

July 2010

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Coastal News

email: coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz

covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,
run by volunteers

TDC backs Mapua 'gateway' reserve plan

The Mapua Community Association's proposal for a multipurpose "gateway" reserve near the Waimea Estuary won strong support from the Tasman District Council at a June meeting.

The council agreed without any dissent to a plan to acquire about 8ha of Crown land in the Dominion Stream area near Mapua. The land has been declared surplus to requirements for the Ruby Bay by-pass and was to be disposed of under the Public Works Act.

The council was responding to requests from the Mapua and District Community Association to take the unique opportunity to acquire the surplus land for a reserve that would:

- Provide a sequence of rare native vegetation that was once widespread around the estuary but now did not exist anywhere else.
- Provide an attractive route for a section of the Tasman regional cycleway, now under development.
- Protect and enhance rare and endangered native fish in the Dominion Stream and in a valuable upstream wetland area, the Chaytor Wetland.
- Possibly later provide a transit area for Mapua people travelling to or from Motueka or Richmond on public transport.

The proposal has been developed over the past nine months by the Community Association's Waimea Estuary Sub-committee, which at the June council meeting tabled an 18-page report and maps on the proposal. It also tabled supporting assessments of the area by ecologist Michael North and freshwater fisheries consultant Tom Kroos.

The council accepted a proposal that the land should be acquired under a section of the Public Works Act that allows transfer of surplus land from one public works project to another under certain conditions.

TDC community services manager Lloyd Kennedy confirmed to the councillors that the land originally bought under the Public Works Act for the by-pass could be acquired by the council for a different project. However, he said the Crown would require the council to pay a purchase price based on market value.

The four surplus blocks are shown on the accompanying photo map. The council has already agreed to purchase Block A but after the latest decision will now investigate purchase of Blocks B and C. Valuations for Block A and B totalled \$228,000, Mr Kennedy said. The council now needs a valuation of Block C.

As indicated in the map, Block B is the area considered suitable for lowland swamp-type forest, while Block C is considered a high value area for native fish breeding and feeding. The route preferred for the Tasman regional cycleway would come through Blocks A and B to a point on SH60 near Higgs Reserve.

In discussion on the proposal, Cr Glenys Glover praised reports submitted to the council by the Mapua association's sub-committee. She said the concept fitted in with ideas being developed by a joint council working party for a management plan for the Waimea Estuary.

Cr Brian Ensor, who had inspected the site with association members, said a significant wetland area in Block C had potential for enhancement and development for a native fish spawning area. In addition, Mr Kroos had identified other areas where native fish habitat could be enhanced with relatively little effort.

Another major wetland area in block B had potential for planting a podocarp forest of the sort that was once there. It could be "absolutely magnificent", Cr Ensor said.

An important aspect of the proposal was that planting and management could help reduce the flow of sediment into Waimea Estuary, an issue impacting on water quality that was highlighted at a day-long seminar in late May.

The motion supporting a recommendation from council staff that would start the acquisition process was put by Deputy Mayor Tim King and Cr Jack Inglis.

Cr King said the opportunity for the land acquisition was "too good to pass up".

contd:





Cr Inglis said he believed the council should be able to acquire the land at no additional cost. He urged the council to “go right to the top” of the Government with its case for acquisition under Section 50 of the Public Works Act.

Five days before the council meeting, the Mapua community’s proposal was also explained to about 120 people attending a day-long symposium on the proposed Waimea Inlet management plan. The symposium involved a range of experts on birds, fish, and vegetation of the estuary area, staff from Government departments

and the two Nelson councils, as well as interested residents.

Members of Mapua’s estuary sub-committee circulated leaflets to those attending the symposium explaining that the Dominion Stream Flats proposal was likely to be the only opportunity to create a reserve with a sequence of “shoreline to high forest” vegetation once common around the estuary.

An informal vote of those attending the symposium supported the proposal.

David Mitchell

Garden Notes

In many parts of the country July has the coldest and worst weather of the year; soil temperatures are at their lowest,

For some, July is the dead heart of winter, for others it marks the beginning of a gardener's year. At the end of the month as new growth shows on roses the time has come to start pruning. At the beginning of July I add horse manure to areas cleared in the vegie patch and leave the surface quite rough to allow the frosts to break down the soil. Lime is also added at this time.

Try not to walk on the garden as this sours the ground. All bulbs should be well planted by now but any not planted should be without delay as they need time to produce roots before popping through the ground.

Daffodils are already beginning to appear so I have given them a good dressing of bulb fertiliser to assist flowering but mainly to feed for the next year's flowering as the flowers are already set for this year.

I have just noticed about four flower stems on my one and only cymbidium orchid plant which is

in a pot outside all year round. As these plants seem to thrive through neglect with only regular watering all summer, I will now feed with a liquid fertiliser to once again assist with hopefully good-sized blooms and will watch out for those pesky snails, which just love them, I notice snails are everywhere at the moment so best to be vigilant.

TASKS FOR JULY, Prune hydrangeas, fuchsias and roses. Trim conifer hedges regularly from now on and spray fruit trees with a copper spray if they were affected with leaf curl. Plant new rhubarb crowns, build up the vegie patch with compost. Gladiolus corms planted now will flower before Christmas. Planting fruit trees can continue this month.

Daphne Odora Rubra is the feature plant for July and the scent has to be one of the best. Plant near a doorway to get all the perfume which assures you spring is on the way. In the meantime, happy gardening.

Barry Highsted

Coastal Garden Group

Our guest speaker for June spoke on the topic of bee-keeping. Hector moved to New Zealand from South Africa eight years ago and talked about the differences between bee-keeping in the two countries. ~~He was an agricultural advisor in South Africa's Kwazulu Natal province where honey production was the main source of income for bee-keepers. Eucalyptus forests provided good sources of pollen for the bees. Hives were set up to capture feral or wild bees from which an average of 30kg of honey per hive were collected – providing vandals and thieves didn't get there first. Hector's slides showed hives surrounded by razor wire in what to us seemed extreme measures to keep out his unwanted guests. All this and the fact that South African bees are more aggressive (having been trapped from wild swarms) made collecting the honey a more dangerous job than it first appears.~~

On arriving in New Zealand Hector made his home in the Moutere area and set up business in the valleys around Tapawera. Pollination as well as honey production and wax extraction took over and Hector and his business partner transport their bees to orchards, berry farms, kiwi growers etc as well as livestock farms where they are needed for clover growth. While pine forest is of no value to the bee, plantations of manuka/kanuka are of great value to honey gatherers. The price paid for manuka honey is more than double other varieties. Last year was a good year for honey production with Hector averaging 70kg per hive.

There are few wild bees swarming in New Zealand so Hector had to learn about 'queening' and took us through a year in the life of a hive. Cleaning and

checking for the varroa mite is a regular feature. Spring is a busy time for pollination with honey produced from December and harvested through to February. The bees are fed a sugar solution to replace the honey and are overwintered in the hive. While the varroa mite is the most talked-about pest, poisoning of bees by careless use of spays is also a problem.

The first of the club-sponsored floral art workshops took place in May and was extremely successful. Dates for the next two workshops are 19 July which will be a winter arrangement and 23 August for a spring one. We expect that the floral art entries in the Spring Show will be much higher than last year!

Max had been shopping and showed off several new heucheras. His notes referred mainly to how to deal with thrip, scale and sooty mould, all of which have been very prevalent this year.

The club helped our oldest member celebrate her 95th birthday by singing and cutting a cake in her honour. Congratulations Netta Perry, we hope there will be many more for us to celebrate with you. After tea the hobby spot was filled by Glenys Forbes who talked about PANZ (Pastel Art New Zealand) and her paintings, using this wonderful medium.

The next meeting, our AGM, will be on 1 July. We'll have a buffet style lunch to commence at 12.30pm in the supper room of the Mapua Hall. Plates of finger food please. If you'd like to join us, please call Barry Highsted, 540-139.

Richard Bamfield, Secretary

Moutere Hills RSA

The Annual General Meeting of Moutere Hills RSA was held in the Mapua RSA Memorial Library on Monday 14 June. President Norm Thawley opened the meeting by welcoming the attendance of 15 members plus five visitors from Nelson and Motueka RSAs and introducing the display of entries in the ANZAC Art Competition. This is on show in the library although the winning entry by Josh McPherson was away being framed. The accompanying brochure is quoted:

“Over the Anzac period students from Mahana, Tasman Christian, Dovedale and Upper Moutere Schools were invited to participate in an Anzac art competition. The brief was to present art that represented the spirit of Anzac. As you can see the results were impressive, with a great deal of variety, styles and genre.

Local artist Steve Fulmer judged the art. Steve looked for art that reflected the theme Anzac. He is a fan of folk art, and appreciates images that connect directly with the audience.

The winning piece was Josh McPherson's. Josh used great drawings, colour and layout in his take on the word ANZAC.

The competition included two merit awards: Jenny Grant-Sands of Dovedale School for her sophistication and use of the map and the simple black lettering on the white/red poppies – reflecting bandages, blood, war is clinical – lives will be lost. The second merit award went to Stuart Gordon, also of Dovedale School, for his murky impression of mud & blood, harsh use of barbed wire, red paint and artistic interpretation.”

The Notice of Motion “that Moutere Hills RSA cease to be sub-branch of Nelson RSA and become an independent branch” was the main item of discussion with some clarification of details coming from Barry Pont of the Nelson branch. The proposer of the motion sought the approval of his seconder to withdraw the motion. This was agreed and the matter will be held over to next year.

The election of officers resulted largely in re-election of the incumbents except for the committee which now comprises J Sharman, P Butchart, F Robb, H Beere, D England and L Thawley. In general business Barry Pont spoke regarding the need for us to make nominations for RSA Merit Awards. The meeting closed at 3.45pm with refreshments in the RSA Room. Thank you, ladies.

F H Gibbison

MAPUA Bowling Club

The AGM of the Mapua Bowling Club was held recently with an excellent attendance of members. Principal officers elected for next season were: President, Arnie Ahnfeldt, ph 540-3032; secretary, Jean Daubney, ph 543-2765; treasurer, Margaret Busby, ph 544-6325; Club Captain, Don Sixtus, ph 540-2960.

It was with great delight and pleasure we acknowledged at the meeting the success of two of our lady members who won the Nelson Centre Champion of Champions Senior Women's Pairs. Congratulations to Sylvia Peters and Sue England, It was a great achievement for a small club.

Small is great; however, we are actively seeking new members. Over the next two months you may like to consider taking up the challenging and rewarding game of outdoor bowls. We are a warm and welcoming club of 27 members with excellent club facilities. Contact any of our members if you would like to have a try. We have bowls and coaching available for beginners. We are looking forward to opening our new season in September.

Maurie Daubney

Mapua Boat Club

The Mapua Boat Club is about to start re-vamping the club's photo museum on the wharf. The club applied successfully to the TDC Community Development Fund for funds to help with this task, and were granted \$3000 which is targeted to the refurbishment of the photos and display boards. The club will need to fund-raise to complete the other aspects of the refurbishment.

A sub-committee of enthusiasts has been established and this group has some wonderful ideas for enhancing the Photo Museum for the enjoyment of the public, and the preservation of important local history.

The Mapua Boat Club was founded in the mid 1980s specifically to prevent the wharf and wharf sheds from being demolished. This goal has been achieved and the wharf is now the focal point of our community. The revamped Photo Museum will further enhance the area.

If you have any photos, or stories or artifacts which relate to the wharf, which you would be willing to share, please get in touch with the Mapua Boat Club. (Contact the Secretary at Mapua Boat Club, Mapua Mail Agency, Mapua or suepryde@clear.net.nz).

Views wanted on cycle-walkway plans

The Mapua and District Cycle-Walkway Group wants to hear opinions of members and other residents on a range of proposed new cycle and walkway routes included in the Mapua Structure Plan.

The recently-released structure plan advocates increasing the number of cycle-walkway routes. One of the new principles in the revised plan is that there should be "well-connected streets and pathways that reduce travel distances for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles in Mapua and Ruby Bay".

The document incorporates what it describes as "linking cycle-walkway routes to enhance walkability and to reduce car trips to key destinations such as the school, the shopping area and the coastal margin". It also features indicative esplanade strips and reserves along the estuary edge to the south of Mapua to preserve coastal vegetation and provide walking links to the coast.

The plan and associated maps can be seen on the TDC's website or viewed at the Mapua Library.

The Cycle-Walkway Group uses e-mail as the primary way to communicate with members. It will soon be circulating its draft submission on the Structure Plan to members for their comments. We are interested in hearing comments from anyone who has interest in walking and cycleways, particularly in areas where the plan indicates more than one option for cycle-walkways.

Anyone wishing to be included on the group's e-mail data base and see its draft submission for comment, should send an e-mail message to David Mitchell at: david.mitchell@mapua.gen.nz

David Mitchell

Fire Brigade



May-June call-outs

May 15: Diesel spill on Seaton Valley Rd, not found.

June 4: Fires for land clearing Trafalgar Rd, no action by brigades. Persons told not to burn at night.

June 4: Fires for land clearing Bronte Rd West. Same call as above.

June 6: Alarm activation at Kina due to steam from shower.

Calls this year to date: 41

Safety Tip – Fire can spread fast—have two escape routes if possible. Once out, stay out; never go back inside! Call the Fire Service on 111 from a safe place.

We have apple firewood for sale. Phone Eileen on 540-2871 for details.

During the day we sometimes have only three or four firefighters to respond to calls. As Upper Moutere, Motueka and Richmond are some time away two, three or more firefighters are needed to respond on both trucks, operate the equipment and do other jobs that need to be done. So if you think you help and are 18 years and older see below:

If you can hear the Mapua fire siren day and night, have spare time and would like to be a firefighter, we would like to hear from you.

If you work at home, do shift work or have a business around Mapua and can help, contact the Chief, Ian Reade, at home on 540-2238 or 0274 457 049, or call in at the fire station Thursday nights around 7:30pm. E-mail Mapua@fire.org.nz or the web www.fire.org.nz

Councillor's comment

While our export sector is experiencing a gradual recovery, there are signs that on the domestic front the recession for many may not be over. Some local retailers and those in the hospitality industry are experiencing some of the most difficult trading conditions seen for many years.

On a positive note, it is great to see the Draft Mapua Structure Plan finally released for public consultation. This has been a difficult journey dealing with such complex issues as climate change and the Mapua Fruitgrowers Chemical Company site.

There were two very well attended meetings in Mapua where council staff were on hand to answer questions relating to the Structure Plan. Having attended both of these meetings I was surprised to see headlines in the paper, "Plan angers residents of Mapua and Ruby Bay".

I certainly don't think that was an accurate assessment of views expressed at those meetings. I was pleased to see a more balanced editorial from the *Nelson Mail* released later in the week.

The period for submissions close on 10 July and it is important that people express to the council, not only their views on what they don't like, but also their views on what they think is good about the Structure Plan.

Congratulations to those members of the Mapua and District Community Association who were

involved in presenting to the council a comprehensive report on the Dominion Flats area surrounding the Ruby Bay by-pass. The council adopted the recommendation to support the community's proposal to look at acquiring approximately 8ha of land to develop a multi-purpose reserve. This will be a tremendous asset not only for the Mapua community but also the greater Tasman region and will contribute greatly to the ecological health of the Waimea Estuary.

In the June issue of the *Coastal News* I mentioned the new Auckland Super City and concerns that 80% of council business was going to be done by council-controlled organisations, the directors of which are not elected by the ratepayers of Auckland. Pressure has been brought to bear on the government regarding the lack of transparency and erosion of democracy, which has resulted in changes to the governance structure. The amended bill now gives the new council greater ability to remove directors, while a proportion of vacancies will be set aside for council appointments.

Getting up at 2am to watch the All Whites has been a great experience. They really typify the Kiwi attitude to beat the odds. May we all remind ourselves of that when the going gets tough.

Cr Brian Ensor

Clear mandate on Mapua Hall

After making a recommendation to the community at a public meeting on 14 October last year, that we build a new hall, we were confronted with significant comment and correspondence that questioned the wisdom of that recommendation. While we appreciated the thoughts and arguments presented we also felt we needed to hear a wider range of views. Our October meeting was the beginning of a consultation process that concluded with our committee visiting most hall user groups and a number of other community groups with an opinion survey form from late April through to June this year.

Ten groups were surveyed and another five consulted but without survey. This was because the non-surveyed groups were made up of one or two members of interest groups (usually chairpersons) and the purpose of the consultation was to share information rather than fill in the survey. Two public meetings were part of this process and the final meeting held last week was widely publicised. While attendance at these public meetings was not as high as we would have liked, we believe everyone in the community, prepared to make the effort to attend a meeting, had an opportunity to have their say and to complete an opinion survey form.

The results of this survey sent a clear message to our committee. Most people we surveyed want a hall much improved on the one we have, and 64% of respondents felt we needed a new hall. Another 27% felt a major upgrade was the best option. A major upgrade that meets the community requirements we are already aware of, would involve a significant modification to the existing facility. This effectively means that 91% of those surveyed would like a hall that will look and feel like a new facility when it is completed.

We also recognise that our hall is now used for a wide range of activities and there are other potential users who would like to see this range extended even further. In effect, our hall is already operating as a community centre and this is the concept we will be taking into the planning phase.

The decision to rebuild needs to be accompanied by a couple of provisos:

Number one has to be affordability. Any development ideas come at a cost and we would be less than honest if we pretended that paying for a new facility will be easy. The hall society's reserves are small relative to potential costs and while we have made some important steps towards obtaining significant funding from sources that will not be a direct drain on the community pocket, we will still need considerable community support, especially if we are going to meet

our targets in a reasonable time frame. I believe we need to adopt a, "can do," attitude towards raising the necessary funds and we need to press on with it as soon as possible. The experience of other committees in this region who have set out to create a new community facility has been that determination and a certain amount of bloody-mindedness, is essential. The challenge I would like to extend, is that we do everything in our power to be ready to start construction, three years from now.

Also linked to affordability are such things as:

- Other community projects that may compete with the hall for community funding
 - The level of savings we may be able to make through voluntary donations of skills and time
 - Savings we may be able to make by utilising parts of, or materials from, the existing hall complex.
- People with much more expertise than me say that it is usually cheaper to build new than to salvage from the old but I would like to see the latter at least explored, in an effort to avoid waste.

Number two proviso, a catch-all really, is that we don't encounter any major barriers to completing the project that we are currently unaware of.

Now that we have narrowed our target:

1) We need to study all the feedback we have from the community, and incorporate this into a design brief. I don't believe we will be able to meet every request or expectation but all will be considered.

2) To develop concept plans

3) To develop detailed drawings and costings

We believe a building size of 900sq m at a cost of \$1.8 million may be at the outer limits of our capacity to build and fund at this time but we clearly need to wrap some more precise figures around this.

There will be discussion with community groups through this planning process and opportunities for all members of the community to become informed and have some input. Once we have accurate costings we will be in a better position to let the community know how much we are going to need to raise through community effort. It can never be an exact science because we can only estimate what we may be able to raise from external sources but community effort is essential before we can even approach other funding bodies with reasonable expectations of success. They all require the community to be seen to be helping itself.

We look forward to pressing on with this project.

Richard Bullock, chairman, Mapua Hall Committee



Hall survey method queried

Mapua's hall is once again in the news as the hall committee releases the results of their surveying of local opinion. While I don't believe anyone is satisfied with the current state of the hall, I also don't believe that informed members of the community are too happy with the process by which the hall committee has reached its conclusions.

The paper slip survey, though worthy and indicative, is by no means a robust mechanism for making such an important decision as demolishing one of Mapua's pieces of history. If you ask people to either tick a box if they want a new car, a second-hand car or no car, of course most will tick the first option and the same applies with the hall decision.

Too many times we opt for the bright new thing; it is only when we have a good look around at what other communities have achieved by recognising, enhancing and celebrating heritage that we realise that the right decision can be about emotion as well as money.

I sincerely hope that a new hall committee will present more developed choices where the various visions for our future facility are studied in greater depth, with an ability for us all to grasp what the benefits and likely consequences could be.

People need more than a box to tick. They want to see some developed sketch drawings for several options, some costing projections based on high quality information and some idea of future running costs and probable tariffs. We have the skills within the community to deliver these missing parts of the puzzle. Before we move too far towards any particular option we should ensure that we have fully engaged our collective wisdom so that we find the best possible answer to the question of renewal of this much used and much loved facility.

Graeme Stradling

Wet and Dry on Roadworks

Wet and dry and slowly, slowly, is how one describes the by-pass project at the moment. If you're in the road-building business it's part of the game no matter how frustrating. If you're a motorist it is surprising how quickly you adjust to the changing nature of things. Fortunately there have been few disruptions.

At the south end of the project and at the Seaton Valley/Gardners Valley area it has been messy and confusing, and at the Chaytor Road and "Stagecoach" (Old Coach Road) connections and re-alignments.

However, 99% completion of all earthworks and completion of over 85% of sealing of the roadway is surely worth mentioning. Also completing the revised landscape design drawings. Landscaping has increased significantly from that originally proposed, particularly adjacent to the Waimea and Moutere estuaries and Higgs Reserve using "eco-sourced" plants.

This month will hopefully will see the diverting of traffic onto the new roadway from the south end of the project to Dominion Road and continuation of most of the work in progress already mentioned. Like most construction projects, it all moves quickly at first and the last bit seems to take for ever.

Dominion Flat: Ever heard of it? Listen. This is important. Why? Because, we, the public, can acquire it for FREE. Yes, so what is it then? Dominion Flats is the area running from the Dominion Road/SH60 intersection and follows Dominion Creek up to the top of the valley to Seaton Valley Road. It is a long and rather narrow strip of land which parallels the by-pass route. It is land that was originally bought by the NZ Transport Agency for the by-pass. It is now surplus and could be subject to sale on the open market, but it could be acquired by the TDC at no cost under section 50 of the Public Works Act.

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Letters to the Editor...contd

It is a "once-only" opportunity to secure this land for public ownership. This would enhance not only the Higgs Reserve restoration project but will tie into the Regional Cycleway. Public ownership will also allow this bit of land to be developed in an environmental manner with suitable trees and plants, all to complement the natural stream and natural swamp areas.

Why am I going on about this? Because the residents of our area need to get behind this most worth-while project. Contacting one of our local TDC councillors and urging them to support TDC acquisition of this land is an effective way to achieve this goal. It is a once-only opportunity, and is available to us now at no cost provided our TDC acts now. Take a moment, make a phone call, send an e-mail, write a letter. Our ward councillors Tim King, Trevor Norris and Brian Ensor are there to serve us. Let them know we want their support and assistance! Their contact information is available on the TDC website.

Roses: Elspeth Collier, David Mitchell and Devin Gallagher and members of the Waimea Estuary group deserve our thanks for their dedicated efforts regards the affects of the by-pass construction on the estuary, the fish and stream life, the bird life and a post-construction monitoring program.

Mapua Structure Plan: On 14 June, Rose Biss, TDC Planner, presented the updated Draft Mapua Structure

Plan at the Mapua & Districts Community Association monthly meeting. Very well attended. Lots of questions. Some people pleased, some not. Public submissions close on 15 July. Hopefully this will be extended by the TDC until mid-August.

Ministry of Health Community Meeting: Held on 14 June. Well attended by those affected and/or interested in this very important community health issue. A follow up report will be sent out to residents who are on the Ministry of Health mailing list. Hopefully some further action from the Ministry for the Environment to thoroughly clean the houses in the designated "dust-affected area".

Mapua Hall: By the time you are reading this, the Mapua Hall Committee will have had their AGM and we will know what their recommendation is for the future of the Mapua Community Hall. Special thanks to the chairman, Richard Bullock, for his dedicated effort to inform many of our community organisations and groups of the issues and alternatives.

Wharf Parking: Cr Brian Ensor assures me that there will be proper signage in place to direct motorists to the Waterside Park parking area ASAP. There's no time like the present. I will believe it when I see it.

Shortest Day: Today (21 June) is the shortest day of the year. Always looked forward to. I think it's better than New Year's Day. A good time for resolutions. Out of the dark and into the light. Meanwhile, baby it's cold outside!

Hugh Gordon

Community Association

As you walk around Mapua, you will notice that much work continues in improving and upgrading facilities in our district. The Ruby Bay seawall is nearing completion, and many of you will have observed the work going on down at the causeway leading over to the Leisure Park. The huge culverts going in there will work to flush that whole area out much more effectively.

Footballers are making good use of the night lights on Mapua Domain and over the weekends, and the cricket practice nets are getting pretty good use too. The association continues to work with the TDC for improvements on the skate park and at some point in the not too distant future, the playground will also be upgraded. The footpath from Mapua School down to the village is about to be upgraded as well.

And while we tend to hunker down on these cold evenings, many of us will still be enjoying the memories of watching our children enjoy the delights of jumping off the wharf over summer, thrilling in the drift down to the Leisure Park, rolling around in the mud then scurrying back for more. It was great for the parents too, enjoying good social times down at

the wharf. Something for us all to look forward to again next summer.

There is so much going on around our district – Gateway projects, the Ruby Bay by-pass nearing completion, planting out at Higgs Reserve, environmental assessments and the development of native vegetation around the Waimea Estuary, Mapua Wharf development...and so much more to come to fruition.

Community members young and older are reminded that the Annual General Meeting of the Community Association is coming up in August. The association is always welcoming new members so if you're new to the district, please do come along to find out all the great and good that is going on within our community. And if you feel like becoming a little more involved, you can join for the cost of a cup of coffee! We meet the second Monday of each month at 7.30pm in the Mapua Hall in the supper room.

Pam Stinton, secretary

Motorbike races allowed on Rabbit Island beach

Motorcycle races will be allowed again at the Mapua end of the Rabbit Island main beach after a decision at a June meeting of the Tasman District Council.

Councillors agreed to a request from the Nelson Motorcycle Club to hold a beach race on the Rabbit Island beach on 3 January. This was in spite of the fact that the Rabbit Island Management Plan has no provisions for motorcycle races on the island.

Community Services manager Lloyd Kennedy told the councillors that the plan was up for review, and the event would give the public to experience the impact of the racing.

The club had held races on the Rabbit Island Beach to celebrate its centennial and then held them there again in January this year, he said.

The weather was unfavourable for the latest event, Mr Kennedy said, "which probably resulted in minimal impact on other users".

"While it is important not to continue holding events that are contrary to the management plan, the holding of another event will provide the council and the public the opportunity to monitor the impact it has on other users of the island at that time of year," he said.

Conditions included the club paying \$1000 to the council for the maintenance of a mountain-bike track on the island.

Mr Kennedy said the review of the Rabbit Island Management Plan could allow for further motorcycle events, a possible rowing and aquatic course, camping facilities at Rough Island and greater use of the island for cycling.

Mahana School

As winter sets in Mahana School's enthusiasm for outdoor sport hasn't waned. Events in June included the year 5 and 6 Rippa Rugby tournament and Nelson Cross-Country event for the senior students. Outdoor activity at the school has seen many of the senior kids mastering the school unicycles to the extent that we are wearing out tyres at the rate of one every three weeks! The unicycles have proved to be in such demand that the school has bought a smaller version for the junior and middle room students that are just a few inches shorter.

The chillier weather hasn't dulled the spirits of the school community either with a winter working bee rounding off the month of June just before term break; albeit at the more agreeable start time of 11am. Being that this is scheduled for the day after the community disco evening, it speaks volumes for the dedication of the parents and teachers who support the school, with fund-raising activity and giving up personal time to keep the school in good condition.

Mahana, as always, looks for diverse education opportunities and realising that social education is just as important as academic arranged for the Life Education Trust mobile classroom to visit the school for two days in June. The Trust comes to schools by

invitation with a focus on teaching kids about life, themselves and others and how to realise their full potential. For this visit, each class will have two sessions focusing on social relationships. The classroom truck will be available for the parents to visit and meet with the Life Ed teachers on the second day.

Mahana School embraces the controlled use of the internet as a positive learning experience. The middle room is trialing Mathletics, an online interactive maths education programme that allows students to pit their skills against the clock and other students from around the world in a series of maths games. The results have been positive so far with some good results in the various age groups achieved.

Given the students' penchant for the theatre after the success of Mahana's 2009 school production, the entire school will be attending the New Zealand Playhouse's light-hearted production of *Old McDonald vs the Bionic Bunny* at Upper Moutere School to inspire our would-be actors.

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

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

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

House-sitting the way to go.

Police statistics show home invasions and burglaries have increased 21 per cent in the Nelson Bays area in 2009. Newspapers warn that, “The Burglars Are Busy” and “Burgeoning Burglaries In Waimea”. Your valuable possessions are at their most vulnerable when you are not home.

Burglars soon detect the signs that there is no one home. The best deterrent is to have a responsible live-in house-sitter caring for your home. Your home will be securely locked up, your mailbox cleared, phone answered, curtains opened in the morning and lights switched on at night. Suspicious characters will be reported to the police. With a SecureHomeSitter in residence prospective burglars will not know you are not there.

Apart from the costs of kennels and catteries, pets become very stressed when their doting owners disappear and they are suddenly alone or in strange surroundings with different food and routines. A live-in house-sitter will feed and pamper your pets according to your instructions.

Our house-sitters pay for their own food and all toll calls made while you are away. Rooms not needed by them can be locked for insurance purposes.

It is also reassuring to know that someone will take care of any emergencies while you are away. A burst water pipe, electrical malfunction, fire or broken down freezer is not something pleasant to return to after a holiday.

SecureHomeSitters is a Nelson-based house-sitting service that offers a professional, conscientious and responsible live-in house-minder who has a police clearance and contactable references to look after your home. A written agreement and a duty list ensures all expectations are met.

Don't become a victim of a burglary. It can happen to anyone. You can enjoy peace of mind while away from home knowing that your precious pets and possessions are being lovingly cared for.

SecureHomeSitters is house-minding in Mapua at the moment and can be contacted by phone at 021 027 425 02 or e-mailing SecureHomeSitters@gmail.com

Sam's Spam

July 2010

Hi everyone. In my last two columns I have been writing about free computer courses, either in this area or online. Well this time I have been investigating typing courses on the internet as having good typing skills is the key (no pun intended) to getting the most out of your computer. I have tested a few and picked three free ones. I have put them in order of my preference but all of them are good.

<http://www.goodtyping.com/>

Available in several languages: English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and also has an option to change to the keyboard image of that country (20 different keyboard layouts).

You can try the exercises and speed typing test without registering but do need to sign up to get the best out of the site.

There are 27 guided lessons to learn step-by-step from the beginning.

Nice clear graphics – the keys to be pressed are shown in colour and the text can be made larger. It also has a colour guide to show you which colour corresponds with which finger.

It will not let you enter the wrong thing on the screen – it stays blank until you find the correct key.

Web-based course. No downloads required.

Downside: the typing speed test can time out before you finish, meaning you have to start again.

<http://www.typingweb.com/>

You can try the exercises and speed typing test without registering but do need to sign up to get the best out of the site.

If you register with TypingWeb you can track your progress and access additional content. It has courses for beginners, intermediate, advanced and speciality courses (i.e the Dvorak keyboard instead of QWERTY)

Has timer and accuracy features shown above the exercises being taken.

Clear images of the keyboard but not in colour. Has six typing games, and 10 just for fun games.

Downside: the games are quite slow to load.

<http://www.typing-lessons.org/>

No need to register.

Set of 18 free online typing lessons and six typing exercises suitable for beginning typists to full-blown touch-typing.

Has the keyboard in colour and this corresponds to the different-coloured fingers shown.

As you type, the letters on the screen change colour.

If you make a mistake it will tell you to try again.

Downside: Quite a lot of writing on the screen before you start but you can skip this.

MAPUA COMBINED PROBUS

The club's guest speaker at the club's monthly meeting in June was Keith Adams, who gave a detailed talk on the operation of the St John Ambulance Service. Keith, a volunteer for the service, started as a "penguin cadet" at the age of five. Since then he has been involved with various jobs including ambulance driving. He is a member of the St John Nelson Area Committee.

The New Zealand St John service was started in Merivale, Christchurch, in 1885. Recently they held a celebration for 125 years' service attended by the Duke of Gloucester. The ambulance service covers 85% of the country giving a 24/7 day service. There are 39 paid staff and 38 volunteers including a helicopter pilot. The service has 38 operational ambulances that can cover up to 16 million kilometres a year throughout New Zealand

There are three main call centres in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. The emergency dialing of the 111 system goes through the Telecom exchange. If the ambulance service is not available the fire service is contacted. Most of their staff are trained in first aid.

Funding for St John is through a percentage from rates, the sale of the St John Life Link, and other means of income are first aid courses run by the St John Ambulance service, often held at various sports clubs and business venues, the sale of first-aid kits,

and ACC also funds them through public use of the ambulance service. They are also very much dependant on public donations.

St John volunteers are often available in the hospitals to help and support patients in need of company. There are also another group of mainly female volunteers that give periodic courtesy calls to elderly people living on their own.

Keith also spoke of future development of the St John in Mapua. There is a penguin group of six to eight-year-old children that meet with a St John volunteer to introduce them to first-aid skills. Keith is hoping to extend this service to form a St John Cadet Group made up of youths from eight to 18 years. Keith finished his talk with a good variety of questions from club members.

The club's mini-speaker was the Mapua Hall Committee chairman, Richard Bullock. His aim was to get members to submit their opinions on the possible upgrade or replacement of the Mapua Hall. The Probus Club was the 11th social group he had spoken to about the hall. The committee aim is to get as much response from the Mapua community to enable the committee to make a positive decision on the future of the hall. Much of the detail of the meeting was outlined in Richard's report in the June edition of the *Coastal News*.

David Higgs

Mapua & Districts Soccer Club

Team Profiles

Midgets

The Mapua Midgets give the big thumbs-up to their new goals which were made possible by a grant from the Mapua and Ruby Bay Community Trust. They have been hugely popular at practice and at the games the kids get to score their goals like real soccer players as opposed to just shooting between two cones. Both teams are still undefeated in the competition so far but the real positive is the way the teams have been improving and supporting each other. Well done to the Cool Dudes and the Magic for their great efforts and a big thank you to the Mapua and Ruby Bay Community Trust for helping make these goals possible.



Pip, Coach

Senior Men

After the disappointing start to the season the men had hoped for a better second half. But the luck has not been with the team as they have lost all their games in April and May, finishing at the bottom of the table.

In a number of games the team would have definitely earned a point or three but the team just can't score any goals this year.

The game against Golden Bay was a prime example with Mapua dominating for 90 minutes the winner of our group but unable to score a goal despite many chances. So it was counter attack by the guests that decided the game in their favour. Luckily for Mapua, the season starts from scratch in early June so we will look to win our pool and do well in the different cups.

It has been promising to see that despite the large number of losses more players have joined the senior men team in the last few weeks and so the practices on Wednesday at 6.30pm always have a dozen or so player running around despite the colder weather.

Unfortunately we also had a few injuries, with Richard Bamfield rupturing his Achilles, being the worst. It speaks for Richard that he turned up for practice the week after the surgery to check on the team whether they were doing all the skills correctly. All the best for a speedy and full recovery from the team!

Frank, Coach

Mapua Women

The 1st round of the women's second division competition kicked off in April sunshine and finished in a June downpour, with Mapua Women unbeaten. In fact they have only conceded two goals so far and put 71 goals in the back of the opposition's net.

However, it was touch and go for while that we would be able to field a team at all. Several of the

original players from seasons past had hung up their boots so we headed for the beginning of the season five or six players short of a good squad. Some frantic ringing around and little arm-twisting and good luck secured a great squad.

The commitment and love of women's football means we have "the Blenheim Crew" commuting every Sunday morning rain or shine. Shannon Smith, Leigh Jones, Chloe Young and Carla Crane all drive for two hours just for the love of the beautiful game and have added a real buzz to the team.

As the goal difference suggests some of the games have been a little one-sided, but only in goals. The league is made up of mainly high school teams so what the opposition lack in goal scoring ability they make up for in young legs and fitness. So many of the games have been hard-fought wins, especially for Bridget Wild, Sian Potts, Anna Caswell and newcomers to the game Lara Bruce Miller, Jeannie Smethurst, Virginia Fay and Tracy Duncan, all of whom have worked really hard to improve their game and showed great midfield and defensive work to keep clean sheets in all but two games. On the wings Anna Pearson has been dominant on the right and the ever-reliable Charmaine Gallagher has been causing all sorts of trouble on the left. The team is also supported by a couple of up-and-coming football stars with Tasha Potts helping out in defense and Rosie Wild doing all she can to score goals up front.

Andy and John Waugh from The Tap are honorary squad members for their very acceptable after-match functions, and ongoing support of Mapua Football. Thanks guys!

We are all really excited about the next stage of competition and are hoping for a little stiffer competition and maybe even promotion! But whatever happens Mapua can be proud of its Xenas every Sunday morning, because they are out there doing what the men's team have failed to do this season, and WIN GAMES!

If you fancy a game or just want to work on fitness, you are most welcome to join us at training at 6.15pm on Thursdays at the Domain

Toby, Coach

Mapua and Districts Football Club, PO Box 38, Mapua.

President, Sian Potts, 540-2248; Treasurer, Phil Jones, Toby Wild, Senior Men's co-ordinator, 540-2030; Bridget Wild, Senior Women's co-ordinator, 540-2030. E-mail sianpotts@xtra.co.nz.

Mapua Health Centre

In case you are still wanting to make use of the flu vaccine, it is still available for free to those over 65 years or if you have a chronic medical condition such as asthma requiring regular medication, heart disease, diabetes, etc. Also, for those with ongoing mobility problems, wheelchairs are available for loan from the RSA.

July includes “forget-me-not” week which highlights the problem and needs of those with dementia. In NZ the number of people with dementia is doubling every twenty years. Currently, 40,746 New Zealanders have dementia and its estimated that by 2026, the number will be 74,821 and by 2050, it will have increased to 146,699. For every one person with dementia, it takes seven pair of hands to help care for them. That’s nearly 300,000 people nationwide affected by dementia.

Although there aren’t any cures there are some potential ways to decrease the onset and improve outcome and trawling through the journals suggests that having a Mediterranean diet decreased the risk and slows ongoing memory loss (*Arch Neurol* 2006) along with increased fish oil (*J Neurochem*. 2010), fruit and vege’s (*Am J Geriatr Psychiatry*, 2009), vitamin D (*Neurology*, 2009), avoiding trans fatty acids from heated oils and some junk food (*Arch Neurol*. 2003), not getting overweight (*Arch Intern Med*. 2003) and avoiding excess iron and aluminium (*Brain Res Bull*. 2001).

People who exercise, participate in intellectually stimulating activities, and remain active in social networks appear to be at lower risk for Alzheimer’s (*Lancet Neurol*. 2004). There is also some evidence for taking supplements such as chromium (*Nutr Neurosci*, 2010), Ginkgo biloba (*Pharmacopsychiatry*

2010), vincopine (*Eur J Pharmacol*. 2009), B vitamins (*Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*, 2008), and thankfully it looks as if chocolate, tea and wine in moderation may be helpful (*J Nutr*; 2009) along with a study that showed that 3-5 cups of coffee per day in midlife decreased dementia later in life (*Alzheimer’s and Dementia*, 2008).

There is also some evidence that hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) may be able to help some neurological conditions including memory impairment associated with cerebrovascular disease (*UHM* 2005). HBOT it is about using 100% oxygen at higher than normal pressures in order to speed up the recovery from certain injuries and to improve the body’s ability to heal from a variety of conditions. The helpfulness of HBOT lies in its ability to produce much greater amounts of oxygen in the tissues of the body. The increase in pressure of oxygen with HBOT is a lot higher than breathing pure oxygen at normal pressure and up to 15 times higher than breathing air. It is this increased saturation of oxygen in our body tissues that can accelerate the natural healing process. Contact Bridget if you want to find out more about our facility at the health centre: bridget@mapuahealth.com.

Health promotion events for this month:

July 19-25 Women’s Refuge Awareness
www.womensrefuge.org.nz

July 12-18 Alzheimer’s “Forget Me Not”
www.alzheimers.org.nz

July 26-Aug 1 Māori Language Week
www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz

Also:

July 2 Term 2 ends - Primary, Intermediate & Secondary

July 19 Term 2 begins - Primary, Intermediate & Secondary

Police Update

Hi all. The roads are wet and slippery in the mornings now so be very careful when you are heading out and allow a bit of extra time for your journey. There are so many road works around as well at the moment—so be patient. As you will see from the incident report there have been a few thefts in the area. That BMX bike stolen from the school must be around somewhere. Hope you are all managing to keep warm out there. Take care.

*Grant Heney, Rural Community Constable, Motueka.
Ph 528-1226 (direct)*

Mapua Incidents:

June 13: Domestic incident in Crusader Drive

June 10: Theft of 20-litre plastic can of fuel and crayfish from vehicle parked in Higgs Road overnight.

June 7: Sudden death Marriages Road

June 2: Truck window smashed in Toru Street overnight

May 27: Domestic incident in Stafford Drive

May 26: BMX bike stolen from Mapua School, brown, Fuse 2 model

May 23: Terracotta pot and one metre tall plant stolen from Iwa Street

May 21: Minor car accident at Pinehill Road-SH6

KINA CLIFFS home of the
NBS TASMAN GOLF CLUB (Inc)

128 Cliff Road, RD1 Upper Moutere
Ph 03 526 6819

teeup@tasmanclub.co.nz www.tasmanclub.co.nz

We welcome you to come and play our 9 hole challenging course with spectacular views over Tasman Bay and the Mount Arthur ranges.

Greenfees: \$20 for 18 holes \$18 affiliated
- \$15 for 9 holes – Students half price.

Concession Books: \$100 for 10 rounds of 9 hole golf
and \$150 for 10 rounds of 18 hole golf

Club Days: Men: Saturday & Wednesday afternoons,
Women: 9 holes Monday morning
and 18 holes Tuesday morning

Social Golf: 9 holes every Friday morning. This group gives everyone from beginner to experienced golfer the chance to play our course and enjoy the friendly atmosphere generated by this group. It is a good introduction to golf as well as exercise and meeting new people. Come along and join in on the day.

Twilight Golf: Every Thursday during daylight saving.
Membership options range from \$50 to \$370.

For more information contact Kathy – see above for details.

Under The Bonnet with Fred

Love affair with VWs resumes after long gap

Terry Smith's love of Volkswagens started as a young man with his 1961 VW beetle which he had for 12 years. As Terry is in a wheelchair he rigged the Beetle himself with hand controls and even later hotted the car up by fitting a 1500cc motor. Beetles were a common vehicle in New Zealand until the invasion of Japanese vehicles but when the new VWs started appearing Terry remembered the old days and three months ago bought a VW again.

The 2005 VW Golf body is a typically pear-shaped hatch-back of the year but does retain a solid muscle feeling about its design. Nice bright-eye multi-function head lights and big rear lights placed up high to be easily seen by other traffic. Painted a nice deep high gloss silver with a nice bit of chrome on the grill along with the distinctive VW logo. Terry's car has nice up-spec 17in VW mags with 225/45/17 tyres.

For a four-door vehicle the front doors are long, making easy entry to the car and surprisingly big inside. I perceived the Golf to be small but it should be up-graded in status to a medium. The upholstery is a dark grey with a silver fleck. Head lining and dash beige colour and instruments high-lighted with silver/dark grey but colours don't seem to flow. Instrumentation on the Golf was amazing with everything you need to know easily seen from the driving position—speed, revs, oil pressure, temperature, fuel, fuel usage, gear position, nice radio—just too much to list.

The six-speed DSG (direct shift gearbox) transmission has the Tiptronic option where you move the T-bar lever across and you can change gear sequentially like a manual gear box. The rear view mirror that automatically dulls the glare of lights from a vehicle behind is luxury motoring and was my favourite. Boot space is wide but not deep enough for four persons' luggage. My thoughts: seats a bit hard and it needed a bit more colour or contrast inside to brighten it up.

Under the very shiny silver bonnet is the four-cylinder DOHC 16-valve 2000cc TDi diesel engine developing 138bhp (103kw). T meaning turbo and Di meaning common rail diesel direct injection. The engine has a cast iron block and aluminium head. The engine bay is very crowded but Terry had no qualms about pulling the top plastic noise dampener off the engine to show me around. Much to my amazement the oil filter is changed from above so no crawling about on your back trying to undo oil filter canisters and ending up with oil all over you. Some good



German thinking there. The six speed transmission provides smooth, undetectable gear changes which constantly displays the gear position on the dash.

The 2005 VW Golf weighs 1365kg, width 1.759m (quite tubby), length 4.024m but a very impressive fuel consumption over 3000km of 6.2 litres/100km (47.5 mpg). The 2006 Nissan Primera is considered a medium car at 1230kg, 1.695m wide and 4.430m long, with a fuel consumption of 8 litres/100km. Terry tells me that with the 55-litre fuel tank full he can drive to Christchurch and back. I wish I could get the Cadillac to do this on 80 litres!

Terry took me for a drive and we didn't waste any time with the speedo quickly up to 100kmh. Into the first right at the bottom of the Bluff on the Coastal Highway, nothing moved except the rev counter as the auto kicked down to 5th gear, around the lazy left, still accelerating and believe me the car changed into 6th gear and stayed there still accelerating up the Bluff road until we went around the hard left at the top where it changed with German efficiency to 4th gear, ready to accelerate back up to 100kmh.

I had a drive of the Golf and found the steering steady as, positive acceleration on demand from the six-speed gearbox making this a great passing car. After a quiet, smooth ride driving the road to Upper Moutere I said to Terry, "I would buy one of these cars," a compliment from a renowned auto writer. (Sic)

I suggested Terry customise the interior of the car to make it brighter but I think he likes it the way it is. Terry tells me he set the cruise control on 100kmh at the bottom of Spooners Range and his Golf maintained 100kmh in 6th gear to the top. Now that's impressive. Terry's 2005 Golf TDi is very economic for a medium size car. It has all the bells and whistles and is a real smooth operator.

Fred Cassin

Cheque boosts wetland project

Friday 11 June was a historic day for the Friends of Mapua Wetlands, the budding environmentalists and the students of Mapua School. As a result of an application made to Kids Restore New Zealand, Scott Bremner, a committee member from the organisation, flew down from Auckland to present a cheque for \$4500. The money will go towards buying plants for the swamp forest restoration and employing a person to work alongside the students as they plan and develop Tane's Ark.

During his visit, the students took Scott to check out the project. The students proudly spoke about the project and process they had gone through so far. They demonstrated their knowledge of the area and the native plants and why they are important to a swamp forest or wetland habitat. Mr Bremner said he was very impressed by the number of plants already in the ground and the fact that many students had given up their own time to plant them. So far the team has planted around 1000 plants.

The cheque was presented at the school assembly later in the afternoon. Before he handed the cheque

over, Scott Bremner commented on how the money was going to a very good cause and he was looking forward to coming back in the near future to see the growth and progress of the project.

Alice Reade, Jessica Cox and Hayley Reid



The photo shows Kynan Cowley-Hunt, Alice Reade and Jessica Cox in the front row. David Mitchell, Janet Taylor, Scott Bremner and Teressa Hosie in the back row.



The Friends of Aranui Park are making steady progress towards the beautification of the area around the pond. Along with Tasman District Council staff "friends" planted a variety of 350 plants around the pond, which looked good after some rain.

BOOK REVIEW

This month's book is When Will There Be Good News? by Kate Atkinson, available in the Mapua Library. Reviewed by Tony Small.

The best novels depict memorable characters. Reggie, a resourceful 15-year old, is such a one. She is the centre around whom Kate Atkinson's latest book *When Will There Be Good News?* revolves. A most unfortunate fate has befallen Reggie's mother, her brother has gone bad, but she is building her own existence with imagination and determination ... "Half child, half force of nature". She is finishing her schooling with help from a dying ex-teacher, a woman who is finding comfort in 'The Church of the Coming Rapture'; loony tunes, Reggie thinks.

Reggie is nanny for Joanna, a doctor whose whole family (including the dog) was killed in a terrible, random murder when she was six. Joanna escaped by running into the wheat paddock, but 30 years later she is haunted, partly because she can't remember the dog's name, and there is no-one left to ask. Now she has her own baby, and a husband who "hadn't needed healing, he was whole in himself".

Jackson Brodie ("I used to be a policeman") is journeying home, so he believes, and working through his muddy relationships. He thinks often of the comments the women in his life would make about his actions, unaware that he will be meeting once more with Louise Munroe, a former colleague.

Detective Chief Inspector Munroe ("Good Wife, Bad Wife") is preoccupied with two killers, one intent on murdering his family, and the other (the recently released killer of Joanna Hunter's family) possibly looking to complete the job. As well Louise is coming to the realisation that she has recently married the wrong man.

Kate Atkinson follows each character in turn, developing their complexity and history through their thoughts, conversations (often imaginary) and actions. As events draw the characters together (actually, it's more of a collision course) each begins to deal with their personal difficulties, and see a different way to the future.

Snatches of song and poetry float into the minds of Atkinson's people with such frequency and potency that they almost constitute another character. This is not so for the dogs, however, who are also important to the realism and enjoyment of the story.

At a recent literary event, a reader asked Kate Atkinson, "Will Reggie be all right?" Atkinson reassured her that yes, she would. Testament to the power of a novelist capable of creating characters that matter to readers.

Kate Atkinson is one of my 10 best living authors, and this is her best book.

Coastal Connections

It was all about aging gracefully, as illustrated in the accompanying photo, for the May luncheon. Netta Perry, one of the original settlers in the Mapua region, looking gorgeous, posed for me outside the historic Moutere Inn. Seated in the dining room, we all felt privileged to still be able to dine where people had done so for several generations. The ambience of the room and its historical connection all felt very special. Hope to see you all at the Smokehouse for our next gathering.

The Mapua Inlet was the scene for the June lunch at the Wharfside Restaurant and Cafe. We all loved the "retro" style of the renovations which have recently been made at the restaurant.

After lunch, we enjoyed browsing through the local galleries and shops for nick-nacks for our homes.

Please note the change of venue for the next lunch which is now Up The Garden Path in Motueka.

Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Julie Haliday



MAPUA LIBRARY

Ph 540-2545



Congratulations to the Mapua School's team "Mapua Crocodiles" for winning a recent literary quiz run by the Motueka Public Library. We are delighted to know we have enthusiastic and knowledgeable young readers in the district but certainly not surprised as we have many local children using our library and receive many helpful suggestions from them as to what books they would like us to stock. Consequently over the past we have concentrated on increasing our stock in the Children and Young Adults' section to enable us keep up with the demand for books in this area.

This will become an even more important area to stock as the school has had to relinquish their library to provide more teaching space. We have been liaising with Neil and teachers as to how we can help provide this valuable facility for the children. As a result of recent successful trial visits with all the classes on Friday mornings during May, the library will open every Friday morning after the school holidays to provide library time for the children.

I should clarify that this temporary arrangement will be subject to our computerisation system 'Koha' being up and running, but we are confident that this will be available by mid-July. We are delighted to be able to help teachers provide the children with valuable library time and look forward to introducing even more

children to our facilities. These Friday morning sessions will be available only for the school classes; our normal opening hours for the public will apply in the afternoon – 2pm to 4.30pm.

Good reading habits start earlier than at primary school though. We also supply books to the Mapua Early Childhood Centre and if you have been in the library on a Thursday or Friday you may have seen the gorgeous 'littlies' from Bounce sitting in the children's area having stories read to them. Then they line up so beautifully with their chosen book for stamping; we receive 'thank you's' from them all before they head off back to 'Bounce'. We do enjoy these visits.

Meantime we continue to make progress with the installation of 'Koha', our computer programme, and advise that the library will close again from Saturday 3rd July. We hope to re-open on Thursday morning 8th July but this will depend on the progress we make. We regret the inconvenience to our readers but this will be final time we will need to close for any length of time and thank you in advance for your tolerance.

Dot Moriarty

Library Hours:

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 2pm – 4:30pm
Wednesday 5pm – 6:50pm
Thursday 10am – 12:30pm

AN ANNOUNCEMENT

We are in the process of arranging a "DANCE" to launch the **fund-raising** for the proposed changes to the Mapua Hall. The date chosen is **Saturday, 14 August**, at the Hall. (Please mark your calendar).

Glitz and Glitter is the theme

A mask is a requirement for all.

Ladies a plate, men a bottle.

A very good band has been approached.

Tickets \$20 each person,

available at Tessa Mae's from 1st August.

We can sell only 200 tickets (sorry)

so first-in, first-served.

Come and blow away this wet winter and celebrate the coming spring.

Enquires to Barry Highsted, 540-3139.

(Member Friends of the Hall)

The Penguin has landed

On the fourth of December 2009 something wonderful happened—good fish and chips returned to Ruby Bay. For a long time the shop where the Penguin now stands lay dormant with only dust for customers, today the sight is a very different one. People from all walks of life come from as far away as Richmond to enjoy the delicious Kiwi feast that is fish and chips.

Whether it be on the beach, in the park or inside watching telly, I have always enjoyed the taste of hot crispy chips and lightly battered fish. It has been an integral part of our culture since the days of yore; we may not have created it but we damn well perfected it!

New Zealand boasts some of the world's freshest and best fish; being so close to the local supplier the Penguin is no different. This means that the fish gets from the Pacific to the plate in the shortest time possible.

Aotearoa has always held the humble tater in high regard, from the kumara in a hangi to the potatoes in Sunday's roast, but however great these things are alone nothing compares to their powers combined, Fish and chips, a match made in the heaven of taste buds. Now I, Pip Richards, Knight of the Hungry and Filler of Stomachs brings this feast to you five times a week. So if you are looking from anything from a snack to a banquet you need look no further than the Penguin in Ruby Bay.

Penguin Takeaways, open 4-8pm Wednesday to Sunday, ph 540-2062. Let your telephone do the cooking!

Zumba arriving in Mapua

A fitness craze sweeping the world is coming to Mapua.

Zumba is new to Mapu and classes will begin in late July. Zumba makes fitness fun and the craze for it has spread like wildfire and it has positioned itself as the single most influential movement in the fitness industry. Why? Because Zumba is fun—the type of exercise you want to do and feel good about doing it. It's different; you probably never thought you would exercise to this type of music. It's effective; it is an aerobic workout, which we all know works, but as it is so much fun you stick with the programme until you get results.

In Mapua Zumba will be taught by two qualified instructors so there is twice the fun. It also means you are able to follow the moves and work out at the level that is best for you. Experienced and UK-trained, Caroline and Tracy are excited about bringing Zumba to Mapua and both live locally. Registered Exercise Professional qualifications also ensure a safe and complete body workout.

Zumba is suitable for all, but please discuss any personal conditions or injuries with Caroline and Tracy before beginning as there may be special options applicable to you. A standard one-hour class uses four basic rhythms based on simplified versions of salsa, merengue, cumbia and reggaeton (mixed up with a bit of mambo, flamenco, rumba and calypso).

It's a cardio-based workout which also helps tone and sculpt the body. It's a great way to lose weight, increase strength and co-ordination, and to foster self-esteem and pure happiness. That is why so many people love it and get addicted to it. However unsure you might be at the idea of shaking your booty to a swinging Latin beat, it seems that in the no one in the area is going to be immune from Zumba. In fact, don't even try to resist: give in, get up and join the party. Call 540-3315 for more information.

Ruby Coast/Moutere Hills Logo Design Brief

Background

The Mapua and Districts Business Association (MDBA) Marketing Sub-Committee has been asked to develop a logo to create an identity/brand that reflects the Ruby Coast Moutere Hills area.

This logo will be incorporated within all advertising, imagery, signage, print, future website and be able to be used alongside present and future sub-brands relating to the Ruby Coast Moutere Hills area.

Action

Designs are now being sought from the community for the new Ruby Coast Moutere Hills Logo, which will form part of the overall brand.

Criteria

The logo design must reflect the unique qualities of the Ruby Coast Moutere Hills area and lifestyle, incorporate suggested colours and wording and be adaptable for all intended uses as detailed above.

The logo design should create a local shared identity and be easily recognised by potential visitors to the area.

Deadline

Logo designs are required by 30th July 2010 and should be forwarded to: MDBA Coordinator, PO Box 8, Mapua 7048, or via email: coordinator@mapua.biz

Terms and Conditions

1. Logo designs must be original work.
2. Copyright of the final selected logo design will be vested with the MDBA.
3. MDBA reserves the right to alter or amend the submitted logo design.

4. Submissions will be reviewed by the MDBA Marketing Sub-Committee.

5. The successful logo designer/s will receive full recognition for their contribution.

6. Selection criteria and terms of reference available from MDBA Coordinator.

Letter to Soccer Clubs

The Mapua & Districts Soccer Club has received a copy of a letter sent to clubs:

“I have received information that some parents are giving referees a hard time when players have been refused entry back on to the field of play whilst bleeding or blood injury is exposed.

Nelson Bays Football would like to remind all coaches, parents and team members that you cannot allow players who are bleeding or have exposed blood injuries back onto the field of play as the health risk to other players is paramount.

Referees please note this and be strong and if you are given a hard time report incidents to me.

Coaches/Parents: Please abide by this and have appropriate first-aid equipment so that should you so wish you can stop the bleeding, cover the wound and then allow the player to go back into the game.

Please distribute this to all coaches immediately.

A reminder that coaches are responsible for the behaviour of parents on the touchline.”

Clive Beaumont, General Manager, Nelson Bays Football

New Signs Plans for Ruby Coast

The communities of Mapua, Ruby Bay and the Tasman area will soon see the first of its new interpretative signs. This is planned for the Tasman Domain area and future signage, throughout the coastal area, will adopt the same style and similar threads of information. The Coastal Initiative Group, through the Mapua and District Business Association, has successfully applied to the Tasman District Council for some initial funding for this important and enduring community-driven project. This will help define our emerging coastal communities and promote the special and unique character of the area.

The initial stage of this project is the development of a generic theme and design concept which can be used for a number of interpretative signs in the Ruby Coast area. The Ruby Bay by-pass has been the catalyst to developing a new identity for the area being by-passed by the construction of the new highway, and from this the concept of 'Ruby Coast' was born. The Coastal Initiative Group, responsible to its parent associations, develops strategies as we adapt to the changes and challenges facing us. These challenges include the new roading arrangement brought about by the Ruby Bay

by-pass and the emergence of a natural community of interest among the villages along the coast. New walking and cycling tracks are planned and will need wayfinding and local information panels. As well as this we need to share with our visitors and new arrivals the richness of the history, ecology and recreation available here.

High quality and creatively inspired panels, at points of interest and relevance, are a part of this strategy. These will tell the stories of our area and maximise the benefits and opportunities that could emerge as this unique coastal area transforms from highway fringe to destination. Each sign should include well researched local history and stories about the geography and flora and fauna. It should also have information, maps, graphics and community branding.

Applications are requested from designers who may be interested in the job of developing, in consultation with the community partners, the style concept and physical appearance of these signs as well as this initial prototype design and content in Tasman. See below for further information.

Coastal Initiative Group



Ruby Coast Interpretative Signage Project

MDBA has funding from the TDC to develop a concept and design for a series of Interpretative Signs throughout the Ruby Coast area incorporating local history, geography and utility info (maps, walkways etc); with a generic theme that will add value to the physical and cultural assets of this unique area. This project will be managed by the Coastal Initiative Group (CIG).

The project has two stages.

1. The concept and design work for information signs to be used in the Ruby Coast area. This will involve consultation with other community interest groups with the aim of gaining and maintaining community input, acceptance and ownership.

2. Production of the first example of the information signs, to be placed at the Tasman Gateway.

The MDBA would like to hear from anyone who may be interested in stage one of this project. If you would like more information please contact Janet Taylor via e-mail coordinator@mapua.biz.

Proposals must be received by the MDBA by 5pm on the 25th July 2010.

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.

Noticeboard

Annual General Meeting of the Community Association will be held 7.30pm Monday 9 August, Mapua Hall..

SecureHouseSitter will provide professional care for your pets and home while you are away. Excellent references and Police Clearance available. A SecureHouseSitter is house minding in Mapua at the moment. Available from 2 July. Phone 021 027 425 02 for more information.

Gardener & handyman available for garden rejuvenation, property spruce up, lawn manicure and general all round handyman work. Phone Graham 5432421 or wriggleville@ts.co.nz

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.

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

Mapua Village Quilters meet each Wednesday evening. We are a small group, anyone interested to join us, please contact Linda, 540 2840

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

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

Friendship Club meets third Thursdays 2pm, Supper room at the Hall. We have a game of 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

Tennis Coaching: If you would like to learn how to play tennis or simply brush up on your skills, please email Vanessa claybrookestate@xtra.co.nz . Group sessions run on Fridays at the Mapua Tennis Courts.

A great way to get fit and meet new people in a fun, social environment.

Cardio Tennis: heart pumping fitness which burns fat, increases stamina while having a whole lot of fun. The ultimate workout with no ability required. Classes on Mon & Tues 9.30-10.30am at Mapua Tennis Courts. Contact Vanessa 5432 332 or claybrookestate@xtra.co.nz

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

Probus Club meets first Fridays, Mapua Hall 1.30pm. All retirees most welcome. Enquiries to Pres. Ray Kitto, 03 520 2622, Secr. Margaret Butchart 5402686

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

RSA Meetings are held in the RSA room at the Mapua Library at 2.00pm, second Monday of each month and refreshments are served at the close.

Genealogy Computer Discussion Group: This year our bimonthly meetings will be 1.30pm on Saturdays on these dates: Aug 14th; Oct 9th; Dec 11th. Info: Val 540 3931 or Peter 540 2686.

Toy Library: check out our extensive selection of toys, puzzles & videos for children 0-5yrs. Located behind Mapua Hall every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 10-11.30am & 6.30-7.30pm. Phone Emma 03 929 5123 or Gill 543 2195 about membership or casual hire.

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, 540 2804. – sambennett@live.jp

Children's Gymnastics: 1-9yrs. Designed to improve a child's strength, balance, coordination, spatial awareness & eye tracking using hand apparatus, songs, and gym equipment in a fun, positive learning environment. Thursdays @ the Old Hills Community Church Hall, Mapua. Fridays @ Moutere Hills Community Centre, Upper Moutere. Ring Sam, 5432512

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

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