

June 2010

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Coastal News

www.mapua.gen.nz

email: coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz

covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,
run by volunteers

More Input Welcome on Mapua Hall

I had hoped to be able to make some form of announcement about the future of the Mapua Hall by this issue of the *Coastal News* but it is still too early to do so. Community consultation continues and while we have talked to many groups and a fairly clear picture of community preference on the future of the hall, is beginning to emerge, there are still some important groups to hear from and work to be done around due diligence.

At the end of each consultation meeting we ask those attending to fill in an individual preference form. We ask them to select from:

1. Leaving the hall as it is
2. Doing a minor upgrade
3. Doing a major upgrade
4. Building a new hall

One and four are reasonably self-explanatory although the range of options in a new hall is almost infinite. A minor upgrade involves dealing with compliance issues regarding the present toilets, putting some insulation in the roof and tidying up the kitchen. A major upgrade involves all aspects of a minor upgrade, re-organising the hall interior to improve traffic flow and access, improving heating, lighting and storage, possibly increasing the size of the hall footprint and giving the whole place a major facelift.

I think we can safely say that from the consultation done so far, the community is showing an overwhelming preference for either option 3 or option 4. People have clearly recognised that we need to create a hall meeting current needs and foreseeable future needs as well.

We are very keen to leave no stone unturned in giving everyone who is interested an opportunity to attend a meeting and fill in an individual preference form. To facilitate this, we plan to run a public meeting in the supper room of the hall on Wednesday 9 June at 7.30pm for all those who have not been able to attend a consultation meeting previously. At this meeting we will give you a quick update and then open the meeting

for discussion. We are happy to answer questions but won't be debating any issues raised as we want to hear what *you* have to say.

Our AGM will be held in the supper room on Wednesday, 23 June at 7.30pm. At this meeting we expect to make a formal announcement about what we plan to do with the hall. No specific building plans will be presented at this meeting but we expect to move on to the planning phase as soon as a clear target is announced. This will be a complex process as we have many submissions to work through, a large number of user requests to consider and a number of hall user groups to re-engage. Once we have what we consider to be, a sound concept plan, we will come back to the wider community for further consultation.

Present Hall Committee priorities are:

- Finishing off the community consultation work we are now doing
- Building community support
- Developing a fund-raising plan
- Planning a web page
- Making a decision on the future of the hall.

On behalf of our committee I wish to:

- Thank all those who have attended meetings so far, for the many ideas you have presented and for the general interest and support you have expressed. It is tempting to discuss some of these ideas here but space doesn't allow and it would be inappropriate at this time. Suffice to say that we have read and we have listened and all will be considered in due course.
- Thank the Mapua/Ruby Bay and District Community Trust for a generous donation that will help us pay for a recent building survey done on the hall
- Thank all those who have offered help. When we get to the stage of building design we will welcome input from those interested in this aspect of the work.

Richard Bullock, chairman, Mapua Hall Society.



Coastal Garden Group

The speaker for the month was Frank from Frank's Trees. He entertained us by talking about grafting. Frank deals mainly in ornamental trees but also discussed fruit trees. He explained the difference between high and low grafts and which trees were suited to which method. Root stock is very important too as this determines the tree's performance. The wood to be grafted should be healthy, one-year-old wood and while the time to apply the graft is spring, cuttings can be taken in autumn and kept in the fridge until the right time.

Brandishing a handy little knife, Frank showed us how to make a tongue and groove graft and a chip bud graft. Such was his skill in getting the notches just right it proved difficult to spot the join when he passed the wood around for closer inspection. He had lots of advice for renovating bendy specimens and large old trees to take advantage of the vigorous root system already in place and how to deal with pesky suckers.

Frank welcomes visitors to his nursery on Golden Hills Road, and is happy to help find the right tree for your particular conditions and requirements. Frank agreed to supply an apple tree for the club to experiment with a variety of apples grafted on the single root stock.

We had several new faces and guests at the meeting. There was a good response to the suggestion of floral art workshops/classes and 27 members signed up. These will be held on a Monday morning and Barry will be in touch with details of when, where and what materials will be required. We have future outings, bus trips and garden visits planned to include, the gardens of Havelock, large and small garden combos, a return to Talley's and Tait's, Denise MacQuarrie and several members' gardens.

Max's notes this month concentrated on the usual autumn tidy-up with a reminder to finish planting

daffodils. He recommended feeding bulbs when a few inches of leaves were showing and repeated Barry's advice to feed peach, nectarine and plums with potash now. He took The Prof's advice to plant garlic this month too. After tea, in the 'What do I do when I'm not in the garden?' slot, Anne-Marie showed a variety of cards she makes using different, mainly paper-based crafts.

Richard Bamfield

A new wing of the Coastal Garden Group has emerged. On a Monday morning last month 24 people gathered at the Mapua Hall to begin creating a floral arrangement from goodies taken from their gardens. By midday they had completed a masterpiece worthy to be taken home, This is to be a seasonal event and as overheard, "We have waited five years for this." It was most thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Mike & Barbara Halse



Garden Notes

Well, here we are into winter. June is the quietest month for the garden, with bulbs all planted, pruning completed and cleaning-up jobs all done after a super summer and a wonderful autumn. So all that is left is the vegie patch to prepare with a dressing of lime, compost dug in, and any animal manure available to add to the mix.

If you grow asparagus, their beds require food for spring growth. Mix two parts lime (dolomite) to one part of super phosphate and one part of bone dust. Scatter generously, two good handfuls per metre, to produce a bumper crop. Lime on the vegie garden is great for leaf crops as it produces fine broccoli, cabbages, rhubarb, and silver beet. June is the month to prepare the vegie garden for the coming spring.

In the flower garden it is still possible to plant sweetpeas and stocks. They will still grow on in spite of cold weather as long as they have good drainage.

Polyanthus, primrose and primula plants can be planted out. I dug a trench and put plenty of horse manure in then planted out as they begin to show flower buds I will give a dressing of blood and bone for a very good display. They prefer a cool situation and plenty of water to get them through the hot summer months.

Over recent years palms have come into vogue. A small variety are hardy enough to survive being planted outside. Often they look straggly with unsightly brown leaves hanging down and this is mainly due to a lack of water, Palms love a lot of water during the growing season. They must be kept moist at all times. Trim those burnt leaves and with little attention palms can add a new and interesting dimension to your garden.

Not too much needed doing so enjoy your rest and roll on spring.

Barry Highsted

Moutere Hills RSA

The May meeting of the Moutere Hills RSA was held in the RSA room at the Mapua Library on Monday the 10th. Anzac Day services in the district were well attended and Poppy Day donations were again a record, totaling \$2319. Thank you to all those generous people.

Thank you also to all those who took part in the services—Scouts, Band, Fire Brigade, bugler, horse and ‘casualty’, speakers and ministers and, of course, RSA members and those who helped staff the Poppy Day stalls.

Letty Thawley has bought a copy of Rachel King’s book on the NZRSA and donated it to the Mapua Library. Thank you, Letty.

A cheque for half a term fee has been sent to Motueka Cadet Unit for the one Mapua cadet

currently training there. We hope that others will take advantage of the offer of help with fees by applying to Moutere Hills RSA. It was noted that the Cadet Unit was responsible for re-painting the Tasman War Memorial.

The next meeting will be the AGM at 2pm on 14 June when a Notice of Motion affecting the future of Moutere Hills RSA will be discussed. This is the proposal that Moutere Hills RSA cease to be a sub-branch of Nelson RSA and become an independent branch of RNZRSA. The outcome of this proposal will affect the future of the branch and it is hoped that a full turnout of members will attend.

F H Gibbison

By-pass project

Rain a minor setback for road work

We had a minor setback with the very wet weather on the weekend of the 15-16 May with some clean-up work required, but we are now back on track. We have continued chip sealing over the last month and now have a total of 8km sealed. Drainage is almost complete although a few more items have arisen from the rain and these are being installed.

Major milestones in May have been:

1) Cut through of Seaton Valley and Stagecoach Roads and transferred traffic onto new alignment;

2) Continued laying kerb and channel through the job, including from Trafalgar Road towards Richmond and Gardner Valley area;

3) Continued laying sub-base at the Tasman end and base course working south towards the Richmond end tie-in with SH60;

4) Emulsion primed and chip-sealed another 0.5km of the alignment from Apple Valley West towards Richmond;

5) Constructed wire rope guard rail over the Reinforced soil slope adjacent to Chaytor Road and through the big fill at Gardener Valley;

6) Placed corrugated coloured steel cladding on noise fences at Tasman and Chaytor;

7) Installed handrail over top of Gardner Valley pedestrian underpass;

8) Environmental contouring and grass seeding of the area around the Trafalgar Road creek and at Tasman;



9) Further hydroseeding. The job was started but had to be called off due to the rain;

11) Began planting for the final landscaping plan a number of areas are now completed including Trafalgar Creek, Dominion noise bund and Tasman estuary batter;

12) Began construction of the retaining wall through Higgs Reserve to allow for a footpath behind the guard rail.

Jo Orr, Environmental Manager, Downer EDI Works

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

Mapua & Districts Soccer Club

The season is well under way with all our teams playing some great football. Registrations are really healthy with about 140 members. Teams range from midgets through to seniors.

The club hopes to run a number of fund-raising events this year including a charity car wash and a club calendar. We are always keen to hear any new ideas for fund-raising so if anyone has any ideas or would like to be involved with an of the club activities please get in touch.

Team Profiles

The Mapua Midgets have made a fantastic start to their season. After two practices the teams had their first 'real' game and what a great job they did. The Cool Dudes drew 1 all with Motueka and the Magic had an impressive two-nil win over Rangers. It looks as though it is going to be quite a close competition and as each of the teams grow with experience we hope to see some great improvement as well as hard-fought battles. It is brilliant to see the older children in the teams leading the way for the younger ones and showing them what to do.

Fun, participation and learning new skills is what it is all about and these kids are certainly achieving all of the above. Go the Midgets!!

Pip—Coach

The 8th Grade Ospreys have had a successful start to the season, winning their two grading games to date. In the process we have scored 8 goals with none conceded. There is a high level of enthusiasm shown by all team members with a good amount of skill to match. We have a keen and committed squad this year of 13 players. As our games are 7-a-side, a decision has been made to use 10 players on game days, meaning three players each week aren't involved in the game. This system will run on a roster throughout the year to allow all players in the squad to get equal match time throughout the season. We have had great turnouts at practices to date with all players attending. Thanks to Karen Price and David Francis for running practices.

Ari—Coach



Senior Men's

The preseason preparation was characterised by the big question of how many players we would have. For a long time we didn't know whether we had a team at all so we decided to enter the 3rd division this year. Fortunately the closer the season came the more players joined and so by the time of the first game we had more than 20 players on our squad. The first game saw us playing at home against Motueka and after five minutes both teams had scored their first goal. Greater fitness and some skillful plays allowed Mapua to get an easy 7-2 win in the end.

Unfortunately this has been the only win this season. The following six games were lost although the team was competitive in all of the games. The coach and team have tried many things, even changed the tactical system, without any luck.

However, it was great to see that each Wednesday a very solid number of 16-19 people turned up to practice with the same good spirit as at the start of the season. Not even the new fitness coach was able to scare players away, so we all remain confident that the wins will come again.

Frank—Coach

Mapua and Districts Football Club, PO Box 38, Mapua

President: Sian Potts Ph 540-2248

Treasurer: Phil Jones

Toby Wild (Seniors Men's co-ordinator) 540-2030

Bridget Wild (Senior Women's co-ordinator) 540-2030

E-mail sianpotts@xtra.co.nz

Councillor's comment

The old adage, you get what you ask for, certainly played out with the drought-breaking rains that fell on the province recently. I feel for communities in the Tapawera region who were hit by a dramatic weather which resulted in a devastating experience for a number of home owners.

During the last two weeks the council has toured the district hearing submissions to the 2010/11 Annual Plan. There has been a wide range of issues with probably the Tourism Targeted rate being the most controversial. There has been along list of requests from various organisations for funding. What is noticeable is the number of organisations that have in the past been funded by the Government and have during the last year either had their funding discontinued or reduced. It is a difficult job making a decision on what to fund and at the same time taking into account ratepayers' concerns about rate increases and the council's debt level.

One highlight for me was a submission from The Nelson Ark, an organisation which works with troubled young people. This is an eight-week programme where these young people work with unwanted dogs, learning patience, trust, responsibility, empathy, and the value of hard work. A young woman who had done the course, came along with a dog and told her story; a very moving experience. She is now helping to train others and I have absolutely no doubt that she will contribute greatly to society. The Nelson Ark has lost its funding from the Government; one has to question the wisdom of this when money continues to be poured into systems which deal with people at the bottom of the cliff.

The Auckland Super City, which is the result of the amalgamation of a number of councils in the Auckland region, has dominated headlines during the past year. The Government's rush to pass legislation has raised concerns not only from communities but also Local Government New Zealand. One of the key concerns is that 80 per cent of Auckland Council business will be performed by council-controlled organisations (CCOs). These organisations are run by directors who will not have been elected to their positions by the ratepayers of Auckland.

Local Government New Zealand believes that because the CCO's decision-making process was not legally required to be open to public scrutiny,

“transparency in the new Auckland City will be significantly less than Auckland citizens have historically experienced and expected and less than what citizens in other communities will continue to receive”.

The cost of the formation of the super city has been put at \$34 million, which will have to be paid for by ratepayers and while there may be some efficiency in the delivery of services, this is yet to be proven. There is very little talk of any cost-saving from the amalgamation.

I want to finish by acknowledging the tremendous contribution the Friends of Mapua Wetland have made to not only the Mapua community but also the wider district. They celebrated their fifth anniversary with a morning tea and a walk around their wetlands which I thoroughly enjoyed. Not only have they won two major awards during the last year, they have also been an inspiration to others, including involving Mapua School children, in the project which I am sure will result in producing some future conservationists.

Cr Brian Ensor

Fire Brigade



April-May call-outs

Apr 9: Hot ashes caused fire Apple Valley Road. Out on arrival, damped down.

Apr 19: Logs on fire Pine Hill Reserve, brigade put it out.

Apr 22: Permitted burn Kina. No action taken.

May 4: Vegetation & woodshed fire cause by grinding sparks.

May 12: Permitted burn Dominion Rd. No action taken

May 12: Permitted burn Pine hill Rd. No action taken

May 15: Diesel spill on Seaton Valley Rd. Not found.

38 calls year to date

Safety Tip – Clean chimneys. No objects within 1 metre of fire places or heaters

Animal Health File

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

The problem of wild cats

One of the unfortunate aspects of our job down here at the Vet Clinic is dealing with wild and stray cats. When clients bring their cats in with cat fight wounds and cat bite abscesses they often tell us that they have a wild or stray cat around their property and frequently it has been causing trouble for some time.

I had my own problem a few years ago with a big grey and white tabby tom cat. When he began to make a regular appearance in our garden my own two cats would fearlessly challenge him from behind our glass sliding doors with much hissing and spitting and hackles raised. There was the odd midnight altercation outdoors with lots of fur spread around the backyard. He disappeared for a few months then came back looking very rugged and with mucky eyes so I resolved to try and catch him. I borrowed a cat trap from the SPCA and put down some biscuits in the trap but night after night went by with no cat. Eventually I changed my strategy and put out a can of salmon. Next night—one cat caught!

My original plan was that if he was reasonably friendly I would desex him and try to rehome him. However, once he was sedated I could have a good look at him and it appeared he had been a real fighter with raggedy ears and lots of scars all over him. So I took a blood test for Feline Aids. Sure enough he was positive and so I euthanased him. Unfortunately he was in town for a while so there is every chance that he has infected other cats when fighting.

Over the last few years we have helped out many clients with problem wild cats. In particular Sonoma Orchards have had a large wild cat problem. They and their neighbours have made an extraordinary effort to deal with this problem and a huge amount

of time has gone into trapping and humanely euthanasing the cats. This has made the area safer for their own and others domestic cats, as large colonies of wild cats can spread diseases such as Feline Aids and Cat Flu and they can also decimate local bird populations. Thank you to all those people who were involved with this. It is not an easy or nice job, but is one that must be done.

Right here in the township we have had a recent example of how quickly one wild cat can become more! We were very lucky to have a lovely client who had been feeding a wild cat who then had a litter of kittens. With help from some friends the mother cat and three kittens were caught. The mother cat was speyed and has gone back to live with the client and is slowly becoming more friendly. The three kittens had a week in our cages at the clinic to see if we could tame them. One has turned into a very lovely wee cat and she has been speyed and also has a new home. The other two were unfortunately not able to be tamed and they had to be euthanased. All three kittens were female and by next Christmas could each have had 3 to 5 kittens and mum could have had another litter as well. Without desexing or euthanasia one wild cat could have become 15 or more wild cats. In a good year they could all have had two litters! So thank you to those clients and to the Motueka SPCA for contributing funds towards desexing these cats.

If you are experiencing any problems with wild or stray cats on your property please contact us and we can help you with organising a trap, with desexing if appropriate and with humane euthanasia if necessary. If you are going to start feeding a stray cat please trap it and make some decision about its future before letting the problem get to hard to handle—before the next breeding season!



'Tongue in Cheek'

Why tongue in cheek? Because every time I mention the Ruby Bay by-pass it's tongue-in-cheek stuff meaning "depending on the weather". So when I spoke to Marc Papke, the on-site engineer for the road contractor WorksDownerEDI, his remarks are always prefaced by "depending on the weather". That's fair enough and overall the weather has been very favourable.

As of today (22 May) and despite a full five days lost to the weather last week, an early completion date is becoming more and more a possibility. Officially, the New Zealand Transport Agency is sticking to December of this year for completion. My tongue-in-cheek hope? Maybe late this June. That's just me, strictly unofficially.

About the time this issue of the *Coastal News* is on the stands, we should be using the new highway from the south end up to the Higgs reserve or maybe as far as Dominion Road and the existing route of SH60 to Mapua and Tasman. A very pleasant change from the present winding and dangerous up-and-down roadway. There will be some traffic controls to put up with to get to this point. Thanks to NZTA for heeding our request to announce these controls in the newspapers.

The final cutover work at Seaton Valley/Gardner Valley/Chaytor Road should be complete early this month as well. Final sealing of the entire roadway should be completed early this month. Signage in place and then the final cut-in at Tasman and viola! Ready for use!

Mapua Hall: Richard Bullock, Chairperson for the Hall Committee, made a presentation of sorts to the Mapua & Districts Community Association at its May meeting. Not a large attendance in spite of reasonable publicity. However, plenty of questions and a spirited discussion by those who were there. At the finish of his presentation, Richard passed around a slip of paper

with four options: 1) Leave the hall as it is. 2) Do a minor upgrade. 3) Do a major upgrade. 4) Build a new hall. Please give reasons for your choice. I didn't do mine. How do you make that sort of decision without some sorts of numbers and facts to consider? The Hall Committee put a deadline on submissions from the community at 31 May. I guess we will all know at bit more this month.

Mapua Structure Plan: At long last the TDC Mapua Structure Plan is out of committee and has been approved for release some time this month. Talk about push, shove and pull/tug. Our TDC planners have had a field day with this report. Even outside assistance at no cost to the TDC didn't push it along much sooner. We wait and see with much interest. Tord Kjellstom deserves recognition and our thanks for organising the no-cost to the TDC assistance.

FCC Site Health Report: More is coming this month on this ongoing saga. I say "saga" because it has become a saga. And, it's a long-running saga. Anyway "they" are doing something and we are to hear about it *soon*. Maybe another public meeting. Maybe even "they" may start doing some of the things that we all recommended. To top all that off, the Ministry of Labour's report on the health effects (if any) on former workers at the FCC site is still nowhere.

Wharf Parking & Traffic Control: It's like this; I've talked to Jim Frater, property manager, Gary Clark, roading manager, and Steve Elkington, road engineer, all of the TDC. Varying responses from these able persons. The Wharf Business group, the Mapua Business Association and the Police—has there been a bit of dust kicked up? Yes there has. When it settles we may see some meaningful signage re parking and some sensible solutions in place to control the vehicles.

Hugh Gordon

FCC Remediation Update

The Ministry of Health (MoH) released its report on the assessment of public health risk from the Mapua cleanup in March. The report states that several resource consent conditions were breached during the clean-up. These led to increased toxic emissions and possible public health risk due to the substandard air emissions system. The monitoring data is of very limited value because of the narrow range of chemicals included and methodological errors.

The ministry found that highly toxic chemicals—benzene, PCBs, dioxins, PM10 (toxic particles) to name a few, were emitted from the site, but because these weren't properly monitored, there is no way to know how much exposure people had. Therefore it is impossible for MoH to estimate the public health risk. Simply put, that means there could be health effects caused by the clean-up. Some members of the community are justifiably very concerned about this because health effects from these chemicals may not surface for years. The report also acknowledges unpleasant odour, dust, noise and vibration which caused significant stress and anxiety for some people which can also affect health.

The MoH established a consultation process which involved a public meeting in April where the community discussed the report and prepared a list

of recommended actions. These have been sent to MoH, MFE and TDC and are summarised here.

The main concern is not only adverse health effects which developed during the clean-up but also those that may develop in the future. There is a need to establish who may have been exposed to the toxins through an independent study of the people around the cleanup site including workers at the wharf. People who were exposed should have access to an on-going health support service which may involve future generations. This should include biological testing for dioxin and other chemicals, testing of garden soil and house dust in the area of exposure. Professional house cleaning should be offered to eliminate any toxic particles. The community also strongly endorsed recommendations made by Dr Tord Kjellstrom.

Some non-health related issues were also identified including the need to address damage to houses from the excessive vibration and last but not least, the need for MFE and TDC to step up and be accountable for mismanagement of the project. Responses from MoH, MFE and TDC are expected by mid-June.

Sherry Prauner

Mapua Public Meeting on FCC site Clean-up

The Ministry of Health and Ministry for the Environment response to Mapua residents' recommendations regarding the next steps after the remediation of the former Fruitgrowers Chemical Company (FCC) site

A community meeting will be held on 10 June 2010 at 7.30pm at the Mapua Hall.

The Ministry of Health and the Ministry for the Environment will present their response to recommendations from those residents who attended a public meeting on 21 April 2010 to discuss the public health implications of the FCC site remediation activities. Those recommendations included requests from residents for health support, blood and soil tests, cleaning of houses and a health study of people in the area.

Also attending the meeting will be representatives from the Tasman District Council and Nelson Marlborough Health.

Copies of the residents' recommendations will be sent out to residents in Mapua and Ruby Bay via a mailbox drop on or about 31 May 2010. Copies can also be obtained from *Allen & Clarke*, who will be facilitating the meeting (see contact details below).

If you would like to attend the public meeting on 10 June, please contact our office and let us know. This will help us cater for the planned supper after the meeting.

Our contact details are:

Allen & Clarke Policy and Regulatory Specialists Ltd

PO Box 10730, Wellington 6143

Email: schambers@allenandclarke.co.nz

Telephone: 0800 288 588

Mahana School

The teachers and staff of Mahana School continually find novel ways to stimulate their students. Things just seem to happen or turn up and get absorbed into the busy atmosphere the school generates. During a recent visit I noticed a couple of the pupils on unicycles. Kids bringing their bikes and hobbies to school isn't anything unusual, except in this case the school owns the bikes, which is a big advance on my days when teachers would let us borrow the bucket of recorders at lunchtime!

The support the kids have given each other to learn to ride has been a credit to them. Attempts to master the bikes have been documented and posted on the classroom blogs within the website.

A concerted focus on enhancing literacy has been one of the objectives of Mahana. Yet, to inspire the students even further the school held a book day, selling books in the library and encouraging kids to come dressed as their favourite nursery rhyme or story character.

A progressively colder autumn slows up the outdoor activity at the school to some extent and recent wet weather causing damp playing fields has postponed the upcoming Ripa rugby tournament until

June. The school team will be made up of year five and six students this year.

Inclement weather aside, the school is looking forward to the cross-country event to be held next door around Woollaston Estate on 28 May. All parents and members of the school community are welcome to attend to watch and enjoy the afternoon.

The school has had the Education Review Office team visiting. They review school programmes, spend time in the classrooms and overlook procedures. They provide feedback to the schools. In the past Mahana has had glowing reports after each visit and we expect the same again.

The dedicated team on the home and school committee continue their service to the school fundraising efforts and have organised a disco and fun night at the Moutere Hills Community Centre on 25 June, another event for the entire school community to participate in.

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 543-2 887 to arrange an appointment.

Thanks to our school reporters for this content.

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

MAPUA COMBINED PROBUS

The guest speaker for the May meeting was Mana Stratton, a local veterinarian, who spoke about the Nunoa Project in Peru. Mana was brought up in Nelson and is working at the Richmond Vet Clinic. She has worked with the Department of Conservation, having been involved in the rehabilitation of native birds. Her interest in the llamas and alpacas began with the time she spent doing veterinary work on the local llama at Natureland .

Mana showed photos and a DVD of her journey through Peru. Her flight out to Peru presented a few problems with communications, being that the local airline staff could speak only Spanish. Her group leader, Steve Purdy, was delayed on his flight. They eventually met before moving on to the small town of Cusco, at an altitude of some 3000m. Mana found it hard going climbing the stairs in their hostel.

Her photos showed the town in a valley surrounded by steep, terraced peaks. With the use of their four-wheel-drive vehicle they drove up narrow, winding roads to their final destination of Minya, a community of some 7000 people at an altitude of around 4000m. Their accommodation was basic, sleeping on mattresses on the floor in a part of the local hospital. The hospital had no mains power. They had to get used to having cold showers. Mana showed photos of two houses constructed of local stone with roofs made of various long grasses. The time they spent there was working with a local farm manager inspecting and treating several hundred llamas and alpacas. Some of Mana's photos showed how a local boy was able to use a lasso to catch individual animals on open land for them to supply any treatment that was required.

Before returning home the veterinary team was able to take a long, slow train ride up to the famous

remains of Machu Picchu, an Inca village built many hundreds of years ago. The DVD Mana took of the area was most impressive, set in the steep terrain of the Andes Mountains. Although Mana's visit to Peru was not without a certain amount of drama she is looking forward to a return trip with the team in September.

The writer was the mini speaker for the afternoon. My wife Janice and I had a recent trip to Queensland, mainly to spend time with Janice's daughter Sharron and husband Chris. They had moved into their new two-storey home in Hervey Bay last December. We were able to spend the first two days with Janice's brother Alan and wife Sandy in Brisbane who showed us around their area, including the botanical gardens and the new impressive Astrodome. We also had a day out around the Gold Coast, and Surfers Paradise, with its impressive tower block apartments.

Our time spent in Hervey Bay was enjoyable. We were able to help Sharron set up a raised vegetable garden. We had an interesting day trip at the town of Bundaberg and a visit to the pleasant local seaside village of Begarra. Another day we visited a local snake and crocodile zoo, called "Snakes Down Under". There we had several hours watching the staff handling and talking about the various snakes in enclosed pens, and the feeding of two adult crocodiles with dead minor birds. Another interesting visit was to the weekly Sunday market in Hervey Bay, at least twice the size of the Motueka market in area and the number of stalls. The majority of the stalls sold fresh, cheap fruit and vegetables.

David Higgs

Sam's Spam

June 2010

Hi everyone. Last month I mentioned about free computer courses being run in Richmond by NMIT. This month I have found a free online computer training course for those who prefer distance learning.

There are several sections to the LearnFree site but just click on the 'Computer training' link on the front page. Although this is a USA-based website, it is free to use by anyone who joins. You need to create an account which then allows you to access all of the learning content and keep track of your learning history.

I have summarised some points from the Computer Training course – check out the website below for more details: <http://www.gcflearnfree.org>

Computer Training

Whether you're new to the computer, returning for review, or want to use technology to enhance your skills, this course will be useful. There are three sections; Getting started, Using Office software, and Exploring Life.

1) Getting started

This section will give you a list of subject choices (see below). When you click on a link, it then brings up lots of subheadings so you can get help for your specific need. These are: Computer basics; Windows; Internet 101; Internet basics; Email basics; Mozilla Firefox; Facebook 101.

2) Using office software

This next section list has all the headings detailed below. Out of the choices, the one most people would probably need information on is Word 2007. They are: Word (including 2007); Excel; Powerpoint; Access; Office; Openoffice.org; Outlook 2003; Publisher 2003.

3) Exploring life

This is the work and career section and gives advice on career planning, resume writing, covering letters etc.

Mapua Health Centre

In June each year Men's Health Week is held around the world. Locally, it's a chance for New Zealand men to make a difference to their health for themselves and their families.

Why have an International Men's Health Week:

- Male life expectancy is unnecessarily low.
- Reported male-specific diseases are increasing (especially prostate and testicular cancers)
- Men have higher risk of suicide and yet male depression remains under-diagnosed and under-treated
- Health services have been slow to respond to men's health needs and little has been done to encourage and enable men to access services faster and more efficiently

We have a government-funded programme for all men aged 45-64 to have a free cardiovascular check-up and this can start at 35 if there are particular risk factors or heart related symptoms. There is a similar programme for women which has had a fairly high take-up rate, however, men have been very slow to take advantage of this great opportunity for preventive health care despite a mail out and reminders. Please get in contact with the health centre if you would like to enrol (540-2211).

In case you are still wanting to make use of the flu vaccine, it is still available 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.

There have been an increasing number of patients requesting prescriptions (including repeats) by

telephone and email. The system is generally working well for everyone concerned but unfortunately we have noticed a huge increase in overdue prescription charges. To help overcome this trend and cover our ongoing administration costs we charge an additional administration fee of \$10 on any accounts (for prescriptions) not paid within five working days. If you would like to pay your account by internet banking please contact one of our receptionists and they will be able to let you know the details. It is also important to be aware that we require 24 hours notice to prepare prescriptions.

A race around the medical mags reveals that if you want to lose weight consuming 500 ml water before each main meal leads to greater weight loss (*Obesity, Feb 2010*); you'll be happy to hear that if you are prone to anxiety dark chocolate may benefit gut health, metabolism and reduce stress-related hormones (*J Proteome Res, 2009*); and a meta-analysis of trials looking at the effectiveness of fish oil for treating depression has shown that EPA may be more effective than DHA (*J Am Coll Nutr, 2009*). And as far as prostate care for men goes, there's scientific evidence for having plenty of tomato's (lycopene – more when cooked), cruciferous vegetables, pectin from citrus fruit – as well as lemon and orange oil (as peels containing limonene), resveratrol from red wine and skin of grapes, spices like turmeric and capsaicin (in chilli pepper), vitamin D (sunlight and supplements), vitamin E, selenium and dietary fibre.

There are a number of important national and global health promotion events for the month, including:

- 1-7 Autism NZ Appeal Week: www.autismnz.org.nz
- 1-9 Rape Awareness Week: www.rapecrisis.org.nz
- 14-20 Men's Health Week: www.agewell.org.nz/men.htm
- 14-20 The Brain Injury Appeal: www.brain-injury-nz.org
- 9-15 Men's Health Week: www.agewell.org.nz/men.htm
- 20-26 Volunteer Awareness: www.ocvs.govt.nz/news-updates
- 20-26 Order of St John Appeal Week: www.stjohn.org.nz
- 20 World Refugee Day: www.un.org/depts/dhl/refugee
- 21-28 Contenance Awareness: www.contenance.org.nz
- 26 World Gay & Lesbian Day: www.nzaf.org.nz

MALES WANTED 45-64 yrs

Registered patients of Mapua Health Centre

WHAT: FREE Be Well Health Check

WHEN: NOW

WHY: We would like to help you reduce your risk of heart disease and diabetes and to help keep you in good health.

WHERE: Mapua Health Centre

It is as easy as:

1. Phone us on 5402211 to arrange an appointment
2. Do a Fasting Blood test
3. Consultation (30 minutes) with the Nurse

Hills Community Church

Messy Lives Need a Messy Church

Years ago I went to visit a parishioner and saw this placard at the front door: “God Bless this Mess”—an all too accurate assessment for many of us. I’m not talking about the disarray in our kitchens or children’s bedrooms or our husband’s shed. I’m talking about the day-in and day-out reality of life that involves trying to save a marriage from divorce, coping with an unruly toddler or a defiant teenager, holding down two part-time jobs as a single mum, or being squeezed to meet the needs of both grandchildren and aging parents. It’s trying frantically to keep our heads above the emotional tidewaters that sweep over us in this fast-paced, high demand, ever-more-to-do and not-enough-time-to-do-it existence we call our lives.

Life is messy even for the chronically tidy. I guarantee you, below the surface of everybody’s life, you will find a mess. Maybe not a big one but there will be some untidy spot that could stand a good airing out, some emotional baggage that should be dumped in the tip rather than swept under the rug, or a bit of unravelling here or fraying along the edges there of a personal relationship that could be better than it is.

So where can we go with all this mess? Dare I say—church? Unfortunately, many people think that is the very last place to go. Church is for ‘perfect people,’ right? Church is for people don’t have problems or hang-ups. It’s for people who live nice, tidy and uncomplicated lives—people with perfect marriages and perfect children. Sorry, I’ve never been part of a church like that. I couldn’t direct you to one if I tried. I’ve only served in messy churches (thanks, be to God). I’ve always looked at church as the very best place to share our messy lives and get the help we need to deal with it. Church is where we can lift our hearts to God and to one other in community and cry: “Help!”

I’d like to think Hills Community Church offers that to the community of Mapua. I’d like to think we are a place for anyone looking for answers to life’s messy questions. Our doors are open—just don’t mind the mess.

Untidily yours, Marilyn Loken, Minister.

I cry out to the Lord; I lift up my voice to the Lord for mercy.

I pour out my complaint before God; before God I tell my trouble. Psalm 142:1-2

Happening @ Hills—we are a community-based, multi-denominational church with historical roots in the Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist and Pentecostal traditions. We offer both traditional and contemporary worship in an informal and relaxed style. Visitors and newcomers are most welcome.

New @ Hills:

Messy Church! Twice a term we are holding an all-family event to celebrate and explore the goodness of God in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Join us from 5-7pm on Friday nights for a simple meal followed by games, crafts and a creative sharing of God’s word. No cost. Upcoming dates & themes:

Friday 18th June: Love God!

Friday 20th August: Love Your Neighbour!

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

Weekly Calendar:

1st & 3rd Tuesdays: 12:15pm—NZ Prayer Book Communion service followed by intercessory prayer

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

Fridays: 10am-noon—Craft n Coffee—learn a craft & share a laugh! Open to all, crèche provided

Drop-off For Area Food Bank – Bring your non-perishable food items to the church (122 Aranui Rd) on Friday mornings between 9am & noon.

We also offer numerous home groups and youth activities. Contact 540-3848 for more information on our ministries

Police Update

Hi everyone. Apart from last week the weather during the autumn has been great and we have noticed that there have been fewer accidents on the road generally as a result, so long may the good weather last.

I am pleased to report there have been no more incidents involving youths from other parts of our district coming to the Mapua area to cause problems. A 17-year-old Richmond youth has been arrested and charged with a serious assault on a Mapua youth in relation to an altercation that happened on Aranui Road last month.

As keeps getting publicised in all forms of the media, alcohol really is causing a lot of problems to the whole community. A large number of young people we deal with are intoxicated—more so on Friday and Saturday nights. We as New Zealanders certainly have a booze culture that needs moderating. I am aware of a local group of young people who continually go out each weekend just to get drunk. Such a shame that some 18-year-olds and parents are prepared to buy and supply alcohol to younger people in uncontrolled conditions.

We are working with a couple of people in Motueka that we have been told are doing the same there.

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

Mapua Occurrences:

Apr 29: Accident at McKee Domain entrance. Minor damage

May 14: Ruby Bay, female warned for possession of a cannabis pipe. Male arrested for possession of an offensive weapon.

May 10: Four Mapua males do a runner from a taxi they had ordered from Motueka. All four arrested.

Several metal water tap covers have been stolen in the Iwa Street, Higgs Road, Toru Street area.

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

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Ph 03 526 6819

teeup@tasman golfclub.co.nz www.tasman golfclub.co.nz

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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.

BOOK REVIEW

This month's book is Limestone by Fiona Farrell, Random House, available in the Mapua Library. Reviewed by Adrienne Taylor. (Note: This review is being printed again as it was barely readable last month because of printing problems. Editors)

Fiona Farrell was a guest speaker at the Mapua Community Library Literary Festival in March so I was inspired to read her most recent book, *Limestone*, before I heard her speak. The story is about Clare, an art historian from the University of Canterbury, aged about 50, who is on her way to an academic conference in Ireland. Her other agenda for this trip is to try to track down her long lost Irish father (Michael) who walked out on her family in Oamaru when she was a little girl.

Limestone is written as a series of anecdotes narrated in two separate voices. When Clare thinks about the more distant past and her childhood, the narration is in the first person. Present and recent events are written in the third person and the chapters alternate between these two voices, highlighted by the use of two different typefaces. The “present” events let us see something of Clare’s inner insecurities and self-deceptions, for example, while she shuns romantic notions of “coupledom”, she cannot deny the need to find out about her father’s disappearance or her need to share her life with someone. Readers are also treated to some very wry observations about academic life and the arcane snobbery of the world of art history. Farrell conveys sadness and tragedy well.

To quote the book’s back cover, “Clare Lacy is on a quest,” and Farrell has played with the elements of a traditional quest: there’s a blind man at a crossroads, a woman in a high tower, chance encounters and clues that are not immediately understood. Nicholas Reid said in the *NZ Listener*, “This book has a tight controlling intelligence behind it, and what seems random reflection or digression fall into its place as the pattern is revealed”. Clare’s quest concludes at the end of the book and the two voices merge as if the contrast between past and present recede as pieces of the puzzle are put together.

Farrell was born in Oamaru, limestone country, and the limestone metaphor represents geological time as a contrast for human time as a foundation for the book. Human time is constructed of an infinite number of stories and experiences – limestone is made up of an infinite number of tiny creatures called bryozoa, still existing since 500 million years ago. I found the descriptions of limestone landscapes all over the world got my imagination going but it took a little longer for the real significance of limestone in the novel, as a measure of time, to sink in.

Some of the stories were particularly evocative: the wonderful descriptions of childhood and family life in NZ in the 1950s and 60s; the terrible sadness that Clare inadvertently caused her mother; the desperation of Michael building a limestone wall; the horrors of being trapped on a 27-hour flight to London next to an opinionated loudmouth. However, the book is very much more than the sum of the episodes. It is a complex story about identity, inheritance, the passing of time that is beautifully written and wonderfully readable. I finished this book full of admiration for the fine craftsmanship and intelligence Farrell has displayed. The ending could have been trite but it was very satisfying and believable, a testament to good writing.

Fiona’s presentation at the literary festival gave us some insight as to why she wrote *Limestone* while she was living in Ireland. To conclude a quote from her website: “For each of us, the quests that dominate our lives are deeply compelling. We believe our lives matter. They have significance. We try to record them in some fashion or set up memorials. And of course this is true. Each life matters terribly to the person living it. Clare’s search for her father matters to her, and I hope that readers will believe, for the time it takes them to read the book, that it matters too”. I couldn’t put this book down and already look forward to reading it again.

MAPUA LIBRARY

Ph 540-2545



It was a wild, wet mid-May weekend but that didn't bother the team of library volunteers who spent the time scanning all the stock in the library as the first step in setting up our catalogue database. This is good news for all our readers as we have made some progress at last in the computerisation of the library. For this purpose we needed to close the library for a couple of sessions but we can assure you we put the time to very good use and accomplished this mammoth task. We may need to close again one weekend in June to complete the second step of bar-coding all the books, another large endeavour.

Once we have our database set up we will be in a position to start issuing the membership cards that all families will need, so while it has taken a while to get to this point, progress during June should accelerate.

I would like to acknowledge the wonderful support through sponsorship that we have received from the Mapua & Districts Business Association for this computerisation project. The MDBA have generously supplied the funds to enable the manufacture of our very smart membership cards. We are delighted to have this relationship with the MDBA whose members and ours are drawn from the same community; so, this is a good example of great local collaboration. The MDBA have sponsorship rights for five years.

Now, how do these membership cards function? Well, each family will be supplied with one card which, when 'swiped', will record all the books issued in your name. The initial card issued is free but if more cards are required for family members there will be a charge of \$2 per card. If cards are lost, new cards can be re-issued easily, again at a cost of \$2.

Once the system is running we will have a computer available in the library for members to access our system and search for a favourite book, check what we have in stock and reserve books. These and some more helpful functions will be familiar to those who are members also of the Motueka and Tasman libraries. We feel we're about to become 'grown up'; it's an exciting feeling. "Go Live" is not far away and we intend to celebrate this special time with you all. Watch this space...

Dot Moriarty

Library Hours:

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

Under The Bonnet with Fred

Keith Likes Big Cars—a 72-year-old Dodge

Keith Trevurza has owned his 1938 Dodge only for about for a year. The car brings him childhood memories of taxi rides with his mother in 1938 Dodges. Taxis were used a lot in the 40s as there was a shortage of cars after WW2 and not everyone could afford one. The first owner was in Hillsborough in Auckland and then for 50 years it was owned by Rex Treadgold of Akaroa who used it to tow his caravan. Keith bought the car from Rex's niece along with a trailer load of spares needing a bit of TLC. This is a 1938 Dodge Brothers Dodge, the last of the cars before the Dodge family sold to Chrysler. It wasn't registered in New Zealand till 1939 as shipping took months.

The car is a deep brown colour with large moulded front guards, high front grill with horizontal bars and the nice Dodge Ram chrome mascot still used on their cars today. The headlights are mounted in the mudguards and the bumper is a single chrome bar mounted 20cm clear of any bodywork, unfortunately for panel beaters. With modern cars you look over them but with a 38 Dodge, you look through them. Nice wide doors give easy access into the car with the rear doors hinged on the back pillar opening to the enormous back seat. Keith's Dodge has the trunk back option which brought extra space in the boot. Remember, this car was designed in 1938 for big families with lots of luggage. It has a mall rear split window and small tail lights. Keith has added indicators front and rear, set behind the bumpers. Tyres are 7.50 x 16, an old tyre size, with original chrome hub caps. For me it is still a handsome car at 72yrs old.

Inside it's still pioneer motoring by being functional and easy to operate as driving was new to some car buyers. You can't imagine car buyers in 1938 operating multi-function buttons on today's cars. There is a nice big black steering wheel to swing on as there's no power steering. Key-on button start with all the basic information you need—speed, fuel, amps, temperature, oil pressure—all in two circular gauges. The flat vertical dash has an ash tray incorporated in a small chrome strip surrounding the dials.

The hand throttle is used to set your speed and just cruise on the open road. A large lever opens up the front vent for instant air-conditioning. Space in this car is no problem, sitting in the back seat, legs stretched out, you just touch the back of the front seat. It still has the original leather seats, worn a bit but they retain that lovely old car leather smell. The interior of the



doors and hood was relined by previous owner in a soft brown, contrasting the exterior paint work. The rug rail is missing but is usually attached to the back of the front seat to hang a rug or blanket over. Rear passengers would pull the rug over their legs in winter to keep warm and might have been the start of many romances. Car heaters in 1938 were an extra and not that flash .

As there was no information on 0-60mph time, Keith and I had great amusement at accelerating along Gardiners Valley Road with straining mechanical sounds from gearbox, gear stick rattle and the sucking noises from the carburetor and oil-bath air cleaner. We were both smiling from ear to ear as we hit 60mph at 35 seconds.

Keith's car is a 1938, four-door sedan trunk back (extended boot), weight 1345 kg. Engine is a flat-head six-cylinder P6 American option motor (original engine 87hp , 3.5 litre), with single carburetor. A nice simple engine. The battery has been remounted to the firewall from under the front seat. A good move.

I enjoyed owning a 1938 Dodge in 1969 as my surfie wagon, appropriately named the 'Big D'. I could put my 7ft surf board inside and still have space for the girlfriend , my mates and the beer. One journey to a beach party we had 18 people in the car, four in the front seat, I was driving . I don't know what was going on in the back seat but I was missing out.

Thanks Keith for letting me have a drive of the Dodge. The slow gear change, the smells and noises from car as it operated brought me back to Ohope Beach 1969, with long hair waiting for a wave.

(Information on 1938 Dodges was nearly impossible to find. Should you know of an internet site or have an old workshop manual lying around please contact me, frostie08@gmail.com, and I will pass it onto Keith).

Fred Cassin.

Noticeboard

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

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: June 12th; 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, 5402896

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.

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

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