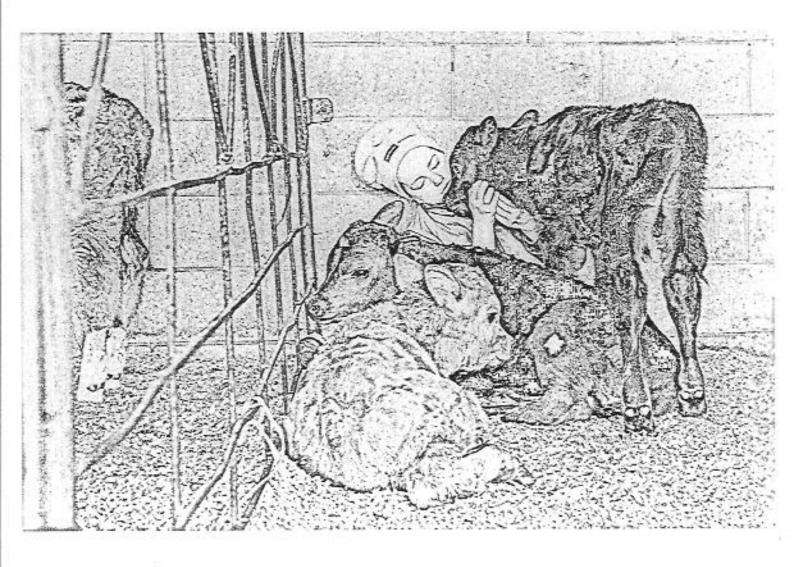
Eureka Express

VOL XXXVII no.7 Circ315

August 2016



Spring is nature's way of saying, "Let's party!"

BY ASHLEIGH MAYALL

Notice of AGM

Tauwhare Community Hall Committee

Wednesday 14 September 2016

7.30pm at Tauwhare Hall

We welcome people from the community to join the committee at the AGM.

We will meet up every two months to discuss Hall business, such as bookings and maintenance, and communicate in between meetings via email and phone.

We are planning to get involved in organising more community events in the year ahead, so are keen to hear from people who would like to make things happen.

Any queries, please contact one of the current committee members:

Lockie Verner 824 0716		
Heather Mollekin	824 0739	
Adelle Cooke	823 1906	
Ivan Pizzini	824 0812	
Becky Sharman	824 0150	
Pippa Berry-Cope	824 0846	



Eureka Storage

Many options from 9m2 - 307m2 Short term + long term Call me to discuss your requirements



Pedigree + Commercial Purebreeds For Sale Bulls, cows + yearlings

117 Hooper Road, Eureka

EDITORIAL

Hi, for those of you who don't know me my name is Janie Smith and I live on the Gordon Farm with my husband Dan and our two very busy children, Mieya and Jax. I myself am a townie born and breed and farming has only been a part of my life for the past 8 years. I have never worked on a farm, instead I am a qualified early childhood teacher who works full time as an assistant manager in Morrinsville.

When asked to write this article I was trying to decide what I could write about and as I was thinking our boss rode past our house on his motorbike with a trail of children riding behind him and it instantly brought a smile to my face. What



is a better part of farming than the ability to share it with our children? Every weekend our children are asking to go out on the farm, whether it's on the motorbike, tractor or on their push bikes. They love splashing in the puddles, visiting the calves, helping out dad and exploring the barns. So I decided I would write about the importance of 'real play' in childhood.

Real play is described as: risky play such as heights, rough and tumble, fast speeds and independent exploration: It is also nature play for instance getting muddy, playing with sticks, building huts and climbing trees: as well as object play such as loose parts and construction. I bet that if I asked you to think back and name your five favourite activities/experiences from your childhood 90% of you would have answers that were all outdoor-based play and many would include the examples I gave above. Childhood has changed so much over the past three decades that many of our children's play opportunities involve supervised, stagnant, brightly coloured structures or games that leave little room for imagination.



I remember leaving home after breakfast as a child and returning back home in time for dinner. My parents had no idea where we were until we returned and told them the stories of the days' adventures, including venturing into the bush behind our house, eeling, playing bullrush, making clay creations, swinging on rope swings over blackberry bushes and swimming in the creeks nearby. I realise that the world is not as safe anymore and society expects us to keep eyes on our children 24/7, however, the experiences and opportunities that we had were priceless and taught us so much about boundaries and

limitations. They gave us independence, creativity, risk management abilities, social skills and survival dexterity. Even the rain didn't stop us, we were naturally drawn to the natural elements of 'real play' such as wind, water and mud.

Studies have shown that by gaining these opportunities and skills children's anxiety levels will decrease, and they will learn to problem solve, plan, and manage potentially dangerous situations. Additionally, there is evidence that these real play activities do not increase the chance of injuries.

Unfortunately, we do not have it as simple as allowing children to experience real play at home as our homes are also work places where we need to abide by OSH and work safe standards, I just ask that you remember that these real play experiences are so very important and create chances to set your children up to be lifelong learners.



Snippets

WELCOME TO EUREKA: to the new owners of the Wallace property at the Holland Road end of Eureka Road. We warmly welcome Hannah Duncan back to Eureka along with her husband Simon Lynch and baby son, Eoin, 7 ½ months. Simon and Hannah have been living in the city and are enjoying the quiet, and also the close proximity of Eureka. Hi to you all.

WELCOME BACK TO EUREKA also to Ken and Rhonda Johnson and family who used to live on Tauwhare Road a few years ago. Ken and Rhonda have bought Kevin and Lin Buckley's home on Waverley Road and are warmly welcomed back to Eureka. (Kevin and Lin have moved into their lovely, new home on the farm.)

EUREKA BOOK FAIR: Thank you to all who patronised my Eureka Book Fair a few weeks ago. It was arranged at fairly short notice so mail drops didn't get to as many letterboxes as I'd have liked. I am planning on another book fair, next year, probably late autumn/early winter and will do more publicity. A number of people indicated that they may wish to donate books. If so, please contact me on: trudianngray60@gmail.com. Thank you again. Trudi Gray.

HELP NEEDED. ARE YOU A KEEN RAINFALL RECORDER? From October the EE will need a new weather person to record our rainfall. We are greatly indebted to Jack Hooper who has faithfully recorded Eureka's rainfall for the last eight years. Sadly, Jack and Linda will be leaving the district in October. If this job sounds like one for you please get in touch with Jack, who has offered his spreadsheet and records. Phone 8241037, or Gail on 8241758.



AND ON A LIGHTER NOTE

EAT AND DRINK WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE

For those of you who watch what you eat, here's the final word on nutrition and health. It's a relief to know the truth after all those conflicting medical studies.

- The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or the Americans.
- The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.
- The Italians drink excessive amounts of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.
- The Germans drink a lot of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

Conclusion: Eat and Drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you.

From "Keeping On" Canterbury

RAINFALL

	July 2016	Year to 31st July	
Total (mm)	165.5	684	
Average (1994-2016)	135	754.5	
Difference + 30.5		+ 60.5	



Rainfall recorded on 17 days.



EUREKA BADMINTON CLUB

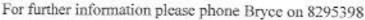


Junior Club News

Junior badminton has been going very well every Wednesday evening 6pm to 7.30pm in the Matangi Hall.

New players are always welcome.

Club Championships are underway and the season will end at the end of term on September 21st





MARKET PLACE:

FIREWOOD FOR SALE

Blackwattle and Blue Gum
Great for BBQs and Open Fires, prepare for next season at the old price.
\$90.00 cubic metre, pick-up or delivery negotiable
Ph Ace 8241891 or 02102889247

HAY FOR SALE

Conventional bales. \$7 per bale Please phone Ace 8241891 or 02102889247

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One Half Page Advertisement x 10 insertions	\$20 I month \$160 I year		e-mail: eorr@xtra.co.nz

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE EUREKA HALL COMMUNITY CENTRE held Tuesday 16th August 2016 at 7.45pm in the Hall.

Present: 8 (Chair) Philip Mayall, Gail Mayall (Sec), Lionel Orr (Treas), Barry Mayall, Gayle Orr, Alan Morrison, Rob McGuire (WDC Member)

Apologies: Margaret and Maurice Smith.

Absent: Peter Scatchard, Deane Morris, Karin Vink.

Minutes of the pervious AGM were read and received.

A. Morrison/ L Orr. Carried.

Matters arising:

- Painter, Wayne Brown, spot primed and rust treated the hall roof in April, Cost \$533.60.
- The bus shelter was completed in September. Our thanks to Waikato Sheds for this generous donation to the community.

Correspondence: From WDC. Terms of Reference – Management of Halls. The important change included is that Hall Committees must, from October, organise contents insurance. (The building will still be insured by the Council). After discussion it was decided to approach an Insurance Broker for advice.

Financial report:

The Financial Report was presented by Treasurer, Lionel Orr. The 2016 - 2016 Financial Statement has been audited by John Morch. Balance at 30 June \$17,435.03

That Financial Report be accepted, and John Morch be asked to continue as Auditor.

Mvd L Orr/ A Morrison Carried

Chairman's report:

Two break-ins occurred in June. Nothing was taken the first time and the door was repaired, but a week later a second break-in and the security cabinet in which our Eureka history was stored, was stolen. Thankfully the cabinet was found within a few days but it had been opened and dumped at Murray Oaks Reserve on the Te Aroha side of Morrinsville, and the contents had suffered water damage. However, most can be salvaged.

No action yet on replacing spouting but Barry Mayall has cleaned out the spouting which is an on-going problem with large nearby trees.

Election of officers: As no resignations received it was Mvd A Morrison/B Mayall that the present officers and committee be re-elected en bloc.

Carried

Re-elected: Chairperson: Philip Mayall, Secretary: Gail Mayall, Treasurer: Lionel Orr.

Committee: Alan Morrison, Barry Mayall, Gayle Orr, Karin Vink, Margaret Smith, Deane Morris, Peter Scatchard.

That the three Bank Signatories, L Orr, G Mayall and P Mayall, remain the same - Mvd G Orr/A Morrison - Carried

Hall Charges: That the Hall charges (see enclosed) remain the same with the Secretary to use discretion with non-resident use and hireage. Mvd G Mayall/L.Orr. Carried

General Business: 1 That Maurice Smith be thanked for his regular mowing of the hall grounds. Sec. to action.

He is agreeable to continuing for another year.

- 2 Water. A discussion was held regarding the pros and cons of hooking up town water, but the trees would still be an on-going problem blocking spoutings. Rob McGuire to get a quote from WDC for possible connection.
- 3 That the AGM Minutes, the list of committee members and Hireage rates plus the audited accounts be sent to the WDC by end of September. Mvd L Orr/P Mayall. Carried The meeting closed at 8.35 pm



AGRICULTURAL DAY - Saturday 15 October 2016

Plans are underway for our Agricultural Day (Calf Club Day); which will be held on SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER 2016.

Agricultural Day provides the opportunity for children to undertake as their own responsibility, a home project connected with rearing of an animal. It provides a link between home and school and between school and the community. It encourages self-reliance and responsibility of carrying out a chosen task. It provides opportunities for children to develop a range of skills, including knowledge and understanding of animals. There will be classes for calves, lambs, kid goats, a pet section and alternative challenges. All children attending school will participate in or contribute to the day.

NEWSTEAD MODEL COUNTRY SCHOOL PRODUCTION "ZOOM!"

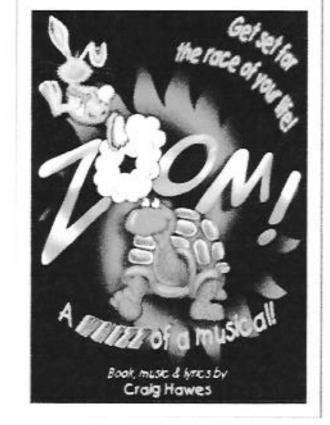
20 - 22 September

A modern take on the story of the Hare and the Tortoise, with lots of catchy music and dancing.

It incorporates our virtues in an exciting way where all children are involved.

School Cross Country

Our School Cross Country is next Friday 26th August. We will start walking to the course at



11.00 and we expect our first race to start at 11.30. We want every child to give it a go, unless their health is in such a state that they cannot do it. If your child is unable to do cross country, please send a note. We are trying to get across to children that 'success' looks like giving something a go and doing their best regardless of where they finish up in the race so please encourage your children to go into the day with this attitude. We look forward to seeing you all there

Personal Responsibility

This term we are developing our Personal Responsibility Rubric which is part of our Learning Tree. This is currently found in our Learning Hub part of our website. We are now getting student and parent input into what Personal Responsibility looks, feels and sounds like and how we can help enable our students to become an 'expert' in Personal Responsibility.

Tauwhare School

a school Develop at 100 n

Accomplished Learners Striving for Success in Tomorrow's World

Roll 184

CROSS COUNTRY - 2016

We were so proud of each and every child who ran in the cross country on Friday. We celebrated the successes of the winners, and we cherished the moment the children who find cross country a real challenge crossed the finish line, having done their very best. Every child showed perseverance and resilience and such sportsmanship. There were so many moments where children were cheering and supporting each other.

It was a glorious day, a great turn out of

supporters, and great organisation.

Thank you so much to the Wilson family for allowing us to run on their farm

Congratulations to Danny Sinclair, a very

convincing winner, by a significant margin of the Open Cup Race. Danny was there to shake hands with 2nd Cayden Jackson, 3rd Alex Bendall and 4th Alex Speirs.

Hiwi The Kiwi The Minstrel arrived this month to

entertain us with his stories and song. He told us why we must protect our fish for the future by checking the size & quantity, holding fish by a wet towel which protects skin and scales, and to never touch saltwater fish with fresh water until we are about to eat it.



Olympic art creations using Tin Foil The winners of Mrs Cook's Garden to Table Master Chef Competition



STORE ARTERA

The Fog

The fog is like a cold blanket when I go outside. It is silent and it is spooky like a wet ghost. It is too hard to see in the fog. The fog is covering the grass. The fog is crawling on my hand and all over me.

By C.J. aged 7 years



ASSEMBLIES

I love Friday

assemblies! Our School Ambassadors run a brilliant assembly, with performances by children, teachers invited to tell their special moment of the week and Peer Support and Bus Monitors giving out delightful certificates to the children who have been showing our 3 R's — Resilience, Respect, Responsibility.

Last week was pretty special with one of our 5 years olds surprising Mrs Elliot with a certificate for being



the best teacher. So sweet, Charlotte Hinton!

Pukeko Preschool – September 2016

At our AGM in August we farewelled Keren Savage and Craig Sharman from our Trust Board. After many years of tireless work for the preschool, their children are now all at school so it is sadly time for them to move on. We thank both Keren and Craig and their families for everything they have contributed to the preschool during their time on the Board. Emma Elliot has been elected as our new chairperson, and we welcome Pam Hunter and Viv MacDonald to the Board. Pippa Berry-Cope remains on the Board and continues her fantastic work applying for grants and co-ordinating our fundraising efforts. Keren has kindly agreed to temporarily remain on the Board until our new members are able to join at the next meeting in September.

A big thank you to the Savage family who once again opened their goat farm for us and allowed the children to play with the kids and to the Bell family who opened Extreme Edge for us. Both trips were amazing and were enjoyed by the children and the adults.

A reminder that we have extended our opening hours to 8am - 4pm. We still offer our main session 8.45am-2.45pm and our short session 8.45am-1.00pm. You now have the option of choosing your hours for bookings over 6.5 hours (a flat fee is charged for bookings over 6.5 hours, less any eligible ECE hours). We are continuing to offer 20 hours ECE, which at Pukeko is completely free, there are no extra charges for a 6 hour or 4.25 hour day, within the 20 hours. This means you can enrol for 3 x 6-hour sessions (or 4 x short sessions) at no cost to you.







Tauwhare Playgroup

Back at playgroup for Term 3, the year seems to be racing by! Already, we are planning activities and event s for Spring, such as Fathers Day crafts (Fathers Day is 4 September), and a trip to the bike park at the Velodrome in Cambridge, to make the most of the lovely weather.



The children love to dance and make music, so we got out all the instruments, and they marched, danced and banged drums. We also had lots of toys out that week, as you can see from the photo above. It is great that all the parents and carers always pitch in to tidy up!

About Tauwhare Playgroup:

Tauwhare playgroup is friendly and fun group, where parents, grandparents, caregivers, children and babies meet together in a relaxed environment. Everyone is welcome.

Our playgroup is free to attend, and our activities include:

- Music and singing
- Imaginative play
- · Outdoor and free play
- Art and craft activities
- Trips to interesting places.

We meet at the Multipurpose Room at Tauwhare School between 9am-12 noon every Thursday during school term time. We are happy if people want to come for just a short while, you don't have to stay all morning.

Please bring along a small plate of food for the children's shared morning tea, and we provide hot drinks for parents and caregivers.

For more information, contact:

Pippa on 07 824 0846.

Like us on Facebook and keep up-to-date with what is happening.

About Playgroups:

No child is too young for playgroup. All children from 0-5 years, including babies, love new experiences and benefit from developing sensory, social and communication skills through activities at playgroup.

Children like playgroup because they can:

- Participate in new experiences
- Develop and increase their social skills
- · Learn sharing, co-operation and simple routines
- · Interact with other adults and children in a safe environment
- · Enjoy learning more about their world.

Adults also benefit from playgroup - a time to talk, meet other local families and make new friends and share experiences, while children have fun and learn through play.

PUKETAHA SCHOOL & DISTRICT CENTENARY CELEBRATION

FRIDAY 23rd & SATURDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 2016

All families or past pupils are invited to be part of this very special occasion.

It will be a great opportunity to share your memories and catch up with old friends and enjoy a great weekend.

To register your interest go to www.puketaha.school.nz or ring the school.



TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

The highlight for August was our Tamahere visit. This year Tamahere hosted the evening to which nine Tauwhare players travelled. Progressive Bowls was played which meant both clubs were in mixed teams and this added to the enjoyment for all. Jim Bargh won the Skip's prize for most points.

Moore Cup Results

Round 2: 24 July 2016

Eastern Gold vs Eastern Blue - a draw

Round 3: 14 August 2016 Eastern Gold vs Morrinsville - Eastern Gold win

Eastern Blue vs Cambridge – Eastern Blue loss

Trophies are now due to be handed in for the engraving of 2016 winners. Deadline is 8th September (final points night). I will be delivering them to the Engravers on the 9th September so I would appreciate nicely polished trophies being returned.

H Bargh was in the Runners Up team at Eastern's Leads and Twos Triples Tournament, along with L. Stobie (Gordonton) and D Philpot (Orini)

Results:

21 July 2016 - Open Triples Tournament

Winners

I Wallace, F Richards, S Morris (Matangi)

Runners Up

B Blissett, N Rollo, D Philpot (Orini)

Top Tauwhare Team P Stanaway, C Olson, N Stolwyk

28 July 2016 - Club Night

Winners

J Bargh, G Singers-Rutz

Runners Up

R Coxon, H Bargh, G Goodare

4 August 2016

- Skips & Threes

Winners

J & R Arnold

· Runners Up

B Meads, I Spencer

- Twos & Leads

Winners

C Olson, E Stevens

Runners Up

H Bargh, N Stolwyk

11 August 2016 - Club Night

Winners

N Stolwyk, E Stevens, J Arnold

Runners Up

jr Bargh, R Arnold, I Pizzini

18 August 2016 - Club Night

Winners

E Morris, E Stevens

Equal Runners Up

B Meads & L Verner and P Stanaway, JR Bargh

Couples:

Winners

J & R Arnold

Runners Up

A & K McNally

Upcoming Events

1 September

Club Night/Burnside Trophy (Plate please)

8 September 15 September Club Night - - ALL CUPS RETURNED PLEASE

22 September

President's/V. President's night Patron's Night (Plate please)

29 September

AGM & Prizegiving

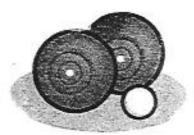
6 October

Christmas Rinks Tournament (Plate please)

A reminder - Please return all tropies by 8th September 2016

Til next month - Good bowling everyone

Robin Bargh Phone 824 1819



Hello Eureka folks,

Quickly introducing myself, I'm Dinah, the new privileged person, putting together the "recipe page" for the Eureka Express. I have been known as the class clown.

I hope you will pass on to me any of your 'cracker recipes' that we can pass on for all to enjoy and also laugh about as you will read.

I am at 16 Eureka Rd, so please don't hesitate to pop in the letterbox, or call in, to pass in the precious recipes that we can print for the Community.

Let me begin:

The first two recipes I give you have come from the "Centennial Cuisine Recipe Book" from Nga Tawa Girls School, in Marton, which my daughter attended. I was reared in Africa.....so.....laughed for ages over this first one. Tasted the second and was hooked on OLD recipes. In Eureka we can naturally grow our own veg, and animals. We are so privileged.

Elephant Stew

1 Elephant

2 Rabbits (optional)

Salt and Pepper to taste

Cut the elephant into bite size pieces. This will take you about 2 months.

Add enough brown gravy to cover.

Cook over an open fire for about 4 weeks at 465.C

This will serve 3,800 people. (If more people are expected add the option, but be aware that some people do not like to find, a hare, in their stew.

A beautiful Christmas cake and twice the recipe below is sufficient for a threetier wedding cake using square tins as follows: 13x14cm, 18x19cm, 25x26cm. This recipe from a student who attended Nga Tawa between 1938 -1941.

Centennial Cake

450g butter 450g lemon peel, fine sliced

450g sugar 450g dates chopped

1 tsp vanilla 2 cups diced pineapple, drained

1 tsp lemon essence 450g ginger fine chopped

12 eggs 2 tsp cinnamon

700g raisins chopped ½ tsp nutmeg 650g sultanas 2 tsp mixed spice

450g currents 700g flour

450g cherries halved ½ c brandy

Combine fruit and sifted dry ingredients. Cream butter and sugar, add essences. Beat in the eggs. Add in the fruit mixture. Bind. Place mixture in 25/26cm tins and bake at 125-130 centigrade for 5-6 hours.

Cool and 'dress' for function required. (Cake, not humans, that's far to scary)

A friend of your Editor recently visited Mongolia - do enjoy Kaye's interesting impressions...

MONGOLIA

Why did we go? We had visited Southern Russia the year before and found it very interesting, especially the history of the changing face of Russia. Mongolia was different and challenging and another country and in this continent that was interesting. We also continued on to Siberia on this same trip but that is another story. Ulaanbaatar – the capital city of Mongolia is a vibrant and growing city due to becoming the centre of a resource boom. Not everyone is on the receiving end of the benefits but the country is changing fast. One of the highlights of our stay in Ulaanbaatar was the Naadam Festival. This is a three day sporting event and includes Horse Racing, Archery, and restling. Everyone comes to town from far and wide in their National costumes. The herders camp outside the city, and we were told they barter, flirt, mix, feast and sing. Their racing horses are tied close to their Gers so they can keep an eye on them.

Gers are felted wool circular tents which are erected and dismantled quickly every time the nomads move to better pasture for their stock. Intriguingly when they erect them, the furniture is placed in position, then the house built around it as there would be no way to get it in the small door. On a visit to a Mongolian family we tried fermented mare's milk. It was quite pleasant. We rode the small sturdy Mongolian horses and watched two small brothers, approx 7 & 9, practising their wrestling moves. The boys obviously were in training for the big time in the future as it was not the rough and tumble as we might have seen in NZ but structured moves, and when the older vanquished the younger he placed him down on the ground with care, ready to start again. Naadam Festival here they come in the future. Wrestling is a big sport and a big stomach on the young men is something to be proud to show off. Not a pretty sight to us.

We stayed in several Gers as now in Mongolia they are the equivalent of our Motels. They have a communal dining room and an ablution block with showers and toilets for us all. This was fine as a well- lit concrete path was easy to follow if a night time visit was needed. Doug though did suggest to me that a towel placed over the door as I left would make it easier to find my way back, as all the Gers are identical with only a small ID number on the door. It proved a good suggestion!

Horse racing

Two things set Mongolian horse racing apart. The length of the race and the age of the jockeys. Mongols are interested in the stamina of the horse due possibly to the vast distances they travel in their everyday life. They race in different classes (mares, geldings, two year old, three year old etc) over distances of 15km and 30kms. Since it is considered that it is the horse not the Jockey who wins the race children aged six to twelve, girls as well as boys, take part as jockeys. They are not supposed to force the horse but only guide it to the winning post. In the big races boys over 9 are barred. Many ride bare back and we did see one young rider enthusiastically encouraging his horse to the finish line. There were 800 horses in this race. The winning horse is garlanded with blue ribbons and sprinkled with mare's milk whereas the jockey is given a pat on the back and a prize and disappears into the crowd. Most of the money goes to the owner and horse trainer. The vastness of Mongolia is awe-inspiring when you consider that the land is under state ownership so no fences on the vast steppe and the nomad herders graze the land being only concerned about land use and migratory rights. Mobs of horses, sheep, and goats owned by different families move across the landscape or graze by streams. Sometimes the different groups pass quite close to one another but do not mix and seem to know their own family of animals. Nowadays, bikes are quite often used by the herders, but still their small horses are used as well.

Children's education for the nomads is via satellite dish or when they have to go to boarding school at a very young age. The girls are then sent on for higher education but the boys have to stay to look after the stock. This is causing problems now as the girls do not want to come home and marry an uneducated herdsman and revert back to their nomadic life.

Vodka

A chapter on its own as it certainly is the national drink in Mongolia and is brought out for every celebration or commiseration I would guess. A freely available social drink and the small glasses do not seem to matter! Vodka we were told by one of our woman guides was the cause of many divorces including her own. By the time we left Mongolia and Siberia we appreciated the vodka because it was always a fun time but have not tried our NZ Tipple yet!

NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR



I have enjoyed watching the Olympics over the last two weeks and it was especially pleasing to see medals won by NZ athletes in less high profile events. We can be very proud of our athletes and I hope Cambridge put on a welcome home for the Cambridge based athletes so we can join in celebrations on our own doorstep. The basing of high performance sports in Cambridge over recent years has had a huge impact on the availability of housing in the area. I note that estimates predict another 2500 houses are to be built in Cambridge over the coming years and that, in the last two years, 300 houses have been built per annum, double the amount predicted by Waipa District Council's forecast of 2008. Council now have to manage this growth and with the help of the local community are putting in place strategies to do this.

Nominations for this year's Waikato District Council elections closed on Friday 12th August. Four Councillors did not stand for re-election – Graeme Tate (Huntly), Lionel Petersen (Awaroa ki Tuakau), Wally Hayes (Tamahere). Rosemarie Costar (Onewhere-Te Akau). Graeme served 30 years on Council in the former Huntly Borough, Huntly Community Board and then Councillor for Huntly. Lionel served a similar time, first in Franklin District and then Waikato District when part of Franklin District was amalgamated with Waikato in 2010.

Five nominations were received for Mayor. There are 13 Council seats - five nominees for Councillor were elected unopposed for the Wards of Eureka, Hukanui-Waerenga, Newcastle, Raglan and Whangamarino. Seventeen nominees will contest elections for the other eight seats on Council.

Voting documents will be delivered to your mail box between 16 and 22 September with voting closing at noon on 8th October. Residents in Eureka Ward will receive voting papers for the position of Mayor, and seats on the Waikato DHB, and Waikato Regional Council. I was very pleased to be unopposed for the position of Councillor for Eureka Ward and look forward to serving your community for another 3-year term.

On 12th July Council received a phone message on the 24-hour line threatening to 'visit a council office with harmful intent' without making it clear which office was being referred to. This sparked an emergency response at the Council with the CEO taking immediate action to close all Council offices and libraries and non-essential staffers were sent home. This emergency coincided with the last day for nominations for Council elections so processes were put in place to deal with final registration of nominations which closed at noon. The police were able to visit the perpetrator and all offices reopened the following Monday.

The tragic water emergency in the Hawkes Bay over the last 10 days has caused concerns throughout NZ and Councillors have now been given a briefing from our staff in response to our requests for information. Some key water treatment and safety information given to us includes:

- Water supplied to residents and ratepayers across the Waikato district meets national drinking water standards.
- The Waikato district is not reliant on a single water supply, making it simpler to identify specific users and respond
 to critical situations, should they arise.
- All district water supplies are regularly tested to meet the national drinking water standards, including for E coli levels, and the water is continually treated to ensure users can be confident of the supply.
- WDC has not had an outbreak of E coli similar to that experienced in the Hawkes Bay, however Council's planning provides for appropriate response in the same way Council plans for civil and other emergencies, for example, if there were to be a pandemic, serious flooding.
- With seven different water treatment plants across the district, Council can quickly identify and communicate with the users of each supply through a range of media, including but not limited to, letterbox drops, house-to-house visits, social media etc. These structures are in place and can be activated quickly.

A reminder to those in the Eureka Ward who are connected to the Southern Districts Water Scheme – the water for this scheme is sourced from the Hamilton City Council town water supply.

Council's Discretionary and Funding Committee was set up following the 2013 elections. I am a member of this committee and we meet four times a year. At the last meeting in August five applications were received for rural ward funding and five for event funding. If you belong to a group or organization that would like information on funding opportunities I would be happy to facilitate a meeting with our Community Development Coordinator to discuss options for funding that may be available to you. Contact me for more information.

You may have noted in the media that SH23 between Hamilton and Raglan has been identified by NZTA as high priority for safety improvements. This road is classified as a high risk rural road and possible changes include shoulder widening, rumble strips, side safety barrier, widened centrelines and intersection improvements. The work will be done in three stages with the first section scheduled to be completed in spring/summer next year.

A meeting was held on 23 August to brief residents on the Hamilton section of the Expressway and changes to local roads which will include diversions and road closures around work sites at Kay Road, Gordonton Road and Ruakura Roads with work due to start before Christmas. NZTA will put in sealed traffic diversions on the Gordonton and Ruakura Roads but unfortunately, due to the steepness of the terrain, Kay Road, Horsham Downs will be closed, except for resident access, for up to 13 months. Work on the Puketaha Road crossing is not likely to begin until the 2nd year of construction and will have minimal impact on traffic flows.

Rob McGuire - Councillor Eureka Ward

Ph. 824 3696 / fax 824 3645 / Mob 0274 970 966 / WDC Council free phone - 0800 492 452.

Email rob.mcguire@waidc.govt.nz or robmcguire@xtra.co.nz



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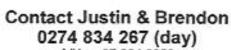
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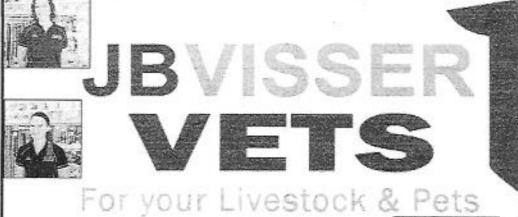


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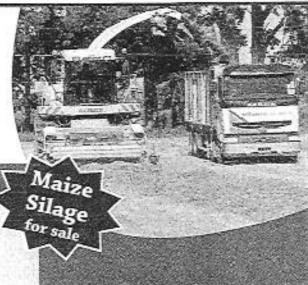
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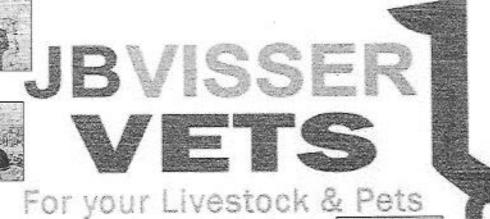


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