OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2014



BI MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER COVERING PIOPIO, ARIA & MAHOENUI DISTRICTS

PIOPIO PLAYCENTRE CELEBRATES 50 YEAR MILESTONE

As a testament to time, and the tenacious attitudes of a group of mothers in 1963, the need for a preschool playgroup in the village was recognised. The commitment of these families and were presented with an formalised this small group to become Piopio Playcentre several months later.

These sessions started in a hall which was part of the Piopio Presbyterian Church, located at the time on Kea Street. The church is no longer there however the church itself is located at the Piopio Museum on Ruru Street.

To equip the new founded group, street stalls and donations were made to raise funds for play equipment and an area at the church was fenced off for a sandpit and playground. Resident Phyllis Andrews, took an interest and became the Playcentre's first patroness.

Over time it was found that the church hall was no longer suitable. Plans were made to relocate and numerous attempts to apply for funding for a new amenity were made, to no avail. With what seemed all other channels exhausted it was proposed that a meeting be held with Playcentre officials in Hamilton to thrash out the specific needs of the Piopio

area. A delegation of members; led by Ian Walsh, Gaynor McCartney, Heather Monaghan, Teresa Bartrum, Ellie Voyce, Elizabeth Stokes, and Sue Waddell, attended offer from the Government of \$5,000, to be matched by \$40,000, from the community. Not completely dispirited a cunning plan was formulated. 1978 was election year, with voting to take place in October. Ian Walsh offered to take the district's requirements for a new Playcentre to King Country MP, Jim Bolger. The timing was perfect and they tactfully campaigned, resulting in significant leverage. A compelling case was presented on behalf of the district's requirements for pre-school education. Brian Talboys, the then Minister of Education, signed off the Piopio Playcentre application. The victory was particularly sweet as the granted subsidy was \$40,000 Government and one part community of \$5,000.

A huge effort by the committee and the community began to prepare, plan and fundraise.

At exactly the same period the Piopio and districts area were also embarking upon major fundraising for the

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Piopio-Aria Golf course and the retirement complex in Piopio, so it was a major task for a group of young families.

John Pickering, the local renowned builder, drafted plans for a functional building. The Education Board, through the Piopio Primary committee, allocated Playcentre are still flourishing a section adjacent to the village end of the school property. Ian Walsh prepared the uninviting site with his farm bulldozer, assisted by George Bevege with his frontend loader. Sutherland and Larson of Te Kuiti were granted the contract to build. Doug Oliver headed a fencing team to enclose the section for safety reasons as it was adjacent to the busy Aria Road. A number of families contributed to the landscaping and tree planting to complete an official opening on October 1979 by MP Jim Bolger.

Whilst society has evolved so too has the operation of Playcentre. With more families juggling work commitments and busy time schedules, the expectations to provide a quality educational experience is still very strong today. In recognition, Playcentre Federation New Zealand is undergoing a nationwide restructure in 2015.

"The value of a parent led education system is valued and this now needs to be fairly managed to ensure parents can enjoy learning alongside their children whilst not being burdened with administration".

Today both Piopio and Aria and it is evident through this spirited and collective approach these communities value the support network offered to families.

To celebrate 50 years of Piopio Playcentre, a jubilee is planned for Saturday 18th October at 2pm. All past and present members are invited to attend. RSVP by 10th October to em: playcentrepiopio@gmail.com

As a memoir a cookbook with a collection of recipes from members be available for sale on the day and at The Crafty Pigeon mid October.





Thank you to Tucker's Quarry at Aria for donating metal to the Rukuhia Domain.

And thanks to DR Drainage for carting the metal and doing maintenance on the domain driveway. Very much appreciated.

KATE CARTER

PIOPIO HALL

Well, the Hall has already had an amazing amount of bookings since the toilet renovation, and it's a good time to remind everyone if you want to use the Hall for your function, ring WDC and pencil it in now.

The other reminder is that the Hall Committee have crockery, cutlery, tables and chairs for hire at very reasonable prices, up to 200 place settings including glasses. All of this hire is put back into the Hall and yes, we still have more to do! If you are wanting to hire any of this please contact Steph Brough at Curious Keas, or one of the committee.

Finally a huge thank you from us to the Piopio community who have supported our fundraising efforts and our 'volunteer' team who get shoulder tapped when we need extra help or expertise. Our grateful thanks also to the generosity of the Piopio Charitable Trust and the Waitomo District Council Community Development fund, without whose grants we would have been working another 3 years to get the job done.

Finally - Nigel Latta at the Hall in 2015, watch this space!

MAROKOPA HORSE TREK

King Country Hunt is having its fundraising three day horse trek at Marokopa Valley on the 7-8-9th November 2014.

Base camp is at a farm on the Marokopa River from where we will ride out over farmland, bush and beach, and a different direction each day.

The rides will be for about five to six hours following well planned (preridden) routes to take in the best of the scenery.

We take breaks that include lunch, photo stops and to share history and show points of interest in the area.

For more information or to register contact susie.verry@gmail.com Check out the King Country Hunt trekking group on facebook.

SUSIE VERRY-SECRETARY

WHOOOOO-DONE IT

This mystery has eluded the staff as someone has put an apostrophe on the Owls Nest sign and we don't know who it was!!!









Grant Lennox

Fixed Wing Pilot

0800 237 696 (0800 AEROWORK) 021 900 530



Welcome to Harvey World Travel Te Kuiti Travel Talk with Lorrene and Shonnie.

LORRENE: I am super excited, I have been fortunate to be selected by APT Tours for an educational tour Canada this month. This ties in well with the Cruise Piopio evening being held at the Night Owl Wednesday the 15th of October at 5.30pm. There will be APT and P & O Cruises there on the night who are representatives looking forward to some rural hospitality as well as myself and Shonnie with our personal experiences with the respective companies. If you have ever imagined yourself cruising the tropics, or maybe river cruising through ancient Europe, or river, rail and land touring through the dramatic landscapes of North America then this is the evening for you. There are some fantastic Fly Free specials. SHONNIE: I have just returned from the beautiful

Whitsundays, which are a group of islands just off the coast of Airlie Beach in North Queensland. This is a great destination for people who are water lovers like myself. With the Great Barrier Reef right at your doorstop, the water based activities are endless, from the amazing snorkelling and diving to whale and turtle spotting. If you are not quite as keen on the water, you can stroll through the cool market stalls which offer everything from fresh fruit and local produce, to cute knick knacks and even the opportunity to ride a camel! Lastly if you are just looking to relax, why not laze the day away on Whitehaven beach, which has been voted in the top 10 beaches in the world! I was lucky enough to experience everything and had a great time doing so. Please contact your Cruise Specialists.

> LORRENE OR SHONNIE PH: (07)8788184

EM: TEKUITI@HARVEYWORLD.CO.NZ

RUGBY SUCCESS AWARDED TO STUDENTS

Success and celebration was well deserved for both Under 14 and Under 16 rugby teams at Piopio College. Coordinator Steve Bodger congratulated both teams making their respective semifinals and both producing King Country representatives; with the Under 14 side going all the way, winning their final against Cambridge High School and being crowned champions of the Waikato Under 14 B Grade.

The Under 14 side, coached by Jack Murray and Peter Foss, went through their division undefeated. They fought back against Hamilton Boys High School in their semi-final, being down 17-15 at the half, to win 31-17. Then, they defeated Cambridge, in an epic final. The skill level was commendable.

The Under 16 side, coached by Eion Scarlett and Managed by Dave Richardson, with support from Karl Alcock and Ben Draper, improved each week. They earned respect from other teams, often being labelled as the toughest team to play against in the competition. Hamilton Boys were always going to be a formidable team to beat in a semi-final, but again, the opposing coach had only praise for our boys as he had observed a huge improvement over the season. He paid particular attention to, "Player of Year", Isaac Griffin, Jayden Demchy

and Kaleb Adams. Then, in their final versus St Pauls College, they played with pride and we can all be proud of how they played; only losing by 3 points, 10-7.

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS

King Country Roller Mills: Lorenz Kemp (Captain) & Daniel Foss.

King Country Under 14s: Carlos Karaitiana (Captain), Demante Murray, Quayde Bell, Isaac Wana, Thomas Havea, Lewis Taitoko. (Coach) Jack Murray

King Country Under 18s: Hohepa Rapana-Gavin

PRIZE GIVING AWARDS

Under 14 awards:

Best Back: Demante Murray Best Forward: Lewis Taitoko Best Attack: Quayde Bell Best Defence: Carlos Karaitiana

Most Sportsmanship: William

& Toby MacDonald Most Improved: Daniel Foss

Representative Player: Lorenz Kemp

Rookie of the Year: Paora Bodger

Most Tries: Thomas Havea Player's Player: Isaac wana Player of the Year: Demante Murray **Under 16 Awards:** Best Back: Connor Scarlet

Best Forward: Chris Dunphy Most Sportsmanship: Jack Griffin Most Improved: Kipa Mackey Player's player: Kipa Mackey & Jayden Demchy Player of the Year: Isaac Griffin

The Draper cup for an up and coming talent: Reade Blakeman

With over 100 people gathered to celebrate the great year of Rugby, the boys can be proud of their achievements.

Lastly, thank you Sue Draper and Mike Johnson for supporting me in my first year as Teacher In Charge of Rugby. I look forward to building on this year and having an even better 2015 season.

Good luck to those who will be playing 7s. To everyone else, see you on the sidelines

STEVE BODGER

PIOPIO COLLEGE

CHRISTMAS PARADE

TRADITION CONTINUES

This year Christmas Parade will fall on Christmas Eve , Wednesday 24th December.

Plan ahead your float and enjoy the Christmas spirit that only a few communities can boast about like our district does.

More information in the next issue. Contact Santa's little helprs:

EMMA Emma.Thompson@RD1.COM

DONNA piopiobirdtalk@gmail.com





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Stewart & Maryann Grainger



Flat

weeds have taken over. They are showing their coping ability under the harsh conditions we have had through these droughts, by replacing pasture species in some more vulne rable areas of local farms. North facing slopes in particular have

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ALL THAT'S GREEN IS NOT GRASS

come to my attention over the last couple of months as having been colonised successfully, when the dry conditions and insect pressure have been too much of a challenge for the ryegrass varieties present.

A winter spray that has a wide spectrum of target weeds will have helped reduce the competition but monitoring of the damaged areas as spring sets in, to make sure that new growth

is of the desired species, is worthwhile while there is time to do something about it.

If you haven't sprayed then that is a first step, followed by some seed, drilled or broadcast while conditions are suitable for a good take. Careful choice of variety, something with proven persistence under difficult conditions will be good insurance for the future.



TERESA TARR

TE KUITI & DISTRICTS PONY CLUB

The 2014/15 season is now underway with opening rally successful. Pony club caters for all levels of riders and all ages up to 21 with a number of different disciplines been taught.

These include dressage, show jumping, cross country, horse mastership and games.

All new members welcome. For more information on rallies contact:

HEATHER 8778144

LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you to those community members who make the time to call into the library to borrow books. It's lovely to see/meet you and help you with the decisions, when choosing reading material.

Remember we have the books on loan from Waitomo District Library (Te Kuiti), integrated with our books, there are some great titles, in the fiction and interesting topics in the non-fiction.

Our grateful thanks to King Country Energy Heartland

Upcoming rallies & events over the next few months:

- Sat 4th Oct Rally
- Sat 11th Oct Te Kuiti & **Districts Spring ODE**
- Sun 2nd Nov Rally
- Sat 8th Nov Rally

MAREE 8778734.

- Sat 22nd Nov Rally
- Sat 6th Dec Gold Cup
- Sun 14th Dec Last for year

The autumn ODE date is set for Mar 8th 2015.

PHL New Plymouth

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"We understand your business needs and guarantee good results as we are farmers too!"



Community Fund for providing funding towards the purchase of new Aotearoa New Zealand non-fiction. Come in soon and check it out.

The library be open Monday the 15th , Tuesday the 16th and Thursday the 18th of December, after school ends, 10.00am – 3.30pm each day. January dates to be advised. Look forward to seeing you then.

LIZZIE JONES LIBRARIAN





NEWS FROM MAHOENUI

The recent annual Mahoenui Pig Hunting competition was once again a great success, with 90 entries, many people came out on the day to see the 17 pigs weighed in along with the 50 entries into the children's section.

The Results of the day were: 1st Heaviest Boar 62kg - Craig Raine 2nd Stan Mikara - 58.3 kg 3rd Ken Land - 57.6kg 4th Ross Fenton - 55.1 kg Best Tusks - Craig Raine 20 5/8 Average Weight - Mark Raine - 44.5 kg Major Spot Prize - Ryan Bolt - \$1000

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our supporters and helpers on the day, and to acknowledge the generosity of all our sponsors, the funds raised will go towards the up-keep of the Mahoenui Hall.

Thank you to all our sponsors.

COUNCIL NEWS

Firstly, I'd like to thank very much to those people who have taken the time to contact Council and express their satisfaction with the condition of their rural roads following this years grading and metalling programme. It really lifts the spirits of those that are doing an otherwise thankless job.

There are still about 150km of our unsealed network awaiting similar treatment.

Our road network, which excludes SH 3, SH 4, SH 30, and SH 39, comprises 1014km, with 456km (45%) sealed, and 578km (55%) unsealed.

For the present 2014/15 year, our expenditure on roads is split into; operating expenses \$9.1m and capital expenses \$5.6m, a total of \$14.7m. Of this \$14.7m, \$5.9m (41%) is funded from local rates, and this amounts to 34% of the

KING COUNTRY DOG TRIAL ASSOCIATION (KCDTA)

On 13th September at the Piopio Cosmopolitan Club the King Country Centre Dog Trial Association met for their Annual Prize Giving.

Our area includes dog trialists and supporters from Maihiihi to Katieke. Each year a member is chosen to receive an Award that honours their valued input into dog trials.

This year Peter Darke of the Aria Collie Club was the recipient because he is a mentor, helper an outstanding supporter of King Country Dog Trials. Peter has been involved with dog trials for many years. He was very surprised to receive this award. Dog trials cannot survive without the likes of Peter.

The King Country Bayleys Championships were held at Aria and the winners of each event were :

Event 1 - Graeme Wellington

Event 2 - Stuart Child

Event 3 - Chris Baker and

Event 4 - Rod Walker.

Garry Murphy won the Ravensdown Heading Dog Trophy

Chris Baker won the Ravensdown Huntaway Trophy. Chris also won the Maori Affairs Shield (most points with 2 dogs in the KC Centre).

It should also be noted that Chris won the TUX New Zealand Yarding Challenge last year and he was able to win again this year!

Congratulations to all competitors.

A good night was had by all and thanks to the Piopio Cosmopolitan Club for a lovely meal.

ROSE YOUNG-SECRETARY

total rates requirement of \$17.34m. The balance, \$8.8m (59%) is funded by the NZTAs' (NZ Transport Agency) Funding Assistance Rate. This level of assistance is high compared to other councils in New Zealand.

This level of Government assistance is under serious challenge, and one of the consequences is that NZTA introducing the One Network Roading Classification (ONRC), which will have six classification categories, primarily dictated by traffic volume. The two main pillars of the ONRC are 'fit for purpose roads' and 'safe journeys', balanced against a

value for money objective. Tied in with this will be a prescribed uniform 'Level of Service' (LoS) for each road classification, nationwide. It is expected this will dictate the way funding is made available in the future, which for Waitomo, is the 59% FAR (\$8.8m this year) we presently receive.

Of our Waitomo roads, 80% currently sit in the two bottom categories, 'Access' and 'Access (Low Volume)'.

The introduction of these changes has an uncertain time frame, with the classification and LoS standards expected in the next 12 months, and any consequent funding changes to be spread over a ten year period.

As a consequence, we



Councillors and staff, face an added level of uncertainty as we start putting together our next Long Term Plan (2015/2025), ahead of it's adoption in June 2015.

If you have any queries on this subject, or any other Council related concerns, please contact me.

PHIL BRODIE RURAL WARD COUNCILLOR WAITOMO DISTRICT PH (07) 8778033 E brodieauahi@xtra.co.nz





Reviews from the annual school production held on August 20th attracted full houses and was enjoyed by all. UPCOMING LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

During the Term 3 holidays we will be completing a refurbish of our school

NOTEWORTHY NEWS FROM ARIA PRIMARY SCHOOL

library. Part of this Library Development plan involves setting up a community "Swap-a-book" area to be set up in the Technology Room adjacent to the Library. This area will shelve family (adults and children) reading material that you are free to take home and keep. We also anticipate having a technology area available for families without adequate home internet coverage or

technology to use. OFFICE MANAGER RESIGNATION

After 11 years at Aria School Pet Day - Wednesday 22nd Karen McNickle is going back to school! Karen has been an integral part of the school and will be greatly missed. Thank-you Karen for your commitment to our school. We all wish you well with your university studies over the next 2-3 years. Mrs Nicola Alcock will be our new Office Manager and will

start in January. **TERM 4 EVENTS TO BE** NOTED

October.

Maniapoto Kapahaka Festival - Friday 28th November at the Cultural and Arts Centre, Te Kuiti. Mark it on your calendar now. We will be performing as a whole school group. Last Day for students -Friday 12th December. PAM VOYCE-PRINCIPAL

KAPA HAKA SUCCESS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Recent success for local Piopio College group Te Whakatipuranga Hou, performing at the Maniapoto Festival at Otorohanga College, proved a good lead up for the

groups outstanding performance at the Te Nehenehenui Tribal Festival held here in Piopio.

Under the tutorial of Doug Ruki and Charmaine Turner,

the small but powerful group of 11 students proved their worth coming first in Haka Powhiri and second in Mihi and Waiata Tawhito, with second place overall.



COMMUNITY CONTACTS SPORTS & RECREATION **ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS COMMUNITY SERVICES** cont. Aria Squash Club **Piopio & Districts Museum** Seniors' Exercise Classes John Petre (07) 877 8293 June O'Donoghue (07) 877 8492 Senior Citizens Organisation Key available at Piopio Superette Piopio POP (Tui Park) Beryl Huia (07) 877 8353 Shirley Bardsley (07) 877 8725 Snow Nicol (07) 877 8177 Key for toilet available from the Bookings: Peg Higgs 8778610

Cloverleaf Tearooms or Snow Nicol Waitanguru Rural Women

BAR & RESTAURANT

Aria Cosmopolitan Club (07) 877 7812 Cloverleaf Cafe (07) 8778368 Fat Pigeon Cafe (07) 8778822 Night Owl Bar & Eatery (07) 8778769 Piopio Cosmopolitan Club (07) 877 8204 **Piopio Berry Orchards** (07) 8778490

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Craft Group Rita Verry (07) 877 8584 Housie Afternoon (Thursdays) Shirley Bardsley (07) 877 8725 Marriage Celebrants Rose Young (07) 877 8029 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 **Opportunity Shop/Mustard Seed** Colleen Strahan (07) 878 7918



Wendy Coup Em: wdcoup@gmail.com. Line Dancing Club

HEALTH

Big Sky Physiotherapy & Acupuncture Erin Barclay (07) 877 7842 or 027 8879785 email erinbigsky@gmail.com Tracey Mulligan (07) 877 8582 **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 Natasha Richardson (07) 8777859 Aria Toy Library Librarian: Lisa Lyford (07) 877 8186 Mainly Music Hannah White (07) 8778084 **Piopio Playcentre** Nicole Johansen (07) 8777708



Andrew & Tracey Neal

488 Mangaotaki Road Piopio, 3971 New Zealand

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Terry Alcock (07) 877 6670 **Badminton Club** Michelle O'Reilly (07) 877 8085 Light Horse Club Amanda Maclachlan(07) 878 7182 Maree Bradcock (07) 877 8734 Linda Oliver (07) 877 8313 Piopio-Aria Golf Club Helen Verry (07) 877 8582 **Piopio Bowling Club** Jill Rattenbury (07) 877 8016 Piopio Domain Board Kate Carter (07) 877 8146 Piopio Rugby Football Club President: Dave Tapara 02040229453 Secretary: Joy Jefferies (07) 8778875 Treasurer: Susan Ngarotata 021 261 6808 **Piopio Swimming Club** Pres: Lee Alcock (07) 8778738 E:shellalcock@hotmail.com Sec: Karina Pulman (07) 877 8844

(07) 87778781 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 lan Murray (07) 877 8054 Waitomo Ski Club lan Kerr (07) 878 7661 Waitomo Aero Club Pete Voyce (07) 877 8254 John Carter (07) 877 8290 Walking Group

Pony Club

Scouts & Cubs

Anna Nelson (07) 877 7744

Heather Pease (07) 877 8144

Karen Petch (07) 87788100 Clive Knox

Jennifer Kearns (07) 877 8836





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.

ADVERTISING CHARGES

Local Business: \$35/issue - approximately business card size

Clubs & Organizations: Free up to 75 words
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Package: Annual \$200. Includes six advertisements and one special 1/3 page 'My Business' article annually CO-EDITOR—DESIGN Donna Pari Ph: 877 8823 Piopiobirdtalk@gmail.com

CO-EDITOR—ACCOUNTS *Melissa Nicholas* Ph: 877 8788