

Coastal News

email: coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz

covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,
run by volunteers

Community Association

The guest speaker at the February meeting of the Mapua and Districts Community Association was David Stephenson, Tasman District Council utilities asset engineer, who spoke on the status of the Old Mill Walkway seawall project.

The first stage having been completed under urgency, the second stage will require new consents (already applied for) and TDC budget funding. All things being considered, it would appear that construction of Stage 2 is at least a year away.

Several members expressed serious concern that with the amount of erosion of the walkway that occurs with each storm, there will be very little remaining of the Walkway Reserve by the time Stage 2 can be in place. Both Mr Stephenson and Cr Trevor Norriss expressed regret that this was the case, but under the TDC Resource Management Plan regulations a certain legal process have to be undertaken. There was no alternative to enable a more timely start of Stage 2 of the seawall.

The Mapua Domain sub-committee reported that tree-thinning by the tennis courts had been done, but was it good enough? The insertion of bollards adjacent to entry

road into the domain yet to be done. Another alternative will be considered and then the TDC can go ahead.

Beryl Wilkes of the TDC said there was not enough money to do anything this year. She will speak to the TDC Property Manager for a speed-up. The Tennis Club was thanked for re-arranging its shed.

The association will talk to Crs Tim King and Bryan Ensor about irrigation and about lack of space for activities, and voice the need to upgrade the playground and the toilets and space for a decent BMX track. Rebecca Patchett reported on interest from the TDC for a piece of land close to the Village that could be bought for additional community recreational space.

The TDC reported that it would reduce the roadside parking spaces in front of the Four Square store in Mapua to one car park and parking for motorcycles.

Waterfront park discussed further

A large turn-out of residents and interested persons filled the Supper Room of the Mapua Hall to overflowing at a meeting on 18 February to discuss what people wanted for the Mapua waterfront park and wharf area after the clean-up of the FCC site.

The meeting was ably facilitated and chaired by Elena Meredith, a member of the sub-committee set up by the Mapua and Districts Community Association to facilitate public input on what happens to the area..

The meeting opened with an introduction to remind those present of the existing "E-2" Plan as previously adopted by the Tasman District Council several years ago before the commencement of the recently completed site clean-

up, and to set the stage for the conduct of the balance of the meeting.

Robyn Simpson made a slide presentation which illustrated how various towns and cities in New Zealand and Australia had achieved an acceptable treatment of their open space areas for use by the general public.

A few of those present expressed their feelings regards the existing E-2 Plan and any future planning. Should E-2 be re-worked or shouldn't it?

The meeting then divided into six groups to discuss and make suggestions in regard to the

Councillor's Comment



This is my first article for the *Coastal News*. I hope everyone has had a good break and are ready to face the challenges of a new year.

As a new councillor the first few months have been a steep learning curve, coping with a mountain of paperwork and reading and also getting up to speed with the way the council

operates and the many projects that it is involved with.

I have been impressed by the positive and constructive approach shown by members of the Mapua Community Association towards issues that face their community.

Since the year 2000 we have experienced unprecedented growth in the Tasman region and while this provides opportunities it inevitably has its downside—severe pressure on infrastructure, planning and the affordability of housing. I think it is a very damning statistic that New Zealand is now one of the most expensive countries in the world to either build or own a house; this is an issue which both Central Government and Local Government need to address.

There is good news for those interested in greater protection of the Waimea Estuary. The council voted prior to Christmas to move ahead in the 2008/09 year with the concept of a integrated strategic management plan for the estuary and surrounding catchments. At the same time for those interested in greater protection of our coastline, the council agreed to the Golden Bay West planning project proceeding in the 2008/09 year. This encompasses the area west of Takaka to Farewell Spit and along the West Coast to Kahurangi Point. This project is to establish a vision and principles for the future development of the area and will also identify special features and look at protecting the character of the area for future generations.

A controversial issue which was recently debated by the council was the recommendation that the costs of running the Motueka and Golden Bay Community Boards, the only two in the Tasman District, should be funded by targeted rates. This means that the ratepayers of the communities they represent should fund them. At present the cost of these boards is being funded by all ratepayers in the Tasman District through general rates. The council passed the recommendation so this will now be included in the draft Annual Plan which is due out in April for public consultation.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Cr Brian Ensor, Moutere/ Waimea Ward

Waterfront park - contd:

particular areas they had been assigned to. These were:

- Community vision for the whole of Mapua. The Future?
- Creative activities, ie, Theatre, Music, Performances
 - Water-focused activities
 - Social & leisure activities
 - Commercial & retail activities
 - Ecological structures. Our ecological footprint

The suggestions and notations which had been written down by each group were collected. These will

be collated by the Waterfront Park sub-committee of the Community Association and a further meeting will be called to present and discuss the common themes that hopefully will have come through this process.

Mrs Meredith and the other members of the sub-committee are to be congratulated on the manner in which this important community meeting has been presented and facilitated. This melding of a of ideas and energy from the diverse group which make up the Mapua community will surely help to produce a Waterfront Park that will reflect our community's best interests and requirements.

Hugh Gordon.

Coastal Garden Group

Our first meeting of 2008 welcomed back members from the summer break. There were a few notices and club news including confirmation from the Tasman District Council that work was to start in Aranui Park during March, so fingers crossed there are no further delays here.

We would like to thank our guest speaker this month, Philippa Foes-Lamb, who some of you will know through her work for the *Nelson Mail*. Philippa runs an Heirloom Perennial nursery and specialises in hardy and shade-loving plants. After giving up her life as a secretary she followed her love of plants through garden centres and finally to her own nursery. She has a love of the hardy geraniums and had many different varieties available to show us. By dead-heading regularly these plants will reward you with three or four flowerings each year. She impressed us with a tall yellow salvia that flowers on two metre high stems in autumn, and had a few different perennial lobelias with lovely bright colours. She was able to offer some choices for sandy conditions and for damp, shady spots. Most perennials prefer a cold winter and frost rarely destroys the plant, indeed they are often better for it. Philippa's nursery in Maisey Road is open by appointment.

Max took us through some of the jobs in the garden to do in February which included planning ahead for the spring bulbs by preparing the ground now ready for planting in April. It is also time to plant leeks, broccoli etc and take strawberry runners. He gave us tips for renovating the lawn and reminded us of the importance of this time of year for collecting seed.

The competition table saw some unusual blooms along side some impressive dahlias, begonias and the flowering gums. Afternoon tea gave members a chance to catch up with news and once again the plant auction offered a few bargains.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 6 March at 1.30pm in the Supper Room at Mapua Hall. Guests and visitors are always welcome to come along and if you have any queries please feel free to contact either Barry Highsted (540-3139) or Anne-Marie Giddens (540-2335).

Garden Notes

March marks the beginning of autumn. Although dry, hot weather continues in many places, the mornings begin to cool slightly. Before long the first autumn foliage will begin to appear. Autumn is the season to clean the garden, trimming, pruning, weeding, and generally a good tidy up all round is called for. Come spring, life will be so much easier.

Lawns can be repaired right now, any bald patches filled in; new lawns can be laid too. This is bulb time—the stores are filling up with, daffs, tulips, iris, and hyacinths etc, all to tempt you. One good thing about spring bulbs is that lovely scents so many of them have and they do multiply over the years.

Tasks for March are:

Lift the summer flowering bulbs as they go to rest and store in a paper bag until planting in spring; guard ornamentals from caterpillars and earwigs; keep an eye on any seedlings you may have and protect from the above-mentioned pests.

Pests and diseases which are predominant during March are caterpillars, earwigs, aphids and fungal diseases such as brown rot. Derris Dust is a reasonably safe material to use.

In the edible garden—veges to plant are leeks, cabbages, carrots, celery, spinach, spring onions and winter lettuce. Perpetual beet is a very useful crop for colder districts.

Many stone and pip fruit will have shed their fruit and be preparing to drop their leaves. Spray late peaches, such as April White with Saprol against brown rot. Other stone fruit may also require spraying with a copper-based spray in autumn which will limit the extent of damage in the following summer.

A garden is a lot of work, but so much joy as well. Cheers.

Barry Highsted

Search for spartina intensifies

If Mapua residents see low-flying helicopters over the estuary in the coming weeks, don't be alarmed. You are not being invaded, except by weeds.

In an attempt to get rid of spartina, an introduced estuarine grass native to Britain, the Department of Conservation and the Tasman District Council plan to use helicopters to look for remnants of the weed in the Waimea Estuary, Moutere Inlet, Abel Tasman National Park and the Whanganui Inlet.

Spartina was planted in New Zealand from 1913 to the late 1950s in a bid to reclaim land for grazing and habitation. Unfortunately, as is the case with many introduced plants, spartina has proved to be invasive on mud flats and inter-tidal areas. It competes with native grasses and other vegetation, reducing the area in which wading birds can feed. Some of its common names are cord grass, rice grass or perennial salt marsh grass. It has been nominated as among 100 of the world's worst invaders.

It was once widespread in the Nelson region but for 30 years it has been gradually reduced by staff using knapsack sprayers and herbicide. Visitors to Grossi Point at Mapua will have seen a man with a sprayer climb into a kayak and paddle out to an exposed bit of ground in the estuary and walk over it, hunting for the weed. Helicopters will be used to look for remaining patches of spartina; the spraying will continue to be done by hand. It is hoped the weed can be eradicated, rather than just controlled.

If you know of a site where spartina is growing please report it to a DoC or TDC office.

Domain News

Some people may have noticed the tennis shed has been turned into a shelter. Hopefully this will put paid to some untoward behaviour that was happening while it was a shed. The trees have also been trimmed for more vision around that area. We are in the process of looking at where the bollards should go. These are to stop traffic from going on to the domain. When this has been decided then the council can get on with the job. This should be done very shortly.

We're working toward putting together a short, medium and long-term plan for the domain after a couple of interesting meetings with the council. We also had a meeting with Councillors Tim King, Brian Ensor and Trevor Norris. We now know what changes council will support and what ideas may be too 'pie in the sky.' When we have put together a plan we'll present this at the Community Association for initial comment. We will let everyone know when this happens.

Postal Delivery

We can post you the Coastal News. To take advantage of this post \$10 with your name and address to Coastal News, PO Box 19, Mapua Store, 7048. Include your new postal code for rapid delivery. Existing subscribers can also send their new code in by email coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz or by post.

Coastal Connections

On 14 February, 23 ladies celebrated St Valentine's Day at Stoneridge café. Many of the group had not been to this venue and were impressed with the building, garden area and a hedge maze. The staff was attentive; water was brought to the table at the start and more tables were added as our numbers grew. As a comparatively new café, the modern menu impressed us and we enjoyed our choices. We were seated on a sheltered patio area near the maze and although the café was busy, we felt as if we had the place to ourselves. The many shaded tables in the garden were occupied as well as the large indoor area. It is advisable to check the opening hours as the café is usually closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Dot congratulated Wendy, Lyn, Julia, Julie, Judith, Katherine, Ann, Mavis and Bev on their birthdays in January and February. We exchanged magazines, and used stamps were given to Ella. Barbara read some light-hearted lines that amused us.

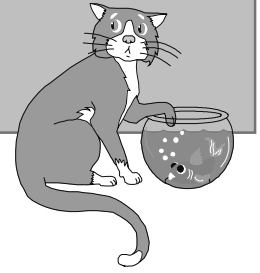
Our next meeting will be at 11.45am on 13 March at Monte E Mare adjacent to the Mapua wharf. Please contact Dot on 540-2323 so that an accurate booking can be made and table seating arranged for us. Maybe if we talk less after eating, we will have time to stroll around the wharf area and beach!

Once again, we thank our willing drivers and Dot for organising bookings and emailing members.

Reported by Barbara Halse.

Animal Health File

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



What's up pussy cat?

Going through school or university most people have a favourite teacher or lecturer. One of my all-time favourites was a slightly eccentric Irish man, Kevin Stafford. He teaches animal behaviour at the Vet School at Massey and often makes TV appearances whenever the media need someone to comment on anything to do with animal behaviour. Sadly, these days, this is mostly post-dog attack.

Kevin's lectures were always really interesting and often exceedingly funny. But, there is one quote of his that has always stuck in my mind and that I repeat to my clients frequently and it is this: "Cats are walking a tight rope of insanity and it doesn't take much to push them off!" While not a particularly pleasant vision, in my eight years in clinical practice I have found out many times what a cat falling off a tightrope can look like.

It turns out that cats are extremely sensitive little creatures and you put their nose out of joint at your peril. Stress and cats do not mix. Anxious cats display some interesting habits. Anxiety usually takes the form of excessive scratching of expensive pieces of furniture, spraying urine all over the house, or a recurrent health problem known as Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease (FLUTD for short).

So what stresses out kitty cats? Just about anything! A new cat moving in next door, a new couch, new baby, owners going away for a time—basically any change which they decide they are just not happy with. A good proportion of cats will settle down over time as they

adjust to the new baby or put their own smells all over your new couch.

For those cats that continue to urine-spray or scratch inappropriately there are several treatment options. Feliway is a synthetic copy of the feline pheromone which cats make naturally and spread around by padding and rubbing their faces on things. When they smell this pheromone it relaxes them. So Feliway is generally very successful at calming stressed out kittys. In cases where Feliway doesn't work we use an anti anxiety drug called Clomicalm (known as kitty Prozac in the business!).

A proportion of anxious cats will develop a problem called Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease. This name really covers a group of problems which all look clinically the same. Basically the cat is seen straining to go to the toilet and may leave some small blood-stained patches of urine around the house. These cats need to be checked by a vet to make sure they don't have a blocked bladder and we often collect a urine sample and send it to the lab to check for urinary tract infections and crystals in the urine.

Many cats have relatively normal urine samples and we call this idiopathic cystitis. Treatment for this involves pain relief and glucosamine supplementation and sometimes dietary changes and anti-anxiety medications. Eventually we get these cats back on the tightrope again and, despite the occasional speed wobble, they usually live a long and uneventful life.

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.

Sustainability goes local

Whether you agree with the politics or not, our Prime Minister has set New Zealand on a course towards sustainability with her government's aim for our country to be carbon neutral by 2020. Most of the discussion on how we are actually going to achieve this has focused on carbon trading, "big business" and the impact of agriculture, so it is easy to view this bold target as something upon which we can have no real impact at a local level. But some exciting things are happening in the village right now, that reflect the growing commitment that people feel towards making New Zealand a more sustainable place to live.

The Mapua and Districts Business Association hosted Brian Walsh from the Sustainable Business Network at its February meeting. The Sustainable Business Network is a rapidly growing national group of over 600 businesses committed to sustainable business practice and Brian has many years experience in this area, being one of the original founders of Nelson's Ecofest. The enthusiastic committee of the Business Association opened the evening to all of the local business community regardless of whether they were members, and Brian presented an interesting DIY guide to business sustainability.

The restoration of the wetland on Aranui Road is another fantastic example of sustainability in action at a local level. Nationally, wetlands are one of the most threatened ecological systems. With a driven committee and an army of volunteers, including local schoolchildren, the wetland is helping to restore local biodiversity and show us what parts of Mapua used to look like. The major blight on this fantastic local resource is the potential effects of the neighbouring residential development and what this might do to the water table that allows the re-creation of the wetland.

One of the most exciting things I see happening in the village at the moment is the renewed interest in what is happening at the former Fruitgrowers Chemical Site. The original plans for the site were put in place five years ago and it is fair to say that things have changed

a lot since then. Sustainable design has crossed from being just about building design (think the DOC or Meridian buildings in Wellington) into sustainable urban and landscape design. There have been some fantastic examples of this in other parts of the country. We have the opportunity to use some of the substantial gains in this area of design to make the revamp of the chemical site a good example of design which doesn't cost the earth (pun fully intended!).

Mapua is a diverse and vibrant little community and we are lucky to have some remarkably talented, globally connected and visionary people in our midst. I can't wait to see what can be achieved.

Paula Short

Digital Photography Group

As proposed in our December 2007 report, we gathered at Dot's home in February to discuss the future of the Group in view of the poor attendances over the latter half of the last year. Again, attendance was very poor, and the inevitable decision was made to wind up the Group.

Dot was thanked for all the hard work she had put into running the Group, arranging talks by professionals and organising displays and visits over the last three years.

It was agreed that we might have the occasional gathering of those still interested in sharing knowledge and experience with digital photography, perhaps in the form of "field trips" to practice and develop our skills, and discuss the results.

Last month's "mystery photograph" was of the tiger in the children's play area at Jester House café in Tasman. This is a great venue in which to relax and enjoy drinks and meal, with attractive and peaceful settings, gardens and adventure areas for children.

Reported by Mike Halse.

Sam's Spam

March 2008

Hello readers! There is hopefully some good news coming soon for those of us who are constant computer users—it looks like better access to broadband in this region might become a reality. According to recent press reports, a \$1.8m project is under way, financed through the government's Broadband Challenge fund. It should build on and use the even bigger high-speed broadband network put in place earlier by Network Tasman and the Nelson Regional Economic Development Agency.

What will this actually mean for us mere mortals? – well, hopefully it will improve broadband speeds, reducing the time it takes to download information by expanding the data capacity and maybe even lead to cheaper pricing.

The existing network has now been expanded to more than 350 kilometres of fibre stretching from Motueka in the west to Waikawa, east of Picton. As if that wasn't enough, Telecom has also announced similar plans for this region so we might get double the benefit!

Free download of the month – Audacity

Audacity is a powerful free audio editor. You can record sounds, play sounds, import and export WAV, AIFF, Ogg Vorbis, and MP3 files, and more. Use it to edit your sounds using cut, copy and paste (with unlimited Undo), mix tracks together, or apply effects to your recordings. It also has a built-in amplitude envelope editor, a customisable spectrogram mode and a frequency analysis window for audio analysis applications. Built-in effects include Echo, Change Tempo, and Noise Removal, and it also supports VST plug-in effects. And it's completely free! You can download this great program at <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>

That's all for this month! Remember, I have my Whiz Kid Sam advert in the Noticeboard section of the *Coastal News* for anyone out there needing help with computers, DVD players, digital cameras etc. Average job price only \$15. I also do web pages, set up web accounts etc average page price \$25. Bye for now!

Mapua Health Centre

We are 18 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.

We are fortunate to have a trainee practice nurse, Angela, joining us for six months. She has finished her basic qualifications and is now gaining experience in general practice and community health. We have also had a final-year medical student with us for a month.

This is part of a national programme to give trainee doctors a better understanding of the skills required for community based medicine. We greatly appreciate the support that has been given by patients in allowing students to be part of the consultation process.

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.

Mapua & Districts Soccer Club

Yes, polish up the boots, clean the mud off the shin pads, FOOTY SEASON IS COMING. Time to start pre-season runs and talking attack and defence strategies.

The first competition matches for 2008 are: Senior Men, 29 March; Senior Women, 13 April; Junior, 10 May.

Men's pre-season training started on Wednesday 27 February on the Mapua Domain at 6pm and will be on every Wednesday..

Registration Day will be advertised shortly. However, if you wish to confirm your club membership you can contact Tony Jemmett or Gary Breakspeare (see contact details below).

The club intends to enter the following teams in competition: Midgets (5 to 6 years of age). Junior Grades from 7th 14th grade (7 to 15 years of age, boys and girls). Youth Grade (16 to 18 years). Senior Men . Senior Women

We are looking for players in all grades. If you are new to the club and would like to talk about a team please contact any one of the committee members below.

We would also like to talk with you if you are interested in coaching a team. There is a variety of training opportunities if you are unsure about coaching. Coaching can be a great way to support your child and

also be a rewarding role. The committee coach representative (see below) would love to talk with you about coaching.

The Club AGM was held on 12 February and we are pleased to have an expanded committee for this season with both old and new members. Each has a role and I set these out below:

Chairman - Tony Jemmett; Secretary – Sian Potts; Treasurer – Gary Breakspeare, Fund-raiser – Shelly Wild; Senior Team – Toby Wild; Junior Team – Tony Jemmett; Projects – Andrew N, Coaches/Volunteers – David Francis (03 540-3224, daf@blacksheeptouring.co.nz); Equipment/Facilities – Ian MacFayden.

Please talk to any of the committee with any questions you may have about the club or 2008 season.

Club contacts:

Mapua and Districts Football Club, PO Box 38, Mapua

Tony Jemmett Ph 03 540-3664, jemmz@xtra.co.nz

Gary Breakspeare 03 540-2044, gary@breakspeareconsulting.co.nz

Toby Wild (Seniors Men's co-ordinator) 03 540-2030, thewildfamily@xtra.co.nz

Bridget Wild (Senior Ladies co-ordinator) 03 540-2030

E-mail: jemmz@xtra.co.nz

PROBUS CLUB OF MAPUA & DISTRICT

The club's first meeting for the year was held on the 1st of February. The guest speaker was Rachael Keown who spoke about her life as a seafarer. She is one of 20 women in New Zealand who holds a ship's master's qualification. Rachael was born in Gore. On leaving school she had no plan to make a career as a seafarer. Her first job was a graphics artist in Invercargill and her first job at sea was as a cook on the tourist boat of Rodney Russ. It was a great experience cruising around the Fiordland coastline.

Rachael joined the Spirit of Adventure Trust as a cadet on its sailing ship on a 10-day cruise around the Hauraki Gulf. She was so impressed with the experience that she returned as a ship's volunteer. She spent six years as a trainee with the Spirit of Adventure, and a further three years as a crew member. She enjoyed working with the teenagers and they in turn gained a lot of confidence from the training.

At the age of 28 she became a cadet for the InterIsland Line which led to her gaining her sailing ticket. This involved study for maths and physics. She also took courses in a wide variety of subjects, such as fire-fighting, life-saving and common law to eventually to obtain the position as first mate with the company. She had further sailing experience around the New Zealand coast on a fuel freighter and a cement boat.

Rachael's first experience with international sailing was with Mersk, a Danish shipping line. The company has over 500 containerships that sail to most ports around the world. Rachael's freighter is of medium size, being 51,000 tons and 300 meters long, carrying 4100 containers. Her container ship operates between Singapore, Shanghai, Hong Kong and South Africa. Her average working day at sea is from 4am to 8am, then from 4pm to 8pm. The ship has a crew of 18 from the Philippines.

Rachael joined the Mersk Company seven years ago and in that time advanced her position from 3rd to 2nd mate, and now holds the position of chief officer. Her responsibilities are the everyday running of the ship; the cargo, ship's fuel and general safety. Rachael's partner is the ship's chief engineer, who owns a sheep and beef farm in Scotland. During her six months off-duty, she spends part of her time in Scotland.

Rachael's next ambition is to gain her certificate as a ship's captain. Her aim in life has always been positive in setting and achieving her goals.

The club's mini-speaker was David Higgs. I related my memories of the Second World War as a five-year-old starting school. My parents owned a terraced two-storey home and shop in the village of Teddington, a suburb of Twickenham selling and repairing bicycles. At the back of the shop Dad had assembled a kit-set heavy steel-framed air-raid shelter, about the size of a large tent. This was our sleeping quarters during the air raids. When the siren went we would have to run down two or three flights of stairs from our living room, kitchen or bedrooms to the shelter. One particular morning after a night air raid, Dad tried to open the shop door for business but it was jammed. Mum pointed out to him that all the glass in the shop window was blown out from the blast of a bomb that landed a short distance up the street.

My early days at Christchurch Primary School were often dramatic when the air-raid siren went. We had to grab our books and pencils and run out into the playground and head to a series of concrete tunnels. There we had to sit on a makeshift bench to continue with our lesson until the all-clear siren was sounded. We then returned to our classroom or went home.

The Germans developed the V1 and V2 flying bombs, or Doodlebugs, as they were nicknamed. They were the forerunner of the jet engine. I can remember three occasions when the flying bombs were dropped on Teddington. On one occasion Mum and I were on the top floor when we heard the whine of the engine flying close to us. The engine cut out as it had used up all its fuel. Mum grabbed me and we quickly descended three flights of stairs to get to our air-raid shelter.

Another vivid memory towards the end of the war was when RAF Bomber Command and the American Air Force flew over us to bomb the German town of Dresden. For half an hour the sky was a mass of bombers heading towards the English Channel. The noise was deafening.

Food was a scarce commodity and we had to use ration books which allowed each person only a minimum amount of food to survive on. Meat was scarce and I can remember Mum buying whale meat, tripe from the cow's stomach, and the odd packet of powdered eggs imported from America. On one shopping trip the shop keeper was able to offer her a tin of fruit, which was a luxury in those days.

I can remember the day the war was over. The people of Teddington were out on the streets having a great party. Dad said to me, "This will be the war to end all wars". That was a very optimistic statement!

David Higgs

MAPUA Bowling Club

(We regret that the Bowls Club report that should have been in the February Coastal News was omitted. We include it here as well as the later report. The Editors)

The popular annual event of the Fruit Federation Open Triples was held on Thursday 22 November with 16 teams of mixed bowlers from various bowling clubs as well as Fruit Federation representation. The day's bowling was made up of 4 games of 10 ends. The first three teams had complete wins, the results being: D Wadsworth, N Coeland, and V McQuade with 4 wins, 29 ends and 73 pts, 1; A Ahnfeldt, C Wadsworth, and J Scott with 4 wins, 25 ends and 49 pts, 2; D Sixtus, R Waterus and V Sixtus with 4 wins, 24 ends and 54 pts, 3.

The men's and ladies' triples club championships were completed by mid-November. Results were: Ladies' team: Nancy McAlwee, Nancy Coeland and Allison Brett. Men's team: Don Sixtus, Les Tregoning and John Trotter.

Other club championships completed were: The ladies' pairs, won by Jean Daubney and Judy March. The junior men's singles, won by Don Sixtus. The junior men's pairs, won by Don Sixtus and Les Tregoning.

The club held the Paul Trewavas Triples on 6 December. There was a good response to the competition with 48 entries using all 8 greens. The day's bowling was 4 matches of 10 ends per team. Results were: L McAlwee, A Ahnfeldt and G Young with 3 wins, 25 ends and 56 pts, Mapua, 1; P Hood, F and J Gibbison with 3 wins, 23 ends, and 50pts, Mapua, 2; M Kennedy, C Graham, and J Coppel with 3 wins, 22 ends, and 48 pts, Richmond Club, 3.

On Monday 17 December the social league bowling group held their final bowling evening for the year with 7 triples teams playing the Mapua club members. It was an enjoyable evening with the league bowlers winning the competition. From Monday 14 January the league bowling evenings will continue to the end of daylight saving in March.

The annual Smokehouse/Mapua Tavern Triples was held on 1 January. The afternoon competition consisted of 3 games of 8 ends. There were 14 teams being played on 7 greens. The final results were close: Don Sixtus, Arnie Ahnfeldt and Allison Brett with 3 wins 15ends & 27pts, Mapua, 1; Moana Cross, Pat Le Franze and Sean Blackie with 3 wins, 14 ends & 27 pts, Motueka, 2.

On Saturday 12 January Mapua hosted the annual mixed triples competition against the Ngatimoti Club. The competition for the Rosebowl Cup consisted of three teams playing 18 ends. This involved around three hours of bowling starting at 1.30pm in very hot conditions. The cup was retained by Mapua, and will be played for again next year at Ngatimoti. The Ngatimoti captain gave a vote of thanks to the ladies who put on a very enjoyable afternoon tea.

March report

The club held the open Dorchester triples on 17 January. There was a full competition of 48 bowlers using all 8 greens. The weather was hot with light winds. The day's competition consisted of 4 games of 10 ends starting at 9am. The results were: Nora Harvey, Helen Nosley, & Joshua Thompson 1st with 4 wins 24 ends and 68 pts. from the Stoke Club; Warick Inwood, Margaret Kenning & Paul Marshal 2nd with 3 wins, 24 ends and 56 pts from the Ngawhatu Club; Sylvia Peter John Coeland & Nancy Bensemman 3rd with 3 wins, 22 ends and 52 pts from the Mapua Club

Further club championships winners were completed as follows:-

Veteran men's singles: Les McAlwee; Senior men's pairs: Tony Mc Quade and Marty Verdonk. Senior men's singles: Tony Mc Quade; Anniversary Cup (singles 75yrs.+): Frank Gibbison; Veteran men's singles: Les McAlwee; Veteran men's pairs: Don Sixtus & Arnie Ahnfeldt.

Nelson's Anniversary Day, 4 February, the club hosted the Mapua and Coastal Real Estate Pot Luck Triples sponsored by Grahame Williams. The competition was played on 7 rinks involving 42 players. Several teams from local clubs were represented. The games consisted of 3 matches of 8 ends. The day ended with a very close finish:-

Riwaka team of Peter Bradley, Peter Mc Cormack, and Jan Cole with 2 wins and a draw with 15 ends and 30pts, 1st; Mapua team of Paddy Hood, Les Tregoning, and David Higgs with 2 wins and a draw with 15 ends and 24pts, 2nd; Riwaka team of Syd Dougherty, Beril Cameron, and Rosalie Waterreus with 2 wins and a draw with 14 ends and 22pts, 3rd.

The lucky draw team went to John Trotter, Trevor & Mavis Rogers a combined Mapua/Ngatimoti team.

David Higgs

Police Update

Great to have some long, hot days of summer at last. The estuary has been getting a work-out with swimmers and boating/kayaking. We are so lucky to have such a great area right on our doorstep.

The roads are quietening down now that the holiday season has finished but it is very noticeable that there are a lot of out of town people driving around with the start of fruit picking getting under way. A lot of these people aren't familiar with the roads and we are hoping that the traditional rise in accidents and drink-drivers doesn't happen too badly this year.

The village has had a few thefts and damages over the last month. A couple of unlocked bikes have also been stolen so be aware and keep alert.

Mapua Occurrences:

Jan 14: Motueka youth admits burglary at Aranui Road. Was also responsible for theft of fuel from boats at Leisure Park. Arrested and bailed to live in St Arnaud.

Jan 27: Copper water cylinder stolen from Seaton Valley Road

Jan 26-27: Mailbox in Toru Street filled with gap filler

Jan 25-28: Fuel siphoned from truck on Coastal Highway

Jan 29-30: Bike stolen from Leisure Park. Black Specialised brand mountain bike, Hard Rock model written in red and white

Feb 4: Bus shelter on Aranui Road pushed over at 4.30am. Sixteen-year-old intoxicated youth arrested.

Feb 8: Burglary of a container near Touch the Sea aquarium. Security sensor set off, nothing taken

Feb 14: Theft of BMX bike from Iwa Street. Found by Mapua School.

Grant Heney, Rural Community Constable, Ph 03) 528-1220, Motueka Police

VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Jan - Feb call-outs

Jan 15: Minivan v fuel tanker, SH60 & Maiseys Rd.

Jan 25: To Motueka to assist with water, turned back

Feb 10: House fire Collage St Motueka

Feb 11: SH60 near Nile Rd, car failed to take corner, went down bank, minor injuries

Feb 12: Digger on fire Tasman, burst oil line. Put rubbish fire out as well. No machinery to control fire as required in permit

Feb 14: Car off road SH60 near Dominion Rd. No injuries. Lost control on corner

Feb 16: Hedge fire off SH60 near Maisey Rd. Teenagers playing with petrol bomb.



Safety Tip – Outside fires by permit only. Permits free, Rural Fire network Ph 544-2441

Dawson Church PhD

researcher & author of 'The Genie in your Genes' will be giving a talk on **'Epigenetic Medicine'**

Our consciousness is affecting our bodies every day. Scientific research shows that intention literally affects the way in which our DNA works. A new science, epigenetics (epi=above, epigenetic=control of genes from outside the cell) shows that genes are activated or deactivated by many factors originating outside the cell and even outside the body.

These factors include childhood nurturing, belief, spirituality, prayer, visualization, and the quality of our social network. Studies show that our cells can be conditioned daily by these epigenetic influences. Success in resolving emotional traumas have been shown to lower our chances of getting cancer, heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes.

In this talk Dawson will explain how what we believe and think has an immediate effect on our bodies and how we can help boost our immune systems, turn certain genes on and off at will and diffuse emotional traumas in minutes.

**Fairfield House, Trafalgar St South,
Nelson**

On Tuesday 4 March 7.30 – 9pm

Cost \$30 or \$25 student

*Please phone/email Julie Ewer on (03) 5402705 or
julie@inhealth.co.nz to register*

Hills Community Church

Playing Favourites

We're getting our first overseas visitors this month—my sister and her husband. They come from the state of Wisconsin which is known as the “Dairy State”. Wisconsinites are affectionately (?) referred to as “cheese-heads” because the more colourful sport enthusiasts wear cheddar wedges made of foam on their heads at sporting events. Yes, it's quite a look. As far as I know neither my sister nor her husband own one.

I'm really excited about their visit because this is my favourite sister who's coming. Of course, she finds that rather hollow praise since she's also my only sister.

What is it about favourites? We're taught early in life not to play favourites but we can't help ourselves. We all have favourite teams, favourite friends, favourite colours, and favourite flavoured ice cream. These are merely preferences of course, but isn't it funny how a preference for something can quickly turn into a prejudice against something else. Maybe that's why we're taught not to play favourites.

Fortunately God does not play favourites (though some religious folk over the centuries have suggested otherwise). God looks at us all the same—equally deserving of his love and grace—equally in need of salvation. So God gave his favourite Son—well, God's only son actually—to break the bondage of sin forever through his death and resurrection. The Gospel of John says: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16).

On 23 March Christians throughout the world will shout the ancient words of faith, “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!” as they celebrate this victory over death. We call that day “Easter”—my favourite day of the year.

Blessings & Easter “alleluias” to my favourite village—Mapua!

From Rev. Marilyn Loken, Minister, Hills Community Church

Regular Happenings @ Hills—

Hills Community Church is a community-based church celebrating a diversity of Christian faith traditions. Our worship settings are both traditional and contemporary each with an informal and relaxed style. Visitors and newcomers are most welcome. For more information call: 03 540-3848.

Sunday Worship: Traditional service 9am, Contemporary service & SPACE for Kids 10.30am; Holy Communion celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sundays; morning tea between services. First Sunday of each month: one service @ 10.30am.

1st & 3rd Tuesdays: 12:15pm—Anglican Communion service

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

New Developments @ Hills—

Construction on our new facility has begun. There's a sign out front with showing the design. We truly hope this facility will be an asset to the whole community. We're building to make room for you!

Mahana School



Last year ended on a high note at Mahana School with the annual prize-giving. An impressive array of awards and certificates were given to hard-working Mahana children. These included the Most Improved Student: Murray and Joan Taylor Cup presented to Philip Gibson, the School Leadership Award which went to Issy Taikato, the Junior Academic Excellence Award: Fraser Trophy which went to Safari Muir, the Academic Excellence Award which was presented to Alice Chapple and the Community Nominated Young Achiever Award, awarded to Tristan Prestige.

As a board we worked through a comprehensive selection process in the last term of 2007 with the aim of appointing a new principal, and were happy to appoint Justin Neal (Deputy Principal at Hope School) to the position. He will join us at the end of term 1. We also welcome Jane Bosecke to the senior room in a long-term relieving capacity for term 1. So a few new faces, but all good news for Mahana School!

We had wonderful support from Mahana School parents over the holidays in keeping the swimming pool going, and the free swimming lessons offered by our talented and qualified swim coach Yvonne Barry (teacher aide at Mahana School) were well patronised. Yvonne's ability to teach and motivate the children to swim is legendary, and at the end of the two-week lessons there was some great swimming happening.

This term, teachers have held meetings with parents to share the programme for the term, and a whole-school trip to Twin Bridges in the Aniseed Valley set the tone for the year. We're back into it at Mahana planning for another busy and exciting year. If you or someone you know with school-age children would like more information about enrolling at Mahana School please contact Jenny in the school office, ph 543-2887.

Jacqueline Brown, Mahana School Board of Trustees

St John Ambulance Art Fusion Garden Party

Saturday 5 April 2008

at The Playhouse, 171 Westdale
Road

Charity Auction, Dinner & Comedy Festival

Our third "Art Fusion" auction will raise significant funds for The Order of St John Nelson – Tasman - Marlborough region. This core emergency service and health provider averages a local daily callout of 21.5 emergencies. Our local January 2008 tally included 35-rescue helicopter and 12 coastguard assisted emergencies. We are required to raise 50% of our funding locally.

The concept of "Art Fusion" is to showcase and auction the best of Nelson's

Theatre, Literature, Fashion, Wine, Food, Jewellery, Music and Art.

Collection of donated items:

Golden Bay 29th March

Tasman / Moutere 28th March

Nelson Richmond 27th March

or by alternative arrangement delivered / posted to St John, Cnr St Vincent & Gloucester Streets, Nelson, PO Box 7084, Nelson.

Art Fusion will proceed regardless of weather conditions.

***Our future is in your talent;
your future could be in our hands***

YES, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN!

I'm the life of the party, even if it lasts until 8pm.

I'm very good at opening childproof caps—with a hammer.

I'm usually interested in going home before I get to where I am going.

I'm awake many hours before my body allows me to get up.

I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a thing you're saying.

I'm very good at telling stories; over and over and over and over.

I'm aware that other people's grandchildren are not nearly as cute as mine.

I'm so cared for—long-term care, eye care, private care, dental care.

I'm sure everything I can't find is in a safe secure place, somewhere.

I'm wrinkled, saggy, lumpy, and that's just my left leg.

I'm beginning to realise that aging is not for wimps.

I'm sure they are making adults much younger these days,

And when did they let kids become policemen?

I'm wondering—if you're only as old as you feel, how could I be alive at 150?

And, how can my kids be older than I feel sometimes? I'm a walking storeroom of facts—I've just lost the key to the storeroom door.

MAPUA LIBRARY

Ph 540-2545

By the time this edition of the *Coastal News* is out we will have held our book lovers' event involving Chrissie

Fernyhough at Woollaston Estates Winery. Judging by the amount of interest shown so far we are expecting a large turnout and a successful day. The library is very grateful for the generous support and co-operation given by the people at Woollaston's and also at Richmond Paper Plus. Most of all we thank Chrissie for making the time to come and speak about her new book and her life so far. Her book, "The Road to Castle Hill: A High Country Love Story," is available for borrowing at the library. If it's not in the library when you visit you can put your name on the waiting list.

An event scheduled for early March is our stall at Taste Tasman, where we will be promoting the library within the wider community and selling tickets to our book hamper raffle. Some lucky winner will have no shortage of books to read over the coming months.

The library is a buzzy hive of industry and enthusiasm these days, so why don't you come on down and check it out. Membership is free to all and there are no other fees charged. All you need to do to take advantage of our wide range of books and magazines is provide us with your contact details and an alternative contact as a back up. It's that simple! See you there!

Library Hours:

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 2pm 4.30pm

Wednesday 5pm 7.00pm

Thursday 10am 12.30pm



The ShedLight Blokes

In February we went to Barry Evans' shed in Ruby Bay to see his collection of cars. Barry has a large shed to one side of his home and lined up outside on display and as well as his 1970 Torana racing car (No 78) was his collection of cars including a 1973 Torana, 1979 Torana, 1958 Holden FC, 1983 Commadore, 1965 Holden HR, 1984 Holden Royale, 1962 Chrysler Valiant, 1977 Mitsubishi Galant and a 1967 Singer Vogue, all in good condition. Behind some trees were 30 to 40 other vehicles in varying states of condition. Anybody wanting spare parts should give Barry a call to see what would be possible.

Barry also has a collection of miniature cars on display in the house which is very interesting.

Our next meeting is being arranged with the date yet to be settled

“Small Steps to Effect Change”

Playcentre Awareness Week 14 – 20 March 2008

Have you ever wondered what difference you or your children and family could make to effect any change on your environment?

Have you ever wondered how just a little change could have an impact, and how all our small efforts together add up to something so much greater?

And have you ever wondered about the fantastic learning that our children gain from exploring the natural world and what small steps you are starting them off on, to caring for the greater world when you open them to these experiences???

The New Zealand Playcentre Federation is celebrating its diamond jubilee in 2008 – and doing its bit to ensure that generations more children can enjoy our natural environment for the next 60 years. As well as being the 60th anniversary of the Playcentre Federation, 2008 is the International Year of Planet Earth. Playcentre is focusing on how young children and their families can help preserve the planet.

At Mapua Playcentre we will be focusing our efforts within the centre on improving our recycling. Outside of the centre we intend to undertake a tree planting trip once the weather has cooled down. We are also going to adopt the playground beside the Hall and do regular litter collections there. Please give our children some encouragement if you see us out and about doing what we can to improve our environment. In a supportive community our children will learn how their actions can make a difference in protecting the earth we share.

Welcome

Mapua Playcentre would like to extend a warm welcome to our new assistant, Melanie Drewery. Melanie, an author of 16 published children's books, has lived in Mapua for 12 years and is no stranger to Playcentre. Her two daughters both attended.

Melanie values the free play that children are able to experience at Playcentre. With 16 activity centres ranging from carpentry to painting, music and singing, dress-up and water play, children have an indoor and outdoor area which offers exciting challenges. New this term is a carpeted area for our Playcentre babies. This is set up in a manner based on the philosophies of Magda Gerber and Emmi Pikler, and provides an environment for babies, encouraging their natural movement and inherent desire to explore their space.

Child-lead learning means that children are able to participate in activities that interest them; they develop independence and confidence. Children that have attended Playcentre are also found to adapt well to school, and typically will excel at using their initiative and imagination.

Melanie, like many women, suffered from post-natal depression after the birth of her babies, and found that for herself, Playcentre was a supportive and nurturing environment where she was able to meet other parents to discuss issues and benefit from others' wisdom. This helped her to channel her creativity into writing her numerous children's stories; each book has a strong message about enjoying life's pleasures without placing so much importance on material assets.

We are sure that Melanie will be a valuable asset to our Playcentre and encourage you to join us – Monday and Friday mornings 9.30am-12noon.

Art Classes for Adults & Children

Do you love to draw? Are you too scared to give it a go, or terribly out of practice? Finally, (after many requests, and having talked about it for ages!) I will be offering a series of art classes starting this term at the Moutere Hills Community Centre.

I am a local artist and children's book illustrator (you may have caught some of my illustrations at the Mapua Library over the holidays) and experienced tutor.

The Moutere Hills Centre has a wonderful, comfortable space available to work in. The emphasis will be on learning in a fun, supportive environment. Places are going fast in these, so get in quick!

For further details, or any questions, please don't hesitate to call me. Tracy Duncan, 5432090.

Classes for Term 1

Life drawing/Figure Drawing

Six week course, starting Tuesday 26 Feb. 7-9pm. Beginners and experienced artists both welcome.

\$85 (including models fee and some materials). Some easels available (first in first serve basis).

Adult Art Classes

I am happy to offer a general art class for adults, covering basic drawing and painting skills, depending on interest/numbers. There is flexibility about this being a daytime or evening class, again dependent on numbers, so please contact me asap to register your interest.

Kids Art Classes

Six week course, beginning Thursday 28 Feb 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Learning a range of art skills and experiencing using a variety of materials (includes drawing, painting and mono-printmaking)

\$45. (All materials supplied.)

Letters to the Editor...



Misleading

The *Nelson Mail* front page headline on 11 February stated, “No new date for by-pass project”. Quite misleading because there was no “old date” in the first place. An unfortunate habit of newspapers is to use a sensational and eye-catching headline to make us think that we should buy the paper. This is a disservice to their reading public.

In this instance, there was not nor has there been a “start date” for the Ruby Bay by-pass project. There will only be a “start date” when a contract has been awarded for the actual construction of the by-pass. In the meantime, the project continues its journey, if you will, through the normal processes of all roading projects, ie, planning, design, costings, consents and so on.

The information today (Feb 22) from Andrew Adams, the by-pass project engineer, is much the same as before—another month of progress along the tenuous route leading to the eventual construction contract award. The project’s design details will be completed by early March and funding details will be finalised as well.

In regard to funding, it is well to remember where it is coming from. In transport terms, we are a part of Transit NZ’s Region 10, which consists of the Tasman District, the Marlborough District and Nelson City. Transport funds are created by a 5 cent per litre tax on all petrol sold in New Zealand. As of 2006, the Region

10 share of this tax was about \$74 million. These three regional transport authorities have agreed to split this money three ways. The Tasman share is about \$24.5 million and is to be applied to the by-pass funding. In 2006 \$24.5 million was probably enough to fund the project. It is now 2008. Construction costs have risen and are still rising. Is \$24.5 going to fund the project in today’s terms? Transport NZ administers the roading funds and will have to make the final decision.

The central government has made a commitment of over \$900 million to fund current roading projects. The government administers the petrol tax. Think about it. The Ruby Bay by-pass was a part of that commitment. If you want the by-pass to become a reality, we must make sure that Transport NZ has enough of that petrol tax to fund it. Public support will materially help that to happen. So, please indicate your support by contacting our elected representatives—

Cr Trevor Norriss (526-2526) or email Trevor.Norriss@xtra.co.nz.; Annette King, Minister of Transport at aking@ministers.govt.nz; our MP, Damien O’Connor at doconnor@ministers.govt.nz; and our list MP at chris.auchinvole@parliament.co.nz. Remind these people of the government’s commitment and that you expect it to be honoured and actioned. The Transit NZ Board meets on 2 of April and the Transport NZ Board meets in early May. Decisions critical to the progress of the by-pass will be made at these meetings

Hugh Gordon



MAPUA AND DISTRICTS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Chair: Marion ph 540 2180
Secretary: Diane ph 544 8275

We already know that we live in a vibrant and dynamic community, and it's no surprise to us that an increasing number of people are also learning that it's a great place to work and play.

For the Business Assoc, the growth is certainly keeping us 'on our toes.' We now have 180 members (up from around 120 two years ago). In the last 2 months we've had 8 new members and at the fabulous Sarau Festival in February our Coordinator, Janet Taylor, gave away 18 information packs to interested people!

As always, we want to thank you, the residents, for BEING LOCAL AND BUYING LOCAL. We appreciate your support!

MEMBER PROFILE

Feasts Celebrates Success

New Moutere-based catering company Feasts is celebrating a great first summer. Owner and Chef Ian Morris launched the business last winter with the philosophy that the food he produced would be freshly made and high quality. It's proven a winning formula with a busy summer for Feasts and a wide variety of catering from dinner parties in private homes, to the big local events such as the Sarau Festival, A Country Occasion, Hops & Glory and the Neudorf Vineyards concert.

"There's always a challenge whether it's in feeding large numbers of people, or producing fine food where people appreciate the taste, presentation and attention to detail. Every event is different and that keeps me on my toes," says Ian.

UK born and bred, Ian was trained in the classic French style and was UK Caterer of the Year 1996. He has catered for events including the Baftas and has cooked for the Formula One and the World Rally circuit throughout Europe.

"I love having the business here in the Moutere where there's so much great produce and so many interesting people to work with and for."

Find out more about feasts on the website www.feasts.co.nz or you can call Ian directly on 021 101 7172.



MEMBER PROFILE

Bank Local - Bank with NBS



Lifestyle Banking

Nelson Building Society manages more than \$380 million, has 13,500 customers and offers a full range of banking services.

More local people and local businesses are choosing NBS – here's why:

- Very competitive on call and term investment rates with flexible terms
- Fast, efficient and personalised service
- Lower fees – in most cases NBS can tailor a package that offers lower fees
- Easy access to local Branch Managers for lending, overdrafts and investment decisions
- NBS invests back into the local community through sponsorships.

For more information on how NBS can help you or your business, contact Howie Timms, Phone (03) 544 1390.



NBS is not a registered bank. Full terms and conditions available upon request.

Use

www.mapua.biz
to find and support local
businesses.

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

Noticeboard

Art classes at the Moutere Hills Community Centre. Kids classes start Thursday 28 Feb, 3.30 - 4.30pm. Figure Drawing classes from Tuesday 26 Feb, 7 - 9pm. Ph Tracy 5432090 for details.

Wanted: Figure Drawing models for local art classes. A variety of shapes, sizes, ages and gender required! Experience preferred but not essential. Please phone Tracy, 5432090

Skye Harvest Extra Virgin Olive Oil available fresh from the producer. Ph 540 2698. Orders delivered, or call in 113 Seaton Valley Rd Mapua.

To rent: room/office space in village centre. Tel: Julie Ewer 540 2705 or julie@inhealth.co.nz

Can you help? We are a keen, but not expert, group of four retirees who meet most Mondays in central Mapua to play **Mahjong**. One of our members is about to leave the district and we'd like to find someone to fill the gap. If you'd be interested in joining such a group, whether you're a player from way back, or would like to learn from scratch, we'd be glad to hear from you. Mahjong is not a hard game to learn and can be enjoyed at many levels, from simple to more expert. To find out more please call Bryan on 5402021 or Gloria on 5403225.

Friendship Club meets 3rd Thursdays, supper room at the Hall. We play indoor bowls and have cards for Euchre & Crib, etc, and have a lovely afternoon tea (please bring a plate). We ask for \$1 donation and have a 20¢ raffle. We are a group of friendly people who enjoy a good laugh (some of us are not good bowlers!) We welcome old and new members. Enquiries: Val Roche 540 3685

For Rent - Furnished House (1 Bedroom + Attached Granny Flat) commencing April for approx. 7 months. Convenient private location close to village & beach; non-smoking, no dogs. Rent all or half, \$210-\$280 pw. Tel. (03)540-2460.

Genealogy Computer Discussion Group. This year our meetings will be 1.30pm 2nd Saturdays, bimonthly on the following dates: April 12; June 14; Aug 9; Oct 11; and Dec 13. For information: Val 540 3931 or Peter 540 2686

Cancer Society Umbrella Scheme: If you are having a function or event and would like extra shade, please contact me to use the Cancer Society Sun Smart umbrellas - Sue 5402 090. Don't forget to: Slip into a shirt and shade; Slop on sunscreen; Slap on a hat; Wrap on sunnies.

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

Coastal Garden Group meet first Thursdays, 1.30pm, Supper Room, Mapua Hall. Members, guests & visitors welcome. Enquiries: Barry Highsted 540 3139, Anne-Marie Giddens 540 2335.

Kidz'n'Koffee Playgroup, every Wednesday (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. Enquiries: Sara Pumphrey 540 3889, Sharon De Jong 543 2486.

Toy Library: check out our extensive selection of toys, puzzles & videos for children 0-5yrs. Located behind the Mapua Hall every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 10-11.30am & 6.30-7.30pm. Phone Tracey, 5403307, or Kirstin, 5402811 about membership or casual hire.

WhizKid Sam. Need Help? Can't connect your DVD / Video player/ Lost your computer work? Can't download your digital photos? Need help setting up an email account? Average job price only \$15! Basic web design, average price \$25/page, including advice on domain registration. Call WhizKid Sam! 540 2804. sam@realspecial.co.nz - <http://whizkid.awardspace.com/>

Mapua Hall bookings can be made at Video Ezy Mapua, 69 Aranui Road, 540-3370. Open daily 11am till late. Phone bookings accepted.

Probus Club meets first Fridays 1.30pm, Supper Room, Mapua Hall. All retirees most welcome. Enquiries to Pres. Margaret Butchart 540 2686, Secr. Thelma Mathieson 540 3132.

Women's Recreation Group: meet outside Mapua Mall Thursday mornings. Early group leaves at 9.15am and walks for approximately 1½ hours, various walks. Join us whenever you can. Lynley 5402292 for more info and to talk about cycling. Later group leaves 10am and walks approx 50 minutes. Val 5403931.

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 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.

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