# Eureka Express

Vol XLII No. 10 Circ 315

Nov/ Dec 2021

www.eurekaexpress.co.nz

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#### **EDITORIAL**

#### **Barry and Gail Mayall**

Recently Barry and Gail Mayall said farewell to the District of Eureka after both being very active community members.

Fred and Beryl Mayall family arrived in Eureka from Puketaha in June 1953 after purchasing land in what is now Eureka Road with their four children Bryan, Graham, Barry and Margaret. The family was very community involved with Fred being on the Eureka Drainage Board and along with Barry and Graham assisting in many local projects. Mrs Mayall was prominent in a number of local Women's interest groups as well.

Barry and Gail (nee Lasenby) married in 1967 and this began a life of involvement in all aspects of the community. Barry is the sole survivor of the committee who built the new Eureka Hall in 1968 and also served on the then Eureka Drainage Board.

With the arrival of their three children Shelley, Philip and Katrina



involvement in the Eureka School began with Barry on the School Committee and Gail on the PTA. Often you would see Barry down at the school using his skills fixing or building something and at school events Gail would be present as

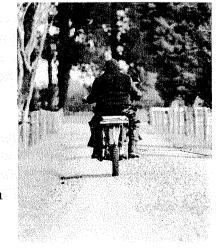


Secretary/ Treasurer of the PTA. I remember Barry's involvement and playing days in the Eureka Badminton Club. I can still see him walking into the Hall a Friday night before his marriage to Gail with some beer to shout for the adults present who were supervising us youngsters at Friday night Youth Badminton. Imagine doing that now!! As previously mentioned Barry is the sole survivor of the new Hall Building Committee and was still active on the committee until just prior to leaving Eureka. Gail was also very active after many years as Secretary of the Hall and continued to be involved taking bookings.

Gail was appointed a Justice of the Peace for New Zealand in 1993 and has also spent many years volunteering for the Hamilton Citizens Advice Bureau. She has been involved with the Eureka Express since the beginning and became the Editor upon the retirement of Denise

Irvine in 1985. Gail is retiring as Editor at the 2022 AGM.

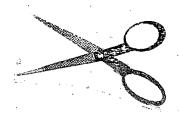
Over the years I have been privileged to work alongside Barry and Gail in the Community and appreciated the many hours they have contributed. Both of them were wise heads for me when I was working with the Ministry of Education over the closing of the School and sale of the land. At the same time Gail spent many hours as the Secretary of the May 2004 School Centenary and District One Hundred and Thirty Year Celebrations. Barry was Mister "practical" and "fix it". Nothing was too difficult for him to fix, demolish or build and in later years you would see him driving down Eureka Road on his Farm Bike or Ute off to the Farm or Eureka Motors for a chat.



As you can see both Barry and Gail have been very active Community Members and will be missed for their participation in the wider community. We wish them well. Well done thou good and faithful servants.

Kerry Clarkin

## **SNIPPETS**



#### 40<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Phil and Linda Journeaux of Eureka Road who celebrated this milestone on November 7. Hearty congrats to you both and best wishes for many more good years together.

FAREWELL TO EUREKA: To the Whiting family after 23 years on Eureka Road. Brent and Jane married just a week before their new house was finished in October 1998, and they have raised their family of three, Harrison, Nicole and Sophie in Eureka. During this time Brent served on the Hall Committee and later continued to contribute his invaluable help to the hall as an electrician. They are moving into Hamilton while they consider their next destination. Our very best wishes go with you all

**JP CONTACTS:** If you require the services of a Justice of the Peace now that Gail has moved to Cambridge here are some nearby JP's contacts until hopefully a new Eureka Justice will be appointed in 2022:

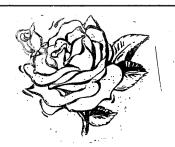
- Steve Wood, Platt Road 0210401766
- John Bridgeman, 111 Piako Road 8243766 or 0274522875
- Peter Tancock, Tauwhare 8240104 or 0212959056

Otherwise Gail will be delighted to see you at Te Awa in Cambridge 8241758 or 0212113348

#### **Condolences**

Our sincere condolences are extended to Steven and Kay Schuler and family of Morrinsville Road on the recent death of Steven's mother, Mrs Reik Schuler, in Hamilton on 29 October. A dearly loved mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great grandmother who will be sadly missed.

And our thoughts and heartfelt sympathy is extended to Pauline Weatherley, Craig, Shane and Joanne and their respective families on the death of Phil on October 14. Phil and Pauline were past esteemed members of the Eureka Community and now call Whangamata home.



# In Loving Memory Kevin Stokes 6 April 1968 – 7 November 2021



The Stokes Family of Hunter Road have had a very difficult time of late to say the least and have lost a very dearly loved family member, Kevin. Kevin had a very hard fought, but short battle with cancer.

Kevin was one of the most caring, loving and genuinely kind people you had the pleasure of meeting. He was the Northern Infrastructure Programme Manager for Waikato District Council, and was very generous with sharing his knowledge and expertise of all matters council and resource management planning related. Kevin also served on the Eureka Hall Committee.

Kevin leaves a massive hole in the Stokes Family and is honoured every day by his husband Henry, children Laura, Morgan and Harrison, step daughters Maddie and Sophie and grandchildren Blake and Milly.

Henry wanted to specifically mention that Kevin was a truly special and amazing, humble person. "He always put others first. He has always happily shared his experience, knowledge and advice. Kevin had no idea just how loved he was or exactly how special he was. He was one of those rare people that to have him in your life is so special for you that you have truly been touched by an angel, our darling man Kevin."

The Stokes family wish to thank the Eureka Community for the love and support shown to them during what has been a very difficult 3 months.

Our sincere condolences are extended to Henry and all Kevin's family at this difficult and sad time.



#### MARKETPLACE

#### FOR SALE:

Standing grass, 3 hectare on Tauwhare Road, for sale. Phone Graeme Brewer 0212076053

## **WEATHER**

Weather for October 2021		
Rainfall total	83mm	May 1915
Rain Total for year	776mm	
Rainy days	10	
Most daily rainfall	17mm	17 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> October
Highest wind speed	50 km/hr	12 <sup>th</sup> October
Temp high	23.7 C	26 <sup>th</sup> October
Temp low	2.1 C	15 <sup>th</sup> October

Weather for Nov 2021	1.5	44
Rainfall total	96.5 mm	
Rain Total for year	872.5 mm	
Rainy days	8	
Most daily rainfall	35 mm	13 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Highest wind speed	35 km/hr	3rd Nov
Temp high	26.8 C	24th Nov
Temp low	5.1 C	2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov

## TAUWHARE GARDEN CLUB

[launched in late 2019]

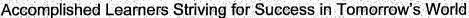
Monthly meetings, garden visits, guest speakers and more. Find us on Facebook – search for 'Tauwhare Garden Club' or contact Pippa on

0272935184 for details



# Tauwhare School

RD7 Hamilton 3287 New Zealand e......admin@tauwhare.school.nz





What a weird and wonderful year this has been. Weird because life is not as we know it, and wonderful because of the resilience of our teachers, our children and our parents. A huge thank you must go to our staff, who worked tirelessly to continue the children's learning both remotely and in Bubble School, and a huge thank you also to our amazing parents who juggled their own work commitments to help their children access the learning.

Since returning to school the children have had a great time – baking salt dough fossils, paper making, swimming, clay work and much more. We even fitted in some reading, writing and maths!

#### SCHOOL POOL USE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

We would like to open the pool keys up to the community once again. Last year was undeniably easier with only school users accessing the pool — the pool and the pool rules were respected, there was no rubbish, dirty nappies or huge groups leaping off furniture or bombing into the pool. But we are a community, and the majority of the community also respected the pool. We would like to return to the days where families could use the pool during the summer holidays. Let's give it another try!

#### COVID RESTRICTIONS

The Board of Trustees must ensure that there are no large gatherings on our grounds, and that social distancing requirements are met. This includes at the pool.

Pool users must comply with public health requirements while they are there including: keeping two metres physical distance from people you do not know signing in using the NZ COVID Tracer app

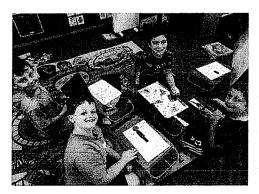
To ensure numbers are kept to a minimum the pool is for the use of each Key Holder and their immediate family/whanau only. Absolutely NO sharing of keys! No large gatherings.

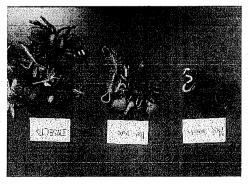
#### SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Many events had to be cancelled while we were in lockdown, but the school year is ending on a huge high! We have even decided to put on a school musical so our Yr 5 & 6 children do not miss out on this traditional end of year highlight.

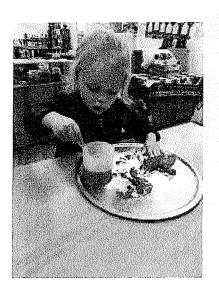
This year we are doing A Tale of Two Orphans – the story based on the books of Annie and Oliver, who both run away from their orphanages and find each other and a new home.

As we are in L2 we cannot have the whole school involved nor can we perform it to the whole community. Rooms 1 & 2 have two weeks to learn the script, the dances and the songs for a one off performance to their parents. Mrs G, Mrs Reeve and I are frantically finalising the script, finding costumes and props. The kids are fantastic!!! Even after one week we can see this is going to be good!!!





Room 5 loved discovering new facts about insects.





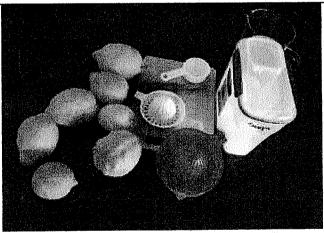


At Pukeko Preschool the children have been enjoying all the messy play activities as we open these areas of play up in level 2. Renee enjoyed some fresh mint gloop while Piper had fun making lemonade for afternoon tea. A big thank to Hank for bringing in some water beads he received for his 5th birthday. Your friends loved this sensory activity you shared with them. We have started the planting process in our non-dig garden; if you have any seedlings you wish to donate the tamariki would love to add to the garden.

Pukeko Preschool is a small rural preschool nestled in the village of Tauwhare. We are located at 20 Scotsman Valley Road down the driveway beside Tauwhare School. We are licenced for 30 Children and are open from 7:30am-5:30pm daily. We offer a session time of 8:45am-3.15pm in our over two's room. We welcome children from 5months to 6yrs. Please email to book an onsite visit or phone us on: Ph 07 8240860 or email <a href="mailto:pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz">pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz</a>

We offer 20hours Free ECE, contact us for more information, check out our website www.pukekopreschool.org.nz or find us on Facebook 'pukeko preschool in Tauwhare'











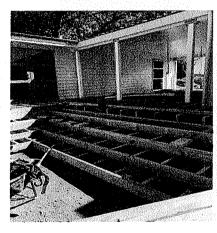
#### Note from our new Principal – Mrs Meg Campbell

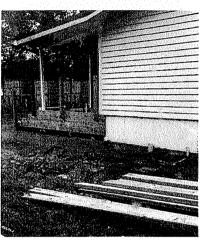
It is awesome to have finally begun Term 4 with all the Newstead students on-site since last Wednesday. I'm feeling like a 'proper Principal' now! It's certainly been a roller-coaster beginning to my time at Newstead. I want to thank all of you along with the great team of staff here for all the kind messages of welcome, encouragement and help I've received over the past 5 weeks. I want to acknowledge that this term especially has been a challenging journey for the children, they have returned to school with enthusiasm and happy focus, appreciative of being with their friends and teachers once again.

#### **New Classroom**

Our new classroom is almost completed, we are eagerly waiting for the last touches to be done and then we'll help Tui / Pukeko class and Mrs Bracey move in!!







#### **Forest School**

Tui & Tiwaiwaka classes (years 0,1&2), continue their weekly trips to Forest School even though The Gully is currently closed. This is held at the back of the field where we have a bush area that the children utilise. They all continue to amaze us with their imaginative play where they are encouraged to work with others to carry out activities such as den/shelter building, role play, exploration, practical and creative skills and tasks.







#### Ag Day

Due to Covid we were unable to have out Ag Day at school this year. We had an online Ag Day where there were lots of great entries. It was clear all the children spent a lot of their time with their animals. Congratulations to all the place getters.









#### Important Dates to Remember

Last day of school 2021: Wednesday 15th December 12.00pm

2022: School Start Date: Thursday 3rd February 2022

#### ADVERTISING RATES

**Classified Adverts** 

Free

**Small Business Adverts** 

\$10 /month

- x 10 insertions

\$80 /year

**One Third Page Adverts** 

\$15/month

- x 10 insertions

\$120 / year

**One Half Page Adverts** 

\$20 / month

- x 10 insertions

\$160 /year

#### CONTACTS

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Glenys Middlemiss (Treasurer)

Ph: 07 824 1647

Email: tres.eurekaexpress@gmail.com

# CHILDREN'S PAGES



#### Can you help the monkeys reach the Christmas tree?



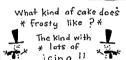


## Christmas Word Search

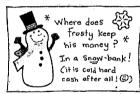


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carol	christmas	holly	merry
presents	tree	reindeer	santa
sleigh	star	pudding	wreath

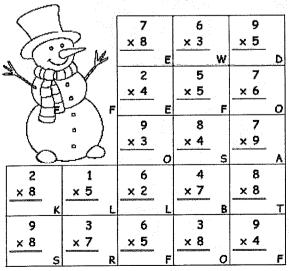








## **Christmas Multiplication**

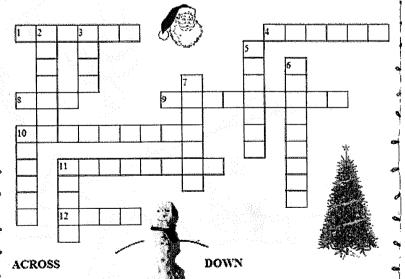


What did the snowman have for breakfast?

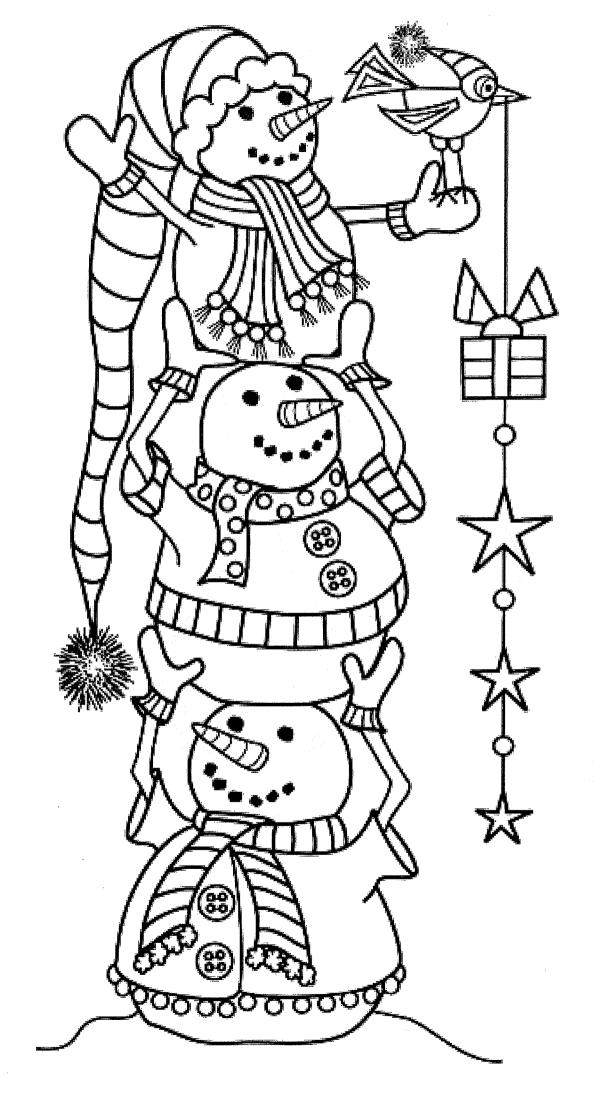
28 42 18 12 5 63 16 56 72 30 21 24 32 64 8 45

## ERRY **CHRISTMAS**

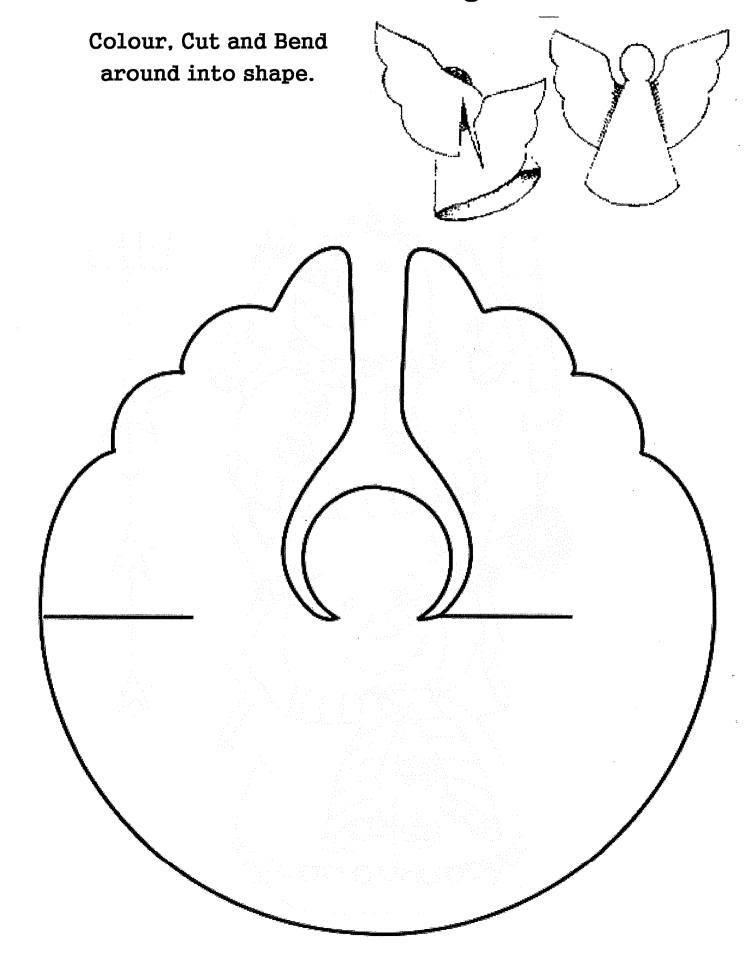
Santa's Crossword



- 1. Famous snowman
- 4. What Santa travels in
- 8. Makes toys for Santa
- 9. Used to decorate a Christmas tree
- 10. December 25
- 11. Hung by the chimney with care
- 12. What presents are left under
- 2. Reindeer with a shiny red nose
- 3. Covers the ground on a white
- 5. Santa comes down this
- 6. Red and White hooked shaped candy
- 7. Left under the tree Christmas morning
- 10. Left out for Santa
- 11. Jolly toy maker



## Christmas Angel



## HALL UPDATE

It's hard to believe that we are now at the end of another year, another difficult year for us all. Hopefully 2022 will be a much better year for us all.

There isn't much to report about the hall at the moment. Bookings have been cancelled due to covid level restrictions, so the hall hasn't had much use.

The new coffee cart is now all set up and from what I see it is a very welcome asset to our community. I hope you all get to support Morgan and Simone at some stage. There certainly are some amazing and delicious aromas coming out of the trailer.

Sadly the community and the Hall committee have had to say goodbye to a dear friend and colleague, Kevin Stokes. Kevin passed away a few weeks ago after a short illness. Our condolences and love go out to Henry and the family.

The council will be giving us guidelines on how the hall is to be run with the new Covid 19 traffic light system and regulations, so as we get informed I will keep you all informed.

We are still looking for a painter to paint the inside of the hall, so if you know of anyone who is looking for work, please contact a committee member, we would like to get it painted next year.

On behalf of the Hall Committee, I would like to wish you all Very Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New Year.

That is it for this month, be safe and happy.

#### Hall contacts

Margaret Smith Secretary 0274574750 Gayle Orr Chairperson 0272917150

Usage	Residents	Non – Residents
Meeting Supper room per day	 \$ 25	\$ 50
Hall per day	 \$ 50	\$100
Social function	 \$150	\$250
Weddings & Dance	\$300	\$500
Children's party	\$30	\$ 30
Bond	\$400 Secretary's Discretion	\$500 Secretary's discretion

#### Humble little garden on a plate - December

Let's give a big warm welcome to Summer! BBQs, School holidays, outdoor evening wines and dining. December is the month that pats us on the back for surviving another year with hopefully some well deserved time out. As it is also the end of the year it is also a reflective month and there is no better way to reflect on the year that has flown by; than to sit in that quiet garden spot amongst nature. With 2021 reinforcing that health is truly our greatest wealth, creating a special place in our gardens to ponder the world can be not only be good for the soul but an opportunity to get creative, get the kids involved, and put a little sparkle into our daily bubbles to enjoy and solve the worlds problems. No matter what your budget is all you need is a little imagination to create such a space for everyone to enjoy this summer.

With buzz words like rustic, recycled, pre-loved, boho, zen, yin and yang you don't need to leave the house to get your oasis underway, nor do we need to spend a fortune. However if your budget allows just do it! get that 'Taj mahal', underway to enjoy that morning cup of chai! Gardening is not always about digging, planting, sowing, harvesting it is also about taking some time to stop and smell the roses in our worlds. So in the garden this December, whilst enjoying our rewards of our labors from the year that has just flashed by, not only should our focus be on keeping our plants from being sun burnt we need to do the same for ourselves, and additionally nurture our souls through taking some time out. Choose a theme, gather the family and just make a start. Here at 1151 we have said move over Christmas in the park, hello Christmas in the vegetable garden! As like many people our bubbles have become more like home-bubbles of late and Christmas this year will be not be in small french province (not that it ever was) but at our extra long pallet table under the 'Champagne valley' inspired 'grapevine table setting with an afternoon at our day spa 'well in reality just two old claw foot baths set in the vegetable garden, the perfect setting to appreciate the good life. A theme and the willingness to just make a start to create your outdoor escape room is all that is required to get your space underway.

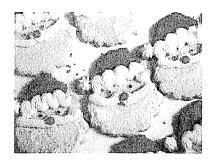
December planting: Sow seeds of beans, beetroot, broccoli cabbage, carrots, leeks, lettuce, parsnips, potatoes, (main crop), pumpkin, radish, silver-beet. Plant seedlings: basil, capsicum, chilies, cucumbers, corn, eggplant, melons, pumpkins, tomatoes, zucchini. Continue to sow seeds every two weeks to ensure you have a continuous harvest. Plant Sage, Lavender, Rosemary among the garden to deter white butterfly. As the soil begins to dry careful attention should be paid to weeding, watering, and mulching. Conserve water by only watering the roots of the plants opposed to using sprinklers, plants such as tomatoes and zucchini will be grateful that don't benefit from getting their leaves wet, (as warm and wet environments encourage fungal diseases.) Include planting grapes, kiwifruit, tamarillos, rhubarb, passion fruit, strawberries and summer berries, remember to add compost to the soil as you do. Focus on preserving and nurturing roots in the citrus orchard. TIP: soak all seedlings in a large container of water, and transplant them in cooler evenings; this will give them the best start.

#### **December Check list:**

- Feed and nurture roses by adding a good layer of Mulch around the base of plant to help to retain soil moisture over summer, remove any dead or thin stems, and continue to remove all dead blooms. As the soil dries ensure stakes are secured.
- Maintain hedges; shrubs with weeding and mulching. Trim foliage. Remove any finished bulbs and store in cool dry place.
- Remove any finished spring bulbs and store in cool dry place for next season.
- Cut back flowers from herbs, to avoid them going to seed.
- If planning to go away over the festive season, mulch the gardens to maintain moisture whilst you are away.
- Invest in a watering system and self watering pots to reduce workload.
- Design and, Get that garden oasis underway!

Remember to relax and enjoy December! And have a very Festive Season Everyone!

## **KOOKING WITH KAZZA**



#### Intensely chocolatey slice

350 gm dark chocolate pieces

175 gm butter

1 ½ cups crushed biscuits

1 cup sultanas

1/2 cup chopped dried apricots

Nuts if desired

Melt chocolate and butter. Add biscuits, sultanas and apricots. Generously line a loaf tin with plastic wrap. Pour the mixture into tin. Place in fridge to set.

#### **Nutty Christmas Cake**

500 gm mixed fruit

!/2 cup sugar

500gm nuts chopped

3 eggs

1 cup flour

Vanilla essence

Combine all ingredients. Bake 2 ½ hours at 150 deg.

#### **Peanut Truffles**

150 gm softened butter

1 cup chopped peanuts (roasted if preferred)

2 2/5 cups icing sugar

4 tbsp peanut butter

4 tbsp cocoa

1 cup biscuit crumbs

1 tsp vanilla essence

1 satchet Cadbury chocolate melts (for dipping)

Cream butter and sugar. Add cocoa and vanilla. Add a little hot water if necessary. Add other ingredients. Roll into balls and refrigerate.

Dip in chocolate and refrigerate again.



#### **Shortbread**

225 gms butter

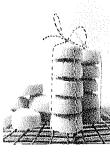
1 tsp vanilla

2 cups flour

Pinch salt

!/2 cup cornflour

3/4 cup castor sugar



Cream butter and sugar. Sift in flour and cornflour. Add vanilla and salt. Roll out on lightly floured board. Cut into pieces. Put on baking paper lined tray. Bake 16-20 mins at 175 degrees. Makes 25-30 pieces.

Notes: I knead a bit and roll into a couple of cylinder shapes and slice from there.

## **Holiday Shortbread Bites**

#### **INGREDIENTS**

1 1/4 c all-purpose flour

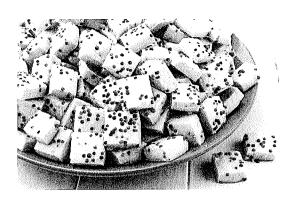
3 tbsp powdered sugar

1/4 tsp salt

1/2 tsp vanilla extract

1/2 c butter, softened

1 tbsp red and green nonpareils or sprinkles



#### **DIRECTIONS**

- 1. Preheat oven to 325°. In a food processor, pulse flour, sugar, salt, vanilla, and butter until combined. Transfer dough to a large bowl and knead until it comes together. Add nonpareils and knead to combine.
- 2. On waxed paper, roll dough into a 1/2"-thick square. Freeze 15 minutes.
- 3. Cut dough into 1/2" squares and transfer to a large baking sheet.
- 4. Bake until cookies are golden, 18 to 20 minutes.

## Christmas Fudge

#### **INGREDIENTS**

Cooking spray

2 3/4 c chocolate chips

1 (14-oz.) can sweetened condensed milk

2 tbsp heavy cream

4 tbsp butter

1 tsp pure vanilla extract

1/4 tsp salt

3 tbsp Christmas sprinkles

#### **DIRECTIONS**

- 1. Line an 8"-x-8" baking pan with parchment paper and grease with cooking spray. In a medium saucepan over medium heat, melt chocolate, condensed milk, butter, cream, vanilla, and salt together. Stir until smooth then pour into prepared pan.
- 2. Top with sprinkles and refrigerate until set, 2 hours. Cut into squares to serve.



#### Manual vs automatic backups

Unless you're using some sort of cloud backup solution such as OneDrive, Google Drive or Dropbox, you're probably doing a backup to an external drive (or at least I hope you are — see previous articles!). There are two choices here: (a) manually run a backup at a time of your choosing or (b) have the operating system or a third party program do an automatic backup, at a set time (or times). Each have their advantages but I personally lean toward the manual approach, and I'll explain why here.

Now, the first issue with automatic backups is that people tend to forget when they're meant to happen, and so they leave the drive plugged in all the time, making it vulnerable to:

- (a) cryptolocker virus attacks
- (b) power spikes and surges
- (c) general data corruption
- (d) lower drive life expectancy due to being plugged in more of the time
- (e) theft

In other words, most of the things which you're trying to work around by backing up. So don't do that, please. Plug in your drive when you intend to backup, then unplug it later and put it someplace safe.

The second issue with automatic backups is that you seldom (though this is kinda dependent on the backup program) get notifications about when the backup is not working properly. I've seen systems where a backup hasn't occurred for 3 years but the client thought it was still happening automatically. That's not good data security. One cause of this can be that the external drive stops working.

The last issue is that most automatic backup systems don't tend to give a clear notification as to when they've finished backing up. So even if the client is doing the right thing and unplugging the drive, they often don't know whether a backup occurred or completed entirely. For all these reasons I tend to recommend that people run their backups manually, maybe putting a weekly or monthly reminder in their phone to do so, though this is very situation dependent. That way, there is clear understanding as to when the backup occurred, whether it completed successfully, and when it finished and they can unplug the drive.

Though there's no such thing as 100% foolproof data security – for example, a power surge could potentially come through at the same time as you're performing a backup, and wipe out both your computer and the backup drive – it's more a matter of probabilities, and creating the best likelihood of your data surviving. As I often remind folk, important data in two or more places, at all times, is best.

Unsure about your backup setup? Phone Matt at 0211348567 or email **info@homepcsupport.co.nz** \$70 per hour, or \$60 for drop-off-to-workshop services.



#### Who? Eh? Why?

Huawei (pronounced as per the title of this article, sans the question marks) is a global microelectronics manufacturer based in China, with strong ties to the Chinese Communist Party and military. It makes, amongst other things, cellphones, 5G networking devices, and tablets. But, last year NZ banned all major telco's from using Huawei devices in their 5g networks. Why (wei)?

Because they're evil, that's why (wei). Okay back up a bit. Let's be objective. Qualify that statement? Fine. Ignoring the obvious ties to military, Huawei's devices have been analysed by experts in many places overseas and found to be critically corruptible – that is, a single firmware update from a central huawei server could potentially re-write certain parts of their operating system, opening security holes and making them either dead, faulty or effectively spys for the Chinese military-government alliance.

More recently, a Lithuanian security firm analysed several newer Huawei phones and found, amongst other things, that they were designed with blocklists built in, in order to censor media the Chinese government finds objectionable to national interests, as well as backdoor systems to give remote servers in Singapore more control of the phones. The Xiaomi Mi 10T was the worst-affected model, other models varied in terms of their corruptibility.

So basically, don't buy a Huawei phone, or modem, or other device, if you can avoid it. Like a lot of stuff you see coming out of China nowadays, it pays to have a little bit of suspicion. Huawei still has the lion's share of the global telco equipment market – sitting at about 25% as of 2019 – but that is rapidly falling as repeatedly, countries baulk at using its 5g equipment, starting with the USA and continuing on through Australia, the UK, and now us.

Nokia, Apple or Samsung are safer bets security-wise (though all of these vary in their business ethics in other ways, usually due to doing business in areas of the world with strong human rights violations). As per usual, with 'cheap' you often end up paying in unforeseen ways. Speaking of which I've recently upped my rate to \$70 per-hour call-out, \$60 per-hour workshop-only. The primary aim of which is, as one might imagine, keeping the lights on.

Need help with your email? Phone Matt at 0211348567 or email info@homepcsupport.co.nz \$70 per hour, or \$60 for drop-off-to-workshop services.





## Have a wonderful and eco friendly Christmas!

It's been a challenging year in 2021, and we are all looking forward to some well deserved holiday time over Christmas and summer.

As well as having a fabulous time with family and friends, we can also do a few little things to make Christmas more eco friendly and sustainable. Here are some ideas to help you make 'greener' family traditions this year...

#### **Eco friendly Christmas trees**

Looking for the most environmentally friendly Christmas tree option? Real Christmas trees are usually more sustainable than artificial options. A study found that you'd have to use your fake tree for 20 years to make it greener than a real tree (funnily enough, we've had our plastic tree for 20 years now!).

However, many real trees are dumped in January, rather than recycled / composted. If you get a real tree, you could use it for firewood next winter, mulch it, or compost it. If you need to dump it, take it to the local green waste tip. If it's a living tree with roots attached, you could plant it in your garden.

If you are crafty, you could make a 'tree' from old pallets and decorate it with your stored decorations (we all have a few boxes of those in the loft!).

#### Wrap gifts with recyclable paper or fabric

Wrap presents with either wrapping paper that can be recycled (rather than plasticised paper) or you could try wrapping with fabric. If you use large pieces of fabric like scarves or towels, they can be an extra present wrapping the present! Or you can use fabric squares that can be reused over and over.

#### **Buy eco-friendly crackers**

Replace single-use crackers with reusable ones. We have some homemade ones that we use every year, and fill them with little gifts, a joke and a paper hat.

#### Create or buy a beautiful and natural wreath for the door

Wreaths are a lovely Christmas decoration but some that are more eco-friendly than others. Buy or make a fresh wreath using seasonal and natural flowers and leaves, rather than wreaths with plastic or glittery decorations. Search online for some ideas.

#### Invest in a reusable advent calendar

Buy a reusable advent calendar and fill it with little gitfts or sweets. It can be used year after year.

#### Reduce your food waste

At Christmas, it is easier to be a bit more wasteful with food, as we often buy too much! Putting leftovers in the fridge or freezer will help you make the most of the lovely food at this time of year. Cooked meat like ham freezes well, and can be used later in the year.

#### **Buy second hand gifts**

Many people will be happy to get second hand gifts like books, toys, clothes, and so many other things you can find online or in op shops. You can get more for your money, and support a charity at the same time.

#### **Switch to LED Christmas lights**

LED Christmas lights are more eco friendly than traditional twinkling incandescent lights, because they use up to 80% less energy. And using solar powered lights outdoors is also a great idea to save money and electricity.

Wishing you and your families a very happy Christmas and summer holidays. Thanks for all your support and encouraging feedback on my articles over the year, I really appreciate it.

Find me at www.eco-pippa.com and follow me on Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest – just search for 'Eco Pippa'.

#### NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR - 30 NOVEMBER 2021



What a difference a month can make. It was nice to enjoy a few days at the beach last weekend - we must now wait to see what difference the "traffic light" system will make to our lives.

Council will continue to meet virtually for the balance of 2021. This is to ensure the safety of all staff, elected members and the public until Covid policies are in place for both staff and elected members.

\*\*\*\*\*

I would like to wish Gail and Barry Mayall well as they make the big change from a rural to an urban lifestyle. I have sincerely valued the support they have given me in my role as Ward Councillor.

\*\*\*\*\*

Community Halls can now reopen. We received information from Council last week on protocols for halls under the traffic light system.

Under the Orange rules Community Halls come under the Public Facilities category. This means people must physically distance 1 metre, so each hall will have a different capacity. Your local Hall Committee can give you their capacity information when you make a booking. Masks must be worn, QR codes scanned/records kept. On 13 December Council will make a decision on their stance for a vaccine pass mandate.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

On 2 November Council released information about the Total Mobility rollout into the Waikato District. "A national door-to-door transport scheme involving disability agencies, taxi companies/transport providers and local government is being extended into the Waikato district. The Total Mobility Scheme is already operating in Hamilton, Tokoroa, Taupō and the Waipā district, and will be available for people with disabilities in Tamahere, Matangi and Newstead soon, followed by Raglan, Huntly and Ngāruawāhia.

Waikato Regional Council's [WRC] public transport manager, Andrew Wilson, said the scheme gave registered users a subsidy off taxi fares and door-to-door transport services. Total Mobility users would also be eligible for the Accessibility Concession, meaning they would also receive free bus travel in the area............ Mr Wilson encouraged anyone with a condition that prevented them from getting around on their own to sign up.

...... A registration form for residents of Matangi, Newstead, Tamahere and Tauwhare can be completed online or via 0800 205 305. Once COVID-19 alert levels allow, a face-to-face eligibility assessment will be organised with a disability agency representative. I assume this covers Eureka but have asked WRC to confirm this. I should have that information shortly, so if you are interested phone me.

Under the scheme, Waikato District Council and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency will pay half the fare up to a maximum discount of \$50 per trip, and the user pays the remainder. To find out more and to register online, visit busit.co.nz or call 0800 205 305."

The full media release can be read on https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/news/media-releases/article/2021/11/01/total-mobility-comes-to-thewaikato-district

#### **Bylaws**

Council is working on various bylaws and policies including the Livestock Movement Bylaw and Related Policies • Dog Control Bylaw and Policy • Speed Management Bylaw • Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw (new) • Gambling Venues Policy 2018 \* Easter Trading Policy - details can be found on the WDC website.

**<u>Dog Control Bylaw and Policy</u>** – Council wants feedback from the community on the proposed changes. Council is legally required to review the bylaw, which offers a great opportunity to look at ways to improve the rules governing dog ownership in our district.

Proposed changes to the bylaw include limiting the number of dogs in rural zones to two dogs per property, with some exemptions. Anyone wanting three or more dogs would require a Council permit.

Working dogs would be exempt from this rule. The rule would also not apply for multi-unit housing and Papakaainga housing, or at boarding kennel or dog daycare centres. Council has proposed this change because, at times, large numbers of dogs are being kept unsafely on rural properties.

Currently, there is no limit to the number of dogs that can be kept on rural properties in the Waikato district but there is a limit of two dogs on all properties which are not rural.

People can have their say about the proposed changes to Council's Dog Control Policy and Bylaw. Consultation closes at 5pm on 16 January 2022.

Detailed information on the proposed changes is available on Council's website: <a href="https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/dogbylaw">www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/dogbylaw</a>.

Waikato District Council is also seeking feedback on its <u>Easter Trading Policy</u>, which allows shops to open on Easter Sunday.

The current policy, which was adopted in 2017, allows shops in the Waikato district to trade on Easter Sunday if they wish to. Without a policy, they would not be able to open unless they fit the criteria set out in section 4 of the Shop Trading Hours Act 1990.

The policy is due for review, and Council would like to hear whether you think we should continue to permit shops to trade on this day.

People can have their say about the Easter Trading Policy. Consultation closes at 5pm on 16 January 2022. Those who wish to be heard in support of their submission will have the chance in February.

For more information, including the draft policy and Statement of Proposal, please visit our website www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/sayit.

The easiest way to provide feedback on any policy or bylaw proposals is to make your comments online but paper copies of all the relevant documents and submission forms are also available at all Council offices and libraries.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Council is changing the start time for kerbside refuse and recycling collection from 8am to 7am.

Reminder -

\* Ensure plastic, tins and bottles are rinsed clean

\* Glass only in one crate

\* All lids to be removed

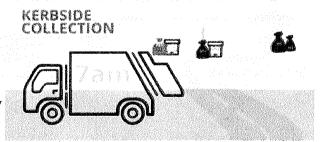
\* Clean plastic numbered 1, 2 and 5 accepted.

Note – if you require a new or replacement crate they can be obtained from the District Council's Tamahere office which is open Monday – Friday until 3pm

From 1 December, please ensure all kerbside rubbish and recycling is out by 7am.

The collection will start half-hour earlier due to an increasing population, longer collection routes and additional health and safety precautions.

Raglan's collection will start at 8am.



I am available via email or mobile during the holiday period. If you want to report any road damage or other urgent matters, you can phone Council on 0800 492 452 or "Request it" on the Council's website that allows you to complete a relevant service request.

I hope you are able to spend some time relaxing during the holiday season – drive safely and take care in the water. Hopefully 2022 brings some normality back to our lives.



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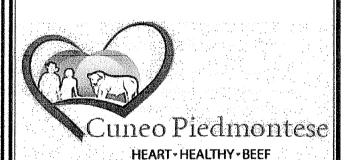
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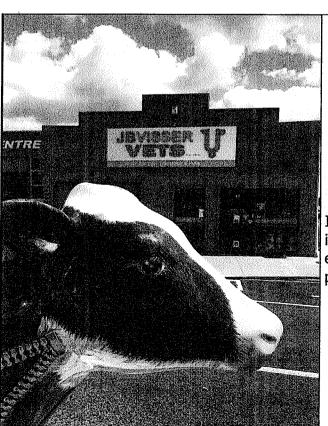
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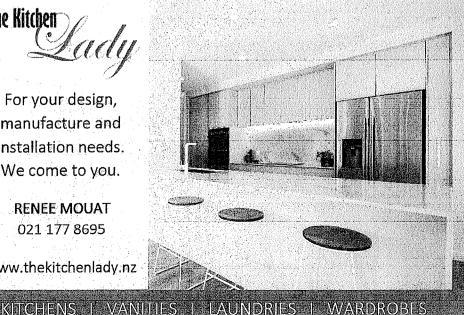
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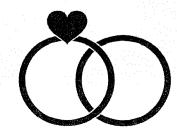


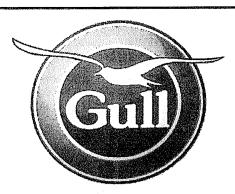


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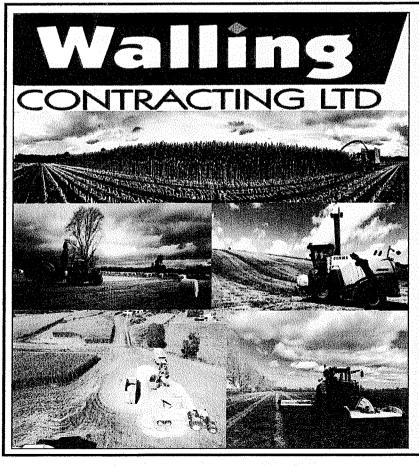
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## **Progress at Hunter Road**







Well, Covid has certainly been a challenge and we had hoped to be in our new building by Christmas. Instead we have learnt to be patient and have reviewed our expectations several times. We are now striving to have the building fully enclosed and secure by Christmas.

Thanks to our Sales team who have managed the high level of enquiry and continued to provide Estimates and Quotes during lockdown. Coming out the other side in level 3.2 saw our Operations team swing into action, liaising with the suppliers and builders to get things moving again. Our suppliers have kept us informed about their ability to supply product which has allowed us to keep our clients informed.

We really appreciate all of our builders who have continued to work within the guidelines to keep our Clients builds progressing.

We know there are a lot of businesses out there that have been decimated by Covid so we must also thank those of you who have been confident enough to go ahead and invest in a Waikato Shed Company's Shed.

#### DID YOU KNOW...

You can use a 9-Volt battery and some steel wool to spark a fire! It's a great item to have in your emergency kit

Tighten a loose screw by winding a little super-fine steel wool around the threads of the screw before putting it back into the hole. The steel wool will tighten it up and keep the screw in place.

If you have a problem with mice, stick a bit of steel wool in nooks and crannies that a mouse could fit through. They can't chew through the steel wool and will abandon the area.



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