

EUREKA EXPRESS

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APRIL 2010



Duck Shooting Starts

1st May

GUEST EDITORIAL

Hi Folks

Through life one moves from place to place for work etc in endeavouring to find the locality that best suits you – the district of Eureka is hard to beat.

Thirty-two years ago we moved from Otorohanga to farm on Seddon Road. We adopted Eureka as well as Puketaha as our district, attending farm discussion group and Young Wives club. It took a while to get services to Seddon Road – like telephone, mail delivery at the gate, also many years before the road was tarsealed, so communication was to travel to the neighbours - over lots of cups of tea the problems of the world were solved.

People of Eureka have a great community spirit – looking out for each other and assistance is never far away. With this mind nine years ago we crossed the railway line to take up residence at the end of Eureka Road – we had found our locality.

Through the years we have made many terrific friends that in latter years many of us have traveled together to distant lands ... and are still friends on arriving home.

Even though there is now emails, mobile phones & texts, there is always time for a cup of tea and great conversation.

Mike & Joy Stokes

RAINFALL

	March 2010	Year to 31 st March
Total (mm)	13	282
Average (1994-2010)	70.5	225
Difference	-57.5	+57

Rainfall recorded on 6 days.

Previous lowest March total in recording period was 2004 with 19mm



EUREKA EXPRESS

ADVERTISING RATES		CONTACTS – Gail or Gayle	
Classified Advertisements	Free	Gail Meyall (Editor)	Gayle Orr (Treasurer)
Small Business Advertisements	\$10 / month	70 Eureka Road	1139 SH26, Eureka
• x 10 insertions	\$80 / year	Ph 8241 758	R D 6, HAMILTON 3286
One Third Page Advertisement	\$15 / month	Fax 8241 028	Ph 8241 713
• x 10 insertions	\$120 / year	e-mail:	Fax –
One Half Page Advertisement	\$20 / month	gallendbarrv@slingshot.co.nz	e-mail: gorr@xtra.co.nz
• x 10 insertions	\$160 / year		

Snippets

Donation Thanks: to both Angela Goulstone and Grant Collingwood. Your support is greatly appreciated



Birth: New Baby Congratulations to Philip and Joelean Mayall of Eureka Road who welcomed with love a bonny son, Shaun Henry, on April 17. A dear wee brother for Cameron, Renee and Ashleigh and another lovely grandson for Gail and Barry Mayall, also of Eureka Road. Best wishes to all.



And congratulations also to new grandparents Neil and Claire Hintz of Eureka Road who welcomed a beautiful grand-daughter, Micaela, in March. A darling daughter for Keirryn and her partner Brooke who live in Wellington. Very best wishes to all.

Welcome to Eureka: to Ming and Leelee Ng who have bought the Thomas property on SH26. Ming and Leelee have two grown sons, Kevin, who is working in Hong Kong, and William who is at Massey University in Palmerston North. A warm welcome to you both. Phone 8241160

A fond Farewell from us all in Eureka to Carol Dobbe who is leaving Eureka Motors after more than 3 years as Colin's cheerful and efficient assistant. We will miss you, Carol but wish you all the best for the future.

RD 7 Box holders: From 1 May your new RD7 contractor will be Gary Self who can be contacted on phone 0274 55 77 68. Thanks go to Sally and Erna for their dedicated service over the past five years.

Welcome back to Eureka: to John and Annmarie Hulley and family who spent the last few months giving Oz a try but are now happily settled back on Buckley Farms on Waverley Road. A warm welcome back to you all.

Capping Congratulations: to Michael Goulding who will graduate from Waikato University with a BEMech (Hons) degree on Monday May 3 supported by his proud parents Richard and Jill Goulding of Friedlander Road. Michael has secured a two year graduate position with a New Plymouth firm and has already started work. Congratulations Michael and you are wished every success in the future.

Tertiary Studies. Another school leaver to embark on University studies is Amelia Griffin of Manor Park. Amelia has gone down to Massey in Palmerston North to do a double Bachelor of Science majoring in Genetics. Go well, Amelia.

Young Gun Farmer: Congratulations to Craig Griffin of Manor Park who entered the Dairy Farm Trainee of the Year and came 4th overall for the Waikato region. Well done, Craig and all the best for your farming future.

Giant Pumpkin Success: Congratulations to Dinah Booth of Eureka Road who entered a giant pumpkin growing competition organized by the Cambridge Scouts. Dinah's large orange pumpkin entry weighed in 4th heaviest at 75 kg, and another of her entries, fondly named 'Cellulite' won 1st prize in the Most Unusual Category.

Winners of the heaviest category were the Brunton family (of Tauwhare Homekills) whose entry weighed in a whopping 171 kg! Congratulations!

This successful competition raised enough funds to send three scouts to the next Jamboree. Sounds like fun – the pumpkins growing that is. Who would be keen to give it a try as a local competition next summer?



SNIPPETS CONTINUED

Eureka Express e-mail address: A new address is up and running (in addition to Gail's and Gayle's) and may be easier to remember. Try: editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz for all your news, queries, suggestions, articles etc etc.

Shirley Hinton

10-9-1922 to 9-4-2010

Sincere condolences are extended to Ashley and Glynis Hinton and Troy and Michelle Hinton-Bosch and their families on the recent death of Ashley's mother and Troy's Grandma, Mrs Shirley Hinton.

Shirley and the late Frank Hinton spent the first 35 years of their married life in Eureka where they raised their family of three, Trevor, Wendy, and Ashley. Troy is now the 5th generation to be farming the Hinton land cnr Morrinsville /Hinton Roads. Frank and Shirley were real identities in Eureka for so many years prior to retiring to Mt Maunganui in 1984 where Frank died in 2003. Shirley was a much-loved mother, mother-in-law, grandma and great-grandma who will be greatly missed



EUREKA BADMINTON CLUB



JUNIOR CLUB NEWS

Same great, friendly club...new location... new club night...

Junior badminton is set to start again on Wednesday 21 April 2010 from 6pm until 7.30pm. At our recent AGM, held on 29 March, it was decided to relocate the junior club to Matangi Hall. Over the years alot of badminton has been played at the Eureka Hall, so we will miss our familiar court and all the memories. The decision to relocate is due to convenience for the parents who run the junior club and that Matangi Hall has two courts. We think this will give us a lot more badminton!

Bryce Silvester has agreed to run juniors, capably assisted by Trisha Benge and Maureen Vink. Leanne Silvester is unable to continue taking badminton and we all sincerely thank Leanne for her commitment over the years...we will miss you Leanne.

Junior is for children aged 8 years and upwards. We look forward to seeing new members and catching up with past members on opening night. For enquiries please contact Trisha Benge 829 5531 or Maureen Vink 824 0715.



MARKET PLACE



HOUSE FOR RENT:

3 bedroom Initial house with double garage attached for rent. Large outside deck with BBQ area. No dogs. Possible to rent paddock around house at neg. Price. Phone 8241 891 evenings.

WORK WANTED: handyman available for section/farm maintenance. No heavy lifting. Able to drive tractors and do some general work. Phone Ace on 8241 891.

WORK WANTED:

41 yr old farm assistant with 18 months dairy experience, looking for a Farm Assistant position to start 1 June 2010.

Able to ride 2 and 4 wheeler bikes, tractor experience and licences. Good with stock. Works well with others and independently. Please contact Shane Cowling 07 8241 396 or 0275574263

DON'T FORGET MUM ON MOTHERS DAY, SPOIL HER:

"NEW" Oasis Beauty Rose Damask Hand & Nail Cream 100g (Certified organic flaxseed oil, shea butter and rose damask absolute the purest form of the rose). \$27.50 OR

Treat mum to a half hour pampering hands treatment including nail painting and a Rose Damask Hand & Nail Cream for: \$45.00 OR

Rose Damask Hand & Nail Cream, 'Escentials' Beauty Soap 100g, 'Escentials' Unwind oil, Purse pack of pretty tissues. All packaged in a gorgeous organza drawstring bag for: \$45.00

Gift vouchers also available for beauty treatments or retail products.

Bella Vi Cosmetics, Oasis Beauty Skincare/Baby Products, Skin Deep Body Products

From: The Beauty House, Jacqueline Jones, Beautician, Ph: 824 0950

EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION RESULTS

SENIORS

1 ST	Cameron Bargh	9 years
2 nd	Taitym Stokes	8 years
3 rd	Shanie Adamson	8 years
4 th	Eden Adamson	10 years

JUNIORS

1 ST	Emme Irvine	6 years
2 nd	Renee Mayall	7 years
3 rd	Taylah Buckley	7 years
4 th	Emma Griffin	7 years



PRE-SCHOOL

Zac Griffin, Jordyn and Ryan Horsburgh, tom Irvine, Hannah Gordon, Yvette Scatchard and Zoe Buckley

Thank you to all the children who entered. Just on 30 entries overall were received and once again the judge had a very difficult job to do. Congratulations to all entrants on the lovely work done.

Sadly no cover designs were received. Please feel encouraged to send in a cover design at any time. Your ideas and contributions are most welcome.



We welcomed the Education Review Office into our school on the first day of the new term. The review team come every three years to look very closely at every area of school life – policies, procedures, philosophy, governance, leadership, community partnerships and, most importantly of all, student learning & achievement.

Once again we need to acknowledge the expertise and passion of our teachers and our teacher aides and our secretary, Paula.

ERO made special mention of our very reflective and cohesive team.

The ERO team were extremely impressed by so many areas of our school. They noted that " *Results from March 2010, in reading show that the spread of levels are **significantly above in comparison with national expectations**. Most students who remain at the school for their education leave having reached at least their chronological age in reading. Identified 'at risk' students are supported to reach this target with special programmes, extra teacher and teacher aide support. All these students in 2009 to 2010 showed improvement in reading and most made significant progress.*

*In mathematics and writing student achievement results in 2010 compared to 2009 showed an increased number meeting national expectations, and the number **achieving at or above expected levels is significantly better than national comparisons**. Analysed results in March 2010 show that Māori students are performing as well as their non-Māori peers in the school."*

The confirmed report takes about a month to complete and is then posted on the ERO website and on our own web page.

Entertainment Book

Just a reminder that you can purchase this book through the school. \$55 per book. There are books available to view at the office.

Ravensdown Catering

It is that time of year again!!! Once again we are catering the food at the Ravensdown site at the Fieldays. This is our big fundraiser for the year (Ravensdown pays us \$5000 for the four days). We have so much fun doing this that it hardly seems like work at all. Do ring or email the school if you would like to help us for a day cooking sausages, steaks and clearing tables. We would be very grateful for the support.

Works of Art

Cherie Grant has been very busy helping our children produce some very exciting self-portraits. Room 1's cubism style is displayed in the school foyer.



TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

With sadness we must record the death of Bruce Berry on March 10th 2010. He was a member of the Tauwhare Club in the 1980s and 90s. Bruce was a keen bowler and took an active part, holding the office of Vice President followed by a two year term as President.

Bowls nights are progressing well, with an average of 28 players attending each night. I note that Kevin Williams is showing form being in the winning team on the first 4 bowls nights. I'd hate to put the commentator's curse on Kevin, but it looks as if he is in for a good season. Well done, keep up the good play!!

Pour first Open Triples Tournament has come and gone. A special thank you to all members for their assistance performing necessary tasks, and for their raffle donations, supper and preparing the hall and cleaning up afterwards. Such a united effort contributed to the success of the night.

Novelty night was a really fun night, but frustrating at times. Especially the game where you were penalized 6 points for a 'burn'. Top marks to the Match committee for their organization of the night.

Results:

Mulholland Trophy 25.3.10

Winner R Bargh K. Williams
R/up Andrew McNally B McNally

Open Triples tournament 1.4.10

Winner: J. Neal's Team (Puketaha)
R/up M Greenwood O Baker C Baker

Triples Championship 8.4.10

Winner E Morris K. Williams W. Silvester
R/up R Coxon, L Verner, R Hughes

Novelty Night 15.4.10

Winners: A McNally, H Bargh
R/up E Morris, M Bargh



Upcoming events:

6.5.10 Rinks Championship (prior entry)
13.5.10 Club night and Rinks Final (start at 6.30pm)
20.5.10 Pairs Championship
27.5.10 Club Night and Pairs final (start at 6.30 pm)
3.6.10 Open tournament (triples) A plate please.

Out and About.

Congratulations to Daniel, Bromwyn and Amber McNally who played for the Waikato Juniors for the Ross Arndt Trophy at Otorohanga. This is a tournament where junior teams from Tauranga, Taranaki, North Taranaki, and Waikato compete. A good win was recorded by Waikato, well done.

7.4.10 Taupiri Open tournament:

Runners up – I Billings, J Arnold, J. Cottle, R Arnold.

Until next month's news – good bowling everyone. New members are always welcome. We meet at the Tauwhare Hall each Thursday night at 7.30pm. for further information contact Robin Bargh –Phone 07 8241 819.



IN YOUR GARDEN



Thinking about it, I have to say that come the end of summer, my flower garden reminds me of my favourite gardening tee-shirt, baggy, raggy and well past it's use by date. April/May is a funny time of the year, but that doesn't mean your garden should hang in limbo, there's still plenty to enjoy. Give a few clever tweaks, a stake or two here and there, a little trimming as well and you can keep your flower garden looking fresh for a good month or so. A good sweeping provides an instant pick-me-up.



Usually now's the time to go to town and purchase those new trees and shrubs so that healthy root systems can be established in warm, moist soil, but unfortunately this is not a usual autumn, so dig a test hole first to check how moist your soil is, and if it's like mine, defer all planting until after the rain and hope that the soil temperature is not too cold.

It's time to dig up old, tired perennials, throw away the bulk of the plant and replant a handful of healthy pieces. You'll stimulate growth and end up with lots of free plants.

Now is another key time to be taking cuttings. The most important plants to propagate now are tender types that have grown too large to bring inside for the winter, but could be lost to the coming cold season. Penstemons, fuchsias, succulents, Marguerite daisies, verbenas, pelargoniums will easily root and will take little space when snuggled up in a greenhouse or verandah until they are ready to plant out.

Evergreens such as native hebes, coprosmas, as well as laurels, climbers and ceanothus will root in a semi-shaded propagator or plastic bag. Always try to choose cuttings from plants that aren't too old and are growing vigorously, choose slightly finer tip growth from side shoots. Usually each cutting should have a set of leaves at the top and growth buds just above the base, a few shrubs, such as fuchsias and hydranges, can be cut anywhere and will take.



In the vegie patch. Bare soil will still attract weeds, so fill those gaps up with silverbeet and spinach. It's not too late to plant an insulating mulch of nasturtiums. Sow broad beans, Dwarf Early Green, needs no stakes. Harvest your pumpkins, but wait until the vines die back completely. Turn the pumpkins from time to time and when ready to pick leave a good length of stem attached.

Finally be prepared and have a roll of frost cloth ready.
Happy in your garden. Jennifer



HONEY



Honey was to the ancient Egyptians what aspirin is to modern medicine. Honey is mentioned 500 times in 900 remedies in the Smith Papyrus, an Egyptian medical text dating between 2600 and 2200 BC. The nectar is universally hailed as an ointment to heal wounds, sores and skin ulcers. Honey during wartime has been smeared on wounds as an antiseptic by ancient Greeks, Romans, Egyptians, Assyrians and Chinese as well as by Germans in World War 1. Hippocrates advised mixing honey, water and other various medicinal substances to treat fever. From the earliest ages, honey has been employed as a medicine. It forms an excellent gargle and facilitates the expectoration of viscid phlegm and is also used as an emollient applied to abscessed and as a detergent to ulcers.

Honey is often mixed with lemon juice or vinegar as a soothing cough syrup. It is also recommended for coughs, muscle cramps, burns, stuffy nose, sinusitis, hay fever, bed wetting in children and insomnia. A tablespoon of honey at the evening meal makes you look forward to bedtime.

POSSIBLE THERAPEUTIC BENEFITS:

- Kills bacteria
- Disinfects wounds and sores
- Reduces perception of pain
- Alleviates asthma
- Soothes sore throats
- Calms the nerves, induces sleep
- Relieves diarrhea

Folk medicine is entirely right in dubbing honey a potent killer of bacteria, an antiseptic and a disinfectant. Numerous modern scientists have watched honey touched bacteria disintegrate. In one interesting experiment a surgeon tested the formula of a wound salve from the ancient Egyptian Smith Papyrus; it called for one third honey mixed with two thirds fat, at first he thought this would be dreadful stuff to put on an open wound but instead the bacteria in the fat tended to disappear and when pathogenic bacteria were added like *Escherichia coli* or *Staphylococcus aureus*, they also were killed just as fast. The honey hastens healing and keeps the wound sterile, eliminating the need for conventional antibiotics.

Our own Waikato University and Waikato Hospital have had success with healing of difficult wounds etc using Maruka honey.

BEE Happy, CHERYL MC FARLANE.



LADIES BRING A PLATE



April has been an extremely busy month for us, with our daughter's wedding and our trip to Adelaide, so experimenting with new recipes has not been high on my agenda. However, we are still getting an abundance of tomatoes, so tomato relish has been made, and tomatoes have been frozen for stews and more relish over the winter. This recipe is a classic so easy and really tasty. I am now the treasurer of the Express and am looking for someone else to take over the recipe Article. It is fun looking for and trying new recipes and sharing them. If you are interested please phone me Gayle Orr or Gail Mayall.

Tomato Relish

6 Onions
3 cups white sugar (can reduce this if you wish)
550ml malt vinegar
1 tbsn salt
½ tbsn dry mustard
½ tbsn curry powder

12 Med Tomatoes



Dice onions, chop up the tomatoes. Add all ingredients to a large pot and boil together for one hour. Thicken with 3 tbsn of flour. Warm jars in the oven and pour the relish into them. When cool place lids on or cover with glad wrap. This makes about 6 jam size jars. Enjoy.

Gayle Orr

On the Lighter Side

Here are some great ways of dealing with the burdens of life:

- Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue.
- Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
- Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
- Drive carefully. It's not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.
- If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
- If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
- It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to be kind to others.
- Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a back to stand on.

EUREKA FARM DISCUSSION GROUP

Our latest event was held on a mussel barge in the Coromandel. 14 of us made the trip up early on Monday morning to be treated to a nice calm day and plenty of nice sized Snapper and a couple of Kahiwai. All up about 80 fish were caught. We put the cowshed to good use for the filleting of the fish and a couple of drinks to round up. A great day had by all and hope to do it again next year.

The next discussion group is to be held at Matt Clausen's farm on Kiroa Road at 11am on the 11th of May. I guess there will be lots to talk about the position we are all faced with at the present time, hopefully we will have had some rain by then so we can plan with a bit of certainty.

Cheers all Brett



HUKANUI GOLF CLUB

FARMERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Wednesday 12th May 2010

Entry fees \$20 (includes 2s')

BBQ at Hilltop

Golfers and Non-Golfers Welcome

Tee off from 9.30

Thanks to RD1 Taupiri



Email: hukanuigolf@xtra.co.nz or Phone: 824 3784 for available times

Want to join our Neighbourhood Support Group?

History

In 2007, the Eureka Rd, Masters Ave and Appleton Lane Neighbourhood Support Group (NSG) was re-established using email as a means of communication. Some 97% of residents in our NSG area have email capability and email proved to be an easy way of keeping all informed.

Police Community Constables newsletters, pertinent information and warnings regarding our area have been distributed, along with "Burglar Beware" notices. Lists of the residents and contact details were also distributed to everyone in the group.

Resident lists and their contact details are maintained by Alan Morrison, with backup file information held by Linda Hooper. This means the group should continue if Alan leaves the area etc.

Changes

The Police have recently been working to establish a system where newsletters and warnings are sent direct from the NZ Police, to the people in the NSG group. This will allow (say) details of suspicious car or activity to be distributed to everyone more quickly.

This means my role now changes and I will be responsible for keeping track of who moves in and out of the area along with changes in email addresses. This information will update the police data to maintain the information flow. The resident and contact details list will continue to be distributed locally, using email.

Do you want to join us?

In early 2007, the whole of Eureka was canvassed to (successfully) get Broadband. No records were kept as to how many had email then, but it was a high percentage.

Little effort would be required to extend the NSG Group to include the whole of Eureka and all that is needed is some emailed details as listed below.

What's required?

Your name, address, telephone number and email address emailed to the address below

alan.morrison@xtra.co.nz

eg. Alan & Lorraine Morrison, 170 Eureka Rd.8241799, alan.morrison@xtra.co.nz

Your email request to join this NSG will be assume you have given permission for your details to be distributed within Eureka and to NZ Police.

Regards to all. Alan Morrison



**\$175 for FREE**

Yes that's right if you are a levy paying dairy farmer, or employee of one, you get a free registration worth \$175 to attend the big new dairy farmer event for the North Island held at our very own Mystery Creek Events Centre on May 5th and 6th. You should all have got a programme in the mail last week outlining a fantastic array of speakers. You must register in advance for catering as am & pm teas and lunch are included.

Register online at www.dairynz.co.nz/farmersforum

There are no excuses. The Farmer Forum is close, it's very worthwhile with a top rate lineup of speakers, it's FREE to dairy farmers and you've got no cows to milk! All the stars "are lined up" so get that registration done and mark it on your calendar.

Eureka Discussion Group

Speaking of marking things on your calendar, put a ring around Tuesday May 11th as the next Eureka Discussion Group. This time hosted my Matthew Clausen, 177 Kiroa Rd, Supply No. 72712. Start time is 11am. No doubt there will plenty of topical issues to discuss. E.g. handling large areas of regrassing, what to fill feed gaps with and minimising the effects of the drought.

Sourcing Supplements

If you've done a feed budget (far too many have not) and have a 50 or 100t of feed shortfall what are the best options right now? Prices and availability are changing on a daily basis so keep up to date. Unfortunately after a great run over the last 6 months Palm Kernel is in very short supply unless you have a contract in place. The price is likely to be around \$275/t landed on farm so it is a little dearer than it was a month or two back.

The Good News

Results from a brand new NZ trial, where various feeds were compared to put on body condition, has shown that our previous estimates for autumn saved pasture were pretty right but that Palm Kernel, Maize Silage and good pasture Silage required about 10% less DM to put on a Body Condition Score than previously thought. In summary use 240kg DM offered/BCS of autumn pasture but reduce that to 180 – 190 kg DM offered for PKE, Maize and Balage. These figures are for a 475kg liveweight cow.

Black Beetle

If you remember nothing else this year about pasture renewal understand the life cycle of the Black Beetle and how it affects pasture renovation decisions. Black Beetle adults over-winter at the base of ryegrass plants. If you have planted AR37 or NEA2 endophytes in your ryegrass seed then the black beetle won't damage those plants. However any Black Beetle that survive on say AR1 infected plants, which provides good fodder for the Black Beetle adults, will lay eggs in the spring and the resulting larvae will eat ALL ryegrass roots (Nov to Feb) irrespective of what endophyte the plant has in it as the AR37 provides protection via the leaf not the roots.

Don't forget the Farmers Forum registration!

Phil Irvine
DairyNZ Consulting Officer
027 4839820





NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Last month I outlined some possible **changes to subdivision rules** and thank you for the feedback I received.

Following on from our deliberations a series of Rural Subdivision Consultation Sessions will be held throughout the district attended by Ward Councillors and Policy Planning staff. **You can attend the session in my Ward (Eureka Ward) on Friday 4th June 2010, any time between 4:30pm and 7:30pm, at the Matangi Hall.** Please come along to study the material on display and give us your views. **I will also be attending the Gordonton session on Monday 31st May at the Gordonton Hall between 4:30pm and 7:30pm.** The dates for all the meetings will be advertised in the local press.

We recently had a very successful meeting with the Minister and the Associate Minister of Local Government to discuss the **Franklin to Waikato transition** process. The Minister made it clear that he did not wish the transition process to be a burden on Waikato District and its ratepayers and in his closing remarks he reiterated that *he did not wish Waikato District Council to be disadvantaged by this process and it will be cost neutral to our Council.*

Council has noted that applications for **LIM reports** are running 22% above forecasted numbers and to date are running at 112% of budget. Final numbers are expected to be well above forecasted levels by year end. Of the LIM applications Council receives, at present approximately 10% are requests for an "urgent LIM" and this is increasing. We are one of the few Council's not to have a fee structure in place for urgent LIMs. At present we do not offer an urgent service but we have been made aware that Franklin District Council do. Because of the increasing need for urgent reports and as it will be easier administratively after amalgamation if the fee types are uniform, from 1st July 2010 the fee structure will be as follows:

• Urban Properties	Non Urgent \$180	Urgent \$240
• Rural Properties	Non urgent \$240	Urgent \$300
• Commercial/Industrial Properties	Non urgent \$300	No Urgent facility

- We are putting in submissions to the **Building Review Act** and the **Seabed and Foreshore Act**.
- Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) has drafted a submission to the **Seabed and Foreshore Act** and is seeking territorial authorities' feedback. The Act affects our District particularly on the west coast and at Miranda on the east coast. The Franklin transition process will extend our area of involvement. In general terms the LGNZ submission seems to be logical and deals with likely impacts on local authorities and its impact on our Joint Management Agreement and how it relates to the Local Government Act and Resource Management Act. Waikato District Council is supporting their submission.
 - Proposed changes to the **Building Act 2004**. Waikato District has formulated its own submission because we have general concerns with the way the Building Act is formulated. We will be presenting this submission to the Select committee.

Last month I mentioned the **Waikato River Joint Management Agreement**. The signing of the deeds sets in motion a range of implementation tasks including preparation for the establishment of a statutory body - the **Waikato River Authority**. The Authority will have ten members including one recommended to the Minister of the Environment from territorial authorities whose boundaries fall within the claim area. Our nomination for the Authority is our Deputy Mayor, Clint Baddeley. Waipa District and Hamilton City have nominated their respective Mayors, Alan Livingston and Bob Simcock.

Rob McGuire
Councillor Eureka Ward
Ph. 824 3696/fax 824 3645
Mobile 0274 970 966/email robmcguire@xtra.co.nz



JBVisserVets

Comparing The Number Of Empty Cows You Have With Your Neighbour

It's a great sport especially if your number is lower but depressing if your number is higher. It can sometimes be embarrassing. But the number doesn't mean anything. How do you compare your 10% empty rate with your neighbour who only has 4% empty but you took the bull out of the herd before Christmas and he didn't take it out till early February. Also the empty rate should be the percentage of all the cows which were presented for mating, not just the cows pregnancy tested. The cows which have been culled before the pregnancy test and you are pretty sure they are empty should also be included in the empty cow numbers.

The best comparison of fertility between herds is the 6 week in-calf rate. This wants to be above 70% and closer to 78%. This means if you mated 100 cows in the first 6 weeks, at least 70 of them should be in-calf. The 6 week in-calf rate is a far more difficult number to arrive at.

If you give us your mating records and we do your pregnancy testing we can give you your herds 6 week in-calf rate. Otherwise if you use LIC you can get this information from reproductive reports.

Is it worth doing this analysis? I believe it is. Not so much to see if your herd is more fertile than the neighbours but rather to help to improve the situation on your farm the following season. The in-calf rate directly affects your bottom line the better the in-calf rate the more milk you make and the more efficient your farm is.

What Are Normal Foetal/Pregnancy loss rates?

If a normal herd of a 100 cows are mated then only 58 of them will actually calve to this mating. This is perfectly normal. What this means is that if you have your herd pregnancy tested early, you can expect some cows to turn up empty later in the season. If you choose to have the herd pregnancy tested later then it is less likely cows will turn up empty later but unfortunately it is harder for us to date the foetus accurately. The table below shows the number of cows that remain pregnant over time in a normal 100 cow herd.

Stage	Number of Cows Pregnant
At Mating Time	90
21 days later	65
56 days later	60
Calving	58

If you pregnancy test 200 cows, 14 weeks after the start of mating, then 11 more cows will loose their pregnancy after the pregnancy test, just through natural causes. For example if your herd started mating on the 11th October then 14 weeks later is the 17th January. So if this herd is scanned then, another 11 cows will show up as empty later in the season. Whereas if the pregnancy test is done 28 weeks after the start of mating then only 4 cows will loose the pregnancy.

The table below gives an idea of the confirmed pregnancies which will be lost as part of the normal process, after a pregnancy test in a 200 cow herd.

Weeks After Starting Mating for the Preg Test	No of cows loosing a confirmed pregnancy	Percentage of Cows Loosing a Pregnancy
14	11	3.7
20	9	2.9
24	6	2
28	4	1.3

Checking and Treating a Dry Cow for Mastitis

Checking: When checking the dry cows for mastitis you may find the udder is a little swollen but you are not sure if mastitis is present. If you start stripping the quarter and there is no mastitis, you will have removed the all important teat plug.

Solution: roll the end of the teat gently between your finger and thumb putting a little pressure on the teat end. If you find you can express a small drop of fluid then you can be pretty sure the teat plug is not there and mastitis is present. If the teat end remains dry then go no further—the teat plug will still be present—and the swelling in the quarter will not be mastitis.

Treating: Strip the quarter daily to remove the mastitis milk and then treat with a normal lactating mastitis treatment. Continue this treatment for at least 3 to 5 days.

The most important aspects of the treatment is to remove all the "mastitis" milk by stripping daily and then use milking cow treatments.

Do not use Dry cow treatments because you run the risk of antibiotic-contaminated milk at the start of next season. If you seem to be having problems with dry cows getting mastitis have a sample taken for cultures.

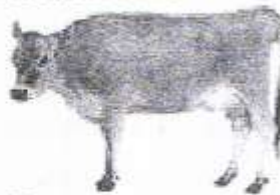


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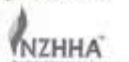


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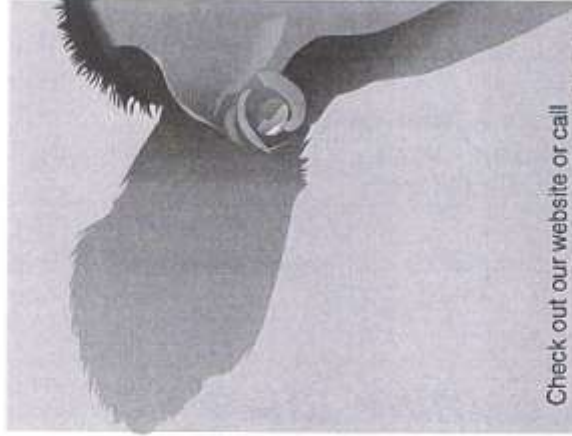
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