

Eureka Express

APRIL 2014



Lest we forget

By Renee Mayall



ANZAC DAY

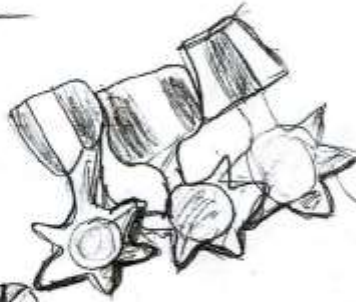
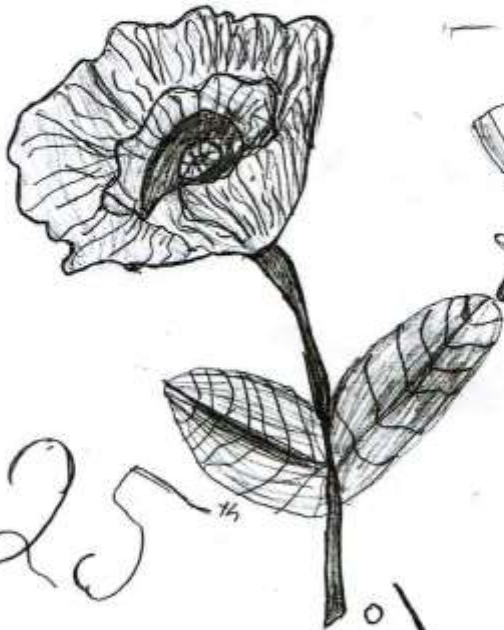
25th April

25th April

ANZAC

25

Australia and New Zealand
Army Corps



25th

25th April

April

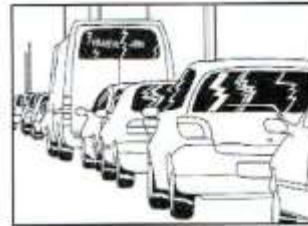
By Danielle Gordon.

We will always remember

GUEST EDITORIAL

Auckland 2011, 5:15p.m. "I can't get home" I texted. "There's been a crash on the motorway and the streets are gridlocked!"

It wasn't just the traffic that made us leave Auckland, although spending hours of our lives creeping up the Southern Motorway was a big contributing factor. It was also the crowds, the concrete and the unrelenting stress of corporate life. Something had to change.



We didn't have Eureka in mind when we left Auckland Well we'd never heard of it for starters! We weren't even targeting the Waikato as a fixed destination. We were free from our jobs, the children had left home, the house was sold and all our possessions locked away. We had the tent in the car and a vague timeframe for re-establishment, "before the weather gets too cold to camp". And sorry farmers, but the summer of 2012/13 couldn't have been a better time to spend in a tent.

We explored the upper North Island looking for the best spot to settle. We wanted a lifestyle block so we could indulge our love of gardening and keep a few chickens and a couple of sheep. Northland, the Bay of Plenty and even as far south as Taranaki were all considered. But something



kept drawing us towards what I call the "happy face" of Hamilton. From Whatawhata, down through Te Awamutu and Cambridge and back up to Morrinsville.

We found it just before the rains finally came. A modest little farmhouse on 1½ acres on Tauwhare Road. We've just clocked up 12 months and have significantly increased our skill set as we learn the ways of rural life. Learning that you have to apply to have your mail delivered, and that when the powder goes off, so does your water! Learning how to look after sheep and chickens, tighten fence wires and install gates. Learning the importance of keeping the chicken coop gate closed! All in all, we're loving living here.

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your water! Learning how to look after sheep and chickens, tighten fence wires and install gates. Learning the importance of keeping the chicken coop gate closed! All in all, we're loving living here.

Some people may perceive the Waikato to be land locked and filled with fog, but I think we've stumbled upon the most delightful location. How peaceful it is to sit on the deck overlooking fields not houses, and watching the daily drift of the cows to the milking shed and back. I love how deciduous the Waikato is, the changing of the seasons announced by the first green tinges of spring, through the golden fields of summer to the colourful shades of autumn. How lovely to shop in Cambridge or Morrinsville and always being able to find a car park.

Eureka 2014 4:15pm "I've just got home" I texted. "There was a tractor on the back straight that I had to overtake, but the rest of the roads were clear as usual"

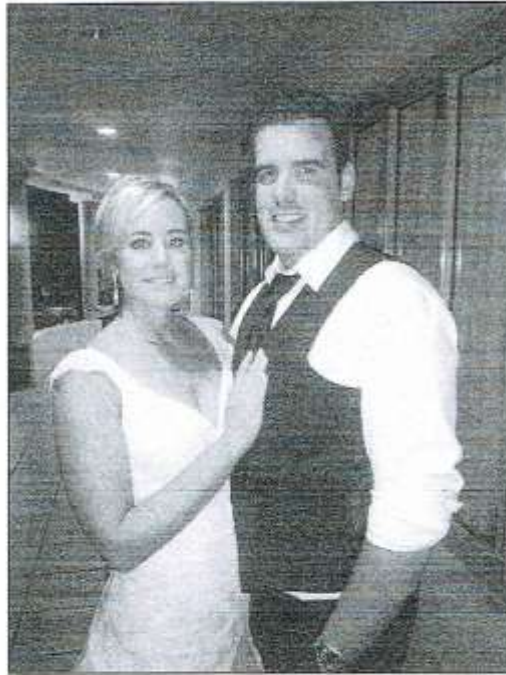
Fiona and Gary Genders



SNIPPETS

DONATION THANKS TO: The Basi family.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS TO: Mike O'Neil and Renee Mouat of Eureka Road, who wed on April 5th at Mills Reef Winery, Tauranga. Congratulations and very best wishes to you both.



NEW GRANDCHILD CONGRATULATIONS TO: Ron and Karen Spyve of Platt Road who welcomed their first grandchild, a bonny grandson, Cody William Spyve, on April 2nd. A darling son for Dean and Jen Spyve of Whitianga. Best wishes to all.

NEW BABY CONGRATULATIONS TO: Bilgehan Berberoglu and his wife Emel of Hooper Road, who welcomed their first child, a beautiful baby girl, Neslihan on April 14th. Bilgehan and Emel are originally from Turkey and moved into Eureka last Christmas. Best wishes to you all.

WELCOME TO EUREKA TO: Donna, Sandra and Chloe Daniels who have purchased Angela Goulstone's home on Eureka Road. Sandra is Donna's Mum, and Chloe, nearly 8 years, is Donna's daughter. They hail from Auckland and are loving country life and having room for their three dogs, Nikita, Narla and Chico. A warm welcome to you all. Phone 8241015.

IDEAS AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST are requested and welcomed by the Hall committee from local residents on what type of community social and family functions you would favour. The last few years have seen a number of Pot Luck Dinners held annually. Is it time for a change? Suggestions have been: a Mid-Winter Xmas dinner, or a BBQ, day or night time, before the end of daylight saving. Your input would be gratefully received. Please phone Gayle Orr 8241713 or Gail Mayall 8241758

RAINFALL

	March 2014	Year to 31 st March
Total (mm)	12	58.5
Average (1994-2014)	71	218
Difference	-59	-159.5



Rainfall recorded on 8 days.

In 2008 – 44mm was recorded to the end of March and in 2013 – 75mm were recorded to the end of March of which 37mm fell in March.

The previous lowest March total in the recorded period was 13mm in 2010

EUREKA EXPRESS AGM REPORT

The 34th Annual General Meeting of the *Eureka Express* was held on 17th March at the Eureka Hall. Ten residents attended the meeting which was chaired by Editor Gail Mayall.

Income for the 2013 financial year was \$3,682.81; Cash expenditure \$2,289.06 – a profit before depreciation of \$1,393.75. Bank balances at the end of the financial year were – Encore account \$594.15, Bonus Saver account \$10,570.36. Advertising charges will remain the same.

The Editor outlined the various events organized by the *Eureka Express* team in 2013 included the Annual Easter colouring competition – 39 entries were received, a very successful Ladies Night organized by Becky Walling and very useful CPR training for all ages organized by Becky Walling and her colleagues from St John Morrinsville.

Guest editorials continued and are a feature of the *Express* enjoyed by all and the Editor thanked those who contributed. She also thanked the Committee for their support and hard work and mentioned Wendy Morch Assistant Editor who spends hours every month printing, illustrating and revamping copy and Treasurer Gayle Orr for her meticulous care of the accounts. She also thanked Sheryll Gordon who reviews the *Express* accounts, staff of Eureka Motors and Waikato Sheds for their willing support, advertisers, regular and new contributors and those who assist with printing and delivering the *Express* each month. The Committee is also grateful for the many donations they receive from past and present residents of Eureka.

In line with discussions at the 2013 AGM re making a financial contribution towards community facilities, the Committee pledged \$5,000 from the *Express* funds towards the purchase of new chairs for Eureka Hall.

The Editor commented the *Express* Committee would welcome offers of assistance from residents at any time. Wendy Morch expressed an interest in training someone to take over the management of the website.

Committee 2014

- Patron – Colin Duncan
- Editor – Gail Mayall
- Assistant Publisher – Wendy Morch
- Covers – Anna Drever
- Minutes Secretary – Jill McGuire
- Club Secretary – Lin Buckley
- Treasurer – Gayle Orr
- Gardening Gurus – Jennifer Mace & Mike Roach
- On the Home Front column – Leanne Hilder
- Ladies a Plate column – Michelle Arundel
- Website – Wendy Morch
- Printing Assistant – Lorraine Morrison
- Typists – Margaret Smith, Shona Pryor and Jill McGuire
- Committee / News / Collating: Becky Walling, Dinah Booth, Michelle Arundel, Karin Vink

EUREKA EXPRESS

ADVERTISING RATES		CONTACTS – Gail or Gayle	
Classified Advertisements	Free	Gail Mayall (Editor)	Gayle Orr (Treasurer)
Small Business Advertisements	\$10 / month	70 Eureka Road	1139 SH26
• x 10 insertions	\$90 / year	Ph 8241 753	R D 6, HAMILTON 3266
One Third Page Advertisement	\$15 / month	Fax 8241 023	Ph 8241 713
• x 10 insertions	\$120 / year	e-mail:	e-mail: gorr@xtre.co.nz
One Half Page Advertisement	\$20 / month	editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz	
• x 10 insertions	\$160 / year		

MARKET PLACE



WANTED FOR RENT: house in the Eureka/Tauwhare area, 3 – 4 bedrooms, for family attending Tauwhare School. Please reply to Helen phone 8296122 or 0272452808

REPEAT SHED SALE: 11th – 18th May, anytime, just ring 0277172131
Lots Left – Make an offer

- Lots of Health books
- Bits and Pieces:

Main items:

200 mm Double Bench grinder
2 Battery chargers
Weed Whipper (not used)
Rabbit Bait Station
Crow Bar
Pinch Bar
Seed Trays
Water Distiller
Cordless Drill
Power Drill
Laundry tub (stainless steel)
Tow Trailer (garden use)
Twin Gear Juice extractor
Table and Chairs (round)
4 plastic chairs
Portable gas stove



Graham Mayall ph 0277172131



EUREKA BADMINTON CLUB



JUNIOR BADMINTON

The season will commence on

Wednesday 7th May

(runs every Wednesday of the 2nd and 3rd school terms).

6pm to 7.30pm
Matangi Hall

For children 8 year olds upwards.
Racquets available.

Any enquiries to Bryce on 0274 489678



EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION

Once again a very successful Easter Colouring Competition was held. A big thank you to all the children who entered their beautiful work. 43 entries were received, including the five lovely covers. Thank you also to our Judge who once again had a very difficult task as you would have seen if you got the chance to admire the children's work which was on display over Easter at Eureka Motors.

RESULTS

Juniors

1 st	Lauren Pryor	(6 years)
2 nd	Mikaela Davidson	(7 years)
3 rd	Leo Wallace	(7 years)
HC	Noah Ellesmere	(6 years)
HC	Stirling Grant	(5 years)



Commended: Joe Barr (6), Alison Brunton (6), Brad Meek (6), Olivia Billings (6), Hannah Gordon (6), Ben Taylor (6), Zoe Buckley (7), Madix Knight (5), Reuben Jones (7), Xavier Knight (7), Isaak Clark (6), Letitia Taylor (7).

Seniors

1 st	Rachel Basi	(9 years)
2 nd	Amy Gordon	(10 years)
3 rd	Ashleigh Mayall	(9 years)
HC	Emma Taylor	(9 years)
HC	Millie Wallace	(10 years)

Commended: Alex Meredith (9), Ben Newman (8), Brixana Gothard (10), Kendall Buckley (10), Trelise Jones (8), Shavana-Lee Harris (9), Hollie Clark (8), Jessica Savage (8), Jessica Chambers (8)

Pre-School

Cate Barr (2 years), Wilha Grant (3), Bianca Ellesmere (4), Daniel Pryor (4), Bruno Wallace (2), Shaun Mayall (3), Patrick Gordon (4)

Covers

Renee Mayall (11), Danielle Gordon (11), Alexandra Reed (13), Mya Haggett (11), Taylah Buckley (11)



www.eurekaexpress.co.nz

Yes we have a website. Thanks to the expertise and generosity of Wendy and John Morch and their internet business **IPNetGroup**, we are online. The site is still evolving and we welcome your input of Ideas, suggestions, photos and feedback as to how this site could be used.

Do contact Wendy on 8241 983 or Gail or a committee member.

editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz

For all your articles, photos, ideas and suggestions you may now use the above email address. It could be easier to remember than Gail's or Gayle's.

LOCAL HISTORY

Sadly our history book, "Eureka 1874 - 1984" is now out of print (but you could be loaned a copy to read or see it at the Library). However copies of the 2004 "School and District Jubilee" booklet are readily available and contain a synopsis of Eureka's history and development. For your copy, compliments of the Eureka Express Committee, please phone Gail or a committee member or collect from Eureka Motors.

TURLEY MURPHY BUS TIMETABLE



Leaves Morrinsville at 7:30am, 10:00am, 10:35am and 4:35pm

Allow approximately 10 minutes to reach Eureka. Stand on any corner of SH26 and the bus will stop. Buses are scheduled to arrive in Hamilton approximately 20 minutes later.

Fares Ex-Eureka Adults \$3.80 - Child \$1.90 (concession cards available)

Buses leave Hamilton at 9:00am, 3:35pm & 5:15pm

A Coromandel bus also leaves Hamilton at 1:20pm

(10:35am above from Morrinsville is the Coromandel bus too).

Phone 07 884 8208

EUREKA HALL



Your local hall, the Eureka Community Centre as it is officially known, is always available for hire and you are encouraged to use it for meetings, functions - including weddings, birthday or anniversary celebrations - luncheons, dinners or any other gathering you may be considering.

For bookings and hireage costs please phone Gail Mayall 8241 758

EUREKA EXPRESS

APRIL 2014

ANZAC DAY

April 25th



By
ALEXANDRA
REED

Tauwhare School

1627 Hamilton 3287 Near Postland
admin@tauwhare.school.nz
07 824 0064



Our school is rapidly growing. So much so, our sandpit has become far too small. So, thanks to a grant from Fonterra's Grassroots we have created a massive Sea of Sand. This is a work in progress. We have the huge sand pit, and will soon have a ship and water play.

8 members of the Royal NZ Navy came to school last week to build a Burma Bridge in our new SEA OF SAND. They were absolutely delightful with the children. They showed them how to splice ropes, they talked to them about their various roles and responsibilities and they answered all of the very many questions the children had.



LUKE LOVEGROVE



We loved having Luke Lovegrove come to our school to play his beautiful harp for the children. We were all enchanted by this glorious instrument. Luke patiently answered the very many questions and kept us all well entertained.

43 Year 5 & 6 children spent a week at Te Rau Aroha, Waihi Beach Camp. Here is an example of a recount on their experiences:

Running down from the breakfast hall, digging through our over-packed bags, pulling on our socks and shoes, I was ready for our walk to Orakawa. The second day of camp, ready for our next activity, not knowing how exhausted we would be when we returned. Leaving camp, the 43 children ran along the hot golden sand, the gorgeous aqua ocean shimmered like a pot of diamonds in the background. Walking, all I could see was sand, sand, and the hill we were to climb.

Soon, the beach was covered in shiny, sharp shells. Scattering everywhere, everyone was seizing shells and dashing in and out of the frothing waves. Walking along, our aching feet shuffling through the soft sand, the smiling sun winked down at us. Finally, after miles and miles of sand, we reached the end of the beach. We sat and relaxed our feet, the hill to Orakawa towering above us. After we had finished relaxing our sore feet, we got to climb the monstrous hill to Orakawa.

Later, we lost sight of the smiley sun, and the trees and shrubs swarmed around us like angry bees, we were prisoners. Stubbing our toes along, as we moaned and groaned, growing nearer to the top. We climbed and climbed and moaned and moaned as we trudged along. Soon, we were at the top. Eager to reach the beach, we stumbled and ran to the beach. The sun stretched his fingers towards us, the frolicking waves ran towards us, whispering silently to us.

We let our bags tumble off our shoulders and we started digging through our backpacks, eager to get in the waves, and pulled out our lunch boxes. Wolfing my roll, I sprinted down to the sparkling sea, dipping my toes in and out of the whispering, wild waves. On the shore, children could be seen digging up mountains of sand. Then, later, it was time to go.

Slipping and sliding up the hill, I'd forgotten to take my shoes and socks off, so now my feet were soggy. Reaching the top we limped down the other side. Then we saw the beach. Stripping my feet bare, I skipped through the waves. Dancing along the beach. Shuffling along soft sand. Scampering along the footpath, I reached the camp. Running to my dorm I collapsed like a dead tree. What a walk!

Emma Year 5

PART TIME CARETAKER We are looking for a new part time caretaker/handy person. Please contact the school 07 8240864 or admin@tauwhare.school.nz

Pukeko Preschool April 2014

Another busy month at Pukeko Preschool where there is always something happening. This month's fun included a hot air balloon and shared breakfast, a birthday hoedown (with a sheriff), a visit from Ruben the Road Safety Bear and watching the Navy build a bridge, Easter Egg hunt and working bee.

We would like to congratulate the Smith and Tau families for winning the Easter Raffle. Thank you to everyone who brought tickets and supported our centre.

We are open as normal during the school holidays – feel free to come and visit us in the grounds of Tauwhare School on Scotsman Valley Rd. Phone 824 0860, email pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz.



Tauwhare Playgroup

We have had a good first term of 2014, and finished with a flurry of crafts and Easter celebrations, including an Easter egg hunt at Matangi Reserve. The Easter Bunny was very generous and there were enough eggs for all the kids and mums to enjoy.

We joined in the community spirit and made 'hot air balloons' to celebrate the Balloons over Waikato festival.

Our first get together of Term 2 is on May the 8th; when we will be making Mothers Days cards and gifts. We also plan on celebrating everything regal at Queen's Birthday weekend; animals at the field days and a mid-winter Christmas party. So come along next term and join in the fun.



We meet at Tauwhare School's Multipurpose Room from 9am-12noon every Thursday. Bring a small plate for a shared morning tea. Hot drinks provided.

For more information, contact: Karina Hayward on 824 0932.
Like us on Facebook and keep up-to-date with what is happening.



TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

Welcome to the Club's March/April news. Our club nights are moving along well with a membership of 34. Visitors are invited to come and join us on any Thursday night. Anyone new to bowls is very welcome to come along and give bowls a try. Bowls is for all ages; it can be played as a serious competitive sport or purely as a social activity. No uniform or equipment is required. We have social visits both to and from other clubs, where you get to meet and mingle with many people.

Thank you to all members for making our first Open Tournament a great success. These tournaments are a lot of fun and are our only opportunity to raise extra funds and remain solvent.

Results:

20 March 2014 - Club Night

- Winners I Spencer, H Bargh, Grant Goodare
- Runners Up I Pizzini, C Olsen, R Hughes

27 March 2014 - Mulholland Trophy

- Winners R Bargh, N Stolwyk
- Runners Up B Meads, K McNally

3 April 2014 - Triples Championship

- Winners I Spencer, L Verner, E Porter
- Runners Up R Coxon, C Olsen, Glenda Goodare

10 April 2014 - Open Tournament

- Winners B Blisset's team (Orini)
- Runners Up L Stobie's team (Gordonton)

17 April 2014

- Leads & Twos (Pizzini Trophy)

- Winners B Grieveson, N Woodcock
- Runners Up Amber McNally, E Porter

- Skips & Threes (Pizzini Trophy)

- Winners J Hooper, R Arnold
- Runners Up L Grieveson, I Spencer



Upcoming Events

1 May 2014	Rinks Championship
8 May 2014	Club Night
15 May 2014	Pairs Championship
22 May 2014	Open Tournament (Triples) A plate please
29 May 2014	Club Night
5 June 2014	Esme Pope Memorial (Handicap singles)

Out and About

Congratulations to our ladies who were selected to represent Waikato in two recent Waikato fixtures.

- Bettridge Shield (12 top ladies) - B Meads and Amber and Bronwyn McNally
- Owen Montgomery Memorial (8 top ladies) - Amber McNally

More news next month on the Ross Arndt Trophy Tournament which is to be held at Otorohanga. Our three junior members are in the Waikato team. Best of luck Amber & Bronwyn McNally and Cameron Bargh.

'Til next month - Good bowling everyone

Robin Bargh Phone 824 1819

SCOTTISH CEILIDH (PRONOUNCED KAY-LEE)



DANCE TO SCOTTISH DUO
SANDY BRECHIN AND RONAN
MARTIN

Tauwhare Hall

Saturday May 17 - 7.30

\$20 waged/\$15 unwaged, family
concessions. Children under 12 free
Cash supper.



This is a family friendly, inclusive event where all dances are called by our exuberant visitors from Skye and Edinburgh. No partner or experience required, just solid shoes and smiles.

Renowned for their energetic and uplifting performances combined with good natured banter, Ronan Martin (fiddle) and Sandy Brechin (accordion) are two brilliant Scottish musicians.

Come along and enjoy a great night!

Contact: Noel Armstrong 824 0820 or 021 232 7819
P.O. Box 511, Cambridge 3450.

"Is This You"

On the Lighter Side



*Just a line to say I'm living
That I am not amongst the dead.
Though I am getting more forgetful
And mixed up in my head.
I've got used to my arthritis
To my dentures, I'm resigned
I can cope with my bifocals
But ye god's I miss my mind.
Sometimes I can't remember,
When I'm standing by the stair
If I should be going up for something
Or have I just come down from there
And before the fridge so often
My mind is full of doubt
Now did I put some food away
Or did I come to take some out.
If it's not my turn to write Dear
I hope you wont get sore
I may think that I have written
And don't want to be a bore
So remember, I do love you
And wish you lived near
But now it is time to mail this
And say goodbye my dear
I stand beside the mail box
And my face, it sure is red
Instead of posting this to you
I have opened it instead!*



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IN YOUR GARDEN

At last, the rain has come and so have the weeds, so there is much to be done in the garden. Firstly there is all the rubbish to be cleared away and lots of clipping back to be done, in other words all gardens will need a major clean-up.



Lift and divide perennials and get spring bulbs planted, prepare the ground well and you will reap the benefits with bigger, stronger plants and more flowers. Make sure you dig in plenty of compost, sheep pellets and blood and bone into all areas of the garden before replanting to replenish the soil exhausted by summer plants. Earlicheer and Hyacinths are the essence of spring and need to be planted now. Dutch Irises, tulips, freesias, crocus and daffodils and lilies all need to be planed during May.

Autumn is also the best time to plant new trees, shrubs, hedges and lawns while the ground is still warm. You won't see dramatic leaf growth, but the roots will be taking off and getting plants well established before next summer's growth. Prepare the ground well with a generous mix of compost and add slow release fertiliser to the base of planting holes. Stake trees at planting time to protect them from root damage instead of waiting until a storm catches you out.

Stop dead heading roses to give canes time to harden up. When the hips are left on it tells the rose to draw on potash in the soil to harden up. One gets less dieback if the canes are hardened off. In our area don't prune roses until mid -July.

Asparagus is not ready to be cut back yet, wait until the growth starts to yellow then cut just above the ground and let them die off naturally and then remove them when the plant starts to shoot away again.

Potatoes should have been harvested by now, make sure they are clean and dry before stowing away in a dark place.



Looking ahead, plant seedlings of cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, beetroot, winter lettuce, Brussels sprouts, spinach, carrots, leeks, silverbeet, spring onions and winter herbs like parsley, chives, rosemary and mint.

If you are not using your vege patch over the winter, sow some blue lupin or mustard seed – it's an easy and natural way to add nutrients and improve the soil structure for spring. Just ensure you dig it back into the soil before it starts to flower.

Don't abandon your garden over autumn and it will reward you come spring.

**Happy gardening,
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 Manuka honey.

BEE Happy, CHERYL MC FARLANE.



On the home front.....

Wow a whole new concept for some of us, eco builds. Since studying interior design and design concepts I have always taken a great interest in the idea of a sustainable builds, so recently I attended a workshop on techniques of earth building. This was held in an eco-neighbourhood smack in the midst of Auckland, yes Auckland!! They use cohousing, community, permaculture and sustainability in a way we could all learn something from.



The course consisted of hands on mud brick making, learning the right mix between clay and straw and or fine products. This concept is amazing and to think most of what we could use is in the soil. We went on to build a mud brick wall using our made mortar and a thin layer of plaster made with a mix of paper pulp and other materials. Also learning the concept of conventional cob building, low density mud brick, low density cob housing, mortars and eastern and lime plasters, and yes all made from basic easy access natural earth products. To build a home in this way is not an easy task to take on, with lots of hands on labour intensive work but very doable, sustainable and extremely impressive way to live.

There are many tests that need to be followed and complied with to do an earth build of any sort. New Zealand building standards and tests are required for an earth build and critical weather protection a must with complying codes too.

Very interesting and possible task to build from natural resources and people are doing it and they are doing it well.



Leanne Hilder

CO Comment for Eureka Express

Hurray, the drought has finally broken! It's been a testing time. One farmer I know has been feeding 100% supplement for 80 days. It's a chore that eventually takes a toll on the people in the business even if the profit may be still near record levels.



My replacement starts on Wednesday April 30th. Her name is Jaimee Morgan. She has been working for CRV Ambreed for the last 3 ½ years in their breeding division and comes with a degree from Massey University. She is looking forward to working in the broader farm system space that DairyNZ focuses on.

To make it through the interview process that DairyNZ expects it's potential CO candidates to go through, is no mean feat. Would you make it?

1. Submit a good CV and covering letter that secures a job interview
2. Undergo a 45 minute probing interview
3. Give a 5 minute presentation summarising a 3 page article on the "change process". The idea here is to gauge the applicants ability to distil key principles and communicate them to an audience
4. 2 or maybe 3 of the most suitable applicants are then put through a second "interview" a few days later, conducted on a farm. This time it was hosted by Philip Mayall on Eureka Road. This is basically an assessment of rapport building with the farmer as they gather information to run a mock discussion group. They then get to facilitate a mock discussion group and come up with some key recommendations from the group based on a real problem which needs solving on the host farm
5. They then have to go away and write up a maximum 2 page report on the recommendations for the host farmer.
6. Then there is an on-line psychometric test to get an idea of their personality profile.
7. Lastly there is reference checking

I feel tired just thinking about! What it does mean, though, is that we increase the chances of the new CO not only really enjoying the job, but farmers also getting someone that will be great to work with, facilitate a good discussion group, and prove an excellent resource for the 500 farmers under their watch.

In the past we have used Dan Hinton and his team and also Brett Gordon and his team to host the second interviews on farm. We find it really helpful having local farmers' perspectives in the choice of new CO's. Thanks to those who have given of their time in this process.

May brings 3 key events for me. Firstly it's the month that dairy farmers get to vote YES or NO to the DairyNZ levy continuing. A high turnout is important. It is a one in every six year event so make the effort and vote while you remember and have the paper work at hand. Secondly it is time for the big DairyNZ Farmers Forum at Mystery Creek on May 7th and 8th. This only comes around every 2 years. Thirdly I go on the road for 2 weeks with 2 others judging the NZ final of the Dairy Industry Awards, Farm Manager section. This is my third and final year of this privileged opportunity.



I'm hopeful that the next CO comment will be jointly written by Jaimee and me and then, from June onwards it will be all over to Jaimee.

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Coughing Pets

As the season changes, we notice that coughs and colds become common again. This is also true in our pets, but there are many reasons for your pet to cough. Coughing is a symptom of underlying disease such as infections, heart disease or cancer. Here are some common respiratory causes of coughs in our pets.

Cats

Feline Asthma

Feline asthma is a common cause of coughing in the cat. It causes a cough that might be mild but persistent. The airways are inflamed which leads to narrowing or blockage of the airways from swelling and excessive excretions. Irritants like cigarette smoke or inhaled particles (e.g. pollens or house dust) cause airway spasm and reduce airflow into the lungs. Signs include a dry, non-productive cough, wheezing or labored breathing. There is no cure for the condition but there are medications available that can help your cat live an active healthy life with this disease.

Lung Worm

The *Aelurostrongylus* worm is common in outdoor cats, especially those that hunt rabbits etc. your cat may have a persistent dry cough. The worm lives within the terminal bronchioles and alveolar ducts of the lungs and heavy infestations lead to heavy and labored breathing. The worm is eaten and then it migrates out of the gut and into the lungs. Traditional worm tablets do not treat this type of worm and so other products have to be given.



Dogs

Canine Infectious Cough

This used to be known as Kennel Cough but was renamed as your dog does not just have to be in kennels to contract it. It is very infectious, so even meeting other dogs at the local dog park is enough to spread it. It is not a serious disease in otherwise healthy dogs but it can leave your pet coughing for up to a month. It is caused by a combination of viruses and bacteria causing irritation to the trachea (windpipe) causing a dry, hacking cough which sounds like your dog is choking on something stuck in their throat. Treatment is available and generally there are no long lasting effects, however there is a vaccine available.

If you have any questions from the article above or have any queries in general, please do not hesitate to contact the friendly staff at Newstead Veterinary Services.

Nitrate Poisoning

Something to consider if feeding crops such as sorghum, new sorghum crops, turnip leaves, oats and new grass paddocks, **especially short rotation Italian ryegrasses**. Climatic conditions which predispose to high plant nitrate levels are: drought (nitrate builds up in and around roots of plant) followed by rain (sudden uptake of nutrients and growth spurt of plant) and also: cloudy weather with otherwise good growing conditions.



Recently we sampled re-growth sorghum and found the base to be very toxic and the leaves very mildly toxic. We retested the plants a few days after they had been sprayed with roundup and had the same results. If anything the leaves may have been slightly more toxic after the roundup spray. Nitrate accumulates from the base up so the base is always more toxic than the leaf. It is possible to graze plants containing nitrate but the animals need to be managed very carefully, ensuring they are fed before they go onto the crop, especially high energy food such as maize. **Nitrate affected crops should only be grazed for about an hour.** Graze in the early afternoon of a very sunny day as the sunlight helps convert the accumulated nitrate into plant tissue.

Does Baling Or Ensiling Reduce Nitrate Levels In Feeds?

Ensiling may reduce nitrate concentrations under some conditions. However, this cannot be relied upon to always ensure lower nitrate levels. Crops ensiled with high soluble sugar content (e.g. cereal grains) have a rapid fermentation process. This rapid fermentation does not promote degradation of nitrate during the ensiling. Checking silage nitrate levels when the pit is being filled usually provides an accurate indication of what the nitrate level will be later on.

Curing and baling will not reduce nitrate levels. In fact, if round bale green feed, is baled too moist (18-20% moisture) and heats up the problem can become worse. The nitrate present in the feed may be converted to nitrites by the microbial action that causes heating. Nitrites in a feed are ten times more toxic than nitrates.

Update on Theileria

The Theileria outbreak continues with the most recent (last three months), mainly in **South Auckland, Bay of Plenty and the Waikato**. Outbreaks happen after the infected animal's health status is compromised, for example, because of stress with calving. At the moment the stress because of drought and lack of feed could be responsible for the current Theileria outbreak. Usually we get called out because these affected animals are slow, depressed and salivating and have ocular and nasal discharges. Mucosal membranes are often pale. The clinical diagnoses can only be confirmed by sending in bloods and identifying the parasite.



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NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

I was able to purchase tickets to attend the opening of the **Avantidrome** on 12 April and to see the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge open this amazing facility.

The track is fully enclosed and has a 250m indoor cycling track with a permanent seating capacity of 1,500 seats - expandable to 4000 for major events.

The design allows for unimpeded views within the main area because the main structure is supported from the exterior circumference with no internal supporting columns. The building is 77 metres across and 120 metres long and at its highest point is the equivalent of a six storey building. The steel structure has approximately 525 tonnes of structural steel, the metal roof covers an area of 6,800m² and 3,500m³ of concrete was used.

More than 60 per cent of the complex's opening hours will be for community use with cycling development and safety programmes as well as bikes available for beginners to seniors. There was also a public cafe, fitness zone, and changing rooms. The complex will also be used by schools and bike clubs.



The first thing you notice when you enter the facility is the heat. There is underfloor heating in the floor of the arena and the temperature inside the velodrome is maintained at around a sweltering 28 degrees Celsius. Warm air is conducive to fast times not only because it helps keep the athletes' muscles loose and flexible, but also because warm air is less dense than cooler air, decreasing the aerodynamic resistance the riders encounter.

The opening finished around 3:30 and we then stayed on to see the Prime Minister open the next section of the Te Awa Cycle way and the new Gallagher Bike Skills Park, which are on the southern side of the Avantidrome. The Gallagher Bike Skills Park offers a junior street bike circuit, a mountain bike skills course and a pump track for BMX riders.

As I mentioned in my last newsletter the Cambridge to Avantidrome is the latest section in what will be a 70 km river ride when completed next year. The PM noted that figures showed 97,000 people had ridden on cycle ways around the country in January alone with huge numbers of walkers, as well as cyclists, using the tracks. This particular track is a grade two cycleway, which means it is great for children and families and for anyone wanting to ride for an hour or two. It offers a whole range of options and provides a safe cycling environment for cyclists as an alternative to the sometimes risky pastime of cycling on public roads.



The **draft Annual Plan 2014/15** is the review of the third year of our 2012-2022 Long Term Plan (LTP) Navigating the Future. Whilst the LTP provides a long-term perspective, this draft Annual Plan contains the detail of what's planned for the 2014/2015 financial year. **Submissions are now open and close on 8th May.**

You will have received information on the Annual Plan through the mail which includes a submission form but copies can also be accessed on the District Council website. Submissions can be made in one of three ways - you can complete a submission on line, return to any service centre or fold the form and post to the District Council. For those wanting to speak to Councillors about their submissions, hearings will be in Tuakau on 26 May, Raglan on 27 May and Ngaruawahia on 29 May.

A number of Council's regulatory functions have now been added to internet banking as registered payees. Now you don't have to know our bank account number. Simply type 'Waikato DC' into the search function in *Bill Payments* and then select the payee from the list that corresponds to the application type on your invoice.

These include payments to Council's Building Department for building consents etc, Environmental Health Department for food, health and alcohol licences. Also dog registrations, resource consents, LIM reports, property information requests etc.

Submissions to **Waikato District Council's proposed psychoactive substances policy** have now been summarised, with a number of key themes emerging.

Submissions closed in February this year with 483 received from across the Waikato district. From these submissions, the top three most common themes relate to the criteria around the proposed areas where premises selling legal highs could potentially be located. 79 submitters are opting to be heard and we will hear these 5-7 May at Ngaruawahia.

Contact me at any time - more next month

Rob McGuire - Councillor Eureka Ward
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