

# PIOPIO BirdTalk

Bi Monthly Community Newsletter covering Piopio, Aria and Mahoenui Districts

## Aria Bike Ride Success

A collective effort by a small committee in a small rural community proves, size doesn't matter when it comes to success.

Co-ordinating an event of this scale is certainly a mammoth task but with a set goal in mind to raise funds for Teacher Aid assistance and providing financial assistance to subsidise school camp, is plenty of motivation for the dedicated team of Board of Trustees members and the Bike Ride committee.

The annual Aria Primary School Bike Ride fundraiser continues to grow and driven by one of many organisers Principal Pam Voyce knows its all for the children. With a student roll of 47 and four staff, the Aria school will continue to thrive following the successes of this event raising in excess of \$25,000 for School.

With just under 500 people registered to ride, and about 360 of these camping onsite, the weekend was supported by visitors and locals alike.

Assistance from the wider community also ensured smooth running and organisation, and in token of appreciation the school wish to extend their gratitude and have contributed a donation to St Helen's Domain, Moto X Club, St Johns and the Lions.

This year saw the introduction of the Vintage Moto X (VMX) bikes. These eighty enthusiasts, provided spectators with something a little different. Along with the substantial financial contribution from Saturday's event, many of the VMX riders also stayed and rode the main tracks on Sunday.

Coordinating a challenging yet scenic ride is a gruelling task for the marshals. Spanning 34 properties throughout the wider Aria District, the vast diversity of properties and combined track distance was approximately 120km this year.

The committee are "humbled by the willingness of all landowners to allow this event because obviously without that we would lose the ability to generate a substantial sum of money from outside our area".



Photos courtesy Deb Harrison



- Inside this issue:
- Events & Entertainment
  - Local Hall updates
    - Council News
    - Local Business
    - Agriculture
  - Children's Week
  - Plus more



## Christmas Parade Float Winners

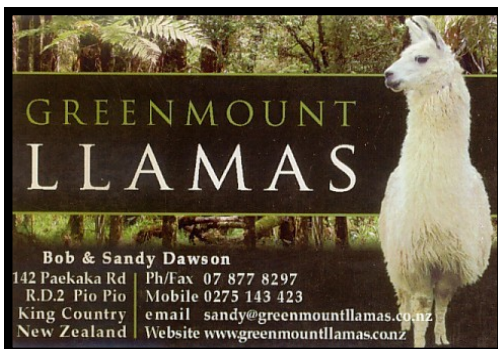
**Stocking winner:**  
Ticket number 322  
Sonny Smith

A huge thankyou to all whom contributed gifts to the Christmas Stocking. Again a generous amount of support was received.

**Street/Rd/ District :** Aria 1<sup>st</sup>, Waitanguru 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Business/ Organisation :** Fat Pigeon 1<sup>st</sup>, St John 2<sup>nd</sup>, PTL's baby truck 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Friends/ Associates:**  
Curious Keas 1<sup>st</sup>, Piopio Playcentre 2<sup>nd</sup>, Imperious Dance 3<sup>rd</sup>



**GREENMOUNT LLAMAS**

Bob & Sandy Dawson  
142 Paekaka Rd R.D.2 Pio Pio King Country New Zealand  
Ph/Fax 07 877 8297  
Mobile 0275 143 423  
email sandy@greenmountllamas.co.nz  
Website www.greenmountllamas.co.nz



**PIPIO MARKET DAY**  
Every Third Sunday @ month

Proven a success, the Piopio Market Day continues to have its regular followers and stall holders.

Whilst providing a site for locals to sell the creative wares, plants and seasonal produce, many welcome the day to catch up with locals.

To ensure our community does not loose this, please support this initiative by visiting or selling your own goods.

## US Knitting Designer Comes to Piopio



Come meet US based designer Lisa Cruse at Struan Farm in Piopio this March. Known as "Ambrosia Cottage" on Ravelry [www.ravelry.com](http://www.ravelry.com)

Lisa's fabulous felted hat designs with their creative embellishments often incorporate recycled materials. Her Ravelry group has more than 900 members. Lisa has generously offered to teach two, one day workshops: Embellishment Techniques (March 9) and Embellishments: Beyond Craft to Artistry (March 10).

Depending on the skill levels and interests of participants, Saturday will focus on basic embellishment techniques such as needle felting, embroidery, beading and/or use of fabric to customize knitted/felted items. The possibilities are endless and for every budget. Working with swatches and various materials, participants will experiment to get an idea of what can be done with these techniques separately and in combination, also how to approach design. The workshop on Sunday, which can be taken separately by participants already familiar with the basics, will take these techniques to the next level.

Workshops will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with morning/afternoon tea and lunch provided. Space is limited to 10 participants each day.

Fee is \$125 per workshop. Participants are encouraged to bring along items that they might want to embellish and materials they would like to use, although there will be ample and varied supplies on hand for everyone to work with. Come be inspired and learn creative techniques you can apply to many different projects!

For further information contact Karen Barrett at



**First Responders for the Aria community**

This year the Aria community is receiving a full Workplace First Aid training session.

It would be a great time for a few new recruits to get on board and join the team.

Call-outs are few & far between but it is great to have the knowledge in case you need it somewhere one day.

No cost except your time for the training session.

Contact Anna Nelson  
8777744 or Colin McKenzie  
8777585

## IMPORTANT Community Notice

An Automated Electronic Defibrillator (AED) is available for the Aria community to use.

This is located during Club Hours in the Aria Cosmopolitan Cub. Outside of Club Hours please see the club manager.

Help save a life by knowing what to do in an emergency.

Dial 111, start CPR if this is required a defibrillator is required to jump start the heart.

In ALL cases please ensure you dial 111. If you remove the AED please ensure it is returned immediately.

**Help save a life**



**CODY HAULAGE**

Smyco Holdings Ltd.  
23 Kaka Street, Piopio  
Tel: 07 877 8700 or 027 291 2852

HAYDEN CODY



We are getting all set for the 2013 fund raiser for the Combined Piopio College and Primary School to be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2013.

We have organised a whole new course to take advantage of the newly constructed Timber Trail out at Pureora Forest.

**Kids and Beginners - 10 & 15km** routes starts at Pa Harakeke through Pureora Village and then onto the Timber Trail for approx. 4-6km of easy bush track before turning back through forestry roads and returning to base.

The **26km** course is the Maraeroa C ride, cycling through the first 6km of the Timber trail then loops back through forestry tracks.

The 2 longer rides of **48 and 60km** carry on up the timber trail taking in great views, native forest and two 100m plus suspension bridges. Just after 31km mark on the trail. it

[www.kingcountrychallenge.co.nz](http://www.kingcountrychallenge.co.nz)

then turns and heads back to base via forestry and pine tracks.

As always we will be providing great country food and atmosphere so hopefully you will come along and explore a great area that is on our doorstep.

For further information:  
Cheryl Richardson

Ph: 07 8786640

**PIOPIO**  
Events & Entertainment

**Local Hall Updates**

**Piopio Memorial**

Time to get back into it, another year of fundraising ahead! We have had a bit of luck over the Christmas period with Trust Waikato giving us \$5000.00 and Fonterra \$3000.00 Towards the Toilet refurbishment. We now have \$40,000.00 to put towards the project, however there is still some way to go before we have nearly enough to complete the job. Thanks for your help in getting us this far your support is appreciated.

Stars In Your Eye's is coming up, if you have ever thought of putting in an act or would like to give

it a go, now's the time to start getting a group together and decide what you are going to do. We will be calling for acts sooner than you think. Ask anyone who has been on the stage, if you think it's fun being in the crowd, I assure you it's so much better being on the stage, I kid you not!

Unfortunately due to lack of teams and support the Hall to Hall relay has been cancelled, however thank you to those whom did enter.

Remember if you are having a function of some sort we have wine glasses and flutes, tumblers along with cutlery and crockery for hire at around half the price you would pay else where.

**Mairoa Hall**

A big thank you to all helpers and riders involved with our recent two day horse trek held during February.

**Wonderful Waitanguru**

You never know who you might meet when you pay a visit to Waitanguru Hall. Spotted recently were Austin Powers, Dr Evil and his Kronies, Shaggie minus Scooby, The Footrot Flats Clan, The Village People and touring groups from Aussie and Hawaii. Amazing! Our committee members - Agnes, Grandad, Winnie, Cathy, Maria, Dermot and Rory would like to thank

The upcoming Mighty Mairoa Trail Bike Ride to be held 10th March will be raising money to repaint the exterior of the Mairoa Hall .  
Jane Broderick

everyone who supported our recent Quiz Night. The costumes were truly outstanding and we really enjoyed your company. Funny too how no one dared to challenge the answers! The next public event on our calendar is the Trail Ride on Sunday 7th April. Please spread the word about what is widely regarded the Best One Day Ride in the King Country.  
Shona Blundell President



Mrs Brown: Raewyn Nicholas  
Velma & Daphne: Kristen Pari / Stephanie Brough





# PIOPIO Council News

It never ceases to amaze me the extent of community enthusiasm and support evident in the various corners of our part of the King Country.

Jenny and I had great pleasure in taking part in the Waitanguru Hall Committees Quiz Night recently. Well disguised teams added to the fun evening, though a team of visiting Aussie cavers, who were staying locally struggled with naming the last All Black touring squad to UK, connecting pictured letter boxes to their owners, and parts of buildings to Piopio businesses.

On the same evening, the Mairoa Hall Committee was having a dinner in conjunction with their two day horse trek, and the Aria

School was running their hugely successful two day bike ride.

These are just three examples of people standing up and getting things done, that make me proud to be a part of this community, and have the honour of representing you at the Council table.

Mangaotaki Road users are being well challenged presently with some large dropouts into the river, reducing the road to single lane in a number of places. Reconstruction tender documents are being prepared at the moment and in two cases will involve moving the road into the hill - big projects. It's hoped all will be finished before winter.

Around the Council Table, we are presently work shopping the Exceptions Annual Plan for the 2013/2014 year. This is when any necessary changes to the second year (2013/14) of the Ten Year Long Term

Plan (LTP) we approved, last year, are made, after further consultation.

In that Plan, a total Rate take of \$17,459,689 was proposed, a 7.0% increase on this year, however, due to a large number of factors, we are looking at managing quite a reduction in that increase, with the final figures (The Exceptions Annual Plan) being released around Easter, for further consultation.

The 7.0% increase in rates for year two of the LTP refers to the total rate take, and the increase for individual ratepayers will vary, depending on their Capital value, and specific rate charges (as listed on the back of your Rate Demand) that apply to their property.

The recently released Revaluations have caused some anomalies and will result directly in Rate rises for some

ratepayers. Council Staff ran a modelling exercise to identify that effect, and all those ratepayers adversely effected were advised by mail in mid December, of the likely effect on their Rate bill. Council has had very little response to those letters.

This is a great community we have, and remember, we get out of it what we put into it, so don't hold back.

Phil Brodie

## Water Conservation

It's important to realise that water is not an unlimited resource. Residential water use including garden watering, puts extra pressure on Council's Water Supply systems during summer. Water conservation and small changes made in terms of how we use water in the home will make a big difference. The following quick tips provide some ideas on how we can use water responsibly so there will be plenty of water available for all.

**Quick Tips for Indoors**

- When washing clothes, run full loads or be sure to set controls for a partial load if you are doing less.
- Install or convert to a dual flush toilet. This allows you to use only half the water when needed.
- Replace washers on dripping taps. A small regular drip can waste a hundred litres of water a week.
- Showers use less water than baths, but only if they are short. Install a low-flow showerhead and save 1,000 litres of water per week!
- Put in the plug to wash fruit and vegetables or for rinsing dishes.

**Small leaks lead to big water losses very quickly! To report a water leak outside your property please phone 0800 932 4357.**

Vibrant and thriving  
www.waitomo.govt.nz

Waitomo District Council

Nominations close 1st March

Ph: 8780800

Do you know of anyone whom has contributed to our community and deserves recognition?

We have many individuals whom work tirelessly behind the scenes and often do not want any merit.

It is important we recognise these individuals as many of our clubs, organisations and groups exist because of these people.

## Waitomo District Citizens Awards 2013

Acknowledge those who have made a difference!

Waitomo District Council is pleased to call for nominations for the 2013 Waitomo District Citizens Awards.

These awards celebrate and acknowledge the incredible achievements of individuals, who through their outstanding community spirit and dedication have made a significant contribution within the Waitomo District.

**Nominations are now called for:**

**Lifetime Achievement Award**  
Recipients of the "Lifetime Achievement Award" will have, over a number of years, demonstrated an outstanding community spirit and through their involvement in community projects and initiatives made a significant difference within the Waitomo District.

**Citizen of the Year Award**  
Recipients of the "Citizen of the Year Award" have over the relevant year, demonstrated an outstanding community spirit and have been involved in projects and initiatives that have made a difference within the Waitomo District.

**The call for nominations will close 5.00pm Friday 1st March 2013.**  
Nomination forms and criteria can be found on our website: [www.waitomo.govt.nz](http://www.waitomo.govt.nz) or by contacting the Community Development Coordinator on (07) 878 0800.

## Raupuha Studs

Where every day is an open day

**Russell & Mavis Proffit**

P: 07 8778977  
M: 0273552927

Facial Eczema Tested  
Perendale & Romdale  
Shorthorn Cattle  
Suffolk & Suffex

2033 State Hwy 3  
RD Mahoenui 3978

E: [mmwproffit@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mmwproffit@xtra.co.nz)  
[www.raupuhastud.co.nz](http://www.raupuhastud.co.nz)

## THREWAY MOTORS LTD

School Bus Contractors

Snow Nicol  
June Nicol  
Peter Nicol

Kiwi Street  
P.O. Box 96  
Piopio

Phone (07) 877 8153  
Fax (07) 877 8177

## GRAINGER MOTORS LTD

3 Kaka Street • Piopio

- Servicing Repairs
- WOF

AA Contractor  
MTA Member

Stewart & Maryann Grainger

Ph/Fax: 07 877 8132  
Mobile 0274 874 218 • A/Hrs 0274 874 218

## So How Are Your Nuts?

The news is positive and we are excited about what the future holds.

"How are your nuts?" is a question we regularly get asked, along with "Are they walnuts or hazelnuts?"

Our 6ha Mahoenui orchard consists of 600 chestnut trees, which can be easily seen from SH3, looking over the river flats, as you drive south down the Mahoenui hill.

Planted in 1997 the trees are now 16 years old and are 10m high creating a leafy canopy over the orchard.

1997 was the year we purchased our idyllic Gribbon Rd property and being only a small block we needed to explore ways in which to make it more economic. Chestnuts really 'fitted the bill' since they were ideally suited to the local climate, required no chemical sprays, could be grazed underneath and meant a relatively small capital outlay.

Importantly, at this time the NZ Chestnut industry also appeared economically sound with the formation of a company making value added products such as health bars, chutneys and stuffing.

In the first 5 years the orchard was maintained by regular pruning to encourage

a central leader to a height of 3 - 4 metres so that branches would not interfere with orchard machinery. Strip grazing calves using electric fences meant we didn't lose any pasture and now the area is a shady haven for fattening lambs and ewes, so we see the Chestnut orchard as a complement to our farming system.

In their sixth year there was enough of a crop to have a small harvest and we first supplied fresh chestnuts to a Urenui company making liqueur. Unfortunately this business didn't survive and since the past export markets and former company had folded by 2003, we had to start searching for possible buyers.

Selling fresh chestnuts from 'out in the sticks' has its own set of challenges. For one, in the largest domestic Auckland market we are competing with growers that are closer than us and have earlier production. We are also dealing with a highly perishable product that needs to be chilled to maintain its quality. So on both counts our transport and time costs are higher.

What to do? Through the somewhat diminished NZ Chestnut Council we accessed technology to help us produce a whole peeled and crumbed product for the NZ market. While we have had some success with a few manufacturers, bakers, restaurants and cafes (try The Fat Pigeon's gluten-

free friends) the NZ market is proving to be a small one requiring a lot more marketing.

Our evolving website **Johnny Moo's Chestnuts** [www.johnnymoo.co.nz](http://www.johnnymoo.co.nz) provides information for our buyers and there are endless chestnut recipes online.

*Simultaneously, two years ago, a new development!*

We received an inquiry through the Chestnut Council about a Japanese company wanting to know about NZ chestnuts.

We have a significant advantage in the Japanese market since our crop falls in their off season and we can grow them without using chemical sprays (which the Japanese are unable to do). They also have a large consumer base with chestnuts being a traditional food in Japan.

Due to these factors and more importantly by building a strong relationship with a Japanese company we are now in our second year of exporting frozen in-shell chestnuts to meet their markets. During their visits to us they have been impressed with our picturesque orchard and place a high value on our system of hand-picking, sun drying and careful manual quality control. With regard to this, our staff are the main asset, there being a core group that enjoy working in the orchard and who take a real interest in the operation. The Japanese also valued our organic Bio Gro status.


PIPIO  
Local  
Business

During our visits to them we have been able to see how our product is handled in their factory and have been amazed to see how each chestnut is hand peeled to produce the highest quality nut.

Last year we formed an exporting company, with two Auckland based growers, called **Chestnut Orchards of NZ Ltd**, and combining our harvest exported 20 tonnes to Japan.

This year we are recruiting more growers and will send 30 tonnes with the view of doubling this for the 2014 season. In fact, the Japanese company we are dealing with has a capacity to take 300 tonnes and we are excited in the prospect of giving this opportunity to many more growers in the years ahead. Obviously maintaining product quality and open communications will be paramount to achieving this.

*Supplied by Caren Campbell & John Margetts*



**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](mailto:janine@piopiovets.co.nz)





## Magical Mokau Festival Celebrates Cream Boat Centenary

The coastal community of Mokau will come alive on the 9th March as it marks the centenary of its iconic Cream Boat with a unique festival.

The event brings together a variety of local wild food, live music throughout the day, and an outdoor screening of the acclaimed New Zealand adventure film Last Paradise.

The event doubles as a fund raiser for the Mokau Primary

School and the local St Johns ambulance service, and it is hoped it will become a regular fixture.

But the star will be the MV Cygnet, which started navigating the Mokau River 100 years ago.

"The Cygnet was the main mode of transport along Mokau River in the early 1900s, becoming the lifeline between families and communities who lived & work along the river," says Dawn Colman of Mokau River Cruises, the current operator of the boat.

"When we decided to mark the centenary of the Cygnet, the community got in

behind us, and the event grew to become a magical festival of Mokau's wonderfully rich past and present."

The Cygnet will be offering short cruises throughout the day, giving a taste of larger excursions usually on offer.

Other local delicacies and delights will also be showcased at the festival, held at the Tainui Domain, just over the bridge from the town.

A spectacular range of prizes will also be on offer to lucky festival goers, including helicopter flights, passes to Taranaki and Waitomo tourism attractions, and

even tickets to WOMAD in New Plymouth.

Free Camping for the weekend is available, & entry is only \$5 per adult & under 14s free.

Mokau is around an hour's drive north of New Plymouth, 2 hours south of Hamilton, and 3 hours from Auckland.

For more information contact Dawn Colman, 0800 665 2874 or visit their Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/Mokau.River.Cruises](http://www.facebook.com/Mokau.River.Cruises)

## Mairoa Line Dancers

### Hoedown celebrates 15 years of Dancing

The annual Mairoa Line dancers hoedown echoed through the Piopio Memorial Hall on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, where fifty boot scooting dancers gathered.

This year's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary marked the celebration and was shared with the theme of Teddy Bears Picnic. Dancers travelled from as far north

as Hibiscus Coast to New Plymouth.

Always a social gathering with much fun and laughter had, this small group return each Monday night to practice and learn new toe tapping moves, lead by tutor Linda Oliver.



Mokau Cream Boat Centenary  
**Magical Mokau Festival**  
 Tainui Domain, Main Road, Mokau  
**Saturday March 9, 2013 • 2pm - 11pm**  
 Live Entertainment ★ Games & Activities ★ Food And Drink  
 Loads Of Amazing Spot Prizes Including:  
 • Helview Flight • Waitomo Caves • Tawhiti Museum  
 • \$500 prize for the best dressed in period costume  
**\$5 per adult • under 14 free • free camping**  
 Ph 0800 665 2874  
 facebook.com/Mokau.River.Cruises All proceeds to Mokau Primary School and Mokau St John's



**MJ Barrowcliffe Shearing Ltd**  
 07 877 8759  
 mjbarrow@xtra.co.nz



**J.F. ANDREWS LTD HOMEKILLS**  
 Locally owned & operated  
 For all your processing requirements  
 Ph: Jeff 021 654 594  
 a/h 07 8778 346



New members are always welcome.

Ph Linda 8778313



**PHL**  
 PRECISION HELICOPTERS LIMITED  
 Precise in Nature, Action & Performance  
 Head Office:  
 450 Kaipikari Road, RD 45  
 Urenui 4375, Taranaki  
 T: 0800 246 359  
 F: (06) 752 3293  
 sales@precisionhelicopters.com  
 www.precisionhelicopters.com  
**Piopio Base:**  
 296 Mangaotaki Road  
 Piopio  
**Nationwide Helicopter Services**



**ROTORWORK**  
 AGRICULTURAL HELICOPTER OPERATORS  
 THE COMPLETE ON FARM HELICOPTER COMPANY  
 • Spraying  
 • Top Dressing  
 • Cropping  
 • Forestry  
 • Fire fighting & lighting  
 • Animal control  
 • Biological Stimulants & Nutrient Balancing  
 Freephone: 0800 2 ROTOR  
 www.rotorwork.co.nz

## Fire Brigade Expand Station

You will have noticed a fair bit of action down at the fire station in recent weeks. After completing stage one of our project in November (Purchase and set up of our new emergency response vehicle), we started on our building extensions to house our new vehicle. On the 12<sup>th</sup> January we broke ground digging up part of the car park in preparation for the new bay concrete pad. With boxing, mesh, and polythene laid, the following Saturday we poured the concrete floor. A couple of weeks waiting for the kit set to arrive was ideal to allow the

concrete to cure before building. Our builders – Tama and Tony Williams, and Matt Wrenn have since put up the framing, got the roof on, and cladding on the out side of the extension. We are just waiting on the new sectional door to arrive and be fitted, and then we can carry on with the internal fit out. All going well, we hope to be finished building by the end of March.

Stage three of our project is the extending of our existing car park/training area out to the fence next to the scout hall. We are still raising funds for this, and are

planning a return of the popular “mucking in day” raffle, so watch this space.

With the recent long dry spell we have had, it's a good time to remind everyone of the Total Fire Ban in place with in the Waitomo District, and many other areas in the country. This means all open air fires, including solid fuel barbeques, rubbish fires, hangi, and agricultural burn offs. If in doubt, talk to a member of the brigade, or the Waitomo District Council for advice.

It is very pleasing to note that call outs have been down in the last few



months – in particular over the holiday period with no calls from the end of October to mid January. Of the calls that we have had since, the new Ute has been very useful and is working out exactly as planned.

**Darren Cathie**



## Enterprising Rural Womens Awards

Entries are now open for the Enterprising Rural Women Award 2013, and there are even more opportunities for women to promote their businesses and gain recognition for their achievements. In their fourth year, the 2013 Awards are bigger and better than ever, with four Award categories:

**Love of the Land** - sponsored by Agrisea (Entries open for all land-based businesses)  
**Help! I need somebody** - sponsored by Telecom (Entries open for businesses providing any type of service)

**Making it in Rural** - Entries open for any business that involves manufacturing or creativity

**Stay, Play Rural** - sponsored by Access Homehealth Limited (Entries open for businesses engaged in rural tourism or hospitality. Entries close Friday 15 March)

**New Zealand Post Rural Delivery Service**  
 With NZ Post reviewing their current obligations to provide mail delivery to a five or six day a week delivery to more than 99.88 percent of its 1.9 million delivery points, and

one to four day delivery to the remainder.

NZ Post would like greater flexibility in its Deed obligations, due to a significant decline in mail volumes.

This is your chance to express your particular concerns and suggestions regarding the future of the Rural Delivery service  
 See more at:  
[www.ruralwomen.org.nz](http://www.ruralwomen.org.nz)



**OILY RAG Garage**

**g.a.s. Petrol, Diesel LPG**

**New Tyres, Puncture Repairs**  
**Wheel Alignment**  
**All major brands available.**  
**Competitive Prices**  
**Mower, Sales & Service**

**Tyrepower**

**OPEN 7 Days**

Mon Tue Wed Thur 7am - 6pm  
 Fri Sat Sun 7am - 6.30pm  
 Ph/Fx 078778159

**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

**FRESH SEASON BERRIES**

**Fresh seasonal berries, Real Fruit Ice-cream and good Coffee what better combination could you get.**

The recent addition of a new decking area now provides for both locals and weary travellers to enjoy such tempting and refreshing treats.



## Californian thistles, its not too late

This is when the plant is at its most susceptible and offers a wide window of opportunity, right through until early April. Applications made outside this time will not control the Californian thistle as effectively.

At this time of year herbicides can be applied that translocate deep into the roots effectively removing the top growth and the root system. Although damaging to clover it offers genuine control of the whole plant rather than just top growth suppression found when spraying earlier in the

season. For best control herbicide should be applied after the hard bud stage but before the plant starts to yellow in the autumn.

A weed wiper is the ideal tool but careful use of boom sprayers and hand guns can get good control with minimal damage to clovers and the results can be very pleasing.

**Ravensdown Multiple** is the most effective for both cost and kill but requires a chemical handler certificate.

**Ravensdown Eliminate Brushkiller** is a slightly less effective option but does not require a chemical handlers certificate for purchase, with careful use of a weedwiper even **Glyphosate**

can be used to good effect. Control on a carefully treated stand of Californian thistles can give a 95-98% kill and will only require very minor spot spraying in the following year to achieve a clean paddock. As a bonus **Multiple** can also control other thistles, ragwort, small gorse and oxeye daisy.



**Teresa Tarr**  
Adv Cert. Sus Nutrient Mgt  
Account Manager

F 07 877 8061  
M 021 900 304  
E [teresa.tarr@ravensdown.co.nz](mailto:teresa.tarr@ravensdown.co.nz)

Pio Pio Store  
12 Huia Street  
PO Box 58  
Pio Pio

FREEPHONE 0800 100 123 | FREEFAX 0800 100 118 | WEBSITE [WWW.RAVENSDOWN.CO.NZ](http://WWW.RAVENSDOWN.CO.NZ)

## Livestock Cartage

### Important Notice for Farmers

#### Changes Regarding Transportation to Works Certificates

Please note that from January 2013, vets are only permitted to write expiry dates of up to one week post-examination of an animal.

What this means for farmers, as the person responsible for the livestock, is that you will need to plan ahead, book a date with the transport company and then book your vet visit accordingly.



Some people do not have enough water but we have too much. But not of the kind that would satisfy the majority.

Disposal of our truck wash water/effluent has been an ongoing battle for us. We have a holding pond at our depot which is then pumped to the old Piopio Saleyards and sprayed onto our land there. This is in turn cut for silage. When pumping we try to be considerate and only pump either late at night or very early in the morning.

We have also purchased a slurry spreader which is used to cart our

effluent off site to other locations.

As a point of interest, we pump water from the river to feed our truck wash, and do not draw on the town water supply for this.

We have resource consents from Environment Waikato for all of these activities.

Our ongoing problem would be made a lot easier if we picked up livestock that had been standing for between 4 and 8 hours and having a chance to empty out prior to loading. It would also help if we were able to empty our effluent tanks and wash out our stock trucks at the drop off points.



Since going into recess in 2011, the Piopio Scout Group is making one last attempt to re-establish itself.

Group leader Evelyn Smyth is optimistic our community will come together to ensure our youth have access to and are equipped with life skills such as problem solving, teamwork citizenship and healthy living.

With a fully equipped modern facility located on Ruru Street, next to the Fire Brigade, the resources are all still available.

Sadly like many clubs, this group

needs a new committee and is in a "use it or lose it" situation. The survival of this club is significant and the value for our youth should also be considered. Let's get behind it and provide some positive direction for our youngsters.

**Keas** school years 1-3 [ages 6-8],  
**Cubs** school years 3-6 [ages 8-10],  
**Scouts** school years 6-10 [ages 10-14],

If you are INTERESTED in becoming a Scout you can contact Evelyn 8778108:



# Child Awareness—Families First

Parents are the first and best educators of their young children – that's a theme that a New Zealand education icon has been banking on for over 70 years. We are fortunate within our small district our preschool children have access to Aria and Piopio Playcentre.

Parenting is the most important job any person will do in their life and Playcentre can provide a community network and parent education to help parents do this job as well as they can.

It's a simple philosophy, **where children play they learn** and Playcentre

directs its

resources into building families, who then move out and strengthen their communities.

As society has changed in recent years, families' lives have become busier; with both parents often working along with other commitments. With this in mind our local Playcentres are facing some challenging times and potential closure in the near future if we don't see more interest from local families.

The value of parent-led early education and community involvement cannot be underestimated and the rewards from spending time learning together is important.

Attending Playcentre makes time for families to learn together, socialise with other parents and to share experiences. We invite other families to come along and experience that opportunity.

Playcentres have a particular presence in rural areas, and are run as parent cooperatives, where groups of parents collectively supervise and teach the children attending in half-day sessions. Parents are offered free NZQA recognised training in child development, positive discipline, communication, and management skills to help them in their role.

Toy Library Awareness Week is March 3-10.

together more? Grandparents how about surprising the grandies next time they come to visit?

Irene Mosley, Toy Library Federation of New Zealand President says, "With the increase in technology, structured preschool learning and after school activities our children are playing less. This week Toy Library Federation of NZ is promoting the importance of free play in a child's life to help build the pathways of the brain, develop social skills and understand problem solving... Play is not only about having fun, but also the learning that goes with that fun."

During toy library awareness week, TLFNZ is putting out the challenge to encourage play at home and in the work place. See page opposite. Completed family challenges can be handed in to Aria Toy Library and will be sent on to go in the national draw for \$200 worth of toys and games. Our local toy library is holding its own colouring competition for preschoolers. Pop in to pick up a free activity pack. *Entries close on 16 March.*



**PIPIO & ARIA Playcentre**  
Come and play with lots of fun for the kids

- Birth to 5 years - mixed ages sessions
- Big Kids Preschool Sessions age 3 1/2
  - Whanau/Family involvement
  - Free parenting courses with NZQA accredited training
- Ratio 1 adult to every 5 children
  - Affordable - WINZ subsidies
  - 20 Hours Free ECE - 3-4 year olds

**Piopio OPEN: Monday & Friday Starts at 9:15am**  
Ph: Nicole 8778189 / Hannah 8778084 4 Ruru street / Piopio

**Aria OPEN: Tuesday Starts at 9:15am**  
Ph: Natasha 8777859 / Aria Primary School

**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

**Aria Toy Library**

Aria Toy Library in Moa St, Piopio is open Thursday mornings 9-10am during school terms.

For \$40 a year or \$10 a term families have access to a large range of toys covering outdoor ride-on equipment, puzzles, musical instruments, baby toys...my favourite toy this year has to be the tried and true big teepee tent, others enjoy the bouncy castle. With generous support annually from the lotteries commission, there are always new toys to try! Parents, how about encouraging your family to play

**Curious Keas**  
Early Learning Centre

Open Monday - Friday 8am-5pm

- Age 0- 5 years
- Winz approved
- 20 hours free for 3-4 year olds

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

**Te Whanau Kohanga Reo O Piopio** is a Te Reo Maori based Early Childhood Centre that focuses on fun and educational activities which include tikanga and te reo Maori. We have little or no fees, free ECE 20hrs, free pickup and drop off from your home and an enthusiastic caring team ready to look after your tamariki.

**Te Whanau Kohanga Reo o Piopio**  
(Entrance at Mōbau Kohunui Marae)

New families & tamariki welcome

- Birth to 5 years
- Whanau/Family Involvement
- Te Reo Maori language - full immersion
- Affordable - WINZ subsidies
- Bus pickup & drop off

**Kia Ora**

Monday - Friday 8.30am - 3.30pm

Main North Road, PIPIO  
Ph: 07 8778185  
Email: whanau@ko4do25.kohanga.ac.nz

# PIOPIO

## Notices & Events

**PIOPIO**  
**MARKET DAY**  
 Every Third Sunday @ month

**ARIA Toy Library**  
 Everyone's Welcome To Join  
 \$10.00 per Term - \$40.00 per Year  
(Unlimited Toys - No Additional Hire Fees)  
**Library Open: Thursdays 9-10am**  
The Corner of Moa and Kaia Streets, Piopio

**All Saints Church**

**Thursday @ 10 am**  
 Music and movement for Preschoolers

**1st & 3rd Thursday of each month @ 1pm**  
 Music and movement for Special Needs

**Wednesday @ 5pm**  
 Shared Tea All Welcome

All Saints Church Main Road, Piopio  
 Phone: Gary 8778097 / Hannah 8778084

**The Mighty Mairoa Trail Bike Ride**

**10th March 2013**  
 10 a.m. start, at Mairoa Hall

**\$30 per rider—lunch included**  
 Child & Family concessions  
 Bar facilities  
 Kids track

**Contact**  
 Mark Barrowcliffe 8778759 //  
 Mike Small 8778540

**Proudly sponsored by**  
**King Country HONDA**

**can-am** **Motorsports** **Motul** **Motorsports Group**

**Proud sponsors of the WAITANGURU TRAIL RIDE**  
**SUNDAY APRIL 7**

**Fundraiser for Waitanguru Hall Society**  
 40 minutes south of Te Kuiti  
 50 minutes north of Awakino

Two 40kms+ trails (approx) - Open 10am-3pm  
 Registration from 9am  
 Ambulance and marshalls in attendance  
 Adults \$30, 15yrs and under \$15  
 BBQ and drinks on sale  
 Helmets and boots compulsory  
 Free unsupervised kid's track  
 For full details visit [www.silver-bullet.co.nz/events](http://www.silver-bullet.co.nz/events)  
 Enquiries to Brice Frederikson - Ph 07 877 8878

**Wayne & June Hall Painting**

- Water blasting & Preparation
- Interior & Exterior
- Farm Sheds & Houses
- Reasonable rates / Quotes
- References if needed

**Ph: 07 8776609**

**JOIN NOW – 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.

We could do with some new faces to swell our ranks and also need more suggestions for our trips and activities.

**Contact: Jennifer Kearns**  
**(07) 877 8836**

**PILATES**

**Core strengthening**

Beginners (level 1) 5.45 - 6.45pm  
 Continuers (level 2/3) 6.50 - 8pm

Held in Piopio Primary School multi purpose room  
 Cost - \$10 per session

**Contact Jane 07 873 7022 // 022 011 9626**

**FOR SALE**

**KING BED**

Good Condition  
 Sleepmaker  
 Duracoil

**PH: 8778823**

**HOUSIE**

An enthusiastic group meet to play Housie.

**1.00 pm 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.

**WANTED**

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

**Phone: Shane Neil 8788793**



# ORGANISATIONS & CONTACTS



## 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***

Pres: Shelley Pudney (07) 877779

#### ***Mainly Music/ Youth Group***

Hannah White (07) 8778084

#### ***Mighty Music***

Gary (07)8778097

#### ***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

Key available at 1 Kaka Street (Jenny &  
Peter Yates) and bookings at Council  
878 0800

### ***Piopio/Paearuhe Retirement Village***

Brien Turner (07) 877 6369 or

Ellie Voyce (07) 877 8148

### ***Opportunity Shop/Mustard Seed***

Pat Finlayson (07) 877 8355

### ***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

### ***Herbal Life***

Mary Proffit (07) 877 8911

### ***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](mailto: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 (07) 8778050

Secretary: Linda Bethal (07)8778870

Treasurer: Louise Taitoko 027 862 6010

### ***Piopio Swimming Club***

Pres: Suzie Denize (07) 877 8399

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

IS YOUR  
SERVICE  
LISTED ?

# PIOPIO BirdTalk

We thank  
our local sponsors  
in this issue for  
supporting our  
community  
news.

## FAT PIGEON



**HOURS**  
Mon, Thu, Sat 8am-5pm  
Fri 8am-8pm  
Sun 9am-8pm

Catering available  
Ph 07 8778822  
41 Moa St, Piopio  
Em: fatpigeon@xtra.co.nz

*Personally Yours ...*  
Photography by ... Annie!



**Annie Jardine**

921 State Highway #3  
RD 1, Te Kuiti, 3981

Phone: 07 8787 838 Fax: 07 8787 838  
Mobile: 0274 828 212

Email: personallyyoursphotography@hotmail.com

## BAILEY INGHAM LTD



PROVIDING QUALITY PROFESSIONAL ADVICE  
AND FRIENDLY SERVICE  
TO FARMERS AND BUSINESSES  
Please feel free to contact us for a no obligation free  
interview to discuss your accounting and farming  
requirements.

TELEPHONE: 0800 482928

# PIOPIO BirdTalk

The finer details ...

## 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



HUIA STREET • PO BOX 33 • PIO PIO  
PH (07) 877-8058 • FAX (07) 877-8061

## DENIZE PLUMBING LTD



07 877 8399 / 021 266 768

**Warrick Denize**

**Craftsman Plumber**

**FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING NEEDS**

- Roof & Spouting
- Drainage
- New Homes & Renovations
- Solid Fuel Heaters
- Pumps

## Business Computer Services

Computer Sales, Servicing & Support  
Printers, Accessories & Devices  
Freeview Satellite Installations

**Ross Smith**  
IT Technician

Onsite at workshop 9am - 4pm  
Monday, Tuesday & Friday  
Other times by appointment

6 Moa Street, P.O. Box 87  
Piopio 3942  
Workshop: 07 877 8880  
Cellphone: 027 285 1703  
Email: bespp@xtra.co.nz

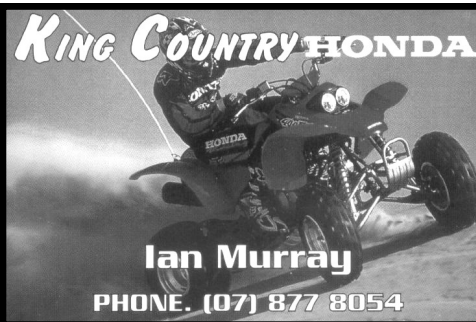


**Shane Ardern MP**  
TARANAKI-KING COUNTRY

**Electorate Office:**

25 Roche Street, Te Awamutu  
p 07 870 1005  
e ShaneArdernMP@xtra.co.nz

www.national.org.nz



**Ian Murray**  
PHONE: (07) 877 8054

# CBB

COREY BARNSDALL BUILDERS LTD

Registered Master Builder

COREY BARNSDALL  
T/F 07 877 8933 • M 027 488 9847  
E barnsdall@farmside.co.nz

- Decks
- Alterations
- New Homes
- Renovations
- Design & Build

## A & L EARTHWORKS BOBCAT SERVICES

- \* 5 Tonne Tip Truck
- \* Section Work
- \* Auger, up to 3m deep
- \* Concrete Saw
- \* Levelling Bar & Forks
- \* Clearing Calf Sheds & Covered Yards
- \* Stacking Bales

Aaron Bevege & Lee Alcock Piopio  
Phone/Fax: 07 877 8738  
Mobile: 021 412 486

## aerowork

**Grant Lennox**  
Fixed Wing Pilot

0800 237 696  
(0800 AEROWORK)  
021 900 530

## WHITE RIDGE CONTRACTING



**Mark & Jenny Bradbury**  
767 Aria Road  
RD 2, Pio Pio

Phone/Fax: 07 877 7788  
Mobile: 0275 929 665  
Email: whiteridge@xtra.co.nz

- EARTHWORKS - DRAINAGE - METAL +

## Co-Editor—Accounts

*Donna Bentham*

Ph: 877 8157

[donnagbentham@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:donnagbentham@yahoo.co.nz)

## Co-Editor—Design

*Donna Pari*

Ph: 877 8823

[donnapari@xtra.co.nz](mailto:donnapari@xtra.co.nz)