



Coastal News

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covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,
run by volunteers

Proposed road removed from plan

An amended concept plan for the upgrade of the Mapua Village Centre has been produced incorporating feedback received from the consultation process, the Mapua Community Association was advised at its February meeting.

The main change is the removal of the proposed road alongside the domain and behind the mall and surgery, but this will mean much less space available for car parking – an issue that will need to be urgently addressed. Our sub-committee will be assisting the Tasman District Council move forward into the detailed design and implementation of the plan.

Physical activity: The Nelson and Tasman councils have produced a joint report on physical activity in our area, the main recommendation being the creation of a “Sportville Multi-Code Club” at the Reserve. Copies of the report are available from the library but unfortunately we don’t have much time to respond. However, if you do have any thoughts or ideas please send them to Mike Tasman-Jones at the TDC by Friday 3 March—so you need to be quick!

Celia Lashlie: We are hoping that Celia Lashlie will return to Mapua later in the year to speak on the “Good Man Project”. In the meantime if anyone would like to be more closely involved in the project please contact Pat Perry (540-805). This is an area where parents of young people can assist in a meaningful manner. A reminder that advice and guidance for under 20-year-olds on jobs and life issues etc is available from Cath Kerridge at Nelson Tasman Connections (546-9175 ext 605 or ckerridge@nmit.ac.nz).

Constitution: We are nearing the end of the revision of our Constitution and our thanks go to Devin Gallagher and Angela Fon for all the hard work they have put in. The old wording has served us well for twelve years, but I shall be glad to see the end of this task so that we can devote all our energies to the more pressing local issues facing us.

Seawall: Peter Thompson of the Tasman District Council has advised us that Council officers are working with a landowner adjoining the Old Mill Walkway regarding protection works on private land. Further investigation is also ongoing with regard to long-term protection along the entire length of the walkway, and it is hoped to produce a report in the next two to three months. Our sub-committee will be endeavouring to expedite both the report process and completion of the project itself.

Contaminated site: It was gratifying to note the interest and support shown by David Benson-Pope and his Ministry officials on their recent visit to Mapua. A report and picture is on page 2.

Village Fair: I am delighted to advise that “The Village Fair,” formerly the Fruit and Flower Show, will take place once again from 23 to 26 November. Book your site now ! (Enquiries to John Sharman 540-3642)

Jim Bryse, chair

Mapua School PTA **CAR BOOT SALE**

Sunday 26 March 8:30am -
midday

Rain, Hail or Shine

Venue - Mapua School Car
Park

\$10 per space

- limited spaces - no traders -

Sausage Sizzle & cold drinks for sale

Bookings and payments to

Lorraine Langridge 540 3740

Minister visits Clean-up site

It was a great pleasure to welcome the Minister for the Environment, David Benson-Pope, and sixteen other representatives from his Ministry and the Tasman District Council to Mapua early last month.

The chairman of the Community Association, Jim Bryse, and committee member Marian Satherley conducted a tour of the site, and with the site manager, John Roosen, described the work done to date, and explained some of the problems yet to be solved. Mr Benson-Pope was particularly interested in the mechanics of the machinery used for decontaminating the soil, and intrigued by some of the 2000 or so photographs taken by John Roosen.

Mr Benson-Pope discussed in detail with Jim and Marian the plans for the site, and showed a keen interest in the E2 Concept. He intends to keep a careful eye on future development, and encouraged continuing dialogue between the TDC and the Community Association on the way ahead. All present are looking forward to the final outcome, but all are aware that at the moment we are still some way off completion.



David Benson-Pope and Juim Bryse

Coastal garden group

It was good to see so many people at our February meeting, including a few new faces. Several upcoming events that would be of interest to members were mentioned and plans made for trips out over the remainder of the summer.

A lively question-and-answer session followed with advice offered on problems in the garden ranging from lawn weeds, sporting azaleas and hibiscus, to rust on roses and citrus trees losing their leaves or the fruit. It was an opportunity to share problems and tell about successes.

Afternoon tea gave everyone chance to catch up with news and this was followed by our usual plant auction.

The Bloom Cluster Shrub competition gave our judges a hard time with some beautiful lilies and begonias on display.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 2nd March 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).

Garden Notes

With the arrival of autumn it is bulb-planting time. Fork in plenty of compost, and add a small handful of rock phosphate to each hole. Bulbs love this.

Should you wish to grow ranunculus, they love hen manure and you will have huge flowers. Blood and bone forked in round bulbs when they first appear through the ground does wonders.

Citrus trees need feeding three times a year; you can be quite liberal with fertiliser, not near the trunk though.

Repairing of damaged lawns can be attended to. Autumn is the time for sewing new lawns, as the evening dew will stimulate growth.

You can lift and divide perennials, should the weather cool somewhat, or leave until spring, if warm conditions continue.

Many shrubs can be propagated from semi-ripe cuttings — hebe, dogwoods, viburnum, and daphne — taken now, and planted into a cutting mix. Use hormone powder or gel, place in a warm place out of sun. A plastic box with lid is ideal.

Autumn and spring are busy times for garden lovers but think of the rewards. Plant now and enjoy the spring.

Barry Highsted

Property News

The mood has definitely changed with buyers being more prudential than bullish as they were during 2003-2004.

However, although sales volumes have slowed appreciably, house prices have remained steady. Demand is nevertheless strong for good quality, well located properties, and lower-priced housing at the opposite end of the spectrum is also in demand.

The high dollar, low migration and advancing interest rates will ensure no change in the property market in the near future.



Some recent sales:-

2 Nov	Higgs Rd 3bd house 1185m2	\$350,000
23 Nov	Iwa St 3bd house 2041m2	\$485,000
27 Nov	Iwa St 4bd house 1075m2	\$800,000
28 Nov	Iwa St 3bd house 879m2	\$400,000
12 Dec	Pomona Rd 7bd house 1.5ha	\$1,350,000
23 Dec	Langford Dr 4bd house 1225m2	\$675,000

Compiled by Grahame Williams, Ray White Real Estate Mapua MREINZ

VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Call outs for January/February

- Jan 1: Car fire in bush Old Coach Rd. Police investigating
- Jan 26: Smell of smoke near Best Rd, rubbish fire, no action taken
- Feb 2: House fire Collage St Motueka
- Feb 7: Grass fire Takaka Hill, supply water
- Feb 17: 17-year-old fell off bike Stafford Dr, minor injuries
- Feb 19: Ute off road near Research Orchard Rd, driver fell asleep



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.

Coastal Connections

Our meeting on the 9th of February was at the Boatshed at Mapua Leisure Park. Could there be a more tranquil and scenic place to dine on a sunny day? We sat outside and enjoyed generous helpings of bread and soup, salads and fish, with proper proving the most popular dish. However, the calamari was tough and the portions of smoked fish varied considerably from one serving to another. The prompt and efficient service was noted. With well over 600 years of professional and domestic cooking experience between us, we consider that our knowledge and appreciation has some standing!

On the 9th of March, we plan to leave Mapua at 11:15am to dine at "Café on Oxford", a fairly new café in Richmond opposite to the Washbourne Gardens. After lunch, we plan to visit the Bead Gallery, the Antique shop at the top of Queen Street, and do some retail therapy if the new season's clothing is available.

Any lady is welcome to join us for this outing, but please phone Dot on 540-2323 before the 6th of March so that a group booking can be made at the café and appropriate transport arranged.

Reported by Barbara Halse.

National Art Awards for Mapua

PANZ (Pastel Artists of New Zealand) Nelson Area, will host the "Purely Pastel" National Art Awards in Mapua on the weekend of 1/2 April with the awards presentation and official opening night on Friday 31 March at the Mapua Hall.

This is a major event for our area and not likely to be repeated for a number of years, so it's not to be missed. There will be a large variety of styles and subject matter so something for everyone. There is a "People's Choice" prize where you the viewer vote for your favourite painting and a bonus prize for a winning voter.

Entries have been received from Dargaville and Whangarei, through to Invercargill, so put the dates on your calendar now and enjoy. Free entry and don't forget to vote.

If you wish to receive an invitation to the opening night or have any questions about the above, please contact

Glenys Forbes, Convenor, PANZ 'Purely Pastel' National Art Awards, ph 540-3388, email gmforbes@ts.co.nz

Police Update

Hi to you all. The fruit season is now under way and school is back. It was a fairly long break for the kids over the summer holidays this year and it was great that there were no major problems in the village. The new policy at the Leisure Park not to have under 20s there unaccompanied worked well and they found that the running of the park went very smoothly.

I have received information about concerns that a 22-year-old local male is suspected of regularly supplying alcohol to a group of 14-17-year-olds and am trying to monitor this as closely as possible, although unless actually seen supplying the alcohol it makes the task difficult. If anybody has any knowledge of this I would appreciate a quiet phone call. It is an age-old problem that will always happen, but just last weekend drunken under-age drinkers caused damage in the village (refer to occurrences) and this could have been avoided.

I have also dealt with five youths under 17 last weekend at 2.15am and taken them home to their parents. It has been revealed that this group have been sending text messages on their cellphones and arranging to sneak out and meet. This explains to their parents why they have been sleeping until midday some days over the summer! Just be aware if you have some teenage children that this has been going on.

With all the fruit trucks on the road and the new seasonal workers around there will be people driving who are not familiar with the roads, so be extra patient out there. Take care.

Grant Heaney, Rural Community Constable, Motueka, ph 528-1220

Occurrences:

- Jan 10: I-Pod music system stolen from Leisure Park
- Jan 19: Beer bottle thrown through window of house on Aranui Road
- Jan 13-15: Honda XR 80 motorbike with red tank stolen from Stafford Drive
- Jan 28: Mapua youth stopped while driving in Nelson overnight. He had two Mapua youths as passengers who were on bail with curfews. Both arrested.
- Jan 29: Two youths found intoxicated in Mapua at 10.40pm. taken home to parents.
- Feb 6: Domestic in Stafford Drive. Male arrested.
- Feb 13: Vehicle accident Seaton Valley Rd. 19-year-old female with neck injuries.
- Feb 19: Three youths dealt with for minor damage at Flavour and Ray White Real Estate at 2am. Police dog tracked offenders through Mapua Domain onto Iwa Street.
- Feb 20: Five youths taken home to parents at 2am.

Animal Health File

Itchy, Scratchy Ears



One of the most common problems that we see in our veterinary practice at this time of the year is dogs presenting with sore ears. Usually the first symptoms that an owner will notice is that their dog will be shaking his head, scratching at the ears or that the ears have a nasty smell emanating from them. These are the classic symptoms of inflammation of the ear canal otherwise known as otitis externa.

There are many causes of otitis externa. The most common underlying cause that we find is infection of the external ear canal with bacteria, yeasts or ear mites. These can usually be treated easily by cleaning of the ear canal followed by instilling a topical ear drop into the ear canal. If the ear infection is looking particularly bad, or in the case of recurrent infections, we often take a swab from the canal and send this to the pathology lab for a culture and sensitivity.

At the lab the bugs in the swab are grown and identified and then tested for the ability of various common antibiotics to kill them. We are finding now that some bugs are becoming resistant to some of our more commonly used drugs and so it is more important than ever that we identify and treat ear infections early and with the right medications. For this reason we also like to check all of our ear patients when they are about to finish their medication to ensure that the ears are back to normal.

Occasionally we find odd things in the ear canals. At this time of year barley grasses can make their way into the ear canal. As you can imagine having a barley

grass in your ear is very painful and we sedate these patients and remove the seeds as soon as possible. Sometimes polyps or tumours can grow down in the ear canal. These often grow slowly and are only found once they are become large enough to obstruct the ear canal and set up a secondary infection. Sometimes they can be very challenging to remove and require some very involved surgery.

As with all things prevention is better than cure. Prevention of recurrence of the ear problem is important as multiple ear infections cause chronic narrowing of the ear canals which then predisposes the animal to more infections. For animals that have had more than one ear infection we recommend regular ear cleaning with a product such as Epiotic which helps break down excessive wax build up in the ear canals. Swimming can lead to excessive moisture build-up in the ear and so in dogs with ear problems this should be avoided. Some small dogs such as Bichons and Schnauzers have dense hair growing in their ear canals. This should be plucked out regularly. Ear disease can be related to other skin diseases and so if these are identified they will need to be managed as well.

The key to treating ear diseases is early recognition and treatment, so if you notice your pet rubbing at those ears, shaking his head or becoming a bit smelly in that area then get him/her in to the vet as soon as possible.

Dr Paula Short

Mapua Health Centre

We are 16 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. We have recently made a few more modifications with a new work space being created at the back of the reception area in order to make another doctors office available at the back of the building. This in turn has freed up the front clinic room to be used by our second practice nurse on duty.

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.

This year's flu vaccines will soon be available. There will be publicity through the media when we are able to obtain supplies of vaccines. If you wish to have a flu' vaccination please make an appointment at that time.

We are continuing to work in with the Richmond and Wakefield on-call doctors for some of the weekends in order to give the centre's doctors a break from being continuously on call for emergencies. Please let us know if you have any difficulties with these

arrangements. The out of hours phone number remains the same—540-2211.

As mentioned in last month's *Coastal News*, to be more prepared for a major infectious disease such as avian flu, we should get to know our neighbours—phone numbers, next of kin etc. Is there someone who would like to co-ordinate a community group similar to a "neighbourhood watch" in order to plan for this sort of situation?

For those who haven't yet done it, please send your e-mail address to wendy@mapuahealth.com so we can update our database.

Tim Ewer

There will be an informal 30-minute meeting at the Health Centre on Monday 6th March at 2pm for anyone in our community who has the time/interest/maybe nursing experience who may wish to be involved in the initial meeting (brainstorming/planning) for community networks if such an event was to occur. Please contact Wendy at wendy@mapuahealth.com if you cannot attend, but have any thoughts you wish to contribute.

Mapua & Districts Soccer Club



It's time to think about soccer. The club is getting organised for the 2006 year after a successful season last year. Over the last year we competed in seven grades and had both team competition winners and individuals selected to represent the Nelson region. Everyone had a good time and thanks to the great kids, coaches and supporters.

To get things rolling this year we have sent notices to schools offering players the chance to pre-register. If you wish to pre-register please contact Tony Jemmett on 03 540-3664 or tony.jemmett@opus.co.nz. Formal registration will occur in three to four weeks.

The club's Annual General Meeting will be held on the 13 March 2006 at 7.30pm on the ground floor of Flavour Restaurant & Bar. If you are interested in the running of the club, have a comment to make, or which to get involved in the organisation, please do attend. Both Neil Hind and Maureen Clinton-Baker who have been the backbone of the organisation for many years are stepping down and we are going to need new committee members and supporters to fill their shoes.

The club is also considering entering a senior team for the first time. This team is for anyone between 16 and 70. We are aiming to have a team in the 3rd grade which is more of a social grade playing on Saturday afternoons. Due to an earlier start for the senior teams we are looking for players now. If you wish to return to the soccer (football for the Europeans amongst us) pitch or are looking for a good method of keeping active and fit, please contact Toby Wild on 03 540-2030 or thewilds@actrix.co.nz.

The club's aim is to keep both kids and adults active and enjoying sport and we are looking forward to the 2006 season. Hope to see you there either playing or supporting.

Tony Jemmett, Mapua Soccer Club

RSA MEMORIAL LIBRARY Ph 540-2545



Some of you new to the area might wonder where such a long name for our community library—Moutere Hills RSA Memorial Library—came from. The land our library sits on was gifted to the Tasman District Council by the Moutere Hills RSA, allowing our library building to be built there. (We are not a TDC District Library, but we receive some background support from the TDC).

We have some RSA archives just by the front door, and also at the end of the non-fiction section we have a collection of books donated by the RSA. The present members of the Moutere Hills RSA have a meeting room at the rear of the building and are responsible for the beautiful gardens around the library.

Our library is buzzing as we have received a further grant from the New Zealand Community Trust of \$1000 which means we can increase our Children's and Young Persons' non-fiction section even further. So kids—don't forget the library when you are doing your homework.

Two exciting events are coming up. The first is an evening with local author Jeannette Cook of Ruby Bay who, with photographer Stephen Robinson, has published a book called *Crafted by Design—inside New Zealand craft artists' studios*. Jeannette will talk about her book and we hope to have guest appearances from local artists featured in the book. There will be a chance to mingle afterwards when light refreshments will be served. Entry is by gold coin and the date—mark it on your calendar now—is 7.30pm on Thursday 30 March at the library.

In May we have another exciting event of a more dramatic nature. "An Evening with Miss Havisham" will be performed by Helen Moulder. This is a solo show based on the Miss Havisham character in *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, although Ms Moulder will play several different characters during the show. This show has received very good reviews in Wellington and we are very lucky to have such a quality event coming to Mapua. We will let you know the date and venue nearer the time.

Sarah McLeod

Library Hours:-

Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 2pm—4.30pm
Wednesday 5pm—7.00pm
Thursday 10am—12.30pm

MAPUA Bowling Club

This season's Mapua Bowling Club championships have been in progress since early November and are now virtually complete. Separate championships are held for men and women and there are also separate singles and pairs championships for Junior players – those with up to five years experience in bowls. Winners of each club competition are entitled to enter the Nelson district Champion of Champions events. The Junior Singles events for women and men were held on the weekend of 11th. and 12th. February. Alison Brett played in the Women's event held at the Motueka Club and Frank Gibbison played in the Men's event held – for the first time – at the Mapua Club. Neither managed to win the title but both enjoyed



the opportunity of competing against the best Junior singles players in the Nelson district. Don Sixtus and Tony McQuade are competing in the Junior Pairs event on the 18th. February. They are past holders of this title.

Two open tournaments have been held at the club in the period since the last report. The first of these was the Dorchester Triples, sponsored by Dorchester Finance, which took place on 19th. January. The tournament was very well supported. The three prize-winning teams all from the Mapua Club, were: First, a team skipped by Don Sixtus, Second, a team

skipped by Maurie Daubney, Third, a team skipped by John Coeland.

The other tournament was a very popular one that has been held for many years, the Brabant Triples sponsored by Mrs Wilma Van Beek. Again the event was very well supported. The winning team was from the Stoke Club and was skipped by Russell Calder. Second was a team from the Richmond Club skipped by Gordon Hendrickson and third a local team skipped by Paddy Hood. The tournament, played on a beautiful day, was enjoyed by all and the club is very grateful to Mrs Van Beek for her continued generous support.

Club days on Thursday and Saturday afternoons continue to be well supported, as are the Monday evening League bowls which have resumed after a Christmas break. New members appreciate the coaching sessions run by Nancy McAlwee on Tuesday evenings.

Paddy Hood

Letters to the Editor...



A financial farce!

Once again local residents have been duped by central government legislative imposition. It is time to petition local government representatives to present a bill in Parliament to repeal the Rating Valuation Act and Regulations, for the following reasons:

1. Archaic methodology. The obsolete exercise of basing tax/rate assessments on subjective property values, when the local council already and adequately "clip the ticket" through special/differential rating and user-pay charges.
2. Uniformity and consistency. Hypothetical market sales value of property is irrelevant. Actual/historical sales are already recorded by the government. Practitioners and academics can confirm that inflation accounting lost its aura decades ago.

3. Equity and fairness. Common sense and simplicity does prevail in local government finances overseas and their example can be easily followed.
4. Economic viability. What real benefit does the ratepayer get for funding consultant's efforts to establish an unrealised capital value on their property that the real market would change in the next breath?
5. I am sure you can think of other reasons. Express them.

In conclusion, local residents and government are entrusted to seek cost economies in the operation of their assets, therefore recognition should be made that "general revaluations" are a wasteful exercise.

W K Darling

Mapua School Report



Mahana School Report

We hope everyone had a long and restful holiday and are all looking forward to another positive and productive year. The late finish to the school year enabled a longer summer vacation in January and this will be the same in 2005/2006. Our starting roll was 196, up 10 from previous years. Indications are we will continue to grow this year with another large Year 1 intake due. We started the year with eight classes and all eight teachers returning from last year.

The upgraded library is now completed and looking fantastic with the new deck providing a quiet reading area. The PTA received a grant which will enable us to create a much-needed hard court area outside rooms 6/7 and that project will be completed next month. It will create a full-sized basketball/netball Court. The Recreation Centre group will be meeting monthly this year to make progress on that exciting project.

Both syndicates have planned learning units based on Historical New Zealand and in Rooms 6 and 7 this ties in nicely with the camp to historical Wakamarina Valley. The Year 7 and Year 8 Classes will attend camp at Totaranui this year. The Junior school will visit Founders Park and Bishops School as part of this unit.

The major focus for Teaching and Learning this year will be to further develop and refine Integrated and Inquiry Learning. Part of this focus includes the continued use of ICT as a learning tool.

For further information or inquiries: Hugh Gully, Principal, Mapua School, phone/fax 03) 540-2806 or 027 632 7078, www.mapua.school.nz



Mapua School's new library deck

Mahana School welcomes several new families, some from the local area and some from further afield. Classes are under way and plenty of activities and events have been organised. A highlight of the first week was the whole school visit to Nayland pool with activities designed to promote confidence and safety/survival in the water. This was a very successful day, and provided opportunities for our newer parents to meet with some of our community and to get to see the children that their own children will be learning with this year.

Class meetings took place with parents in February and Parent Teacher conferences are set for March. Middle Roomers are planning an overnighter at Bridge Valley Camp in early March. That will be an exciting experience especially for the new Year 3s who have come up into the class from the Junior Room. The second language for the Senior Room is French this year and local cluster teachers have been holding meetings to prepare activities for the year. Road Safety Week will take place in late March including cycling skills for older students. PAT testing is due to take place in the first half of March.

Swimming lessons are under way daily, with students learning new strokes and preparing for swimming sports within the school and in the local area. Senior School Swimming Sports (Year 4 upwards) will be held at Upper Moutere School on 28th February. Junior Swimming sports will be at Mahana School on 1st March.

A number of projects were undertaken around the school grounds over the holidays by Gary Chapple and one or more family members, including a much-improved ramp leading down to the lower playing field. The school grounds were a busy place over the summer break with school and local community families enjoying the swimming pool and playground. Thanks to Jill Kennedy for overseeing the pool and also to a group of volunteer parents for pool water testing.

For more information please contact Rodger Smith by phone at 543-2887 or by email at principal@mahana.school.nz. Also check out the school website, www.mahana.school.nz