



Jaxon Bryant

## Jaxon awarded Dux of College

**JAXON BRYANT** was named Dux 2024 at the Piopio College Senior Prizegiving held on October 23 last year, in the college gymnasium.

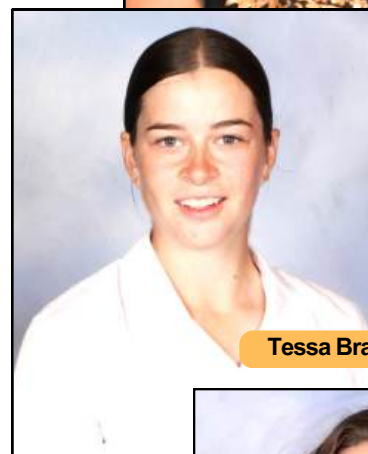
Proxime Accessit was awarded to Marion Robata, while Sportsperson of the Year was jointly awarded to Tessa Bradcock and Grace Purdie.

Head Students for 2025 are Korvell Young and Caitlyn Cody; Deputies are Abbie Blakeman and Jaimee Martin.

Congratulations to all recipients, and all the best for 2025.



Marion Robata



Tessa Bradcock



Grace Purdie

**PIOPIO COSMOPOLITAN CLUB**

**SAVE THE DATE**

*Wild*

**HUNTING**

**COMPETITION**

**8-10 MAY 2025**

**RORISONS**  
FERTILISER & LIME

**King Country Lime  
and fertiliser blends**

**FREE PHONE 0800 40 10 40**

sales@rorisons.co.nz • rorisons.co.nz

## Piopio Lions



**THE CLUB** met in December for a Xmas BBQ at the Aria Domain with a good number of members and partners coming along. A very relaxing enjoyable evening.

Once again the club was able to put on the annual Xmas Dinner and had a great turnout. The catering was done by a team of school students overseen by Lisa Lyford and a group of parents. This team was raising funds for their trip to Japan. The Club was so impressed with the efforts of the caterers that we donated an extra few hundred dollars on top of their account. Once again a big thank you to Trae Aitken for entertaining us with his music.

The Club is about to sponsor a student to the Hilary Outdoor Pursuits Centre and will look at sending another student later in the year.

Recently the food caravan has been at the Aria School Orienteering Day, Piopio School Pet Day and the Xmas Parade evening.

There is a chance that we might be back at the Fieldays this year. Organisations that might want to assist us please keep this in mind.

The club is still looking for someone who would like to cook their meeting dinner, once a month, approximately 20 people – meat and three veg – nothing too elaborate. If interested please contact Gavin Todd 021 0870 0545 or Ross Smith 027 285 1703.

## Project Piopio Trust update

**ROLL ON 2025!** We wish all readers a happy and prosperous year.

Firstly, a huge thank you to all those who participated in the Community Survey.

There were 207 replies - that's excellent feedback and more than anticipated. We don't have the full analysis yet. When this happens we will be aiming to consult with all interested parties in the coming months.

One issue we saw come up was the lack of transport to Te Kuiti medical facilities: Te Kuiti Community House is prepared to make the 4H Mobility Van available for half a day per week, probably Monday. It can take up to five people including one wheelchair. There will be a small cost. If at all interested please phone or text Jenny Brodie (021 141 243 or leave a message) or email [projectpiopiotrust@gmail.com](mailto:projectpiopiotrust@gmail.com). It should be doable, just needs some planning.

Another point raised is the lack of retail outlets in Piopio. That's not easy to solve because of our low population but you may not be aware that Country Couriers operate a regular service to Te Kuiti and can deliver to Piopio Village, and anyone on the Piopio based rural delivery services. Country Couriers phone is 0274 760 478.

Cost of local groceries: Please be aware that running small food outlets is challenging and the cost of goods needs to be higher. These businesses mostly have to source goods at supermarket process. They provide a wonderful service. Please support them.

Piopio Community Information facebook page. The number of people following the page is steadily increasing, hence more people are receiving messages. There are still a lot of activities happening in the community not being posted. We are working on it!

*Until next issue,  
From the PPT team*

**HeartSaver**  
AED | FIRST AID | TESTING | TRAINING

Within our district several defibrillators are on hand in the event of an emergency.

**PIOPIO TOWNSHIP:**  
Fat Owl Motel, Bar & Eatery  
Piopio College

**SURROUNDING DISTRICTS:**  
Mahoenui (Coleman's Woolshed)  
Aria Cosmopolitan Club  
Waitanguru Hall

A free App is available on Google Play-store to locate machines throughout NZ.



**Country Couriers**

Tony & Paula Buckman  
[t.buckman@extra.co.nz](mailto:t.buckman@extra.co.nz)

**whitebait inn**  
P.O. Box 100, Whitebait, Tairāwhiti

06 752 9713  
SH3, MOKAU

**FEEDBACK  
& ARTICLES  
WELCOME!**

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.

**ADVERTISE  
IN PIOPIO  
BIRDTALK!**

- Local Business: B&W Business Card Size \$35  
Full Colour Business Card Size \$65
- Out-of-Area Casual: B&W Business Card Size \$45  
Full Colour Business Card Size \$75
- Full Colour Strip Ad (Front & Back Page) \$135
- Clubs & Organisations: Free up to 75 words
- Classified Ad: \$5 per 3-line ad
- Package: Annual \$200 includes 6x approx business card size and 1x special 1/3 page 'My Business' article annually

[piopiobirdtalk@gmail.com](mailto:piopiobirdtalk@gmail.com)

[www.piopio.net.nz](http://www.piopio.net.nz)



# Piopio Fruit & Veg Stand

**SUMMER** delivers all sorts of abundance to our Community Stand, with heaps of local homegrown fruit and veggies. Thus far into the season I can say that this year's plums are down over 2024 in terms of volume, and the birds have had more than their fair share. Apples, quince, pears and peaches are looking good, fingers crossed. It's too early to know about the feijoas, figs, walnuts and hazelnuts.

We've had a good season with veggies, but I don't know yet about the heirloom tomatoes. They're telling me the cool/hot weather has them a bit off their game. Time will tell.

I'm recounting my learning journey with heritage climbing beans via the Stand FB page as it continues, with thanks to the Heritage Food Crops Research Trust in Wanganui for providing the seeds. Their website is a great resource for anyone

interested in growing food, especially heirloom tomatoes, heritage beans, and Monty's Surprise apples. They are also very generous about sharing free seeds if you want or need them. We had a local gentleman arrive at our house during the holidays to share some Dutch heritage peas his family has grown in the district for many years. I've saved some, grown some, and sent some down to the Trust for preservation.

Your contributions of homegrown produce continue to be gratefully received and go off quickly to appreciative homes. Very little goes to waste. Recently I found a thank you note from someone named Greg about the jam; the kind of thing that makes me smile.

I must confess that we don't need recycled egg cartons left at the stand.

And I will put the word out when

more jars are needed by our jam makers, they do let me know. At the moment everyone's cupboards are full, and I am taking things to the dump since we don't have kerbside collection.

Check out our Facebook page for updates on what's on offer most weekday mornings, recipes and growing tips. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or issues.

**Karen Barrett**

struanfarm@gmail.com

0275 727 407



## PIOPIO COMMUNITY & DISTRICTS CHARITABLE TRUST

### APPLICATION FOR GRANTS

Application forms for Individuals and Organization's may be printed off the Piopio website or by emailing the Trust. Email: [piopiotrust@gmail.com](mailto:piopiotrust@gmail.com)

Areas covered for grants include Piopio Township and the districts of Mairoa – Mangaotaki – Mahoenui – Aria – Mokauiti – Mapiu – Kopaki – Benneydale – Oparure and Rangitoto. Te Kuiti Borough is not included.

Applications close at 5pm on 31st March 2025.

Late applications will not be accepted.



INVESTMENT ADVISERS -  
MATTHEW LEE AND HEREWARD BASHER

**"We're passionate about helping local clients achieve their financial goals and grow their wealth."**

**Speak with us today.**

[matthew.lee@craigsip.com](mailto:matthew.lee@craigsip.com) | 06 968 7700  
[hereward.basher@craigsip.com](mailto:hereward.basher@craigsip.com) | 06 968 7706  
[craigsip.com](http://craigsip.com)

**NZX Firm**

Matthew Lee and Hereward Basher are Investment Advisers at Craigs Investment Partners and their disclosure statements are available on request and free of charge. Visit [craigsip.com](http://craigsip.com). Craigs Investment Partners Limited is a NZX Participant firm. The Craigs Investment Partners Limited Financial Advice Provider Disclosure Statement can be viewed at [craigsip.com/tcs](http://craigsip.com/tcs).

**FAT PIGEON**



07 877 8822  
[fatpigeon@xtra.co.nz](mailto:fatpigeon@xtra.co.nz)  
[www.fatpigeon.co.nz](http://www.fatpigeon.co.nz)

**Fat Owl**



07 877 8767  
[fatowl@xtra.co.nz](mailto:fatowl@xtra.co.nz)  
[www.fatowl.nz](http://www.fatowl.nz)

**Ryan Prescott**

CEO/Director

[ryan@patprescott.co.nz](mailto:ryan@patprescott.co.nz)

T 07 873 8522 0800 858 522  
F 07 873 7683 A/H 07 873 1771  
M 0274 898783

**Prescott Toyota**

152 Maniapoto Street, Otorohanga 3900  
[prescott.toyota.co.nz](http://prescott.toyota.co.nz)



We are pleased to be able to supply accounting and taxation services to farmers and businesses in the Piopio area.

**BAILEY INGHAM LTD**



[info@baileyingham.co.nz](mailto:info@baileyingham.co.nz)  
07 873 7325 or freephone 0800 482 928

# Piopio looking prosperous



I HOPE you all had a good Christmas and an enjoyable holiday break.

It is great to see Piopio looking so prosperous. There is no doubt that the upgrade of the Café has made a huge difference to stopping the through-traffic. I'd like to wish Cerise Bevege all the best with her new business 'Forage' and encourage locals to support her.

I realise that overflowing rubbish bins can be a problem and hopefully we can find ways that this can be improved during these busy holiday times.

Piopio Pool and Project Piopio both received \$10,000 three-year grants. Council had applications for twice the amount of money

available.

This coming year the big items on the calendar are Local Water Done Well, and a decision on the future of the landfill.

Once again I would like to thank all who volunteer their time throughout the district, to make our community an attractive and inviting place to be.

Wishing everyone a healthy and prosperous 2025.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns or queries you might have.

Take care,

Gavin Todd

Gavin.Todd@Waitomo.govt.nz

**Gavin Todd**

Rural Ward Councillor  
Waitomo District Council



## Year 10 Camp

WE HAD our annual camp with our Year 10 students in Awakino early December.

Our students were outstanding... they planned their gear, set up their own camp and cooked their own meals for the two days. They had endless fun fishing, swimming and snorkelling.

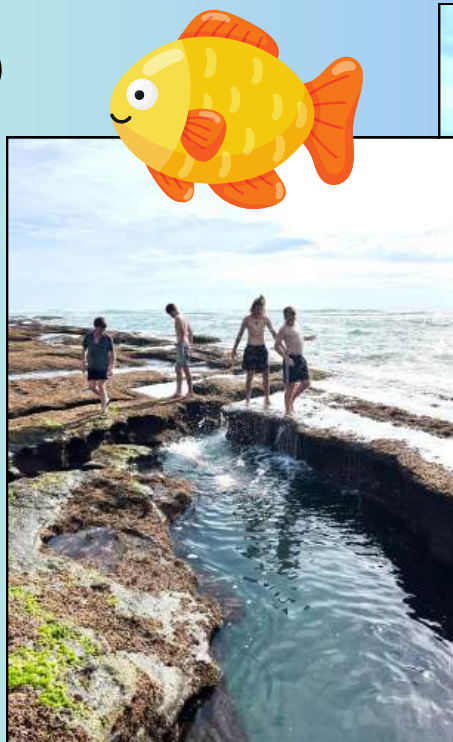
We had a successful planning session for 2025 around subjects/courses, NCEA preparation, reflections on their Work Experience Challenge, and building their individual profiles moving into the senior school.

Piopio College would like to say a big thank you to Mark and Wendy Smyth who again allowed us to camp on their farm in a very special spot.

Also thank you to the teachers who came on the trip, Mr Ben Draper, Miss Jessie-Jo Ball, Mrs Gina Draper. We appreciate your time and mahi.

Ngā mihi,

Mrs Lucy Thomas



**DARREN CATHIE**  
07 8776 695  
dcautorepairs2@gmail.com  
11 Huia Street  
PIOPIO 3912  
SCAN TO SAVE

**1st SCAFFOLDING**  
Les Te Kanawa Director 027 271 6167  
Lorrene Te Kanawa Director 027 333 8531  
les.tk@xtra.co.nz • www.1stscaffolding.co.nz

**Curious Keas** Early Learning Centre  
Open Monday - Friday 8am-5pm  
• Age 0-5 years  
• Winz approved  
• 20 hours free for 3-4 year olds  
Ph: 8778224  
Em: curiouskeas@yahoo.co.nz

**PGG Wrightson Real Estate**  
Tony Foreman  
Licence No. 20137570  
Rural and Lifestyle Sales Consultant  
tony.foreman@pggwrightson.co.nz  
M +64 27 654 7434  
PGG Wrightson Real Estate Ltd  
Real Estate Agent, REAA 2008  
Rora Street  
PO Box 265, Te Kuiti  
New Zealand  
www.pggwre.co.nz  
Helping grow the country

Beauty and Relaxation Services for Women  
• HOT STONE MASSAGE  
• GENTLE TOUCH/RELAXATION MASSAGE  
• FACIAL TREATMENTS  
• EYE & BROW TREATMENTS  
• WAXING  
• SPRAY TANS  
• SKINCARE & MAKE UP PRODUCTS  
• CRYSTALS & EAR CANDLES  
• GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE  
PLEASE MESSAGE OR CALL CARMY FOR MORE INFORMATION  
0210424495

**KC CRUTCHING**  
RICHIE MAGUIRE  
KC.CRUTCHING@GMAIL.COM  
0210682025



# Piopio District Museum news

**THE** Piopio District Museum Trust sincerely thanks those friends and supporters of the Museum who responded to the donation request in the 2024 newsletter. The generous donations received will be used on the maintenance, annual costs of the Museum and some information boards.

We also thank Country Couriers for delivering the leaflets/newsletter on our behalf throughout Piopio and District. Thank you Tony and Paula.

Donations can still be made to Westpac Bank a/c no. 03-0449-0102787-00. Ref: Name, phone number and Museum. Donations will be receipted with the Charitable Trust Number CC23589.

## Audrey Bevege

It is with great sadness that the Museum Committee acknowledges the recent death of one of our long serving Trustees, Mrs Audrey Bevege.

Audrey regularly oiled and cared for the old saddles and other leatherwork in the Blacksmith's shop. Audrey would happily share the stories of her visits in years past to the existing Blacksmith Shop - to shoe her horses and meet up with her friends.

Our sympathy is extended to the Bevege family at this time. May she Rest in Peace.

## Open Day/Working Bee

The Piopio and Districts Museum Trustees are running an open day/working bee at 1 pm on Saturday, February 15. We are encouraging local people to come along and see the great exhibits we are displaying here and to lend a hand if it suits for a few small maintenance jobs.

Enquiries to:

Mark Verry 022 536 9909

Saskia Lagocki 07 877 8665

Suzanne Downey 021 877 861

Andrew Downey 027 656 0118.



# Ātaahua Beauty opens its doors

**WE WELCOME** a new business to town!

Introducing Ātaahua Beauty, located inside Hairloom Hair Design @ 1 Kea Street. Ātaahua Beauty offers nail services including manicures, pedicures and nail extensions. You can also opt for a deluxe pedicure which includes a relaxing soak in the foot spa and exfoliation - perfect for summer, your feet will be looking and feeling sandal ready.

## Summer Special

During summer Ātaahua Beauty is offering a special Hard Gel Nails + Gel Pedicure for just \$100!

Ātaahua Beauty also offer lash extensions which is one of their most popular services with an extensive offering from classic infill all the way to max volume sets!

Ātaahua Beauty is run by Latisha Dennis. Originally from Taumarunui she moved to Piopio with her three boys in October last year and says she has fallen in love with Piopio already.

Latisha is a passionate beauty therapist and with over four years of experience. Latisha is thrilled to bring her expertise and passion to Piopio and help her clients feel relaxed, rejuvenated, and radiant!

Get in touch:  
Visit their Facebook  
or Instagram page,  
just search Ātaahua  
Beauty.

Appointments can  
be made online or  
by calling/texting  
Latisha on  
027 283 4470

Opening hours:  
Tuesday, Thursday  
& Friday 9am-3pm  
and Wednesday  
9am-7pm



## We offer:

- Pedicures
- Lash extensions
- Manicures
- Nail extensions
- Gel & powder dip finishes
- Nail art

## Book our summer special:

Hard Gel Nails + Gel Pedicure for just \$100

Find us on Facebook &  
Insta just search -  
Ātaahua Beauty

1 Kea Street, Piopio  
(inside Hairloom Hair Design)  
Phone: 027 283 4470

**FINE WOODWORKING**  
Kitchens & Joinery  
11 Reid St

Planning a new kitchen or renovating an existing one? We design & manufacture all styles of kitchens for all types of budgets

**We guarantee a quality job with excellent workmanship and great customer service**

David or Allison  
ph 878 6194 // 0608 456 463  
allison@finewoodworking.co.nz  
www.finewoodworking.co.nz

**piopio strawberries raspberries blueberries**

**Mike & Angela Roy**

P 07 877 8490 F 07 877 8397  
E maroy@xtra.co.nz  
Piopio Orchard  
SH 3 Piopio New Zealand

**struan farm**  
FARMSTAY ACCOMMODATION

Karen Barrett  
& John Robertson

942 State Highway 3  
Paemako RD 2  
Piopio 3970

P: +64 7 877 8012  
E: struanfarm@gmail.com  
W: www.struanfarm.co.nz

Locally Owned & Operated  
AARON BEVEGE & LEE ALCOCK

**A & L EARTHWORKS**

- BOBCAT
- 3 TONNE MINI DIGGER
- 5 TONNE TIP TRUCK
- AUGER, UP TO 3M DEEP
- LASER LEVEL & CONCRETE SAW
- LEVELLING BAR & FORKS

**IDEAL FOR:** Section Work, Clearing  
Calf Sheds & Covered Yards, and  
Stacking Bales

Phone/Fax: 07 877 7754  
Mobile: 021 412 486

**TYREPOWER PIOPIO GAS PIOPIO**

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

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

**Tyrepower**

**OPEN 7 Days**

Night pay available after 6pm  
Service Station, Farm Shops, Veterinary Supplies  
Tyrepower - 8000 Tyre Specialist - 8000 Tyre Specialist  
Ph 07 877 8159



# Happy 3rd birthday Hairloom!



**Hairloom**  
HAIR DESIGN

We're turning 3!  
And we're treating our  
customers. See our Facebook  
page for our birthday giveaways  
+ discount below.

1 Kea Street, Piopio Phone: 07 212 1475

**10% off** Any service at Hairloom Hair Design  
when you present this coupon.  
Valid until Friday 28 February 2025

**AT THE START** of the month Hairloom Hair Design located at 1 Kea Street, Piopio celebrated their third birthday. Paige Brooks owner/stylist says "It's a huge milestone for our local business and we're incredibly grateful to everyone who chooses to support Hairloom."

During the three years in business Hairloom has expanded their services and tripled their staff! Paige – owner and senior stylist, Heidi an apprentice who is in her last year before becoming fully qualified and nano extraordinaire, and Kim Simpson a veteran when it comes to hair who works part time between nursing shifts.

"I'm so proud of everything our team has achieved. The salon offers great service, and the latest products and services. Including the new nano treatment, which is a revolutionary for those wanting straight, fuzz free hair. Nano lasts up to eight months, and hair

is left straight after just blow drying.

No fancy shampoos needed afterward, and clients are free to colour their hair as they normally would. It has been a real game changer."

To celebrate turning three Hairloom are running a weekly giveaway. Every customer during the month of February can enter the weekly draw. Each Friday a prize will be given away. Prizes include a conditioning treatment with scalp massage and a \$100 voucher.

The winner has the choice to keep the prize or re-gift it. If they re-gift it a prize draw will be run through Facebook and Instagram to find the winner.

PLUS readers of Birdtalk are being treated to 10% off services during the month of February. Simply bring in the coupon found in our ad (top left) to receive the discount.

To book your next appointment DM Hairloom via Facebook messenger or call 07 212 1475.



8 am  
**16 Sun**  
FEB  
2025

**MIGHTY MOKAU**  
**TRAIL BIKE RIDE**  
PIRI PIRI STATION  
2227 Taumatamairi Road  
Awakino

PRE - REGO | ON THE DAY  
ADULT \$45 | UNDER 15YR \$15 | ADULT \$60 | UNDER 15YR \$20  
WWW.MIGHTYMOKAU.COM | NO UTVs PLEASE  
FOOD AND DRINK FOR SALE | FREE KIDS PEEWEE TRACK

HONDA HUB TARANAKI | silverbullet

## AWAKINO

Coastal settlement 79 kilometres south-west of Te Kūiti and 98 kilometres north-east of New Plymouth. Awakino is on the banks of the Awakino River, which rises in the Hērangi Range. Traditional Māori pā sites were clustered along the coast around Awakino. The anchor stone from the ancestral Tainui waka is on the grounds of Maniaroa marae near the settlement. In 1854 the government purchased almost 6,500 hectares of Māori land around Awakino. Because the King Country was closed to Europeans between the 1860s and the 1880s the land was not surveyed until 1883 and was only made available for settlement in 1893.



JOSHUA DAVIS  
OWNER / OPERATOR  
davisautomotive.piopio@gmail.com  
3 KAKA ST PIIPIO  
PH/FAX: (07) 877 8132  
MOBILE/A-H: 027 4874218  
MTA MEMBER - AA CONTRACTOR

**DAVIS AUTOMOTIVE LTD**  
SERVICING • MECHANICAL REPAIRS • LIGHT ENGINEERING •  
BREAK DOWN SERVICE • W.O.F.



**Pukewhau**  
FARMSTAY  
ARIA

Daryl & Jules  
027 664 1816  
h.tucker@extra.co.nz



**KJHoughton**  
BUILDERS

• NEW HOMES • EXTENSIONS  
• ALTERATIONS • SHEDS  
• FENCES • DECKS  
• WOOLSHEDS • DOCKSTORES

**KURT HOUGHTON**  
HOME (07) 877 7846 MOBILE 027 274 3918  
EMAIL kjhoughtonbuilders@gmail.com  
ADDRESS 489 Owen Rd, RD1, Te Kūiti



**Ripples** retreat  
www.stayatripples.co.nz  
Luxury Riverside Cabin  
For you & the perfect gift



**Be sunwise  
this summer:  
Slip-Slop-Slap**



**PIO TRANSPORT LTD**  
HUIA STREET • PO BOX 183 PIIPIO  
PH (07) 877-8058 • FAX (07) 877-8061



**ravensdown**

**Graeme McKenzie** BSc  
Agri Manager  
Supreme Lime Quarry m. 021 900 304  
379 Mangarino Road e. graeme.mckenzie@ravensdown.co.nz  
PO Box 273  
Te Kūiti 3941



**WHITE RIDGE**  
CONTRACTING

**Mark & Jenny Bradbury**  
767 Aria Road  
RD 2, Pio Pio  
Phone/Fax: 07 877 7788  
Mobile: 0275 929 666  
Email: whiteridge@extra.co.nz

- EARTHWORKS - DRAINAGE - METAL -



# KC Rivercare; upcoming events, etc

**WE HOPE** you've had a well earned break over summer - even with all the farm jobs on the go.

## Membership Subs

A huge thankyou to all those members who have paid their KCRC memberships this year. We look forward to working with you all throughout 2025.

## 2025 Events and Projects

2025 Water Testing Results - now live on our website. Head along and check out your catchment quarterly results.

## Pest Management

Improve our Biosecurity and Biodiversity through pest control. From March we will be kicking off monitoring x50 NZ Auto Traps AT 220 across our catchment. Thank you to our landowners and project sponsor MPI for supporting this project.

Our goal is to reduce the pest population in our catchment using humane, toxic free traps. The approach for developing this project is to support and maintain our collective community action towards the collaborative and responsive uptake of our riparian planting programme and provide understanding of pests within our catchment.

Our focus for 2025 is to ensure we

are taking the best possible actions to improve the biodiversity of our catchment area. Updates and links to trap locations will be available on our website from April so keep an eye out.

If you are keen to come on board NZ Auto Traps are offering discounted pricing via KCRC membership. Please reach out to [info@nzautotraps.com](mailto:info@nzautotraps.com) with [kcrivercare@gmail.com](mailto:kcrivercare@gmail.com) cc'd to discuss discount options.

## Tackling Aotearoa's wallaby challenge. How you can help?

Sightings and reports from the public are crucial for tracking their movement and stopping them from spreading to new areas. Visit [www.reportwallabies.nz](http://www.reportwallabies.nz) to report sightings. Email [wallaby@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:wallaby@mpi.govt.nz)

Our next committee meeting is mid February so get in touch if you would like to attend or there's something we need to discuss.

Any enquiries please reach via email or to any of the coordinators below  
Lana McCormick; 0278172111  
Anna Nelson; 0274 900501

Robyn Williamson; 0274182946  
Tim Stokes, Chairman; 07 876 7810

[kcrivercare@gmail.com](mailto:kcrivercare@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/kcrivercare/](http://www.facebook.com/kcrivercare/)

**MJ Barrowcliffe**  
**Shearing Ltd**

07 877 8759  
[mjbarrow@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mjbarrow@xtra.co.nz)

**ROTOR WORK LIMITED**

**AGRICULTURAL HELICOPTER OPERATORS**

THE COMPLETE ON FARM HELICOPTER COMPANY

**TE REO MAORI EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

AGES 6 MONTHS - 5 YEARS

**PIOPIO**  
TE WHANAU O KOHANGA REO

OPEN 8.30 - 3PM  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY

Low or NO fees  
FREE PICKUP & DROP OFF  
Piopio, Te Kuiti and Aria

FREE 20HRS ECE 3 & 4 YEAR OLDS

KRISTEN PARI PH: 8778185 MB: 0274713788  
EM: WHANAU@KO4D025 KOHANGA AC NZ

**Lynne Aldridge**  
Residential Sales Consultant

M 0210 224 4700  
P 07 878 8266  
E [lynne.aldrige@pb.co.nz](mailto:lynne.aldrige@pb.co.nz)  
F Lynne Aldridge - Property Brokers

[pb.co.nz](http://pb.co.nz) **Property Brokers**

**BREEDERS OF POLL DORSET**

**PUKETOTARA STUD**  
PIOPIO - NZ  
ROMNEY & BLACK FACE

**Ken & Rebecca Haywood**

07 877 8586

Quality genetics with proven performance and eczema tolerance

**CBB**

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

**COREY BARNSDALL BUILDERS LTD**

COREY BARNSDALL  
T/F 07 877 8933 • M 027 488 9847  
E: [cbbldp10@gmail.com](mailto:cbbldp10@gmail.com)

**POWER FARMING**

Mike Whitburn 0274 824 614  
Ryan Haine 0272 937 031  
Murray Barclay 0274 753 690

200 Benson Road  
Te Awamutu

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

**THE FERRET'S NEST**

ANTIQUES • FURNITURE • INTERIOR DESIGN • GARDENS

53 Moa St • Piopio • 027 422 2250  
Open Fri/Sat 10am-4pm

**MACs SPREADING**

Covering the King Country

**Nik Bryant & Gwenda Bryant**  
Ph: 027 310 7388  
[macssspreading@gmail.com](mailto:macssspreading@gmail.com)

**TOTAL HELIWORK**

**DARRYL WILLIAMS**  
CEO / CHIEF PILOT

021 797 740  
[darryl@totalheliwork.co.nz](mailto:darryl@totalheliwork.co.nz)

**Barbara Kuriger**  
MP for Taranaki-King Country

**Inglewood Office**  
80 Rata St, PO Box 124,  
Inglewood 4330  
06 756 6032  
[Kuriger.Inglewood@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Kuriger.Inglewood@parliament.govt.nz)

**Te Awamutu Office**  
053 Mutu St, PO Box 302,  
Te Awamutu 3800  
07 870 1005  
[Kuriger.Teawamutu@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Kuriger.Teawamutu@parliament.govt.nz)

**National NZ**

Authorised by  
Barbara Kuriger MP,  
Parliament Buildings,  
Wellington.

[piopiobirdtalk@gmail.com](mailto:piopiobirdtalk@gmail.com)



# WESCT 2025 Election of Trustees

**NOMINATIONS** are now open for three Waitomo Energy Service Consumer Trust (WESCT) trustee positions and close at midday on Tuesday 11 February.

To be nominated you **MUST** complete the official nomination form, which you can get by emailing [iro@electionz.com](mailto:iro@electionz.com) or calling 0800 666 041.

Nominations need to be processed before the close off, so it is recommended that anyone who is interested should get their nomination in well ahead of this time.

Thinking about getting yourself nominated? Here's some information to get you thinking:

- We're an energy trust that owns 100% of the shares in The Lines Company on behalf of our
- beneficiaries.

The trust area is in and around Te Kūiti, Ōtorohanga,

Piopio, Mangakino and Mōkau.

- Our beneficiaries are electricity customers connected to The Lines Company network. To be nominated, you must be a NZ citizen, live in the trust area and have the support of two beneficiaries.
- If elected, your term is 3.5 years.
- In total, there are six trustees.
- We typically meet once a month in Te Kūiti, and meetings can run for up to four hours
- Becoming a Trustee provides great governance experience.
- Energy knowledge/experience isn't essential.
- Training and a full induction are provided, including the opportunity to attend Energy Trusts of New Zealand conferences twice a year.

## Amazing Racing

**IN EARLY** December our Piopio College year 7 and 8 students participated in an Amazing Race around our town. A little rain never stopped the cheers, laughs and perseverance.

A huge thanks goes out to Darren Cathie, Steve Brough and Lachlan Lyford at the Piopio Fire Station, Mr J and Val Perry at Piopio St John and Steph Brough and her little 'Curious Keas' for hosting our 3 challenges.

It's the support of our local volunteers and businesses that make us proud to live in such a cool rural community



**Peter & Caroline Foss**

495 Potaka Road, RD 1, Aria 3979  
P: 07 877 7881 ■ M: 021 1135 400  
E: [pcfossy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pcfossy@xtra.co.nz)

**Raupuha Studs**

Where every day is an open day

**Russell & Mavis Proffit**

Facial Eczema Tested

Perendale & Romdale

Shorthorn Cattle

Suffolk & Suffex

P: 07 8778977

M: 0273552927

2033 State Hwy 3

RD Mahoenui 3978

E: [mmwproffit@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mmwproffit@xtra.co.nz)

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

**TITAN Business Solutions**  
Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand  
**Accounting | Business Advisory | Bookkeeping**  
Contact us today for an obligation free chat  
Jess Quinn | 027 200 9185 | [jess@titanbs.net](mailto:jess@titanbs.net)  
Perry Fulford | 027 321 1698 | [perry@titanbs.net](mailto:perry@titanbs.net)  
[www.titanbs.net](http://www.titanbs.net)  
[facebook.com/TitanBusinessSolutions](https://facebook.com/TitanBusinessSolutions)

### Business Computer Services

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

**Ross Smith**  
IT Technician

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

12 Kawana Street,  
P.O. Box 87  
Piopio 3942  
Workshop: 07 877 8880  
Cellphone: 027 285 1703  
Email: [bcsp@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bcsp@xtra.co.nz)



**Roy Simpson** | **Ross Simpson**  
021 266 0735 | 027 494 5540  
[roysimpson09@gmail.com](mailto:roysimpson09@gmail.com)

**FIRE WOOD • TREE REMOVAL • LOGGING**

**Smith Mitchell**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

127 Rora Street | PO Box 159 | Te Kūiti  
p 07 8781098 | f 07 8781097  
[www.smithmitchell.co.nz](http://www.smithmitchell.co.nz)

## ADAMS CONTRACTING

Dion Adams

22 Main Road  
Mahoenui 3978

027 2765276  
07 8778877

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



**King Country Vets**

53 Moa Street, Piopio 3912  
Ph: 07 877 8106

32 Taupiri Street, Te Kūiti 3910  
Ph: 07 878 8137

E: [admin@piopiovets.co.nz](mailto:admin@piopiovets.co.nz)

**King Country Honda**

**DARREN LUPTON**

33 Moa Street, Piopio 3912

p 07 877 8054

m 021 202 9749

e [kchservices@kchonda.co.nz](mailto:kchservices@kchonda.co.nz)

[honda.349@hotmail.com](mailto:honda.349@hotmail.com)



# Mokau Museum update/insights

**MOKAU MUSEUM** have released the Summer edition of our 'Muse News' newsletter; jam-packed with exciting updates, insightful articles, and all the vibrant energy that this season brings.

This edition is not just a reflection of our own accomplishments, but also a glimpse into the bright future ahead.

You can find the latest edition on our Facebook page Mokau Museum, or on our website [www.mokaumuseum.nz](http://www.mokaumuseum.nz)

Grab your favourite summer drink, find a cosy spot, and enjoy all the amazing news we have to share!

*Nga mihi*

*Leisha Bell, Newsletter Editor, Mokau Museum*

## An excerpt from the newsletter...

**PAM WARREN** (14 July 1943 - 6 August 2016) was a pioneering figure in the shearing industry, recognised as the first woman to compete in the Golden Shears (the premier shearing championship) at age 19 in 1963.

Born in Inglewood and raised on a sheep and beef farm in Awakino, she left school at 15 to work on the farm and joined a shearing gang at 17. Pam excelled in competitions, including multiple victories at A&P shows.

After marrying Bob Warren, she continued to shear while managing family duties, eventually setting a women's world record by shearing 344 lambs in nine hours in 1971 and achieving further records in collaboration with other shearing experts. Despite stepping away from competition due to family commitments, Pam made a comeback during the 40th anniversary of the Golden Shears in 2000, solidifying her legacy in the shearing community.

*Are you curious to dive deeper into Pam's story and uncover a treasure trove of captivating exhibits? Swing by the Mokau Museum and let the adventure begin!*








**LIVESTOCK CARTAGE**

**FORESTRY & LOGGING**

**METAL & FERTILISER**

**RURAL FARM SUPPLIES**

Steven & Donna Pari

027 554 6064

[parilivestock@gmail.com](mailto:parilivestock@gmail.com)

85 Mangaotaki Rd, Piopio





**OTOROHANGA**  
**COLLISION & REPAIRS**

- Courtesy cars
- Quick turnaround
- Latest technology & equipment
- One stop shop panel & paint

Phone Scott or Paul for a  
FREE no obligation quote

**P: 07 873 8832**

Scott: 027 414 8121 • Paul: 021 120 1406

Approved lifetime warranty on spray painting. ALL WORK 100% GUARANTEED



**PIOPIO DENTAL**

Dr. Kim Tatham  
BDS Otago

Ph: 07 877 5564  
E: [smilingkiwi@piopiodental.co.nz](mailto:smilingkiwi@piopiodental.co.nz)





**Need reliable internet?**  
**We can help.**

**Ultra-Fast Fibre, Rural Wireless and 4G Wireless Services now available!**

Get in touch to find out what's available at your place.

**0800 003 441**

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



# Mokau Fishing Club



HI ALL!

Well, it looks like summer has arrived finally, albeit the winds since Christmas have led to only a few opportunities to get out on the water.

Our Christmas competition was a huge success with a fantastic turn-out once again and also some great fish weighed by anglers. A huge thank you to sponsors and everyone involved for putting this competition together - we couldn't do it without you.

Take-a-Kid Fishing is on February 1 and we will have details of that in the next issue.

Following this on February 15 we have our annual Ladies Day competition - details will be out shortly and available to register online. Ladies, start getting a crew together and join in on a fun day! It might be the only day us 'males' give you a chance to see what hard work it is going fishing! And not only will you get a day on the water, but we will treat you to a fine meal afterwards at Awakino Hotel, and maybe even a prize of two.

We also have our Sponsors Fishing Day and member's BBQ on March 1. This is a great way to thank our sponsors - it would be great to see some members at the BBQ. If boat owners are able to help with boats to take them out, please let one of the committee members know.

The Summer competition started December 31 and will finish March 10, 2025 (Monday of Taranaki Anniversary). Weigh in your fish anytime throughout this period at the Awakino Hotel or Mokau Butcher. We will then hold our end-of-year prizegiving on Saturday, March 29.

We have a new category this season: 'Snapper Spearfishing' along with the normal sections for Boat, Surfcasting, Drone, and Longline. I suggest that you weigh your fish for this competition as we have 50-60 prize categories to give away! Remember, you must be a member to weigh fish so jump onto our website and become a member if you haven't already.

A reminder to skippers of boats: please be considerate of land-based anglers when heading north up the coast. There are drones and kontiki lines out off the beach so they would appreciate if you stayed out 2km off-shore to avoid cutting lines. Not a big ask from them as there's a lot of space out there for everyone to enjoy.

Well, that's it from me - a busy few weeks ahead for the committee and hopefully a few days fishing slipped in too. Good luck, and remember to weigh fish for the Summer Comp now.

*Cheers, Wal*



**aerowork** 

Kimberley Cody

p. 021900530 | [aerowork.co.nz](http://aerowork.co.nz)

**PIOPIO MECHANICAL SERVICES LTD** 

- General Engineering
- Truck & Tractor Servicing
- Hydraulic Hoses
- Mechanical Repairs

17 Ruru Street, PIOPIO

Contact Moose ph: 07 8778238

**DENIZE PLUMBING LTD**

07 877 8399 / 021 266 7768

**Warrick Denize**

Craftsman Plumber

FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING NEEDS

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

**Get better returns for your wool**

As a Carrfields Primary Wool client you can expect great service from a nationwide team of wool experts who will support you with the advice and expertise to deliver improved returns for your wool business.

Maximise your wool returns, talk to CP Wool today.

**CP Wool** 

Daryl Croad: 027 241 3913  
Peter Lange: 027 241 6483  
[www.cpwool.co.nz](http://www.cpwool.co.nz)

**CODY HAULAGE**

Smyco Holdings Ltd,  
23 Kaka Street, Piopio

HAYDEN CODY Tel: 07 877 8700 or 027 291 2852

**THREWAY MOTORS LTD**  
School Bus Contractors



Snow Nicol  
June Nicol  
Peter Nicol

Kiwi Street  
P.O. Box 96  
Piopio

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



## LOCAL FACILITIES

**Aria Cosmopolitan Club**  
028 465 8143  
ariacosc@gmail.com

**Carley Jane Beauty**  
021 042 4493

**Cloverleaf Café**  
07 877 8368

**Fat Owl Motel, Bar and Eatery**  
07 877 8767  
fatowl@xtra.co.nz

**Fat Pigeon Café**  
07 877 8822  
fatpigeon@xtra.co.nz

**G.A.S. Piopio & Tyrepower Piopio**  
07 877 8159

**Hairloom Hair Design**  
Paige Brooks  
07 212 1475

**King Country Chiropractic**  
Dr Scott Mouatt  
07 873 7376  
027 330 1339  
kcchiro@xtra.co.nz

**Piopio Berry Orchard**  
07 877 8490

**Piopio Cosmopolitan Club**  
07 877 8204

**Piopio Dental**  
Dr Kim Tatham  
07 877 8864  
smilingkiwi@piopiodental.co.nz

**Recreation Centre**  
Kimberley Cody  
07 877 8700  
027 210 1860

**The Ferret's Nest**  
Grace Cortes Montecinos  
022 154 9745

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

**Aria Playcentre**  
Hannah Bodger-Kearns  
07 877 7898

**Aria Primary School**  
07 877 7857

**Aria Toy Library**  
Librarian: Karen Jones  
021 038 5153  
ariatoylibrary@gmail.com

**Curious Keas Preschool**  
Stephanie Brough  
07 877 8224

**Kohanga Piopio**  
07 877 8185

**Mainly Music**  
All Saints Church, Moa Street  
Music and movement for children 0-5yrs & caregivers.  
Thursdays @ 10am  
Alyson Singleton  
07 877 8840

**Piopio Playcentre**  
Jo Stockley  
021 148 7556

**Piopio Primary School**  
07 877 8103

**Piopio College**  
07 877 8173. Meeting rooms available for hire

## COMMUNITY CONTACTS

**Piopio Police**  
07 877 0490  
Crime Stoppers  
0800 555 111  
We live in a great community so let's stop these few who are taking from us.  
Tony.schrafft@police.govt.nz  
www.crimestoppers-nz.org

**All Saints Church Co-operating Parish of Piopio, Aria & Mokau**  
Main Road, Piopio.  
Worship service 10am

**King Country Christians**  
Judy Bromham 07 878 6985  
Every Sunday at 10.30am  
Senior Citizens Hall

**Community Fruit & Vege Stand**  
Karen Barrett 07 877 8012  
struanfarm@gmail.com

**Housie**  
Thursdays 1pm Senior Citizen's Room All welcome.  
Paddy Coffin 07 877 8367

**Justices of Peace**  
Vikki Hall (07) 877 8058  
Clive Fredericks  
(07) 877 8048

**Piopio Garden Circle**  
Visits are 3rd Thurs of every month except Jan & Aug  
Gillian Hooper 07 878 7880  
027 345 9603

**Laver Marine**  
07 877 8484 or 021 105 4737

**Opportunity Shop/ Mustard Seed**  
Cara Bryant 027 345 3389  
Tasha Bryon 027 324 6016

**Mahoenui Hall**  
Lynette Adams  
lynadams@xtra.co.nz

**Piopio College Community Library**  
07 877 8173  
library@piopio.school.nz

**Senior Citizen's Organisation**  
Meetings first Monday of the month, 11am. All welcome.  
Wendy Weinberg  
021 0826 5622

**Seniors' Exercise Classes**  
Wendy Weinberg  
021 0826 5622

**Marriage Celebrants**  
Clive Fredericks  
027 280 3867  
Heidi Preston  
027 679 1931  
Tuituia (Ripeka Price)  
021 464 000

**Piopio Lions Club**  
Stephen Cooper  
07 877 8159  
Gavin Todd 07 877 7700  
Ken Perry 07 877 8035

**Piopio Memorial Hall**  
Book venue or facilities through Waitomo District Council 07 878 0800

**Piopio/Paearuhe Retirement Village**  
Jenny Brodie  
07 877 8033

**The Old Piopio Post Office Art Gallery** 022 437 0789

**Waitanguru Rural Women**  
Maree Jones 027 475 9805  
06 752 9765

## ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

**Piopio POP (Tui Park)**  
Waitomo District Council  
07 878 0800  
Key for toilet available from the Cloverleaf tearooms or Snow Nicol

**Piopio Market Day**  
3rd Sunday of each month  
Alison Turner 027 615 8754

**Piopio and Districts Museum**  
Mark Verry 07 877 8842 Key available from Piopio Superette

## SPORTS & RECREATION

**Aria Squash Club**  
President Mark Anderson  
07 877 8950  
Secretary Lee Alcock  
ariasquash@gmail.com

**Light Horse Club**  
President Helen Potter  
helen.neilpotter@gmail.com

**Line Dancing Club**  
Linda Oliver  
07 877 8313

**Piopio-Aria Golf Club**  
Hamish Roach  
027 578 5905

**Piopio Bowling Club**  
Alan 021 0845 4198  
Wendy 021 0826 5622

**Piopio Community Sports (Rukuhia Domain)**  
Tony Schrafft  
Tony.schrafft@police.govt.nz

**Piopio Rugby Club**  
President Peter Hurley  
07 877 7577

**Piopio Swimming Club**  
Matt Carter 021 569 311  
piopioswimclub@gmail.com

**Pony Club**  
President Dani Darke  
021 168 0220  
Secretary Rebecca Were

**Tennis Club**  
Reon Verry  
07 878 8678

**King Country Hunt**  
Master: Joy Hurley  
027 577 7881

**Trail Bikes & Moto Cross Track**  
Darren Lupton  
07 877 8054

**Waitomo Ski Club**  
Kim Tatham  
07 877 8820

**Waitomo Aero Club**  
Pete Voyce 07 877 8254  
John Carter 07 877 8290

piopiobirdtalk@gmail.com



# Xmas parade - yet another hit!

**PIOPIO's** Christmas Parade was such a hit this year! There were so many neat and creative ideas for the floats that really showcased the spirit of the season.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated and dedicated their time and effort to make it special. Also, thank you so much to the judges Ashley Muraahi, Daniel Southam, and Michelle Carter for their hard work.

Congratulations to the winners: the Three Little Birds for snagging the Piopio Christmas Parade shield, Sadie Mortensen for the best Christmas-decorated home theme, Zoe Simpson for the best mailbox Christmas theme, and Piopio Dental for winning the best Christmas business theme.

Also, a big shoutout to Jessie Loomans for winning the Piopio Christmas stocking raffle.



Three Little Birds Grinch-themed float

**FREE**  
insulation and heat pumps for  
eligible homeowners

**Maru Energy Trust**  
may be able to help!

*Eligibility criteria apply. Funding is limited. T&Cs.*

Working with **communities** to make  
homes **healthier** and **warmer**.

0800 808 901  
hello@maru.org.nz

Warmer  
Kiwi  
Homes

**MARU**  
Be warm. So happily.



Is it a bird? Is it a plane? Yeah, not sure.

Hey, thanks  
Sigrid!

One of our Birdtalk crew has flown the coop, so just taking this opportunity to thank her for her contribution to our newsletter, and wish her all the best for her future endeavours.

**RORISONS**  
FERTILISER & LIME

**King Country Lime**  
and fertiliser blends

**FREE PHONE 0800 40 10 40**

sales@rorisons.co.nz • rorisons.co.nz