

PIOPIO BirdTalk

Bi Monthly Community Newsletter covering Piopio, Aria and Mahoenui Districts

Mangaotaki Hits the Big Screen

It's been 18 months since the cast and crew from *The Hobbit*

Trilogy were here

in Piopio and Warrick & I have been busy preparing to open our new tourism venture, Hairy Feet Waitomo. Due to the confidentiality of the film, we haven't been able to talk about all the interesting things that went on during their time here, until recently. Keeping quiet has been difficult for us all but almost impossible for Warrick, as he does like to tell a story or two! However, he did manage to keep things under wraps luckily and is making up for lost time now. Even our boys, Peter & Matthew have found the task tricky, nearly earning detentions at school for appearing to be off-hand and surly when questioned about what was going on up the Valley. Really they were

trying very hard not to mention anything!

For those of you who have seen *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*, the Mangaotaki Valley starts its debut at about 55 minutes, in the spooky Trollshaws Forest. Several pivotal scenes were filmed here, with dwarves, wizards and a wee hobbit running around underneath our cliffs and through the rocks and bush.

Lots of clever computer graphic work made the three hardcase mountain trolls, the huge wargs (wolves) and sleigh rabbits come to life on the screen.

The whole piece lasts about 20 minutes, with 6 minutes 30 seconds of actual location footage. This is major airtime I'm told and we have the honour of having the most screen time of any location in the whole movie!

I know a lot of you had something to do with the film's production. You may have rented your house to

help accommodate the 500 cast & crew. Possibly you supplied goods & services, or you may simply have chatted with them. Whatever you did, they really enjoyed their time in the Piopio area. The positive comments about Piopio's country hospitality and willingness to help-out has travelled far outside New Zealand.

Tourism NZ is also excited for our area, as they hope to see more opportunities opening up, especially bed & breakfast accommodation.

So, what are we going to offer with Hairy Feet Waitomo? Daily, personally guided tours through the areas used in the film, while getting to see a geographically unique landscape. We hope to attract the avid Tolkien fan, movie buff or anyone interested in experiencing native bush and unusual rock formations in this beautiful valley.

We plan to be operating by late spring/early summer, in

time for the next film, *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug* which being released mid December.

It may be hard to fathom why Tolkien fans travel from all over the world to New Zealand to visit the film locations used in both *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* Trilogies. But for a lot of travellers it's a place of reference.

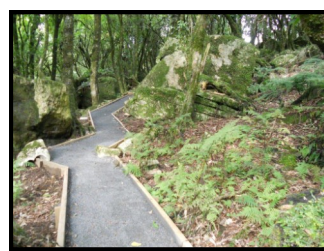
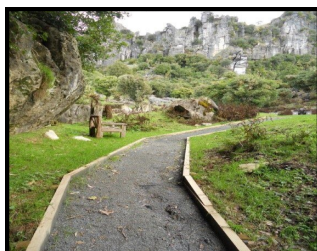
"It's a big deal, as many have studied Tolkien at school or university. In America", Suzie recalls "*The Hobbit* is the second most read book next to The Bible and I think in the world it's fourth, which tells you there's something there that makes people want to read these stories.

Fortunately New Zealanders are benefitting from Peter Jackson making these films in our country."

With such beauty on our doorstep, we are privileged and Tourism New Zealand believe

Continued on Page 2

Mangaotaki Walkways amongst Suzie and Warrick Denize's Hairy Feet Waitomo Tourism venture.



Continued
from Page 1

our glimpse of fame may bring a little more to our iconic wee town.

With the recent opening of the new Owls Nest Motel, and the ongoing redevelopment of the www.piopio.net.nz website, our community can hope to see some benefits in the future.

With reference from one famous actor, Sylvester McCoy, a former Doctor Who actor and who plays wizard Radagast the Brown in the film, commented; "You know why it's called Piopio? Because it's so little a car goes by and it goes pew, pew. Nice club!"

If such humour and hospitality is well remembered, then we as a community have got the characteristics to host not only movie fans but other visitors wanting to see New Zealand in its purest form.

Co written Suzie
Denize and
Donna Pari

OPENING
SOON



Business
Update

As

the Denize's launch their new Hairy Feet Waitomo business, on their Mangaotaki property, Warrick will still be continuing

his plumbing business whilst Suzie's watchful eye will front the daily guided tours around the filmset.

Piopio
Community
Sports
Inc

Piopio Township can celebrate yet another 'bird' joining the nest – the 'Crafty Pigeon' shop is on track to open its doors in the next few weeks. The joint venture between well known locals Melanie Simpson and Jill Haine, will operate in the 'old book shop' building at 54 Moa Street, selling crafts, giftware and kitchenware, along with preserves/pickles, linen, and the odd furniture/ decor item thrown in for good measure.

Jill will offer for sale some of her homemade crafts such as beautiful quilts and handbags. "The beauty of these items is that they are one-of-a-kind; I never make the exact same creation so customers can be assured that they are purchasing an absolute original," says Jill.

And for some time Melanie has wanted to open a shop that sells kitchenware, initially considering setting up an add-on at the Fat Pigeon

Cafe however space was restricted, so when the opportunity arose to lease the vacant shop, she jumped at the chance. "I love our town and I want visitors passing through to stop and enjoy all it has to offer. I know travellers enjoy Piopio as a rest stop – Kara Park offers a great venue for kids to play, comfort stop etc, and so with our great food establishments already in place I wanted to give them just another reason to walk down our lovely main street," says Melanie. "I also love the 'bird' theme that Piopio is renowned for, and Jill and I thought we'd stick with that theme by naming the shop the 'Crafty Pigeon'."

Melanie's daughter Kim Simpson, and Carley Buckman will move their business (Vanillia Blonde Hair & Beauty) into the back area of the 'Crafty Pigeon'. Locals may recall that the original barber shop was housed there 'back in the day',



when the Watson family owned and managed the book shop.

"Having my daughter moving her business in with us is just the cherry on the top, and having a hair salon down the back is a bit of a walk down memory lane . . . I can't wait!"

Work is currently underway revamping the interior of the building, and Melanie and Jill are busy sourcing suppliers. Their aim is to create a welcoming, country feel in the store by displaying wares in homely settings. They also aim to provide locals and visitors with an enjoyable shopping experience, offering a wide range of tasteful, practical and affordable products in an open and friendly atmosphere.

By Jules Taitoko

Pureora
Cycle way &
Timber
Trail

Enjoy a bit of history, take the time to explore the history along the Pureora/Ongarue Timber Trail and Cycle way.

Highly recommended with tracks following old tramlines and relics along the way.

Fantastic job well done to Bill Holloway and the team at DOC for restoring the tramways' spiral and building replica viaducts.

Thank you to Ravensdown for sponsoring a five year fertiliser deal for Piopio's Rukuhia Domain. Thanks to Teresa Tarr for all her efforts and a big thanks to Clive Fredericks for donating his time and resources by spreading Fertiliser on the Domain.

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The Porridge Mystery hits Aria

When a crime wave hits Happy Valley, there's a caseload of mysteries to be solved!

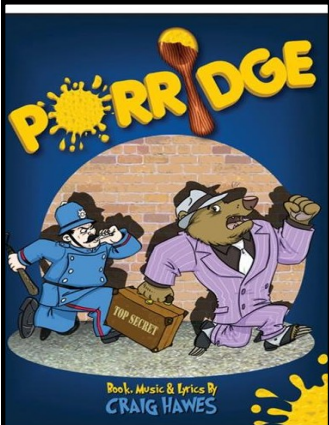
Who's stolen Ma Hubbard's recipe book? Who's kidnapped Marigold the cow? And what dirty secret is Papa Bear hiding behind his Porridge Empire?

It's down to Private Detective Jack Spratt to uncover the terrifying truth in this tale of mystery, mayhem and breakfast cereal! Join Jack, Goldie Locks and a cast of crazy characters including barmy billy goats, loopy lumberjacks, a potty police squad and a runaway

cow in this brand new side-splitting musical comedy. It's a familiar tale, told like you've never heard before with familiar fairytale folk brought to life as you've never imagined!

Porridge has all the ingredients of a delicious production - packed with spoonfuls of sparkling songs and bowlfuls of belly-laughs, this hilarious show will leave the audience wanting seconds and shouting for more!

PIOPIO Events & Entertainment



Thursday 5th September 2013
@ the Aria Hall, Aria Road, Aria
11:00am Matinée Session
7:00pm Evening Session
Gold Coin Donation Please

**Expression of Interest
Garden Ramblers
Mokau/ Mahoenui Areas**

Any gardeners whom may be interested to join the Piopio Playcentre Garden Ramble Fundraiser. Scheduled for November/ December.

No matter how big or small, landscaped or rustic, we are interested in hearing from you.
Ph Angela 8778660
Email: tandalimmer@gmail.com

**Saturday 27th July
Wayne Good
Cooking Class
Fat Pigeon
Cafe**

Join us for this fun and unique experience. Our own little 'French Cafe' in the heart of the King Country. Why not get a group of friends together and book a table? Cost: \$50.00 per head Drinks available to Purchase
Bookings phone 07 877 8822 or email fatpigeon@extra.co.nz Payment within 7 days of booking to confirm your place

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WHEN... Saturday 27th July At... 7pm WHERE... Fat Pigeon Cafe, Piopio LE MENU... A Set Winter Country French Menu
• Hors d'oeuvre Platter including Home Made Terrine, Pate, Olives, Tapenade & a French Surprise!
• Beef Bourguignon or Confit of Duck with a Sour Cherry Sauce served with Puy Lentils and Ratatouille
Chocolate Mousse or Apple Tarte Tatin



THURSDAY 5TH - SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2013

WEIGH IN: 12 - 3pm
SATURDAY 7TH @ THE MAHOENUI HALL
Midway between Mokau & Piopio SH3
PRIZE GIVING JUNIOR 3.30PM OPEN 4PM



Come and join us for a Ladies movie night to watch 'The Intouchables', on the Big screen.

The Intouchables

A 2011 French comedy-drama film. After he becomes a quadriplegic from a paragliding accident, an aristocrat hires a young offender as his carer. One man brought a family together ...and changed their lives forever.

R.S.V.P. to a committee member
Rosemary 8778722,
Lynn 8778424,
Joy 8778875,
Sheryl 8778683'
Heather 8778453



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Rural Entertainment at its Best

knowledge beyond the normal general knowledge, were pleasantly surprised at the recent Playcentre fundraiser. It wasn't your average Quiz Night when teams were challenged, bobbing for apples to rescue Rapunzel, and Kissing the Princess to find the Prince.

After creating a bit of commotion and competition all was received well.

Funds raised enabled Piopio Playcentre to purchase outdoor plastic curtains to enclose the outdoor decking area during the winter months.

Whether it was fairy tale or fantasy, the teams who accepted the challenge to test their

Stars In Your Eyes

2nd

1st

3rd



Left: Soggy Bottom Brothers—Fire Brigade

Middle: Darren Cathie, Paula Buckman, Vikki Hall, Angela Wrenn, Brian Grant

Right: Fiona Bevege, Jess Cox, Debbie MacDonal, Shona Blundel

Bottom: All Entertainers



Photos Courtesy of Annie Jardine Photography

If you missed out on the Sell out 'Star In Your Eye's' show, I am quite confident in saying that it was a great night as usual.

The recent installation of a sound System was put to test and I'm sure

everyone would agree that this is going to make organizing events so much easier. You may be wondering how this has come about as our focus is on getting the toilet facilities refurbished.

As it happens we have the Waitomo District Council to Thank for thinking of us as they have recently had the Civic Centre's Sound system upgraded as the system we will be receiving was not big or loud enough for the size of the building in Te Kuiti.

So yes it is second hand, but was on our future project list, and it is still in great working condition, So thanks to the

Council for thinking of us!

A big thanks to the partners whom assisted the committee behind the scenes....Andrew Neal, Mark Bentham, Ken Blundell, Darren Cathie, Sandy Pari, and Roger Buckman. Meanwhile we are just awaiting the official plans to come back to Council so we can get quotes for the toilets. As soon as the quotes are in we will know where we are financially with the project (the hope is pretty close), but our aim is to start the toilets towards the end of this year.

Chairperson - Vikki Watson

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Aria Primary - Term 2 at its Best

School Fitness Course Stage

Mothers' Day at Aria School was a bit different this year!

The second Sunday in May was the day for the working bee to complete stage two of our fitness course around the bottom field.

Very excited students arrived at school the following day and immediately began scaling the climbing wall, swinging along the monkey bars and in and out of the speed challenge posts and then back for another go.



Aria Primary School Children enjoy the new fitness course

PIPIO
MARKET DAY
Every Third Sunday @ month

Positively
PIPIO
Thanks for
Shopping Local

These challenges add to the first stage completed before Christmas and almost completely span one side of the sports field. When added to the 300 metre run they form a great fitness trail to be enjoyed by all for many years to come.

We acknowledge the generosity of the **Piopio Community and District Charitable Trust, Trust Waikato** and **RD1 Piopio** who contributed most generously towards the cost of this project.

Many thanks to all those involved in its construction and in particular to Andrew Coup our project

Wacky Hair / Character Dress Up Day Aria Style

Arriving at Aria school Wednesday 22nd May, was even stranger than usual with a wild bunch of book characters with wacky hair styles jumping out of the bushes to greet us. Too late to turn away!

Combining our Annual Book Fair Dress Up day with Wacky Hair Day has always worked well and almost all students (thank-you parents!) had made the effort - as had all the staff!

40 Hour Famine Support

Our annual World Vision Famine fundraiser always ends with a very active (at least for the first 10 hours!) and fun sleepover at school.

Starting after school, Thursday 6th June, 20 students aged 8-12 years joined me to "famine" for 20 hours. Participating in various BP Challenge type activities, indoor

fun relays, quizzes and the like, kept our minds off our grumbling stomachs. A rather noisy game of spotlight preceded the watching of a DVD while snuggling up in our sleeping bags and hopefully going off to sleep!???

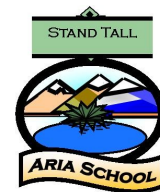
Not quite the case and a fairly short night's sleep followed. Strangely enough no-one seemed too keen to get out of their beds to start class on Friday and a fairly slow morning followed. However the

shared lunch was well worth waiting for!

I have to add that the students who tried to go for 20 hours without speaking as well as eating failed miserably!! I anticipate a total of around \$500 will be forwarded to World Vision this year. Many thanks to all the students who took part and also to their very generous sponsors.

Pam Voyce—
Principal

Aria Primary



Assembly was a strange affair with all students and teachers introducing themselves by way of a description or an act or a little tale specific to their character. Interesting! A total of \$ 70 was raised for the Waikato Air Ambulance, a very worthy cause - and a lot of fun was had by us all.

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Beef Lamb New Zealand Demonstration Farm Fieldday in Aria

On 31st May Blair and Anna Nelson hosted 75 farmers and agri-business people at a Fieldday on their farm in Aria. This was to showcase the progress made so far as BLNZ (Beef and Lamb New Zealand) Demo farmers after

16 months participation in this new BLNZ programme.

The objectives of the Nelson Farm project are to improve farm gross margin by \$200,000 annually by increasing gross margin per hectare from \$700/ha to \$900/ha. This will be achieved by improving feed supply/demand decisions' and by improving feed quality to lift performance of multiple ewes (higher and more even lamb weaning weights) and summer lamb growth rates through establishing a high performance area - currently plantain.

Erica van Reenen, Extension Manager BLNZ says "The BLNZ Demonstration Farm Programme will showcase innovation and put new science to the test. Demonstration farms are intended to showcase a narrow category of farming activity rather than taking a whole-farm approach. For example, a demonstration farm may be forage-specific, or production-specific by either sheep or beef. The programme is aimed at farmers who want to help identify tools and practices that will result in real financial improvements. Demonstration farms are

likely to be technical in nature and involve unproven or new-to-market technologies."

For further information please check out

www.beeflambnz.com



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Tutsan Weed Control Programme

Have You Heard About The Weed Called Tutsan?

The Taumarunui based Tutsan

Action Group are coming to Piopio to address a public meeting to inform locals about a dangerous weed that has been running rampant in parts of Taumarunui for quite some time.

This weed is now on the move in the wider Piopio area especially via roadsides and also via river flood

zones. The Taumarunui experience is for it then to spread under regenerating bush and scrub and pine plantation areas and onto less well grazed areas of grassland.

Come to the Piopio Senior Citizens Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 18 th July and learn all about it.

Enquiries - Mark Verry
Ph 8778842

Piopio Markets In Public Interest

Initiating a Market in Piopio was a key idea from the

community survey in 2006 and considered a priority at the public meetings of 2007. The PPT member on the initial Market working party was Jenny Yates.

This Market has been running since 2009 and has a small core of very loyal stall holders, some of whom travel considerable distances to support the Market each month.

It is PPT policy to initiate projects in Piopio and to

nurture them to a point where they will continue to function and grow without the direct input of the Trust members. We are a small group and cannot physically run everything – nor do we wish to.

Eric Harrison, who sells beautiful jams and Hawke's Bay fruit in season, has supported the Piopio Market since its inception and has never missed a market. PPT has authorized Eric to act as coordinator of the Market and to collect the \$10 stall fee each Market day. These monies go towards advertising and administration. Any excess is returned to PPT to be

channeled into community projects. Although, with the small number of stalls, excess is minimal and sometimes in the negative.

Eric's reliability and willingness to take responsibility for coordinating the market is greatly appreciated, as without his dedication it would not still be operating.

Thank you for supporting the Piopio Market.

Jenny Yates
Project Member
PIOPIO Trust

Farmers Wanted

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.

If you wish to raise a calf or graze an animal please contact

Sheryl Griffin

8778683



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The Count down is on—BMX national representative aims high

The count down is now on for 10 year old Shaun Edgerton as it is only 3 weeks until he will be representing New Zealand at the world BMX competition which is scheduled from the 22nd July to the 26th July at Vector arena in Auckland.

Shaun will be racing riders from all through out the world in the 11 year boys 20 inch competition on the 24th July

Shaun is currently training 6 days per week which is made up of 2-3 days at the local

recreation centre in Piopio where Peter-Lee Ratima has put an intense programme together for him, at least two times during the week riding his bike on a bmx track. and the rest is made up by his rugby.

Shaun has had a small setback to his training and was in a plaster cast for 10 days due to a rugby injury, but has just been given the all clear to get back on his bike.

With this setback so close to his competition he has set his sites a bit lower and is

now aiming to make the top four in his first three races.

"I'm just going to go out there and try to make the top four and be proud of having the silver fern on my back " says Shaun

"How many people can say that the have represented New Zealand in their life time" Shaun goes on to say

Amy McPhee Shaun's mum says "I'm proud of him to have made it this far and a top four placing in his race would be an extra now "



Shaun and Olympic silver medallist Sarah Walker at the National BMX competition which was held in April

Campaign in full swing

Well We are more than half way through the campaign. Five more weeks until we leave for Austria.

Recently we had the winter series. This is a regatta where we race the other N.Z teams over 2kms. Initially we had to race the men's under 23 coxed four, Elite Womens Quad, Elite men's double, Elite men's pair and women s Elite eight. We were given handicaps so we were sent off 12 seconds ahead of everyone and then everyone else had their own set handicaps. We had a very good race crossing the line in first place closely followed by the Elite men's pair and the under 23 coxed four . Following this race we had a 12 km training row. This turned out not to be the smartest thing.

Saturday we had a hard row and it wasn't one of our best. We were tired from the previous day and instead of using the rhythm which is the strength of our boat we grunted it and didn't have as much finesse. We raced against the under21 men's lightweight double, Elite women's quad, men's junior coxed four.

Having learnt from our mistakes the

previous day, we made them our strengths in further trainings. We had the women's under 21 and junior quad, then seven seconds we went. Nine seconds after us the Elite women's quad and the men's junior coxed 4 went. We crossed the line first so we finished the regatta on a high.

We have **96.90%** prognosic for today. This is the percentage of our race time compared to the world record.

Less that 0.37% covers the top 5 U23 crews – so we are all on track!

I have been looking for sponsorship so Brian Hanna helped me send out sponsorship letters to companies. So far I have had three replies. One from Alan Busch from Otorohanga Plumbing and Sam Laubscher from Lamb Bain Laubscher Lawyers and Roselands. I would like to thank these three people their small contribution means a lot to me and every little bit helps.

If you would like to help support me with a small contribution please email me. Once again thank you to these businesses. Ill be more frequent with the updates coming up to the big final.

By Hannah Osborne

Piopio Rugby

The second round clash between Piopio and Waitete attracted a huge crowd and the support for the local

team was impressive. In traditional style the game was a tough match and contested well. The community looks forward to the next few home games.

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FRESH SEASON BERRIES

King Country Hunt Season

Members of the King Country Hunt have been enjoying plenty of action and some competition over the winter months.

Hunting is a winter sport so some days there are wet clothes and a bit of mud to deal with after an exhilarating day out in the fresh air galloping over the countryside and tackling spas in the fences or

occasionally full sized wire fences as they arise in front of you. At the end of a wet day out there is a real buzz from the thought that you could have wasted the whole day in front of the fire... you have had an extra day in your life!!

At the beginning of the season the hunt has a fun weekend away with opportunities for training up new horses, or refocusing the old ones (and their riders), and the chance for new members to have a taste of what hunting involves.

Next up there is two months of hunting with plenty of opportunity to polish the jumping skills. In May we have the hunter trials where members are judged as they ride individually around a course of jumps....always a challenge.

Successes are celebrated and those not featured on the prize list go back to polish their skills for next year. To the right are the results from this years competition held at the Piopio Domain.

By Sue Smart

| Event | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------------|------|
| Junior Eye Opener | 1st | Sarah Bevege | Ruby |
| | 2nd | Janae Watts | Indy |
| | 3rd | Dylan Hughes | Ash |
| Junior Wire Jump | 1st | Janae Watts | Indy |
| | 2nd | Sarah Bevege | Ruby |
| | 3rd | Dylan Hughes | Ash |
| Junior Hunter | 1st | Sarah Bevege | Ruby |
| | 2nd | Janae Watts | Indy |
| | 3rd | Dylan Hughes | Ash |

Interschool Orienteering attracts a record, 450 students

The combined schools' annual orienteering event hosted by Aria School is held at the St Helen's Domain (Squash Club) Aria. This year with a record 450 students competing and a wet weather forecast I must admit to feeling somewhat anxious the day before the event.

However the day dawned a "cracker" and conditions perfect. Lots of mud and slippery slopes due to the overnight rain and with the sun on

your back -what could be better than that? Year 4-8 students in teams of six from 15 schools (Kiokio to Taumarunui) lined up at the desk at one minute intervals. Once maps were orientated (quite a challenge for some!) they headed off in all directions over local farmland and the school grounds looking for 10 markers to be clipped on their score cards. With 10 markers correctly clipped it was a race back to

the finish desk in the hopes of recording the fastest time. Most courses took between 40 -60 minutes. Once all cards were in it was a case of checking each for accuracy and working out the times to sort out the winning individuals and teams in each age group.

Another successful orienteering event (about the 14th we've hosted I think) and on the buses back home for a shower!

A huge thank-you must go to my team of helpers; the recorders, canteen staff, the landowners and all those wonderful parents and teachers who organise their children to take part. But most importantly the kids -your excitement, competitiveness, anxiety, laughter, confusion, noise, and muddy bodies.

By Pam Voyce

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| Senior Maiden Hunter | 1st | Robbie Matthews | Sonny Bill |
| | 2nd | Kelly Frost | Cameo |
| | 3rd | Jude Blair | A Tempo |
| Lady's Hunter | 1st | Kath Riley | Guillane |
| | 2nd | Sue Smart | Joseph |
| | 3 rd | Robbie Matthews | Sonny Bill |
| Men's Hunter | 1st | Mike Plowman | Santouri |
| | 2nd | Mark Verry | Whetu |
| | 3rd | Nick Riley | Guillane |
| Lady's Wire Jump | 1st | Robbie Matthews | Sonny Bill |
| | 2nd | Prue Ritchie | Henry |
| | 3 rd | Vanessa Hughes | Poppy |
| Men's Wire Jump | 1st | Mike Plowman | Santouri |
| | 2nd | Mike Plowman | McCaw |
| | 3rd | Nick Riley | Guillane |
| Handy Hunter | 1st | Sue Smart | Joseph |
| | 2nd | Jude Arnold | K.C. |
| | 3rd | Kath Riley | Guillane |
| Champion Hunter | 1st | Mark Verry | Whetu |
| | 2nd | Sue Smart | Joseph |
| | 3rd | Robbie Matthews | Sonny Bill |

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After a long dry autumn that challenged everyone, including our Roothing Manager, who was trying to get our grading and metalling programme underway, enough rain arrived so the job could start.

Because of the delay, the contractor (Downers) bought in two extra grading crews to help catch up, however the recent rains have resulted in two of the crews being called away for urgent storm damage repair in their respective districts.

The current sequence for grading, metalling, and rolling, with the first named roads being attended to currently (26/6), is;

Crew One – Paekaka Rd, Auahi North Rd, Paraheka Valley Rd, Mokauti Rd, then Mathers Rd.

Crew Two – Boddies Rd, Tumutumu Rd, Mangaokewa Rd.

Crew Three – Taumatotara West Rd, Whakapirau Rd, Mangaotia Rd, Pomerangi Rd.

If your road hasn't been done and needs serious attention, please ring 8780800 and place a 'Service Request' with the receptionist, and they will log your message with the roading team. They can then arrange the work programme priorities without having to drive every

section of our road network. So if you discover any new failures in the road surface, at any time, be it pot hole or slumping, please promptly lodge a service request and the problem will be brought to the attention of the roading team.

Piopio Public Toilets

The initial budget based on refurbishing the existing toilets was \$63,000, however questions were raised about sufficiency of size in view of rumoured usage. Counters were installed and approximately 14,000 people used them between mid January and mid February.

The statistics, if you're interested are;

Daily use varied with the main peak at mid day (about 25 per hour for men and women), a small peak around 6.00am (about 11 per hour each), and some usage every hour of the night.

Friday (1100 women, 1300 men) and Sunday (1200 women, 1200 men) were the peak daily uses, followed by Saturday (1000 women, 950 men), and Monday (680 women, 750 men). The other three days were around 500 of each sex, each day.

The current plan now is; Female – 3 pans, Male – 1 pan & 2 urinettes, Disabled/

Unisex – 1 pan plus Baby change table, nursing seat, and child restraint seat, and with a 44.4m2 floor area, against the existing 22m2.

The quantity surveyors costing comes to roughly \$160,000, plus design costs to date, other fees, and site completion of about \$13,000, less the initial budget, leaves around \$110,000 to be loan funded.

I was shocked at the price, however these facilities have to be built so as to be indestructible, unfortunately, and the costing is in line with other public toilets being built around the country.

Final drawings will be done, and the job put out to public tender in the near future, then we can look to further enhancing our reputation, with the travelling public, as a great place to stop.

Council Elections

Believe it or not, I've now been a Councillor for almost three years, which means Council elections are coming up again in October. Candidate nominations open on 19th July and close on 16th August. Candidates are announced on 28th August, and voting documents will be delivered over 20th – 25th

September, with voting closing 12.00 noon, 12th October, and preliminary

results announced that night.

I've found being a Councillor challenging at times (very different to farming), but also very rewarding. We've had a good team around the Council table, and our one employee, the CEO, has employed a good team of staff, who have managed to train five new Councillors to a good standard.

It has been a privilege to represent you, and I've been very impressed with the way our smaller communities work together. Over the last few years, Jenny and I have travelled through a lot of New Zealand, and despite the odd pot hole in our gravel roads, high rates, and the challenging financial returns from our farms, it's still a damn good place to live, amongst a damn fine bunch of people.

Three years on, and a lot more experienced, I have committed to stand again. If elected, I promise to represent you to the best of my ability.

Phil Brodie Ph 8778033

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PIOPIO

Notices & Events



Pig Hunting Competition 2013
MAHOENUI

THURSDAY 5TH - SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2013

WEIGH IN: 12 - 3pm
SATURDAY 7TH
@ **THE MAHOENUI HALL**
Midway between Mokau & Piopio SH3

PRIZE GIVING
JUNIOR 3.30PM
OPEN 4PM



PORRIDGE

Book, Music & Lyrics By CRAIG HAYES

Thursday 5th September 2013
@ the Aria Hall, Aria Road, Aria

11:00am Matinée Session
7:00pm Evening Session

Gold Coin Donation Please




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 Moo and Kaa Streets, Piopio



Mahoenui Hall

The Intouchables
10th August
@ 7.00pm
Complimentary wine on arrival

Nibbles \$15.00

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

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.

All Saints Church

Thursday @ 10 am
Music and movement for Preschoolers
Ph: Hannah 8778084

1st & 3rd
Thursday of each month @ 1pm
Music and movement for Special Needs
Ph: Karen Marsh 8778008

MIGHTY MUSIC

All Saints Church Main Road, Piopio
Phone: Rev. Carol Hancock 8788026

PIOPIO Playcentre
Welcome to New Families in the District

- 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
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Ph: Nicole 8778189/ Hannah 8778084
14 Ruru street/ Aria road / Piopio

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Ph: 07 8776609

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

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
Donna Bentham (07) 8778058
(Crockery/Cutlery/Glass Hire)

Piopio/Paearuhe Retirement Village

Brien Turner (07) 877 6369 or
Ellie Voyce (07) 877 8148

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 (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



PIOPIO BirdTalk

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New Zealand Tracey 021 1377118
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- 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.

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