

Coastal News

email: coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz

covering **Mapua & Ruby Bay**,
run by volunteers

What's next with the Seawall?

The chemicals clean-up job in Mapua is often in the news, but Ruby Bay has an on-going project too—the uncompleted seawall. Cr Michael Higgins, one of the Moutere/Waimea Ward members on the Tasman District Council, sets out the position to date as he sees it, and some ideas for consideration.



An issue that has been lingering for a while now is that of erosion of the unprotected portion of coastline in Ruby Bay. I will endeavour to provide my understanding of it, and stand to be corrected if need be.

After completion of the Broadsea Avenue rock protection work, the Mapua Community Association expressed concern about the potential of the sea to continue eroding the coastline, exposing a large area towards the village to tidal movement. The ward councillors took the matter forward and a range of options were developed to address the problem. Options included:

- 1 Mechanically shifting gravels from the south-eastern end of the beach to the northern end to counteract tidal movement.
- 2 Adding gravels from quarries to the beach, to replenish erosion.
- 3 An engineered rock protection walls such as exist on other portions of the beach, to prevent erosion.

Discussion about funding the project also occurred, with directly affected landowners offering a third of the cost. The Tasman Council identified a “community of interest” around Mapua, and has established it as a rating base which may fund the balance of the cost, together with ongoing maintenance. A public meeting was held in the Mapua Hall to discuss the proposal. The meeting was far from happy about justification of the rating area, and the funding proposal, but did accept by a margin a \$10 per property contribution each year to take the design process forward, and lead to clarification of costs.

The design and resource consent costs at that point were expected to be about \$180,000. The \$10/year payment is to fund a loan to cover this cost, which will eventually be merged into the project cost. Council staff are working towards designing and constructing this rock protection wall, as they have been instructed to do through the annual plan process. As it stands, the cost will be allocated between directly affected property owners and the established rating area, together with 20% funded by the TDC as a contribution to the walkway. I understand the rating area cost to be about \$80 per year per property.

Ward councillors are well aware that residents are not happy about this and have been waiting for an acceptable financing option to arise. Landowners affected may be willing to increase their contribution but that may involve property sales. The lack of certainty over funding has resulted in other projects moving to a

Inside this month ...

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Community Association | p3 |
| Unfair voting system? | p6 |
| Probus | p8 |
| Animal Health | p12 |
| Schools Reports | p15 |
| Boat Club Tenure | p18 |
| Letters | p20 |
| Mapua Wetland | p23 |



Workmen with help from an excavator install part of a controversial concrete wall on a beachfront property owned by a company called Harlequin Trading. The northern end of the wall adjoins the part of the Old Mill Walkway most eroded by recent storms

This rock packs down very well and includes sufficient fines to germinate beach grasses.

I have formed the opinion that this rock would be suitable to compensate the coastal erosion at Ruby Bay. By placing up to 2000m³ of this rock at the sand line, and allowing for 500m³ per year supplement, I believe it would be an economic option, affordable now. It is also my understanding that this option is environmentally preferable because it mitigates natural erosion rather than confronting it. The cost of this option is up to \$60,000 in year one and \$17,000 a year to maintain. The sea may take the

higher priority in the TDC program, and the rock protection work moving back.

TDC advisors on coastal erosion matters say that the sea cannot be contained, that erosion will persist until it has its way. We can slow it but not stop it, and that construction of a rock protection wall will last until it is damaged. Damage can occur at any time and can be expected to occur within a 10-year period. The Broadsea Avenue residents proceeded with their project knowing this and are willing to repair the wall if necessary. To date that wall has proven better than anticipated, is working well and encourages us to stick to the design principles. It is important that we all go forward aware of what we are doing.

The TDC is willing to fund a share of the project as it did with the Broadsea Avenue portion, in order to provide a walkway along the coast. While this walkway is of significant value, it is limited to the comparative costs of competing projects. It is accepted by the council that the beach will remain and is itself a walkway. Some suggest that coastal protection should be funded by the rivers protection budget. The council has not accepted this option for many reasons which are based in the principles of justifying expenditure.

I am mindful of the clay bund wall that existed by Broadsea Avenue for many years. It was always meant to be maintained and may well have lasted if it had been maintained. It encourages my thinking on the option of beach replenishment as a way forward. Over the past few months I have been logging a forest on my farm and as a part of that have applied a coarse rock from the Wakefield quarry for road construction. This rock is moderately hard and becomes available as the quarry face moves towards the hard limestone rock.

rock in a short time, or leave it for a long time as it chooses. By comparison, the cost of a rock revetment wall as exists at Broadsea Avenue would be about \$80,000 a year in interest, capital repayment and maintenance, reducing after 20 years to a maintenance cost. The TDC and the Mapua Community Association have asked council staff to advise on the options available to us.

I also wish to raise for discussion the matter of global warming, and sea level rise. The council is trying to develop an understanding of this issue and it occurs to me that there are well qualified people in Mapua who can contribute to this understanding. As I understand it, that the globe is warming, is agreed. The reasons for that warming are under debate, as are the implications of the warming. The Northern Ice caps are melting, but will this cause the sea levels to rise? It has been observed that the Ruby Bay cliff line through the village was once the coast line, but has change occurred through sea level change, or movement of the earth plates? It has been suggested that change will occur over many decades, and that may be so. It may be that this issue is too much for any community to realistically address but the better we understand it, the better decisions we will make. I have observed the massive Kauri forests of Northland, all felled in the same direction and lying under metres of silt. What an event that must have been. Was it Noah's flood? Is the rainbow's promise that it will never happen again relevant?

But for today, the Tasman District Council is like a big ship—it takes a bit to turn or change its speed. We would like to resolve the matter of coastal protection and get it done. We are proceeding to establish zoning and planning changes for Mapua and do these things with the knowledge we have, and to the best of our ability.

Michael Higgins, Ward Councillor

Community Association Report

Old Mill Walkway: By now most of you have read or heard about the damage the storm early in June created. Combined with the high tide it washed away huge quantities of sand from the east end of the Ruby Bay beach, leaving very little left to walk on.

The Tasman District Council has put a barrier tape across the walkway in several places. The incoming tide will still wash out the sand and leave exposed roots. I suggest you don't attempt to walk in this area. At our recent meeting Cr Michael Higgins indicated that the funding proposal for the seawall was not finding favour within the district. The TDC has no mandate to go beyond the \$10 rate as currently applied.

Cr Higgins also drew attention to rocks available from the Wairoa Gorge Quarry. The suggestion is that it would cost \$25,000 plus GST to lay 800m of rock during year one, and \$16,000 plus GST to maintain the protection on an annual basis to restore erosion damage. This is a far cheaper option than the \$938,000 to construct the seawall. We will be working with the council, even to the point of suggesting that a member of our sub-committee could attend meetings relating to wall discussions.

Waterfront Park: Jenny Easton reported that no decision would be taken about the park development until the clean-up is completely finished, hopefully before Christmas. Cr Tim King reported that an agreement between the government and TDC is after all sale of land is completed. The government will require \$900,000 from the sales to help recover costs.

Aranui Park update: The observant among us will be aware of movement in that area. The Reserves group of the Garden Club don't stand around. A general clean-up is under way around the pond area with the pruning of those long over grown willows, now allowing light onto the pond which I am sure was a shock to the pond, what with light streaming onto the water for the first

time in years. Don't be alarmed, as very soon you will see old and diseased, sick and puny trees being culled from the park. There has been a lot of deliberation about this and finally an arborist, has advised which ones should be removed.

Bronte Road: 500 small natives have been planted on this reserve by members of the whole Garden Group. Dave from Sicon is always grateful for their assistance. Thirty people turned up for this, and after a hearty slice of fruit cake got planting. The whole task was completed in an hour and quarter.

Cycling and walking-Mapua: The TDC along with Mapua School have made available signage indicating that both walkers and cyclists are sharing the same space and courtesy is needed from both in order for this facility to work well on Aranui Road to the Mapua hall. Ringing a bell or a cheery "hello" can help to warn walkers that a bike is about to pass. When there is not enough room for both cyclists and walkers, cyclists are asked to give way to pedestrians, as they are more vulnerable. Similarly pedestrians are asked to keep left to allow enough space for cyclists to pass.

Rating meeting: July 25th Mapua Hall at 7pm. We now have a panel of six well-informed speakers to help us to understand how our rating system works. Is there a better alternative? Should our rates only rise with inflation? Should all ratepayers have to pay for extra amenities outside our rating area, eg sport facilities, museums and pools?

This meeting is one not to be missed by all, including those in our wider area

Mark Burton, the Minister of Local Government, has asked for any written questions to him before the meeting. Please could you e-mail you questions first to community@mapua.biz

Mapua 10-year plan 2004/2014: Rose Biss will be our guest speaker to talk to us what plans the TDS has for the future of this area, and has been achieved. Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm in the Mapua Hall on 10 July.

AGM 8 August: Just a reminder: Nominations for officers and committee members are now open. If you would like to nominate or be nominated you can do so by phoning Jim on 540-3139 or e-mailing community@mapua.biz

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Garden Notes

We are now past the shortest day, and according to the gardeners among us who plant by the Moon, our calendar should read thus:

- 26 June.** New Moon. Vitality and sap begin to rise again
- 4 July.** First quarter. Rest and recreation period. Lowest sap run.
- 8,9,10 July.** Energy and sap rising strongly. Optimum seed planting for fast response under glass.
- 11 July.** Full Moon. Strong but decreasing vigour. Energy returning to roots. Strong root development. Plant Garlic, onions, and shallots
- 19 July.** On the descent. Good for planting trees. 18 July. Last quarter. Resting period in the growing cycle. A lower sap run.
- 25 July.** New Moon. Vitality and sap begin to rise again. Seeds to be planted with vigour. Transplant earlier seedlings in mild districts.

Some gardeners adhere to the above “recipe” with a strong determination. You may wish to try this method. Well, we do know the Moon controls our tides. So...?

Rose-pruning will be upon us before the end of the month. Watch for Norm Thawley pruning the roses at the hall and the library. When he does you can be sure the time is right. If you have any questions or hints be sure to talk to Norm.. Do remember to sterilise your gardening tools, especially your secateurs.

My congratulations go to the Beere/Mitchell family for the opportunity to view their wetland area. If you have not gone there yet then I strongly suggest you do so. An amazing amount of hard work has been put into an area which will be before long a place to visit and take time to reflect. enjoy and appreciate.

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Coastal garden group

Our June meeting was once again well attended and we continue to welcome new members, guests and visitors. After a few notices about upcoming events and correspondence John confirmed that the Community Association has nominated the Coastal Garden Group Reserves sub-committee for a Trustpower community award. The Reserves group was delighted by the nomination and acknowledged the support they have received from the club.

With July being the prime time to prune and plant roses the afternoon was dedicated to preparing for a busy time in the rose garden. One of our members, Margaret Sinclair, exhibits her roses at various shows and often comes home with prize certificates so we were assured of good advice from her. She explained the principles of pruning and the tools needs to do the job well. Sharp clean tools and a sturdy pair of gloves are essential. The object of pruning is to remove dead wood and encourage new growth by opening up the centre of the plant.

It is also the ideal time to renew stakes and ties on standards and climbers. Any new rose to be planted will need pruning after planting and if a new rose is to be planted in an existing rose bed the soil from around the plant will need to be replaced with new soil. Margaret went on to explain the winter spraying and feeding program all of which will ensure healthy blooms from October right through the season.

It was the last month for entries in this year’s Bloom, Cluster and Shrub competition which continues to bring in surprises. A compost stirrer, made by Eddie, was put up for raffle and then after another delicious afternoon tea our regular plant auction rounded off an interesting and informative afternoon.

Our July meeting will be our AGM and will be held on Thursday 6th July at 1.30 pm in the Supper Room at the Mapua Hall. We look forward to seeing you there or if you have any queries please feel free to contact either Barry Highsted (540-3139) or Anne-Marie Giddens (540-2335).

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Review kept Secret

Mapua-Ruby Bay residents had no way of knowing what was being discussed when the Tasman District council reviewed its development plan for their area at a meeting on June 21.

A report to the council's resource management committee reviewing options for Mapua-Ruby Bay was tabled, but it was labelled confidential and was not available to the public. The issues were discussed at a closed committee session, with the public kept out. A report on growth in Takaka East and Golden Bay was dealt with in the same way.

The new report comes two years after the council deferred plans to rezone parts of Mapua-Ruby Bay with the aim of increasing residential zoning. At the time, council staff reported that water, sewerage and stormwater systems were inadequate to allow more development. Another consideration was that many residents lodged submissions opposing plans for a further big increase in housing development.

Drawing Classes for Beginners

Warm winter greetings to all who have made contact with me regarding Drawing for Beginners classes. Please let me know if you wish to be removed from this list. It has been a busy and progressive winter of teaching both Friday evening and Saturday afternoon nine-week courses this winter. Following requests to teach children my first public course for children 8-10 years will finish at the end of term. I am considering continuing in the third term with them if they wish to carry on. There is the possibility of including one or two who have not been with us this term.

The final adult course for the year will be Saturday afternoons beginning July 1 and ending August 26. Again six participants will be max and there is still space if you or anyone you know of are interested. Cost of \$25 for a 3.5hr class remains the same. Also I intend staying with the black and white mediums of charcoal, pen, graphite pencils and sticks.

The following is what I believe a beginner's class needs to achieve.

- a) How to perceive and draw edges, seeing the shape, contour, gestural, character.
- b) How to perceive and draw relationships, proportion, perspective.
- c) How to perceive and draw spaces, negative space revealing the subject.
- d) How to perceive and draw lights and shadows, tonal techniques.

Subjects include: still life, landscape, self-portrait, drawing your hands, drapery etc. Each session, while building on the one before, is complete

in itself. Hand-outs are copious and homework while not mandatory is encouraged.

While no special talent is required a desire to draw and put in some extra time will, as with all things, lead to success. Each student has an Art Folio to keep track of progress and as a reference after classes are over to revisit how solutions were met. We work hard, have fun even while getting frustrated at times and fit almost a year's course into nine weeks! (Hence the homework) So if you haven't yet and still wish to I'd love to hear from you. Please note my email change (some six months ago now) drawnow2@hotmail.com



In 2007 I intend to again offer Beginner's Classes on a Friday or Saturday option and will stick with the nine-week course. The shorter course of last year did not leave beginners confident enough to carry on after the course.

I will also consider a stage two class for those who have either completed a Beginner's with me or who have other experience in drawing, and wish to up-skill in realistic drawing.

Warm regards.

Carol Peck, phone 021 266 8816

Status quo means ‘unfair voting system’

Tasman District councillors have decided to go back to the future in their voting arrangements for the 2007 election. If they are successful with a plan to keep the status quo, it will mean a privileged voting system for about a quarter of the population living in some rural parts of the district and an unfair system for the three-quarters of the people living in the more populous coastal crescent around Tasman Bay.

For people in Mapua–Ruby Bay, the Moutere, Richmond and Motueka, it will mean that a vote is worth only a fraction of those in the southern wards.

Working under a law that requires a system of “fair representation”, councillors at a June 1 meeting had to decide if the council should have a ward system and, if so, how the wards should be divided. They agreed on the ward system, but differed over the division.

Against the advice of the mayor and chief executive, councillors voted nine to five that representation should be the same as for the last election, with the same five wards and a total of 13 members. But population numbers in the wards have changed, with numbers in the Richmond, Waimea/Moutere and Motueka wards growing faster than in others, particularly Lakes/Murchison.

There has also been a change in the law, whereas in the past, the TDC could take ward area and rateable value into account with population when drawing ward boundaries. However, there been a change in the law, and because of the huge size of Tasman District, these changes could have a huge effect. Now the law has come into line with modern electoral practice and representation is based solely on population. The council is required to ensure that no ward is more than 10 per cent from the mean average population figure.

At a meeting that reportedly became heated, TDC councillors were warned that the status quo was not

an option because voter numbers for the wards would not comply with the 10 per cent requirement.

Instead, a council committee had earlier recommended two possible options that could comply: either five wards with 12 councillors; or five wards with 13 councillors. Either way, Richmond would gain one councillor to make four, and Lakes/Murchison would lose one of its two councillors. If the council was reduced to 12 members, Golden Bay would lose one of its two councillors.

Longstanding councillor Ted O’Regan, one of those facing loss of a seat, urged the council to “make a stand” to protect the power of rural votes and ignore the Government’s 10 per cent rule. Others supported his move.

Predictably, the decision was greeted with pleasure in the favoured wards, Lakes/Murchison and Golden Bay. Groups there had campaigned for just such a result, and the councillors delivered.

During the early stages of the review in February of this year, councillors received an avalanche of 194 letters from Golden Bay urging them to keep the status quo and, in particular, retain two councillors for Golden Bay.

By contrast, voters in the two most populous wards, Richmond and Waimea/Moutere, seemed indifferent about possible erosion of their votes and they were certainly not united. Only seven people from the two wards bothered to write in, all with different suggestions.

The table shows the representation for the next three years proposed by the council and the big variations in population per councillor for each ward, ranging from Lakes/Murchison ward, which is 63 per cent above the benchmark average population figure to Richmond, which is 28 per cent above the average.

| Ward | Population | Members | Population permember | Variation fromaverage |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Golden Bay | 5180 | 2 | 2590 | 28% below |
| Motueka | 11400 | 3 | 3800 | 7.7% above |
| Moutere/Waimea | 11950 | 3 | 3983 | 13% above |
| Lakes/Murchison | 2670 | 2 | 1335 | 62% below |
| Richmond | 14650 | 3 | 4883 | 38% above |
| Total | - 45850 | 13 | - | - |

A vote in the Moutere/Waimea ward is worth only a third of a vote in the Lakes/Murchison ward. Voters in Richmond are even worse off, a vote there is only worth a quarter of a vote in the Lakes/Murchison

ward. The only way to describe such a scheme designed to boost the voting power of one section of the community over another is “a gerrymander”.

Contd on next page:

Coastal Connections

Are votes in Waimea/Moutere or Richmond worth only a fraction of those of our neighbours at the lakes or Murchison? At the lakes they are only about an hour from Richmond by a good road and in Murchison only two hours away. With improved communication systems that include the Internet, and better phone services, it is hard to see justification for such wide variations.

The problem for voters is that disproportionate representation leads to imbalanced governance. While councillors take a pledge to serve the whole of the district rather than their ward, they also seek the best for their voters. The result can be unequal spending on big-ticket items like roading, bridges and infrastructure and importantly for communities, big disparities in spending on facilities like libraries, community halls and sports facilities.

Many people would argue that the day of wards is over and that we should now vote for a council "at large". Nelson City moved from wards to an "at large" system some years ago, and other councils that have made the move include Kawerau, Kaikoura and Wairoa districts, Napier, Upper Hutt and Invercargill cities, and the Chatham Islands. Two other councils have moved to a mixed ward and "at large" system, Tauranga City and Kapiti Coast District.

Those who want to keep wards say the system reflects the interests of the various communities that combined to form the Tasman District Council. But the two major communities which joined Richmond to form the TDC, Motueka and Golden Bay, have meanwhile retained community boards, paid for by the district at large. Do they still need both community boards and wards?

What is unquestionable is that if there are to be wards, representation needs to be fair, and in accord with the law. The council's current proposal is not.

Fortunately, voters can still affect the outcome. If you don't want to see your vote watered down in the way the council proposes, check the information on the council proposal at the RSA Moutere Hills Library in Mapua.

You have a right to lodge an objection to the council representation plan and request a fairer system, but it must be in by July 5. If the council then continues with its stand for an unequal voting system, objectors have a right to appeal. If that happens, the decision goes to an adjudicating authority, the Local Government Commission, for it to impose a more democratic decision.

David Mitchell

Our June luncheon venue was the Pukeko in Port Mapua where a warm room and friendly staff welcomed us. The menu was extensive and we were tempted to delicious desserts and coffee as well as a main course. We toasted Netta and Janice who had birthdays in June.

Magazines and plants were exchanged along with laughter and ideas. I will collect hats and Peggy squares that some of us are making for Faith Wells to send to orphans overseas. Additionally, nine hats for premature babies have been donated to Nelson Hospital.

For our next meeting on July the 13th, please meet at Mapua Hall at 10.30am to car-pool. Our venue for luncheon is a mystery; car drivers will be told the destination on the day! A quiz with prizes is planned, so bring a pen! During the morning we may visit Eyebright, Grape Escape or Hogleund. Lunch will be booked for 11:45am. Please phone Dot on 540-2323 to book your place so that we get a table by the fire!

Reported by Barbara Halse

PROBUS CLUB OF MAPUA & DISTRICT

The club's speakers for our meeting on the 2nd of June were Pat Heaphy and club president, Athol Churchman. Pat and his wife Christine own and operate Heaphy's Home Support Service. They set up their business in Stoke some nine years ago with no clients. Over that time their business has steadily grown to a clientele of 800. Their staff of 200 are made up of nurses, care-givers, and home helpers supporting the aging population. Their service covers Nelson City and the Tasman region.

The main aim of the business is to supply a service to the elderly people living in their own homes where assistance is required. This is a variety of housework jobs such as cleaning, ironing, washing etc. The clients are generally 65 years and over and are recommended for support by the District Health Board.

They can also supply a personal service to clients that need help with showering and dressing themselves. Often they are single men in their 80s. The home support service has been restricted to showering clients to twice a week to cut travelling costs. Other situations of help are where staff are involved in working with clients having dementia. Other clients with alcohol and drug problems are also given support. Other staff work with the Hospice nurses giving support and companionship for the terminally ill.

Pat gave some humorous stories involving both clients and his staff. One such incident was when a staff member was sent to a block of flats designated A, B, C etc. The staff member found a note on the front door of one of the flats giving specific instructions on a variety of domestic jobs. The staff member assumed that was the address she was given, and promptly carried out the instructions. At about the time she had finished, the property owner returned home. As it turned out the instruction list on the front door was for the owner's daughter who was to turn up later that day. The flat owner was most impressed with the work completed by the staff member.

Pat ended his talk with a variety of questions. One member asked Pat to speak of his trip to Rome and his

audience with Pope John-Paul. Pat was most impressed with the Vatican and its magnificent architecture. Also the atmosphere of St Peter's Square being surrounded by many thousands of people waiting to see the Pope, an experience he will always remember.

On completion of afternoon tea, Athol Churchman spoke about his early family history. The title was "Going Downhill". Athol had just over a day's notice to prepare his talk, volunteering to stand in for another member who was unable to attend the meeting. Athol's grandfather was born in Meckleswade, a small village close to Hadrian's Wall in the north of England. His grandparents sold cattle on the hoof to the local butcher. The sales were made at the local hotel. Often his grandfather spent long hours at the hotel, with the local stockman. They moved on to the village of Pealaw near Newcastle upon Tyne. Due to shipping strikes they decide to emigrate to Australia, where Athol's uncle was able to get a job with a brick company. After a short time he gave up and moved on to Dunedin, buying a farm at Pine Hill. The farming was hard going at Pine Hill because of poor soil, rocks and fog.

Athol told the meeting several interesting stories of his early life in Dunedin, such as the time he was a scout leader of the local sea scout group. He took a group of sea scouts up to Nelson. They camped at Haulashore Island, with the boys having to improvise to the extent of setting up their own latrines. During their stay in Nelson they were able to sail up to the French Pass to see a variety of wrecks that had occurred over a number of years.

Another scouting trip was by train from Dunedin to Tauranga by train. Athol booked two carriages for the group, using the restaurant car as an overnight sleeping quarters for the boys. They bedded down with their sleeping bags around the carriage. On reaching Frankton Junction, a railway official refused to let the group continue on. After a heated discussion the official reluctantly allowed them to continue.

David Higgs

Friendship Club



Two notable birthdays were celebrated at the Mapua Friendship Club's June meeting. They were of Netta Perry, who turned 91, and Harry Childs, who turned 90. The photograph show Netta keeping score and Harry watching and waiting his turn to bowl. A large group of friends joined in the fun and wished Harry and Netta many happy returns. A delightful afternoon tea, with of course a birthday cake, was enjoyed by everyone

Warmest thanks

Netta asked the *Coastal News* to run the following notice:

Thank you all for the lovely cards and flowers etc. Especially the Garden Club, Friendship Club and Coastal Connections.

Netta.



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What is Probus all about?

The word Probus is the amalgamation of the words “Professional” and “Business”. Probus is an association of retired people who join together in clubs to provide regular opportunities to keep their mind active, expand their interests and enjoy the fellowship of new friends. Probus originated in the U.K. in 1965. The first club in New Zealand was formed in Christchurch in 1974.

The Combined Probus Club of Mapua and District was formed in September 2000, with the advent of the club’s 6th birthday this year. The club is open to women and men from the age of 55. The club meets on the first Friday of each month at the Mapua Village Hall starting at 1.30pm. A guest speaker is invited to talk on a specific subject, which can be a range of professional or social subjects. Our two recent speakers were Graeme Sands of Mahana who spoke at our April meeting about his trip to the Tokelau Atolls with an eye surgery team. For our May meeting we had Rudi Tetteroo of the

Department of Conservation speaking on national parks in New Zealand and the USA. After a break for afternoon tea a club member is invited to speak for about 20 minutes on a subject of their interest, be it a hobby, profession, or a social event.

During each month a day is organised for club members to enjoy a social day out visiting local places of interest. Two recent visits have been the Gardens of the World, in Brightwater, and the new Nelson Museum. The club has also organized tours around parts of the South Island. This year a group of 10 members had a 10-day tour of Tasmania, linking up with local Probus members in Tasmania.

The club is always pleased to welcome new members. For further information please contact either: the president, **Athol Chuchman, on 540-3450, or the secretary, Maureen Fon, on 540-3292.**

Mapua & District Community Association Inc.

RATING SEMINAR

A public meeting to discuss rates and the rating policy has been arranged for July 25th at 7:00pm in the Mapua Hall.

All residents are invited to attend.

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE: **Tim King** (Deputy Mayor)
Chris Auchinvole (National List MP)
Bob Dickinson (TDC CEO)
Gordon Currie (Nelson Grey Power)
Damien O’Connor (MP W Coast - Tasman)
Mike Ward (Greens)

A GOLD COIN ENTRY CHARGE WILL APPLY.

John Sharman, Secr

Mapua video & PC specialist.

Since I arrived in October last year in Mapua, I have been involved in helping people with their computer problems. I have also been doing video editing and creating promotional DVDs. This came about because of a gap in the market—my clients had told me that they had found it difficult to obtain specialist services.

Some of their problems were that their PC was slow, was not working properly, or received a standard solution which was not fulfilling their requirements. Many IT specialists and providers cannot understand or communicate with the users on their level, which may result in the installing all kinds of programs on their PC which aren't suitable and slows down the computer even more.

In my 16 years experience in the IT industry, working in several teams of IT specialists servicing multi-national companies, I learned to analyse (future) problems and customer needs. My approach is to listen to the customers, and by asking them the right questions I am able to provide a solution to meet their needs. I speak to people on their level, explaining in different ways over and over if needed.

I deal with the threats that affect your PC from the Internet, such as viruses, Spyware, keyloggers and sniffers. I can also install your computer, (wireless) network or broadband connection and maintain it, which is very important nowadays. I also design websites and advertisements. Here I follow the same personal approach. No standard solution, but custom-made for you.

Over the years I have been successful in editing video material to DVD or VHS format. Lots of people have video material of their special occasions, like weddings, anniversaries, gatherings, vacations and so on, but they never get it properly edited. This is a shame, if you want to look back at your material but in reasonable length and quality, without all the mistakes and with nice transitions, titles, menus etc.

Also that VHS tape you have lying around but you don't have a VCR any more or it degrades over the years in quality. I can convert your VHS tapes to DVD, with or without editing.

Momentarily I can offer you special local rates!

For more information phone me on 540-2031, 027 666 8197 or e-mail me on hirs.video@gmail.com.

Hans van Asperdt

Are you prepared for an emergency?

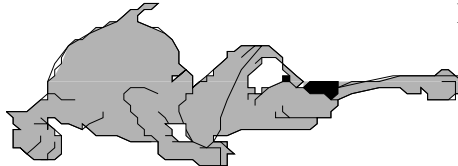
It is good to be back in the country after a couple of months tripping around overseas. I managed to time it well though, arriving back just in time for the wintry blast that swept over the country a few weeks ago, leaving large parts of the South Island blanketed in snow, housebound and without power.

Although our region luckily escaped most of the snow it has certainly made me think about how I would cope in similar circumstances. Indeed, even the advertisements on TV at the moment about preparing for a major disaster, are providing food for thought. While Saatchi or some other big advertising agency are obviously about to instruct us on how to look after ourselves should disaster hit, we also need to think about our pets.

The recommendation for people is that we have at least three days worth of bottled water and non-perishable food available and this is probably a good rule of thumb to follow for your pets as well. The average dog or cat will drink up to 60-100ml of water per kg of body weight per day. So an average 5kg cat might require 300-500ml per day and a 35kg dog (Labrador size) may require 2-3.5 litres per day.

You should have a first-aid kit sorted out for your family. Adding a few extra bandages for the family pet is a good idea. Also if your pet is on any medications,

particularly those treating severe conditions such as seizures or heart disease, then make sure you have at least one week's supply of medication at all times.



During the recent flooding in New Orleans many pets were separated from their owners, eventually ending up in animal rescue shelters. Without good identification it would be challenging to reunite all lost pets with their

owners. A collar and ID tag are a good start, but can be lost, so microchipping is definitely a better option. And, if you need to evacuate you may be able to take your pet with you, so you will need a collar and leash for your dog and a cage for your cat or any other small pet.

For many people their pet is an important part of their family and so putting a little bit of extra thought into disaster planning now may save a lot of anguish at some point in the future.

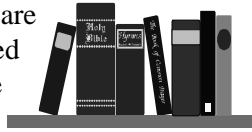
Dr Paula Short

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.

RSA MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Ph 540-2545

More good news on the grants front for the library. We are very grateful to have just received a grant of \$1000 from the Sargoods Bequest for Large Print books. The usage of our Large Print collection is on the rise since we have focused on this area over the past twelve months. This grant will allow us to continue to add new books to the collection.



We also appreciate all the recently published books that our readers donate to the library. It's always exciting for us to check out the donated books box. If you have a bookshelf at home full to overflowing with books, you may like to donate some to the library to make some space on your shelves. The more recently published books are the most useful to the library.

Don't forget our suggestions book on the counter – anyone can write in a suggestion for a book purchase, and if we think it will suit our readership we are always happy to follow up on these suggestions. It's a very useful tool to keep tabs on just what is important to our readers!

Sarah McLeod

Library Hours:

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 2pm – 4.30pm
Wednesday 5pm – 7.00pm
Thursday 10am – 12.30pm

Medieval Feast

Medieval Fare was the Flavour of the Day one Saturday in June at “Ye Olde Stagger Inn” (normally known as Flavour Restaurant and Bar in Mapua).

This sell-out affair was attended by peasants and wenches, as

well as Lords and Ladies from the Village of Mapua. King Tim and Queen Dot (Moriarty) presided over the festivities, which included a sumptuous mid-winter feast and lively entertainment and props provided by Sir Greg, a well-known local fellow from the



nearby “Sir Gregs Theatrics”. Local dignitaries, Lord Arthur Hawke and Lady Jenny, aided by “Naughty Bert” (the monk) announced all-comers and served mulled wine on arrival. The royal Jester Jeff drank the barrel dry and ended up in the stocks. “Dirty Dave” (Anderson) was pummelled with eggs while locked up.

The stocks are new acquisition for the village, having been built on royal order of the King by Lord Snook, a most revered sculptor in wood.

The evening was filled with laughter, frivolity and dancing. All who attended are looking forward to the next event which moves forward several centuries and moves continents to capture the times of the Wild West (Saturday 22 July).



Doing the Woollaston Walk, Hey!! Woollaston Estates has provided a much-appreciated new walkway along Old Coach Road and School Road. The Middle and Junior Rooms tried it out on a bright morning in early June as part of a “safe walking” opportunity, especially the road-crossing aspect. Some Senior Room boys provided important assistance.

Phillip Woollaston joined the walkers on their return section and shared with the whole school a delicious morning tea prepared by the Senior Room. Liam and John gave a speech thanking Phillip for the ongoing support he is providing the school including the walkway, front fence, and ICT materials.

Mid-Winter Swim. Brrr: The Senior Room is looking at all sorts of ways to raise money for their November Camp to Christchurch. One idea that received enthusiastic support was for the school to hold a mid-winter swim. This was held on Thursday 22 June (one of the shortest days of the year) with quite a number of brave students, teachers and a parent taking the icy plunge. It was followed by some hot food and Milo to kick the red corpuscles back into gear. A bracing experience and a good fund-raiser.

Senior Room Field Trip: This took place in mid June when our intrepid geologists made a big expedition examining Ruby Bay, the Bluffs, Kina Peninsula, the source of the Riwaka River, and the Ngarua Caves at the top of the Takaka Hill. The Year 7 and 8 skiing trip to the Rainbow Skifield is booked for late July and detailed planning is under way. Students are not giving up on have their outdoor cooking trip—delayed due to bad weather a number of times.

Junior Room Changes: Our great Junior Room teacher, Kay Fraser, is setting off on a year of adventure and a Bon Voyage Tea for students and parents was

Term 2 is nearly over and it is difficult to think that the year is half-way through. A typically busy term has seen all camps completed, Reports/Portfolios and Parent-Teacher Interviews, Gymnastics Festival, and our winning Rippa Rugby Team. Despite the very cold mornings we have still braved the weather to complete our school-wide daily exercise programme.

The Computer Suite has been upgraded with 10 iMacs taking the total to 13 and all running the same operating system. Students are making good use of this before school, at intervals and lunchtime as well as after school. The staff continue their professional development programme through the DiscoverIT Tasman professional development cluster. Two classes have made very impressive DVDs that each student gets a copy of, of photos and movies created in iMovie based on the Totaranui camps. The DVDs include titles, graphics, special effects and music that Weta workshop would be proud of!

Planning for the Mask Parade is well under way and we are lucky to have the services of local sculptor David Kemp to guide our thinking and teach us techniques. Making the masks will be a major focus in Term 3.

Hugh Gully, Principal, Mapua School, Phone/Fax 03) 540-2806, mobile 027 632 7078, www.mapua.school.nz

Mahana School: contd

held for her at the end of term. An afternoon tea was also held for parents to meet Kath O'Reilly who will be the Junior Room teacher for a year while Kay has her year's leave. This was a great chance for parents to have an informal chat with Kath to get to know their child's new teacher.

Middle Room Artists are proud of the chairs they have made, displayed in the library to be admired. Parents were invited to come and be amazed by the level of skill and creativity.

Mahana School Fair: Date: Saturday 14 October (Sunday if wet) 10.30am -2pm. The Home and School Association is planning this special event in the Mahana School Calendar.

For more information about Mahana School, please contact Rodger Smith, Principal, by phone 543 2887 or by email principal@mahana.school.nz. School website: www.mahana.school.nz

Mapua Boat Club gains Tenure

At long last the Mapua Boat Club has security of tenure. After four years and two rounds of negotiations, the signing of the club's "License to Occupy" was celebrated at the wharf on Sunday 28 May 2006. The license is for a 20-year period for 80% of the building that the club has occupied up until now at a rate of \$200 per annum.

The remaining 20% is to be occupied by the Tamaha Sea Scouts. While the Sea Scouts do not have a license to occupy, the Tasman District Council has given them an assurance that if the 20% is required for some other purpose, a suitable building will be provided by the TDC.

For those readers not aware of the wharf's history, here is a summary: The wharf and buildings, which were previously owned by the Nelson Harbour Board, were to be demolished when coastal ships stopped using the port. A group of concerned locals, realizing the community was about to lose a valuable asset, got together and formed the Mapua Boat Club with the expressed purpose of saving the wharf.

In 1987 a lease was signed and the club took over occupancy of the buildings, with a license to manage the day-to-day running of the wharf. A year later the ownership of the wharf area was transferred to the TDC.

Voluntary labour turned that part of the building facing the wharf into the present Photo Museum/Clubrooms. Over the years other parts of the building have been used for various purposes and today we have restaurants, with other businesses moving into the surrounding area.

Once the value of the buildings for commercial purposes became obvious, the club could see that many business people would be eyeing the clubrooms and if a restaurant or tavern were to open there it would spell the end of unfettered public access to the wharf. We were not going to stand by and let that happen. The club would also have been looking for other premises.

The club is very aware and grateful for the help we have received from the community. Now that we our license to occupy we can start planning for the future. The license over management of the wharf is still to be negotiated.

John Ward, secretary

Playcentre

84 Aranui Road

At time of writing, Playcentre is celebrating Matariki with hot roasted vegetables during session. An evening picnic (with woolly hats and rugs) is planned at Ruby Bay to further celebrate and star-gaze. Our supervisor, Carol, continues Te Reo focus and additional Maori-based games, puzzles and dress-ups have been purchased.

Spaces are available during most sessions due to some older children moving on to school, so don't hesitate to come visit us. The first three sessions are no-obligation, no-charge.

We've just completed another free-of-charge parenting course for families new to Playcentre. This gives parents an understanding of the benefits of

belonging to Playcentre and sets the foundations of play based learning.

Visits this term have included Touch the Sea (and ice creams at Hamish's café afterward), a morning at Mapua School with Ms Dawkins in Room 2, Thorpe's Bush in Motueka and we'll close the term with a visit to the Richmond Gymnasium.

And while the weather tends to keep the children indoors right now, playdough, dress-ups, clay work, collage, the library, puzzles, train set, blocks, science corner, musical instruments and painting are giving the children plenty to grow and learn with.

Community HEALTH NEWS

Winter - colds and flu season

Take Care

to reduce the spread of infections, flu, colds, diarrhoea, vomiting and such.

Fresh Air

There is scientific and medical evidence that influenza can spread in inadequately ventilated internal spaces. All internal spaces should be well ventilated, preferable with fresh air, by opening windows or with a properly designed and maintained air-conditioning system. **HINT** - *Get out in the fresh air some each day and take some deep full breaths.*

Biggest health tip

Hand washing and drying is still the **SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT** measure to reduce the risks of transmitting infectious organisms from one person to another.

Hands should be washed regularly with soap and water or an antiseptic hand wash and then thoroughly dried, preferable using disposable tissues or towel.

Hand-to-face contact, which occurs during such activities as eating, normal grooming or smoking presents significant risks because of the potential for transmitting influenza from surfaces contaminated. Hands should **ALWAYS** be washed and dried before **ANY** activity that involves hand-to-face contact.

Fever Care

To reduce fever:

- Drink lots of fluid **ESPECIALLY** water.
- Take paracetamol according to the directions on the label.
- Sponge bathe or take a tepid bath - don't 'wrap up warm'.

Family Care

Most sick people may have to be looked after at home. If you live alone, stay in regular phone contact with family and friends.

Remember to keep coughs and sneezes covered with your sleeve or inner arm. **DON'T** use your hand as that then contaminates. Wash and dry your

hands afterwards.

When nursing a sick family member you should use a mask, or use a tissue or even a clean cloth as a mask. If the mask gets wet it should be changed.

Cough manners

People with respiratory infection symptoms should practise the following cough/sneeze etiquette. **BE Kind, Do NOT** spread your illness.

- Avoid close contact (less than one metre) with others.
- Cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.
- Use disposable tissues to contain respiratory secretions.
- Immediately dispose of used tissues in the nearest waste receptacle.
- Immediately wash and dry hands.

Your Community Health Centre

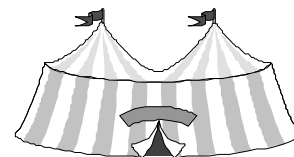
The Mapua Health Centre is your community Health Centre should you need medical attention.

Location: 62 Aranui Road.

Hours: 8:00 - 5:30 Monday through Friday

Phone: 540-2211 (for 24 hour cover)

MAPUA FESTIVAL



It is with regret that the Mapua Show Committee announces the cancellation of the "Mapua Village Fair – Oklahoma" scheduled for November 2006.

The decision to cancel has not been an easy one but necessary due to circumstances beyond our control. We would like to thank all those who have given us support and hope that we will be able to bring you a show next year.

Anne-Marie Giddens

Need a job description?

Why have a job description or a performance plan for your employees?

You might say “they should know what to do or what is expected” but it is like anything in business, it is very useful to have a written record of what is expected so you can refer to it.

You need a job description so your employees know what is required of them. A performance plan tells them what level of performance is expected.

Your performance plan must be:

Specific

Measurable

Achievable

Resourced and

Time bound.

The key to the credibility of both documents is gaining agreement (or by in) from your employee that they understand what is required. You can then use these documents for motivating and managing employee performance. These documents are especially useful when managing poor performance.

Once upon a time the employer did it for you in the course of your employment with them but now with people changing jobs more frequently, we must actively take on this responsibility.

Promote yourself

In the changing world of work, our CV is our passport to new opportunities, and consequently it is the most important career document we ever produce.

The principal role of your CV is to highlight your value to a potential employer, and to do that you need to promote yourself. A document that is just a career summary will not sell the attributes and skills you have to offer. It needs to be well laid out, succinct, and easy to understand.

Kerri Bainbridge

We can post you the Coastal News. To take advantage of this post \$10 with your name and address to Coastal News, PO Box 19, Mapua Store, 7048. Include your new postal code for rapid delivery. Existing subscribers can also send their new code in by email coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz or by post.

Postal Delivery

Letters to the Editor...



Road not wanted

I heard from a Tasman District Council meeting that \$35,000 has been recommended for the Coastal Garden Group to landscape part of Aranui Park.

It's great that the Garden Club have ideas on landscaping the park and I trust they will share them with the wider community to whom the park belongs and get some feedback before they start, because the proposed changes are significant.

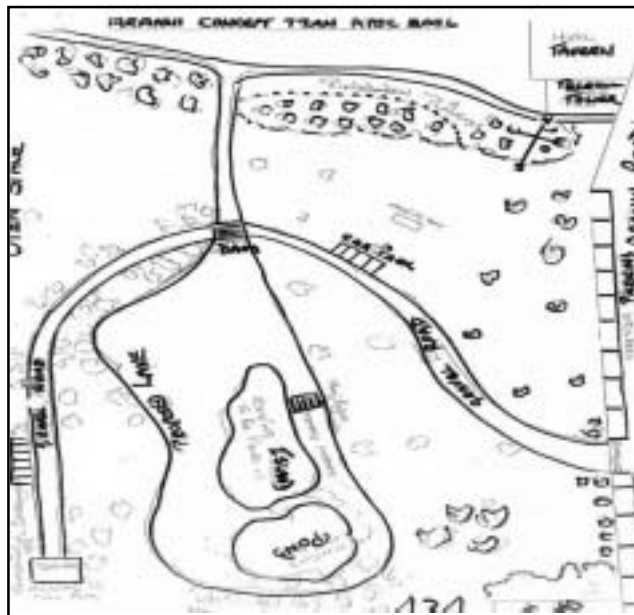
The changes are drawn in the accompanying diagram that was submitted to the council. It has no measurements or scale but the two main changes to note are a lake and a road.

A larger pond could be very attractive as long as studies have been done that show it will contain enough water during the long summer months. The main reason Aranui Park is not used more for picnics is that for much of the year the ground is damp, as it is part of the Seaton Valley swamp. A lake in itself will not lessen the dampness, as we know from the wetland pond adjacent to the park. Improved drainage would help.

However, I do think it is a real shame and a misuse of the park to make a road and allow cars in. The drawing shows a road curving in as far as Arnold Wells's historic milking shed (to be replaced by a shelter according to the diagram) with car spaces at intervals. There would have to be a big turning space at the shelter as cars return by the same road: the diagram does not make it clear if this is one or two-car width. Either way it takes up a lot of green space.

It is a very short walk from existing roadside parking to the proposed lake and barbecues. This is the one remaining park in Mapua that does not encourage cars in it and as we can see from other parks, cars tend to take over and won't be confined to designated places. It takes away the ambience of the park which is peaceful and green and makes it less safe for children. We could also end up with Mapua's version of Nelson's Bradford Park.

Vehicles and small parks like this are not a happy mix. If others feel the same way, please let our Coastal Garden Group know. Ponds and plantings by all means, but let's keep parking for vehicles out. A walkway would be much more in keeping with the aim of the generous Wells family (Bernard and Dorothy, Sandra and Linley) who donated Aranui Park to Mapua so that it would "be a quiet place of



trees and peaceful spaces...and serve as a reminder of our natural heritage, free from urban sprawl" (letter from the Wells family to the TDC, 14/03/1997).

Judy Mitchell

Rates, Rating and Valuation

Every property owner knows about rates. Rates increase every year. Percentage wise, usually more than inflation. The 2006-2007 Tasman District rates to be struck on 1 July will be no exception. Rates are a reflection of the Tasman District's Annual Budget. They increase because the Tasman District Council is spending more money each year. Rates are tied to valuation. The higher the capital value of your property (land value + value of improvements), the bigger your share of the annual rates burden. At first glance, a fairly simple equation.

Valuation and rating are linked. Government Valuation (GV) is now termed Council Rateable Value (RV). Under the Rating Valuation Act 1998, Quotable Value Ltd. (QV) conducts district council valuations. The Tasman District was subject to a general revaluation as of 1 September 2005 and the increase in the overall valuation of the district was huge, well over 70%. A result of the blow-out of the real estate market in New Zealand over the last four years.

The Rating Act of 2002 dictates how councils apply and administer rates. In part, according to each

Contd.

property's valuation. A critical aspect of all this is how QV makes its "valuation" of each individual property. It uses a "formula," which is a look at recent sales of "similar" properties to yours in your area. This serves as their guideline to setting your property's Official Valuation on the District Valuation Rolls. Is this valuation figure really the value of your property? No, of course not. It is what the QV valuers think a willing buyer would offer and think a willing seller would accept if you were selling your property.

"Estimated Market Value" is entirely a subjective opinion by QV. In reality, a value that doesn't exist except on paper. We pay our rates on this figure, a significant portion of which is just hot air. Worse, we pay GST on it. A tax on a tax. For despite what we would like to think, the actual value of our property cannot be established until we sell our property and receive the agreed purchase price..

Owners in areas where property is coveted by others who force the "price paid" to escalate are now literally paying a "wealth tax" in the form of rates. Too bad if you don't want to sell. Too bad if you are on a fixed income. Too bad if you can't afford the higher rates. Too bad! Sell up! Owners in areas where property is attracting reduced rates (and there are some) are on the pig's back, so to speak. Clearly, our country's rating and valuation system is patently unfair. Reform is long overdue and will require legislation at central government level to change it.

Immediate alternatives? Several. The Rating Act of 2002, Sections 14, 15 & 16 and Schedule 2 offer local councils a bit of flexibility to provide some measure of equity and to "categorize rateable land differentially". To its credit the TDC is going to do this to a degree by increasing the "general rate" charge. "Binding citizens' referendums" is another way. Already recently adopted in Wanganui and espoused by Grey Power, they allow people to make decisions by "direct democracy". A good example is California's Proposition 13, in place for over 20 years, which has saved California home-owners many thousands of dollars.

Private "Equity Release" schemes and council "rating deferment schemes" are poor substitutes for most property owners in several respects.

TDC councillors and TDC staff spend long hours on district financial matters. I, for one, appreciate their efforts. However, like it or not, the current New Zealand system of valuation and rating and the subsequent setting of rates has provided local councils with a "cash cow". It is time to start changing that – NOW!

Please consider attending the Mapua Community Association meeting on 25 July to listen, learn and have your say.

Hugh Gordon

MAPUA Bowling Club

The bowling season came to an end on the 6th of May, two weeks after the official closing day. The weather and conditions were suitable to proceed with the re-soiling of the green. The greenkeeper, Les Mc Alwee, and a supportive group of five men spent three days sifting and spreading the soil with a large hand grader across the green, levelling off any uneven areas. The timing was good with the weather. By the time the club held its AGM on the 27th of May, the complete green was under water from separate days of excessive rain.

The club's secretary, Paddy Hood, chaired the AGM as the president, Nancy McAlwee, was unable to attend due to illness. Paddy read Nancy's report outlining various aspects of the club's bowling season, including a good increase in members. Nancy's report thanked both Paddy Hood as retiring secretary and Owen Brett as retiring treasurer for their respective input in club administration.

The report also acknowledged our late club member John Higgs. John was an initiator in the move from the old bowling green at Seaton Valley Road. He put in a lot of time in helping with the planning and administration of the new site. A finalisation report of the new green, prepared by Brian Say, was read out in part covering the history and planning of the of the green and club house.

The following reports of the clubs activities were presented to the meeting:

Treasurer, Owen Brett. Bar Manager, Maurice Daubney. Greenkeeper, Les McAlwee. Green Superintendent, Frank Gibbison. Catering Manager, Nancy Coeland.

The election of officers for the 2006/07 is:

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Patron | Tom Wiley |
| President | Nancy Mc Alwee |
| Vice-President | Harry Jardine |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Margaret Busby |
| Greenkeepers | Les Mc Alwee, John Trotter |
| Green Superintendent | Frank Gibbison |
| Bar Managers | Maurice Daubney, Michael Busby |
| Club Captain | Colin Pryke |
| Women's Selector | Sylvia Peter |
| Men's Selectors | Marty Verdonk, Frank Gibbison |
| Catering Manager | Nancy Coeland |

At the conclusion of the meeting Nancy Coeland gave a vote of thanks to the club's president, Nancy Mc Alwee. She stated that our president had done a great job of working with the club members for the club's successful bowling season.

David Higgs

Mapua Wetland

Open day cold - but judged a success

The coldest day of the year did not deter an estimated 120 people who donned their warm gear and gumboots (mostly) and came to have a look at the Mapua Wetland project on Sunday afternoon 18 June. Friends of Mapua Wetland who had held their AGM that morning, were pleased to have so much local interest on such a challenging day. The ground conditions lived up to the name. One day there will be board walks over the wettest places but that is still some muddy way off.

It was especially pleasing to see so many people interested and offering various forms of help, when the wetland is still in its infancy. The first trial 500 plants were put in in autumn 2005 by the families who own the property and close friends. In the big spring planting of Oct 1 last year friends, members from a range of community groups, families and locals planted 1230 new plants. In late summer this year family and friends added a further 1090 plants round the new pond (1300sq m) which is steadily attracting more diverse birds. When all these nursery plants are established, secondary planting (kahikatea, rimu) will start, some to be trialled as early as next spring.

We have recently added some established matipo and grasses donated by a well-wisher, and transplanted to higher ground some titoki which didn't like prolonged wet feet.

In spite of drying and tiring summer winds, recent floods and now severe frosts, we hope people who planted last spring could see how well their efforts have been rewarded. By this time next year if plants grow at the same rate there should be a substantial ground cover and a mini forest will be evident. We hope the posters helped people gain an extra sense of where the project is heading. Thank you to all who braved the elements and came along.

Judy Mitchell, for Friends of Mapua Wetland



Mapua Wetland volunteer Karole Turner explains planting methods to Bill and Karen Williams and Mike & Marion Day at the open day

Kevin Brown

Chartered Accountant.

Annual Accounts Budget Advice
Cash Management Accounting Services

Phone Kevin 526-6263 Tasman
Or email Kevin.brown@clear.net.nz



MAPUA & DISTRICTS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Chairperson: Marion Satherley ph 540 2180 Secretary: Diane Maisey ph 544 8275

COMMUNITY TELEPHONE DIRECTORY 2006 / 2007

It's not too late to place an advert in this years edition of the community telephone directory, so if you haven't already done so, please contact Diane, phone 544 8275 as soon as possible.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING—ALL WELCOME

25 July 2006 at 7.30pm

This evening Paul Nankivell will be showing us slides and talking about his experiences in Fiordland—building huts, crayfishing, hunting, the Milford and Routeburn tracks, and the early historic sites in Preservation Inlet, (the most southern Fiord). Paul also has a few slides of hut building with the Forest Service in Northwest Nelson.

MEMBER PROFILE

MEMBER PROFILE



Ruby Bay Joinery found its niche, specialising in wooden exterior joinery for all purposes from the renovation of character homes to architecturally designed houses for that incomparable 'wooden joinery' look.

Our company's main areas of work revolve around:

- A full range of exterior joinery.
- Houselots of joinery for architecturally designed homes.
- Designer kitchens.
- Stairs and balustrades.
- Basically...you name it, we'll build it.

The high standard of our product continues to be maintained by combining traditional work methods whilst keeping up with today's innovative approach and is greatly due to the forty years experience of our owner/manager Colin Roberts and the dedication of our valued team members.

We would be more than happy to speak with you regarding any present or future joinery requirements.

Please contact Wayne on 540 2123

BROADCOM SERVICES LTD

Michael Weller. Owner / Manager

Michael has over 40 years experience working in the Electronics Technology, Broadcast and Telecommunications industry.

He started in the mid-1960's working with Philips Electrical Industries in Wellington. Then in 1970 he joined the NZBC/BCL Engineering group working with them until the mid-1990's when he started his own Telecommunications Consultancy Company, **Broadcom Services Ltd.**

Broadcom Services provides specialist technical services to the Radio, Television and Satellite Broadcasting industry maintaining a large number of Broadcast and Communication sites around the top half of the South Island.

Mike can supply and install all your requirements **Free to Air Digital Satellite TV and Radio.**

Broadcom Services also provides a consultancy and sales service for **Sustainable Solar Power Systems** and can supply and install Solar Panels, Inverters, Batteries and low energy appliances (such as fridge's and freezers) for off grid - Independent Home Energy systems.

For more info contact Michael ph 543 2531

Use

www.mapua.biz

to find and support local businesses.

A business listing on our website will help to get you found on-line. The MDBA is here to help YOUR local business succeed. Become a member of the MDBA and you too can benefit.

Be Local—Buy Local

New Advances – Fuel for thought

Axiom Energy to Convert Waste Plastic into Low Sulphur Diesel – An Australian First

In an Australian first, Axiom Energy will produce low sulphur diesel from the waste plastics that until now could not be recycled and would otherwise end up as landfill.

Axiom Energy also plans to be the largest producer of biodiesel on the Australian Eastern seaboard. Biodiesel is produced from renewable plant oils, animal fats and used cooking oils.

Axiom Energy Limited, Managing Director, David Vinson, says the company is seizing the opportunity by pursuing economically viable solutions to meet the growing need for suitable energy sources.

"The entry of these two products – low sulphur diesel and biodiesel into the market is well timed with a growing Australian diesel fuel market, rising crude oil prices, increasing demand for environmentally friendly and sustainable fuels and government tax incentives to promote the use of these fuels."

"Axiom Energy has an agreement in place with a national petro-chemical distributor to distribute low sulphur diesel and biodiesel for sale in the growing diesel market in Australia," he said.

Waste Plastics into low sulphur diesel.

Axiom Energy's Low Sulphur Diesel is to be made from waste plastics and will be an automotive diesel fuel, which will have a sulphur content of less than 50ppm. It will meet the new Australian and New Zealand mandatory standard enforceable for 1st January 2006.

The first two; low sulphur diesel from waste plastic; plants will be built in Laverton, and commissioned in July 2006.

These plants are forecast to produce 11 million litres of low sulphur diesel. For example, a simple ice-cream container, weighing just 68 grams can be converted into a diesel fuel which will power a VW Golf car with a diesel engine for almost 1.28 kilometers.

"Other plastics that can be converted into low sulphur diesel include chemical oil containers and bottles, municipal solid waste plastics such as wraps, packaging, bottles and toys, milk crates, silage wraps, irrigation tubing, polypiping and polystyrene packaging," said Mr Vinson.

Currently 88% of the 15 million tones of plastic consumed in Australia annually is sent to landfill. This amount could convert to more than 1 billion tones of low sulphur diesel.

Other interesting options on the horizon are:

1. Renewable plant oils, animal fats and used cooking oil into biodiesel.
2. 'Ultra Green' vehicles that can use ordinary water with petrol to make it run cheaply and clean. Should the UK based technology (the first of its kind) prove as successful as experts promise, vehicles would use water as the main fuel supply and need only a small amount of petrol.
3. Recovering energy from engine exhaust. Foresight Vehicle Initiative of the UK Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders have revealed their work in developing a simple but revolutionary way of recovering significant amounts of energy that would normally be lost through engine exhaust.

We Wish You Happy, Safe Motoring

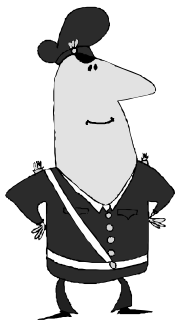
Police Update

Hi all. Suddenly we are in the thick of winter and just a reminder to be extra vigilant when travelling on the roads after a hard frost or heavy rain. There have been two recent accidents on the passing lane by Dominion Road and at least one was in the wet; traffic often races up hill to get past vehicles and misjudge the sweeping bend at the top.

It is pleasing to report that there are no major crime patterns that are obvious in the Mapua area at present. Although in the last couple of days there have been two thefts of copper planter tubs being stolen. Who is collecting scrap metal around the village ?

I have heard that a local lad is taking interest in scrap metal for resale, so hopefully he gets his scrap legitimately. Last Saturday night I snuck up on a 18 year old from Richmond who was in the process of removing a piece of copper pipe from the Mapua Coolstore at 10.35pm. He claimed that he had not taken it off the building and had found it - a likely story. After a phone call to his parents I have arranged for him to repair the damage (as he is a plumber !) and have warned him for his actions. Funny the things you come across sometimes.

I have had a report of local youths cutting down some native trees on a property by the Estuary off Higgs Road. Apparently people use the walking track along there regularly and this group of youths are making a BMX cycle track. They have been told by passers-by not to damage the bush, so if any of you see them please do likewise. It is a shame that they are damaging probably one of the last pockets of native along the Estuary.



Mapua Occurrences:

19 May: Car v bike accident at Ruby Bay. 70-year-old cyclist suffers grazing and bruising

14-18 May: Alloy wheel with Dunlop Monza 200 tyre stolen from George Harvey Road

1 June: Mountain bike stolen from Mapua Primary school. Metallic blue 21 Speed, "Kona" brand with silver/black helmet

6 June: Alarm at Mapua Pharmacy. All secure

12-15 June: Two reports of thefts of copper planter tubs. Jessie Street and Aranui Road

Grant Heney, Rural Community Constable, Ph: 03) 528-1220

LIFE IS PURRR...FECT

Meow... This is my new column in the *Coastal News*. Let me introduce myself, my name is Tiger Lily and I live in Mapua Village. Most of you will know me—I'm probably better known than Hamish the Heron. Being a cat I get around, so I decided to share some of my exploits with you.



It's pretty cold at the moment so I don't roam much at night. Instead I make sure I'm at Flavour Restaurant, upstairs in front of the fire or on my chair before the doors are locked for the night. I can get in and out if I need. There are some events I like to attend, such as the Community Association meeting. Jim likes me to pop in and take an interest in the local goings on.

However, I don't like to miss what's going on at Flavour. Netta Perry and friends had lunch the other day to celebrate her 91st birthday. Lots of people celebrate birthdays at Flavour because the menu caters for everyone and the staff go to so much trouble to make it a great event with complimentary cake and happy birthday music.

Not that great food is a problem in the village for me. Flavour of course keeps a steady supply of fresh fish and titbits for me at night. The Vet Service supplies some yummy stuff when I ask for it and Wendy Perry is a soft touch for extras when I'm a bit peckish.

This month has been particularly busy for me. The Medieval Night on 17th June at Flavour was great as there was all this scrummy leftovers from the feast. It made me wish I'd been born in medieval times. I overheard they are doing a Western Night on 22nd July. I think I might stay in the background. I don't like guns but I want to check out the saloon girls.

I always like to look in on the quiz night downstairs at Flavour; I'm always surprised at how much humans don't know. I'm looking forward to the next one on Thursday 9th July.

My favourite night is the family night on Sunday once a month. The kids love to pat me AND I LOVE IT. They sneak me titbits from the neat kids' menu while their Mums and Dads have a lovely peaceful meal without kids pestering them. The next one is on the 9th July starting at 5pm. I'll be there!!

Well, I must sign off now and do my walkabout, I'll start with Perrys Garage, duck through to the Naked Bun, check out who's in Mapua Hair, say hello to Alan the pharmacist and back to my nice warm fire at Flavour to watch all the locals coming and going for takeaways and great meals by candlelight.

Tiger Lily

Property News

Recent real estate activity in Mapua discloses that sales volumes have slowed, although traditionally sales always drop in the winter months.

On the positive side property values have remained firm with further consolidation expected.

Buyer inquiries are proving difficult to satisfy due to a lack of listings, so if you are considering selling please contact us.

Some recent sales are:

- Apr 30: Citrus Gr, 4B/R house, 713sqm, \$355,000
- May 2: Aranui Rd, 3 B/R house, 700sqm, \$280,000
- May 3: Perry Way, 3B/R house, 704sqm, \$305,000
- May 15: Crusader Dr, 3B/R house, 2800sqm, \$696,000
- May 16: Tahi St, 5B/R house, 921sqm, \$450,000
- May 17: Crusader Dr, 4B/R house, 3787sqm, \$469,000
- Jun 7 Higgs Rd, 3B/R house, 813sqm, \$371,000
- Apr 27 Harleys Ridge, LSB, 4ha, \$330,000

Compiled by Grahame Williams, Ray White Real Estate Mapua



VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

May/June call-outs

May 27: Flooding Toru St. Pumped for an hour.

June 6: MVC SH60 near Research Orchard Rd. Richmond got the job.

June 8: Ceiling fire Deepdale Rd Upper Moutere.

June 16: MVC car in ditch, person out on arrival. No action taken.



Safety Tip – drive to the conditions, watch the road and your speed

We have apple firewood for sale phone 5402832 or 5432195 details

In February 2007 three to four members are going leave the brigade. If you think you could have the time to be a volunteer fire fighter contact the brigade as below.

If you can hear the Mapua fire siren day and night and have spare time and would like to be a fire fighter, we would like to hear from you. If you work at home, do shift work or have a business around Mapua and can help, then contact the Chief, Avan Perry, at home on 540-2421 or 025 364 721, or call in at the fire station Thursday nights' at around 7:30pm. E-mail Mapua@fire.org.nz or the web, www.fire.org.nz

Noticeboard

Mapua Ruby Bay & Districts Walkways Group. A general meeting will be held Monday 17th July at the Mapua Hall at 7.30pm. Items to discuss are general walkway / cycleway issues, structure of the group, upcoming meeting with TDC. All members and prospective members are invited to come along and share their views. Enquiries to Sarah 540 2698, Janet 540 3364, or Kate 540 2130.

Women's Move n Groove Dance Classes continue at the Mapua Public Hall, Mondays 11am-noon. Short low impact funky routines aimed at increasing mind/body co-ordination, balance, strength, flexibility, poise and grace. Gain confidence while having fun. All welcome. Call Catherine Callaghan, at Dance Moves, 548-8046 or 027 323 2098.

KIDPOWER Holiday course for 8-12 year olds. **Nelson** Wed/Thu 12/13 July. A fun, effective way to build confidence and personal safety skills through hands-on practice with highly qualified instructors.

FULLPOWER Workshop for women and teenage girls. **Nelson** Tue evening 4 July, **Lower Moutere** Sat afternoons 22/29 July. A practical, fun, exciting, and life-changing personal safety course. Learn how you can react in tricky situations and gain peace of mind. For more information call 543 2669

Toilet Training Evening run by the Nelson District Parents Centre. 3 August, 7.00pm Saxton Field Pavillion. Gold coin donation. Please register your interest to Cara, phone 547 4742.

Pregnant? Nelson District Parents Centre offer Childbirth Education Courses for parents-to-be. 8 evenings in a supportive environment (this also includes an informative visit to the delivery suite and maternity unit at the hospital). Next courses starting 5 July and 23 August. Please phone Genie, 541 9641 for more information. \$140.00 which includes a year's membership to the Parents Centre.

Baby and You course, for parents of new babies. A variety of guest speakers and interactive topics covered over 6 mornings. Next course starting 13 July. Fees: \$20.00 Parent Centre members, \$30.00 non-members. Contact Karen 540 2504

Photocopying at Mapua Auto Centre, 7 Warren Place, during office hours.

Moutere Hills Rose Society (est. 1949) Meetings usually first Monday each month (except January, June and July) at Mapua Hall at 7.45pm. Interesting speakers, cultural notes, garden visits and friendship. Further information from Margaret Sinclair 03) 528-8477 or Letty Thawley 540-2876.

Need Help? Can't connect your DVD / Video player/ Lost your computer work? Can't download your digital photos? Need help setting up an email account? Average job price only \$10! Basic web design, average price \$25/page, including advice on domain registration. Call **Whiz-kid Sam!** 5266-066. sambobuk@hotmail.com - <http://whizkid.awardspace.com/>

Mapua Friendship Club welcomes old and new friends. We meet on the third Thursday of each month and enjoy a game of indoor bowls followed by a lovely afternoon tea and a raffle for a mystery prize. We also have cards if you prefer, Euchre, crib etc. No membership dues just a group of friendly people having a good laugh (some of us are not very good bowlers!) Come along and enjoy some good company. For further information ring Val Roche on 540-3685.

Mapua Women's Walking Group: Operating two social, friendly groups - both leaving from outside The Naked Bun on Thursday mornings. The early group leaves at 9.15 and walks for at least 1½ hours before meeting the later group for coffee. Ring Rose 5403600. Later group leaves at 10am - Ring Val 5403931. New members very welcome.

Coastal Garden Group meet monthly every first Thursday at 1.30 pm in the Supper Room at the Mapua Village Hall. Members, guests and visitors welcome, all enquiries to Barry Highsted (540 3139) or Anne-Marie Giddens (540 2335).

Digital Photography Group: Anyone with an interest in anything to do with digital photography/digital imaging is welcome to join our expanding group. Meetings first Tuesday of the month at 1.15pm. Phone Dot Siddle for more info, 540 2323

Mapua Combined Probus Club meets 1st Friday of the month at 1.30 in the supper room of Mapua Hall. All retirees most welcome. If interested please ring Pres. Athol Churchman 540 3450, Secr. Maureen Fon 540 3292.

Kidz n' Koffee Playgroup every Wednesday (in school term) 10am to 12 noon. The age group is newborn to five years. All parents and caregivers are welcome to attend, there is no cost. Morning tea is provided for you and your children, a donation is appreciated. The playgroup meets at Hills Community Church, Mapua. Come and relax and meet some new neighbours. Enquiries to Sara Pumphrey 540-3889, and Sharon De Jong 543-2486.

Mapua Genealogy Computer Discussion Group Our next bimonthly meeting will be 1.30pm on Saturday **5th August**, at 36 Korepo Road, Ruby Bay. (Peter's home) For information about this group phone Val 540-3931 or Peter 540-2686