

BI MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER COVERING PIOPIO, ARIA & MAHOENUI DISTRICT

ocal volunteers are the backbone of this community and it is timely to see such recognition of all services. Mahoenui residents Lynette and Dion Adams have been awarded the St Johns Priory in New Zealand honour. One of only four awards presented nationally, this is a gratifying feat for this couple and their selfless contributions to the Mokau, Awakino and Piopio areas.

Selected from thousands of nominated members, a scrupulous process looked at the couples contributions towards St Johns and Dions' recent joining of the Piopio Fire Brigade.

Having the approval of New Zealand's Governor-General Hon . Dame Patsy

Mokau branch team leader and key driver for the rebuild of the new Mokau St Johns base also sees her on call

Reddy and

confirmation from

Queen Elizabeth II, the

value of receiving this

award is significant.

Lynettes' role as the

along with her crew to attend medical call outs. Even Lynette's stardom in the Lotto community television adverts puts the seaside community on the map.

Together the couple are known to put others before themselves both on the job and with community events and fundraisers they involve themselves in.

Representatives from the Piopio Fire Brigade and local St Johns crews attended the surprise celebration.

Ironically St Johns Te Kuiti manager Irene Straker summed it up, "small rural towns do not have all the bells and whistles, but what we do have is spirit and that's what pulls rural New Zealand together".

he Fire fighter Sky Tower Stair Challenge is an annual fundraiser for Leukaemia and **Blood Cancer New Zealand** (LBC). Fire fighters from around New Zealand and international competitors from Australia, United States of America, Chile and Germany compete and fundraise for this annual event at the Sky Tower in Auckland. Three of our local Piopio Brigade members will be participating for the first time in the 2017 Fire fighter Sky Tower Stair Challenge, taking place on Saturday 13 May in Auckland. Anson Clapcott, Steve Brough

and Sandy Pari have each started

set a goal of raising \$1000 each to fundraise for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand (LBC) and will be hitting the pavement during the Piopio Xmas Parade on the 23rd of December. To continue these efforts the local brigade will also be organising a fundraiser in the new year. Already the donations received have been amazing in only a month. The trio are grateful of this support to date and hope their presence during the parade doesn't alarm people. You may even see the three fire fighters walking around the block fully clothed, don't be concerned there's NO fire they're in training!



LOCAL PIOPIO BRIGADE MEMBERS TACKLE THE FIRE FIGHTER SKY TOWER STAIR CHALLENGE: ANSON CLAPCOTT, STEVE **BROUGH AND SANDY PARI**

training in readiness for the climb of 51 flights of stairs, 1103 individual steps all the while carrying up to 25kg of gear and wearing masks. The three man team will be competing in the Fire fighter of Steel category which means they will be carrying a steel cylinder rather than the lighter carbon ones. All men have

Donations towards Piopio Fire Brigade fundraising for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand (LBC) can be made at www.firefightersclimb.org.nz. Search for team Piopio alternatively keep an eye out for the donation buckets that will be circulating Piopio over the next few months.

LYNETTE AND DION ADAMS - ST JOHNS PRIORY IN NEW ZEALAND HONOUR RECIPIENTS





PIOPIO HALL

- Bond 160.00
- **Audio Equipment Bond** 60.00
- Hire (Daily Hire-age) 195.00
- Rental per hour (max 4 hours) 20.00
- Audio Equipment Hire Fee 65.00

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

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

CROCKERY HIRE:

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

WORK WANTED FOR STUDENTS

2017 FIJI TRIP

We are all go for the sports trip to Fiji and we are looking for fundraising opportunities for our students.

If you have any work available for individual or groups of students please let me know. The bulk of our fundraising will begin in 2017 but there will be keen students over the holidays working towards this.

BEN DRAPER 021 230 9261

MIGHTY MOKAU SCHOOL TRAIL BIKE RIDE

Sunday 26th February 2017

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PIOPIO BOWLING **CLUB**

LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS **ALL AGES WELCOME**

Summer league competition starting soon.

PH EILEEN 0272550868 TONY 8778396

FOR HIRE

Meeting Rooms available at Piopio College

8778173

HOUSIE

An enthusiastic group meet to play Housie.

1.00pm 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.

SENIOR CITIZENS

We have a meeting on the first Tuesday of every month at 10 am.

Following this, a cuppa and DVD or a guest speaker is planned.

All senior citizens are most welcome to attend.

We have had some interesting ideas for visits once the weather improves so if you are interested, please make contact with us.

WENDY WEINBERG 8778686

PIOPIO MARKET

Plants, produce, handcrafts, gems and more. MARKETS ARE HELD ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. **NEXT: 18TH DECEMBER ENQUIRIES TO COLLEEN** 07 877 6686

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Main Road, Piopio Worship service 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. Service at 10am

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3 LITTLE BIRDS . . .

Gosh it's just great to see the sun ... it is heart-warming and brings to mind long, lazy days at the beach with family and friends. Thank you to our customers, guests, friends and family who have supported our businesses throughout 2016. We wish you all a safe festive season — be sure to schedule some well-deserved rest and recuperation.

CRAFTY PIGEON: Tis the season and 'Christmas at the Crafty' has stocked up on decorations and gifts for the whole family. Take the hassle out of shopping and shop locally.

FAT PIGEON CAFE: The cafe is rocking along as usual and the pidgee crew do an amazing job in ensuring great coffee, service and food, so thank you team!

We are coming into our busy season, so in anticipation, thank you for your patience (it is worth the wait though, but I would say that!)

Don't forget our 'Tuesday Treat' of can be of an espresso coffee or tea, with either assistance.

a muffin or a scone for just \$8 – pop in on a Tuesday and treat yourself.

OWLS NEST MOTEL / NIGHT

OWL: Lyn and Dave Barnsdall have moved on ... although not very far – back up the road to their home in Piopio. We would like to thank Lyn, Dave and Tracey for their time here, and wish them well for the future – in particular Lyn with her new job.

Zoe Simpson has taken over the role of Manager, and has moved in to the on-site manager's residence with son Jack and daughter Jane. For any enquiries please contact Zoe on o7 877 8767 or 021 113 5010.

CATERING: Thank you all for supporting the catering side of our business ... we LOVE providing this service and enjoy great feedback. From weddings to picnics to private lunches/dinners, we are more than happy to provide quotes, and outcatering is not a problem so please let us know if we can be of assistance.

Welcome to



Te Kuiti

Travel

A heads up for small group travel in 2017 and 2018. 2017 - Les and I will be visiting Vietnam in early September and we welcome anyone who would like to join us on our adventures from Ho Chi Minh City and Hoi An to Hanoi.

March, Steve is ticking off his bucket list country Turkey with a fantastic tour. 2018 is a fabulous African Safari and my favourite continent, Europe and the UK. Please feel free to contact us and register your interest.

I get seasick just looking at a ship, so when I won a 3 night cruise from Sydney, overjoyed was not the emotion I was feeling. With a lot of encouragement ("stop being a sook") from my husband, we set sail on the 8th of December. I must confess that I am excited to experience a different form of travel that I never expected to try.

As 2016 comes to a close I would like to thank you wonderful people, you know who you are, for your support, I am a very grateful, lucky person. A very merry Christmas and many healthy and wealthy New Year wishes to you all.

"The fact that you can only travel a little, is no excuse for not at all"

PRIMARY SCHOOL Primary School, term 4 is all but over for the year. We started the term off with Calf Club which was unfortunately a rather wet day, but students, adults and animals

was unfortunately a rather wet day, but students, adults and animals persevered throughout the day. Following on we had a small group attend the Group Day with some good results.

We recently held our school athletics which was well supported by parents and family members. There was fierce competition throughout the school for the coveted age grade champions titles. Unfortunately due to the weather the annual Inter-School competition was cancelled for the year, hopefully we'll get to go next year.



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The last six months have been relatively busy for the Piopio Lions club. Once again we went to the Fieldays and were

assisted by the local Rural Women and the Piopio School Ball Committee. From their efforts the Club donated \$650 to each of those organisations for their help. Thanks also to Harry Nahna for donating produce for use in our caravan.

Our change of officers evening was held at the Panorama in conjunction with Te Kuiti Lions recently, which was a very enjoyable evening. Stuart Clarke is now the Club President.

During October, the annual collection of donated goods was collected and auctioned at the popular Paddy's Market. An approximately \$4,000.00 was raised and thanks to a combined community effort who ensured goods were a plenty and bidders were on

Recently we attended the Piopio Primary pets day and another fun day for all involved.

This year the club has donated funds to local young people to attend the New Zealand Pony Club Championships in the South Island. \$1260 has also been donated to the Piopio Fire Brigade to purchase suitable Hi Viz jackets, and \$150 to

the Tainui Pet Day.

Our annual Senior Citizen's Christmas dinner is coming up in early December, and we thank Waitomo District Council for the use of the Piopio Memorial Hall for this function.

In support of the Piopio Christmas parade, we look forward to sharing the festivities and providing hot food on Friday 23rd December.

The Lions Club is an interesting and rewarding club to belong to, and we are always on the look out for new members. If this sounds like a Club you would like to be involve in, please contact one of our members.

GAVIN TODD 07 8777700

s the festive season nears, for many it's a busy time of year and the financial stresses, expectations and emotional pressures can be stretched. All over New Zealand communities are taking ownership of reducing and preventing family violence. Family violence happens in homes, in neighbourhoods and in communities. Crisis services such as Police and social services which support victims and perpetrators usually get

involved after violence has happened.

So communities have a significant role to play in preventing violence and making it not OK, just as they have with smoking and drink driving. Families can declare themselves violence-free and adults can look out for and protect children in their neighbourhood and community.

IT'S OK TO ASK FOR HELP

I have enjoyed seeing some of our long standing community members, coming in on a regular basis to borrow books and also on my deliveries with loaned books to borrower's.

We welcome new members, maybe come along with a friend or bring a family new to

the area.

We are housed in the school library building and are open during school hours.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Take care if travelling.

LIBRARY LIZ - PIOPIO COMMUNITY LIBRARY 18 Aria Road. Piopio

IT'S OK TO **ASK FOR HELP**

Police: 111

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Te Kuiti Community House Trust:

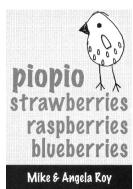
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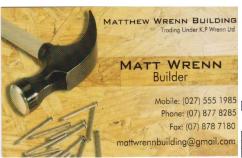
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DOG CONTROL -OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES

All dogs in the

Waitomo District should be registered with WDC. We ask owners to notify us if your details change, for example if the dog has died or has been transferred to a new owner. Registration and micro-chipping are important because it means your dog's details are on record in the Council's animal control system. Microchipping is very successful in reuniting lost or stolen dogs with their owners. The microchip provides a secure, life-long unique identification number for your dog, which is recorded on both WDC's records and the National Dog Database.

We provide a microchipping clinic every Friday from 2.3opm to 3.3opm. The cost is \$20.00 per dog. Please contact our Customer Services Team on 07-878-0800 to book an appointment.

Council has a designated dog onleash area in Kara Park Piopio as outlined in the Dog Control Bylaw. Please remember to remove your dog's droppings.

Provide sufficient shelter, food and water for your dog and remember to never leave them in a vehicle during summer.

ENTERTAIN THE CHILDREN THESE HOLIDAYS

What a fantastic month for the Aria Toy Library! Our local Piopio Community and Districts Trust kindly donated \$350 to allow us to purchase some specially-made puzzle bags from Danz Bags in Otorohanga. Our puzzles will soon be in these great bags, which have zips for easy access and keep the puzzles dust free and tidy.

The Owls Nest allowed us to jump on board with their fantastic quiz nights and host a mini auction. The support was sensational - Thankyou to everyone who came along. The \$805

SUMMER SAFE ON THE ROAD

Take extra care when travelling over the holiday period because of increased traffic volumes, congestion, tiredness and people driving in unfamiliar environments.

- Take a little time to make sure that you and your vehicle are safe before starting your journey.
- Plan to avoid the worst peak traffic periods when many highways become congested.
- Allow plenty of time make the journey part of the holiday.
- Schedule regular rest stops.
- Share the road and watch out for children and cyclists. Young cyclists may be learning to ride new bikes over the holidays.

RESTRICTED FIRE SEASON IS COMING

Council's Restricted Fire Season will commence in January 2017 (or earlier if dry weather conditions develop). This information will be communicated through our various channels including Cruise FM and in the Waitomo News. Anyone lighting an open air fire will need to obtain a Fire Permit from Council. There is no cost to obtain a permit.

WATER CONSERVATION IS KEY

We encourage Piopio residents to conserve water. Summer's rising temperatures often coincide with

we raised will be put to good use - keep an eye on our Facebook page! We would like to thank our sponsors who contributed to the success of the night. The Night Owl, Smarty Pants, Crafty Pigeon, PGG Wrightson, The Old Piopio Post Office Gallery, Handmade knitting by Tania Fagan, Atkinson and Associates Vets, Kim and Carly at Vanilla Blonde Hair and Beauty, PGG Wrightsons Piopio, RD1 Piopio, Jo Young and Bill Harrison.

Stuck for a Christmas present idea? Memberships can be brought and gifted to family and friends. Merry Christmas to all our members and families, have a safe and happy one!

rising outdoor water use.

 Sweep driveways, sidewalks, and steps rather than hosing them off.



- Raise your lawn mower blade. Longer grass promotes deeper root growth.
- Check your garden hose regularly for leaks. Store it on a reel to prevent kinking and damage.
- If you water the garden, do it in the evening or in the early morning to reduce evaporation.

For all after hours service requests and complaints please contact WDC on o8oo 932 4357. Our call centre operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We wish all Piopio residents a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. WDC Service information will be made available on our website www.waitomo.govt.nz, facebook.com/waitomodistrict and published in the Waitomo News.





RECORD SETTING MARATHON OPEN WATER SWIMMER,

Kimberley Chambers began her journey here in the Piopio community swimming pools. Since her life has taken many turns and now resides in the San Francisco Bay area, America. A former ballerina, and rower at UC Berkeley, Kim rediscovered swimming just six years ago to rehabilitate a life-threatening leg injury.

After a freak accident, she was diagnosed with Acute Compartment Syndrome in her right leg, and a mere 30 minutes from amputation. Kimberleys' determination and with much uncertainty and multiple surgeries, she spent two years in rehabilitation.

As part of her rehabilitation, the 2015 Halberg Award Sportswoman of the Year nominee, she started to swim for the first time since primary school in New Zealand. Just seven months into her rehabilitation, she swam from Alcatraz to Aquatic Park. Later that same year, Kimberley also ran an ultramarathon - the Quad Dipsea.

Kimberley's achievements also include a world record, becoming the first woman ever to swim from the Farallon Islands to the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco. A gruelling and dangerous 30 mile swim (over 17 hours of non-stop swimming) through one of the most highly populated Great White shark habitats in the world.

Since she has completed multiple open water swims around the world: a successful relay swim across the English Channel, a relay around

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Manhattan, solo swims of Cook Strair (17 miles), the length of Lake Tahoe (22 miles), Molokai Channel (26 miles), Strait of Gibraltar (10 miles), Catalina Channel (20 miles), English Channel (21 miles) and a solo swim across Tsugaru Strait in Japan.

As a nominee for the World Open Water Swimming Association Woman of the Year Award, she continues to follow traditional marathon swimming rules: wearing just a regular swimsuit, latex cap, earplugs and goggles.

Her ambitions to complete the Oceans Seven swim challenge, is the open-water swimming equivalent to the Seven Summits of mountaineering. These seven swims are chosen for particularly challenging water conditions (strong currents/cold water) with significant wildlife risks such as sharks and jellyfish. Kimberley is the 3rd woman and 6th person ever to complete this challenge, and proudly the first New Zealander.

Kimberley and five team mates also broke the existing world record for the longest continuous open water swim. They swam non-stop for 5 days and 5 nights, swimming over 300 miles without wetsuits in the San Francisco Bay.

Since her list of achievements her inspiring story has also featured in an international documentary. "Kim is an inspiration to everyone she meets. Her commitment to personal growth and challenge and the lessons she's taken away from these experiences are relevant to anyone in pursuit of a life goal."

Join the Piopio Community Swimming pools trust to hear Kimberley's inspiring story Wednesday 21st December.



Manhattan, solo swims of Cook Strait The **PIOPIO SWIMMING POOL** (17 miles), the length of Lake Tahoe **COMMUNITY TRUST** have

completed many improvements in the pool complex, including the little pools' new paint job, the showers and water meter are working now (thanks to Coxy and the Piopio Community Trust's grant).

In preparation for the summer season there will be new signs, newly trained lifeguards, and the donation plaques to adorn the walls.

New branding recognising The Lines Company ongoing sponsorship as a valued partnership is significant for the groups viability moving forward. The Buy-a-Brick campaign continues to financially boost the funds and now that the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the Ministry of Education and the two schools, the Trust's status is clearer and gives direction for the future.

Intentions to provide a heated pool are underway and grants are still being processed for funds for..watch this space. LYNNE RAUPUTU









PIOPIO COLLEGE 18 Aria Road, PIOPIO

I am Johan van Deventer, (also

Tēnā koutou katoa ngā

whānau o Piopio

6

I am most at ease when I engage people in this manner.

engage
people
in this manner. I am fully
committed to

the students, curriculum and entire teaching and learning process. I believe a student-centered approach to learning that is challenging, relevant and engaging, will encourage students to take ownership in their own educational success.

I am committed to encouraging ongoing professional development for all staff. I have high expectations of pupil achievement in all facets of school life and believe all learners need to be supported to develop skills, and their passion to be lifelong learners. Promoting this in a positive and caring environment will ensure all students will be prepared as effectively as possible to become confident and connected citizens who contribute positively to the community they live in.

I am convinced that Piopio College can be the hub of the community and reach its full potential with the support of the wider-community. I endeavor to forge strong collaborative relationships with not only the Board of Trustees, but also students, staff, parents, whānau, and all others who have an interest or part to play in educating our young people. I invite and encourage the school community to become part of the life of the College and engage in a wide range of experiences, whether it is by supporting learning experiences in the classroom, sports teams or outdoor education programmes.

As I make the transition to Piopio, I am very aware of the anticipation that accompanies a change in leadership. The opportunity to make a positive difference to the lives of the students, staff, caregivers and the wider-community excites me personally. I commit my complete loyalty, passion, enthusiasm, and diligence to Piopio College and its community.

I am excited at the journey that lies ahead and look forward to meeting and getting to know everyone.

Naku noa,

Johan van Deventer

The Piopio College Board of Trustees has been working with Richard Clarke, Ministry of Education consultant, on the appointment of our new principal.

new principal. The appointment process included a range of steps including consultation with stakeholder groups. applicant's selfassessment, referees' reports, phone referencing, visits by the committee to meet applicants in their current place of employment, presentation by short-listed applicants, and a formal interview.

We would like to acknowledge and thank all members of our school community who took the opportunity to have input into this process. The Board considered a range of information in making its decision to appoint. We are pleased to announce that over the past weekend the Board appointed Johan van Deventer as the new Principal of Piopio College. Johan will take up his appointment at the beginning of 2017. Ngā mihi

Jaqui Taituha Chairperson Piopio College Board of Trustees





affectionately referred to as Mr. Vundee by my students), and I will be your new Principal from the beginning of 2017. I am honored and very proud to have been selected by the Piopio College Board of Trustees to serve and lead the learning for the Piopio College and Piopio Community. I will work hard to gain your trust and respect as the school's new Principal. My responsibility is to ensure that your child continues to receive a high quality education within a safe, and supportive environment. I am happily married to Pauline, my loving and supportive wife of 30 years, and together we raised young man whom we are proud to call our son. Dylan is now 26 years old and has found his feet and independence with his partner. It is an exciting time for our family as we move back to the King Country where we originally began our New Zealand chapter of our lives back in April 2001. We moved to New Zealand from South Africa, and made the King Country our home for 10 years whilst I worked at Taumarunui High School. Once Dylan had completed year 13, we moved to Auckland in order to be closer to the Airport as he had begun studying a degree in music at Otago University. I accepted a post of Deputy Principal at Rodney College in April 2010, where I continued to teach until now. It is my passion for education of our children that has driven me to strive for an inclusive and culturally responsive educational environment where every individual can have their needs met and succeed in their goals. I believe such goals are achieved when ongoing collaboration and communication exists between teachers, students, whānau and the community.





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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.

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