

Coastal News

www.mapua.gen.nz

covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,
run by volunteers

email: coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz

An Invitation ... from the Editors

The editors of the *Coastal News* are grateful for those who write to us about local matters, either in the form of articles or as letters to the editor, but there is room for a lot more. We all have opinions and criticisms, and are pretty good at sharing them with our families and friends, so how about writing to us? The quickest way is by e-mail, but old-fashioned hand-writing on paper is fine. We can do the electronic conversion. Your letter doesn't have to be a complaint; it could be a compliment or appreciation for what the council has done (is that an oxymoron?) or suggestion on how the village could be made to look better.

If you think writing letters is boring, why not write a poem or essay? It would have to be short and preferably comprehensible to the ordinary person. We are often looking for small articles of local interest to fill a space on a page and sometimes have to resort to "fillers" in the form of jokes or quotations. Not everyone thinks they are funny or apposite.

You only need to read the items in the "Noticeboard," the back page of our newsletter, to see the diversity of interests in our community – from walking to meditating, from talking to teaching, from photography to Probus – so perhaps we can share our interests with a wider audience.

The *Coastal News* is attracting a lot of advertising, which is good from a commercial point of view (and remember the money we make goes back to the community), but its primary purpose is to be a newsletter. We would like to see more text to counter the advertisements. The articles on animals, health, wetlands, and the clean-up of the chemical site and so on are all appreciated, but there's more out there to write about. We are open to suggestions and offerings.

Perhaps most of our readers are adults, so should we encourage younger readers by running articles that interest them? Pupils at Mapua and Mahana schools could send us something in addition to what the headmasters regularly give us. There is no age barrier on who can write for us.

Photographs are welcome, but there are a few provisos: they should not be too cluttered, they should be in focus and they should have good contrast. Remember that the *Coastal News* is printed in black and white and colour pictures do not always reproduce well. If you send a picture by e-mail make sure it is not too big. Time costs money when you're not on broadband!

So instead of blobbing out in front of the television watching *Coronation Street* or *Desperate Housewives*, or playing games on the computer, compose something for the *Coastal News*. You never know, we might have another Ernest Hemingway or Katherine Mansfield in our midst. Even if you are not a literary genius, we would like to hear from you. Remember the words of Chairman Mao: The longest story began with the first word.

The Editors

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Mapua Women's Recreation Group - Relay for Life Report

At the recent cancer fundraising event, Relay for Life, held in Nelson on March 4th & 5th, the Mapua Women's Recreation Group entered a team of 12 walkers. During the chilly night, in-between our rostered one hour walks around the track, some of the lucky ones managed to grab a wee sleep, while most of us had a little doze at some stage. We raised a grand total of \$2100 to help with the search for a cure for cancer. Most of this great sum was from the sale of specially designed t-shirts.

Donations from our sponsors enabled us to purchase the materials and we held several 'sewing bees' to do the cutting, ironing, sewing and stitching required. It was a very unusual activity for most of us and made us realise what women used to do when they got together before the onset



of our present café culture! Our team was awarded with a spot prize for our matching t-shirts and hats. Sharon Kennedy also received a spot prize for spraying her shoes the same vivid pink as our hats!

Coastal garden group

Another lively meeting in March that was well attended and resulted in a few new members. As usual business matters were brief and to the point and we then listened to a report from the Reserves sub-committee. It's good to see the Domain looking good and the planting in Aranui Park being cared for too. Plans for Aranui Park continue to be discussed with Tasman District Council and we look forward to being involved more there in due course. Members were asked to help out at a working bee aimed at keeping the weeds down in areas already planted and there were many volunteers.

We moved on to look at what to plant for spring colour with bulbs featuring heavily and how to prepare the garden for winter. The vege garden can still be productive and be tidied up after the summer crops have finished. A busy question and answer session gave the opportunity to share expertise, ideas and help with problems faced by any gardener.

After tea we looked at the results of the Bloom Cluster Shrub competition and ended with our usual plant sale.

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

We would like to thank our major sponsors:

Collegial Consultants Ltd
Audrey & Charles Fulford
Heather Hoad
Jester House
Kennedy & Assoc
Mapua Auto
Mapua Tavern
Naked Bun Co Ltd
Sharon Kennedy - Ray White Mapua
Tessa Maes
Chris & Rose Welland

Garden Notes

We are now in mid autumn, and it is a good time to plant fruit trees. Stake to protect from wind and water well.

Cabbage and broccoli will be under merciless attack from caterpillars, aphids etc. Watch and spray with an insecticide if problems arise. Bulb planting will be in full swing. Stores have a full variety and good stock to tempt you.



h a v e

Time is going by for ordering your new rose plants from Tasman Bay Roses. We are very lucky to them so close by with such a full selection of names to choose from. I have just ordered a real beauty called "Best Friend," hybrid tea deep pink and perfumed. Mrs Pratt advises me they have only 100 plants of their award-winning "Golden Age," so be in quick to add this treasure to your collection.

Sow seeds of herbs such as sage, rosemary and lavender now for planting out in spring.

Remember autumn is a good time to take cuttings. A healthy cutting should be dipped in a rooting hormone, or use Netta Perry's recipe of willow tea. Chop up willow leaves and whippy stalks, put in jar, cover with water and immerse the cuttings overnight. She assures me this method really works. Thanks, "Aunty Netta".

Keep up the good work even as the "Dry" continues, making our gardener's life that more challenging.

Barry Highsted

Property News

The recent Tasman valuations dated the 1st September 2005 highlight the substantial increase in values that have occurred throughout the district as result of a very vibrant market. The average rise in capital value across the district was 72%. Significantly, land values increased by 122%, reflecting the substantial increased demand for property and the resultant rise in value.

Six months further on, the market has plateaued and stabilised with a more regular pattern prevailing. Property in general is taking longer to sell.

Some current sales are:

22 Oct	Langford Dr	3 B/R House, 895m2	\$480,000
30 Oct	Aranui Rd	3 B/R House, 903m2	\$417,000
5 Nov	Lionel Pl	3 B/R House, 700m2	\$387,500
12 Dec	Iwa St	2 B/R House, 805m2	\$243,000
16 Jan	Iwa St	3 B/R House, 1062m2	\$300,000
18 Jan	Aranui Rd	1 B/R House, 725m2	\$236,000
24 Jan	Iwa St	3 B/R House, 954m2	\$365,000



*Compiled by Grahame Williams Ray White Real Estate
MREINZ*

Digital Photography

March 9 marked the first anniversary of the Mapua Digital Photography Group! Our resolution to include more field trips during the year is off to a good start. A visit to Kateriteri for photographic opportunities in April is something to look forward to.

Our March meeting saw the sharing of plenty of photos and the stories that go with them. The wonders of technology were evident in the skilled manipulation of some photos. Creating one photo from two takes some talent!

A new Photoshop tutorial CD was demonstrated, offering solutions to those of us who are desperate for help. The calm voice heard throughout the tutorial definitely helps frustrated users keep their cool!

Tutorials on creating greeting cards from photos and more hands-on photography workshops have been

requested, and hopefully we'll be able to work these into the year.

It has been wonderful to see that many heads can create solutions to common problems. Many digital camera-users feel they're on their own when it comes to learning new technology, with sometimes as many as four unhelpful instruction manuals! It doesn't have to be that way. We're all amateurs with a wide range of abilities, all ready and willing to share our triumphs and tragedies in the digital world, whether it's the camera end or the computer end that's causing grief.

If you'd like to join, contact the secretary, **Kushla Haenen, on 021 036 9046** or write to PO Box 466 Motueka for a membership form. You're most welcome!

Coastal Connections

On March 9 we met at Café on Oxford in Richmond for our monthly luncheon. Several members had not been to this venue, which was opened late last year. Everyone was impressed with the stunning décor, which had been designed by Suzi Matz of Matz Interiors. Amongst our choices from the impressive menu were creamy roast chicken risotto, gourmet burger with guacamole, Roma tomato and red onion, and filled bagels, with fruit juices and coffee to drink.



Edith enjoying her lunch

Those in the know visit Café on Oxford for breakfast between 7.30 and 11am; they are open until 8pm on Fridays. There is also a very tempting blackboard menu with lunch specials. We resolved to return, either together or on our shopping days.

Amongst the topics shared at this gathering, were included future luncheon venues, the cost charged by the Public Trust for administrating estates (we understand that this can be as much as \$150 per hour), the best places to purchase meat, smallgoods and fresh vegetables, planning for dealing with the spread of major infectious diseases, floods and earthquakes. Valerie had attended the recent Health Centre's meeting on these subjects and we intend to share our ideas on "being prepared".

After lunch, we spent an enjoyable hour or so at The Bead Gallery in Richmond Mall, where four members made necklaces with beads selected from the thousands on display. An interesting feature now available is a magnetic clasp to fasten a necklace – this would be most useful for those with arthritis, and as a replacement for clasps that are too small to handle for some of us.

Our congratulations go to Hilda and Eric Johnson who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in late March.

Our next meeting will be on 13 of April, when we will visit the "Gothic" in Motueka. Please phone Dot on 540-2323 before 10 April so that a booking can be made at the café and transport arranged. New members to our Group are always most welcome.

Reported by Barbara Halse.

PROBUS CLUB

OF MAPUA & DISTRICT

The club held its AGM. at the Mapua Hall. There was a good attendance of over 40 members. Audrey Kitto introduced four club members to give a 15-minute talk on their experiences during the clubs 10-day tour of Tasmania. Two of the speakers, Norm Thawley, and Bob MacKenzie, were able to speak on their personal experiences touring other parts of the island. They were independently able to hire a car, spending a further week in Tasmania .

The AGM. began on completion of afternoon tea. The club's outgoing President Bea Langford presented her report, listing many activities that the club had been involved in during the year. She enjoyed her a new experience as president.

The club's Treasurer, John Sharman, presented his report that had been audited by Ron Salmon. The club is in a sound financial position.

Election of officers: President, Athol Churchman: Vice President, Margaret Butchart: Treasurer, John Sharman: Secretary, Maureen Fon: Newsletter, Audrey Kitto: Reporter, Social, Ray Kitto: Convenor Speaker, Peter Butchart: Convener Catering, Joy Sharman: Convener Almoner, Janice Higgs: Non committee members, Auditor, Ron Salmon: Club meetings reporter, David Higgs.

General business: Bea Langford; gave a vote of thanks to the out-going committee. Ray Kitto gave a vote of thanks to Bea for her year as president.

The Mapua Bowling club hosted the club's social afternoon on 15 March. There was a good turnout of 18 club members plus, bowling club members. The bowling club members played lead assisting and advising our members on the skill and techniques of the game. The afternoon bowls were triples social bowls played to 10 ends. Some of our members were able to find their skills after many years of non-involvement in the game. By about 3pm it was time to enjoy afternoon tea. Ray Kitto gave a vote of thanks

to the bowling club members, for an enjoyable social afternoon.

The club's next meeting will be on Friday 7 April at 1.30pm at the Mapua Hall. Visitors and prospective members are welcome. For further information phone the President Athol Churchman 540-3450, or the Secretary Maureen Fon 540-3292.

David Higgs

Bill WilliamsEighty years young!

Bill Williams does not belong to a pioneer Mapua family – he has been here only 26 years – but he has done a great deal for Mapua and Ruby Bay in those years, and he hasn't stopped working to ensure his adoptive village thrives.

Bill celebrated his eightieth birthday last month and shared with the *Coastal News* some highlights of his life, which began in the village of Kingsland in Herefordshire, England. Although he is known as Bill, his full name is actually Theophilus Richard Hamlem-Williams, after his grandfather. However, to his mother he was known as Bill from the moment he was born.

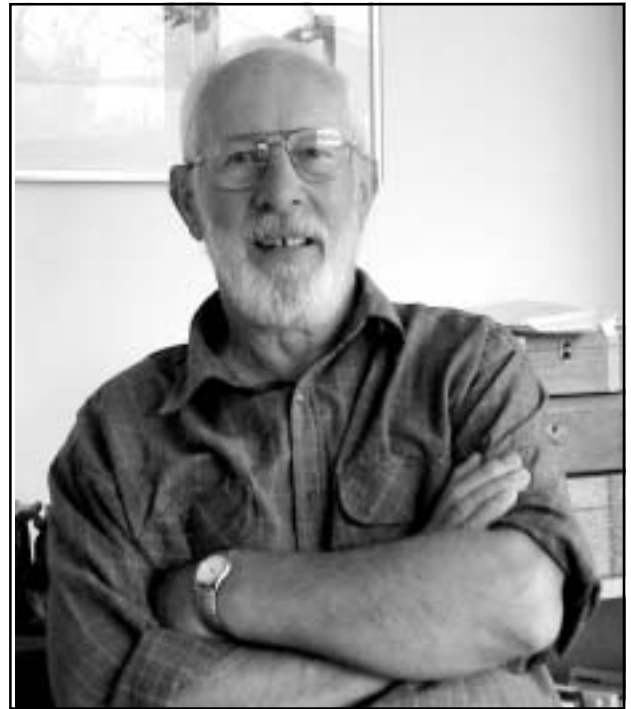
His secondary education was at Lucton School for boys, founded in 1708. It was a seven-mile bicycle ride twice a day on country roads and he thought nothing of it. Cars were not in widespread use during the war years, except for essential reasons.

Bill left school in 1944 and joined the Welsh Guards. He had four years altogether in the army, two and a half of them in Palestine before the British mandate ended.

In 1950 or 1951 he worked his passage on the Shaw Savill merchant ship Doric as a cattleman, looking after a cargo of stud Herefords from his home county. He got token pay of one shilling a month, which put him under command of the ship's captain. He had a "wonderful voyage" via South Africa and Western Australia, landing at Melbourne. He worked for a while on a Malee district wheat farm in Victoria then went to Sydney. He worked for two years as a jackaroo, with the longest period being on Pokataroo, a 45,000-acre sheep and cattle station, 18 hours by train through the Blue Mountains from Sydney.

The next stop was New Zealand, partly because it was the farthest he could go from Britain, the "other side of the world," and partly because while in Palestine he had met New Zealand soldiers whose jackets were made of merino wool which was the envy of British soldiers. Since then he had wanted to visit the country where the wool came from.

He flew from Sydney to Auckland in one of the last Short Sunderland flying boats. He says that although the flight took six and a half hours, the overall time wasn't much longer than it takes today because the flying boat left from Rose Bay in Sydney and landed in Mechanics Bay just off Queen Street in Auckland. In Auckland he did "every job under the sun" before going to the King Country as a shepherd, back to Auckland to work as a barman,



Bill relaxing at home on his eightieth birthday

then to Reporoa between Rotorua and Taupo. There he drove heavy machinery for a contractor breaking in pumice land. It had recently been learned that the soil could be made productive by adding trace elements, so thousands of acres were broken in and topdressed, and returned servicemen entered ballots for it as part of the government's rehabilitation scheme.

When he was 25 or 26, Bill decided to further his interest in art so went to Wellington to attend art school. He worked as a barman at the Gresham Hotel and attended night school, but later became a night porter at the Grand Hotel so he could attend day classes. After a year of this he was told if he wanted to advance he should attend the Canterbury University College Fine Arts School in Christchurch. This was under the care of Colin Lovell Smith and his tutor was William Sutton. Others in the group were Ivey Fife, Russell Clark, John Coley and Pat Hanly. Bill lived in premises owned by the well-known Christchurch landlady, Annie Clifford, at 22 Armagh Street, and for two years he painted and drew. He says he did not continue with art because he was "lazy" and he needed to make a living.

It was while in Christchurch that he met Karen Macfarlane and in 1956 they married in Wellington, her home town. The next year they went to England and Bill saw his family after a six-year absence. For a while they lived in a Chelsea flat in London for a year then in a houseboat on the Thames near the Battersea Bridge, a "fine place to live."

Bill Williams - contd.:

After a trip through the Rhone Valley in France they decided to do something worthwhile with their lives so returned to New Zealand by ship. They lived in Lower Hutt, Bill trained as a teacher, taught in primary schools and studied extra-murally towards a degree. Karen then took up teaching and Bill went to university full-time and got his degree in education.

By then they had a son, David. Bill returned to teaching, this time in secondary schools and with children who had special needs. Early in 1970 he was asked to take a year's leave from teaching and work on designing custom-built units for special-needs children – rooms without blackboard and desks but with workshops, kitchens, social rooms and games rooms – to get away from the classroom look. Bill ran the experience class at Hutt Valley Memorial Technical College for ten years before retiring.

While at a wedding in Timaru in 1979 their son David, then aged 19, was badly injured when a truck went over the seawall at Days Bay and landed on the rocks below. David was unconscious for a month and underwent neurosurgery and suffered personality problems that jolted Bill and Karen to alter their lives and look for somewhere else to live. With help from Hugh Gordon, now a Ruby Bay resident and a real estate agent in Mapua at the time, they decided on Mapua.

They packed everything into a station wagon, caught the ferry to Picton and arrived outside the old Mapua store in May 1980. They immediately got work at Collier's orchard pruning apple trees, and lived in a cottage on the orchard for the winter. They then bought the old Higgs homestead on the hill above the Mapua village, and after they had moved their furniture in they went back to England to see David who had gone some months before to see his grandparents. They were very relieved when he agreed that it was time he returned to New Zealand. (David is now fully recovered and has a family of three children, doted on by Bill and Karen).

When Bill and Karen got back to their new home in Mapua, they said, "What do we do now?" They decided to open a restaurant, the first in Mapua, in the small paddock that ran down their hill off Aranui Road opposite Perry's garage. They bought one of the old 1927 classrooms of the Maitai School in Nelson, transported it to Mapua, built on a kitchen and veranda and lifted it onto poles. They ran it for three and a half years as The Inlet. It was later The Grapes, The Village Rest and is now Flavour. Bill and Karen then ran a co-operative art gallery below the restaurant for about two years before selling the land and business.

From the time Bill arrived in Mapua he was involved with five other families in challenging the existence of the chemical works, especially after a big fire in 1981. He says it is good to see the clean-up now coming to a conclusion with real hope that the waterfront will be an attractive place that people will want to visit.

He was part of a group that raised \$20,000 to meet the cost of taking a case to court against Lime and Marble, the Fruitgrowers' Chemical Company and the local authority, which resulted in a favourable outcome for the protest group, such as forbidding the discharge of chemicals into the Mapua channel.

Bill was chairman of the Ratepayers' Association for nine years and was one of the people responsible for the Mapua Health Centre being created out of the old the Post Office when it closed. He took over from Bernard Wells the production of the local newsletter, then handed it over to Andrew Earlam. A publishing company ran it for a while but failed to keep it going, so Bill and Andrew resurrected it as the present day *Coastal News*. Bill has withdrawn as an editor of the newsletter but he was the moving force behind setting up the Mapua Ruby Bay and District Community Trust last year. Its purpose is to establish a capital base to earn interest that can be distributed amongst local community groups. Advertising revenue from the *Coastal News* goes into it and it is Bill's hope that public donations and bequests will swell the fund to a sizeable sum to the benefit of the community.

Terry Smith

TIPS

Don't throw out all that leftover wine: Freeze into ice cubes for future use in casseroles and sauces. (Left over wine? What's that?)

Use air-freshener to clean mirrors. It does a good job and better still, leaves a lovely smell to the shine

Candles will last a lot longer if placed in the freezer for at least 3 hours prior to burning.

Community Association Report

TDC annual plan: Unfortunately we have been unable to coordinate the presentation of the Annual Plan with our scheduled meeting on 8 May, so a **special meeting has been booked for Monday 1st May at 7.30pm.** in the Mapua Hall. We look forward to welcoming our Mayor, Councillors and TDC staff to reveal their thoughts and ideas that will affect us all over the next year and beyond. I should be grateful for the assistance of all able-bodied men in setting out chairs etc at 7.15pm and clearing away afterwards.

Toru Street/Higgs Road upgrade: The widening, drainage control and inset parking has caused some concern with local residents as it appears that the contractors neglected to inform them of the work to be done. The widening should improve the flow of traffic and ease the parking problem, but the loss of the grass verge and the village seaside look is regretted - is this the price of progress ?

Aranui Road upgrade: After public submissions the proposed road alongside the Domain and behind the Mall, surgery and library has been removed from the revised plan. However, it is now apparent that parking has become a crucial issue for the village, the association therefore recommends to the TDC that Aranui Road be widened from No. 69 (the vet clinic) to the west side of the tennis courts to allow for an extension of angle parking.

Old Mill walkway protection: A public meeting of the association agreed (subject to funding) that it was a priority to construct a rock revetment between

the two existing seawalls, and this work was deemed urgent by the TDC.

A special rate of \$10 was levied on 930 households in the area over the last two years but we now think that the funding needs to be revisited as several alternatives exist. We are seeking clarification from the TDC on how the money has been spent and whether it will be levied again next year. We also need to know the timescale for completion as the erosion is worsening.

Rates and rating: This thorny problem is causing more and more concern locally and so we are planning a Seminar in the Mapua Hall on Tuesday 25th July 2006 to discuss the issue. We are inviting key speakers from Parliament and the TDC to explain future policy and valuations, and there will be an opportunity for questions from the floor.

Constitution: The revised wording was finally approved at our last meeting and we are now officially the Mapua & Districts Community Association. My thanks to everybody for their contributions and input, especially Devin Gallagher.

Membership: The cost is only \$5 per annum and the stronger our membership the more powerful our influence with the powers that be. Our Treasurer, Angela Fon, will be delighted to hear from you (540 3135).

Finally...I was sorry to receive the resignation of Vincent Emms as secretary - he has worked diligently for us over the last year. If anyone is interested in taking on this important role please contact me (540 3139)

Jim Bryse, Chair

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

RSA MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Ph 540-2545

There is a lot happening at the library! Coming up in May is a night of quality drama with Helen Moulder's solo play "Playing Miss Havisham". This will be held at Woolleston Estates thanks to the generosity of the vineyard owners. So keep Wednesday 17 May free in your diary; it's a night not to be missed. Funds raised go towards the running costs of the library. More details next month.



The library has been extremely fortunate to have received two grants. The Canterbury Community Trust has given us \$3000 to spend over the next 12 months on the purchase of general books, and The Scottwood Trust has given us \$2000 to be spent on Children's and Young Persons' Non-fiction. This is fantastic news as it means we can continue to provide quality books for all our members plus follow up on our plan to make Mapua Community Library the one-stop homework spot for local school children. We are very grateful for the support we receive from these organisations.

Another event in May is our AGM, to be held at 7.30pm on 9 May at the library. We have a strong volunteer team who run the library behind the scenes, and who you see at the front desk, but we will need at least three new committee members to ensure the library continues to run smoothly. We have excellent systems in place and participation is certainly no burden, in fact we have a great deal of fun, and lots of laughs.

So, if you are proud of our local library, and want to help it flourish, give me a call on 540-2698, any time.

Sarah McLeod

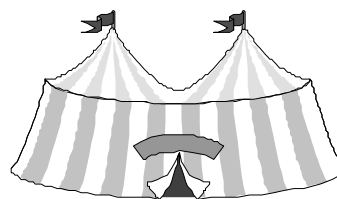
Playcentre

We've had fantastic support from Mapua families this term. Playcentre is humming with new children. The weather has been perfect, and our big trees and great shade cloths make the outdoor play area a really happy place to be. Children will be enjoying a teddy bears' picnic, and a visit to Rabbit Island all within the next two weeks.

Waiting lists for our Monday and Friday sessions have now been created with three spaces only left for Tuesday and Wednesday sessions. You are still very welcome to come and place your name down if your plans are to join us at Playcentre. There is constant movement with children leaving for school throughout the year, and waiting lists may not need to be endured for long.

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Mad
about
promoting our
unique
area



First it was Roses All The Way – Plus, then it was the Festival of Fruit, Flowers and Food, this year we are pleased to bring you

The Mapua Village Fair – Oklahoma style.

The Mapua Show Committee has been busy putting plans together for this year's show which comes to you on Saturday and Sunday 25 and 26 November. Make a date in your diary now as it will be an event not to be missed.

Planning is in the early stages and we are now inviting any local craft group, social club or business who would be interested in having a stall or display at the Fair to contact us giving details of what you do and who to contact. A site fee will be payable and participation in the event will be at the discretion of the Mapua Show Committee whose decision will be final.

Initial enquires to John Sharman (03) 540-2718 (or 027 283 9686) please.

We look forward to bringing you further updates and progress reports as ideas take shape and we are able to confirm who will be taking part.

MAPUA FESTIVAL

Playcentre is also a stimulating place for under twos and their parents. Comfortable nursing areas, play areas designed for littlies, friendly whanau support, parenting courses, and we also give Mum's of under twos a break with the cleaning duties. The mix of age groups (from new born to six) for the children is wonderful to experience.

Don't let the waiting lists put you off; come and visit us any time to find out more.

Mapua Health Centre

We are coming up to autumn and the likelihood of various viruses starting to creep in and test our immune systems. The cold viruses tend to cause a runny nose, head congestion, cough and general feeling of being under the weather. A full-blown influenza attack is a much more severe illness with some of the 'cold' features plus generalised aches, temperature and sweats, often a severe headache and feeling very unwell. This can be quite difficult to diagnose as it shares some of the symptoms of meningitis and therefore it is important to seek medical help if you are at all unsure.

This year's flu vaccines are now available. If you would like more information about the vaccine or to book an appointment for immunisation please contact the practice nurse on 540-2211. A letter is being sent out to those adults who are due for their tetanus vaccine booster which can be combined with the flu vaccine if needed. If you have never had a tetanus vaccination it is recommended that you should have a course of three injections, given one month apart, as soon as possible. If you have previously had a course of vaccination you need a booster dose at the age of 45 and 65 years (there is a small charge of these as they are not subsidised).

This month's health events include:

March 27- April 2: Child Cancer Awareness week, www.childcancer.org.nz

April 7 - World Health Day – Road Safety (see below), www.who.int

World Health Day – road safety is no accident

World Health Day is an annual advocacy event marking the establishment of WHO on this day in 1948. This year's theme is road safety and the slogan is "Road safety is no accident." The Day will highlight the major health impact and societal costs of road traffic injuries, and the particular vulnerabilities of pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists and passengers. World Health Organization offices throughout the world will host events involving political leaders, major public figures, road safety experts and the general public. WHO and the World Bank will launch a report on road traffic injury prevention in Paris. Where: Paris and worldwide. Contact: Laura Sminkey, Tel: +41 22 791 4547, email: sminkeyl@who.int

one of the people listed here: Wendy Walker (wendy@mapuahealth.com), Judy Beatson (judy@mapuahealth.com), Geoff Stevens (Tuatea@xtra.co.nz), Chris Lovell (lovell@ts.co.nz) and Valerie Roche (percyrroche@clear.net.nz).

Wendy Walker, Judy Beatson of the Health Centre and local residents Geoff Stevens, Chris Lovell and Valerie Roche met at the Health Centre on Monday 6th March 2006 to discuss preparedness for pandemic planning in the area.

Judy attended a recent DHB meeting that suggested that at the moment it was not intended that Assessment Centres would be set up in areas other than Motueka and Richmond. If there were to be one, they would possibly call for volunteers to staff them and use motels in the community as bases. We have made the DHB aware that we feel it is important to consider the Mapua area and its large catchment in its possible Assessment Centre planning.

The rule-of-thumb at the moment is that we (as a community) need to use this time to be more aware of our daily hygiene (hand-washing and remembering to keep coughs and sneezes covered) and to follow the guidelines set down by the Royal NZ College of General Practitioners on their brochure produced in October last year. The MOH will also be doing a mail drop to all New Zealand households with their own guidelines in the near future.

Geoff, Valerie and Chris all offered their names as points of contact for anyone in the community who would like to contribute in any way to this early planning as they also did to the delivery of the RNZCGP brochures to households in the area. In the meantime, the brochure is now advertised for collection to the public from the Health Centre and it will (hopefully) be reproduced in the next *Coastal News*.

With many thanks to Geoff – we now have a more accurate idea of the community's population (from the last census) for a possible household mailbox drop of these brochures. In 2001 (the last census) the Mapua/Ruby Bay residential area (enclosed by Dominion, Chaytor, Old Coach and Pomona Roads) consisted of 633 dwellings and included 1,617 residents.

Increasing these figures by say 20% (there was an average 5% per annum increase in the five years up to 2001), the current figures would be around 800 dwellings and 2,000 residents. Obviously areas outside this block, but falling within the Medical Centre's catchment, would increase these figures somewhat.

It is not planned to meet again until the next DHB meeting has been held and we can report back on that, but if anyone would like to express interest or 'idea's for further planning they are very welcome to contact



MAPUA & DISTRICTS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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

Come and see ... **Maple Trees in Autumn**

Saturday 8 April, 2pm Tarrant Road, Mahana

Experience the glorious colours of maple trees in Autumn. Dave De Gray is showing people around his forest block in Mahana. Come and hear the birds, see the trees (for example, Macrocarpa, Tasmanian blackwoods) and discover how the sugar maples are tapped to release the sap which is turned into syrup.

Reasonable footwear required.

Contact Dave phone 543 2841 if you have any queries.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MDBA

Tuesday 18 April, 7.30pm Venue: Mapua Tavern

Guest Speaker: Mark Pascall of 3months.com

MEMBER PROFILE

Richmond First National Ltd.

Richmond First National, is a real estate office with a dedicated team of real estate professionals and a motto: 'fulfilling real estate dreams.' They recognize they are dealing with probably the most expensive investments most families have, their house, and their day to day lives.

Richmond First National has two resident agents in Mapua worthy of any Real Estate transaction, Murray Torrens and Frances Gilbertson. They are always ready and willing to call to any home to discuss your needs and things like timetables, effects the move will have on the family plus they are qualified to discuss your property, marketing options and much more.

With the age of electronics Richmond First National's website shows your property to the world and connects First National agents from all over New Zealand and Australia. It has been said the First National website is one of the easiest to navigate.

The agents are proud of the work they do, the company they work for and the motto they live by. So if you are looking to 'fulfil a real estate dream' whether selling or buying you must give one of the Richmond First National agents a call.



Use

www.mapua.biz

to find and support local businesses.

MEMBER PROFILE

Coastal Services

Coastal Services is in the area to look after your property when you don't have the time. Specializing in Lifestyle blocks and residential from cultivation and landscaping through to the maintenance of properties in the form of mowing large and small as well as spraying and gorse clearing we offer free quotes and work throughout the region, with a range of different options.

Daniel has owned Coastal Services for over two years and has spent that time refurbishing the business and growing the business each year. With a wife and two children Daniel plans to stay in the area slowly growing the company. HOMOSOGROW is what it's all about and our motto is." A good job for a good price." Any enquiries call Daniel, ph 540 2911.



- HOE** ROTARY HOEBING, BLOCK CULTIVATION
- MOW** RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, LIFESTYLE BLOCKS
- SOW** INSTANT & SOWED LAWNS
ORCHARD/VINEYARD/COMMERCIAL
- GROW** FERTILISING, PLANTING, SPRAYING,
BARK SPREADING
- LANDSCAPING** CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, FENCING,
ROCKWALLS, PONDS

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

Be Local—Buy Local

Pearly whites for your pet

I have a friend who is a dentist and from time to time we fall into conversation about who sees the most disgusting teeth! I like to believe that it is me, as often people tend not to notice their pet's teeth becoming a problem until dental disease is severe and causing signs such as drooling, terribly smelly breath and refusal to eat.

Dental disease is very common in our pets, in fact new research has shown that dental disease is present in as many as 85% of cats and dogs over the age of four years. The first sign of dental disease in our pets is gingivitis (inflammation of the gums) and mild plaque and tartar formation. As an owner you will see slight reddening of the gum margins above the teeth and mild brown staining of the teeth. Left untreated this will progress over time to severe inflammation and ulceration of the gums and extensive tartar build-up.

Serious dental disease can lead to problems such as anorexia, weight loss, drooling, chronic pain and loss of teeth. It is also known that the bacteria that accumulate in the plaque and tartar can spread into the bloodstream and lead to kidney, heart and liver disease.

Professional dental cleaning is the ideal treatment for dental disease in our pets. As they are unlikely to sit still and open wide a general anaesthetic is necessary, during which the teeth are cleaned with an ultrasonic scaler, any loose or damaged teeth are removed and the teeth are polished. In some cases antibiotics are given pre and post surgery.

As with all diseases prevention is better than cure and there are a range of options for prevention of dental disease. More and more people are opting to brush their pet's teeth with specially designed pet tooth brushes and toothpastes; this is best started when the pet is young. There are also many good dental diets available such as Hills Oral Care and Hills T/D (teeth diet) these are designed to help reduce tartar formation on the pet's teeth by mechanical abrasion of the tooth surface by a network of fibres in the biscuit. There are also a variety of dental chews available which are effective plaque reducing agents and can be given to your pet as a treat.

Dr Paula Short

MAPUA Bowling Club

February was another busy time for the club, with most of the club championships being completed. Sunday 19 February, was the annual event of the Pat Day Memorial triples kindly sponsored by the Day family. There was a representation from most clubs around the district. The tournament was of four games with 10 ends per game.

First was G. Hendrickson's team from the Richmond club with 4 wins. Second was B. Carey's team from the Maitai club also with 4 wins but fewer ends. Third was A. Krammer's team representing the Motueka club with 3 wins and 1 draw. Fourth was T. Kyle's team representing the Riwaka club with 3 wins and one loss.

The four prizes were given out by Bevan Hoult, as representative of the Day family.

The following Sunday was a half-day competition sponsored by the local real estate company of Ray White. It was a fun afternoon with the players not having to play in whites. The triples competition was well supported with 30 players using six greens. Even the weather gave good support with a calm, fine afternoon. The results were:

Nancy & John Coeland, and Les McAlwee, with three wins and 16 ends, 1st. Harry Jardine, Joan & Frank Gibbison, with three wins and 14 ends with 34 points, 2nd. Vicky & Don Sixtus, and Allison Brett, with three wins and 14 ends with 28 points, 3rd.

Grahame Williams for Ray White Real Estate presented the prizes.

The afternoon's bowling was a significant day for both the club and Glenn Gates. It was Glenn's last competition for the Mapua club, as he will be moving on to Riwaka, where he plans to continue bowling for the Riwaka club. Glenn has the distinction of being the longest-serving member of the club when he started bowls, at the club's old green in 1976. Nancy McAlwee gave Glenn a farewell vote of thanks for his dedication to the club. On behalf of the club she presented him with a book of the universe, and a card with club member's signatures.

The next invitation bowling tournament was the Swiss Bakery Triples for ladies. The competition was played on 9 March. The weather was fine, although the wind was a problem at times, in controlling the bowls. There were 42 players using seven rinks. The ladies came from many of the clubs around the district, including a team from Murchison. The day's bowling consisted of four games of 10 ends. The results were: Colleen Kempton, Janet Newport, and Kay Tomlinson with three wins and 24 ends, 1st. Kay McBride, Izzy Kane, and Zelma Read, with three wins and 22 ends, 2nd. Both teams represented the Richmond Bowling

Club. Kay McBride thanked the Mapua greenkeeper and kitchen staff.

With daylight saving coming to an end the Monday evening social league bowls had its final night on 13 March. There has been a good support for the event with up to 30 players enjoying a social evening of bowls. The League bowls were well sponsored by the following local businesses: The Naked Bun, 4 Square Supermarket, Laughing Fish Studio, and Touch The Sea Aquarium. The club would like to thank the following club members that have been involved in running the league bowls: Val & Tony McQuade, Vicky & Don Sixtus, Allison Brett, and Colin Pryke.

With a month of the season to go before the closing day on 22 April, there only remains The Ladies Friendship Four's Competition and a few remaining games to be played for the club championships, to end the season.

David Higgs

VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Feb 21: Car in ditch on SH60 near Marriages Rd, driver minor injuries to driver. Too fast for corner

Feb 26: Controlled permitted burn Stafford Dr. No action taken

Mar 2: Scrub fire on side of Maisey Rd. Water tankers used

Mar 3: Fire on side of Flaxmore Rd, Upper Moutere

Mar 13: Smoke in house from electrical appliance. CO2 extinguisher used



Safety – Very dry vegetation; be careful of cigarettes, other fires and heat sources

If you can hear the Mapua fire siren day & night & have spare time & would like to be a fire fighter, we would like to hear from you. Work at home, shift work or a business around Mapua and can help, contact the Chief, Avan Perry, at home on 540-2421 or 025 364 721, or call in at the fire station Thursday nights about 7.30pm. E-mail Mapua@fire.org.nz or the web www.fire.org.nz. Any questions, phone Mark after work, 540-2022.

**We have apple firewood for sale,
phone 540-2832 or 543-2195 for details.**

Mapua Wetland

In late February Alan Riggs sent two big diggers to the wetland and likely lads Lex and Shane performed a skilful ballet a deux with them digging out a sizeable pond across the width of the wetland. The diggers' movements were choreographed by Claire Garrett from Melbourne who had worked out the shape, depths and gradients. Lex said they had the most detailed instructions ever in their pond-digging careers. However, the drivers were up to it and could well represent Mapua in a digger cup-of-tea-making contest one day.

On the first day iwi representatives were invited on site to check that no historic sites were likely to be uncovered, but it was

all solid talc-like steel-grey clay with no gravel. The diggers first removed all the sedge, then moved the valuable peat into piles, and then dug out the clay. At the end of two and a half days they had sculpted the pond, two metres deep in places, with two islands (already planted) joined by an isthmus, a miniature gorge, two 'arms' and some bays for wading birds.

The clay fill was moulded into hillocks around the pond and the peat spread back over the top. Water began to seep into the pond slowly but was then helped along by our only rainfall in recent months, and the pond was a quarter full before we started using it for temporary irrigation. The clay gives it an almost glacial blue colour which we hope might last.

Resource consent had been required for the pond and the cost was met not from the bio diversity grant but from generous donations from friends who support the project and from the Beere and Mitchell families whose land it is on.

While the restored peat surface was still weed free, it was decided to take a calculated risk and plant all around the pond even though it was high summer, because the clay was moist. It was like planting in compost and quick work was made planting 700 grasses, toitoi, hebe, te kouka (cabbage tree), harakeke, broadleaf, kanuka and others, to provide cover for future specimen tree planting, mainly kahikatea and rimu.

Coloured flags on bamboo poles indicate what is to be planted where, which is why the whole area now looks like an Olympic obstacle course or a mass cemetery, depending on your viewpoint. However, the survival rate of the new plants so far is remarkably high owing to the moist clay



Claire Garrett giving instructions

and in good part to mulching, green plastic shields and regular hand-watering by Helen Beere back from eight months in England, the Mitchells, Karole Turner who works voluntarily here at least one day a week, and Lloyd Blythen and John Cretney appear when they have a window of opportunity to weed and water. Dragging buckets of water up the slippery clay sides of the pond is heavy work (people have been known to slide right in) but has been made much easier by John Griffiths installing an old timer hand pump in one area. The plants make do with a jug full

each. Still, we do a rain dance most days.

The rest of the wetland planted in October is still thriving with a few losses due particularly to the relentless drying wind and to pukeko who expose the roots of even well-established te kouka. The hebe have all flowered and one or two manuka have too. The kanuka, te kouka, harakeke, hebe, toitoi, wineberry and grasses are the happiest and growing strongly. The loss rate overall would be well under 10 per cent at this stage, but the drought shows no sign of breaking yet.

Friends of Mapua Wetland are especially grateful to Alan Riggs and his skilled team for their interest in and support for this project. Now we can't wait to see the results from that first heavy rain..

Judy Mitchell for Friends of Mapua Wetland Inc



Planting to a plan

Mapua School Report

All classes have completed their visits to the Museum and Bishop's School. It was fantastic to see so many students, teachers and parents dress up for the occasion. Students returned appreciative of the fact that corporal punishment no longer exists, and teachers in 2006 are very engaging and friendly compared with a school 100 years ago! The trips have provided a powerful and authentic learning context for this term's Integrated and Inquiry learning.

The new courtyard is now complete thanks to the PTA and this is already providing a valuable space for teaching and learning as well as playtimes. A new outdoor notice board has been kindly donated by a parent, and this will be another effective way of communicating with our community.

The Charter is now complete and is displayed in the inside foyer. The Charter outlines our teaching and learning goals for 2006.

The nine House Leaders attended a Leadership training day where we investigated leaderships styles, and the important attributes that leaders need. After a wonderful lunch at Smugglers, we then started planning the year ahead and what direction it might take in terms of Houses, and House events.

We wish Rooms 6 and 7 well as they embark on camp at Wakamarina over the next two weeks. They will have an exciting journey getting there in four-wheel-drive vehicles over the Maungatapu Saddle.

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

Mahana School Report

Summer sports and activities are over but there is plenty to look forward to at Mahana School. The school swimming carnival afternoon was plenty of fun, ending with the students versus adults relay. Parents and teachers took the plunge but this year the students were too strong and won the event.

Mahana is a Roadsense school and we will be having a whole school focus on bikes and road safety for the last few weeks of term. Constable Tonkin will be along to help us with these vital skills.

The Junior Room learned about Sea Creatures in March. They also enjoyed stories and poems and did creative art work. They made up a class poem and did research at home to find out more about some of the fascinating sea creatures. They joined the Middle Roomers for a wonderful day of activities at the Bridge Valley Camp. The next unit is a Health topic on child development called, 'I am 5, 6 or 7. Look what I can do.' This will be followed by a delicious Easter cooking unit. Parents are helping the class with Te Reo lessons and karate skills.

The Middle Roomers spent a couple of wonderful days and a night at the Bridge Valley Camp with a visit to the Pigeon Valley Museum. Accepting differences and learning new skills in a new environment was a worthwhile challenge. The classroom has a display of the pupils' comments and learning. They all took digital photographs at the museum as part of their unit on recording historical artefacts. These photographs are being used with their written reports. The class will be learning more ICT skills during the term.

The Senior Room is learning French this year as their second language and will be getting together with students from other schools for French activities. They are learning about France in their Social Studies unit - Oo la la!! In addition a number of ants and bees might be found in the classroom as part of the Science unit on social insects. The Moutere Small Schools Challenge Cup is coming up with ball skills being practised for the big day. The Years 7 and 8 students have plans for some outdoor cooking and an orienteering expedition.

Mahana School is part of the local ICT cluster and will join with teachers from about 12 other schools for the launch of the project on 24 March at Motueka High School. This will be a three year project in which teachers and students will benefit from additional information technology training.

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

Craftmanship as a Philosophy

For some months we have seen a large building taking shape on Aranui Road next to the Straw Hat Factory. In a letter to the Coastal News last year Andreas Niemann told us it was not a sports stadium or a church hall, but a home and furniture work studio and showroom. Hours of hard work have paid off and Mapua and Ruby Bay residents are invited to attend an opening celebration of the furniture studio, "Rare Creations," at 136 Aranui Road on Saturday 8 April between 9am and 4pm.

Andreas, his wife Jan and two children have settled into life in Mapua. Andreas sets out his working philosophy and gives advice to furniture-buyers in the following:

I started as a cabinet-maker in Germany when I was 16 years old. I have worked with furniture ever since and my passion for fine cabinet-making continues to grow.

Having recently moved from Christchurch to Nelson, I am amazed by the number of fantastic, top quality cabinet-makers in this region. The majority of them are working from home either by themselves or with one other cabinet-maker. In general, they consider themselves to be from the old school, valuing superb design and proportion.

I have been wondering how it is possible that such highly qualified cabinet-makers have not yet been discovered by the main public. Maybe it is partly that the cabinet-makers don't want to be drawn into the mainstream of standard cabinet-making, even though there would be better financial rewards. These cabinet-makers believe too much in pursuing their own designs and their own ideas.

The very famous designers of the twentieth century started with similar philosophies. Marcus Brewer, Mackintosh and Le Corbusier all took risks designing and building timeless long-lasting furniture. Their designs even today seem to have been designed only yesterday.

Furniture should be made and designed to last from generation to generation. Children will be proud to inherit such furniture, and not just discard them because of low quality or dated designs.

Recognising quality in furniture can be difficult. It would be easier if our eye could work as a magnifying glass. Then we could see the clarity of the timber grain, the sharpness of the details and if any glue joints were visible. Look carefully at the back, which acts as a spine for furniture. A quality piece should not have any staples. It is worthwhile to make the effort to look underneath dining tables, chairs and desks and to slide any drawers out. This will give a clear indication of any short-cuts taken by the maker.

For custom-made furniture, ask for detailed scaled drawings through all cross-sections. Don't be afraid



Andre sitting on one of the dining chairs he makes

to ask about details of colour, grain direction, profiles of mouldings and joint details. Ask for a written guarantee of workmanship.

Take samples of timber home. Take your time and visit as many furniture shops as you can. Compare price and quality, recognising that something 25 percent cheaper might last only a quarter as long.

Take a copy of the drawing home. Make sure it is not just an un-scaled sketch scribbled on a piece of paper. You can then compare it with the built furniture before you pay the full amount. (It can be very disappointing sitting at home looking at furniture that looks nothing like what you had envisaged, especially after paying a lot of money.)

My recommendation for anyone who wants to invest in special, customised, high quality furniture is not to rush into a decision. Talk to as many cabinet-makers as you can to build up your confidence in identifying and recognising real quality.

Come along on 8 April and see what we have to offer at "Rare Creations."