



A breath of fresh air for Aden

WITH THE recent announcement by Pharmac to not fund the life changing drug Trikafta, the news is shattering to people who know this would enhance the wellbeing of many Cystic Fibrosis sufferers.

Within our own community this debilitating disease has impacted Piopio College student Aden Bradcock (pictured), who has battled with the daily routine and challenges of this breathtaking disease. Despite this he remains active in the outdoors and loves rugby.

Without access to this life changing medicine, friends and family are concerned for his long term life expectancy. Pharmac have acknowledged the major benefits that Trikafta offers, not just to the health system but an extension to life expectancy and quality of life, estimating that Trikafta would provide benefits equivalent to 27 more years at full health when compared to current treatments.

Trikafta is now available in more than 30 countries around the world and Cystic Fibrosis NZ (CFNZ) believe Tri-

kafta would be a highly cost-effective investment. Independent work commissioned by CFNZ for 2019/20, calculated the approximate annual social, economic, and financial cost of Cystic Fibrosis to be \$116 million which was shared with Pharmac. The estimated annual cost to fund Trikafta would be



significantly less than \$60 million. Patients are utterly thrown by Pharmac's decision not to prioritise funding and think it defies logic completely.

"CFNZ and our Cystic Fibrosis community remains relentless in our determination to get Trikafta funded in New Zealand. Kiwis deserve better than this, HOPE shouldn't be our

only option for a medicine's strategy" Alternative options internationally have proven effective and this is the only option for some families who are desperate to seek access to this life changing drug.

For the Bradcock family and friends, this is their only HOPE to improve the outcome for Aden.

To support the family, a small group will be setting a hefty target of \$50,000 to raise funds to buy this much needed drug to prolong this incurable disease. The results are promising and many medical professionals believe this is transformative in the development of Cystic Fibrosis sufferers.

The group are well aware of the current economic climate, but believe they need to take this action to give Aden a better chance of fulfilling his lifelong dream to become a machine operator or even a taxidermist.

We hope you can support or spread the word and contribute any time or financial support towards this target.

A Give a Little page has been created "Help Aden breathe easy" and will also be shared on a FB page – Help Aden breathe easy.

Being from a rural community we hope the support of a Stock Drive by donation of cattle may kick start the fundraising initiative. Plans to host a Horse Trek in early 2023, Paintball day and proceeds from the annual Stars in your Eyes night of entertainment mid-year will all be on the calendar also.

**Any funds or support can be directed to
A J Bradcock
02-0448-0040254-00**

See advert on P8 for more details

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

The Birdtalk ladies would like to thank our advertisers, contributors, our locals for sharing news and views, and of course our readers. Best wishes for a wonderful festive season.

Ho ho ho! From the Birdtalk team



Local record attempt

SAVE THE DATE!

On Thursday, December 22, 30-year-old Jack Fagan will attempt to break Ivan Scott's near 10 year old 8-hour lamb record of 744 Xbreed lambs.

Jack will need to catch, shear and place 1 lamb every 38.65 seconds down the porthole.

This will take place at Puketiti Station and public are encouraged to come along and support Jack and his team.

There will be food and drink available for sale from local community groups.



Gus representing NZ

LOCAL LAD Gus Nelson has been selected as a reserve for the NZ Junior Black Sticks squad.

It is the first Junior Black Sticks squad in three years, having last played in October 2019.

The son of Blair and Anna Nelson of Aria, Gus recently played for the Canterbury Men's B "Beavers" team (below), winning their division at National tournament. His Marist Club team won the Christchurch Men's competition as well. Well done Gus!



Gus Nelson doing his thing.



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FEEDBACK & ARTICLES WELCOME!

Community feedback and articles are welcomed and appreciated. The views published in this publication are not those of the editor but of the contributors. Articles must not be longer than 280 words and may have accompanying photos. We reserve the right to edit any material.

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Piopio Fruit & Veg Stand

I HOPE your heirloom tomatoes are growing, flowering, and starting to fruit. And that you didn't suffer too much damage from that late heavy frost.

We've lost this season's figs, walnuts and plums most likely, but not our peaches, nectarines, apples, quince, nashis, feijoas, citrus, hazelnuts, grapes or blackcurrants, phew.

Be forewarned I will be begging for damsons from anyone who has them to spare.

With gardens starting to come into peak seasonal production I hope you will have surplus to share and make the effort to do so. I know that second bit takes thought and time. And we're all short of time. But sharing surplus matters, and it does make a difference to

those in our community. Especially with produce prices being what they are.

Once the tomatoes start to ripen I will do a quick tutorial on the stand's FB page for those who are interested in learning how to save seeds for planting next season. Different people do different things, I'll just share what has worked for me.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions/issues. Updates are posted pretty much daily on our FB page, where "likes," "loves," comments and questions are always welcome.

Merry Christmas, Peace on Earth and Good Fruit & Veg to all.

Karen Barrett
struanfarm@gmail.com
07 877 8012



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struanfarm@gmail.com
07 877 8012



Piopio had a population of 465 at the 2018 New Zealand census, an increase of 69 people (17.4%) since the 2013 census, and a decrease of 3 people (-0.6%) since the 2006 census. There were 171 households, comprising 234 males and 234 females, giving a sex ratio of 1.0 males per female, with 120 people (25.8%) aged under 15 years, 93 (20.0%) aged 15 to 29, 177 (38.1%) aged 30 to 64, and 78 (16.8%) aged 65 or older.

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Growing Future Farmers awards

GROWING Future Farmers is a two year farming programme for students wanting to enter the sheep, beef and deer section.

The first cohort of King Country farming graduates celebrated at the Fat Owl earlier this month.

All graduates received \$1000 from Growing Future Farmers and other awards included:

Top year 2 Academic prize of \$5000 sponsored by Margaret Johnstone and went to Teagan O'Shea and Regan Adams.

Top year 1 Academic \$1000 prize sponsored by Margaret Johnstone went to Alex West.

Transformational award of \$5000 sponsored by John and Sarah Oliver

went to Regan Hosking.

Best dog trainer award was sponsored by Black Hawke and went to Regan Hosking.

Best year 1 heading dog trainer sponsored by Black Hawke went to Alex West.

And we have 10 year 1 students that will graduate at the end of next year.



From left: William McNeil, Regan Hosking, Teagan O'Shea, Regan Adams



Robyn Stephens (Dog Trainer) Alex West, Allysha Adams (Liasion manager) Regan Hosking (top dog award)



Top year 1 and year 2 students (from left) Alex West, Regan Adams, Margaret Johnstone (sponsor) and Teagan O'Shea

Rural Women NZ awards

LOCAL woman Liz Morgan was awarded the Olive Craig Tray for Member of Excellence at the Annual General Meeting of Rural Women NZ in Wellington last weekend.

As well as being a local member of the Waitanguru Branch of RWNZ, Liz is Chair and Treasurer for the Greater Waikato Regional Committee.

Waikato also won 'Best Project' for the online auction they organised – a National project raising funds for ovarian cancer research.

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New Councillor elected

A **BIG** thank you to all who supported me in my bid to be elected as a Waitomo District Councillor.

The induction ceremony held at the Council offices was followed by a welcome and lunch at the Te Kuiti Marae. We were made to feel very welcome, had a wonderful meal and thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment provided by local school students.

Sharon and I were invited to the Piopio College Senior Prize-giving and would like to congratulate the students for their outstanding achievements. We have

some very talented young people in our district.

Although we have not had an actual council meeting yet, I have attended a number of workshops to familiarise ourselves with Council procedures.

I attended the opening of the new toilet block at Mokau and will be attending a meeting of the Tainui Wetere Domain Board as a representative of the Council.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or issues you might have.

Gavin Todd

Gavin.Todd@Waitomo.govt.nz



Gavin Todd
Rural Ward Councillor
Waitomo District Council

Gumboot Friday @ Aria School



WHAT A great effort at very short notice ... all for a very worthy cause!

Aria School students took part in Gumboot Friday last month, raising \$200.

Gumboot Friday is an initiative by the Key to Life Charitable Trust, a fundraising and advocacy organisation that supports young people who are struggling with their mental health. The Trust help connect young people with existing

counsellors or therapists and provide funding for counselling, so that they get help as soon as they need it.

The Gumboot Friday counselling funding service is designed to take the pressure off current services and give young people facing long wait times an alternative pathway.

For more information visit gumbootfriday.org.nz

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College first to celebrate World Children's Day

SCHOOL students at Piopio College recently celebrated World Children's Day, a global day of action for children by children, by 'going blue' and launching new child rights resources for schools in Aotearoa.

Piopio College is the first school in the country to participate in a workshop with these new child rights materials, which will be available for all schools in Aotearoa from November 20. Through these materials and engaging games, students will have the

chance to learn more about the Convention on the Rights of the Child and understand their rights.

World Children's Day is UNICEF's annual day of action for children, by children. It's a day where all around the world, children and young people raise their voices to call on adults to create a better future for every child. Each year, World Children's Day is celebrated globally on November 20, marking the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

From climate change, education and mental health, to ending racism and discrimination, children and young people are raising their voices on the issues that matter to their generation and calling for adults to create a better future.

The students at Piopio College joined the global voice of children around the world by sharing their important views on children's rights and learning more about their rights through participating in fun activities provided in the new resources available for schools.

UNICEF Aotearoa CEO, Michelle Sharp, said, "This week we are joining children all across the world to celebrate this important day where children are taking action on issues affecting them. It was an honour to see the students at Piopio College join this global voice by sharing their important views on children's rights.

"The launch of these new child rights resources will support children across Aotearoa to learn and understand their rights. We know that the more children understand about their rights, the more likely they are to speak out when their own rights, or the rights of others, aren't being met."

To celebrate World Children's Day, UNICEF Aotearoa is releasing a set of new resources including booklets, games and activities, for children, young people and teachers in the classroom (Preschool – Intermediate) to learn about the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Some resources will also be available in Te reo Māori, Samoan, Tongan, Hindi and Chinese and are easy to understand for students with child-friendly language.

The child rights resources are available to school students across Aotearoa, thanks to support from Dan Carter's DC10 Fund in partnership with UNICEF.

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Piopio Primary Calf Club 2022

by Tracey Neal

AFTER two years of disruptions, it was a pleasure to see the 89th Merehuia Young Stock Club take place on Friday, October 21. As last year's event was cancelled, it was officially the 88th but that's a conundrum for someone else.

From the efforts of teachers and students earlier in the year, displays of class craft items were awesome – we have some very creative young people with some very patient and inspiring teachers. Personal favourites were the felted soaps – such a yummy smell and look, and the 'bottle' birds were amazing creations.



The wonderful cave-like display of decorated jars as lanterns was a visual treat and every class offering showed the hard work and thought that had gone into each item.

As a baking judge, it was great to see another year of children's kitchen creations produced. Despite the list being trimmed back from previous years there was a wonderful selection of baking and decorating treats from toffee to pikelets to iced wine biscuits and gingerbread three ways. While it is always a pleasure to see child effort, my heart went out to the unfortunate ones who suffered icing mishaps ... hopefully they aren't put off trying again next year.



Flower creations made on Thursday were a seeing and smelling delight. Despite another trimmed back schedule and a lack of flowers after the recent killer frost, once again the creativity of the students shone through. This year a decision to make

playdough creations rather than vegetable characters (high cost of veges!) saw another level of creativity come into play with flowers, mice, sea creatures and ... vegetables too. The personal craft section was also a delight to see again.

On the day it dawned a bit cloudy but not raining – yay! The hard work putting up pens and marquees the afternoon before had the grounds looking set to go. It was fantastic to see the Piopio Lions caravan back in action – best hotdogs ever! And the 21st century addition – the coffee caravan did a steady trade too.

Kicking off with a spirited auction of donated goods, the day went smoothly on the whole, as expected when wrangling kids, lambs, calves and kids not to mention companion pets. Throw doting parents and grandparents into the mix and as said, it went pretty smoothly.

Merehuia Young Stock Club aka Piopio Calf Club Day is an event which is the envy of many and although testing the patience and organisation

of many teachers and parents, like one Mum I have known with four kids all with pets, flowers and baking to sort and deliver, it is worth it.

It is a tradition in the best sense of the word and the work of the MYSC committee, community judges, helpers and sponsors, parents and teachers to bring it all together is to be applauded and congratulated – roll on the 90th (or is it 89th?). Lastly, well done to the Piopio Primary School children for all their hard work.

Merehuia Young Stock Club Results LAMBS

Boddy Cup Best Romney Ewe Replacement: Charley-Ray Ballantyne
 Kelso Cup Best Non-Romney Ewe Replacement: Caleigh Mouat
 Symons Cup Reserve Grand Champion: Logan Lyford
 Easton Cup Grand Champion: Nathan Haine
 Anselmi Cup Best Export Wether Lamb: Zara-Lee Walker
 Mangare Stud Cup Best Export Ewe Lamb: Ruby Mouat

GOATS

McGlashan Cup Open Goat Champion: Lachie Carter

COMPANION ANIMALS

Rosette Overall Champion: Amy Hiriaki

CALVES

Whitehead Cup Leading Champion: James Hill
 Graham Cup Overall Primary Champion: Marley Langlands
 PCL Cup College Overall Champion: James Hill
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KC Rivercare Update

ONE billion trees funding is still available – we have \$245k remaining. Applications remain open until February 10, 2023. Priority will be given to any new applications.

If you're keen to apply, or just want some more information visit our website kingcountryrivercare.co.nz or email kcrivercare@gmail.com

As we head into the festive season we are pleased to bring the Bitches Box back to the King Country for two shows only: Kinohaku on Tuesday, December 6, and Mahoenui on Wednesday, December 7.

Life's a Bitch – a comedy show and the third instalment in their suite of

hilarious, romping comedies – is all about life as a dog.

Thanks to our sponsors, tickets are just \$20 per person (which includes a BBQ). Tickets are available on Eventbrite (or see our Facebook page for the link).

If you're keen to be the first to hear about our 2023 events head to our website and sign up for our newsletter.

On that note, the whole King Country River Care committee would like to thank all of our supporters for getting involved in 2022, and we wish you and your whanau a safe and happy Christmas.

Top academic students for 2022

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What has been happening at Piopio Playcentre?

Piopio playcentre has been busy over the last few months. We have had many new families visiting and enrolling in our centre which is great to see.



A highlight over the last few months was a goat farm visit. After a 2-year hiatus we were lucky to have another visit out to the Alcock dairy goat farm. The day turned out raining but this did not put a dampener on the kid's spirits. They were super excited to see the goats. Many of the tamariki were a little unsure of the goats to start with but with some of the more confident children taking the lead they were soon all keen to get close and pat them. Even the children under 1 were seen laughing and enjoying getting up close to the goats.



After seeing the big goats, we made our way over to the baby kid shed. These baby kids were super curious of the tamariki which was enjoyable for some and a little unsettling for others.



To finish off the visit Jo took us to the shed full of shavings – the kids had an absolute ball...working together to conquer the mountain and slide back down again.

The tamariki has so much fun patting the goats, playing with the kids not to mention playing in the mountain of shavings and jumping in the puddles! Massive thanks to Jo Alcock for giving up her morning to host us and answering all our questions.



In September Piopio Playcentre also hosted a community event with Emma Nahna who explained the latest research around learning to read and write and what makes structured literacy different and with improved outcomes to other ways of teaching. This was well received by those in attendance with great feedback after the event.



We are looking forward to some more settled warm weather so we can get into some water fun and activities. Our last session of the year is Monday 19th December so if you are interested to come along and visit our sessions run from

Touch a big hit in Piopio

SOCIAL touch has proved popular in town! Kurt and Alisa Houghton started the competition for friends and families to get together in our local community and have a bit of fun.

Here's what's been going on...

Touch nights are a big deal! We have 13 teams of 12 people per team registered. On any night we can have up to 200 people with spectators, family and children.

The rugby club bar is always open and food is available for purchase on game nights.

We started on Friday, October 14 and are doing seven weeks of round robin games. Semi finals and finals are on week 8.

We have our finals night on Friday, December 2 and will be having our

prize-giving starting at 8.30pm after the games have finished.

We have a trophy for the winning team along with cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, and a cash prize for the best dressed team, as well as spot prizes.

Touch has run seamlessly with the help and commitment of everyone involved. We've loved seeing every team turn up each week for their games and watching the kids having fun. We are hoping to have this as a yearly competition if the demand continues – we will wait for feedback after the end of the season.

Next year we hope to see repeat teams from this year, local business teams, high school teams and family groups.

Want to come play? Make contact with Kurt Houghton or via the Piopio Social Touch facebook page.



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PIOPIO COLLEGE SENIOR PRIZEGIVING 2022

SPORTS

ATHLETICS: Senior Athletics - Field Events (*Andrew Taitoko Memorial Trophy*) **Kyryn Young**; Senior Boys (*Committee Cup*) **Malachi Laird**; Senior Girls (*Brickland Cup*) **Kabree Kopa**; Intermediate Boys (*Committee Cup*) **Noah Brownlie**
SWIMMING: Senior Boys (*Ken Buckman Cup*) **Malachi Laird**; Senior Girls (*Brickland Cup*) **Kabree Kopa**; Intermediate Boys (*Simpson Cup*) **Max Bevege**; Intermediate Girls (*G & E Bevege Cup*) **Viviana Fagan-Mexted**; **CROSS COUNTRY:** Intermediate Boy (*Bowring Cup*) **Olly Bevege**; **NETBALL:** Significant Contribution to Netball (*Tamati Trophy*) **Jadalee James**; Sportsmanship in Netball (*S & J Toms Cup*) **Kabree Kopa**; **SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR** (*Draper Axe Trophy and \$500 sponsored by Piopio College Trust*) **Tessa Bradcock**; **HOUSE SHIELD:** Kowhai

SUBJECT PRIZES AND MANA AWARDS

Certificates are awarded to the Top Student in each Subject for their Year level and for those who have attained the MANA award in each subject. The MANA award is awarded to students who are consistently displaying our school values and reflecting effort and integrity in the subject.

YEAR 11

Alexa Hancock: First in Technology Soft Materials, MANA award in Hospitality; **Jade Rapana:** MANA award in Te Ao Māori and Technology Soft Materials; **Jaxon Bryant:** First in Design and Visual Communication and Science, MANA award in Art; **Justin Laimbeer:** First in Mathematics, MANA award in Technology Hard Materials; **Marian Robata:** MANA award in Agriculture & Horticulture, English and Physical Education; **Max Bevege:** First in Art, MANA award in Design and Visual Communication; **Noah Brownlie:** Physical Education; **Tana Bidois:** First in Agriculture & Horticulture, English and Technology Hard Materials

YEAR 12

Alexandria Kennard-Warren: First in Hospitality, Outdoor Recreation, MANA award in Technology Hard Materials; **Ava MacKenzie:** MANA award in Outdoor Recreation; **Charles Burgess:** First in Technology Hard Materials; **Jadalee James:** MANA award in Coaching and Leadership, Physical Education, Te Ao Māori; **Jorja Knox:** First in Biology, MANA award in Art, English, Photography; **Kyryn Young:** First in Physical Education; **Ryan Smith:** First in Mathematics; **Shaniqueae McElroy:** First in Art; **Tess Randle:** MANA award in Hospitality; **Viviana Fagan-Mexted:** First in English, MANA award in Biology

YEAR 13

Anika Takerei: MANA award in Te Ao Māori; **Cayt Kennard-Warren:** First in Design and Visual Communication, English and Photography; **Daveigh Kemp:** MANA award in Te Ao Māori; **Kabree Kopa:** MANA award in Technology Soft Materials; **Malachi Laird:** First in Coaching and Leadership, MANA award in Physical Education, Technology Hard Materials; **Teia Blakeman:** First in Biology and Physical Education, MANA award in Mathematics

SUBJECT CUPS

ART: Most Industrious Visual Artist (*Sweeney Trophy*) **Shaniqueae McElroy**; Up and Coming Visual Artist (*Sweeney Trophy*) **Jorja Knox**; Senior Visual Art (*Richardson Cup*) **Cayt Kennard-Warren**; Senior Photography Student (*Photolife Award*) **Cayt Kennard-Warren**
OUTDOOR RECREATION: Most Skilled and Competent Outdoors person (*Sponsored by Heath Barnsdall Ag Contracting*) **Jayden Pari**; **TECHNOLOGY HARD MATERIALS:** Level 1 Design Technology & Wood Award (*Les Frederick Memorial Trophy*) **Justin Laimbeer**; Design & Construction Award (*Richardson Cup*) **Alexandria Kennard-Warren**; Excellence in Carpentry (*Sponsored by Corey Barnsdall Builders Ltd*) **Tana Bidois**; **TECHNOLOGY SOFT MATERIALS:** Excellence in Textile Technology at Level 1 (*Collier Cup*) **Alexa Hancock**; **TE REO MĀORI:** Wahanga Korero – Senior Award (*Mokau Ki Runga Trophy*) **Kabree Kopa**; Wahanga Korero - Contribution and Commitment to Māori Language and Culture (*Taituha Trophy*) **Malachi Laird**; Tikanga Māori (*Māori Womens Welfare League Trophy*) **Jadalee James**; Tikanga Māori Excellence/Commitment to Te Reo (*Maniapoto Māori Trust Board Taonga*) **Malachi Laird**

SCHOLAR RECOGNITION AWARDS

Year 11 Scholar – Runner Up (*\$300 Piopio College Coffee Club Scholarship*) **Jaxon Bryant**; **Year 11 Scholar – First** (*Petre Cup, \$500 Piopio College Coffee Club Scholarship*) **Tana Bidois**; **Principal's Prize for Year 12 – Runner Up** (*\$300 Piopio College Coffee Club Scholarship*) **Jadalee James**; **Principal's Prize for Year 12 – First** (*Voyce Family Cup, \$500 Piopio College Coffee Club Scholarship*) **Ryan Smith**; **Persistence, Passion & Pride** (*Jason Kernott Memorial Trophy*) **Shaniqueae McElroy**; **Founders Scholarship** (*The Whakaaria Certificate - \$500 awarded for the promotion of further study*) **Anika Takerei & Viviana Fagan Mexted**; **Proxime Accessit** (*\$1000.00 Piopio College Trust Scholarship, \$50 gift card*) **Teia Blakeman**; **Dux** (*Carter Cup, \$1500.00 Piopio College Trust Scholarship, \$75 gift card*) **Cayt Kennard-Warren**

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR PRIZE WINNERS – perseverance and diligence lead to success!

Bianca wins NZ squash title

FIFTEEN year old Aria squash star Bianca Alcock is on an upward trajectory after a successful squash season.

The Aria Squash Club member started her 2022 squash season on a mission to play her way out of J Grade. She began as a J3 in April, before moving on to J2 at end of May and then into J1 by mid July. She was mega excited she had achieved her mission and entered E grade at the end of September while playing Superchamps F/J Nationals in Ashburton.

Through playing at various competitions, she came across and played against a lovely crew of girls similar to her age who became her friends. The team of 6 school girls entered the F/J Grade SuperChamps for the Waikato region, winning the competition.

The team were then off to compete in the National F/J Grade SuperChamps in Ashburton at the end of September.

Bianca and the team were very fortunate to have an amazing coach and manager (Dave & Gary) who shared their wealth of knowledge.

As all this training for the SuperChamps event was in full swing, Bianca was encouraged by her coach to enter the Waikato Ladies J-Grade Graded Champs at Lugton Park in Hamilton at the end of August. Bianca won all 3 of her matches and became the Waikato J Grade Champion for 2022.



By becoming the Waikato Champ she was then offered the opportunity to contest the NZ Champion of Champions in Invercargill at the end of October.

F/J Grade SuperChamps in Ashburton was an amazing learning experience for Bianca and her team. The team came home 4th.

After coming home from Ashburton and with the Invercargill tournament ahead of her, Bianca decided that she needed more court time with adults. So she had to find tournaments in the next month!

Off to Invercargill she went to repre-

sent the Waikato at the end of October to challenge for the NZ F/J Grade Champion. Very focussed, determined and keen to achieve another goal, Bianca played outstanding squash. She won her 1st round vs AKL in 3. She won her 2nd round vs Southland in 3. Her final was vs Central who was a Taihape lady that she had met but not played against at SuperChamps. Bianca played with her mighty Mokauiti muscle and speed and won her final in 3 and became the NZ F/J Grade Champion for 2022.

Congratulations on an outstanding season Bianca!

Barbara Kuriger MP for Taranaki-King Country

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Kuriger.Inglewood@
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Hot rods & motorcycles visit Aria



Te Kuiti Rod & Custom Club and Te Kuiti Motorcycle Club members visited Aria Cosmopolitan Club recently. The clubs completed a local cruise and Poker run, with drive throughs at Hillview and Beattie Homes, out to Waitomo, Aria, and finishing at the Quota Club.



Crutching business changes hands



LOCAL couple Richie and Grish Maguire (pictured left) are new crutching contractors in the King Country/Waikato area.

The business was previously run by Gavin and Amanda Jones (Jones Rural Services), and the Maguires have re-launched the business as KC Crutching.

Richie has more than 16 years experience as a worldwide shearer and has spent the last four years shepherding on a local farm.

KC Crutching will be Richie's core

business, however in quieter months he and his dogs will be available for casual farm work.

So if you have a need for sheep crutching, get in contact.

KC CRUTCHING
 RICHIE MAGUIRE
 KC.CRUTCHING@GMAIL.COM
 0210682025

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Piopio Hunt

THE Piopio Cosmopolitan Club is going to run a hunting competition in May 2023 (see advert below).

I have had the pleasure to ask the business people in Piopio and some in Te Kuiti for some sponsorship and have not had one person say 'no'.

This is a great thing to know that, even though times are tough, people are willing to help out.

The competition is over three days, there is good prize money for the competitors and there will of course be a section for the juniors.

We will be donating money to the youth of Piopio, Aria and Mahoenui via Heath Barnsdall, to the Piopio St John and the Piopio Volunteer Fire Brigade.

As this is the first time an event like this has happened in Piopio, we hope that the public will come and have a look on the day.

All enquiries to Barry Stott 027 561 0974.

Halloween trick or treat fun

AFTER coming out of one of many lockdowns, a group of us decided to have some fun with local children and get into the Halloween spirit.

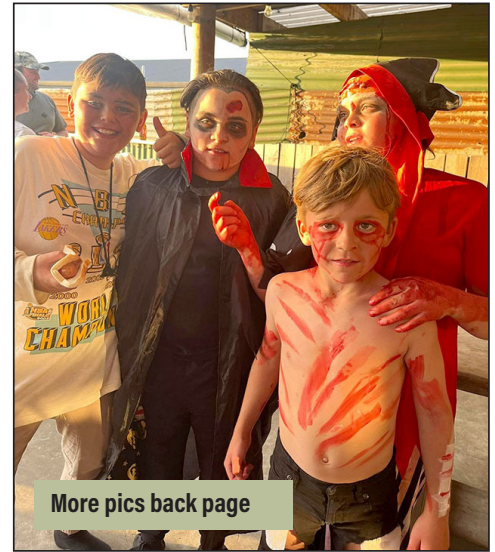
Some local home-owners, the Fat Owl Motel, Bar & Eatery, and Piopio Cosmopolitan Club joined in for a night of trick-or-treating; and Sheryl Griffin and her helpers made an awesome spooky walk-through for the kids. It was so neat to see so many families out and about and everyone smiling again.

When I was walking around with the the group I was with, we thought it would be neat if the kids knew where they were allowed to go (as not every home is into Halloween which is totally understandable), so we came up with the idea of making a Lolly Map.

During our yearly meeting for the Piopio Christmas Parade I put this idea to the committee and from there we put together the Piopio Halloween Lolly Map for 2022, and my gosh it was hit! The number of kids who dressed up and took part was incredible!

To all the home-owners and Piopio businesses that entered in the Lolly map, it was amazing so a big thank you to all. We want to say a huge thank you to Dee and her staff at the Fat Owl for opening on a Monday so we could purchase food and drinks and have a lolly scramble for the kids, and to Roy and Ross from Simpson Tree Works who donated the sausage sizzle. Halloween was a big hit and we will definitely do it again next year.

Carley Simpson



More pics back page

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Full steam ahead at Piopio Primary

IN TERM 4, our staff and tamariki have been working with Gavin McLean who is a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) facilitator. He has visited twice this term to work with us. In the first workshop, the tamariki were working on code breaking and following a pattern through a grid.

We used words like- algorithm. The tamariki worked in teams to work out the code to move through the grid. All the students had a turn from our 5 year olds to our Year 6 students.

On his second visit, Gavin worked with us on building boats. The challenge was to design and create a boat that could hold the largest number of bolts. The tamariki worked in groups, and were given a piece

of A4 paper and some foil. They had 15 minutes to create their boat. Then each group took turns floating their boat and adding bolts to weigh down. One person in each team added the bolts while another team member counted. There was a wide variety of designs and some were more successful than others, however everyone had lots of fun.

Gavin will be back in 2023 to continue working with teachers and tamariki. We are creating a dedicated STEAM room and will be purchasing resources, for example robots. As part of our strategic direction, the Piopio Primary Board is focused on empowering curious learners, which includes exploring new ways of learning through inquiry.



Sue Coyle
Principal
Piopio Primary School



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Pony Club news

TE KUITI & Districts Pony Club held its annual One Day Event in October, and it was a great success. There were over 100 riders competing and the day went really well thanks to an incredibly hardworking team of volunteers.

We were lucky with the weather - although we had some heavy rain the night before, making our arena a bit swampy. Our pony club riders did well and featured in many of the placings: 95cm: Tessa Bradcock won with 'Ceremony'; Alice Buckley took out third place. 80cm: Sue Mckee won the 80cm for over 21-year-olds on 'Belmont Gin & Tonic' AKA Gin; while Sam Were came fourth on 'Simply Polkadot' in the under 21s.

65cm: Breeanne George came third followed by Annabella Were in fourth place on 'Jackson,' and Lily-Rose Morehu

came in sixth.

Jenny Bevege placed second in the 65cm for older riders.

In the First Start section for newer riders, Grace Buckley came second on 'Galaxy Rif Raf.'

Two judges have offered to come back and run a First Start event for young riders who weren't ready to compete in the main event, hopefully before Christmas.

A huge thank you to all of the community that got in behind this event and made it happen. Special mentions go to Anna Nelson, Ross and Karen Harris, The Light Horse Club, Peter Fordham, Roger Bevege, Roy Simpson, Chris Walker and others that we may have forgotten but you know who you are.

We truly appreciate all that you do for our small but mighty club, ensuring that our local kids have great opportunities, right here in Piopio.

Mokau Fishing Club news



Hi everyone,

Summer's here and the fish are biting for those lucky enough to get a hook in the water.

We have our Xmas comp coming up and registrations due by the end of the month, so get your entries in and subs for a big summer fishing and enjoying our slice of paradise.

If the ice breaker is anything to go by its going to be big! We had record entries for this comp and some good fish weighed in.

We're still trying to sort boat ramp parking and will hopefully have a solution by Xmas, there are still a few speeding within the 5-knot zone, so keep it tidy and don't be shy to tell others.

We have gained a few more sponsors this year, they're keen to support our club which is great so please support them.

We have quite a few in the committee this year, so hopefully it will ease the pressure on us, so please support them where you can.

Well, that's it from me, get amongst it and I'll see you around this season.

Cheers Dion.



Record entries were received for the recent Ice Breaker competition run by Mokau Fishing Club.



LABOUR WEEKEND COMP RESULTS:

BOAT

- Snapper: Geoff Preston 1; Kevin Proffit 2; Lex Stolt 3.
- Gurnard: Rick Manson 1; Melissa Jones 2; Jason Craig 3.
- Kahawai: Greg Reeves 1; Rafael Gonzalez 2; Corey Proffit 3.

LONGLINE/DRONE

- Snapper: Shayne McKenzie 1; Andrew Cook 2; Carl Smith 3.
- Gurnard: Murray Reed 1; Stuart Rose 2; Kerilee Cook 3.

KIDS KAHAWAI:

- Riley Cooper 1; Liam Ballentyne 2; Hunter Cooper 3.

SURF-CASTING

- Snapper: Jayden Wilson Crane 1; Dylan Brockway 2.
- Gurnard: Kial Muir 1.
- Kahawai: Kevin Feakins 1; Keegan Foley 2; Nathan Syme 3.

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Interschool athletics great experience

ON FRIDAY, November 18 Aria School had 19 keen athletes attend the Interschool Athletics held at Piopio College.

It has been a number of years since we have been able to hold athletics due to Covid interruptions so everyone was excited for the day to go ahead.

Although the weather wasn't the greatest, the children didn't mind too much and we managed to get through most of the planned events.

With seven other primary schools attending, it's always a great experience for the students to compete against a larger group of athletes.

We had some students gain placings in their events both for shotput and sprints.



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M Ō K A U

SUMMER EVENTS

----- DECEMBER -----

Saturday 10th December

Awakino Bowling Club **6 pm**

Christmas Community Dinner \$25 per person
Ph Gail 067529014 to book your spot.

Wednesday 21st December

Awakino Hotel Xmas Quiz **7 pm**

Bookings essential. ph 067529815

Tuesday 27th December

Mokau Fishing Club

Corson Tyres 4-day Xmas Competition. \$10,000 worth of prizes, 37 categories. Non-members welcome :)

Early bird draw \$200. Registrations at the North Boat Ramp.

Weigh in at the Awakino Hotel

Ph Wal Death 0276037255

Friday 30th December

Mokau Fishing Club

Corson Tyres 4-day Xmas Competition Prizegiving

Prizegiving and BBQ, meal \$10 for non-members.

Live music.

Saturday 31st December

Awakino Hotel New Year's Eve Band **8pm**

Rock Band – The Good Vibrations

----- JANUARY -----

Sunday 1st January

Mōkau Movies

A promotion for the opening of the Mōkau Museum "Jail House Theatre". Free movies throughout the day, 1 pm, 3 pm

and 7 pm showings at the Mokau hall

Wednesday 4th January

Mōkau Museum Town Tour **1 pm**

Learn the history of the towns buildings, meet at the Museum, returning at 3pm.

Twilight Bowls **5.30pm**

Come and have a social bowl with the Awakino Bowling Club, every Wednesday night throughout the summer.

Briscoe Street Awakino. \$2 a player. Ph Gail 067529014 B.Y.O

Friday 6th January

Paddle Day **10 am**

Meet at Gorries driveway, Te Mahoe Road. Kayaking, paddleboarding and inflatables. All children must be supervised by parent or guardian. Picnic lunch. Ph Heidi

0276791931

Saturday 7th January

Mokau Hall Open Day **10 am**

Table tennis activities/ meet and greet

Rate payers meeting **1 pm**

Welcome morning tea for all our new members to the area.

Ph Heidi 0276791931

Mokau Market **10 am – 3 pm**

Craft stalls, free kids rides, classic cars, food, music.

Mōkau Museum **11.30 am – 12:30 pm**

Free Cultural Competency Workshop

Would you like to pronounce local Māori place names correctly? Or find out why some landmarks are culturally significant to local iwi? Or understand what

happens when you walk onto a marae? Then this workshop is for you.

Saturday 14th January

Mokau Fishing Club **9 am**

Take a kid fishing

Meet at the north boat ramp, bring rod, drink and sunhat.

Younger children must have parent or guardian supervision. Followed by Lolly scramble and sausage sizzle

at the Tainui Wetere Domain.

All children receive a certificate and there are some great

sponsored goods for giveaway. Ph Wal 0276037255

----- FEBRUARY -----

Saturday 11th February

Rural Day Out **3 pm**

Tainui Wetere Domain

A day off the farm, free BBQ, health checks, supplier reps, guest speakers, Quiz master Barbara Kuriger .

Saturday 18th February

Mokau Fishing Club Ladies Competition

Lots of prizes, best dressed team, mass start.

Email the mokaufishingclub@yahoo.co.nz

Sunday 19th February

Mighty Mokau Bike Ride **8 am – 3 pm**

2227 Taumatamair Road, sign-in 8am, rider briefing 9am

Pre-registrations link on the Mokau Bike Ride Facebook page.

Adults \$35 pre-register online \$40 on the day

Child (15yrs and under) \$15 pre-register online \$20 on the day

Sausage sizzle and burgers available.

Ph Maree 067529765



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smilingkiwi@piopiodental.co.nz

Recreation Centre
Kimberley Cody
(07) 877 8700
M: 027 210 1860

The Ferret's Nest
Grace Cortes Montecinos
M: 022 154 9745

Youth Activities

Aria Playcentre
Hannah Bodger-Kearns
(07) 877 7898

Aria Toy Library
Librarian: Karen Jones
M: 021 038 5153
E: ariatoylibrary@gmail.com

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Kohanga Piopio
(07) 877 8185

Mainly Music
All Saints Church, Moa Street
Music and movement for children 0-5yrs & caregivers.
Thursdays @ 10am
Alyson Singleton
(07) 877 8840

Piopio Playcentre
Nicola Kloeten
M: 027 696 0598

Piopio Primary School
(07) 877 8103

Piopio College
(07) 877 8173. Meeting rooms available for hire

Community

Piopio Police
07 877 0490

Crime Stoppers
0800 555 111
We live in a great community so let's stop these few who are taking from us. E: Tony.schrafft@police.govt.nz
www.crimestoppers-nz.org

All Saints Church Co-operating Parish of Piopio, Aria & Mokau
Main Road, Piopio.
Worship service 10am

Community Fruit & Veg Stand
Karen Barrett (07) 877 8012
E: struanfarm@gmail.com

Housie
Thursdays 1pm Senior Citizen's Room All welcome.
Paddy Coffin (07) 877 8367

Justices of Peace
Vikki Hall (07) 877 8058
Clive Fredericks
(07) 877 8048

Piopio Garden Circle
Visits are 3rd Thursday of every month except January & August
Gillian Hooper (07) 878 7880
M: 027 345 9603

Laver Marine
(07) 877 8484
M: 0211054737

Opportunity Shop/ Mustard Seed
Cara Bryant 027 345 3389
Tasha Bryon 027 324 6016

Mahoenui Hall
Lynette Adams
E: lynadams@xtra.co.nz

Piopio College Community Library
(07) 877 8173
E: library@piopio.school.nz
18 Aria Road

Senior Citizen's Organisation
Meetings first Tuesday every month, 10am. All welcome.
Wendy Weinberg
(07) 877 8686

Seniors' Exercise Classes
Wendy Weinberg
(07) 877 8686

Marriage Celebrants
Clive Fredericks
M: 027 280 3867
Heidi Preston
M: 027 679 1931
Tuituia (Ripeka Price)
M: 021 464 000

Piopio Lions Club
Stephen Cooper
(07) 877 8159
Gavin Todd (07) 877 7700
Ken Perry (07) 877 8035

Piopio Memorial Hall
Book venue or facilities through Waitomo District Council (07) 878 0800

Piopio/Paearuhe Retirement Village
Jenny Brodie (07) 877 8033

The Old Piopio Post Office Art Gallery
M: 022 437 0789

Waitanguru Rural Women
Liz Morgan 027 284 6653

Activities & Attractions

Piopio and Districts Museum
Mark Verry (07) 877 8842
Key available from Piopio Superette

Piopio Market Day
3rd Sunday of each month
Grace Cortes Montecinos
M: 022 154 9745

Piopio POP (Tui Park)
Waitomo District Council
(07) 878 0800
Key for toilet available from the Cloverleaf tearooms or Snow Nicol

Sports & Recreation

Aria Squash Club
President Mark Anderson
(07) 877 8950
Secretary Lee Alcock
E: ariasquash@gmail.com

Light Horse Club
President Helen Potter
E: helen.neilpotter@gmail.com

Line Dancing Club
Linda Oliver (07) 877 8313

Piopio-Aria Golf Club
Hamish Roach
M: 027 578 5905

Piopio Bowling Club
Nigel 027 255 0898 or
Wendy (07) 877 8686

Piopio Community Sports (Rukuhia Domain)
Tony Schrafft Tony.schrafft@police.govt.nz

Piopio Rugby Club
President Peter Hurley
(07) 877 7577

Piopio Swimming Club
Kate Carter M: 021 264 5771
E: katemcdtiaans@hotmail.com

Pony Club
President Olivia Buckley
Secretary
Amanda MacLachlan
(07) 878 7182

Tennis Club
Reon Verry (07) 878 8678

King Country Hunt Club
President Joy Hurley
(07) 877 7577

Trail Bikes & Moto Cross Track
Darren Lupton
(07) 877 8054

Waitomo Ski Club
Kim Tatham (07) 877 8820

Waitomo Aero Club
Pete Voyce (07) 877 8254
John Carter (07) 877 8290

Trick or treat fun in Piopio

Piopio youngsters and adults alike dressed up for Halloween and enjoyed trick-or-treating around Piopio township.
Full story P14



DOES YOUR WATER TANK FILL FROM A TRICKLE FEED?

It's been a long hot summer so far and water is in short supply. With the warm weather set to continue, here's some top tips for saving water around your property:

- 1 check your taps, hoses, connections and troughs for any leaks
- 2 do a bit of summer maintenance and repair any worn fittings
- 3 mulch your flower beds and vegetable gardens to cut down on weeds
- 4 use a rain gauge to monitor rainfall at your house and adjust your watering to suit
- 5 protect your above ground water lines from livestock and machinery.

For more water saving tips, visit smartwater.org.nz

**Smart
water**
starts with you!