tight, and what I paid him was probably the difference between them being able to live together and Stevie being sent to a group home. That's why the restaurant was a gloomy place that morning last August, the first morning in three years that Stevie missed work.

He was at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester getting a new valve put in his heart. His social worker said there was a good chance he would come through the surgery in good shape and be back at work in a few months. A ripple of excitement ran through the staff later that

morning when word came that he was out of surgery, in recovery, and doing fine.

Frannie, the head waitress, told Marvin and other drivers about Stevie's surgery, then sighed: "Yeah, I'm glad he is going to be OK," she said. "But I don't know how he and his Mom are going to handle all the bills. From what I hear, they're barely getting by as it is." Marvin nodded thoughtfully. After the morning rush, Frannie walked into my office. She had a couple of paper napkins in her hand and a funny look on her face.

She handed a napkin to me, and three \$20 bills fell onto my desk. In another napkin were two \$50 bills. Frannie looked at me with wet, shiny eyes, shook her head and said simply, "Truckers."

That was three months ago. Today is Thanksgiving, the first day Stevie is supposed to be back to work. I arranged to have his mother bring him to work.

Stevie was thinner and paler, but couldn't stop grinning as he pushed through the doors and headed for the back room where his apron and busing cart were waiting.

"Hold up there, Stevie, not so fast," I said. I took him and his mother by their arms. "Work can wait for a minute. To celebrate your coming back, breakfast for you and your mother is on me!" I led them toward a large corner booth at the rear of the room.

We stopped in front of the big table. It was covered with coffee cups, saucers and dinner plates, all sitting slightly crooked on dozens of folded paper napkins. "First thing you have to do, Stevie, is clean up this mess," I said. I tried to sound stern.

Stevie looked at me, and then at his mother, then pulled out one of the napkins. It had "Something for Stevie" printed on the outside. As he picked it up, two \$10 bills fell onto the table.

I turned to his mother. "There's more than \$10,000 in cash and checks on that table, all from truckers and trucking companies that heard about your problems. Happy Thanksgiving."

While everybody else was busy shaking hands and hugging each other, Stevie, with a big smile on his face, was busy clearing all the cups and dishes from the table.



We believe that spring must really be here! The bees are buzzing, the birds are dive-bombing the flax flowers, we've seen the occasional butterfly and the strawberries in our Bounce garden are very nearly ripe!

Learning from nature is very hard to beat when it comes to hands-on, sensory and totally authentic experiences. The exciting things in nature that young children can see, hear, taste and feel, can create rich learning and positive memories that can last their lifetime.

As the weather warms up each week, more of children's interests and learning opportunities move outdoors. Whether it's spontaneous music shows, constructing dams and water chutes in the sandpit, perfecting gymnastic skills or making and testing out paper "flying machines", the children's interests have certainly sparked a lot of very active learning lately.

Speaking of which...Even though the Bounce outdoor play space has always been rated by families and visitors as very inviting, some exciting improvements are starting to take shape.

A wonderful addition in the form of a garden sculpture of two handsome Bittern birds, was recently created for us by local artisan, Graham

Snook. Many thanks, Graham. We had just been wondering how to attract more birds to our garden!

We've also been lucky enough to be invited to revisit one of Mapua's most interesting gardens early in December. These visits have so many positive spin-offs all round. What a supportive community we live in!

Recently several children from Tasman School treated us to a concert, showcasing their many talents using a variety of instruments as well as entertaining our preschoolers, parents and teachers with some delightful, fast-paced puppet shows. Our thanks to the teachers and students for this treat. Tasman School certainly does have talent!

Now that Christmas, family holidays and the annual visitor influx is on the horizon, a reminder that some casual spaces may be available to provide a welcoming and stimulating environment for your own or visiting preschoolers as Bounce reopens in January.

Warmest wishes for the holiday season from the teaching team at Bounce.

# Noticeboard

**Dance @ Mapua Hall Saturday 17 December - Theme:** Xmas. Live Music \$6 and a plate please. 7:30 - 11pm. All welcome. Motueka Social Dance Group

**Coastal Connections Social Group:** Our Christmas lunch will be at the Playhouse, 171 Westdale Rd, Mapua, 8 December. Nic has promised to make this an extra special event. Hope you can all attend. Julie Haliday, 540 3533.

**Activekidz Summer Swim School @ Mapua Chalets** Andy and Karen will commence lessons at Mapua Chalets 2 January. Check out [www.mapuachalets.co.nz/swim](http://www.mapuachalets.co.nz/swim) for details or call us on 03 540 3316

**Summerfest, Ruby Bay, Sunday afternoon Feb. 26th 2012.** A summer festival of community activities and interests incorporating fundraising for the local Hall. Individual and group participation and assistance most welcome. Local entertainers please register your availability. Phone Keith 540 2540.

**Found:** Reading glasses at Ruby Bay Esplanade. Claim by description. Phone 540 2540

**Cleaner wanted** for summer, Mon or Fri, 3 hours. Phone Lisa at Zoom 540 2333.

**For Sale:** Zoom is clearing out hair straighteners: 2 pairs of GHDs as well as other brand straighteners and curling irons. Phone Lisa at Zoom Salon or call in.

**Wanted:** WW2 US Army blankets and hobnailed boots. Ph: Greg on 5402794.

**Zoom Salon** summer hours: Mon through Sat, late nights Tue & Thur. [www.zoomhair.co.nz](http://www.zoomhair.co.nz) 540 2333

**Ruby Coast Newcomers Coffee Group:** New to the area – or been here a while – come and meet new people and make new friends. 10am, last Friday of every month, Jester House Café, Tasman. Info: Fiona, 526 6840, [fiona.oliver@xtra.co.nz](mailto:fiona.oliver@xtra.co.nz) or just turn up. Everyone is very welcome.

**Skye Harvest Extra Virgin Olive Oil** 2011 harvest available fresh from the producer. 750ml \$20. Ph 540 2698, email [mcleodsarah@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mcleodsarah@xtra.co.nz). Orders delivered or call in 113 Seaton Valley Rd Mapua.

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

**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.

**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.

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

**Genealogy Computer Discussion Group:** This year our bimonthly meeting will be 1.30pm on Saturdays, on the following dates: 10 Dec. Info: Val 540 3931 or Peter 540 2686.

**Probus Club** meets first Fridays, Mapua Hall 1.30pm. All retirees most welcome. Enquiries to Pres. Anne Evans; 540 3070, Sec. Margaret Butchart 5402686

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

**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 Art Group:** Painting/Drawing Thursdays 9-12.30, Supper Room, Mapua Hall. 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

**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, 544 0737. – [sambennett@live.jp](mailto:sambennett@live.jp)

**Friendship Club** meets third Thursdays 2pm, Supper room at the Hall. Indoor bowls followed by afternoon tea (please bring a plate). \$2 door charge and 20¢ raffle. We are a group of friendly people who enjoy a good laugh (some of us are not good bowlers). We welcome new members. Val Roche 540-3685

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

**RSA Meetings:** RSA room, Mapua Library, 2pm, second Mondays, refreshments served at the close.

**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: Anja, 544 8733

**Message for Health** (Ruby Bay): 03 970 0960 (local call) or 02102 55 65 25, [amanda.stevens824@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.stevens824@gmail.com) NZQA Qualified



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.