

EUREKA EXPRESS

VOL XXXI No. 1 CIRC 285

FEBRUARY 2010



A Date for your Calendars and Diaries

EUREKA COMMUNITY BBQ

Saturday 20th March 2010.

Come along and meet and socialise with friends and neighbours
both old and new.

Activities will be provided for the children



6.00pm Social hour

7.00pm Meal



Please bring along meat to cook, a salad dish
and dessert to share.

Byo plates, cutlery, glasses and liquid refreshments

Any queries phone Gail Mayall – 8241758 or Kerry Clarkin -8241870

Guest Editorial

We never realised how hard it was to make retirement decisions and even though our roots go deep in Eureka we made the decision and have sold our house at 954 SH26 to move to the warmer climate of Tauranga. Hopefully, downsizing to more modern warmer house leaving us more time for boating and travel.

Our two sons live in Tauranga. Ben works as a quantity surveyor for a large structural engineering company and has purchased a house and small block in Pongakawa. Jake lives on his boat in the marina and works as a SAT diver. Nadine lives and works in Brisbane and comes home regularly.

It only seems like yesterday that we moved into 954 from Hamilton. Nadine was 8 Jake 6 and Ben was 4 and had not started school yet. How the years have slipped by. Our move was prompted to a cleaner safer environment and in those days the only time we locked our doors was when we went on holidays. Unfortunately in the last few years we have been broken into twice and Charn and Lai next door are constantly being broken into. Last week while I worked in my shed their alarm was activated. By the time I found my car keys I was not quick enough to block the drive to apprehend the burglar.



It will be difficult to find another Eureka as we have made many friends and had so much fun in here.

Barbara and Myself wish to say thank you for these years and a bigger thanks to those who work tirelessly on community aspects that make Eureka a better place and a tighter community. Our children also are going to miss coming home to Eureka as they do every Christmas.

We hope that Ming and Lilly Ng as well as their two university sons Kevin and William enjoy the special community of Eureka when they move in at the end of March

Neil Thomas

RAINFALL

	December 2009	Year to 31 st December
Total	100.5	1245
Average (1994-2009)	103	1171
Difference	-2.5	+74.0

Rainfall recorded on 14 days.

	January 2010	
Total	226	
Average (1994-2010)	82	
Difference	+144	



Rainfall recorded on 17 days. Note previous wettest January since 1994 was 1999 with 138mm

SNIPPETS

Donation Thanks: to Margaret and Chris Freke.



Birth: New Grandchild congratulations to Ivan and Kaye Billings of Hunter Road who were delighted to welcome a new grandson, Corbin Glen Billings on Christmas Day 2009. A darling son and brother for Elliot, Tania and Olivia. Very best wishes to all.

Wedding Congratulations: to Kate Saunders, only daughter of Doug and Liz Saunders of Shewin Lane off Hooper Road, who married Mathew Anderson at Sarnia Park, Cambridge, on Saturday 20 February. Every good wish to you both and all the best with your Early Childhood studies, Kate.

21st Birthday Wishes: to Mark Forbes, eldest son of Cheryl Forbes of Hinton Road who reached this milestone on 23 December 2009. We trust your celebrations went well, Mark.



Farewell to Eureka: to June Stubbings ex Morrinsville Road, who has sold and moved to St James Park, Hamilton. June and her late husband, Graeme, came to live in Eureka nearly 20 years ago. Graeme passed away in May 2008 and our good wishes go with June as she moves into the city to be closer to family.

- And it is farewell to Neil and Barbara Thomas who have called Eureka 'home' for the best part of 28 years. They raised their family, Nadine, Jacob and Ben here, and played an active and valuable role in the community through the 80's and 90's. Since then they have lived their dream of sailing off to see the world, always returning to Eureka and the very good friends they have made here. Now Barbara and Neil will call Tauranga 'home' and hopefully enjoy many more happy years travelling and boating. Our very best wishes go with them both and their family.



Welcome to Eureka to:

- Bernard and Louise Edwards and their three sons, Sam 16, Alex 13, and Morgan 11. Bernard and Louise are ex-Hillcrest and have purchased the Libby property on Morrinsville Road. Phone 8241700.
- Orla Fahey and Geoff Roan have purchased the Stubbings property on Morrinsville Road. Orla (who hails from Ireland) and Geoff have moved from Matangi to Eureka. Orla is a vet at Hamilton Vets and Geoff is an accountant at Price Waterhouse Coopers and also breeds horses. They are accompanied by their dogs 'Spud' and 'Kumera'.
Phone 8241834
- And a warm welcome back to Eureka to Gavin and Leanne Jeffcoat of Hunter Road who have returned from Ohawe near Hawera, after 18 months. Gavin has transferred from Fonterra, Hawera, to Fonterra in Hamilton.

Welcome to the neighbourhood to all of you and we hope you enjoy your time in Eureka.

SNIPPETS CONTINUED

Tertiary Studies:

- Welcome home to Sean Goulding of Friedlander Road who has returned from a wonderful AFS year in Germany. Sean is now fluent in German and looking forward to beginning his studies at Waikato University.
- Also off to Waikato Uni is Timothy Ng of Masters Road. Timothy has won a David Johnstone Charitable Trust Scholarship of \$5000 (one of 10 for Science and Engineering), and also a University of Waikato School Leavers Scholarship of \$3000. All a big help towards his Bio Chemical Engineering studies. Tim is awaiting National Scholarship results which are due out shortly.
- On her way to Victoria University, Wellington, is Megan Hintz of Eureka Road, who will be commencing Early Childhood studies.
- David Dreaver of Eureka Road, is off to Wintec.
- Cherie Trenberth of Tauwhare Road has also started at Wintec studying this year for the NZ certificate in Nanny Education and moving on next year to Early Childhood studies.
- And Scott Hinton has begun his career in the hospitality industry at Speights Ale House in Hamilton.



Our best wishes go with you all.

New photocopier:

The Eureka Express is now the proud owner of a lovely new Fuji-Xerox photocopier, thanks to the generosity of you, our readers, and also to a Waikato District Council Grant. We look forward to a new era of printing that will hopefully be better, easier, faster and cheaper..!



You are all urged to make use of this community owned machine if you have a need. Just contact Gail 8241758 to make a time.

MARKETPLACE

WANTED TO RENT: House urgently required for family. Please phone Marion 0272671590

GUITAR TUITION: We are looking for someone to teach a 12 year old the guitar. He has his own guitar and is a complete beginner. Unfortunately he was unable to get into the school lessons. Please phone Gayle 8241713

TOMATOES FOR SALE: Good, firm, outdoor, spray-free, and ready picked. Available now. Please phone Mike or Judi 8241668 or 0274955183

AVON: Is your New Year's Resolution to EARN MORE MONEY? Then get started today selling AVON Products. Phone Ros Chambers 8241611 or 0276 888 022





TAUWHARE SCHOOL

School Picnic

I love this day!! We had such a great turn out of families again this year.

This picnic is such a part of our country culture and is very relaxed, with mixing and mingling being the main aim of the day.

The children really enjoyed their swimming races and had a great time playing together in the Morrinsville pools. The annual parents vs children's race was so hotly contested we had two teams of each. Thank you so much to the parents for getting into the spirit of the day.

The Year 5 & 6 children competed in the Smith Steelworks Cup. After a close race the winner was William Sinclair, 2nd was Faye McDougall and 3rd was Charles King.

National Standards

This is currently a very hot topic in the media and in staffrooms across the country.

We look forward to getting clarity on these standards during the next few months, however they do not appear much different to those we are already using. We have always used standardised testing throughout all levels of the school however our test results are used to determine the next steps needed to help each child to reach their full potential, and to look for trends across the school in order to allocate extra teaching staff and resources. All information is regularly presented to the Board of Trustees.

Results from the 2009 year show that at the end of the school year 88% of all children were reading on or above their age levels; 88% of all children were achieving on or above in maths; 85% were achieving on or above their age levels in spelling.

CLASS SIZES

Thank you once again to the Board of Trustees for supporting us in keeping the ratio of teaching staff to pupils as low as possible. It is obvious that simply testing children nationally will not have a direct impact on a child's learning; we do know that by giving a child a chance to work closely with a teacher and teacher aide daily they will make progress. For example, Room 1 (Year 5 & 6) has 31 children in it which is a normal sized class by national standards. But we reduce



the ratio by employing a part time teacher and a teacher aide to work in this class as well, ensuring that all children get the best chance to learn. We currently employ 5 fulltime teachers, 2 part-time teachers and 3 teacher aides.

After School Classes

Along with our very valued tutors returning this year, we have two new classes available for our students. Children at Tauwhare School can choose to take lessons in piano, drama, tennis, swimming, guitar and now drums and Irish dancing as well. Our tutors keep their fees very low as they do not have to pay for any of our facilities. We are very fortunate indeed to have such high calibre tutors who are willing to come to us!!

Room 1 Camp Fundraiser

Room 1 will have many different fundraising activities this year and our first one is a result of our Ice Cream Survey as part of Statistics in Maths. Children were able to buy ice creams at lunch time for \$1.

Room 1 will be posting details about our ice cream statistics study on the website.

A major fundraiser is selling **SPRING BULBS** through Blooming Bulbs Ltd. It is really simple, we collect as many orders for bulbs as we can from family, friends, neighbours and work mates. Room 1 earn 20% of the total order.

Help Room 1 get to Camp Raglan by selling as many bulbs as possible. We have more catalogues at school and you can also view the bulbs at: www.bloomingbulbs.co.nz but please you must order through the school.

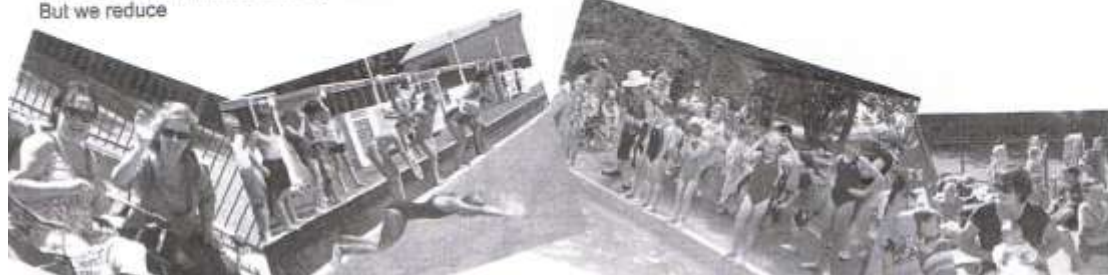
PHOTOCOPIER FOR SALE

We have just purchased a new colour photocopier to replace our laser printer and thanks to a very kind donation of a photocopier last year, we now have one spare. We welcome all offers! If you need a good photocopier for your business please pop in to look at it or phone for more details.

Thank You Mr & Mrs Morch

We would like to thank John & Wendy Morch for hosting our website over the past few years. It is because of support like this from our community that we manage to give our children so many opportunities we would otherwise be unable to do. We really appreciated your support and advice.

Step In date Term 1 Wednesday 10 March 9am – 10.30am.



Greetings from: "Newstead Model Country School"



We have started the year off in an exciting way with lots of busy learning and teaching taking place

A LIVING INQUIRY

Newstead is featured in a professional development article which is published in this week's Education Gazette. The project involved June and her Year 5 and 6 class. We are very proud of June's achievements and the quality of involvement the children experienced. *The collaboration focused on a gully which ran adjacent to the school. Over time, this gully had become badly neglected and over run with introduced predators. An outline of possible learning experiences were developed by June and Andrew using the 'Hooked on Thinking' skills template as a guide. Key dates were identified where scientists from Scion were to visit the school to work with the children in the gully. The scientists also offered audio conferences from their Rotorua base to answer questions the children had about what they were discovering, and the work of scientists generally. In the first of the audio conferences, the children interviewed Lisa, an entomologist from Scion, about what it was like to be a scientist and to learn about the sort of things scientists do. According to June, this was hugely valuable in dispelling some of the ideas the children had about scientists "doing crazy things and having wild haircuts", and supported her objectives of broadening the children's understanding of the Nature of Science.*

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Assessments are underway!

- We are assessing all Year 3 to Year 6 children in the areas of listening, reading, writing, spelling and mathematics.
- Year 1 and Year 2 children will be assessed in some of these areas.
- Year 5 and Year 6 children will also be assessed for their knowledge of information skills.

These assessments are used by teachers to plan what the individual children need to learn, and to plan class activities for the benefit of all. They provide the base information for making comparisons in future testing and for planning. Information will be available as additional data for discussion at parent and teacher conversations.

REPORTING TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

2010 sees a change in reporting to parents and caregivers. There will be a written report that outlines the findings of the February assessment tasks. As a result of these assessments teachers will use the information to plan classroom programmes for individuals and groups. Through this report you are encouraged to celebrate achievements and share goals.

SCHOOL PROCEDURE BOOKLET

This booklet is being distributed to families this week. This is a very useful document as it outlines the range of procedures the school is managed by. Newsletter reference is made during the year to items.

PARENT AND TEACHER CONVERSATIONS

We meet Wednesday 10th March, to discuss how children have adapted to the new school year and to share the outcomes of the observations and the tests that have been administered during February. Information relating to numeracy and literacy is available. Teachers will discuss your child's next learning steps. Teachers report formally again in the latter half of the third term. This also involves a report and a follow up conversation.

The school will be closing at 1.30pm as conversations will begin at 2pm. The Afterschool Care Programme will begin at 1.30pm. Parents are asked that all children are collected from school at this time. It is anticipated that conversations will be most beneficial, as a positive open partnership between the school and the home is vital to enable children to make the most of learning opportunities.

SWIMMING POOL MANAGEMENT

To ensure your Childs safety while swimming during school hours, chemicals required for healthy water and correct water balance will be added in the weekends.

AGM AGM AGM

The 30th Annual General Meeting of the **EUREKA EXPRESS**

Will be held Monday 15 March 2010

At 7.30 at the Hall.

All welcome. Supper will be served.

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Secretary

EUREKA EXPRESS

ADVERTISING RATES		CONTACTS - Gail or Heather	
Classified Advertisements	Free	Gail Mayall (Editor)	Heather Parker (Treasurer)
Small Business Advertisements	\$10 / month	70 Eureka Road	89A Hinton Road
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One Third Page Advertisement	\$15 / month	Fax 8241 028	
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• x 10 insertions	\$160 / year		

IN YOUR GARDEN



Trust all you wonderful gardeners have had a good break and are all well rested and are raring to go as there is much to be done in the garden.

After the first blooming, many roses and hydrangeas lose their vigour. This is often due to water stress and in their weakened state they may succumb to diseases. Cut them back, water regularly and in the case of roses, feed them well. At the end of the day, all your plants really want is a little love and attention.

Feel the heat. Hot colours look great in autumn gardens. Last call to plant vibrant rudbeckias and heleniums for autumn show. Try burnt-orange for effect.

Forward planning. February is a good month to order plants. It may still be ridiculously hot outside, but garden centres order their winter selection of trees and scrubs now. If you are taken with a rare tree, or want a hard to find rose, ask now. It's also a good time to source fruit trees if you want them on dwarf stock. Snap up early spring bulbs, in garden centres now, especially the favourites like the highly scented Freesia and the Anemone "The Bride". Cool season charmers can be sown now. Try Calendulas, Pansies and Iceland poppies.

Propagate your own plants to save money. Take cuttings now from Kalmias, Clematis and Fuchsias. Side shoots of favourite Hydrangeas can also be removed and planted directly into the garden, they will soon grow new roots.

Your veggie garden may end up with huge gaps this month where your potato and pea crops have been dug out. Rather than leaving bare spots for weeds, sow onions and plenty of them. They will love the well-conditioned soil, and any nitrogen nodules left behind by peas. Deal to the weeds before they set seed. Pluck them out or cut the stems off just below the soil's surface with a sharp hoe. Drag the weeds off to the compost bin to roast or seeding weeds are best in the rubbish bin.

Give your vegetable crops a helping hand with soil moisture and feed to give them further advantage. Sow parsley everywhere, you'll never have too much. It looks good in the flower garden too. Don't forget to tidy up the Strawberry bed and plant Silverbeet.

I could go on and on, but most important is mulch to retain water, harvest tomatoes, cucumbers, sweet corn, zucchini, beetroot, beans. Make sauces, chutney, soups and pickles, jams and preserves. Tired at the thought of it all, I am!

Take care and happy gardening, Jennifer



LADIES BRING A PLATE



I have been given two wonderful recipes and had to decide which one to do first. I have chosen this one as everyone is always offering me zucchinis or courgettes as they really are abundant at the moment. I haven't tried it, but it does come with a good recommendation. Thank you Margaret, any help with recipes is gratefully accepted.

SWEET AND SOUR PICKLE

1kg courgettes	2 onions
2 tabs plain salt	3 cups sugar
4tsp mustard seeds	2 tsp celery seed
3 tsp turmeric	2 cups white vinegar
4 tbs flour plus a little extra vinegar to make a paste.	

Slice courgettes and peeled onions. Sprinkle with salt and leave to stand for 2 hours. Rinse well and drain.

Bring the remaining ingredients (not the flour paste) to boil for 5 minutes, remove from heat and add vegetables and leave to stand for 2 hours. Bring to boil again, make paste with flour and a little extra vinegar, stir paste in to vegetable mix, until smooth, and simmer, making sure that the paste is completely cooked, about 10 minutes.

Tip into warm jars and cover. The amounts in this recipe can be doubled.

Positive Thought for the Month

I think these difficult times have helped me to understand
Better than before how infinitely rich and beautiful life
Is in every way, and that so many things one goes around
Worrying about are of no importance whatsoever.

SUMMER FRUITS

This time of year there is a great selection of fresh fruit in abundance at affordable prices. A good reason to eat plenty, preserve for winter months or even put in your deep freeze. I buy locally grown strawberries and blueberries and put in deep freeze to give me a supply until next season.

Our daily intake should be a minimum of 20% of fresh fruit daily. For extra crunch and freshness in hot weather keep in your fridge.

The human digestive system is well suited to fruit and they also provide an abundance of fruit sugars termed fructose, an ideal source of natural energy. Fruits are an excellent source of antioxidant power plus many vitamins, minerals and fibre. The skin should be eaten (if possible) as it is also very nutritious. Fruits provide an alkaline balance to the blood which is most beneficial for healing.

So eat plenty of:

Apples, plums, peaches, pears, apricots, bananas, strawberries, blueberries, rockmelons, watermelons, grapes, kiwifruit, mango, paw paw, organs, pineapples etc.



To cool off your children make your own real fruit ice blocks, or my children used to grab handfuls of frozen blueberries. I also add rockmelons, mango or pawpaw with chopped mint to my lettuce salad, very tasty. We all love our berry smoothies with local grown berries (frozen) with banana, apple juice (McMeekans) and yoghurt.

ENJOY YOUR PLENTIFUL SEASONAL FRUIT

Cheryl McFarlane



Consulting Officer Comment

Now you know it for sure. The drought of 2008 was only a dream! A bad one at that, but simply a dream. Waikato summers are great! Every farmer in Eureka is smiling and this time it's not because of the good fishing. 200mm of rain from mid January to mid February is a dream come true. Some almost have too much feed! A nice problem to have in late February and one that "mother nature" will no doubt take care of before too long.

If there's one lesson to be learnt about the first half of this season, it was the importance of having cows at 5 body condition score at calving. Cows in good condition are such a buffer from the vagaries of the weather and last spring was a really good example. We need to capitalise on the relatively good feed situation, now, to ensure cows put body weight on over the next 3 months and not simply milk on longer and nullify the potentially good situation.

Immediate focus needs to be on the cows of 3.5 body condition score (BCS) and below. It takes a lot of feed and a lot of time to put body condition on, so start planning now. Depending on the type of feed available it could take as much as 120 days (4 months) for a dry cow to put on 2 body condition scores (if she is only 3 now). When you think that cows do not put on body condition in the last month of pregnancy, that means drying off an August 1st calving cow, who is at BCS 3, by early March. And that's continuing to feed her like a milking cow.



Body Condition Scoring Workshops

DairyNZ in conjunction with the Animal Health Centre is running a series of Body Condition Scoring workshops for farmers and farm workers around Waikato to brush up on their body condition scoring skills. Kevin McDonald from DairyNZ will be doing the training. Kevin helped develop the body condition scoring system and associated booklet that most are familiar with. There will be hands on work both in the shed and out in the paddock so a good grounding is assured. The closest workshop is at Eureka's very own Geoff Hinton's farm that Graham Timms sharemilks on. The workshop goes from 11 am to 1:30pm on Friday March 12th. BBQ lunch provided.

Pasture Renewal

There were some really clear messages that came out of the Pasture Renewal field days recently held around Waikato and delivered by Murray Lane and Paul Addison. 65 farmers attended the field day at David Macdonalds in Gordonton with farmers extremely positive that there was a way forward with successful pasture renewal. Key messages were:-

- Get an understanding of endophytes and black beetle.
- Only use treated seed (for Black Beetle and Argentine Stem Weevil protection)
- Use ryegrass with an appropriate endophyte. NOT AR1 as it gives no protection to Black Beetle attack.
- Make sure the seed that you use has live endophyte and has been properly stored. The only way to be sure is to sight a test result that is no more than 6 weeks old.
- Have a planned or "programmed approach" to pasture renewal. Contact me for a copy of the handout describing the 10 year programmed approach to pasture renewal.

Phil Irvine
Consulting Officer, Hamilton North
027 4839820
07 8567044

NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

I hope you have all had a good summer break. Since Council has reconvened we have been working on the budget (**Annual Plan**) for the next financial year which starts 1 July 2010. The first draft has now been completed and at this stage the rate increase looks to be in the region of 2.96%. We would like to have achieved a lower increase but due to essential works to be done within the district this has not been possible.

Recently I joined the Eureka Community Committee to meet with Keely Cairns, a Council Facilities Planner, to discuss Council's *Walking and Cycling Strategy* that is being reviewed. The strategy will support the goal of providing safe facilities for pedestrians and cyclists and will be reviewed every three years. Programming of works will be dependent on the Annual Plan. Your Community Committee made a very good case on your behalf, commented on the lack of benefits for the rural dweller in the strategy and made some suggestions in terms of eventually forming walkways through Eureka and possibly cycle ways. The next process will be to get these suggestions included in the strategy.

You may have noted in the media that five Councils (Waikato, Waipa, Matamata/Piako, Otorohanga and Hamilton City - the *tight five*) met last week and one hotly debated agenda item was **amalgamation / reorganization of the five Councils**. Bob Simcock, Mayor of Hamilton City, gave an excellent presentation on the reasons why amalgamation should be considered. His main reasoning was that looking 50 years ahead one Council would, for example, mean a better continuity of development through the Waikato, one District Plan, no boundaries, and more cohesion. There was talk that the Regional Council (EW) should be part of this amalgamation but they (EW) have their own thoughts on how changes to local government should proceed. But in the end it will be up to the Government of the day to make the final decision on how and what happens. 2013 was the suggested date for a combined Council to be formed.

Waikato District Council is the lead Council in discussions with Tainui around the *Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Bill*. Waikato District Council supports the intent of the aforementioned Bill to enter a new era of co-management over the Waikato River to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the river for future generations and recently we made a further submission to the Maori Affairs Select Committee around this commitment to building a stronger working relationship with Waikato-Tainui around river management.

Work around amalgamating 25% of **Franklin District in to Waikato District** continues apace. On 23rd February we again visited Franklin District, this time to Pokeno to look at plans for the development of 400 hectares that will take place in that area over the next 25 years. The estimates are that this area will support a five - six thousand population with light and heavy commercial industry to provide employment. We also visited Tuakau to look at three possible sites for a Waikato District Office to service the area we will be taking over. Our CEO has estimated we will need approximately 65 extra staff, 25 in Tuakau and 40 in the Ngaruawahia office to support the extra population.

Work on the **Tauwhare footpathing project** continues. Staff has managed to do some extensions to the footpaths in the village. Future work (probably 2012) includes extending the new footpath up Tauwhare Road towards Victoria Road - due to the drain it will cross over the road and go along Tauwhare Road to the new subdivision on the right hand side. The original footpath will be extended to the hall so the children from the school can walk down there safely and there will be further safety measures added to improve the crossing at the hall.

Tauwhare Marse Waste Water Plant - Council has been working steadily on this project and we have obtained an 80% subsidy from the Government to assist with the cost. We are slowly ticking off the issues we have to deal with - land purchase, compliance, public health and environmental standards, community concerns etc. No final decision has yet been made on the type of treatment and disposal method for the scheme. Land owners adjacent to the scheme will be kept informed as the decision process develops and Council will be inviting all interested parties/neighbours to visit a similar facility.

Matangi Waste water plant will have to be improved. The bed where the waste water is dispersed need to be enlarged and will be done as soon as possible.

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



TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

Bowls for 2010 commences with:

Opening Night

4th March

At Tauwhare Hall at 7.30pm

Members please bring a plate.

New players are always welcome to join us on Thursday nights. If you would like more information please contact one of the following:

John Cottle (President) 8240992
Ivan Billings (Vice-President) 8241832
Robin Bergh (Secretary) 8241819

Subscriptions: Members \$50 New members \$30

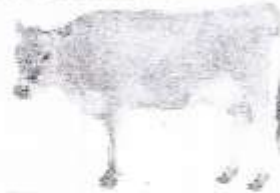


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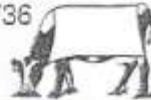
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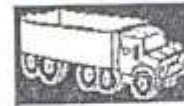
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