

Coastal News

email: coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz

covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,
run by volunteers

Twenty Years on – Where to Now?

Twenty years ago the Mapua, Ruby Bay & District Health Centre Committee was set up to help bring health services to the Mapua community. From humble beginnings out of a house in the area we moved on up and the old Mapua Post Office was acquired and fitted out by a committed bunch of people to become the Health Centre we know today. On 20 March we are celebrating and the community is invited to join us. Look out for more details to come; it's likely to involve fun, food, and of course be free!

The Health Centre Committee has had two functions over the 20 years—to act as the landlord for the Health Centre business, and to raise funds to for equipment and health initiatives. A huge amount of time and effort has been contributed over the years by many people to get us to where we are today.

As the community has grown, pressure to expand the Health Centre resulted in several extensions. This pressure has now reached a point where the present building will no longer meet the needs of the community going forward and the Health Centre Committee has to ask itself some hard questions.

We need a new Health Centre; that much is clear. The question is how big, where would it go, and what health services do we want going forward? Right now the community has a fantastic opportunity to talk about this and give us feedback on what they think. A new group of enthusiastic and willing people have joined some experienced heads on the committee and we want to get stuck in and work out what the best way forward is. We want, in the next two to three years, to be significantly closer to having a bigger centre with more services to benefit our diverse and vibrant community.

Access to quality health services is a core part of what makes a community tick and your thoughts about what this would look like in the future are vitally important. To that end we are inviting residents to let us know what we should be putting in our plan. We are

aiming to develop this over the next six months and you can talk to us in several ways to have your say.

Judith Holmes, one of our new committee members is inviting you to drop in to Hamish's down at the wharf on any Thursday morning from just after 9am. She has a standing appointment to talk to the community about health issues as part of her role with the DHB on the Community & Public Health Advisory Committee. I will endeavour to come along from time to time as well. You could email your thoughts to me on chrisshort@xtra.co.nz or call me on 540-3394. Any of the other committee members, who are Jim Bryse, Cr Brian Ensor from the TDC, Hanne Bjorklund, Dr Tim Ewer and Pat Perry, would gladly listen too.

Thanks in advance for telling us what you think and see you on the 20 March.

Chris Short, Committee Chairperson.



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Councillor's comment

I hope everyone has managed to take time off during the holiday period and recharge their batteries after what had been a challenging year for many. I always feel sorry for the many families who wait all year for this holiday only to find that the weather does not live up to expectations. There seems to be a pattern emerging where the summer doesn't really get started until February.

I was lucky enough to spend some time at St Arnaud and never cease to be amazed by the beauty of the lakes in the southern part of our district and also by how many people from overseas visit the area.

There are some positive economic indicators that point to 2010 being a better year, but the global economy is still very fragile, particularly in northern hemisphere countries. China seems to be the bright light with growth approaching levels that were seen prior to the financial meltdown. Consequently, all roads lead to China and many countries are clamouring to enter into trade agreements with this global giant as a way of securing a sound future for their economies.

While many businesses in this country are still trading well, there are also many which are struggling. As a result, unemployment is still rising. Of particular concern is the high level of our youth that can't find work; 26% of 15-19-year-olds are unemployed. This figure is disproportionate to the over-all National unemployment figure of around 7%.

The Tasman District Council is at present finalising the content of the 2010/11 draft annual plan and councillors are mindful that not only does the council need to support projects that stimulate the local economy and maintain its assets to a high standard, but also that many people are facing financial hardship and rates need to be kept at an affordable level.

One of the more exciting projects in the region, which is now entering the consultation stage with the community, is the \$40million Lee Valley Dam. This will not only provide a source of water that will create security against ever increasing summer droughts on the Waimea Plain, but also has the potential to

substantially boost the region's economy and create more jobs.

The Waimea River Park Draft Management Plan is also out in the public arena for consultation. This is a wonderful initiative which seeks to create a management plan for over 400ha of land along the banks of the Waimea River and lower Wairoa and Waiti rivers. The plan recognises the activities of both recreational and commercial users and seeks to create a sustainable environment for present and future generations. Submissions closed on 26 February.

Mapua along with many other communities within the district stands to benefit from the recent Government announcement that the Tasman Loop cycle trail project has been short listed to receive \$2 million in funding (subject to a feasibility study) to build 175km of tracks. This will be a great boost to the local economy and, hopefully, create many job opportunities.

It is pleasing to see a number of projects in and around Mapua which have been in the pipeline for some time, finally getting close to commencement date: the Old Mill Walkway Sea Wall and the culvert under the causeway are two that spring to mind.

Hopefully, we will see some action on the Waterfront Park with construction of the amphitheatre and car park programmed for this year. Some comments have been made concerning vehicle movements around the wharf area during the busy holiday season. Pedestrian safety is paramount and some thought will need to go into developing a traffic management plan that will provide a safer solution in an area that will continue to get busier.

Finally, the council was fortunate to have a brief presentation from Murray Goss and Richard de Hamel from the Touch the Sea Aquarium. Mapua and the greater Nelson/Tasman region are indeed fortunate to have a business that is not only a major drawcard for visitors to the region but also provides a wonderful educational experience for schools in the area.

Brian Ensor, TDC Councillor

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.

Coastal Garden Group

We started 2010 with our February meeting. Our main speaker was John Barnes, the owner of Fertilizer New Zealand. John produces a unique range of fertilizers, in that they are all designed to create healthy, sustainable soil conditions by adding the microbes to support premium root development.

The talk was entitled "The Root of the Matter". He focused on the importance of root development for plant growth. A plant's roots have fungi attached. These fungi have a symbiotic relationship with the plant; they extract phosphates from the soil and in return get proteins from the plant. He got many great testimonials from garden group members who'd tried his fertilizers a year ago. For example Barry brought in a lily that had grown the size of a small tree.

Max gave his garden notes and illustrated it by bringing in a rose sample, which showed how using copper oxychloride all the way through to early September can result in healthy, disease-free roses. He

stressed the importance of spraying the ground as well as the plant, to kill the dormant spores. Mulching can help too, by covering the spores. It's now time to start planning the winter garden: eg, brassicas and leeks. Bicarbonate of soda can be sprayed on plants to control powdery mildew.

After afternoon tea, members got the opportunity to buy fertilizer from John. This was followed by Barry talking about all the interesting flowering plants members had brought in. We wrapped up with the plant auction.

The March meeting will be held in Aranui Park on March 4th at 12 noon. We will start with a social lunch and ice-cream, the meeting proper will start at 1.15pm and we will discuss plant propagation. Please feel free to attend. Bring a plate of finger food, glass, cup, chair and cutlery. All enquiries to Barry Highsted, ph 540-3139.

Richard Bamfield, Secretary

Garden Notes

Where did February go? Now March has arrived, the first month of autumn. This is the time to think about trimming, cutting and cleaning the garden. Also a time when one can take stem cuttings. These are best if they are about 5-10cm in length and non-flowering shoots,

Leave only two leaves and remove the tips, place in sharp gritty soil, cover with a plastic bag and keep in a shady spot until cuttings have taken root. Heel cuttings are created by pulling side shoots away from the parent stem so that a strip of the parent stem comes away with the cutting.

Plant out as with stem cuttings. Rooting hormone can be used to assist the process if you like. Geraniums, lavender, pelargoniums, penstemons, rosemary and verbena, to name a few, will strike readily.

Many perennials can be divided at this time, bearded iris, heleniums, phlox and daisies. March is the time to think what spring flowering bulbs you might like to grow, the first arrivals have arrived in stores now. Prepare the ground well with compost and add a small handful of rock phosphate to each hole, (bulbs love this). Lift those gladioli as the leaves dry off and place corms

in a paper bag then put in a dry cupboard to store. Preparation can begin for the planned planting of evergreen trees and shrubs now. Conifers can be planted out now.

Vegie plants such as broad beans, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower and leeks can be added to the vegie patch to grow for winter/spring gathering. Feeding your lawn in autumn will help to get it into tiptop form before winter. Using a fertiliser such as sulphate of ammonia will give the lawn a greater resistance to fungal disease which can be around at this time. Bare patches can also be raked over and planted with a few seeds to cover those bald spots.

Ranunculus corms are available in stores, and should you wish to grow them well, prepare the ground well with well rotted chicken manure, wait two weeks then plant and sit back and enjoy the huge flowers you will get.

Daffodils, iris, freesia, hyacinth, those with that lovely perfume like no other, are not too far away and now is the time to plan the spring show we all enjoy after what always seems a long winter. Happy gardening.

Barry Highsted

Community Association

A brief update on the Mapua Waterfront Park was given by Robin Simpson at the February meeting of the Mapua and Districts Community Association.

Construction of car park and amphitheatre was hoped to start before the end of the financial year.

The development of concept (project managed by the Tasman District Council) to include compatibilities between the park and services upgrade. Members expressed concern about gaps in inter-departmental council communication.

Robin said that the proposal that the park area remain grassed went against feedback from all the community consultation processes which left no doubt that [grass] would not be a satisfactory outcome for the community.

A designated area for alternative parking and overall development of the wharf area to link in with local businesses, new shops, etc, to be referred back to the sub-committee.

Jenny Easton explained the process behind temporary vehicle access closure to the park because of the installation of bore holes for ammonia gas testing.

Cr Brian Ensor offered to check out improved parking signage at the Waterfront Park.

Wildlife: The impact on banded rail habitat and fish passage by the Ruby Bay by-pass has been assessed as mostly positive but there is problem with fish passage at two other sites. It was agreed that the suggestion the TDC retain the old road at Trafalgar Road junction for conversion into cycleway/wildlife

Coastal Connections

A record number of 18 ladies attended the first luncheon of this year last month. Unfortunately I was not one of them but this venue will be on Dot's lunch list very soon again.

The Moutere Inn, claimed to be New Zealand's oldest pub, was the venue. It was established in 1855 by German immigrant Court Bensemann for his growing family.

Dave Watson, the chef, served a selection of dishes, the seafood chowder being a favourite. Efficient and friendly service complimented the superb food.

Hope to see you all at our next gathering to be held at Jester House.

Julie Haliday

habitat be referred back to the Independent Cycleways/Walkways Group for further investigation.

Draft Mapua structure plan: Tord Kjellstrom provided an update covering follow-up work done since the initial series of meetings held in November 2008 when a 20-page submission was submitted to the TDC. Positive views have been expressed by council planners concerning subsequent collaboration, with some of this association's ideas being absorbed into the draft plan.

Coastal Initiative Group: It was considered important that concepts and impacts under discussion by the group were disseminated back in order that the community was kept informed on what is being discussed by that forum.— Information concerning site locations on street lighting trials will be sent to members in order to provide feedback by mid March. A funded co-ordinator position is under consideration by the group.

The next meeting of the association will be on Monday 8 March, 7.30pm, in the Mapua Hall.

Mapua Easter Fair time again

Preparations are being made again for the Mapua Easter Fair 2010 on Easter Sunday, 4 April.

This is the major fund-raising event for both the Mapua School and Mapua Playcentre. Last year the school and playcentre received over \$30,000 as a direct result of the fair. With over 300 stall sites and around 15,000 people enjoying the day, it certainly is Mapua's biggest day of the year.

It will be held as usual in the Mapua Domain and entry is by gold coin.

The fair is organised by volunteer help from parents, teachers and friends of the school and playcentre. This help is crucial for the fair to be successful. If you are able to help before or on the day, we would love to hear from you. If you or your business or place of work, are able to donate prizes for the raffle wheel or infrastructure for the fair, please also contact us.

Thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me if you can help or require further information.

Angela Fon, Coordinator – Mapua Easter Fair 2010, Ph: 540-3135 or email: mapua.easterfair@mapua.school.nz

By-pass project

As we creep closer to our deadline on the Ruby Bay by-pass the heat is on and it's not just coming from the sun! We are cracking through it at the minute though we did get set back a little after a large storm on the 21st January which had intensities of over 40mm of rain in 30minutes!

Major milestones last month were:

1) Continued earthworks in the Trafalgar Road area, including cutting through to the tie-in point with SH60 and Apple Valley East Road tie-in;

2) Began work on Chaytor Road new alignment to join up with Seaton Valley Road in preparation for traffic diversion in this area;

3) Continued laying sub-base and base course working north towards Tasman and from the TDC water tanks towards Garden Valley Road;

4) Began laying sub-base behind the office adjacent to Dominion Road;

5) Applied another 1.7km of emulsion prime and then sealed in January;

6) Enkamat installation on the Reinforced Soil Slope (RSS)

7) Continued kerb and channel and also guard rail installation.

Looking forward:

1) Earthworks will continue on the south end of the project around Trafalgar and Dominion roads and around the Chaytor Road area.

2) Earthworks will also begin in Johnstone Loop area for the tie-in to existing SH60.



3) The pavement crews will continue placing AP65 and AP40 pavement heading from the TDC water tank area heading south to Gardner Valley and on the Dominion flats heading south across Higgs Reserve

4) Kerb and channel and guard rail work will continue through the forest corridor.

5) Sealing will continue in the upcoming weeks with about 0.8km to be emulsion primed and chip sealed at Tasman and 1.5km at TDC water tanks.

Jo Orr, Environmental Manager, Downer EDI Work

Open day “a success”

The open day for the partly-completed Ruby Bay by-pass held on Saturday afternoon, 20 February, was a great success, according to Lisa Dunn, the organiser of the event and chairwoman of the Mapua School PTA.

The day was a fund-raiser for Mapua and Mahana Schools and Tasman Bay Christian School, and aimed to show the community how the project was progressing.

More than 2000 people walked or rode their bikes along part of the by-pass that has been sealed. Mrs Dunn was grateful to the contractors for helping on their day off as well as the police who turned up to the event. The schools were yet to learn how much money was raised.

Displays included an archway made from a cement pump, heavy machinery and a tent with information on how the road is being constructed. There were also food stalls as well as a fun run, a bouncy castle and helicopter rides.



MAPUA COMBINED PROBUS

The club's first meeting for the new year was held on 5 February with guest speaker Iranian-born author Firooz Zadeh. His subject was Iran today.

Firooz, who lives in Richmond, left Iran some 30 years ago, emigrating to USA. During his time in America he found a degree of social prejudice. He had negative opinions of ex President George W. Bush, but he had more positive views of President Obama. Firooz spoke about his early experiences of growing up in Iran. As a young boy he learnt the basic skills of football, having only a tennis ball to practice with. During his time in America he was able to coach school children football.

Firooz's professional involvement is his ability to speak a variety of languages, including French and German. He travels extensively, giving lectures about Iran on boat cruises. He has written several books, receiving several awards. His latest book, "The Journey", was available to club members during the meeting.

After his introductory talk Firooz showed part of a DVD on life in Iran's capital Tehran. The film was produced by the American journalist Riki Steve. It showed how vastly different their way of life to that of New Zealand. Such subjects as the intense traffic flow around the city of about 10 million people and the problems of air pollution. Apparent were the various anti-American murals displayed on various buildings, and the strict dress code that Iranian women had accept.

Firooz finished his talk with some background on the history of Iran, and the country's economy, oil being one of the main exports. Over recent years tourism has become a major contributor to the country's income.

Ivan Wells was the mini speaker. His subject was his early days in Seaton Valley. When he was born his, parents owned a dairy farm in Taranaki. When they moved to Seaton Valley there were only two other properties in the valley; there are now more than 20 houses. For the first few months the family had very limited living facilities. During his childhood he and his family made up toy trolleys using locally grown timber and twine.

About 1920 there was a major downturn in the price of apples and many of the local orchards were cut out. The land was taken over by self-propagated pine trees from local shelter belts. Ivan described the early days of spraying fruit trees using long lengths of hose. The spraying system advanced to the tractor-powered pumps using various pesticides. They wore no protective clothing during the spraying. Ivan pointed out that both he and his father lived well into their 80s.

The Christmas Social was held on 4 December. About 30 members met at the Anchor Bar and Grill wharf for a four-hour cruise in Nelson Haven and out towards Rabbit Island. The boat anchored close to Boulder Bank while the crew provided a BBQ lunch.

David Higgs

Harvest Festival at Tapawera



Sukkot, Moon Festival, Pongol, Dozynki and Thanksgiving are just a few names given by other cultures to what we call a Harvest Festival. With origins in ancient civilisations – Egyptian, Grecian and Chinese—harvest festivals have a common theme of rejoicing for the harvest, usually marked by a day or more of feasting, prayer, music and merriment in place of physical labour.



Maoridom's Matariki is a form of harvest festival. "For some Maori the first new moon after the rise of Matariki signalled the start of the New Year celebrations. The moon (Marama) is central to activities of harvesting kai on the land and at sea. It is the start for all things new and a time for the provision of kai. Matariki was a time when people would gather to share kai, rituals, entertainment, hospitality and learnings." (www.matarikifestival.org.nz)

In Britain, thanks have been given for successful harvests since pagan times. Christian celebrations on this day usually include singing hymns, praying, and decorating churches with baskets of fruit and food in the festival known as Harvest Festival, Harvest Home or Harvest Thanksgiving. Early settlers in New Zealand followed British customs.

Contemporary New Zealand harvest festivals retain family activities, entertainment, and the opportunity to enjoy a variety of fine wine and food. The thanksgiving aspect is less apparent.

On Saturday 13 March, Tapawera Community Church is promoting a back-to-basics harvest festival. Pop along to the Village Green on the Main Road between 4pm and 7pm to enjoy:

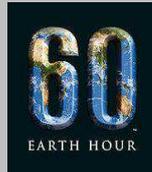
For children: Most Original Farmer's Hat; Tug of War; Sack Race. Categories all events: Under 5, 5-10, 11-15.

For Adults: Tug of War. Categories: Men, Women.

For All: Stalls; Refreshments; St Peter's Church – decorated with items for food bank. Also Art display. Harvest Festival Service, 6.30pm

Enquiries to Sandra Rogan, 522-4617, stormrogan@yahoo.co.uk

**Earth Hour:
Unplugged**
Saturday 27th March,
7.00pm



Mapua Boat Club at the Wharf

The Transition Town Mapua Team, with the support of Tasman District Council, invites you to celebrate Earth Hour. We will leave all our home lights off and convene for the evening at the Mapua Boat Club Rooms.

At 7.30pm sharp we will be showing the movie:

Rare Earth

Rare Earth is a BBC production made in 2009 which looks at Earth's place in space and the 4.5 billion years and several great catastrophes it has taken to turn it from a barren rock to the unique planet we live on and the challenges that humanity will face if we do not reduce our impact on our planet.

At 8.30pm we will turn off the power for Earth Hour, and enjoy solar powered lighting and candles, BYO drinks and some unplugged acoustic music. Tea, coffee, & local nibbles provided!

Come along for an inspiring evening,
Entry by Koha



Burglary at Kina

We were burgled on Friday 12th February at Harry Place, 271 Kina Peninsula Road, while on holiday at our family bach. We were away from the bach from 3pm until 5.30pm for a swim at Little Kaiteriteri. When we returned we found cupboard doors open, veranda glass door open and items missing. The burglar/s tried to break in through the glass veranda door by ripping off a timber trim to get access to the key lock but must have been unsuccessful due to door bolts top and bottom. They then entered the house through a high level window which was open. We found the window latch hanging instead of secured.

We lost an HP laptop, a Dell Vostro 1500 laptop, a Canon digital camera, a Panasonic film camera, a Sony Handycam, a Sanyo Micro Component System stereo, a Telecom cellphone, an 8GB Nano iPod & charger, Yves St Laurent bronzer (!), \$25 cash, a navy blue Queen Margaret College sports bag No.21 and food, beer and wine from the fridge.

My daughter's laptop had 2000 unprinted photos and the film in my Panasonic camera had 23 photos taken, including family Christmas and daughter's birthday. My daughter is devastated at the loss of photos and personal items. It has been hard to get over a burglary while on holiday, it just makes you feel down and I feel so sad for my daughter.

We noticed an older model dark coloured Honda Civic hatchback with three young occupants in the area when we left and wonder if they know anything about the burglary. Burglars could have been from the local area so I am hoping if you are able to report it in your newspaper there may be a small chance of finding burglars and recovering stolen items. We have reported the burglary to the Motueka police and are hoping they may also have success in finding the burglar/s.

Rachel Hughes, Wellington. Ph 04) 388-8986

Correction

I am indebted to Ivan Wells for pointing out two mistakes in my *Coastal News* article in the February issue about planting in Aranui Park and I would like to set the record straight. The former church in Mapua was Presbyterian, not Methodist and Ivan advises that the late Arnold Wells did not play the organ at the church.

David Mitchell, Mapua

By-Pass Completion Date

Now its official! The New Zealand Transport Agency has advanced the completion date for the Ruby Bay by-Pass from March/April 2011 to December this year. Only 10 months to go! At the rate the contractor DownerEDI-Works is moving along with the construction, I think it might be sooner than that. Let's hope so. Watch this space.

The process of tying in the new by-pass road into State Highway 60 is creating interruptions in the flow of traffic. A call for all who use the road to be patient, careful and above all, considerate. At both the Harley Road (Tasman) end and at the Trafalgar Road (south end) of the project, be alert.

The by-pass "Open Day" for the public was a great success on two counts. Firstly, by providing a welcome chance for all of us to see what DownerEDI-Works has been doing since November 2008. The work has been mostly out of sight. Walking or riding the road, now we all know what they have been doing. It is impressive. Secondly, the "Open Day" provided the opportunity for us to donate some welcome dollars to the Mapua, Mahana and Tasman Bay Christian schools.

Many thanks to Lisa Dunn and her PTA committee members and other volunteers who stepped up to use the day to such good advantage. Good food, good fun. Many thanks as well to Marc Papke and the staff of DownerEDI-Works for getting things ready and for "setting the scene" as it were for all of us who came to the open day. The organisation for the event was impressive too and best of all, the weather on the day was perfect.

Richard Kempthorne summed it up very well in his "Mayor's Comment" column in the February 19th issue of the TDC "Tasman Newline". Thank you Richard.

Mapua Wharf & Waterfront Park: Public concern is growing over the management or should I be saying "mis-mangement" of the vehicle traffic and vehicle parking problems down at the Mapua wharf. The increase in the number of businesses and the resulting increase in traffic around the commercial and port area are creating serious safety hazards. This is an unacceptable situation which needs urgent attention.

Much About Little -: Editor Terry Smith's comments in the February *Coastal News* were interesting and timely. Thankfully he is not imposing a 200-word limit on Letters to the Editor. That would have absolutely left me tongue-tied!

Hugh Gordon

Mahana School

Although we're already two months into 2010 at Mahana School, the end of 2009 passed so quickly we didn't have the opportunity to make special mention of the school production held in December.

Notwithstanding the fact I'm a biased parent, if I'm wearing my stage production critic's hat it is worthy of a favourable review. School productions have become another online business and scripts are available for schools to buy and download. Although Mahana School had budgeted to buy a script, the students decided to produce their own. I was amongst a packed house at the evening production at the Hills Community Church in Mapua and frankly, I had to remind myself a few times that this was a primary school production; the standard was something I would have expected much older students to produce.

Like most parents watching their kid's first school play, I was nervous, but after a few minutes it was apparent that it had been well rehearsed and like all the other parents watching, I could relax and actually enjoy it.

True to the spirit of a small school, everybody had a role to play, including the teachers and staff, who performed the intro, dancing down the aisle to the stage in wigs in a display of truly exceptional choreography.

Although everybody strived to perform at their best, it would not be an exaggeration to say that there is some budding talent due to be uncovered within

Mahana School. Many students show real aptitude for the stage remembering lines, dance moves, comic genre or displaying creative wardrobe and make-up ideas.

It was an inspiring way to finish the year and a credit to all involved. The website has shots of the production – www.mahana.school.nz.

This is a typically busy year for Mahana with events planned well in advance. The senior room is going on a field trip to Wellington this year and there are several fund-raising initiatives in place. It was great to see all schools in the area had been invited to the open day for the Ruby Bay by-pass on 20 February and our seniors took advantage of it, working alongside parents in food stands.

The school, like last year, is holding student-led Friday assemblies, with kids taking turns at leading the afternoon get-together each week. Anybody is welcome to attend and watch how they run these.

Welcome back to junior room teacher Kath O'Reilly, who has been on maternity leave and is coming back on Fridays and amongst other things, inspiring the juniors with cooking classes.

If you are contemplating a school in the area and would like to come in for a look around, you are welcome to ring Jenny in the office on 543-2887 to make an appointment.

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

Mapua School



At Mapua School we're looking forward to a fantastic and successful year and wish to work with the parents and wider community to make this the best year ever for your children. The weather's great, the children even better, we have a fabulous staff team on board, the PTA and BOT are enthusiastic, and the Mapua School community are a wonderful bunch of people – what more could be done to make this a great year?

We wish to very warmly welcome all students to this new year and add a special note to new pupils and their families. We know that Mapua will welcome you with open arms. Also a very warm welcome to new members of the staff team. Simon Clearwater has been appointed teacher of Room 5 and Lorraine Powers is relieving as Teacher Aide Special Needs in Room 8. It's great to have these two skilled people onboard and we know that Mapua School will be that much richer for their input.

If you're visiting the school then do venture around the corner to where the adventure playground used to be you'll find our newest classroom – Room 11. This is where Mandy Stephens and the Year 8s are based for the 2010 year and it's looking great. Our thanks to Opus International, Trubet Holdings, and all the firms and trades people associated with this project.

The Board is working hard to see a number of other projects completed this school year including another classroom, a veranda outside Rooms 6&7, a library and resource room, upgrading of Rooms 3&4, the extension of Room 10, etc. There's much to be done

and we are very excited by the prospect and enthusiastic to have these facilities up and running for students.

This term presents a number of interesting events and experiences for our students and the school community. Coming up we have a visit to the school by the Variety Bash, the annual school tryathlon, meet the teacher opportunities, school photos, senior swimming sports, Room 5,8,9,7, and 11 camps, a Big Day Out for the senior learning team, swimming demonstration days by the middle and junior learning teams, school wide assessment, the Motueka Area swimming sports, Kiwidex fitness, senior school sports, house leader selection and presentations, the annual Easter Egg Hunt, the Ruby Bay By Pass Open Day organised by the PTA, and to cap it all off the annual Easter Fair which is also organised through the PTA and led, in this instance, by Easter Fair Trust Fair Coordinator Angela Fon.

Class programmes are up and running and aside from core numeracy/mathematics and literacy teaching, classes and learning teams will be focusing on this term's integrated topic "It's not just about me" where a focus on community (class, school and wider) and shared responsibility will feature.

Best wishes to everyone for the year ahead. Together we aim to ensure that Mapua School students will 'Be All They Can'.

Neil Chalmers, Principal

School helps restore swamp

Mapua School students with a keen interest in environmental issues are taking matters in hand and are working on doing the best they can, with help and support from the community, to restore an area in Aranui Park into a swamp forest. This area has been named Tane's Ark. They think this restoration is important because it will restore what was once there and attract more native and rare birds into the area. They would like to make it an educational place for the public to visit, relax and learn about nature.

The Tane's Ark project is making progress. They have come up with some designs for the signs showing where Tane's Ark is and the main board that has

background information such as why it is called Tane's Ark and what the future development is going to be.

Another development is that the contractors have agreed to start work on the drain realignment and clearance of the area for the Tane's Ark project in the first week of March, with a likely start date for the work on March 1.

This means that the students can start the planning as to what can be planted where. The development of the 'planting plan' will be done with Claire Garrett (our advisor) when she visits from Australia in mid-March.

Alice Reade, Kynan Cowley-Hunt, Jessica Cox and Hayley Reid

Sam's Spam

March 2010

Hi readers. Social networking sites are very popular at the moment so I thought it might be helpful to look at a few of the best-known ones and see how they compare.

Social networking sites are a free way to connect to people all around the world to exchange news, share photos and videos, connect with members of the same interest group etc. Often big businesses will also have their own pages and encourage people to join to get the latest news and special offers.

Most groups do not allow people to join under the age of 13.

Joining a social networking site:

All the main sites (eg, Facebook, MySpace, Bebo) are free to join by simply signing up with your email address and choosing a password. You then need to set up your profile with details about yourself (some details plus a photo).

What are some of the differences between sites?

- Maximum photo size: Facebook 4MB; MySpace 5MB; Bebo 2MB.
- Facebook does not have the facility for blogs or commercial videos.
- MySpace seems to be popular with a younger audience (statistics show 54% of their users are under 18).
- Bebo does not have a multilingual feature so is available only in English.
- MySpace has chatrooms.

In my opinion, the best site to go with is Facebook because of its easy-to-use interface and great features.

Free Stuff:

If you are interested in joining any of these sites, the links are below:

www.facebook.com

www.bebo.com

www.myspace.com

“Gateway” Proposal Commended

It's been the developing story of the summer, a busy time for members of the Coastal Initiative Group, as the possibilities for a “Gateway” environmental and community park are explored. Just how substantial this is will depend a lot on arrangements made over surplus land after the highway completion down by the Higgs Reserve. The project has a great deal to commend it and benefits the environment through wetland regeneration as well as delivering some of the aims of many key community groups and the aspirations of the district.

The proposal to establish a wetland park and gateway has come from concerns over the fate of the estuary fringe, a desire to see the Higgs Reserve developed in an environmentally sensitive way, the opportunity with the completion of the by-pass for Mapua and the Ruby Coast to set up a symbolic entrance to our coastal area, and finally the importance of the site down at the turn-off in both future transport needs and as a hub for the network of walkway and cycleway linkages that are on the drawing board.

At a recent meeting of the key community groups backing the proposed park it was decided to give the Coastal Initiative Group the job of moving the concept forward.

Initially the focus is on working alongside TDC staff who are enthusiastically looking into the possibilities of the project.

Land acquisition for this project is an immediate and major challenge. As the proposals evolve, time will go into consulting with the many stakeholders and interested parties, including iwi, DOC staff, local environmental engineers, neighbours and interest groups. Watch this space for further developments on the Gateway Project proposals.

The Coastal Initiative Group has been working hard in the background of many decisions being made coming from the changes being brought about by the by-pass. It is made up of key representatives of the local community and business associations and helps manage the response to these changes and tries to deliver maximum benefits for the community.

For further information contact CIG secretary Janet Taylor, ph 540-3364.

Graeme Stradling

Playcentre

We have been enjoying settling back into the year at Playcentre over the past few weeks. The children have been refamiliarising themselves with the centre and all of the opportunities that it provides.

Of great excitement has been the arrival of our new family play equipment which was made to order over the holiday break. The children now have a complete set of home furniture, appliances, costumes, a shop to role play till their hearts are content. Opportunities for this type of play allow for important links to be made between the children's' family lives and the centre. We will enjoy watching the children working in this area of play over the rest of the term.

Outside we also have a new water trough and a finger paint table which will be particularly enjoyable over the rest of the summer.

Playcentre is a community-based organisation and it would be wonderful to see more parents accessing the resources and facilities we have to offer here in Mapua. If you would like to experience Playcentre for yourself and your family please feel free to visit us on our sessions, Mondays and Fridays mornings 9.30am–12 noon. We really are friendly group of parents and staff who enjoy working with the children in our community and being part of their early childhood experiences.

Animal Health File

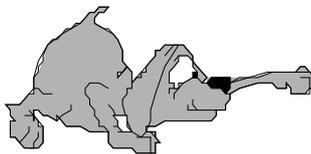
Dr. Paula Short, Tasman Bay Vets, 69 Aranui Road, Mapua, ph 540-2329

Paw Justice

There have been many animal cruelty cases making the front page of the newspapers and headlines on the television news in the last few months. From feeding live kittens to a pit bull to starving whole herds of dairy cows, things seem to be going from bad to worse. It is now a well proven fact that people that are capable of such cruelty to animals are also capable of violence to their families and others. In my last article I talked about what our vet clinic can and does do to help in situations of animal neglect. This month my article is all about what you can do to help stem the rising tide of neglect and cruelty to animals in our community.

National Party MP Simon Bridges has a bill before the House called the Animal Welfare Amendment Bill 2010. This bill contains some good provisions, including significantly raising the maximum length of sentences and maximum amount of fines for a number of different types of offences and increasing the minimum review period before a person disqualified from owning animals can reapply to the court for the right to own an animal again.

However, it is one thing to put legislation in place and quite another to have the funding to implement it. The Green Party has quite rightly pointed out that the Government has effectively abdicated their duty to



police animal welfare to the SPCA – a charitable organisation which relies on the public for donations. We know from our own experience that the SPCA does not have the funds to investigate and prosecute every animal welfare case that it would like

to.

If you are an animal lover and this sort of stuff concerns you there are several things you can do:

1) Come into the vet clinic and sign the Paw Justice Petition or go online to www.pawjustice.co.nz and sign up there. This petition is about telling the Government that the people of New Zealand want them to introduce sensible sentencing for offenders that seriously mistreat animals. They are aiming for 1,000,000 signatures

2) Write to your MP, Chris Auchinvole, and tell him you support the Animal Welfare Amendment Bill but that it needs to be backed up with sufficient funding to allow appropriate cases to be prosecuted

3) Make a donation to the SPCA to help them help the animals. You can donate money at either of our veterinary clinics in Motueka or Mapua and your money will go to our local Motueka branch of the SPCA, or you can go online to www.sPCA.org.nz and donate.

Indoor bowls plus friendship

Did you know that there's an indoor bowling club in Mapua? At present it hides behind the name of The Mapua Friendship Club!

Way back in the 70s there wasn't much opportunity for local retired people to socialise, so one enterprising and enthusiastic resident, Rachel Heath, decided to start a social gathering group in the village. She called it The Friendship Club and invited all retired locals to come along to a meeting in the village hall. Over seventy-five turned up – a huge turnout for 1975.

The club offered indoor bowls, card games and dominoes, with a great afternoon tea. There was a 20c raffle and no door charge then. Meetings were (and still are) in the Supper Room of the village hall on the third Thursday each month, starting at 1:30pm. There's no committee and no rules, just friends together.

Eventually, there had to be a door charge of \$1 to cover hall hire. Now, after 35 years, we have reluctantly

had to raise this to \$2 due to significantly increased hall hire cost, but the 20c raffle remains unchanged!

Our members really enjoy this monthly event – many of us had no previous bowling "skills" but as they say these days, "on-the-job-training will be given." We have mid-winter and Christmas lunches at popular venues, these always being well supported.

As the village population ages, we need more members for the club to remain viable. So if a pleasant social afternoon with a lot of laughs and an excellent tea to follow appeals to you, please come along and join us.

Remember: Third Thursday each month. Mapua Hall Supper Room at 1:30pm. \$2 door charge. 20c raffle. Bring a small plate

If you would like more information, please phone Valerie on 540-3685.

Reported for the Friendship Club by Mike Halse



Country Classic Cruise on again

After last year's successful inaugural event, two local classic car enthusiasts – Fred Cassin and Tim Moriarty – are repeating the exercise: the Mapua Charity Country Classic Cruise.

The cruise will be on Sunday 21st March, beginning with a driver briefing at 9.30am at the Wetlands site on Aranui Road, opposite the new church. All the cars will return to the Mapua Wharf about 3pm; do come down and see them!

Again, the Cruise is aimed at charities in Mapua, by charging a modest entry fee – \$20 per car. This year the charity is The Friends of the Mapua Wetland – custodians of our precious local habitat. Participants will be handed detailed route charts and

a questionnaire, which will inform them about our environs.

From about 3pm onwards, the cars will gather in the wharf area, available for view as drivers receive their trophies.

So, Mapua folk will see some outstanding classic cars in the village in the morning and afternoon.

For just a gold coin donation to the Wetland, Mapua folk can help award the highly-treasured prize – The People's Choice – your vote for the one car that you think has special merit.

If *Coastal News* readers want to register, simply send your name, your contact phone, and your car details to either collegial@xtra.co.nz or ring Fred on 540-3496.

Hills Community Church

When Having It All, Isn't Enough

Years ago I was visiting a woman in my church that was a hospice volunteer. She was very distressed about a client who was in quite an emotional state regarding her impending death. What concerned this volunteer was a phrase her client kept repeating over and over: "What will happen to all of my things? What will happen to all of my beautiful things?"

The dying woman expressed no concern over the family she was leaving behind, or voiced regret over past mistakes or unfulfilled dreams, or pondered what her future state following death might be. What worried her most were her things. This woman had great wealth which allowed her to acquire an abundance of possessions and she saw them all slipping through her fingers. She had spent a lifetime selecting just the right this and that and soon it would all be beyond her grasp. As a grim Spanish proverb states: "There are no pockets in a shroud."

What motivates us to always want more? And why does having more seem to beget wanting more? As the ancient Roman proverb says, "Money is like seawater; the more a man drinks the thirstier he becomes."

There was a certain young and ambitious man and an older, wiser man. Said the young man, "I will learn my trade." "And then?" said the older man. "I will set up in business." "And then?" "I will make my fortune." "And then?" "I suppose that I shall grow old and retire and live on my money." "And then?" "Well, I suppose that some day I will die." "And then?"

Someone once said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me" to which Jesus replied, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a person's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." (Luke 12:13-15).

What does your life consist of? Where is your greatest abundance? What is contained in your personal savings account that has everlasting value?

Counting those things which matter most, Marilyn Loken, Minister, Hills Community Church

*"Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
- Luke 12:34*

Now @ Hills—Drop-off for Area Food Bank

If you would like to make a contribution to the Community Food Bank in Motueka you can bring your non-perishable food items to the church (122 Aranui Rd) on Friday mornings between 9am & noon. There is a basket marked "Food Bank" in the front entry. We deliver these items monthly to the food bank.

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

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

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

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

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

We also offer numerous home groups and youth activities.

Contact 540-3848 for more information on our ministries

BOOK REVIEW

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
is available from the Mapua Library

Not a new release by any means but a book that I have picked up again recently and found as moving and gripping as the first time round.

A Thousand Splendid Suns is by the author of the acclaimed *The Kite Runner*, and I enjoyed this one more. Perhaps 'enjoyment' is not the appropriate adjective as there are few light moments in this bitterly realistic story of the tragedies of war, the brutality of men and the terrible injustices towards women under the Taliban.

Set in the author's native Afghanistan it tells the harrowing tale of two women, Mariam and Laila. Twenty years separates their ages and both are coerced against their will into marriage with the brutal Rashiid.

Mariam is the illegitimate daughter of a wealthy and prominent citizen of Harat. After the death of her mother when she is fifteen, she threatens to become a social embarrassment to her father, and succumbing to pressure from his wives and family he arranges a swift marriage to Rashiid, a middle aged widower from distant Kabul, in spite of Mariam's vehement objections. Mariam endures eighteen years in an abusive and loveless relationship with Rashiid, before Laila comes into their lives.

Laila is fourteen when she is badly injured and her parents killed in a rocket attack on their home in Kabul during the tribal power struggle after the Soviet retreat. She is dragged from the rubble by Rashiid and restored to health by Mariam. Believing her lifelong soulmate and lover, Tariq, dead and knowing she is pregnant with his child, Laila sees no alternative to agreeing to marry the ageing Rashiid much against the wishes of Mariam, who is now rejected and reduced to the role of servant. From the simmering distrust and resentment between the two women at the outset gradually grows a deep bond evolving into a loving mother/daughter relationship which neither has ever known. It is the light in the darkness of their harrowing existence, which leads to their eventual salvation.

Against a background of oppression from the ruling Mujahideem, their life is a constant struggle against starvation and the increasing and

Fire Brigade

January–February 10 call-outs

Jan 21: Flooding Stafford Drive, Tait Street, Citrus Grove .

Jan 30: Switchboard fire Stafford Drive. Screw in wire arcing

Feb 1: Fire on beach, permitted. No action taken

Feb 6: Fire on beach, could not find

Feb 7: Fire on beach behind school. Put out.

Feb 10: Outdoor area of Smokehouse burnt. Fire on walkway on Langford Drive, possibly deliberately lit.

Feb 10: Shed fire Little Sydney Road, Motueka. Turned back.

Safety Tip – Have you thought about fire sprinkler in your house, sheds or business? They can stop a fire from spreading. Have a look on the NZFS web site or talk to a plumber.

On Friday 12 February we held a event to recognise the role employers play in the running of a Volunteer Fire Brigade. If employers don't allow employees to attend call-outs we all lose out.

The employers are: Da Vinci Engineering, Gavin Lambert Painter/Decorator, Hill Technology & Management Ltd, Keystone Building Ltd, Logres Computing, Nelson Forests Ltd, Perry's Auto Services, Sir Greg Theatrics, Spot on Engineering Ltd Ray Bolderson Design, Thawley Orchard Co Ltd, Trends Kitchens, Truck Specialists and Westfyld. The brigade also thanks Mapua Four Square for their support.



sickening brutality of Rashiid from which there is no prospect of escape.

This deeply engrossing and disturbing story of suffering and fortitude highlights the desperate plight of women under the brutal Taliban regime. It is told with great sensitivity yet the narrative is powerful and page turning.

If you haven't read *A Thousand Splendid Suns* yet - do so. If you have already read it, read it again, I'm glad that I did

Barbara Mercer

MAPUA LIBRARY

Ph 540-2545



A quick update on the computerisation of the library. We had to pause while we resolved some issues, which caused an unexpected delay. However, we are now in a position to start entering all our stock into a database to create a catalogue for the library. This does mean the library will close again for a week in March. The closure date will be well advertised. We thank you for your patience as we undertake this vital step, which in the long term will enable us to offer a more efficient service to you, our readers.

On a jubilant note we are experiencing a wonderful response with ticket sales to the upcoming Literary Festival planned for the weekend of the 26-28th March. The festival offers all book lovers within our community and the wider Nelson region a very varied and interesting programme for all age groups. Check out the programme on our website www.mapuacommunitylibrary.co.nz

We are looking forward to the children's day on the Saturday. Parents and grandparents: do encourage your children to participate. There is such a varied programme it should be a fun day for them (with plenty of interest for you, too). You can view the competitions for the different age groups at the website, or come into the library for details and entry forms; interested participants could be working on their stories now. Please note that the deadline for these competitions has been extended to 15 March. Also on the Saturday there will be many displays of interest and a great opportunity to stock up on some preserves and pickles as our volunteers have been turning surplus summer produce into many delicious treats for you to purchase.

There has also been a great response from some of the many book groups within the area with some having booked tables of eight for the Festival Feast on the Sunday afternoon; so your club may wish to consider this if they haven't already done so. What a great opportunity to relax, to enjoy a special afternoon tea, and to let Fiona Farrell, Gerard Hindmarsh, Brigid Lowry and Barry Southam take us into their domain of words and wit.

If you haven't organised your tickets yet they will be on sale at the library every Saturday afternoon during library hours, 2pm – 4.30pm. We would love to have you join us for this special weekend, which begins on the Friday evening when our patron, Margaret Mahey, will officially launch the festival. Do join us.

Dot Moriarty



MAPUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY LITERARY FESTIVAL

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE

FRIDAY 26 MARCH

COCKTAIL PARTY, \$20

6 PM MAPUA BOWLING CLUB

MARGARET MAHY & CLIFF FELL

SUNDAY 28 MARCH

FESTIVAL FEAST, \$35

2 PM MAPUA PUBLIC HALL

FIONA FARRELL, GERARD

HINDMARSH, BRIGID LOWRY & BARRY
SOUTHAM

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY 27, 28
MARCH**

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP, \$45

9 AM - 1 PM MAPUA LIBRARY

BRIDGET AUCHMUTY

FULL PROGRAMME AT

www.mapuacommunitylibrary.co.nz

TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS

litfest@mapuacommunitylibrary.co.nz

TEL: SUE 540 2934

Library Hours:

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 2pm – 4:30pm

Wednesday 5pm – 6:50pm

Thursday 10am – 12:30pm

Rangers Rugby Football Club

Senior B Team

- Moutere Hills Community Centre, Upper Moutere
- Pre Season Fitness Boot camp 10am on Saturdays
- Tuesday Night Social Touch 6pm
- Team Trainings commence 4th March, Thursdays 6pm.
- Games start on 3rd April
- For more info contact Mark on 540 3704

Mapua Health Centre - 20 years old

We are 20 years old! And it's our birthday this month. That is the Mapua and Districts Health Centre came into being in the middle of March 1990 after an amazing effort by the local community in collaboration with the Nelson Area Health Board, who had just bought the site of the old post office. It has gone through various metamorphoses and changes over the intervening years, with the latest being the addition of two further rooms at the back of the building to allow for the hyperbaric oxygen unit and extra staff. Many thanks to all the volunteer help that we have had over recent years and to the health committee who generously give their time and energy to looking after the building and equipment.

So it's time to have a party and everyone is invited! It will be on Saturday March 20 starting at 11am and we will be having food, fun and festivities at the back of the health centre on 62 Aranui Road – so please come along.

We're also very pleased to announce that we have Dr Mark Fry joining us at the beginning of April to replace the gap left by Richard Thomas. He is a New Zealand graduate with a keen interest in general practice, as well as emergency and sports medicine. He will be working Wednesdays to Fridays.

Each year we have several final year medical students sit in with the doctors and nurses to get some experience of general practice. In March we will be hosting Michael Cooper and in May we will have Shaanti Velluppillai. Feedback from previous students is that they really enjoy their time at the Health Centre and greatly appreciate the opportunity and experience of working with patients in the GP setting. Thank you for helping us support these young trainee doctors.

Just a reminder that we have an online prescription service. If you have internet access you can re-order routine prescriptions by emailing prescription@mapuahealth.com and give your details re name and exact medication required. We will aim to have the script ready within 24 hours (and usually the same day).

This year's flu vaccines will soon be available and we will be contacting those who are on our computer recall system when they arrive. However, if you would like to receive a vaccination against the flu and have not had one previously from our centre please call the practice nurse, as we need to order sufficient supplies in advance.

Some of the events for the month:

1-5	<u>Travelwise Walk to School Week</u>	www.nzta.govt.nz
1-7	<u>Red Cross Awareness & Appeal Week</u>	www.redcross.org.nz/cms_display.php
2-8	<u>WellChild /Tamariki Ora week</u>	www.wellchild.org.nz
4	<u>World Book Day</u>	www.worldbookday.com
7	<u>Children's Day - 'Listening and Talking'</u>	www.childrensday.org.nz
8	<u>International Women's Day</u>	www.internationalwomensday.com
8-14	<u>Child Cancer Foundation Appeal Week</u>	www.childcancer.org.nz
8-14	<u>National Just Water Week</u>	www.kidneys.co.nz
8-14	<u>Schizophrenia Fellowship Week</u>	www.sfnat.org.nz
8-15	<u>Victim Support Week</u>	www.victimsupport.org.nz
10	<u>Walk to Work Day</u>	www.livingstreets.org.nz
11	<u>World Kidney Day</u>	www.worldkidneyday.org
15-21	<u>Brain Awareness Week</u>	www.neurological.org.nz/brainweek/index.php
24	<u>World Tuberculosis Day</u>	www.stoptb.org
26-28	<u>Red Puppy Appeal (Foundation of the Blind)</u>	www.rnzfb.org.nz

Under The Bonnet with Fred

Looking After Your Classic Car

Most of us have spent thousands of dollars on our cars and don't wish to do it again. Good dry garaging is your best advice to keep your car nice. A dry garage has a door that closes properly, doesn't leak and spouting that doesn't overflow, spilling water which ponds under your car then evaporates, condensing or frosting electrical connections. I recall thinking all was right in my garage but discovered one rainy night that water was gathering under my 62 coupe. So check your garage when it's raining.

Don't fill the garage with all your other junk which might fall and cause damage. Most of all don't use your car as a shelf by just chucking something on it, as it won't be long before someone else will add to it.

Sunlight through the window of the garage from an afternoon sun which bakes that part of the car will fade and split paint, breaks down rubber mouldings, especially window rubbers, and fade upholstery which can cost big money to repair. Cover or curtain the windows in your garage to keep light out. I have boarded up my windows, which adds a bit of security.

Cover your car with old sheets or a manufacturer's custom-made car cover, which I recommend. After spending two hours polishing and grooming you don't want it covered in dust next time you take it out. A few minutes covering your car ensures your car stays polished and shiny for months.

If you keep your car in a carport manufactured car covers come in different sizes and grades for outdoor exposure. Covers can be bought from Mega Store & Bunnings for about \$87 and will do until you enclose the carport to a garage.

Perry's Auto fitted a battery isolator for me which shuts the electrical system down when the car is not in use. With all the electronics in the Cadillac, that expensive battery's life can be extended by three years but must be done every time the car is garaged. The isolator cost about \$25 and can save a lot of hassles with flat batteries.

Leaving food in your car while in storage can be damaging as I found out with my VX Land Cruiser after being garaged for three months. I had some chewy bars in their packets in the centre console behind the gear lever. Rats had smelt the chewy bars, climbed into the car and in their attempts to find them also ate holes in the upholstery. Make sure your car is clear of any food.

Extras I do for my old Cadillac: Lower all the windows about 30mm to give the interior a chance to breathe. Use 10W30 oil—the correct grade of oil



makes the engine quieter and smoother. Have the workshop manual that tells my service station about my strange car. Don't get a Haynes or other aftermarket workshop manual; they have only half the story. I get the GM Cadillac workshop manuals from www.faxonautolit.com for about \$NZ180 including freight and it's the best thing you could do for car if it's a stranger like mine. I do talk to my Cadillac, but don't tell Carolyn.

Long-term storage:

Remove the battery. It isolates the electrical system and eliminates battery corrosion and frosting terminals. Give your battery away because after two years of no use it will probably be dead. Jack your car up on stands to take weight off the tyres. Tyres might have slow leaks and two years sitting on flat tyres would ruin them. Cover the tyres individually to keep light and UV rays from breaking down the rubber. Draining the sump is not recommended. On your return drain the sump and replace with fresh oil of the correct grade before starting the engine. Drain the fuel, it will be probably be off in two years. Plus you have the added advantage of eliminating a fire risk. Have anti-freeze in the radiator to prevent rusting, especially in older cars.

Peter Dunn brought to my attention the ultimate car storage product called a Carcoon. It is an air bubble cover/garage which you zip around your car and then inflate. A positive pressure is maintained by two electric fans. They are available in indoor and outdoor models. The 5.5m outdoor Carcoon is \$2125. See www.carcoon.co.nz

Keeping your car garaged, covered, out of sunlight, dry with the battery isolated, will maintain your favourite car in prime condition and save you money.

Fred Cassin

New dentist for Mapua

I would like to introduce myself to you all following David Hoaglin's decision to move to Hong Kong and sell his dental practice to me.

My name is Keith Beasley; I am an Englishman by birth but now hold a New Zealand passport, having lived here for a number of years. I qualified in the UK in 1986 so have 24 years of dental experience under my belt. I love all areas of dentistry, in particular crown and bridgework/veneers and cosmetic makeovers for my patients and enjoy the many challenges patients bring to me.

I am comfortable treating patients from age two to 102, and am more than happy to treat even the most anxious of patients. I believe in treating patients with the respect that each one deserves and will endeavor to be as gentle and kind as possible. We have nitrous oxide sedation to help relax even the most anxious of patients.

I have owned two practices in Auckland and one in the UK and feel that I have all the necessary experience needed to take over David's successful practice. I am looking forward to providing you all with the highest quality dental care with the same excellent dental team that is here at One Dental. Robyn and Sybille will treat you with kindness, and Kelly, our registered dental hygienist, will provide first class dental hygiene to care for your mouth, giving you a smile you can be proud of.

As Mapua's only full-time dental practice, located behind the 'Naked Bun' you can be assured that as a

patient of One Dental, we will treat you with the dental care you deserve.

I am a family man with two wonderful children aged 10 and six, George and Emilia. Both are Kiwis, having being born in Auckland, and both are excited about returning home to New Zealand after five years in the UK. My wife Alison is a homemaker and will continue to be so as Emilia has a few special needs which demand extra support from her.

We are particularly excited about living in what seems to be the most beautiful part of New Zealand and after a brief visit in winter to look at the practice and houses I am convinced that this move is a lifestyle move which we will all enjoy. We have been blown away by the warmth and openness of people in the region and feel we have made the best decision to live our life in the Mapua region.

My interests outside of home life include playing golf not very well and skiing reasonably well. But, most of my time is spent with my family. It looks as though I am going to become a keen gardener looking after the house and land we have bought and with my daughter's desire to ride horses and my son's passion for fishing, I am sure I am going to be very busy in the next few years enjoying all that Mapua and the region can offer.

I look forward to meeting you all soon and hope that you can give me the opportunity to care for your dental needs.

Dr Keith R Beasley, BDS

Noticeboard

Netball - Social Masters: Nelson Netball is proposing a social masters league - likely to be played on Thursday evenings - outdoor netball in Saxton Stadium. If you are interested in being part of a local team, please ring Maree on 5432247.

Cardio Tennis is the latest fitness craze designed to give you a great workout even if you've never played before. It is heart pumping fitness which burns fat, increases stamina while having a whole lot of fun. The ultimate workout with no ability required. Classes will run on Monday & Tuesday mornings 9.30-10.30am at the Mapua Tennis Courts. To register or for more info phone Vanessa 5432 332 or email claybrookestate@xtra.co.nz

Home help wanted for half a day once a fortnight. Phone 540-2466

Flatmate wanted: lovely family home in Mapua, fully furnished room, prefer professional female to share expenses. Rent negotiable. Phone 540 2445 or 027 2899449

Tapawera Community Church Harvest Festival Event Saturday March 13th 4-7pm Tapawera Village Green

House available to rent: fully furnished in Mapua village, private and sunny with large lawn. Available 10 April until mid-December 2010. Whole or part period considered. Phone Rosalie: 027 422 1048

House Sitter available to look after your house/garden/pets for 2 weeks from 12 March. Reliable honest retired lady who lives in Mapua. Ph 027 316 3476

Skype Harvest Extra Virgin Olive Oil available. Ph 540 2698. email slmcleod@xtra.co.nz. Orders delivered, or call in 113 Seaton Valley Rd Mapua.

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

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

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

Rooms available to rent at 69 Aranui Road, Mapua. Tel Julie, 5402705 or email julie@inhealth.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. For more info Lynley 540 2292.

Genealogy Computer Discussion Group: This year our bimonthly meetings will be 1.30pm on Saturdays on these dates: April 10th; June 12th; Aug 14th; Oct 9th; Dec 11th.. For information: Val 540 3931 or Peter 540 2686.

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 Rinny, 540 2117

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.

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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