

PIOPIO BirdTalk

BI MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER COVERING PIOPIO, ARIA & MAHOENUI DISTRICTS

VARIETY BASH BRINGS BUS OF HISTORY

The arrival of the Variety Bash - a quirky car rally which travels hundreds of kilometres during one week in March each year fundraising for Kiwi kids, distributing grants, entertaining children and telling the Variety story. It's a mad-cap adventure full of eccentric vehicles, larger-than-life characters and heart-felt philanthropy.

At the heart of Variety's fundraising efforts is the unique rally of cars, fire trucks and buses. The arrival of a 1954 D. model Bedford bus brought not only an eccentric paint job but a double ended design to wow the students. In fact this beauty was originally owned here in Aria by past resident Jack Ellicott

whom formerly ran the Aria school bus contract, before Snow and June Nicol brought the local bus business, now Three Way Motors.

Underneath this exterior is the history of an old Bedford shell, encased with a Chevy motor. Snow Nicol has since sold two of these buses to the Variety Bash group along with two purchased from Te Kuiti bus operator Dobson Buses. Two have now made home in Australia and the other two created this double ended delight.

In line with the charity's gifting spirit, spokesperson Ewan Gilmour presented Piopio Primary school with three printers, whilst earlier in the week our own community supported the

charity by donating three hundred dollars.

An integral part of the Variety Bash is community involvement and distribution of grants to children and child based organisations while travelling around New Zealand.

The children were in hysteria with free goodie bags including piercing whistles and the excitement of quirky decorated vehicles. To compliment the visit, entertainment by a magician amused the students and visitors during their short stopover before departing to visit Aria Primary school.



TOP: Original Bedford bus owned by Three Way Motors

MIDDLE: PETE, JUNE AND SNOW NICOL

BOTTOM: middle children: Vivianna Fagan- Mexted and Ayla Benefield

BOYS BENEFIT FROM INNOVATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAMME

Recently two pupils of Piopio College added flyfishing to their curriculum.

Under the tutelage of Doug Stevens from New Zealand's largest fishing website, www.nzfishing.com, Trae Aitken and Drew Goddard spent a day on the Mangaotaki River learning the basics of fly fishing.

"We had a wonderful time" said Mr Stevens. "Despite the low river and bright conditions, both boys had a very successful day".

Piopio College has a very innovative programme running where pupils who express an interest in a subject

or activity are teamed up with adults from the community who can pass on their knowledge to them. Drew and Trae had chosen fly fishing as an activity and Mr Stevens from Wellington was able to spend a day with them.

"I have spent many days fishing



DOUG STEVENS AND DREW GODDARD

but this was one of the most enjoyable I have ever had" said Mr Stevens. "The two boys were keen and quick to learn and have a real aptitude for fly fishing", he added.

While many may see fly fishing to be a strange subject for a school Mr Stevens was quick to point out the wide range of subject areas covered. From looking at the aquatic life that made up the trout diet,

the structure and flow of the river through to how to care for our waterways, the day was one full of learning and the opening of new horizons.

"I am so impressed by the school in doing this", said Mr Stevens. "I know Trae and Drew learned a lot and hopefully will be motivated to continue in the sport. I hope more schools take up the idea and use the passion of their pupils as a driver for their continuing education."

CONTRIBUTED BY DOUG STEVENS

WWW.NZFISHING.COM

The Scout group is operating again in Piopio.



The cub section has a group of eager children and there are a few who are of scout section age but are joining the younger ones until more 10-14 year olds join.

SCOUT HALL EVERY MONDAY FROM 6PM TILL 7.30PM

It is \$25 per term to belong with discounts for more than one from a family.

For older children (10-14 years old), to join scouts gives them an opportunity to have fun as a group, to develop as an individual through the practical learning and badges they can earn, to work in and help the community and the environment, to practice honour pride and judgement and become better citizens because of that.

There has been one parent meeting recently and we are ready for more parents to join in. There is plenty of room for more children in the pack and we have leaders to keen to be involved. Scouting is fun.

ENQUIRIES TO LYNNE RAUPUTU 8778039

STOCK GRAZING

Piopio Primary PTA Stock Scheme wishes to thank all the generous farmers whom have supported this scheme. Your contribution is invaluable and provides a great source of funds for our children.

SEEKING FARMERS KEEN TO DONATE BOBBY CALVES, TO REAR CALVES OR GRAZE STOCK.

If you wish to help our school please contact **THOMAS BULL 8788692**

FAREWELL & WELCOME ABOARD

As the sunny Bay of Plenty is now calling we thank Donna Bentham for her contribution with the administration of accounts for the Birdtalk. We wish her well with her new endeavours.

Filling her shoes, we welcome Melissa Nicholas. Arriving to the Piopio district in 2002 after meeting a local boy Johno at University, the enticement of returning to his family farm at Waitanguru, was all to attractive. Landing a job with PGG Wrightsons in Piopio for 5 years, then managing the store for the last 15 months before leaving to start a family was a great introduction to the community.

Since her family has grown to include their 5 year old daughter and 3 year old son.

As an active member of the Waitanguru Hall Committee for 7 years including treasury for two years Melissa has since ventured back into the workforce part time at Curious Keas Early Learning Centre enabling her to still work alongside her children.

Melissa is looking forward to scouting for local news and helping to keep our community informed.

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

For those who are not currently St Johns Members, please consider becoming one before winter.

COSTS
 \$45 per 1 PERSON
 \$60 per 2 PEOPLE
 \$75 per 3+ PEOPLE
 living in the same household.



Please contact **ROSE YOUNG PH. 8778029** or any of the Piopio St John's first to care Volunteers or Committee members for the form to subscribe.

KING COUNTRY HUNT

A weekend of preseason activities was recently held at Meringa Station, Taumaranui. About 60 riders from near and far took part in a variety of riding events. Some rode around this beautiful area in treks over the 2 days while others took the opportunity to "bring on" a young horse for the coming hunt season or indeed to blow a few cobwebs out of the more experienced ones [and the riders].

This involved taking part in some or all of three activities.

Jenny Nelson from Taupo was kept busy giving very valuable riding tips while encouraging riders to jump their steeds over a variety of jumps including logs, drums, culverts, hurdles and a couple of low

fence spars. From there many went on to do some low showjumps under the practised eye of Peter Fordham of Mapiu. With new found confidence most then went on to do a mock hunt which was led by Shane Neill who is the Huntsman for the King Country Hunt.

The hunt season starts at the Finlayson property at Piopio in early April.

Anyone wanting to know more about it feel free to contact

ROBBIE MATTHEWS

who is the Master of the King Country Hunt.

PH 07 873 1898

WANTED



Injured or unwanted cattle beasts or horses. The King Country Hunt Club is always interested in these for Hound food.

PHONE SHANE NEIL 8788793

RUKUHA DOMAIN

A BIG THANKS to Clive Fredericks for his generosity in donating time and machinery to spread fertiliser on the Rukuhia Domain. Thank you also to Ravensdown for their donation of fertiliser. It is greatly appreciated. **KATE CARTER**

PLANS AFOOT

The Community library committee and Piopio College are excited about a proposed new location for the college and community library in the Mokauti building at the base of the College fields, next door to the Wharekura. We have strong support from the College and community for a modernisation project which will accompany the move. The location offers ease of public access and the opportunity to recognise the historic building in a new design. A group of College students have been working on Tuesdays during term one to come up with design concepts. We are keen to hear everyone's ideas of what you would like in your new library. A community library is about meeting the needs of the very young and the young-at-heart. Start

thinking about what would be on your wish list. More details to come.

HOLIDAY HOURS

As always, the library will be open to the community during school holidays. Our Librarian has fun family duties to attend to these holidays, so hours will be a little different.

The library will be open:
10am-3pm

Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd, Thursday 24th of April (between the Easter and ANZAC holidays)

The school term and normal opening hours begin again Monday 5th of May.

WAITOMO NEWS ARTICLE

The Positively Piopio article published in the February 25th issue of the Waitomo News included several

inaccuracies. To set these straight, the Mokauti school building, which is to be the site of the new library already belonged to the College, and was not purchased from the Ministry of Education last year. Also, as many readers (at the library and of the Birdtalk) are aware, the Piopio library was originally located in what is now a Weka Street building.

FUNDRAISER

The Ugly Shakespeare Company is visiting Piopio.

**UGLY SHAKESPEARE
15TH MAY @
7.30PM**

Location: current library, Piopio College
(go up the stairs to the left of the main office building and

follow the path, students will be there to guide the way) The public performance of Julius Caesar will be appropriate for teenagers and above. Come along and enjoy an accessible, contemporary live theatre performance. Entry by koha (please be generous if you can!). Supper provided.

Thanks go out to new community members who answered the committee's call in the previous issue of Birdtalk. New members are always welcome.

**CONTACT HANNAH (CHAIR)
ON 8778084 OR
NATHANNAH@GMAIL.COM**

PIOPIO ANZAC DAY PARADE AND SERVICE

This year's ANZAC Day organisers would like to invite all local Service Organisations and members of the community to join the Returned Servicemen of the Piopio district in this year's ANZAC day parade. The program will be:

10.45am Assemble at Piopio Senior Citizens Club, Weka Street, Piopio

11.00am March from Senior Citizens Club to Cenotaph at Piopio Memorial Hall

11.10am ANZAC Service and Wreath laying

After the Service, everyone is invited to enjoy refreshments inside


the Memorial Hall, supplied by the Waitanguru and Districts Branch of Rural Women New Zealand.

**ANY ENQUIRIES,
PLEASE PHONE
BILL 0221930635
OR GILLIAN
8778836**



**Please join us for
Tots n' Tales**

Held at the Library, every
Thursday at 11am.

Children will have lots of fun listening to a story and taking part in action rhymes. This is a fun, free programme that provides positive movement experiences to stimulate development of both the brain and the body of young children. It also helps encourage a love of stories and language that parents can put into practice at home.




A B C
1 2 3

Opening Hours:
• Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm
• Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm

Contact Julie and Jean on
Telephone/Fax: (07) 878 1028
Email: library@waitomo.govt.nz

Waitomo District Library
Taupiri Street, Te Kuiti
www.waitomo.govt.nz/library



YOUTH TO ATTEND BMX NATIONALS

On 22nd February 2014 the Te Kuiti BMX Club held their King Country BMX Champs. With a total of 243 riders from throughout New Zealand we had six local riders in this competition. Shaun Edgerton, Christopher & Viviana Fagan-Mexted, Nicholas Karl, Lachlan & Logan Lyford.

A big congratulations to all these children. Two of these riders – Shaun and Christopher have now qualified to race at the BMX

Nationals 2014 in Tauranga on Easter weekend. So well done to you and good luck.

Well the sun shone and typical King Country weather; it was HOT. What a great turnout and event, great to see such a little community put on such an awesome day.

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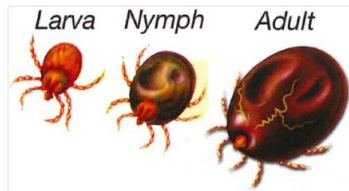
- References if needed

Ph: 07 8776609

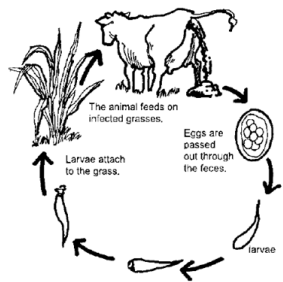
WHEN THE DROUGHT BREAKS

WORM: Rain will bring a flush of worm larva hatching onto pasture so the timely use of a worm drench will ensure the maximum benefit to your stock from the newly freshened grass.

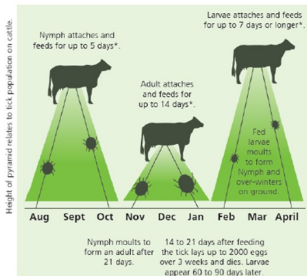
TICKS: If you have had dose of these through spring then a critical time for some control is normally between February and March when larvae are active, so the rain will bring these on as well. Treating will reducing their larval numbers now, so there will be fewer nymphs to overwinter and so next season there should be fewer ticks.



ECZEMA: The spore counts have been at levels requiring preventative intervention for some weeks, moisture, especially with continuing warm temperatures is likely to



cause a spike in the levels present in pastures and increase the danger rapidly, be prepared.



As we write this, Cyclone Lusi has fizzed through, leaving us with about 15ml of rain here on Mangaotaki Road. Not the dry-breaker we were hoping for, but it's a start. As we look forward to our Simmental bull sale on May 27th, we also look back over some highlights of the last 12 months.

- May 2013 - Potawa Simmentals achieve total clearance at our annual sale.
- Two of 2013 sale bulls, Potawa Zinny and Potawa Zephyr sold as stud sires.
- After inspecting four South Island studs, Beresford AZ24 purchased as stud sire.
- June 2013 - Beresford AZ24, christened 'Wazza' in honour of his breeder, arrives from deep south, after a snow interrupted journey and having to

share a deer transporter with 2 bison!

- Wazza joins the sire team of homebred bulls, Potawa Junior, son of the late great Wai-iti Nutcracker; Potawa Zeus, (who's left exciting calves in his first season); and Potawa Zeke, our best bull from the 2011 calf drop.

TEMPERAMENT TESTING

A more recent development has been the introduction of a docility test for Simmentals. All breeders have been encouraged by the Simmental Herd Society to submit scores of 1 to 5 (with 1 being extremely docile) based on either of two tests. The first, a flight test, scores the animal as it exits the race and crush, the faster the exit, the higher the score. The second is a pressure test,

lower the score. Here at Potawa Simmentals, we are performing both tests, with flight testing as weaners, followed by pressure testing with 18 month cattle. This is giving us a very good indication of any animals who may exhibit less than perfect temperament, which of course our policy is to cull, both females and males. A recent herd tour we enjoyed of Eastland Simmental herds was very informative as it gave us an opportunity to see the results of the docility testing at those studs who have taken it seriously. What better test than having 30 odd people wandering around your paddock? Once again Simmental breeders are working to make sure their clients have as much information as possible for their bull buying decisions. Anyone wanting to inspect the herd, check out the sale bulls or order a catalogue, please give us a call anytime.



as each animal is put alone in a pen with preferably two people for a period. Again, the more placid the animal, the

POTAWA SIMMENTALS

Andrew & Tracey Neal

488 Mangaotaki Rd
Piopio 3971
New Zealand

Phone: 07 8778009
Cell: Andrew 027 3665514
Tracey 021 1377118
Email: andrew@potawasimmentals.co.nz
Web: www.potawasimmentals.co.nz

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Account Manager

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YOUTH ACHIEVE SUCCESS

PIOPIO

**SPORTS
AND
FITNESS**

The season kicked off later than usual, in November 2014.

In spite of the temperatures at the pool being a little chilly, Senior and Junior Squads have been training every Tuesday for 1-2 hours developing endurance and stroke technique.

Every Thursday we hold a club night. Parents are required to help on these nights by starting races, timing, and recording. Children race events and work towards improving their times over the season.

Personal records are set, improved on and in some cases Club records are broken.

This year we had Ben Stilborn compete at National Level in 50m, 100m and 200m Breaststroke. Ben was placed 12th, 10th and 6th in New Zealand – an amazing achievement for a 12 year old from Piopio! Great inspiration for our small club.

Early March we held our annual Swim

Carnival. Swimmers from Tekuiti, Taumarunui, and Otorohanga clubs competed with 8 of our senior Squad, as well as 4 of our Learn To Swim Children. As a club, we choose to run our carnival as an unofficial event. This way we can include our top end Learn To Swim Children in a more relaxed environment, and provide them a less daunting experience of a carnival.

As part of the Piopio Swimming Club, we run a Learn To Swim Programme in Term 1. This year 50 children, aged 4-11 were coached by 4 Parents and 2 students, who volunteer their time for the 12 lesson programme. Children progress through water confidence, to basic stroke development, water safety and survival skills, to more competitive stroke technique.

In order for us to continue our LTS programme we need to recruit new coaches now. This would require attending a one day coaching course, followed by

planned lessons and an assessment. Lots of support and mentoring, and if anyone is interested they can contact Bex.

The last training night of the season the pool was unavailable. The children had all turned up however, and wanted to have some fun as a group.

They put on their togs, flippers, and goggles and ran the 50m athletics track at the Primary school, followed by 'backstroke' racing, and wheel barrow racing, and finally 'leap frog'.

They found it quite hard to swim on dry land, although many laughs were had.

We are a small club but the family atmosphere we have is really cool. The seniors encourage the juniors to give the 'bigger' events a go, and the juniors look up to the older ones.

Maybe your child would like to train with us next season, or want to compete at higher levels? Contact a member of the committee below to see how we can

cater for you and your child/ren.

**PRESIDENT – ESTHER
BIJENHOF-MARSHALL
PH: 8778 952**

**SENIOR SQUAD – NOELLE
TURNER PH: 8778 369**

**LEARN TO SWIM CO-
ORDINATOR – BEX
CLAPCOTT PH: 8778 576**



TOP: READE BLAKEMAN
BELOW: JACK GRIFFIN, BEN
STILBORN, AND BRAEDEN
BEVEGE

**DUCK
HEAVEN
4TH MAY
PIOPIO
MEMORIAL
HALL**

The Mairoa Line Dancers have had a busy start to the year. On the 20th of January we

began our weekly dance nights with slightly smaller numbers than last year.

On the 15th and 16th February we

MAIROA LINE DANCERS

held a Muster Weekend at the Mairoa Hall. This was a great weekend and our out of towners were very impressed with our unique hall and setting, and the weather was perfect as well.

Our next big day will be our annual hoedown held at the Piopio Hall on the 4th May. The theme is "Duck

Heaven" due to it being the first weekend of duck shooting season.

We welcome anyone who may like to pop in and see what line dancing is all about.

It is a great way to have some exercise and fun all at the same time.

LINDA OLIVER

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The Wonderful Waitanguru Community are offering you the opportunity to enjoy our district at a sedate pace or in an exhilarating trial ride this year.

Scenic Saturday is scheduled for Saturday 5th April and the traditional and extremely popular Sunday Scramble follows on the 6th. Both rides start and finish at the Hall, located 20

minutes from Piopio via Mangoataki Road or 40 minutes from Te Kuiti via Oparure. Food and refreshments will be on sale continuously and our

in-house DJ will keep the sounds pumping. Both rides open at 10 a.m. and close at 3.00 p.m.

Scenic Saturday is designed for those of you who like to explore the countryside at a sedate pace. The route will be suitable for quad bikes. Feel free to bring along a picnic and your cameras to make the most of the

stunning scenery. You might even spot a hobbit or two! The cost is \$20 per adult or \$10 for 15 years and under.

The Sunday Scramble will offer two separate trails which you are welcome to complete as often as you like in the five hours they are open. \$30 per adult or \$15 for 15 years and under.

We expect all riders to wear helmets and appropriate apparel and to adhere to the rules of the road.

These rides are our major fundraiser and we are grateful to the local

farmers who make their properties available so generously.

Bookmark your calendars now! We are looking forward to seeing you.

Further Sunday Scramble details are available at www.silver-bullet.co.nz

Please contact one of us if you require more information or would like to help out.

**BRICE FREDERIKSON
07 8778878 OR
KEN BLUNDELL
07 8778811**

COUNCIL UPDATE

A lot of the Piopio water leaks have been tracked down and fixed, but our equipment is indicating that there are large, irregular, takes from the system. Our staff are confident they will sort that problem out soon as well.

MOKAU WATER SUPPLY

Unfortunately the current Mokau water supply is not in such a good space. The inflow to the two top dams appears to have slipped behind normal, with the resultant low water levels contributing to the current discolouration problems being experienced. The situation is further compounded by an as yet untracked leak in the pipeline to Awakino. The fact that the usually high Easter demand period is yet to come is giving us a lot of concern.

The construction of the new dam is well behind schedule after the discovery of a mussel midden on the edge of the construction zone,

and subsequent investigation by an Historic Places Trust archaeologist. Hopefully the construction will be completed before winter sets in. It won't make any difference to the looming water shortage though.

ARIA TOY LIBRARY PAINTING PROJECT

The recent effort by the Aria Toy Library team in painting the front of the building they lease in the main street of Piopio, must be commended – a great job team.

KARA PARK TOILET UPGRADE

The building permit documents for the Kara Park toilets are in the process of being submitted, although two factors are not yet settled; the precise location in relation to existing infrastructure, and the presence of two large trees, effectively looming over the site.

PIOPIO MEMORIAL HALL UPGRADE

The permit documents for the upgrade of the Memorial Hall toilets have been lodged, but I'm not sure of the likely start date there yet.

The construction of the ramp for the front of the Memorial Hall has hit a snag, as the planned barriers and handrails are unaffordable at the quoted price, so alternative options and prices are now being investigated. As with all structures in public places, unfortunately, they need to be built to bomb proof standards, thus meaning expensive, but I guess that's a sign of the times.

MOKAUITI HALL

For Mokauiiti residents that have been pondering what to do with their Hall, we will be chasing you up again shortly for a decision on

WAITANGURU
APRIL
5th/6th
SCENIC SATURDAY
SUNDAY SCRAMBLE
www.silver-bullet.co.nz

the future plans.

More people are making use of our 'Service Request' system to lodge any complaints they may have about any of our services. So if you need to, please phone 8780800.

For any other concerns or queries, don't hesitate to contact.

**PHIL BRODIE RURAL
WARD COUNCILLOR
WAITOMO DISTRICT
COUNCIL
8778033
EMAIL
RODIEAU@XTRA.CO.NZ**



THE LAST ROOM!

As we slowly approached the haunted mansion, we discovered that the door had been over grown by a vicious vine. Strangled shut, we all had to push to get it open. The giant oak door, made a horrible "SCREEEEEEEEEEEECH"ing sound as it tore away from its captive's grasp. A group of about ten of us were on a hunting trip and we had been hunting all day. We were ages away from our hut and it was starting to get dark when we stumbled across the mansion. We had all heard the legends, but exhausted from our hike, we decided to stay for the night. There was dust everywhere! A cold draft wafted through, blowing the dust into our eyes, noses and lungs. The house smelt putrid, making me cringe! We tried to switch on the lights but they didn't work so, we used our phones as torches. We decided to split up into two's and explore the creepy place. Me and my bff Keegan, went upstairs. Every steep we took, the wooden stairs creaked. They sent shivers down my spine giving me

goose bumps! Leading from the stairs was a dark hallway, with three rooms leading off of it. We walked into the first room...it had an old unusual mat lying dead in the middle of the room. It looked disgustingly dirty and smelt like old socks! Hanging on the wall, were paintings of a lady; 5 of the same woman. Keegan and I looked at each other sharing our bewilderment. We also noticed that there were lots of boxes stacked around the room. Finding nothing that satisfied our curiosity, we moved on to the second room. Sitting in the corner, was an old bed, caked in dust. An ancient set of drawers at the end of the bed held numerous relics of a time long gone. One thing that grabbed our attention was a jewellery box. The hinges were a rusty orange, the wood showed splinters of being cracked and there were only a few diamonds left, as those missing, left empty eye sockets, staring blankly at us. We walked over to it and lifted the lid. It made a "creeeaakkkkk". Sitting inside of it was a diary. It was too tempting to resist, so we

opened it up to the page that was book marked with a ribbon. It said...

.....
 7-3-1784, Dear Diary,
I am so annoyed with my life! I just want to die. Everyone is driving me nuts!!! Tonight when everyone is asleep i am going to hang myself. Hopefully life will be better in heaven! Thanks diary, you have been my only true friend, but I'm sorry, this will be the last time you will hear from me. xxx

Keegan quickly closed the book and we jumped back with fear. We had goose bumps on top of goose bumps. "That was so scary," gasped Keegan. Snapping me out of my frozen state, "I know," I replied stuttering. We looked around. Our fear rose as we saw smashed windows. Our blood chilled as we found punched holes in the wall and our palms sweated as we read the writing on the wall, 'I hate my life' and 'I hate it here.' I looked up and I saw the rope hanging from a rusted metal beam. My heart leapt into my throat and bet like a racehorse. I was so scared. We quickly decided to move on to the next room.

As we drew nearer, we heard strange noises. We slowly walked in. It was a massive room with furniture that looked like it had come out of a sixteenth century movie! Then, we froze. In the cob-web clotted corner there were two transparent, but clearly visible, ghosts, arguing. Once our instinct to run, overpowered our frozen fear, we sprinted out of the room and down the stairs and frantically told everyone else. We must have sounded hysterical. I couldn't believe they didn't believe us. They looked for themselves. They later told us, that once the sight attacked their own eyes, they too froze like a statue, and then ran away desperately. We camped far away and spent the night retelling our accounts over and over. THE legEND lives on!

**WRITTEN BY
 SOPHIE RIDER YEAR 8
 PPIO COLLEGE**

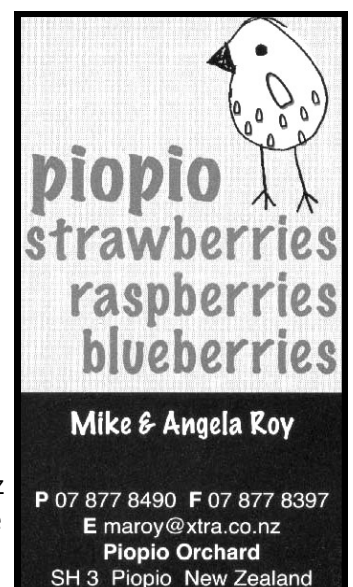
THE THREE LITTLE BIRDS

CRAFTY PIGEON: Melanie and Jill recently attended the Gift Fair in Auckland and networked with suppliers and salespeople. They have some good leads on stockists of some exciting products, so be sure and watch the Crafty's facebook page with updates. We are holding a stocktaking sale at the moment, so come

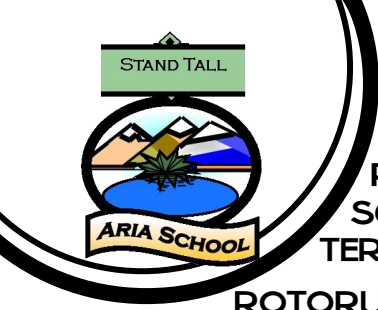
and grab a bargain or two!
THE OWLS NEST: There's a sleepy little night owl 'round these here parts, but it is starting to rouse... 'The Night Owl' Restaurant/Bar/Function Centre based at The Owls Nest is set to open very very shortly. We are almost there – the finishing touches are being 'touched',

and we are just as eager and excited as the next person to see its doors open. So watch for notification of the grand opening in a local rag near you!
FAT PIGEON: Gosh we have had some visitors through recently, from garden tour groups to WOMAD musicians, to dinner parties and special occasions. So the café itself as well

as catering has fared well these past few months. Our 'pidgees' have again stepped up and proved their worth so well done you lot! Cooking Clases coming soon—keep an eye on our facebook page or email: fatpigeon@xtra.co.nz and that way you'll be the first to know!
JULES



piopio strawberries raspberries blueberries
 Mike & Angela Roy
 P 07 877 8490 F 07 877 8397
 E maroy@xtra.co.nz
 Piopio Orchard
 SH 3 Piopio New Zealand



**ARIA
PRIMARY
SCHOOL,
TERM 1 2014
ROTORUA CAMP**

All senior students plus parents experienced an action packed week in Rotorua recently, staying at Tui Ridge Park. Amazing learning experiences included thermal cooking, driving into lakes in the "Duck", getting seriously lost in a maze and the challenge of high ropes, abseiling, rock climbing and the flying fox.

Aria School students are very fortunate to experience three weeklong camps in their time at school (Kawau Island, Northland/ Waitangi and Rotorua) and the success of these is largely due to the positive support we receive from our parents who not only assist with the fundraising required (see Two Day Bike Ride report) and provide transport, but also work enthusiastically with us during the camp weeks. As a group they always bring their amazing sense of humour which contributes to a most memorable time for us all!!

**LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT /
READING TOGETHER
PROGRAMME**

Exciting things are happening in our school Library next term. We are not only undertaking a complete refurbish but looking at increasing the community involvement in our Library (Watch this space!)

Also in line with our focus on books, reading and parent involvement we are introducing a very exciting "Reading Together" programme - a research-based workshop programme which helps parents to support their children's reading at home. For more information on the Reading Together programme please contact me or go to www.readingtogether.net.nz .

**VARIETY TRILLIAN BASH
VISIT** on St Patricks Day (Turn Green to Gold!!)

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

Each year since 1991 the "Bash" has travelled for a week through different parts of New Zealand raising funds for "Variety" the children's charity. Bash teams arrive in quirky cars fundraising for kiwi kids, entertaining children and telling the Variety story.

This year Aria School is fortunate to be on their route and will be contributing to the charity by dressing in green (St Patrick's Day) and bringing their gold coins. Check out the green creations at Aria School!!

**RESOURCE PEOPLE IN OUR
COMMUNITY**

We need you! Last year we began compiling a list of the wonderful, talented people in our community who we may be able to utilise/support us with our teaching programmes. If you know of such people or are one yourself we would love to hear from you.

For example – weavers, artists, in fact anyone with a passion, interest or knowledge in a specific area.

**PAM VOYCE (PRINCIPAL
ARIA SCHOOL)**

**ARIA SCHOOL 2 DAY BIKE
RIDE 2014**

What a fantastic weekend with our recent event being popular and continuing to grow. There was lots of positive feedback from those who rode. 800 bikes rode the three tracks covering 140kms over 28 properties. The Domain becomes a small community with 308 people camping. This distance is a big feature in minimising both accidents and property damage. We are truly appreciative of the landowners' willingness to allow this event to happen.

The landowners draw was held at the Club on Friday 7th and our congratulations to Bruce & Robyn McLennon who won the \$500 travel voucher and to Brett Johnson & Margs Taitoko and Tom & Lorraine Brough who receive a truck load of metal

courtesy of Tucker's Quarry and Progress Transport.

The Vintage Moto X (VMX) bikes returned this year using a paddock for their competition round on the Saturday. A number of these guys brought two bikes and camped so they could ride our tracks on the Sunday. This is wonderful for spectators to watch along with the generous financial contribution they make to our weekend.

The weekend's activities will net Aria School just under \$26000, after donations to St Helen's Domain, Moto X Club, Piopio Lions Club, St Johns and the Rescue Helicopter. Please accept these donations as a token of our appreciation as the event has become too large for only the school families to run. Thanks also to the ladies in the wider community who supplied baking over the weekend.

A huge thank you must also go to the team who did all the hard work behind the scenes to make the weekend the success it was. The venue, first responders, food, tracks, and cleaning up was outstanding. Feeding 240 plus workers for dinner on the Saturday night was our biggest ever.

Once again thanks to everyone who was involved. Bring on 2015!

The Bike Ride Committee.

**PAULA BEVERIDGE—THE
BIKE RIDE COMMITTEE**



MAINLY MUSIC 10 YEAR BIRTHDAY

PIOPIO
LOCAL
NEWS

Happy birthday to us! 10 years old in May

mainly music is an opportunity for adults and children to build memories and spend time together, sharing special time with each other. The aim of mainly music is to provide an environment where preschool children develop skills to enhance their early childhood education, through the use of music, rhythm, rhyme and other music related activities with the participation of a parent or caregiver.

The reasons mainly music exists:

- Babies and young children developing skills – co-ordination, fine and gross motor movements, social interaction, appreciation of music and musical styles, language development
- Providing children with a structured environment

and then a time of free play

- Bringing adult and child together for a time of safe interaction, and in doing so, teaching adults rhymes and songs that can be used at home to help with cleaning up, colours, counting and more

- An opportunity for families to be helped-practical needs such as meals, transport, help with shifting house, babysitting.

- Celebration of Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day-reminding parents that they are undertaking a very important role as parent

- Celebration of Easter and Christmas- a chance for families to think about the God-part of life

What happens at mainly music?

Each week, parents and caregivers bring their children for a forty minute

session of music, rhyme, movement, listening and more. The adults participate in the session, in fact, it is vital that they do so, because this encourages the children to enter into the actions and singing.

At this session, adults and children are given morning tea. And in Piopio, morning tea is infamous! This allows time for children to enjoy each other's company, and to develop social skills. It also allows adults to talk with others who have preschoolers and they are therefore able to "learn" from each other.

MAINLY MUSIC IN PIOPIO

mainly music has been hosted by All Saints Nga Pononga church since 2004, when it was begun by Leanne Adams, who now leads a mainly music group in Putaruru. Today, we

have a mum on our mainly music team who has attended for 7 of those 10 years, with her three children. Families attend from throughout the district, travelling from Benneydale, Mapiu, Te Kuiti and Aria. Te Whanau Kohanga Reo o Piopio and Curious Keas also send delegations of children and carers each week.

Come and join the party as we celebrate our birthday at a very special mainly music session.

**THURSDAY
MAY 29TH
AT 10AM
All Saints Nga
Pononga Church**

★STARS IN YOUR EYES★ 21ST JUNE

Start getting your act together!

For "Stars" that is. Yes it's time to find the perfect song, make it your own and then just get up on stage and perform. Easy peezy.....

This year "Stars in Your Eyes" will be on the 21st June. Tickets will be on sale from the 1st of May from Rd1 in Piopio and Atkinson's Vets in Te Kuiti.

Give it a go you may just surprise yourself, plus I'm sure you will agree that some new talent would be warmly welcomed. Plus we need to knock that Fire Brigade off their 1st and 2nd place perch!

Contact Kristen Pari or Emma Thompson if you need any information on putting an act in.

Plans have been drawn up and quotes are just about all in for the

PIOPIO MEMORIAL HALL TOILET UPGRADE IN SIGHT

Toilet upgrade, I must say thus far we are pleasantly surprised with the quotes we have received or more accurately pleasantly surprised that we are in the ball park with money. We are a wee bit shy of the full amount but are still hoping we can complete the work before Stars this year. Cross fingers.....

We will completely drain our funds so had funnily enough decided to run a boxing evening as something a little bit different for locals and were a bit gutted to hear Te Kuiti had resurrected their event. However after putting feelers out there to see if there was any interest it would seem there are many locals itching to have a go in the ring. If you are interested in giving it a go please call myself or Darren Cathie as the hall will be collaborating with the Piopio Fire Brigade for this event. We are

looking at running the Piopio Punch up or what ever we are going to call it on November 1st. This will allow plenty of time for fighters to get fit before the boxing training begins. We will also need back up fighters so if you are interesting in doing the training but maybe not to sure about the actual event let us know as well.

I think that's about it for now.

**VIKKI
WATSON
CHAIRPERSON**

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MEMORIAL
HALL**

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& LEE ALCOCK



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DO YOU HAVE QUALITY UNWANTED TOYS?

If so the Aria Toy Library is in need of them.

Toys will be sorted for library hireage or for selling on as part of our fundraising.

Toy donations can be dropped off at the library any Thursday morning during the School term between 9.30 -11.30am.

CONTACT KAREN ON 07 877 8945

Thank you to those who have already donated towards our Library.

PIOPIO PLAYCENTRE

Monday 9.15—12noon
Friday Big Kids 9.15—12 noon
PH: NICOLE 8778189

HOUSEIE

An enthusiastic group meet to play Housie.

1.00pm each

Thursday

at the Senior Citizens' Rooms

You are welcome to join us for fun, laughter and serious involvement in trying to be the winner!! Come and have some fun, along with an exchange of news and views.

Come and have some fun, along with an exchange of news and views.

**PIOPIO PRIMARY PTA
ACM THURSDAY 10TH
APRIL @ THE OWLS NEST**
All welcome

SPORTS NOTICES

ARIA SQUASH CLUB

Kumara Road, Aria
at the St Helens Domain

FAMILY FRIENDLY FUN FRIDAYS
starting about 6pm
Bar & kitchen open

INTERCLUB NIGHTS
If you wish to be more serious
Mens = Tuesdays
Ladies = Wednesdays

**ARIA B-GRADE
TOURNAMENT**
23rd & 24th May
*COME & GET SQUASHed
WITH US*

EVERYONE WELCOME

**CONTACT: KERI ALCOCK
PH 87 76 670**

PIOPIO RUGBY CLUB

Home games are as follows:

12 APRIL v Taupo United
3 MAY v Waitete
17 MAY v Taupo SportsA
7 JUNE v Tongariro

All games start 2.30pm

A GREAT FAMILY SPORT FOR ALL AGES



Club nights
Tuesdays 5.45pm
Check in til 6pm,
racing starts at 6.15pm
First 3 nights FREE!
Come along and have fun,
get fit, meet new friends

Any bike will do however we do have bikes for hire.
Contact Richard Scott
07 873 8060 or 021 0228 4844

mainly music

happening on
Thursdays

fun, interactive music sessions
for young children and
their parents/caregivers

Young children and their parents/caregivers join together for a fun, thirty-minute music session, then afterwards enjoy snacks and refreshments in a relaxed setting; mainly music is an activity you and your child can participate in, from birth to school age.

Begins February 13th

@ All Saints Nga Pononga Church
Moe St, Piopio
Thursdays 10am- 11ish

Any questions to Hannah
8778084, nathannah@gmail.com

www.mainlymusic.org.nz

WANTED LEASE LAND

Experienced motivated couple looking for lease land.
Any land considered.
References available.

**PLEASE PHONE
JUSTIN
07 8778140**

WORK WANTED

STOCKMANS POSITION WANTED

- Sheep and Beef or Dairy grazing preferable.
- References available.
- Accommodation needed for my wife and I (no children).

35 years as Farm Manager
Mustering, Drover, Dog
Trialist.

Have own bike and trailer,
tools and fencing gear.
Part time or Full time.

PHONE 0274936824

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

**Worship Service
Sunday @10am**

All Saints Church
Main Road, Piopio

**PHONE:
REV. CAROL HANCOCK
8788026
PIOPIO ALL SAINTS
8778097**

SENIOR CITIZENS

Don't wait for us to come to you! We welcome everyone to join.

We have monthly meetings at our Senior Citizens' Rooms and generally have an outing during each month.

**JENNIFER
KEARNS**

(07) 877 8836

POSITION AVAILABLE

**TE WHANAU
KOHANGA
REO O PIOPIO**



Casual Kaimahi

- A good knowledge of te reo and tikanga māori. As a minimum should be able to kōrero with ngā mokopuna.
- Be willing to extend their reo including attending reo classes if arranged through the Kohanga
- Enjoy working with tamariki
- On time and reliable
- Be flexible
- Can work in a team and be trusted to work alone
- Be willing to be police vetted
- Have a current first aid certificate or be willing to attend a course
- Be willing to contribute to the overall running of the Kohanga by being an active whanau member

As a casual kaimahi we would expect you to be flexible in your role, your mahi could involve being on the floor with the other kaimahi with the tamariki, cleaning, driving the van, and various other duties.

Casual kaimahi may be called in at short notice to work.

Please contact
KRISTEN PARI
{OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR}
**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
8778185**

**EM:
WHANAU@KO4DO25.
KOHANGA.AC.NZ
COME INTO:** Kohanga

we are situated on the Main road heading at the north end of Piopio in front of Mokau Kohunui marae.

ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

Piopio & Districts Museum

John Petre (07) 877 8293
Key available at Piopio Superette
Piopio POP (Tui Park)

Snow Nicol (07) 877 8177
Key for toilet available from the
Cloverleaf Tearooms or Snow Nicol

BAR & RESTAURANT

Aria Cosmopolitan Club

(07) 877 7812

Piopio Cosmopolitan Club

(07) 877 8204

CHILDREN & YOUTH

ACTIVITIES

Preschool Children

Aria Playcentre

Natasha Richardson (07) 8777859

Aria Toy Library

Librarian: Lisa Lyford (07) 877 8186

Mainly Music

Hannah White (07) 8778084

Piopio Playcentre

Nicole Johansen (07) 8778189

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Craft Group

Rita Verry (07) 877 8584

Housie Afternoon (Thursdays)

Shirley Milner (07) 877 8725

Marriage Celebrants

Rose Young (07) 877 8029

Ellie Voyce (07) 877 8148

Piopio College Community Library

18 Aria Road, Piopio

Liz Jones (07) 877 8173 Ext 220

Piopio Garden Circle

Cheryl Austin (07) 877 8771

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Piopio Lions Club

Noel Verry (07) 8778582
Gavin Todd (07) 877 7700 or
Ken Perry (07) 877 8035

Piopio Memorial Hall

Vikki Watson (07) 877 8289
Tracey Neal (07) 877 8009
Crockery/Cutlery/Glass Hire)

Piopio/Paearuhe Retirement Village

Noel Verry (07) 8778582

Jenny Brodie (07) 8778033

Opportunity Shop/Mustard Seed

Gaynor McCartney (07)8778372

Seniors' Exercise Classes

June O'Donoghue (07) 877 8492

Senior Citizens Organisation

Beryl Huia (07) 877 8353

Shirley Milner (07) 877 8725

Bookings: Peg Higgs 8778610

Waitanguru Rural Women

Tracey Neal (07) 877 8009

HEALTH

Aria Squash Club

Celeste Walker (07) 877 7723

Big Sky Physiotherapy & Acupuncture

Erin Barclay (07) 877 7842 or
0212631880 or bigskyphysiother-
apy@yahoo.co.nz

Cancer Society

Kaye Nelson (07) 877 7840

Helen Verry (07) 877 8582

Ear Health

Ginny Opie (07) 877 6818

King Country Chiropractic

Dr Scott Mouatt

(07) 873 7376 Mob: 027 3301 339

email: kcchiro@xtra.co.nz

Recreation Centre

Kimberley Cody

Evenings: 8778700

Mobile 027 2101860

kimberley@aroundtwelve.com

SPORTS & RECREATION

Badminton Club

Michelle O'Reilly (07) 877 8085

Light Horse Club

Amanda Maclachlan(07) 878 7182

Maree Bradcock (07) 877 8734

Line Dancing Club

Linda Oliver (07) 877 8313

Piopio-Aria Golf Club

Helen Verry (07) 877 8582

Tracey Mulligan (07) 877 8582

Piopio Bowling Club

Jill Rattenbury (07) 877 8016

Piopio Domain Board

Kate Carter (07) 877 8146

Piopio Rugby Football Club

President: Dave Tapara 02040229453

Secretary: Joy Jefferies (07) 8778875

Treasurer: Louise Taitoko 027 862 6010

Piopio Swimming Club

Pres: Ester Bijenhof-Marshall (07) 8778952

Sec: Karina Pulman (07) 877 8844

Pony Club

Anna Nelson (07) 877 7744

Heather Pease (07) 877 8144

Te Kuiti Tramping Club

Jenny Brodie Ph (07)877 8033.

Tennis Club

Reon Verry (07) 878 8678

The King Country Hunt

Master: Robbie Matthews (07) 8731898

Trail Bikes

Ian Murray (07) 877 8054

Waitomo Ski Club

Ian Kerr (07) 878 7661

Waitomo Aero Club

Pete Voyce (07) 877 8254

John Carter (07) 877 8290

Walking Group

Jennifer Kearns (07) 877 8836





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Piopio

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Sun 9am-8pm

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41 Moa St, Piopio

Em: fatpigeon@xtra.co.nz

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Ph: 8778224
Em: curiouskeas@yahoo.co.nz

VETS
Atkinson & Associates

53 Moa Street, Piopio
Ph: 07 877 8106 Fax: 07 877 8262

32 Taupiri Street, Te Kuiti
Ph: 07 878 8137 Fax: 07 878 8138
Email: janine@piopiovets.co.nz

MJ Barrowcliffe Shearing Ltd

07 877 8759
mjbarrow@xtra.co.nz

Shane Ardern MP
TARANAKI-KING COUNTRY

Electorate Office:
25 Roche Street, Te Awamutu
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e ShaneArdernMP@xtra.co.nz

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Email: whiteridge@xtra.co.nz

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WE THANK OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY NEWS.



- ADVERTISING CHARGES**
- Local Business: \$35/issue - approximately business card size
 - Clubs & Organizations: Free up to 75 words
 - Out of Area Casual: \$45/issue -

approximately business card size

- Classified Advertisements: \$5 per 3-line advertisement
- Package: Annual \$200. Includes six advertisements and one special 1/3 page 'My Business' article annually

Community feedback and articles are welcomed and appreciated.

Articles **must** not be longer than 280 words and may have accompanying photos. We reserve the right to edit any material.

EDITOR—DESIGN
Donna Pari
Ph: 877 8823
piopioirdtalk@gmail.com