

Coastal News

email: coastalnews@mapua.gen.nz

covering Mapua & Ruby Bay,
run by volunteers

Mapua/Ruby Bay Structure Plan Examined

Rose Biss and Dougall Leigh, Tasman District Council planners, presented a review of the council's updated Structure Plan to the Mapua & Districts Community Association's April meeting.

With a PowerPoint screen presentation this overview provided a history of the Structure Plan and the constraints faced by the council in terms of waste water/sewage, stormwater, coastal management, infrastructure etc, all items which needed a lot of money, progress in regard to the completion of items in the 2006 LTCCP, ie, Mapua causeway drainage and the Seaton Valley Stream widening project, and current proposals regarding the future use of the former FCC site both east and west of Tahi Street. Other features were the closed residential zone in Ruby Bay, the revised coastal hazard zone, indicative walkways, roads, reserves and esplanade strips, and areas of natural character and sustainable development principles.

After the presentation, the chair, Devin Gallagher, noted that in line with the decision six months ago by association members that the executive committee would maintain responsibility over issues coming out of the updated Strategic Structure Plan, the committee had held a special meeting to decide on questions it wished to raise with the council. He then put these questions to Ms Biss to initiate further discussion.

Question: The report appears to follow the format and content of the 2004 study. When completed, will the forthcoming 2008 plan be of similar character?

Answer: Basically yes but updated to consider current planning issues.

Q: Will the final plan designate specific areas for additional space for the Mapua Domain and were there options for additional recreational space? **A:** Yes, and flat space in Seaton Valley is being looked at.

Q: There is a conflict between the boundaries of the zoned areas considered in the report and the non-designated but actual "zone" or sphere of influence boundaries within the greater Mapua/Ruby Bay area. Why is this report not more inclusive of this wider area? **A:** The proposed Ruby Bay by-pass will potentially provide

a boundary for a broader area and if so, Rural 3 zoning is beyond that potential boundary. Under the present 2ha limit for sections the Mapua/Ruby Bay side of the by-pass route, there is not a great deal of potential land for 2ha or less residential development.

Q: The issue of productive land zoned Rural being designated "Deferred Residential" needs clarification in relation to valuation and rating. The council, so far, has not addressed this issue. Does the council have the power to change the zoning of a parcel of land without consultation or permission of the land owner?

A: Yes, depending upon the particular circumstances in relation to the particular parcel of land. However, with this report, the council is attempting to present a coherent picture for the future, not to "rezone", like it or not

Q: In your report under "Principles for Mapua Development", item 1. related to the "character" of Mapua and retention of the village scale and identity, please relate this to the current deferred status of the Aranui Road Streetscaping Plan that has been dropped from the LTCCP. Will the Streetscaping Plan be reinstated in the final version of the Mapua Structure Plan?

A: We suspect that TDC engineering staff had dropped the Streetscaping plan temporarily subject to completion of the current infrastructure projects along Aranui Road.

The chair thanked Rose Biss and Dougall Leigh for their presentation, comments and answers to questions posed by the committee and they then left the meeting.

A long and at times spirited discussion followed. Many issues were apparent, such as:

- Maintaining the Village character, and did the council understand what residents meant by this.

Mapua/Ruby Bay Structure Plan - cont'd

- Is Mapua destined to become an extension of Richmond? Is pressure to do this coming from council or residents who wish to subdivide?
- While commendable that the Plan considered what would happen in the future, it did not foster a sustainable or welcome way for the Village to develop. Without that vision, the Plan would not mean anything.
- There were some good aspects to the Plan but also some limitations and inconsistencies, but until there was some form of vision to craft it, it did not meet the vision of what the community itself wanted and would therefore have a limited impact.
- If all deferred land shown was developed as residential it would almost double the footprint of Mapua. Where that footprint spread it ruined and diminished accessibility for people. To have a further 393 households to have that footprint and not differentiate between densities and even extend into productive land would be highly problematic.
- Planning must be seen as a community responsibility. Being a community removed a major commercial centre; we need to focus on issues relating to this.
- Should the community be looking outside the TDC for direction? What are the economics for hiring an independent consultant in comparison with the economics of using council staff?

The chair referred to the Riverhead Village Structure Plan which was prepared for the Rodney District Council by consultancy firm Boffa Miskell Ltd. in January of this year.

Cr Brian Ensor agreed that swallowing up good productive land was to be avoided and that the council

was faced with huge infrastructure issues in trying to manage growth pressures around the existing infrastructure.

As submissions to the Structure Report were due by 30 April, it was unanimously decided that the committee would formulate a submission from the association and present it to the members at the next general meeting on 12 May.

Domain Committee report

The Domain Committee would like to thank all those who came along to the last Community Association meeting, to listen to their presentation of a concept plan outlining short and medium-term goals proposed for the Domain. The ideas and options presented were a culmination of those voiced at a community meeting, specifically looking at the Domain, held at the end of last year.

At the meeting in April people were again given the chance to look at the concept plan; submit their choices; and comment on options that were presented. The results of which, have been collated by the Domain Committee and will be presented to the Tasman District Council on 29 April, for consideration for the 2008-2009 Planning Budget.

If you are interested in having some input please feel free to contact any of the following:

Nadienne Cookson Ph 540-2507, Anna Caswell 540-2331, Bridget Wild 540-2030, Rebecca Patchett 540-2901, Matt Barnes (Youth Rep.) 540-3600.

Rebecca Patchett

Giving way

SH60/Aranui Rd intersection.

I have been asked to publicise who gives way and what signals are required at this intersection.

If you are going straight through from Ruby Bay on SH60 to Mapua on Aranui Rd you are deemed to be turning left as you are leaving the continuous centre line. You **MUST** indicate your intention to do so. This is because the law states when approaching an intersection with a continuous centreline as shown in the top picture, you are deemed to be on a straight road.

Also if you are going to turn right from SH60 onto Aranui Rd you are leaving the continuous centre line as well as turning right. Therefore you **MUST** indicate your intention to do so.

This therefore means that because the vehicle going straight through from SH60 into Aranui Rd is making a turn which is indicated by the left turn indicator, the right turning vehicle driver going from SH60 into Aranui Rd can expect to have right of way.

Eric Davy, Senior Sergeant, Highway patrol.



Intersection A



Intersection B

Mapua Hall Society

The closing date for returns to the feasibility study in relation to a possible upgrade for the hall has now passed and a start has been made on reviewing these documents.

It is expected that some preliminary indication of the results will be available at the Hall Society Annual Meeting to be held in the hall on 14 May at 7.30pm. A full public discussion will be held once the information has been fully assessed and sketch plans prepared.

Some 70 replies were received and these will need to be examined carefully before further progress can be made. In addition, many user groups did not reply and there will be a follow-up to get a representative of these groups to respond.

If the views of users are to be fully considered, we need information.

One major source of funds potentially available to us is from the Lotteries Board but they will not finance any part of a renovation project before they have considered the outcome of this feasibility study which they will pay for. We need to get it right.

This week a further 100 chairs arrived to replace the old steel-framed wooden seat chairs that have been at the hall for many years. The committee is investigating the purchase of 20 new tables to replace the old plywood-topped tables that most people will agree are in a very poor state. These should be available in the near future.

In addition, funding will be sought to allow the purchase of a further 50 chairs for the hall, which will complete the upgrade of chairs and tables.

John Sharman, chairman. Phone 540-3642



Mapua Hall Society AGM and Public Meeting

The Mapua community is cordially invited to the Mapua Hall Society AGM and Public Meeting to discuss the hall feasibility study currently being undertaken.

Mapua Hall

Wednesday 14th May 7.30pm



Garden Notes



May—the last month of autumn. the last month for planting those spring bulbs. autumn is the best time for planting evergreen trees and shrubs. Prepare beds for planting roses now, and allow soil to settle. Weed the lawn now and rake over bare patches then apply a good fertiliser. Many herbaceous plants can be cut back this month.

In the vege patch, lime can be applied this season where required, cut down the tops of asparagus before the seeds fall. Old rhubarb roots can be lifted and allowed to lie on the ground for a month before replanting.

Pruning can begin as soon as the leaf falls in the fruit garden. Stone fruits are the first to be pruned. Complete the planting of strawberries as soon as possible. While the soil is in a workable condition fruit trees can be planted as they come to hand.

This is harvest time of your summer herbs, such as parsley, coriander, and basil. Pick bunches of perennial herbs to dry for winter use. Sage, bay,

rosemary, and thyme are easy to dry. Simply tie in bunches upside down in a dry corner of your kitchen.

Although this past summer was a lovely long hot one, we need to address the water situation. Many gardeners lost a plant or shrub during this time. We are being constantly reminded to conserve water. We have two extra tanks which collect rainwater from the roof. This water is kept solely for garden use and has seen me through for three years now. I have come to realise what an asset these tanks are, and what is going to hit us next summer?

So to those who can afford it, buy a tank, put out a hint for a birthday/anniversary, whatever, even if global warming is not on your belief list. I bought mine before all this was news, mainly because I was not used to paying water rates.

Gardening is a great pastime, and this bears witness by the growing number each month at our Coastal Garden Group meetings. Happy gardening.

Barry Highsted

COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

The end of daylight saving brings a sharp reminder that winter is on its way and a wonderful summer, surely one of the best in years, is drawing to a close.

Unlike other parts of the country, timely rains have meant that the district has managed to avoid a major drought and water levels have, for the most part, stayed at a level which has avoided restrictions. But it does drive home the fact that water is one of our most precious resources, in fact some say the gold of the 21st Century and that we can no longer take for granted a plentiful supply. Water conservation should be the catch-cry of every community.

I was really impressed with the work done by the Mapua Domain committee in collating the community's thoughts on a range of possible sporting options and activities for the domain.

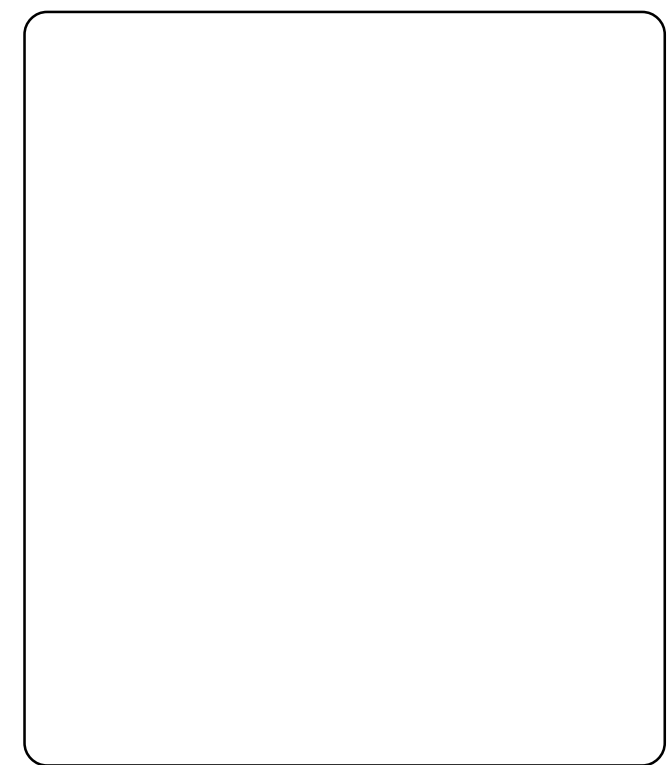
Being involved with a number of communities in the district, the common thread is that the young people don't have enough things to do, consequently they are getting into trouble, vandalism is increasing and there is some less-than-desirable behaviour. One of the main points coming out of these discussions which I think makes a lot of sense, is that it is not always about pouring large amounts of money into projects to satisfy our youth. They need to feel part of the community by being involved in the initial discussions and then, where possible, play a part in the construction and on-going maintenance so they feel a sense of ownership.

The council has identified Mapua as one of the areas of potential growth in the district and after a period of considerable frustration from the community over a perceived lack of planning, the draft Mapua Structure Plan has finally been updated and released. This has stimulated a great deal of interest and debate. As an observer, one of the main concerns seems to be that Mapua will lose its "village atmosphere". The debate seems to centre on the perception that an increase in population will result in the transformation of Mapua from a village to a town.

I would like to suggest that with careful planning, involving walkways, cycle ways, plenty of greenfield spaces, additional recreational areas and some attractive streetscaping around the central retail and business area, Mapua could maintain, if not enhance, its "village atmosphere". On top of that, there is the potential for some positive outcomes such as better transport options and more business opportunities. This, in turn, creates employment, better facilities, and of course more ratepayers to share the costs of targeted rates on such work as the Old Mill Walkway Coastal Protection project.

Enjoy the autumn weather, with its crisp mornings, wonderful clear days and changing colours, certainly my favourite time of the year.

Brian Ensor



Coastal Garden Group

A record number attended the April meeting as our club continues to grow. The number of notices also grows and we had a record number of those, too, ranging from requests for bulbs to art exhibitions and quiz nights. April is the time of year volunteers from the club help tidy up at the Settlers Cottage and a date was made for that to take place.

Once again we drew on the talent of our members and welcomed Joanne who demonstrated floral art for us. She took us through some wonderful floral displays, from very the simple to the more complex, with ease, six different works of art. First was an impressive arrangement for an entrance hallway using ferns, palm leaves and hydrangeas. She then moved on to a smaller design placed on a large plate which used ivy leaves, chrysanthemums, pebbles and crab apples to good effect. Her second large display used a pale blue delphinium to pick out the colour in her vase with mosses, bark and twigs, glossy leaves and bright blue gentians. An interesting dried piece of kelp formed the basis for a simple arrangement using sedum and sea urchins before she demonstrated another table arrangement using flax leaves twisted and held in shape with bamboo sticks, bright yellow flowers and the fruit from a japonica.

Joanne started by saying how little there was in the way of flowers to use for floral work in April but she has shown how to use fruits, twigs, bark and other materials to good effect. She finished her demonstration by making a hand-held bouquet from

a hydrangea through which she pulled roses and ferns to create a neat but simple bouquet.

As oasis is not bio-degradable florists are looking to different ways of holding flowers in place and Joanne showed us a bamboo grid which is more aesthetically pleasing than a wire mesh. Later this month, Joanne will be part of a team decorating a building to raise funds for a hospice – just one of the many events that the floral art circle is involved with.

Our thanks to you Joanne for sharing your craft with us.

Max's notes this month included the recommendation to dig up, divide and replant rhubarb that has been in position for two or three years which will re-invigorate the plant and improve cropping. Remember to feed your compost heap with blood and bone or animal manure. There was some debate over pruning rhododendrons which will be investigated for next time.

The competition table was full of colour with dahlias and fuchsias competing with banksia candles and kangaroo paw flowers. The ladies in the kitchen once again made afternoon tea a treat and the afternoon ended with our plant auction where as always bargains are to be had.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 1 May at 1.30 pm in the Supper Room at Mapua Hall. Guests and visitors are 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).

Coastal Connections



Twenty-one ladies sat at a huge table for lunch at The Playhouse on 10 April. Our membership has now grown to 30, members travelling from Stoke, Richmond, Motueka, Ruby Bay and Mapua to the chosen venue for the month. The Playhouse garden setting is a magnificent place for celebrations and larger gatherings. Our choice of meals was quite varied—open steak sandwiches, BLATs, Thai Beef Salad, Seafood Chowder, Mexican Bean Nachos, and from the “breakfast” menu (served until 3pm!), pancake stack and bacon and banana french toast. We raised our glasses to Hilda who celebrates a special birthday this month.

Unfortunately, the power went off during our luncheon so we were unable to try the desserts or have coffee—we will return at a later date for these treats. One of our members brought along samples of her home-grown grapes, which were shared (perhaps as a substitute dessert).

Ladies offered to assist Jenny and Diana with preparations at the village hall and food for the ANZAC

Day event in Mapua. Topics discussed at lunch included a new way of making toasted sandwiches using a special bag in the normal toaster to reduce the cleaning chore after use, the health benefits of salmon oil, travel insurance, solar power, prevention of falls with the elderly, and most importantly, where to dine next month!

Our choice for May is Up the Garden Path at Motueka on the 8th of the month, starting at 11.45am there. Please phone Dot on 540-2323 if you are unable to attend, as this is very important for arranging car-pooling and advising the venue of the expected number of attendees.

Reminders: We collect used postage stamps for fund-raising, we exchange magazines, share vegetables, seeds and ideas at our gatherings. This winter’s flu vaccine is now available from the Health Centre and it is recommended that you take advantage of this, which is free to many senior folks.

Reported by Barbara Halse.

New Mapua/Ruby Bay painting group

Ruby Bay artist Lisa Chandler is setting up a new painting group as a result of an informal gathering of artists and would-be artists in a friend's garage. The new group will meet in the Mapua Hall supper room, starting on 8 May.

"It started out as a group of us meeting in one person's garage to paint, critique each other's work, exchange ideas and have a bit of fun," says Lisa. "I really enjoyed our weekly get-togethers, and I thought it would be great to have a place where local artists can come together to paint in a supportive and fun environment."

The new group will not be a teaching class, but a group of like-minded people getting together to help and support each other and everyone will be encouraged to contribute.

"I believe that there is no right or wrong in art; that people each have their own unique style, which they need to hold true to, and that all levels of artists have important contributions to make. I also believe that art is 99 percent practice and 1 percent creative genius, so we can all take heart from that," says Lisa.

Lisa started painting again in 2005 after downsizing her successful graphic design business. She has had two solo exhibitions at Waimea Estates, an exhibition at

the Reflections Gallery at WOW, and currently has an exhibition on at the McKee Gallery within the Suter. Lisa's work can also be viewed on www.lisachandler.co.nz

Beginners through to the professional are all encouraged to join, and while it will be a fun and social time the emphasis will be on painting and developing skill.

The format for the morning will be: 9am-10am, opportunity to have a painting critiqued by the group if you like or you can just get straight into painting. Morning tea (tea/coffee/biscuits) will be provided at 10.30am.

Lisa will provide weekly hand-outs with painting tips and there will also be different art books and magazines available for perusing each week. Tables and chairs will be provided but artists will need to bring all their own materials and an easel if they wish to use one.

Lisa will run the group for a term to gauge interest and see how it goes. Future developments could include inviting guest speakers/tutors, having group 'art outings' and group exhibitions.

The cost for the term is \$45 for nine classes. Places are limited. The term will start on Thursday 8 May at 9am, going to 12.30pm, and run for nine weeks.

To book please phone Lisa on 540-3933.

Animal Health File

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



Ageing needn't be a pain

Usually this is the time of year that I start to bang on to people about arthritis in their dogs. Winter is well and truly in the air and with the nights getting colder old joints start to stiffen up. It's fair to say though that up until recently vets have largely ignored the fact that cats can get arthritis too.

Part of the reason for this is that cats are altogether more cunning than dogs as anyone who has been allowed to live with a feline will know! Cats do what they want to do and they only show you what they want to show you. Many a cat owner has brought a severely lame cat to the clinic only to put him down on the floor to walk around perfectly fine on all fours!

Recognising pain in cats is not easy. But when your cat loses interest in playing and jumping, gives up on grooming and starts sleeping more, they're not simply aging; they're suffering. A cat with arthritis won't necessarily limp. Often the only signs of pain are subtle behavioural changes. The sort of changes that as an owner, you are best placed to notice.

Signs to look for include:

- Disinterest in play
- Hesitant to jump or making several smaller jumps
- Avoiding or difficulty climbing stairs
- Litter tray mishaps/inappropriate urination
- Increased aggression or biting
- Vocalising when stroked
- Poor grooming
- Unwilling to go out
- More time sleeping
- Reduced interaction with other animals

If you notice any of these signs, speak to your vet. Arthritis can be treated. There is a fantastic green lipped mussel supplement called cat pep available. Green lipped mussels help by providing a natural anti-inflammatory effect within the joints as well as

providing the building blocks of cartilage to help maintain joint health. New to the market is the first non-steroidal anti-inflammatory licensed for long term use in cats. This helps cats with more severe pain and is as easy as putting a drop of liquid onto their food everyday. With proper care you can improve not just their condition, but their quality of life. Because every cat deserves a comfortable old age.

If a dog jumps in your lap, it is because he is fond of you; but if a cat does the same thing, it is because your lap is warmer.

Alfred North Whitehead (1861 - 1947)

Gecko Theatre

We have moved.

The Gecko, Motueka's independent cinema is now located at 23b Wallace Street. If you are unsure where that is, maybe across from the Bakehouse and the back of Books and More, close to the information centre might give you a clearer idea.

The Gecko will now have two screening rooms, fully air conditioned as well as a proper little cafe. We are also applying for a beer and wine licence, to compliment our relaxed atmosphere.

Films we will be opening with:

INTERVIEW

<http://www.flicks.co.nz/movie.php?movieid=1007>

RED ROAD

<http://www.flicks.co.nz/movie.php?movieid=999>

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

<http://www.flicks.co.nz/movie.php?movieid=994>

LOVE IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA

<http://www.flicks.co.nz/movie.php?movieid=1009>

I SERVED THE KING OF ENGLAND

<http://www.flicks.co.nz/movie.php?movieid=1029>

BONNEVILLE... and more

The Gecko would like to thank you for your support during our first five years, and we look forward to seeing you in our bigger, better new location. Our new phone number is 03-528 9996.

Editor: a person employed by a newspaper, whose business it is to separate the wheat from the chaff, and to see that the chaff is printed.

Elbert Hubbard (1856 - 1915)

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.

Fighting Poverty – One cup at a time!

By Paula Short

New Zealand has been slow in catching on, but it seems we are beginning to embrace a new form of consumerism – fair trade. Fair Trade is the new way to shop for products that are not just environmentally but also socially sound. Despite the promises of the proponents of globalisation, the poor are getting poorer and the rich richer, child labour is still common, women are still undervalued, and ecosystems all over the world are in decline. Fair Trade aims to address these problems by working with producers in developing countries to help them set social and environmental standards and to pay them a fair price for their products. Fair Trade provides a “hand up” not a “hand out”.

Fair Trade Fortnight is 3 May to 18 May. It is a nationwide initiative aimed at promoting fair trade practices. Trade Aid will have some local activities on and there is a nationwide “Junk to Green Funk” competition and an art auction which will raise money for the Enviroschools programme. There is also teaching material available for schools. Check out their website for more information on these initiatives.

On Friday 16 May Oxfam is hosting New Zealand’s Biggest Coffee Break. Last year over 5000 Kiwis, from Gore to Kaitaia, took part in the first Biggest Coffee Break, raising awareness and raising money to help struggling coffee growers work their way out of poverty. Get involved this year. It’s easy. All you have to do is organise a Coffee Break for your friends or workmates

during Fair Trade Fortnight – in your home, at work, at your coffee group, at your school ... wherever!

Jump on to the Oxfam website and register. They will send you a free fund-raising kit with everything you need (including Atomic Fairtrade coffee) to introduce your friends to Fairtrade coffee and to raise money to support Oxfam’s work. Although New Zealand’s Biggest Coffee Break 2008 officially takes place on 16 May, you can hold your Coffee Break at any time during Fair Trade Fortnight.

Don’t stop drinking Fair Trade coffee after the Coffee Break. Local coffee makers Pomeroy’s have their own brand of organic fair trade coffee, called Toxic. The Four Square stocks this range as well as some Trade Aid teas and Trade Aid chocolate (of which I am their biggest customer!).

Check out: Oxfam www.oxfam.org.nz, Trade Aid www.tradeaid.co.nz, Fair Trade www.fairtrade.net

Quotable Quotes

He is one of those people who would be enormously improved by death.

H. H. Munro (Saki)

Mapua School

My first Principal position. I remember waking the morning after being told that I had won the position of Principal at Mapua School. I lay there hardly able to believe my good fortune. Winning a position like this at such a top school in such a premium location was a real coup. To be honest I was pretty chuffed! The welcome that I received at the powhiri late in 2006 was also something that will stay with me forever. I remember a flood of emotion that washed over me which would bond me to this place.

Over the time of my principalship, we as a school have achieved a great deal. The school is in fantastic heart and wonderful things continue to happen here daily. All school staff are completely dedicated to quality teaching and learning which can be seen by the outcomes of students and I thank all staff for that.

The community has also been outstanding. I appreciated the way that the community stepped up when we were looking at our new Vision as your input was important to us – after all the school is only here because of you. From the community consultation and much work at school we were able to develop our Vision, To Be All I Can. The beliefs as a staff that evolved from this have shaped the way of the future for the school. It is great to hear that our school children are living the vision on an everyday basis whether at school, on the sports field or in the community.

However, I leave with some sadness knowing that the property projects we started will not be complete. The resource room is finally designed and is now going

out to tender. The completion of this will lead to Rooms 3 and 4 being renovated and buildings being brought into line with the style and design of other buildings. Also during 2008 the whole school will be painted which will give it a new aesthetic appeal.

My departure will lead to Mandy Stephens, our current Deputy Principal, taking over a shared teaching/principal role for Term 2 and I wish her well for that. I know that she will do an outstanding job in the swively chair.

Neil Chalmers is Mapua School's new Principal. He will begin at the beginning of Term 3 (Monday 21 July). The Board of Trustees completed a very thorough process to appoint the new Principal and I know he will continue along the path of progress that the school is currently on.

And what will I be up to? I will take up the position of Principal of Clifton Terrace School in Nelson at the beginning of Term 2. This was driven by my desire to spend more time with my family in Nelson as I found that the distance from home and time taken in the new job were taking a toll on family time. Currently my three children attend Clifton Terrace and I look forward to being able to share in their education.

So, I bid you all farewell. Thanks for the wonderful memories and for being the wonderful community that you are. I hope you all realise how special your village is and the importance of community spirit this wonderful place exudes.

Rob Wemyss

Mapua Health Centre

A variety of bugs have been going around including a transient infection of the inner ears which produces bouts of dizziness, vertigo and nausea – called acute vestibulitis – and usually due to a viral infection which is self-limiting but which may require medication to deal with the symptoms, as well as caution re driving and using machinery; and a diarrhoea and vomiting infection which again is usually self-limiting but requires care to avoid dehydration, especially in young children.

There have also been a few cases of a more serious type of gastro-enteritis which tends to cause a more persistent diarrhoea which may be accompanied with colicky pains and the passage of blood. If in doubt please contact the medical centre on 540-2211.

This year's flu vaccine is now available. The vaccine is free for those over 65 years and for anyone with respiratory problems requiring regular use of inhalers, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, kidney disease, cancer, certain neurological conditions and auto-immune disease. If you would like to receive immunization please phone the practice nurse.

This month's health events include:

- 1 World Asthma Day www.asthma.co.nz
- 2-8 Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal
www.salvationarmy.org.nz
- 1-8 Rape Awareness Week www.rapecrisis.org.nz
- 10 Balloon Day Asthma & Respiratory Foundation
www.asthmaco.nz
- 5-12 ME Awareness Week - 12th International CFS
Awareness Day www.anzmes.org.nz
- 7-11 WestPacChopperAppeal
info@rescuehelicopter.org.nz
- 7-13 NZ Sign Language Week www.nzslta.org.nz

- 12 International Nurses Day
www.nursingcouncil.org.nz
- 13-20 Hospice Appeal Week Hospice New Zealand
www.hospice.org.nz
- 13-17 Allergy Awareness Week redalert@allergy.org.nz
- 14 Plunket Founders Day www.plunket.org.nz
- 15 International Day of Families www.un.org
- 25-31 Heart Children Awareness Week
www.heartchildren.org.nz
- 26-1 Youth Week www.nzaahd.co.nz
- 31 World No-Tobacco Day www.who.int
- 31-6 Infant Gastric Awareness Week
www.cryingoverspiltmilk.co.nz

And on the subject of cyberspace, ACC has just launched some new websites aimed at helping more Kiwis who play sport or enjoy physical activities to stay injury-free.

- www.activesmart.co.nz (aimed at runners, walkers and cyclists)
- www.snowsmart.co.nz (for skiers and snowboarders)
- www.netballsmart.co.nz
- www.soccersmart.co.nz Anyone can visit the websites and access a range of fitness and injury-prevention information. In some instances, people may be advised to have their health checked by a health practitioner before beginning training. Please note, ACC does not cover the cost of these visits.

Sam's Spam

May 2008

Hello readers.

This month's column is a whole lot of shortcuts for when using Microsoft Word. For example, when you want to select the whole document (eg, if you want to change the whole document's font style or size), then just press the Control button and A (Control = Ctrl at the left-hand side on the bottom row of your keyboard). Using these should really save you a lot of time.

Action / What you want to do Press control + (letter)

Open	O
Undo	Z
Save	S
Print	P
Select whole document	A
Cut	X
Paste	V
Bold	B
Italic	I
Underline	U
Align Right	R
Align Centre	E
Align Left	L
Copy	C

Free download of the Month: Microsoft Office online templates

For those of you with Microsoft office, there are a whole load of free templates you can download from the internet. Despite the name, these are not just for people working in offices, although there are such things as templates for memo's and reports.

There are free templates for a whole range of items, including greeting cards, gift certificates, award certificates, student presentations, resumes and CVs etc. One of the most popular is a template for making a Family Book. It has all the templates you need for making your family tree and recording your family history—a great free way of putting all your information together in a professional way.

Go to: <http://office.microsoft.com>, then just click on the 'Templates' button at the top of the screen.

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, designing websites, setting up DVD players etc (540-2804). Average job price only \$15. Bye for now!

FUND RAISING IS GETTING HARDER

The region's annual Funding Expo, a Mecca for the region's community groups, is scheduled for 16 May, with speakers and displays on topics ranging from Getting your Message Out to why the job of funder is not as easy as it sounds.

This is the third year the expo has been held, and it is now seen as a reliable one-stop shop for community groups reliant on funding from government and other agencies and charities.

Organiser Judene Edgar says, "Trying to find the necessary funds for community groups is getting harder and more competitive. The funding expo is designed to provide groups with the information they need to work smarter, rather than harder to secure funding, so they can get back to the real work of their organisations."

MAPUA PLAYCENTRE

We are all excitedly awaiting our makeover this month at Playcentre. No, not botox and collagen all round, but the installation of coloured pinboard on all the internal walls as well as new carpet for our baby area. The new carpet comes just in time, as we have new babies joining us every week at Playcentre now! As a first time Mum or Dad, you may never have considered bringing your baby along, but everyone needs support as a new parent, and that's exactly what you will find at Playcentre.

This term we start our Tuesday sessions - 9.30 - 12.00, as well as the usual Mondays and Fridays. Come along and meet us at Mapua Playcentre!!

MAPUA PLAYCENTRE



84 Aranui Rd, Tel: 540 2386
(We're behind the tennis courts)
A staff/ parent run Early Education
Centre for 0-6 yr olds.
Individual learning plans
Te Whariki Early Childhood
Curriculum

- Many different activities, including outings, with emphasis on play.
- Large indoor and outdoor areas.
- Fees \$50 per family/term.
- WINZ subsidy available (1st 3 visits free)
- New families always welcome

Those attending will be able to attend workshops that offer inside information on finding funding sources through the Funding Information Service, success stories from the IHC's national fund-raising and volunteer programmes, learning some dos and don'ts for successful grant applications, learning new ways of promoting your organisation and finding out more about the Charities Commission. There will also be displays from the J R McKenzie Trust, local councils, Canterbury Community Trust, Department of Internal Affairs, Nelson Arts Council and others, offering participants the opportunity to talk directly to funders and to learn about other funding opportunities.

The expo is on Friday 16 May at the Hope Community Church on Ranzau Road opposite Ranzau School. Doors open at 9.30am. Entry is free.

There will be a cafe with hand-made snacks, meals and beverages during the lunch break. If people would like more information they can contact Tara Cater, Tasman District Council ph. 543-8400 or tara.cater@tdc.govt.nz.

More information can be obtained from Judene Edgar, Tasman Fundraising & Development Ltd, Ph/ Fax: 544-1927, Mobile: 021 54 1927

TEAM QUIZ NIGHT

**FUND-RAISER for Hills
Community Church building**

7.30pm Friday 16 May
at Mapua Hall

Organisations and Groups can
make up a team of six members
Entry fee \$36 per team \$6 per person

This promises to be a fun evening
First prize – \$100 cash

Lucky draws & raffles Tea & Coffee
Register your team by 14 May by phoning
Pamelene Cuttle 540-2466
Helen Bibby 540-3830

Entry fee on the night

PROBUS CLUB OF MAPUA & DISTRICT

The guest speaker for the club meeting on 4 April was Senior Sergeant Eric Davies of the police traffic division. Eric began his talk using a video display unit of his early days living close to Mt. Messenger in Taranaki. His first job was driving milk tankers around the local dairy farms.

In 1970 Eric joined the Ministry of Transport, training at its school in Trentham. His introduction to his new job was patrolling on a Norton motorbike. He was able to drive his first patrol car, a Mark IV Ford Zodiac in 1971, the same year that the ministry introduced \$41 instant speeding fines.

In 1973 Eric moved to Motueka, working as a team with Stuart Chalmers. They covered Golden Bay, Murchison, and the Nelson district. Besides his normal transport work Eric trained to become a volunteer St. John Ambulance driver. He was promoted to sergeant and moved to Auckland as a driver tutor. His next move was to Dunedin, where he was in charge of traffic officer training. From there it was a return to Motueka. Eric was able to show photos such as one of an old burning patrol car used for officer-training at an accident scene. There were photos of the first "booze" bus that operated in Nelson area in 1966.

In 2005 Eric was able to spend time working with the State Traffic Department of Victoria, Australia.

His visit was to compare their traffic management to his knowledge of the New Zealand traffic systems. Eric showed several photos of bad driving practices such as a car overtaking a truck on a double yellow line, and a truck being driven on the wrong side of the road while the driver was using a cellphone. Eric considers that the use of cellphones should be banned while driving, as is the case in Australia.


The club's mini-speaker was Bill Williams. Bill was born in the English village of Kingsland, Herefordshire, in 1926. He attended the local school that was able recently to celebrate its 300-year anniversary. During the Second World War in 1944 Bill went to Derby to train for the infantry, joining the Welsh Guards. He was posted to Palestine after the war with the Coldstream Guards

On completion of his military service Bill studied agriculture at the Worcester Agricultural Institute, working with Hereford cattle. Through the Hereford Society he was able to get a contract to deliver a herd of cattle to an out back farm in Adelaide. He spent several years working on farms in the outback. His next move was to Sydney to catch the Sunderland flying boat to Auckland. A friend of Bill's had relations running a sheep station in an isolated area of the King Country, where he was able to get a job.

Bill's next move was a job as a truck driver delivering bulk sugar to the Auckland docks. From there he moved to Wellington to study art at the polytechnic during the day, and worked as a night porter at the Grand Hotel. During that time he met his wife, Karen. From Wellington it was back to the UK where they lived on a houseboat on the Thames. They returned to Wellington with Bill studying at Victoria University for a teaching degree. For 10 years he taught children with learning disabilities.

Bill and Karen moved to Mapua where they set up a restaurant named the "Inlet," now the Village Inn. Since Bill's time in Mapua he has been involved in challenging the use of the FCC site. He has been on the Ratepayers' Association, and established the Mapua/Ruby Bay and District Community Trust, of which he is a trustee.

David Higgs



**GREEN PRESCRIPTION
'FINGER ON THE PULSE'
NOT GETTING THE WEIGHT
LOSS OR FITNESS RESULTS
YOU ARE HOPING FOR?**

***"if you always do what you've
always done, you'll always get
what you've always got!"***

In other words if you want to see results, you need to change your physical activity sometimes.... Do it for **LONGER**, work a bit **HARDER**, walk **FASTER**, do it **MORE OFTEN**. Even if you feel quite unfit you only need to do a little bit **MORE** to get results.

Getting bored? Have a go at something new, **dancing, home exercise videos, try hill walking, swimming**...whatever takes your fancy!!! Try it for the next 2 weeks and see the results for yourself.

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.

MAPUA Bowling Club

The club played host to the District Women's Champion of Champion fours bowling competition on Saturday 29 March. The competition is for the winning teams of each club to play in an elimination competition.

There was an entry from 10 teams from around the Nelson district. Unfortunately it was another day of playing in wet conditions. Most of the first round games were completed by 2pm by which time the rest of the days play was abandoned because of consistent rain. The competition was completed at Motueka the next day. The Mapua team of Allison Brett, Vickie Sixtus, Nancy Coeland and Jean Daubney lost to the Wakefield team on the last end—a very close game.

During the social afternoon bowls, on Thursday 27 March the club's flag was flown at half-mast in tribute to the passing of long-time club member Elston Blain. During his 10 years as an active member Elston was president for four years and secretary for three. He was also assistant greenkeeper, barman, and club entertainer. On 1 April friends and family gathered at the Annesbrook Community Church to celebrate Elston's life.. A number of people spoke of Elston's busy life, including his son, Tony Blain, with many humorous stories. Elston's long-time friend Margaret Kingsford and a jazz trio played items of popular music, ending the afternoon with "When the Saints Go Marching In".

The Mapua Bowling Club put on afternoon tea for which Nancy Coeland and her team of ladies had a busy morning preparing then a busy afternoon serving. The club would like to thank the Bain family for their bereavement donations to the club.

Saturday 5 April the club again played host to the District Champion of Champions bowling competition for the junior ladies pairs. The Mapua team of Allison Brett and Jean Daubney played the Richmond team. They were eliminated on the first round after a very close game. The tournament winners were Stoke.

Sunday 6 April the club held the mixed pairs 2-4-2 competition. Each bowler played 4 bowls. The first bowler played 2 bowls. They changed ends with the second bowler playing 4 bowls. They changed ends again for the first bowler playing his final 2 bowls. The day's bowling consisted of one game of 12 ends and the remaining 3 games of 10 ends. The competition was sponsored by the Nelson Building Society. There was a good turnout of teams with 16 teams using all 8 rinks. On completion of the day's bowling, Abbey the NBS representative talked about her company before giving out the prizes. The results were: Stoke (B Hodgson & P. Hodson with 4 wins, 15 ends and 45 pts) 1., Mapua (Paddy Hood & Nancy Coeland, with 4 wins, 23 ends & 65 pts) 2. Mapua (Frank & Joan Gibbison with 3 wins, 26 ends & 56 pts) 3. The lucky draw team went to D.Merrit of Stoke. NBS also donated a special prize draw. These went to two Mapua teams, a team from Ngatimoti and a team from Takaka. It was an enjoyable day's bowling with no wind and an overcast sky.

The club's closing day was held on Saturday 19 April. After three days of excessive rain, club greenkeeper Les Mc Alwee had to drain the flooded bowling green to a playable condition. There was a good turn-out of club members and visitors for the social afternoon bowls. On completion of the bowls, President Nancy McAlwee introduced Vice-President Arnie Ahnfeldt to present the various club championship trophies. The last of the competitions played was the mixed pairs for the Thomas Trophy. This was won by Nancy and John Coeland. After the prize-giving club members and family enjoyed a pot-luck tea and a pleasant social evening. The club's final social event held on 29 April was the ladies' Friendship Day fours competition, more often referred to as "Giggle Day". The ladies dress up in unconventional bowling clothes to have fun days bowling that is kindly sponsored by Tessa Mae's of Mapua.

David Higgs

Police Update

Hi to you all. I have just returned from two weeks holiday and I went biking on the rail trail in Central Otago. It was a great experience and the weather was very kind to us as well, so well worth while.

There was a spate of burglaries in the Motueka and Mapua area just before I left. Unfortunately several businesses in the Mapua Mall were targeted and attempts to burgle the Four Square Store and Perrys Autos were made unsuccessfully. A man was caught trying to sell to a Richmond second-hand dealer some property that had been stolen from Motueka. He told police that he had obtained the property from a man from the North Island who had gang associations and that this man had done several burglaries in the area.

Since this all of the burglaries have stopped, so I am hoping that the person has left the district.

It just proves the point that despite Mapua being in its own little quiet corner we are not totally protected from outside influences. It is very easy to get lax with locking your car in the driveway or closing the shed door, but do it long enough and you will be a victim eventually. Something for us all to think about.

With shorter days and some wet roads I urge you all to be extra alert on the road.

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

Mapua Occurrences:

March 27-28: Burglary of Mapua Mall, three shops entered

March 30-31: Attempted burglary at Perry's Autos and Mapua Four Square

March 31: Subaru car stolen from Iwa Street. Recovered on Spooners Range missing its wheels.

April 6: Petrol drive-off from Perry's Autos. Motueka female arrested

April 7: Car accident at Mahana

April 14: Car accident Main Road Mapua

VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

March-April call-outs

Mar 15: Bonfires at McKee Domain, out on arrival

Mar 19: Kitchen fire Motueka Post Office Hotel

Mar 20: Controlled burn near the Bluffs, action

Mar 22: Hop kiln fire Motueka

Mar 26: Horse rescue Pinehill Rd

Mar 27: Smoke-filled room Seaton Valley, plastic item near flue

Mar 30: Car fire Old Coach Rd, put out.

Apr 7: Car crash Sh60 & Dominion Rd, no action

Apr 7: Controlled burn out of control at Kina, put out

Apr 13: Driftwood fire at McKee Domain, put out

Apr 16: Water main burst Tahī St

Safety Tip – Made sure fireplaces are clear of objects, use the one-metre rule

Ian Goaten has passed his Volunteer recruit courses and is a full fire-fighter.

Ella Evans has passed the basic skills part of Volunteer recruit courses; due to an injury could not complete the whole course. Last month most of the brigade members went to Nelson Fire Station to train in the tower, which we use to upskill our breathing apparatus skills. With temperature up to 70C wearing full fire gear in the dark it is very hard work.

Garage Sale & Auction

Mapua Volunteer Fire Brigade has had a call for help from a local family. We need your help to answer their call.

Carolyn has advanced breast cancer and needs \$60,000 to pay for cancer drugs. The family have fully mortgaged their home and sold furniture and a vehicle to raise the money. But they are still not close to the money needed.

The Mapua Volunteer Fire Brigade are having a **Giant Garage Sale and Auction** at the Mapua Hall on **May 24th** starting at 9am. So please if you have any saleable goods, big or small that you wish to donate or something more valuable that you wish to auction (with 20% commission) please let us know.

You can either phone Graham Hay on Ph 5432565 to arrange collection, or drop them off at the Fire Station on a Thursday night (7pm - 9.30pm). With your help we can give Carolyn, her husband and their two young children a better and happier life.

Thank you - Mapua Volunteer Fire Brigade.



Hills Community Church

Building Right, Building Well

My father worked long hours as a design engineer in the tool and die industry then spent most weekends doing odd jobs around the house. He could fix or build just about anything. He even designed and built an octagon-shaped lake cabin. He pre-fabricated most of it in our back yard then hauled it three hours to the building site—needless to say he couldn't afford any mistakes ("measure twice, cut once").

Like most kids I wanted quality "Dad-time" so this meant hanging around the garage, his basement workshop or hopping in the car on Saturday morning for a quick run to the local hardware store or lumberyard. I attribute my keen interest in building materials, home repairs and anything mechanical to this early imprinting. I can spend hours at Mitre 10 just looking at stuff—which drives my husband nuts!

I learned a lot from my Dad. When it came to building he always stressed the importance of using the right tools for the job. I've seen this principle at work not only in structural building but also in building good relationships. Having the right tools can make a big difference in the success or failure of a relationship.

Here at Hills Community Church we want people to experience good, healthy relationships so we are offering for a second time the Alpha Marriage Course—a very practical course which gives any couple the tools to build a strong and healthy relationship that lasts a lifetime.

Over eight evenings couples will talk to one another about important issues that can get swept under the carpet in the rush of daily life. Topics include: recognising each other's needs, learning to communicate effectively, resolving conflict, healing past hurts, knowing how to make each other feel loved, relating to parents and in-laws, good sex, making time for each other and having fun together.

Privacy in the course is always respected. There is no group discussion or requirements to disclose anything about your relationship to anyone else. The course runs from 13 May to 17 June. For more information or registration contact: Ann-Marie or Roger 543-2700 (evenings).

Hills Community Church is also interested in helping people build a strong relationship with God. We offer numerous home groups for learning and sharing, we have vibrant ministries for children and youth and Sunday worship services that are uplifting and



The new church building well under way

encouraging. We are a community-based church—our doors are open to anyone seeking to build a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.

Rev Marilyn Loken, Minister, Hills Community Church

"In Christ Jesus the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit." Ephesians 2:21-22

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 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. 5th Sundays: one service @ 10.30am led by our Youth.

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

Mahana School



The end of term one at Mahana School was full of mixed emotions for the pupils, parents and staff as we farewelled our principal, middle-room teacher and teacher aide.

Although it is the end of an era for the school with the departure of familiar faces that have been around since as early as 1989 (when Rodger Smith began as principal, followed by Yvonne Barry a few years later and then Megan Godfrey in 2001) we have a fresh intake of teachers and a new principal, all keen to get started and take the school to new heights.

Justin Neal as incoming principal of Mahana has a good foundation to build on with the school having had seven ERO reports to date, all of them favourable. As Rodger stated in his farewell letter in the latest newsletter, people he has spoken with over his time there have all had a very high opinion of Mahana School. (Rodger's parting words can be viewed in the latest newsletter available on our website).

The momentum at Mahana is strong and as always we have had huge support from parents taking time out from their own busy schedules to help us get our kids to and from a large assortment of events this past term.

The most recent adventure for our year 7 students was a kayaking expedition from Kaiteriteri to Split Apple Rock. Mahana has always had a focus on outdoor pursuits for our seniors and kayaking was an exciting and new experience for many of them. Using a kayak with a rudder for the first time can take a bit of getting used to!

The students were a little wary of phase two of the activity – learning to roll in the single kayaks when they returned to Kaiteriteri – but they courageously stepped up to the plate. In fact, their comments after the day all highlighted that they had even considered this to be one

of the more enjoyable activities! The boost to their confidence was fantastic.

The legacy of Dr Seuss's Cat in the Hat lives on strong at Mahana School with the junior class recently celebrating the Cat's 51st birthday. It was great to see the parents again getting in behind the activities, providing baking for the party and dressing many of the children in the renowned red, black and white colours of the mischievous cat. Kath, our junior teacher, is proactive in rewarding student's efforts, letting them bring the Cat in the Hat mascot home for a night with the accompanying book for the children to record his stay (and adventures). This makes very entertaining reading. Dr Seuss would have been inspired!

We're looking forward to having our kids home for the term break, aren't we? The children will be keen to return in term two on 5 May to welcome their new principal and middle-room teacher with a powhiri, and have been practising at every opportunity. We look forward to sharing the day with some of the pupils from Hope School who will be there to support their popular deputy principal as he begins his new role as principal of Mahana.

As always, parents with prospective new enrolments are invited to give Jenny in the office a call to arrange a visit, ph 543-2887.

For further information about Mahana School and to view our children's activities, visit us on www.mahana.school.nz. Much of the content on the site has been contributed by our pupils.

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

MAPUA LIBRARY

Ph 540-2545

**Annual General Meeting
7.30pm on 13 May at the
library**



Three long-serving members of our committee are resigning at the upcoming AGM. Therefore we are seeking enthusiastic people to come and join the committee. Our philosophy is to focus on keeping the flavour of our local volunteer library true to the original concept of free access for all, which was established in the 1940s when the library began. Since then a steady stream of local people pitching in to help has kept the library running for over 60 years. If you have an interest in the library, and like what we do for the community, please come along and add your bit. We need you! Any enquiries to Sarah at 540-2698

Thanks to the generosity of Neil Barnes at I.S.L. the library now has a second computer for administration. This is going to speed up and streamline our book-processing and cataloguing. We will also start collating a computer database of all library book stock. The non-fiction database is largely complete, and the fiction will gradually be added over time. Unfortunately internet access is not available at present.

REMINDER

**Mapua/Ruby Bay
Community Trust**
will consider applications for
grants on 13th May.
Please post your applications
to **POBox 19 Mapua**

For the next 12 months we will be collecting statistics on the number of books issued from the various sections of the library. We did this exercise a couple of years ago and found it extremely useful for planning, book-purchasing, and grant applications, and feel it is time to do it again. It will be interesting to compare the data to see what has changed.

Sarah McLeod

Library Hours:

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday	2pm – 4.30pm
Wednesday	5pm-7pm
Thursday	10am – 12.30pm

Letters to the Editor...



Beach/walkway access

I often stay in Ruby Bay and walk along the beach while I am there. I have been caught out a couple of times now, not knowing where the public access OFF the beach is...I've been wandering along and the tide has come in, and I don't know how much further I have to (or can) walk until I get to a public accessway. Unfortunately in a couple of instances I have walked along the top of a seawall that has been someone's private property (and they have let me know!).

I think it would be a great idea if some signage is placed at each public accessway, showing the other public accessways on/off the beach and how far along the beach they are, and with an indication of how far along the beach one can walk at high tide, before needing to scramble over boulders/rocks. Also some information on exactly where the public/private boundary is (ie, the top of the seawall is private, rocks and boulders are public...if this is correct).

Who would I need to contact to make this suggestion? I'm sure the local residents along the waterfront would appreciate and support these signs, as it means that people are less likely to intrude on their private property (albeit inadvertently).

Additionally, I have noticed that some waterfront residents seem to dispose of garden rubbish by placing it on the beachfront/rocks. I am surprised by this—imagine if we all took our garden rubbish down to the beach and left it there! In one instance where I walked on private property, I did so because garden rubbish had been placed on the rocks in front of the property, making these dangerous and slippery to walk on.

I think the beach is a wonderful part of Ruby Bay, and I get great pleasure from walking along it, as I am sure a great number of other visitors and residents do. If you could please let me know who I can/should contact to make this request (maybe someone else has made it?) I would be most grateful.

Megan Inwood

Sarah McLeod responds on behalf of the Mapua Districts Cycle and Walkways Group

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to Megan Inwood's letter. It raises some interesting issues. I assume the writer is referring to the Ruby Bay beach from the Old Mill Walkway, which begins near the school, to Pine Hill Reserve, near the beginning of Pinehill Road.

I have observed when walking this stretch of beach that it is difficult to see where access on and off the beach is. At the Old Mill Walkway end, erosion and earthworks have meant the signage has been moved around on several occasions. At the Ruby Bay shop the access sign is hard to spot also. I am quite happy to liaise with the Tasman District Council to rectify this. An example of the ideal sign is the one at the exit off the causeway near the Leisure Park, which accurately describes the 'Mapua Tidal Track', and clearly refers to the walk being restricted at high tide.

As a group that seeks walkway/cycleways in our area, we (Mapua Districts Cycle & Walkways Group) like to maintain a positive relationship with landowners regarding private property. Part of this is advising members and anyone else who asks, if it is private property either seek the permission of the landowner before walking there, or be safe rather than sorry and remain on public land.

Providing information such as exactly how far one can walk along the beach at and around high tide on signage is difficult as the tides are variable. It would seem sensible to retrace your steps if you find you have miss-timed your walk. It's a great walk in both directions!

Most of the sea walls constructed along the beach have been placed right on property boundaries with substantial financial contributions from the landowners. While it could be argued they have encroached on public land because of their width, walking halfway up the wall is quite difficult, and possibly hazardous and could contribute to the breakdown of the wall. There are several notices advising that it is private property along this stretch of beach. The exception is the sea wall protecting the Old Mill Walkway, which was constructed and paid for by Tasman District Council. The land immediately behind this wall is public walkway.

Cont'd on page 24

Letters to the Editor...



Letter cond'd

The second point made of garden rubbish being placed on the beach is concerning. Given that we ask the public to respect private property and remain on the public beach, it would seem courteous of private property owners to show similar restraint and dispose of their rubbish in a more considerate manner. It would be as if someone living in Aranui Road piled his or her garden rubbish on the public footpath. Most people would find this unacceptable. I would suggest when it is observed that rubbish has been put on the beach that a phone call is made to Beryl Wilkes of Reserves at Tasman District Council. If she isn't able to help, she will know who can.

Our group is an informal lobby group of around 38 people concerned with local walkway and cycleway issues. We meet two or three times a year and communicate by email in between. Anyone is welcome to join. For enquiries, or to raise a local walkways/cycleways issue, please phone me at 540-2698.

Sarah McLeod

By-Pass at Mid-way Point

Transit New Zealand has announced that the last landowner of the projected highway rights-of-way land had made a settlement with Transit. Good news in that it removes a potential delay to a start date. An interesting development as well is that Transit contractors are removing trees from a portion of the by-pass right of way adjacent to Chaytor Road. I'm not sure what the significance of this might be, but hopefully it is a reflection of Transit's optimism that the funds for constructing the by-pass will be forthcoming as scheduled.

Speaking to that, on 14 April I spoke with Andrew Quinn, the Transit NZ Regional Project Manager. Why speak to him? Because all of the by-pass plans, designs, consents etc, and most important of all the costings of the project, are now in Wellington in the hands of New Zealand's transport authorities.

These authorities, you will recall, are the ones making the all important "Construction Funding" decisions for the by-pass project. To remind you, these authorities are the Transit NZ Board and the Transport NZ Board. This marks the mid-way point of the project.

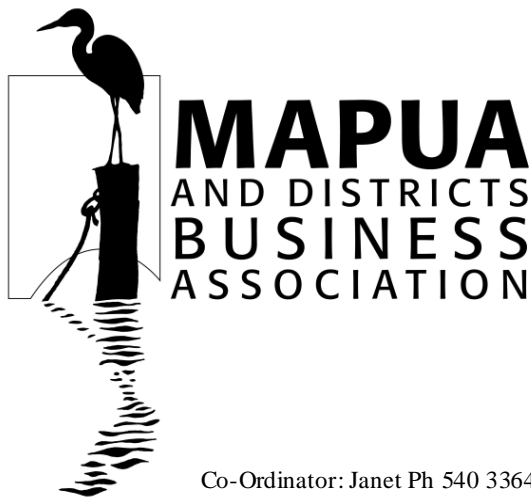
By the time you read this on 1 May the Transit NZ Board will have examined and approved all the facts and figures concerning the project and will, hopefully, have passed on their recommendation for approval of the project to the Transport NZ Board.

As I have written before, Transport NZ are the "funders" for all highway projects up and down the country. The Ruby Bay by-pass isn't the only project they will be examining and deciding on. That very stark fact brings us back to what I have been harping on about for the last three months—the political realities of central government's commitment and apportioning of the petrol taxes we pay every time we're at the pump.

So, if you favour the Ruby Bay by-pass project, it is still very important and timely to contact our local TDC and our central government elected representatives. Remember, the government has made a commitment of over \$900 million to fund current roading projects. It 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 member of parliament, Damien O'Connor, at doconnor@ministers.govt.nz; and our list member of parliament at chris.auchinvole@parliament.co.nz.

Remind these people of the government's commitment. Remind them that you as a taxpayer expect it to be honoured and actioned. The Transport NZ Board meets early this month (May). Its decision is critical to the progress of the by-pass. Please lend your support.

Hugh Gordon



DID YOU KNOW

The Mapua and Districts Business Association produces the local community telephone directory?

Planning is underway to produce the 14th edition for 2008 – 2009. This directory is distributed FREE to all households and businesses in our district.

If you are a local business that is not currently a member of the MDBA and interested in advertising in the directory then let us know via e-mail to coordinator@mapua.biz

MEMBER PRO-

Rare Creations

It's been two years now since **Rare Creations** on Aranui Road in Mapua, opened its doors for the first time.

We thought our showroom would be large enough, but now we have run out of space.

There are so many furniture artists all over New Zealand, it is a pity we can only display a fraction of them.

We may have to think about relocating in a couple of years to larger premises. We want to stay in the Mapua area, just because we really enjoy it here.

35% of our furniture is sold directly from our gallery to all over the world, with 65% of what we make being custom-made, one off, unusual pieces of furniture for customers who are very particular and appreciate high quality workmanship and finish. Something most joineries can't be bothered with.

Our gallery is open most of the time, even in winter, so bring your visitors along.

Remember, we are a fine Furniture Gallery where you can browse in and out as many times as you like.

Opening Hours
Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri 9a – 5p
Wed 12noon – 6pm
Sat 10a – 1pm

MEMBER PRO-



Offering yoga classes and workshops.

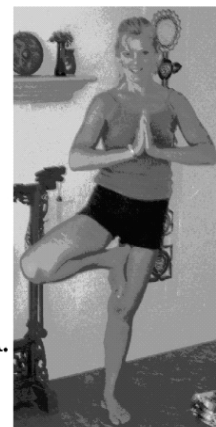
Robin Goette relocated to Ruby Bay in 2003 and fell in love with the area and community.

After 25 years having a professional career in marketing and advertising, Robin began a new career teaching yoga. She has studied, trained and practised yoga for over 15 years and is Yoga Alliance accredited and a member of I.Y.T.A.

A dream was realized when Robin opened the studio last year. Robin teaches a blend of many different yoga styles...bringing focus to the union of body, mind and spirit through the breath.

Robin's wish for the studio is to create a loving, peaceful and healing environment where people can come and experience the JOY of YOGA.

Visit rubybayyoga.com for class details or call Robin at 540 2113



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

Rugby: Upper Moutere Rangers Senior Rugby Team, trainings Tuesdays & Thursday nights, Upper Moutere Sports Complex, 6pm. For more details phone Tony (Coach) 0273 089047, Alby (Manager) 0272 290057 or Chris (Committee Member) 540 3703. Upcoming home games: 1.15 17 May Takaka; 1.15 24 May Collingwood.

Proposed Life Drawing Class: in Mapua –daytime, Tracey Duncan - tutor. We need more people to make it happen. If you are interested or know of someone who could be, please contact Pat Perry 540 2805, Karen Williams 540 2528

Mapua Community Library AGM Tuesday 13 May, 7.30pm at the Library, cnr of Aranui Rd & Toru St. The Library is a community run facility reliant on volunteers to keep it going. We need new members on the Committee, and we need to hear from you about how the Library should be run. That means we want to see YOU at our AGM! Refreshments will be provided. Enquiries: Sarah McLeod, 540 2698

Operation Cover Up - 'Providing warmth and comfort for children in Eastern Europe'. Anyone knitting or crocheting for this project can contact Elisabeth VandenBerg 540 2949 (co-ordinator for the Nelson region) if they have any queries.

KIDPOWER Holiday Workshop for 8-12 yr olds, Thursday 1st May, 9am - 3pm. An effective way to build confidence and personal safety skills through hands-on practice with highly qualified instructors.

FULLPOWER Workshops for women, Sunday 4th May 1-3pm, for men , 3.30-5.30pm, and combined, 10am-12pm. A practical personal safety course. Get experience in how you can react in tricky situations and gain peace of mind.

KIDPOWER Parent/Child Workshop for 4-7 year olds, Sat 10th May, 1.00 - 3.30pm. Have fun with your child(ren). Gain positive, non-frightening tools for effective safety education in your family. Registrations essential. Flexible fee. Call 543 2669 for further information.

Manuka Firewood: Dry, not much left now so be in quick! Ph 540 3575

For rent: Waterfront property, fully furnished, available short term over the winter months. Ph 540 3575.

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

Fabulous Therapy room or office to rent in village centre. Light, airy, quiet. 3 other practitioners in building. Group room also available. Tel 5402705

Probus Club meets first Fridays, Mapua Hall 1.30pm. All retirees most welcome. Enquiries to Pres. Laurie Metcalf 540 2295, Secr. Margaret Butchart 5402686

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.

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. In addition to our usual meeting on May 17th we are planning a mid year lunch on May 29th. Please telephone Valerie if you are not signed up and would like to come along. Enquiries: Val Roche 540 3685

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

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: Lisa Gant 543 2530, Tressa Waynan 540 2632.

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

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