

PIOPIO BirdTalk

BI MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER COVERING PIOPIO, ARIA & MAHOENUI DISTRICTS

FAMILIAR FACE FAREWELLED— FOLLOWING 20 YEAR SERVICE

The arrival of Principal Neil Brooks in June 1995, welcomed an eager and enthusiastic Deputy-Principal from Auckland's Eastern suburbs. Taking on the lead role at Piopio Primary School some twenty years ago was a direction he and his family fondly remember. Whilst initially rural life was a shock, both Neil, his wife and young son soon appreciated the community atmosphere and overwhelming support into the district. With the support of staff and other community groups, both Neil and his wife felt comfort in their surroundings. For his wife, she found friends and a social network through Playcentre, which was a great grounding for a new family to the community.

During his 20 year term, much has changed in the education system and Neil recalls his first leadership test in 1996, the concept of composite classes. A challenging time and questionable decision, this approach to class rolls was keenly debated but is now common practise in many rural schools. His time as Principal showed his passion for the learning of children and this was evident as he recognised the changing role of education within his school. Collectively he and the Board of Trustees throughout the years built on the foundations of traditional school values to enable children to become life-long learners. With this changing emphasis learners needed to know how to learn; the process now was

becoming more important than the product. Children were not only finders of knowledge, but sorters and analysts of it, makers of it, users of it, all in ways that were related to the values that the community and country ascribed to. The skills of being able to question and to think, to use wisely and competently the ever changing technological resources became an integral part of the curriculum.

With his drive to engage children and to strive to extend each to their fullest potential, he regularly joined in school events in his own charismatic nature, dressing up and supporting his school house group with such vibrancy. This approach was also obvious with his active role in many fundraisers and support in ensuring the children within his school could access the extra resources.

As the school year draws to a close, so does the tenure of Neil's term as Principal. After 20 years at the helm, 2015 will be his last in charge. It is rare in this day and age to see such a lengthy service to a single entity. "There has never been a day when I did not want to come to school". True words spoken from a leader passionate about our youth. This is a testament to his professionalism and dedication that he has championed the cause of this community's children for so long.

The school and community will be celebrating with Neil and his family at a special function on Friday 11th December at 5pm. Everyone is welcome to thank Neil for his commitment to our children and our community.

The appointment of Scott Lincoln, formerly of Rangitoto Primary School for the past six years is looking forward to the undertaking and continuing the schools reputable tradition of fostering academic, personal and sporting success.

Considered a family man and a local living in the wider Te Kuiti district, he is familiar with the passionate approach families have with the school and its expectations. His commitment to the Piopio schooling community is key and he respects that the strong and collaborative relationships will ensure the ongoing success between students and families alike.

Supportive of students and extra-curricular activities, Scott has been heavily involved in coaching and organising local sporting competitions as well as helping students prepare for inter-school challenges.

Passionate about learning, his belief in making sure learning is stimulating and relevant to the student's lives will be welcomed, alongside the principle that learning should be linked, embedding literacy and numeracy into areas like science and technology. The value in children having the opportunity to learn and grow through the excitement, fun and challenge that outdoor education

can provide and using the local environment around the district to support .

A farewell is planned for Friday 11th December at 5pm. To be held at Piopio Primary School multi purpose room.





Save the DATE

COMING SOON 2015/2016

WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT

Three stand eight hour lamb record is scheduled to be held at Mike Carters - 7 January 2016. Shearers: Ringa Paewai, Aidan Copp and Peter-lee Ratima Mark Barrowcliffe Shearing

MIGHTY MOKAU SCHOOL TRAIL BIKE RIDE

Sunday 21st February 2016

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YOUTH REPRESENT AT NORTH ISLAND COMPETITION

Over 700 riders were in Taupo on Labour weekend as local riders Shaun Edgerton, Christopher Fagan-Mexted and Viviana Fagan-Mexted attended the 2015 BMX North Islands competition.

For Christopher the weekends competition ended with a major crash resulting in hospitalisation,

However he has since recovered.

Results over the two day event.

Shaun 13 Year boys - 20" bike 16th overall

13-14 Cruiser 4th overall

Christopher 12 Year boys - 20" bike 22nd overall

Viviana 9 Year girls - 20" bike 18th overall

TE KUITI BMX CLUB

them here. I'm always open to suggestions as to how we can improve our service, so please don't hesitate to let me know how I can improve things to make it easier for you.

I will be working Mondays and Thursdays the last three weeks of January 2016.

Monday:- 11th, 18th, 25th

Thursday:- 14th, 21st, 28th

Time:- 10.00am - 3.00pm

PH: 07 8778173

EM: ljones@piopio.school.nz

I hope you have a wonderful festive season and all the very best for 2016.

LIBRARY LIZ

TRAVEL TALK



Welcome to Harvey World Travel Talk with Lorrene Te Kanawa.

I have been blessed to travel a lot this year, with some now new friends, old friends, family and my husband Les. I am always reminded that it is not the destination but the journey and more importantly who you share your journey with.

Have you always yearned to see the sights of spectacular Canada? Can you imagine catching your breath at your first sight of Lake Louise from your room at the iconic Fairmount Chateau Lake Louise? Feeling privileged to quietly watch black bears

roaming the shoreline? Having the authentic experience of the largest Agricultural Exhibition in Western Canada? I have some seats left for my escorted tour to Canada next August and I am looking forward to showcasing this beautiful country and its gracious people.

Finally, I am grateful to all of my wonderful clients and thank you for supporting my business. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and I am looking forward to exciting new changes in 2016 - watch this space!

"We travel not to escape life, but for life not to escape us".

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COMMUNITY LIBRARY - SEASON'S GREETINGS

Well we're at the end of another year, but looking forward to the BIG move to our new premises in the New Year. Very exciting. Watch this space!

We continue to see our regular borrowers each week/ fortnight, but would love to see more community people, in borrowing. Please remember we can always make an attempt to inter-loan books in for you, using Te Kuiti Library, if we don't have

King Country Honda advertisement featuring Darren Lupton, a motorcycle rider, with contact information: 33 Moa Street, Piopio 3912, phone 07 877 8054, mobile 021 202 9749, email kchs@kchonda.co.nz and honda.349@hotmail.com

WAITOMO REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 2015

As the end of the year approaches we tend to reflect on how the year has been for us and any losses we have had seem to come into sharper focus. This is particularly true for members of our community who have lost loved ones.

Hospice Waikato nurses and Rainbow Place therapists work in partnership with the District Nurses and other health providers supporting families affected by terminal illness and bereavement.

The holidays and festive season can be a very difficult time for the bereaved.

The Waitomo Hospice Support Group members work alongside the health professionals providing family support, assisting those patients who wish to write their story as well as delivering specialised equipment to help those caring for their loved ones at home. The equipment has been purchased using funds raised in our local community and is stored locally.

On 7th December at 7p.m. VJ Williams and Sons in partnership with the Waitomo Hospice Support group warmly invite all bereaved people and their families and friends to a service of remembrance at VJ Williams & Sons funeral home in King Street Te Kuiti.

The non-denominational service will

involve reflection and music and is open to all bereaved people who may bring a photo or memento of their loved one if they wish.



The service also offers an opportunity for professionals who have been involved with dying people and their families to reflect and remember the special people they have worked with.

Everyone is welcome and invited to stay and share some light refreshments following the service.

LISA WATKINS

WAITOMO HOSPICE SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR

PROVINCIAL PRIORITIES MEETINGS

A recent visit by Barbara Kuriger, Member of Parliament for Taranaki-King Country encouraged a range of topics with thorough discussion held. In summary the following points were noted:

- Health and Safety compliance is felt to be onerous. No one disagrees that we all have a duty toward health and safety in the workplace but the feeling is that it has been pushed towards enforcement. The MPs said that this has been an issue in some cases, however the new way is to engage and educate and only apply enforcement if necessary.

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- Funding for SH3 between Piopio and Awakino – this is in current discussion with the Minister and Cabinet.

- Red tape, costs of consents, Resource Management Act needs to be revised to simplify and reduce costs. There is currently a process in place to look at potential RMA Change. Also Minister Bennett has a report from the Ridiculous Rules Taskforce which will be a catalyst for removing some silly regulations.

- We need critical mass in the provincial areas, coupled with good broadband, broadband and more broadband along with mobile connectivity. Centralisation of Government services is an issue in small communities, especially where broadband is not up to speed and departments now ask for applications online.

- Overseas ownership and the Overseas Investment Office process

was questioned. Discussion was held around the barriers for getting young people into farm ownership.

- The need for more skilled young people in our areas. The St Paul's agricultural curriculum model was discussed.

- The extra points for immigrants coming to the regions was seen as positive.

- The good thing for our Provincial Priorities team is that we consolidated the feedback across a range of areas of New Zealand. Much of the feedback is consolidated giving us a good idea of what Provincial New Zealand is thinking.

BARBARA KURIGER
MP FOR TARANAKI-KING COUNTRY



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The electorate office will be closed from Thursday 24th December and will reopen again on Wednesday 13th January 2016.



Authorised by Barbara Kuriger MP,
Parliament Buildings, Wellington

National
www.national.org.nz



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HAYDEN CODY



PIOPIO BLACKSMITHS MUSEUM TRUSTEES PROJECT—Aerial photographs with historical information of Piopio district.

As a new project for the Piopio Museum, the trustees in conjunction with consultation with local iwi, are proposing to photograph sites of interest within a twelve and a half kilometre radius of Piopio township to be displayed in the museum when completed.

This will take in the area approximately from the eight

mile junction to the confluence of the Mokau and Mangaotaki rivers in the East and West, and from Mairoa to the Aria hills and Wairere dam in the South.

The photographs will be taken from a helicopter flown by Darryl Williams Precision Helicopters, once the locations of interest have been decided upon.

We look forward to input from any interested people to support this project in the future and also hope it will be a useful source of information for the local schools.

PETER HOLBROOK - TRUSTEE PIOPIO BLACKSMITH MUSEUM

SCHOOL VISIT RELISHES OLD RELICS

Room 5 from Piopio Primary School recently visited the Piopio Museum. We had such an interesting visit that we decided to encourage other people around the area to visit by writing about our experience.

We would like to thank the following people for helping to make our visit so informative and interesting: John & Jenny Petre, Audrey Bevege, Mark Verry, Peter Holbrook, June O'Donoghue, Jean Toms and Rose Young.

Sack beds, candles for lights, and a tin of golden syrup! These are some of the things you will see in the Settler's Hut. The Settler's Hut has not many things but it is very interesting and you should have a good look.

The Settler's Hut has a small fireplace, it would be pretty cold. The settler went on a horse to the beach and saw a bird called a Piopio. He got a gun and shot it but when the gun made a big bang the horse ran back to the hut so the settler had to walk home. This is what the painting in the hut is based on.

The Settler's hut is made out of corrugated iron so the place you should go is the Settler's Hut. You will find it at the Piopio Museum on Ruru Street. **BY OLLY BEVEGE -YEAR 4**

Have you ever been to the Piopio Museum before? Well Room 5 went on Tuesday 10th November. You will see old phones, type writers, old sewing machines, an itchy bed, and photos of what Piopio looked like.

You ring the old fashioned phones by dialling a number and a lady will say "What number do you want?" After that you will get the number you asked for. The other old fashioned phone looked like a black bird house.

The old Post Office is still in the main street of Piopio and there is a photo of it in the old bank.

The old typewriter looks like a cash register and the Settler's Hut has an itchy bed. I would rather sleep on the floor. In the Settler's Hut you will see a painting of a man with his dog. The man got sick and the dog caught birds and the man ate the birds.

In the Blacksmith's shop you will see how to make a horse shoe. When you make a horse shoe you have to put the piece of iron on the fire and wait until it is hot. When it is hot you get a hammer and shape it into shape.

So come and see more amazing things at the Piopio Museum.

BY REANNA HAINE - YEAR 4

Have you been to the Piopio Museum before? Well my class did and at the Piopio Museum there are lots of things to look at. There's lots of photos in the photo gallery and a bed made out of sack bags. One of the interesting things that I learnt was that a mangle was used to press water from washing. It had a big handle on the end of it so you make the clothes go round and round in the rollers.

Another interesting thing was the phone exchange, you would have to move all the cords to ring people. It's like lots of tiny numbers up on the wall with two cords to dial the numbers.

In the Blacksmith's horse area there are lots of things to look at too. The thing that I liked most in the Blacksmith's shop was the shoeing part. They put a piece of metal on top of the fire holes. When the horse shoes had nearly been cooked in the fire the blacksmith would pick it up with a long metal bar. Then he would hold it and bang in the holes.

So come and see the Piopio Museum. It's in Ruru St in Piopio.

BY GRACE PURDIE YEAR 3

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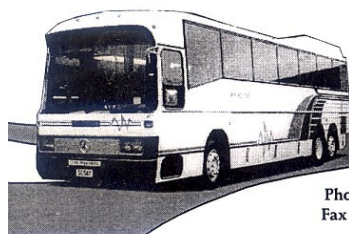
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NOTEWORTHY NEWS FROM ARIA PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM 3 FLASHBACKS

"When Sasha Got Swept Up the Chimney" – Aria School's annual production was well received by packed audiences. Congratulations to all the students and thank-you to our wider community who always support and enjoy our performances.

A special thank-you to Creative Communities for their generous funding and to Piopio

College for the generous loan of lots of equipment.
 "I am proud of Aria School for putting in the effort to do the production."

BY KAYDEN MARTIN STUDENT

London, eighteen ninety nine is where it all started. On Thursday the 20th of April 2015 Aria school

performed a production called "Sasha got swept up the chimney".

My part was Will, an orphan from a London orphanage.

At the orphanage there were Sasha, Milly and Will and a grumpy girl called Harriet. She didn't believe in Christmas.

When Milly got her letter sent to Santa, Sasha got

swept up the chimney followed by myself and Milly. Then we popped out of the chimney where Tom the magical chimney sweep offered us to go to the North Pole and meet Santa. Of course we couldn't say no.

A naughty tooth fairy tried to ruin Christmas but he got caught by Santa. Christmas was saved!



NORTH KING COUNTRY SUMMER OUTDOOR PROGRAMME

7th to 21st January 2016

This summer we have 12 different trips and activities planned, to suit people of different tastes and ages. There are two bus trips, a search for the Mahoenui Weta, overnight camping, whaleboat experience, helihike, historical trail of Te Kooti and more. In Piopio the programmes are available at Atkinson Vets, The Crafty

Pigeon and Piopio Berry Orchard plus Te Kuiti i-Site. A PDF of the programme can be downloaded from our news page, www.piopio.net.nz, all bookings to be made through the Te Kuiti i-Site.

Numbers on all trips are limited and some will fill up quickly. Bookings are already open. We hope that some of you will take this opportunity to enjoy the wonderful scenery and heritage of our region.

JENNY BRODIE PH 877 8033

SPORTS ACHIEVEMENT

The Piopio College rugby prize giving was held at the Piopio Rugby Clubrooms on Wednesday 5 November and was supported well with around 75 players and family members.

The night was to recognise the outstanding results the players achieved this year as well as the

tremendous support the community provides.

There were numerous awards given out on the night with the major awards going to Chris Dunphy and Reghan Ngarotata as Most Valuable Players of the 1st xv and Under 14's.

Results for 2015

1st xv 3rd in Waikato Division 3.

Under 14's 2nd in Waikato Division 1.

Boys Under 19's sevens, runners up in Bay of Plenty bowl.

Girls Under 19's sevens development, 1st in Bay of Plenty.

A huge thank you to all the local sponsors of the night as well

as the Piopio Rugby Club for providing us with a venue. Also to all the coaches, managers, parents and those tireless supporters who provided all the firewood for fundraising this year, thank you.

BEN DRAPER



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LEARNING IN THE FIELD

Agriculture at
Piopio College on
Fridays is embracing

Piopio College's vision statement and strategic goal that:- "We will work collaboratively to create a dynamic learning environment which is the focus and pride of our community. Our stimulating curriculum will allow students to choose their pathways and will provide them with the necessary skills and knowledge to empower them to become successful, responsible citizens. Piopio College will become a school with choice and a school of choice."

"That student's enjoy an innovative curriculum that is responsive to their needs"

In 2015 over twenty five students from Year 9 to 12 have elected to be part of this course. The programme includes DAT's - deliberate acts of teaching in the classroom, farm placements, short agricultural industry visits, speakers, and practical skills tuition. A set of workbooks have been developed to consolidate the skills and information being taught and to strengthen literacy skills particularly at Year 9.

Most recently we have had Tertiary Providers, Land Based Training from Whanganui deliver an Agriculture Taster Day on the school grounds. The programme involved:-

- Site induction and Health & Safety discussion
- Quad Bike pre-start check, basic riding progressing to "slalem" highlighting safe riding under very close supervision
- Multi activities - Electric fence set-up/Nail in a block/Drench gun
- 40 Question Quiz
- Fun activities with a serious message eg staying focused

on safety even when there are major distractions

Following on from the Taster Course day, tutor Mr Peter Henderson, returned to take a more in-depth course on the Safe operation of a Quad and Riding a quad on flat terrain under close supervision. For the practical component King Country Honda kindly loaned and delivered an appropriate quad for the course. This was very much appreciated and perfect for the purpose.

The students receive credit for their prior knowledge and practical experience, and once they have recorded at least 20hrs of verified quad hours riding with a helmet they will receive six NZQA credits.

For the practical component the cones got closer and closer to force the boys to use active riding skills. Each person had to carefully name all of the quad controls and explain their function. Even the weather cooperated for us and everyone had an awesome day. Mr Henderson commented to the boys, "I am impressed with your knowledge and willingness to learn." Seth voluntarily thanked Mr Henderson on behalf of everyone.

MARINA RAUPUTU AGRICULTURE TEACHER



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MUSIC BRINGS DRAMA TO LIFE

Recently Piopio College Gymnasium was full of packed audiences each night, thrilled with the musical extravaganza they saw. Students from Piopio College and Te Wharekura O Maniapoto join forces for 11 weeks performing The Wizard of Oz.

Each night different students played main characters which showed how confident and versatile they were. The collaboration between the schools for a musical was the first of its kind and judging from the team of students it won't be the last.

The musical tells the story of Dorothy who travels to a mysterious place after a tornado hits her home in Kansas. After encounters with witches and strange characters she agrees there is no place like home. This version of the musical from ORIGIN theatre was the first to be performed in New Zealand.

Bringing such an iconic tale to life takes much rehearsal and both schools rose to the challenge. The three Dorothy's were outstanding – Shawn Taputu, Tiana Newport and Stormy Harris.

The lion portrayed by Taylor Bradbury brought laughter to the gymnasium each night and he was well supported by Thomas Pease who played the Scarecrow and Tin Man played by Callum Harrison and Te Arai Morgan.

The production was directed by a team of staff including Tania Martin, Winston Cotidis, Julie Radice and T.A. Papa.

The Successful collaboration has meant all of the cast and crew have learned from each other and the Senior Students have been able to gain NCEA credits. So many staff and students ensured the actors were ready and prepared.

JULIE RADICE –PRINCIPAL



3 LITTLE BIRDS . . .

NEWS FROM THE FAT PIGEON, CRAFTY PIGEON, OWLS NEST & NIGHT OWL

As I'm unsure of when this issue hits your mailbox, we send you hearty season greetings! The 3 Little Birds teams will enjoy a lovely day at Mokau in mid December for our end-of-year function. Fish 'n' chips and volleyball on the beach ... a relaxed and fun time.

FAT: As you all know, the café is well into its busy season and we must thank our loyal customers for their patience . . . some days the line has been out the door, tables have been full to capacity and yet still customers simply wait their turn. At times like these it puts immense pressure on front of house and kitchen staff, and we'd like to take this opportunity to thank the pidgee crew for their perseverance and commitment to providing quality service at all times.

CRAFTY: Thank you to all of you who attended our Food & Gift Evening in November – we really enjoy decorating the store in Christmas theme, plus the nibbles the pidgee crew put together were absolutely amazing. We hope you found something to put under the tree or fill the stockings!



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The Night Owl
BAR & EATERY

Exciting new arrivals should be hitting our shelves soon, so please pop in and take a look.

NIGHT OWL: They came, they sang, they entertained. Our series of Karaoke evenings were a great hit, so thank you to Mark and Lauren of LA Vocals for your musical expertise! And Christmas Eve following the parade saw Lee Taituha return to entertain the crowd which was cool fun too.

'Picnic in a Pretty Piopio Park' – an event which will take place in February – entails groups who pay a set price per person for a package including a picnic hamper filled with goodies and wine, a picnic blanket, an umbrella, and you set yourselves up on the lawn, kick back and enjoy the sultry tones of LA Vocals. There'll also be fun games and just a generally excellent relaxing outdoorsy day. Keep your eyes posted on our Facebook page for full details.

Join the Night Owl Club! It's a social club which will offer its members specials and events. And if you join before 1st June 2016 it's FREE!

Pick up a registration from the Night Owl bar.

OWL'S NEST MOTEL: Have you had a look through the motel?

The rooms are just lovely and you are welcome to pop in and take a look, so please do so. Lyn would be happy to show you around.

Take care, enjoy the sun, see ya soon.



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BUSY YEAR FOR THE PIOPIO ARIA GOLF CLUB



At the AGM this week club President Ross MacDonald thanked all the members who had prepared the course in top-class condition and those who had provided the hospitality for the three big tournaments held since mid-year; the Great Western Open, the King Country Championships and the North Island Chartered Clubs Tournament (shared with Waitomo Golf Club).

Nearly all the work around the course and in the clubrooms is done voluntarily. A huge amount of visitors had used the facilities at the club and other locations in Piopio and surrounding districts over this time.

The Great Western Open had 26 professionals playing, the King Country Champs had 10 clubs competing, and there were 52 teams in the North Island Chartered Clubs competition. It was an added bonus that the Nett and Gross cups for the Chartered clubs were won by Keiran Bradley, Tracey Mulligan and Tuke Rauputu and are on display at the Piopio Cosmopolitan Club.

The Piopio -Aria teams won the Gross and Nett divisions at the King Country Champs as well.

The Club's gross team was Kieran Bradley, Tracey Mulligan, Rob Gastra, Kevin Hall, Barry Black, and Ross MacDonald.

LYNNE RAUPUTU



>> LESS THAN 20 DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS >>



WAITOMO DISTRICT ANIMAL CONTROL

Do not leave your dog in a hot car. On a hot day, the temperature inside your car can reach 39 degrees in 10 minutes. In 30 minutes, even in the shade with the windows down, the temperature can rise to a deadly 49 degrees. A dog's natural cooling process is ineffective in these conditions and can result in heatstroke.

Symptoms of heatstroke are:

- Heavy panting
- Profuse salivation
- Extremely red gums and tongue
- Lack of co-ordination
- Vomiting/diarrhoea
- Loss of consciousness

Provide first aid to dogs suffering from heatstroke by cooling with water that is not ice-cold.

- Wet the skin thoroughly, not just the coat. Focus on the belly and inside of the legs
- Spray or sponge the dog until their body temperature is lowered
- When the dog is cooling

down and responding, gently dry the body

- If the dog is conscious give them small amounts of water

- Seek veterinary attention as soon as possible

If you find a dog locked in a car in distress, please call the Police on 111 or your local SPCA immediately.

Are you expecting visitors over the Christmas holidays?

Noise, confusion and changes in routine are stressful for dogs. Even a normally calm pet may become agitated enough to bite under the extreme circumstances.

- Always remember to supervise your dog around children. Children are the most likely victims of dog bites.
- When visiting a house with a dog, children should be taught not to approach the dog (even if the dog has been friendly on other occasions). Children need to ask for permission from the dog's owner, then gently pet the dog's chin, chest or shoulders.
- If you have multiple dogs, consider kennelling them, crating them or keeping them in another room during large gatherings.

DOG CONTROL

We urge dog owners to make sure their dogs are kept secure on their property to avoid having their dog impounded. There are many ways you can do this; with adequate fencing, a kennel or a running wire. The fence must be of adequate height because some breeds of dog can jump a lot higher than you would expect. Check your perimeter fence regularly for holes, gaps or obstacles like a compost bin or wood pile, that the dog can climb on to jump over the fence. Keep in mind that a dog barking from boredom or seeking attention can create a nuisance to neighbours so it is important to make time to exercise your dog. Food, exercise and shelter are basic essentials you must provide as a responsible dog owner.

If your dog is impounded by Animal Control (for the first offence), it will cost you \$60.00, plus \$10.00 per day for food. These costs will need to be paid in full before your dog is released from the pound.

If your dog is not registered, you will also be required to pay for your registration before your dog is released from the pound. So be your dog's best friend and keep him or her secure on your property.

To check if your dog is in the pound, call WDC on 0800 932 4357 or visit our Animal Control Facebook page: [facebook.com/WaitomoDistrict.animalcontrol](https://www.facebook.com/WaitomoDistrict.animalcontrol).

WATER CONSERVATION

WDC are promoting water conservation efforts over the summer months. Every effort made to use less water inside and outside the home will make a big difference.

Tips for using less water over the summer holidays

- Remind visitors and guests that water supplies are limited.
- Promote shorter showers and shallower baths.
- Do full loads in the clothes washer and dishwasher.
- Use a bucket when washing boats, trailers, jet skis, kayaks, etc.
- A swimming pool cover can cut evaporation by as much as 90%, reducing the need for top ups in the hot summer season.
- Use a broom to sweep sidewalks and paved areas. Using a hose for this can waste as much as 1,000 litres of water per hour.
- Wash your car on the lawn.

Tips for efficient garden watering

- Water sparingly - every four or five days - to encourage roots to grow deeper.
- Water in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation.
- Apply a thin layer of mulch to your plants - this helps to retain moisture
- Check taps, pipes, and connections regularly for possible leaks.

Quick tips for water conservation

Fix leaking taps, bathroom & toilet faucets right away. A regular drip can waste 100 litres of water a week.

Every effort you make to conserve water will make a big difference.

For more quick tips visit www.waitomo.govt.nz/waterconservation



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BERRIES GALORE - PIOPIO ORCHARD

What another busy year it has been for us at the orchard. Although we are closed for nearly half of the year, there never seems to be much downtime or any shortage of work for us to do to get ready for the next growing season. In the off season we have managed to launch our new website – piopioberries.co.nz, check it out for everything you need to know about the orchard and our berries.


For those of you who haven't stopped in yet, we are open and currently have deliciously sweet strawberries and asparagus available. All going well we should have asparagus right up until Christmas. This season we are excited to report that we now have a summer crop of raspberries planted which means we will have fresh raspberries available from early December right through until April.

As Christmas gets closer, we get busier, so if you have a special occasion or just want to make sure you get exactly what you are after for Christmas Day we do take orders for pick-up. Just give us a call on 07 8778490 or you can email us: shop@piopioberries.co.nz. And if you are looking for Christmas gifts we have gift vouchers available, as well as tasty homemade berry jams – perfect for a gift basket.

We are open every day (except Christmas day) 9am -6pm.

Thanks again for your continued support and we wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas.

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Christmas Recipe – Raspberry and White Chocolate Baked Cheesecake

This recipe is one I stumbled on in the Dish Magazine, this cheesecake is so delicious and really easy to make. Your family will be impressed if you whip this up for Christmas day! You can use fresh or frozen raspberries, making it the perfect year round dessert.

Ingredients

- 250g plain biscuits (I use wine biscuits)
- 60g butter, melted
- 150g white chocolate, chopped into small chunks
- 600g cream cheese at room temperature
- 200g mascarpone
- 150g caster sugar
- 2 Tbsp custard powder
- 1 Tbsp vanilla extract
- 1 Tbsp water
- 2 eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- 200g fresh or defrosted raspberries

Method

Line the base of a 23cm removable base cake tin with baking paper, and lightly grease or spray the sides.

Preheat the oven to 160°C. Whizz the biscuits and melted butter together in a food processor until they resemble fine breadcrumbs then pour into the tin and squash down first with your fingers, then smooth out with the back of a spoon. I like to go a little bit up the sides just to give the cheesecake extra support. Put the base in the fridge while you make the filling.

Melt the white chocolate either in a heat proof bowl over a saucepan of gently

boiling water (don't let the base of the bowl touch the water) or in bursts in the microwave (about 20 seconds each time).

Whisk until smooth. Whizz the cream cheese, mascarpone and sugar together in a food processor (just give the food processor bowl a quick rinse after making the base) until smooth.

Mix the custard powder with the vanilla and water and add to the filling with the eggs and extra yolks. With the motor running add the white chocolate in a couple of lots and whizz until well incorporated. Pour the filling on top of the base.

If your raspberries are frozen, drain them in a sieve, and if they are fresh, give them a gentle mash with a fork until a little squishy. Plop on top of the filling in little blobs. Cook for 70 minutes, then turn off the heat and allow to cool in the oven with the door open just a crack - wedge something small in the door so its stays just a tiny bit open.

If your oven runs a little hot, reduce the cooking temperature to 150°C during cooking. Once cool keep in the fridge, and just remember to remove it half an hour before serving. Enjoy!



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COMMUNITY NOTICES



CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

St Barnabas' Church Aria
Tuesday 22nd December,
7pm.

All welcome

Enquiries to: Wendy 8777885

WANTED



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

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8788793

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Andrew 8778855

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

PIOPIO HALL HIREAGE

- Bond 150.00
- Audio Equipment Bond 50.00
- Hire (Daily Hire-age) 185.00
- Rental per hour (max 4 hours) 18.00
- Audio Equipment - Hire Fee 50.00

The above are all to be booked and paid for through the Waitomo District Council.

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.

BERYL HUIA
[07] 877 8353

The below is to be booked and paid for through the Hall Committee.

CROCKERY HIRE:

- Table \$10 per table
- Chairs \$2 per chair
- Wine flutes/glasses 50c per glass
- Tumblers 50c per glass
- Place settings \$2 per setting includes (dinner, side and dessert plate, mug, knife fork and spoon)

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Main Road, Piopio

Worship service 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.

Service at 10am

PHONE:
REV. CAROL HANCOCK
PH: 8788026

PROJECT PIOPIO TRUST

CHRISTMAS STOCKING RAFFLE

We hope you can kindly contribute to our annual Christmas Stocking appeal. Each year our local businesses and community contribute an item (worth approximately \$25) for a monster Christmas raffle. This will be on display outside the PGG Wrightsons and RDi store.

GIFTS CAN BE LEFT AT WRIGHTSONS & WOULD BE APPRECIATED BEFORE MONDAY 7TH DECEMBER

Each business/ family name that contributes is listed on the Christmas stocking and we ask local businesses to have a raffle book on display to help sell tickets. The money from this raffle is our major source of funding for the year.

WITH CHRISTMAS ALMOST UPON US AND THE FESTIVE SEASON NEAR, WE ARE READY TO ORGANISE YET ANOTHER EXCITING PARADE FOR THE YEAR.

2015

Donate Now to support the Christmas PARADE and continual development of our township.

\$25 per family, business or organisation.
Payable at: Atkinson & Associates Vet Clinic or
Online: 02 0448 0033484, 00 Reference: name before Monday 7th December
(Receipts can be issued at vet clinic if required)

YOUR DONATION WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED

Donations are used to help pay for expenses at the Xmas parade:

- road closure.
- sweets for children who participate on floats.
- prizes for floats: 1st, 2nd, 3rd in each category.
- a donation towards organising entertainment for adults and children on Xmas Eve.
- maintenance of Xmas lights.

We need help to tidy the street following the parade. Please pick up any rubbish and put in the provided bins.

CONTACT SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS
Emma.thompson@pggwrightson.co.nz // 07877000 Donna.Pari.piopio@atki@gmail.com // 8778823

Join in the fun at the

PIOPIO CHRISTMAS EVE PARADE 2015

Up for the challenge? Be a part of the festivities. Enter your FLOAT with friends, family or colleagues

THURSDAY 24th DECEMBER

*** Xmas Parade ***
START AT St Johns Rooms
JUDGING @ 6.30pm
THEN DEPART @ 7.00pm

Categories: Club / Education
Organisation / Business
Friends / Family

Carnival Rides
Live Music
Food Stalls

ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

Hairy Feet Waitomo

(07) 8778003

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

Cloverleaf Cafe

(07) 8778368

Fat Pigeon Cafe

(07) 8778822

Night Owl Bar & Eatery

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Piopio College Community Library

18 Aria Road, Piopio

Liz Jones (07) 877 8173 Ext 220

Piopio Garden Circle

Cheryl Austin (07) 877 8771

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

COMMUNITY SERVICES & BUSINESS continued.

Opportunity Shop/Mustard Seed

Colleen Strahan (07) 878 7918

Seniors' Exercise Classes

June O'Donoghue (07) 877 8492

Senior Citizens Organisation

Bookings: Beryl Huia (07) 877 8353

The Old Piopio Post Office Art Gallery

(022) 437 0789

Vanilla Blonde & Carley Jane Beauty

(07) 8778446

Waitanguru Rural Women

Wendy Coup Em: wdcoup@gmail.com.

HEALTH

Big Sky Physiotherapy & Acupuncture

Erin Barclay (07) 877 7842 or 027

8879785 email erinbigsky@gmail.com

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

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Aria Playcentre

Michelle Carter (07) 8778495

Aria Toy Library

Librarian: Karen Jones (07) 877 8945

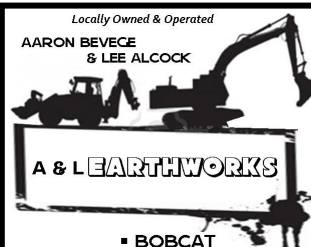
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Terry Alcock (07) 877 6670

Light Horse Club

Amanda Maclachlan (07) 878 7182

Hayleigh Bird (07) 8786840

Line Dancing Club

Linda Oliver (07) 877 8313

Piopio-Aria Golf Club

Tracey Mulligan (07) 877 8234

Piopio Bowling Club

Jill Rattenbury (07) 877 8016

Piopio Domain Board

Kate Carter (07) 877 8146

Piopio Rugby Football Club

President: Peter Hurley (07) 8777577

Secretary: Joy Jefferies (07) 8778875

Treasurer: Susan Ngarotata

(07) 8778143

Piopio Swimming Club

Pres: Lee Alcock (07) 8777 754

E:shellalcock@hotmail.com

Sec: Ana Wiseman (07)8777553

Pony Club

Anna Nelson (07) 877 7744

Heather Pease (07) 877 8144

Scouts & Cubs

Karen Petch (07) 87788100

Clive Knox (07) 8777781

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 & Moto Cross Track

Darren Lupton (07) 8778054

Waitomo Ski Club

Ian Kerr (07) 878 7661

Waitomo Aero Club

Pete Voyce (07) 877 8254

John Carter (07) 877 8290

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Jennifer Kearns (07) 877 8836

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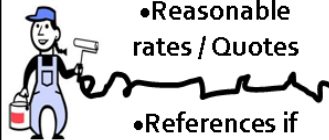


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PIOPIO BirdTalk

The finer details ...

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

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