

# **EUREKA EXPRESS**

**VOL XXXVI NO.3**

**APRIL 2015**

**CIRC 310**



## **ANZAC DAY 2015**

**LEST WE FORGET**

# COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

Let's do  
Lunch!

SUNDAY  
24 MAY 2015  
11.30AM AT EUREKA HALL

POT LUCK FINGER FOOD LUNCH  
TEA, COFFEE AND JUICE PROVIDED

You are all invited to come along  
and meet and greet your neighbours,  
both new and long-established.

The opportunity will be taken to  
farewell long term locals, Robert  
and Bev Kimber, and their  
sharemilkers, Brent and Tracey  
Horsburgh as well others leaving in  
the June 1<sup>st</sup> changeover.



We will also welcome all the new arrivals who have made Eureka  
their home in recent times.

**All welcome, including children**

Do come along and enjoy a convivial afternoon in your Hall.

# SNIPPETS

## Snippets

**ANZAC cover** by Cameron Mayall (15 years).



**THANKS AND GOODBYE:** To our "On the Home Front" columnist and committee member, Leanne Hilder, who has departed for a new position in Otorohanga. We are grateful for her support and regular interesting articles. Our best wishes go with you Leanne. Au revoir.

### **R.D. 7 MAILMAN:**

Gary Self has made a good recovery from his recent heart surgery and will be back on delivery duties from May. Gary's number is 0274 557768.

**WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS:** On a lovely, sunny Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, at Immerse Winery in the Yarra Valley, Rene Stolwyk, elder son of Nick and Maria Stolwyk of Hooper Road, married his Hamilton teenage sweetheart, Nadine Van Ree. Rene and Nadine live in Melbourne with their two sons, Oscar, 6, and Emile, 3, where Rene tutors and is involved in research at Monash University.

### **WELCOME TO EUREKA:**

- to Gene Fletcher and Fiona Petchey who are new arrivals on Eureka Road having just moved in to their lovely new home at No 62A . Gene works in manufacturing, currently making pool tables, and Fiona is an Archaeologist, working at Waikato University in the Radiocarbon dating laboratory. A warm welcome to you both and may you enjoy country living after years in Hamilton city Phone 8241 714.
- And a warm welcome also to the new owners of the Kirkham property on Hunter Road, Aaron Parker and Ange Makara. Also in residence are Aaron's children Connor, 14, Kyle, 11, and Jordyn, 8 plus their 'baby', Weimarana, Zeus. Aaron works for CRV Ambreed and Ange for Jersey New Zealand. Phone Aaron 0274413747 and Ange 0274700399.

### **YEAR 10 CAMP.**

Three of our local year 10 Hillcrest High students are almost two weeks into their 5 week outdoor education course on Great Barrier Island. Cameron Mayall, Harrison Whiting and Jackson Wright are sure to have some good stories to tell on their return. The boys can be followed on Facebook, or the website, HHS Great Barrier Experience Boys Trip 2015.





## Guest Editorial

*We have enjoyed reading the Eureka Express since our arrival in Appleton Lane 18 months ago and I had quietly hoped that no one would ring us to write an article, as I would be saying, "No thank you, I couldn't possibly write anything of interest"... Well, the phone rang & at some point during that phone conversation I must have said yes, because here you are reading "Our Story"*

*My husband Chris is a Kiwi, born in Auckland, while Maddie and I are from the "Western Island". We moved from Australia to Christchurch 11 years ago and fell in love with everything this beautiful city had to offer. Our eldest daughter, Kasie-Lea moved to Christchurch 6 months later. After four years of an amazing life in Christchurch, from exploring the south island in a campervan, snow in our back yard, magnificent views of the snow-topped mountains from our home and many friends, we considered ourselves very blessed. Whilst it was going to be hard leaving Christchurch, we felt it was time to experience*



*other cultures while Maddie was still in primary school. We choose Dubai and headed over there in 2007. Well, for the first few weeks we had an overload of what life was about & the difference between the poor and the rich. It was very sad to see but, apart from that, we had an amazing time there. After the third year our eldest daughter, Kasie, became quite ill & we made the decision as a family for Maddie and me to move back to Christchurch to take Kasie through her treatment. During her treatment the February earthquake hit. As you all know many lives were lost and many homes were destroyed, including Kasie's home. It was a tough time & the decision was made not to return to Dubai & for Chris to come back home to New Zealand. Chris ended up spending 18 months in Dubai without us, before he was able to get work back in New Zealand. He managed to get his old job back, but he would be based up in Auckland rather than in Christchurch.*

*After a further 18 months apart, with Chris commuting the best he could between the two islands, we decided we needed to move the family north. Starting our search up in Auckland and finding nothing suitable, we considered Hamilton after a recommendation from one of Chris' work colleagues. We discovered that Hamilton was a beautiful location, central to everything. Time was running out for us to find a house, as we needed Maddie to start the last term of school here in Hamilton. We wanted Maddie to attend Hillcrest High School, so were restricted to the school zone. We were also looking for a rural property, so when we found a couple of properties for sale in Eureka, we were keen to secure one of them. It didn't take us long to realize that we had moved into a fantastic location and our house soon became a*



*place to call home. The back of our home faces north, looking over farmland with the mountains in the distance. Our favorite place is to sit in the portico, looking at the beautiful mountains in the distance, the magnificent trees across the road and to the left we can see the dairy cows in the paddocks. We feel like we are miles out in the country but in reality we are just 15 minutes from the city. From the moment we have arrived we have been welcomed into the area and we would like to say a big thank you to everyone for your help and kindness.*

*For someone with not much to say, I've managed to fill a whole page.*

**Chris, Liz and Maddie Thoresen**

## **MARKET PLACE:**

### **FOR SALE:**

#### **Split Firewood.**

Blackwattle and hardwood for sale. \$90.00 cubic metre. Pickup or delivery negotiable.  
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Good quality conventional bales available. Any amount of bales up to max 200. \$11.00.  
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#### **Firewood for sale.**

Phone Mike 0274 955183

### **POSITION WANTED:**

Farm worker/relief-milker available.  
Please phone Shaun 02040305082

### **MISSING:**

Small, 1 year old grey tabby cat named 'Rebel'. From Schollum Road, Eureka but may have wandered further. Reward offered, any information appreciated – good or bad. Rebel is a dearly loved member of our family who is desperately missed. She is not wearing a collar.  
Please phone or text 0278704888

### **MISSING:**

Male Cameo/Ginger much loved cat missing from Eureka Road. Neutered and microchipped.  
Please phone 8241 883.



# **EUREKA BADMINTON CLUB**



**Eureka Junior Badminton**

Every Wednesday 6pm to 7.30pm.

Matangi Hall.

Ages 7 years upwards.

Racquets available. Enquiries to Bryce 8240923





## EUREKA EXPRESS AGM REPORT

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the *Eureka Express* was held on 16<sup>th</sup> March at the Eureka Hall. Nine residents attended the meeting which was chaired by Editor Gail Mayall. Resignations were received from Committee members Becky Walling and Michelle Arundel who were thanked for their contribution to the committee.

Income for the 2014 financial year was \$4,436.05; Cash expenditure \$2,116.76 – a profit before depreciation of \$2,319.29. Bank balances at the end of the financial year were – Encore account 2,500.69, Bonus Saver account \$10,783.11. Advertising charges will remain the same.

The Editor outlined the events organized by the *Eureka Express* team in 2014 including the Annual Easter colouring competition – 42 entries were received.

Guest editorials continued and are a feature of the *Express* enjoyed by all and the Editor thanked those who contributed. She also thanked the faithful number of advertisers and donors, not least of whom is Brian Insoll of Waikato Sheds who was thanked for his ongoing generosity. She thanked Sheryll Gordon who reviews the *Express* accounts, Wendy Morch for her work pre printing, Lorraine Morrison and Margaret Smith for their assistance on printing days and the other Committee members who make a big contribution to the smooth running of the *Express*; also advertisers, regular and new contributors and those who assist with printing and delivering the *Express* each month. The Committee is also grateful for the many donations they receive from past and present residents of Eureka.

The Editor commented the *Express* Committee would welcome offers of assistance from residents at any time. Wendy Morch expressed an interest in training someone to take over the management of the website. Our Treasurer Gayle Orr would like to step aside from her Treasurer duties after five years in the position and offers ongoing training to a willing replacement.

### Committee 2014

- Patron – Colin Duncan
- Editor – Gail Mayall
- Assistant Publisher – Wendy Morch
- Covers – Anna Drever
- Minutes Secretary – Jill McGuire
- Club Secretary – Lin Buckley
- Treasurer – Gayle Orr
- Gardening Gurus – Jennifer Mace & Mike Roach
- On the Home Front column – Leanne Hilder
- Ladies a Plate column – Michelle Arundel
- Website – Wendy Morch
- Printing Assistants
- – Lorraine Morrison, Margaret Smith
- Typists – Margaret Smith and Jill McGuire
- Committee / News / Collating: Dinah Booth, Karin Vink, Shona Pryor

## EUREKA EXPRESS

ADVERTISING RATES		CONTACTS – Gail or Gayle	
<b>Classified Advertisements</b>	<b>Free</b>	<b>Gail Mayall (Editor)</b>	<b>Gayle Orr (Treasurer)</b>
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• x 10 insertions	<b>\$120 / year</b>	<b>e-mail:</b>	<b>e-mail: <a href="mailto:gorr@xtra.co.nz">gorr@xtra.co.nz</a></b>
<b>One Half Page Advertisement</b>	<b>\$20 / month</b>	<b><a href="mailto:editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz">editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz</a></b>	
• x 10 insertions	<b>\$160 / year</b>		

## RAINFALL

	March 2015	Year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Total (mm)	73	192
Average (1994-2015)	71	216
Difference	+2	-24

Rainfall recorded on 12 days.





**Tauwhare School**  
Presents a  
**Family Movie Night**

**When:** Friday 8th May 2015

**Where:** Tauwhare School Grounds

**Cost:** Gold Coin Entry

**Screening:** It's a Surprise!

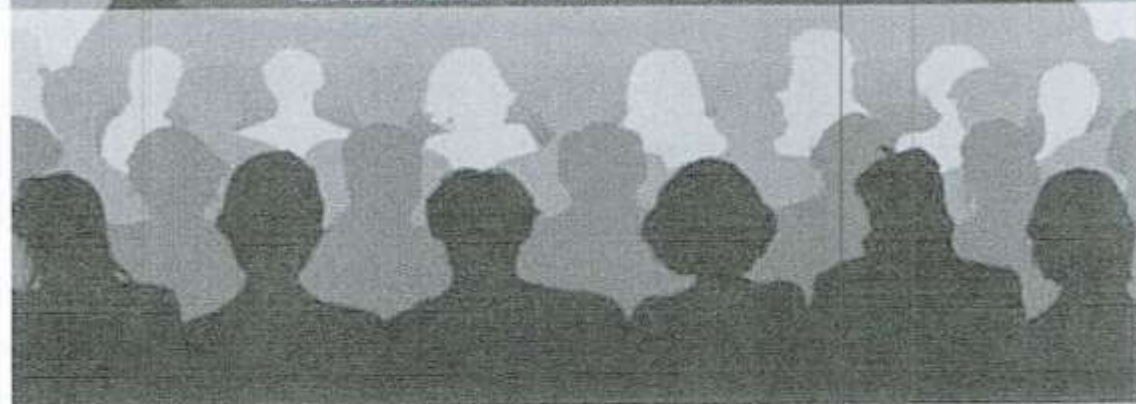
**Food From:** 5:30pm

**\*Sausage & Bread \*Burgers \* Drinks \*  
Popcorn \*Candy Floss \* Lollies**

**Movie Starts: 7:00pm**

**What to Bring:**

**\*Beanbags \*Blankets \*Chairs**





## Pukeko Preschool May 2015

Over the last few weeks we have been exploring the forest at the end of the field where the dinosaurs lay their eggs in the bird houses, the cicadas take off their clothes and the nests are hairy. We have decided to extend this investigation with a further study of the forest. We are also going to look into the life, art and stories of Beatrix Potter.

A big thank you to all those families who have helped lately. Easton's family brought in yummy Chinese dumplings for the Chinese New year and the Sharman family helped with the Irish dancers on St Patrick's Day. Alyssa's family brought in a huge pumpkin for us to carve, and Isla's mum baked pirate biscuits for our pirate day. Even our past families are getting involved, Arlo's mum brought in the cutest puppies.

The children have been visiting the new property, finding lots of dandelions and making wishes about what they would like in the new building.

Friends of Pukeko Preschool – remember if you'd like to be a part of the preschool, please join our Friends of Pukeko Preschool and let us know how you'd like to be involved.

We have spaces available every day, please call in and see us if you would like to enrol your child, or to put their name on our waiting list: phone 8240860 or email us [pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz)





## Tauwhare Playgroup

Important Notice – Playgroup will be changing venue for Terms 2 and 3 this year - we will be at St Andrews Church on Tauwhare Road, still from 9am on Thursdays. This is due to the building work happening at Tauwhare School over the next few months.

We've had so much Easter fun in the last few weeks of term 1, making Easter crafts at the house of one of our playgroup children (Thanks for hosting us, Carly, such a great morning!). On the days we can't have playgroup at our usual venues, we put a notice on the door, with details of where we will be, plus Pippa will also text our regular parents / caregivers to let everyone know.



In the last week of term before Easter, we had an Easter Egg Hunt in the school playground. This was much fun for everyone, and we were very impressed with how fair the children were about sharing the eggs out equally!



We have lots of activities planned for Term 2, including craft activities to celebrate the colours of autumn, cards for Mother's Day and crowns for Queen's birthday. We will have a dress up day, a Fieldays farming themed day, and fun with playdough, baking, and singing and dancing.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

### About us:

We are a friendly and fun playgroup, and welcome families with children ages 0-4 years old.

We usually meet at Tauwhare School's Multipurpose Room from 9am-12 noon every Thursday during school term time. Please bring along a small plate of food for the children's shared morning tea, and we provide hot drinks for parents and caregivers.

For more information, contact:  
Pippa on 07 824 0846.

Like us on Facebook and keep up-to-date with what is happening

# TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

Welcome readers to the Club's March / April news which is a mixture of bits on the national, district, sub center and home club front.

First up, there are three Waikato ladies (M Pruden, L McCurdy and T Anderson) in the NZ Team (The Mat Blacks) to play in the Bi-annual International Series against Australia. Bowlers, ex bowlers and people generally interested in sport – this is your opportunity to see the cream of international bowlers!

**Dates – 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May** (Thursday to Saturday)

**Session 1** – Start 9:00am; **Session 2** – Start 2:00pm

**Venue:** Mount Sports Centre, Tauranga **Admission:** Gold coin donation

Waikato (Top 12 ladies) won the Bettridge Shield at the recent competition at Waihi. The Waikato Juniors (10 players) won the Ross Arndt Trophy at the annual competition between North Taranaki, Taranaki, Tauranga and Waikato which is always held at Otorohanga. A proud moment for coaches Andrew and Karen McNally and local bowlers Amber and Bronwyn McNally and Melita Bargh. Congratulations to you all.

The Eastern Sub Association's match with North Western Auckland, held recently at Taupiri resulted in a win for Eastern. B Meads, R Arnold, J Hooper and R Bargh were in the team.

Tauwhare's Brown Bowl match with challenger Gordonton resulted in success for Gordonton. The trophy was nice to have and hold for the short time we had it. Our challenge will be in the 2016 season.

As you can see the Tauwhare Club is very active outside the confines of our own club. We also have members holding office in the wider bowling circle.

Jack Hooper – Senior Vice President, Waikato District Assn

Andrew McNally – Junior Vice President, Waikato District Assn

Jointly Andrew & Karen McNally – Junior Selector, Waikato District Assn

Bev Meads – President, Eastern Waikato Sub Association

Jim Bargh – Selector with B Arnold (Taupiri), Eastern Waikato Sub Assn

The first Open Triples Tournament was a resounding success from all aspects. Thank you to all club members for their input – preparation of the hall in the afternoon, organising club and outside teams, purchasing prizes, supervising the raffle table, providing supper and raffle items, tidying the hall at the end of the evening and last but far from least kitchen duties which are always supported by the gents as well as the ladies. Once again thank you – Tauwhare's tradition of co-operation and support lives on! Jolly sweet to see Tauwhare take both the winners and runners up prizes. In fairness to our visiting teams, the prize which was supposed to be awarded to the "Top Tauwhare team" was drawn for the visiting teams instead.

On 19th March we hosted a visit from the Kereone Club. 12 players visited and a fun night eventuated with Progressive Bowls played. I do hope this becomes an annual fixture on our calendar.

## Results:

### **19 March 2015 – Kereone Visit**

**Skips** - Winner Jim Bargh & R Bargh (equal)

**Threes** - Winner D Appleton

**Leads** - Winner G Irvine (Kereone)

### **26 March 2015 – Mulholland Rosebowl**

- Winners B Meads, John Bargh

- Runners Up R Bargh, D Appleton

### **2 April 2015 – Triples Championship**

- Winners R Coxon, Jim Bargh, C Olson

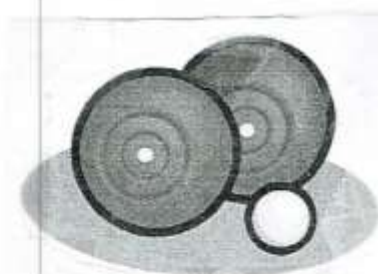
- Runners Up J Arnold, L Verner, H Bargh

### **9 April 2015 – Open Triples Tournament**

- Winners B Meads, R Arnold, H Bargh

- Runners Up J Arnold, M Bargh, John Bargh

**Bonus Draw** – I Wallace, R Moore, F Richards (Matangi)



## Upcoming Events

7 May 2015	Club Night
14 May 2015	Pairs Championship
21 May 2015	Open Triples Tournament (Plate please)
28 May 2015	Club Night
4 June 2015	Esme Pope Memorial (Handicap Single)

The club meets each Thursday at 7:30pm at the Tauwhare Hall. Visitors and new players are always welcome.

**Good Bowling Everyone - Robin Bargh Phone 824 1819**





## DUCKSHOOTING AND HUNTING.

**Know the rules before May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Swot up on the rules and regulations before heading out this Opening Day – Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Law is clear about practices such as not shooting from or near roadways, shooting on to private land without permission, or shooting near or toward any houses.

Regional Fish and Game staff can advise on which DOC reserves and forests are open to hunters. Field officers can supply a range of maps and access brochures with the information needed to hunt on public land. And make sure you check on what permits are needed for the different areas.

If you don't have a copy of the regulations, pick one up from a hunting store, the Fish and Game website; <http://www.fishandgame.org.nz>, or phone the Fish and Game office which will mail one out.

With many of the 40,000 plus licensed hunters turning out around the country this season, Fish and Game will be launching comprehensive ranging operations in all regions.

Staff will check game bird licences, bag limits, and enforce the ban on using lead shot within 200 metres of open water (10 and 12 gauge cartridges).

If a Fish and Game ranger approaches:

- Make your shotgun safe as they will ask you to unload before they enter the hide.
- Have your licence with you at all times in a handy place.
- Keep all ammo together because rangers will need to have a quick look to make sure you're shooting with non-toxic shot.

If you haven't picked up a forearm for some time, have a refresher on firearms safety before the season opens.

Also, make sure your shot-gun is in tip-top condition and get a few practice shots at a gun club or safely on a mate or relation's farm property.

### 2015 Changes:

- Auckland/Waikato has opted for a short one-month season on mallards and grey ducks – May 2 to June 1- and a bag limit of 10.
- Auckland/Waikato has declared an open season for partridge from May 2 to August 23, in all areas; daily bag limit of 10.
- Australasian harriers trained for falconry can be used to hunt pukeko in the game bird season.



## Laura's Trip To Borneo

I have just got back from an incredible 8 day journey in Tanjung Puting National Park in Borneo, Indonesia. I went on an organised trip through the tour company Orangutan Odysseys which was a fundraising tour led by Good Morning host Jeanette Thomas. Our group raised over \$9000 for The Orangutan Project which will directly benefit over 1500 orphaned orangutans living in rescue and rehabilitation centres throughout Indonesia.

The trip met in Bali then headed to Borneo together where we were greeted by our 2 guides who spoke great English and happily answered our many questions. The first day in Borneo we got to see the town and local markets and learn about their culture. The locals were very friendly.

We then spent 3 days on the Klotok (River boat) travelling at a leisurely speed and stopping when we saw wildlife on the river or river banks. This included a few sightings of crocodiles, a monitor lizard, bird life, long tailed macaques, orangutans, langurs, a lot of proboscis monkeys and more!

Short treks in to the forest daily allowed us to see rehabilitated and released orang-utans feeding, many of who were juveniles- sub adult and came together to socialise and play!

As someone who absolutely adores orangutans and is dedicated to their plight having Leif Cocks with us, President and Founder of The Orangutan Project was an absolute educational highlight for us all.

As part of our trip we met a local man at Pesalat Plantation who has made it his mission to plant 5 plants a day to regenerate the burnt out forest. We were more than happy to help him and plant a tree each. On our 2<sup>nd</sup> to last day we went to Keluang Bay to see the turtle conservation work and got to release month old turtles into the sea.

Orangutans share 97% of our DNA, are highly intelligent, self-aware and are only found on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo. They are under threat due to habitat destruction for palm oil, unfortunately only 1 in 6 orangutans is rescued.

This trip has made me more determined to help in any way I can. I have 3 adopted orangutans through The Orangutan Project, for less than a cup of coffee a week this is a fantastic way to help!

Check out all the cute babies up for adoption online at <http://www.orangutan.org.nz/>

**Laura Miller**



Juvenile orangutans playing



Myself with guides Kris (on left) & Ivend (on right)



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Image by Nicola Inglis Photography





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**TREVOR & LEONIE BRUNTON**

**1126 TAUWHARE ROAD**

**PH: 07 824 0880**

**Fx: 07 824 0809**



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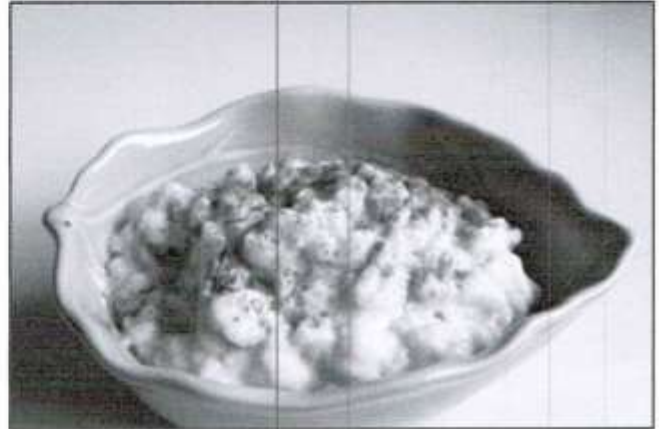
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# LADIES A PLATE

## OLD FASHIONED RICE PUDDING!!

This pudding turns out in a lovely custard texture. I like it best because it is oven-baked and not made on the stove top.

2/3 c. Minute Rice  
2 3/4 c. milk  
1/3 c. sugar  
1 tbsp. butter  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. vanilla  
1/4 tsp. nutmeg  
Cinnamon  
1/2 c. raisins



### How to make this recipe

**First step:** Combine Minute Rice, milk & raisins, sugar, butter, salt, vanilla & nutmeg in a buttered 1 quart baking dish.

**Second step:** Bake in 350 degree oven for 1 h, stirring after 15 mins & again when pudding is done.

**Third step:** Sprinkle with cinnamon.

**Final step:** Serve warm or chilled. Pudding thickens as it stands.

## No Bake Lemon & Coconut Slice

### INGREDIENTS

125g Butter  
1 cup Dessicated Coconut  
250g pack Milk Arrowroot biscuits  
3 tsp Natural Lemon Essence  
1/2 cup Sweetened Condensed Milk

### ICING

1 1/2 cups Pure Icing Sugar  
20g melted Butter  
1 tbs Natural Lemon Essence  
2 tbs Dessicated Coconut



### METHOD

**STEP 1:** In a small saucepan heat butter and sweetened condensed milk on a gentle heat until butter is melted and mixture is combined.

**STEP 2:** Crush biscuits finely or process in food processor.

**STEP 3:** Add coconut to biscuit mix and mix well, add the warm milk and butter mixture and Queen Lemon Essence and mix well until all combined.

**STEP 4:** Hand press firmly into a greased 18cm x 28cm slice tin, allow to set in fridge for an hour.

**STEP 5:** To make icing, combine the sifted icing sugar, melted butter and Queen Lemon Essence and mix well, add enough warm water until you get a thick smooth paste.

**STEP 6:** Remove set slice from fridge and ice with lemon icing and sprinkle with coconut. Allow to set for a couple of hours and slice into pieces to serve.



## IN YOUR GARDEN

Hi Folks,

Last weekend a good rain was had by most, up to 100mls....great!

Now is a good time to plan your next planting program.

Plant bulbs now with plenty of compost to promote healthy, rigorous growth. If soil is heavy with clay etc, use lots of mushroom compost to break your soil down and make for easier planting.

Most trees, shrubs etc can be planted whenever you can purchase them. Planting before June/July gets roots growing before winter chills stop growth.

Remember to use heaps of compost in ground and man-made fertilisers spread on top for ground after planting.

Winter veges should have been planted, if not, do it now.



Hedge trimming can be done also, other than hedges that are in flower or coming into flower, Camellias for example.

Broad beans can take up to six months before mature so plant now.

If you are thinking of buying plants e.g Roses, Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Citrus etc order now for approx June delivery.

We at roses are two weeks away from lifting roses, trees etc out of the ground, potting and ready for

delivery to bulk stores and garden centres all over the country.

Dairy Farmers hold your heads high, like horticulture the weather determines how we operate our businesses so we can all expect good years and low income years.

Most of us do the work we love and it's worth getting out of bed for most days.

Lastly, don't forget there will always be someone worst off than ourselves.

Till next month, take care

**Mike Roach**

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# On the home front.....



It's April, and the writing of my last article for Eureka Express.

Coming into winter in with an extreme reminder it does happen here, do you feel the need to throw some warm colours around a room to brighten and warm up the mood.

Moving on with the same theme as last month looking at the powerful effects colour can have, I have chosen a few more you might be interested to think about.

**Vibrant Orange:** Positive, fun, whimsical, happy, glowing, sunset, hot, energizing, active, possible negative: loud, raucous, and frivolous.

**Bright Pink:** Exciting, theatrical, playful, hot, attention getting, high energy, sensual, festive, vibrant, and stimulating.

**Bright Yellow:** Positive, illuminating, joyful, hot, lively, friendly, luminous, enlightening, energetic, sunshine, stimulating, innovative.

**Silver:** (metallic) Sleek, classy, stylish, modern, and cool.

**Gold:** bling, rich, glowing, divine, intuitive, luxurious, opulent, expensive, radiant, valuable, prestigious.

**Amber:** multi-cultural, mellow, abundant, original, autumn.

This is an interesting way to think at colour and what they might mean to you.

I look forward to the odd visit to Eureka and reading the express online, all the best.

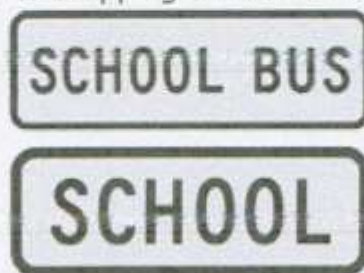
**Leanne Hilder**



## School bus signs

The signs below will be displayed on school buses. If a school bus has stopped you must slow down and drive at 20km/h or less until you are well past (no matter which direction you are coming from) if:

- the bus displays a school bus sign on which the lights are flashing, or
- the bus displays a school bus sign (with or without flashing lights) and has stopped for the purpose of picking up or dropping off school children.



**Note:** you may also see 'Kura', the Māori word for school, on a bus.

Police will strictly enforce a 4km/h tolerance of the posted speed limit outside schools, kindergartens and play centres during high-use times. This will apply within 250 metres of the boundaries on each side of the school.

## School zones

Some schools display signs that are turned on before and after school and other times such as lunchtime:



This sign will be displayed at the start of the school zone. If the 40 is visible and the yellow lights are flashing, the maximum speed is 40km/h until the zone ends.

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## CO comment for Eureka Express

The DairyNZ media release last week highlighted bank balances for most dairy farmers will be heading south this winter and spring, producing some short-term but significant cashflow management challenges.

2015-16 will still probably end up being a breakeven year for most farmers but cashflow will be a major issue that could result in some increased term debt in the sector and less spending in the regions. Farmers are used to having seasonal cashflow that drops into the red but then pops back into the black at some stage during the summer period. However, our current forecasts indicate that many farmers won't be in credit for the entire 12 months of next season unless costs are reduced, income is higher than predicted or some of their overdraft is put into their term debt.

The second series of nationwide farmer events in DairyNZ's Tactics for Tight Times campaign is underway. The focus is on giving farmers the wake-up call to assess their own situation given the low forecasts. We will be helping farmers to understand how low their own cashflows might go for the 2015-16 season, and more significantly how long they might stay there. The Gordonton medium input (system 3) farm owned by Graeme & Karen Bonnar with impressive financial KPI's has their 2<sup>nd</sup> fielday on the 27<sup>th</sup> May. We've analysed what it's like for the average farmer in every dairying region and plotted that on a graph. It's not looking pretty. We think that will create a lot of discussion and result in farmers taking some action to manage their way through the season.

While the long term prospects for the industry are still positive, farmers have to remain competitive in a global exporting business where New Zealand's market share could be eroded by other competitors. We're in a strong position as an industry because we have scale and strength as a competitive producer and exporter of high quality dairy products. There's still growing demand for our product and the supply-demand equation will eventually improve. But the landscape internationally is also changing with EU quotas coming off and the US steadily gearing up to produce more milk, potentially for export.

The message is resilience is needed so farmers can cope effectively with the trough in milk prices after the record payment in 2013/14. If you haven't already worked through the numbers, it's time to think about setting yourself up to manage through another breakeven season in 2015/16 and look at what will make your business resilient in the longer term if lower prices stay low for longer. For more information go to [www.dairynz.co.nz/tactics](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/tactics)

On-farm, the tightening cashflow forecasts means making the correct allocation of our cheapest feed resource, pasture, more critical. The ability to apply more expensive inputs to fill a feed deficit may become limited. To achieve targets for pasture cover before calving, serious monitoring of pastures needs to start now. Relying on it being a "good autumn" is not enough. The pasture covers you "think" you have, and what is actually there, does not always match. The reality is often less than anticipated. The result is that planned increases in pasture cover and body condition score are not achieved.

Critically examine the herd. Wintering empty cows and culls could add unnecessary cost. Have a no passenger's policy.

Upcoming DairyNZ events to put in your calendar:

- The next local Eureka Peat Discussion Group is on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, 11am – 1.30pm at Scott Buckley's, Waverley Road, S/N 72595
- Transition cow feeding with John Roche, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May, Gordonton Hall, 11am - 1.30pm with lunch provided.
- People Expo - maximising productivity, minimising risk, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, Hamilton Airport Motel Conference Centre, 9.30am - 2.30pm with lunch provided.
- The next T4TT fielday is on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May, 10.45am at Graeme & Karen Bonnar's, 652 Woodlands road, Gordonton, S/N 72646 with lunch sponsored by FMG.

**Jaimee Morgan**  
**DairyNZ Consulting Officer Hamilton North**  
021 245 8055





## Leptospirosis

The last time I saw a case of Leptospirosis in a dog was many years before I moved to New Zealand. Until last week, that is!

The Waikato area is renowned for Leptospirosis. Since 1997 Waikato has had the greatest number of human Leptospirosis cases of any DHB in the country. I have always quoted this when discussing the need for vaccination. And I had suspected that the fact I hadn't previously seen a single case was thanks to the high uptake of the vaccine by dog owners.

Leptospirosis is a life-threatening disease, with worldwide significance, affecting many mammals including humans. It is a bacterial disease which targets the kidneys and sometimes also affects the liver. A third of human cases were found to have come from infected dogs in one study in the USA.

Leptospira bacteria come in many different types called serovars. The three commonest serovars in NZ are called "Copenhageni" (reservoir host is the Brown Rat, and other rodents) and "Hardjo" and "Pomona" (reservoir hosts are livestock, especially cattle and pigs).

Contact with Brown Rats is the main source of Leptospira infection for dogs. The bacteria can also be present in any stagnant surface water, moist soil and recreational water sources such as ponds and lakes and dogs can become infected with Leptospirosis by drinking, swimming in or walking through contaminated water. Leptospirosis is most commonly seen in unvaccinated dogs living rurally or in suburban environments. Exposure risk increases in the summer and early autumn, especially after periods of high rainfall.

Affected dogs often develop a fever, become very lethargic and stop eating. They may vomit and become jaundiced. The dog we treated at Newstead wasn't typical as it didn't get the fever, but it had all the other symptoms and the diagnosis was confirmed using serology, which measures antibodies to Leptospira.

If caught on time, this disease usually responds well to antibiotic treatment, with about 80 - 90% of dogs surviving. The good news for this particular dog and his owners is that he has improved on treatment so far and will probably recover fully. This dog was intentionally not vaccinated because the owner had had a previous suspected adverse reaction to a Leptospirosis vaccine where the dog had died.

So let's look at the safety of the vaccine.

Safety is certainly an important consideration with this vaccine, as it has in the past been associated with the greatest number of adverse reactions to any vaccine. Toy breeds of dog are reportedly at a particular risk of anaphylaxis, which is a severe allergic reaction. Having said that, the technology involved with producing the vaccine has improved substantially over recent years (using protein-free media to grow the leptospires) and this has made vaccination reaction far less likely. It is also true to say that some breeds and families of pets will have a much higher incidence of adverse reactions to any vaccine than the general population of animals, as genetics play a major role in hypersensitivity reactions.

It is difficult to estimate how common reactions are to vaccines in general, because it is difficult to obtain accurate data. But it is currently accepted that the vaccines that we use in pets are very safe, with a very low incidence of possible side-effects. The benefits of protection from serious disease far outweigh the risks of developing an adverse reaction.

Other important aspects of prevention of Leptospirosis apart from vaccination of dogs include control of rodents in the pet's environment; practising good sanitation, including washing yours and your children's hands (especially after suspected contact with dog urine); avoidance or removal of standing water; and vaccination of livestock against leptospirosis.



## NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

It is hard to believe that autumn is nearly over and winter not far away – we've certainly had a taste of winter over the last few weeks!

During the long summer **water usage** peaked at a combined 18 million litres of water in one day. This level of usage is not sustainable so Council will continue to encourage residents to conserve water. Lots of good ideas for conservation are on the [www.smartwater.org.nz](http://www.smartwater.org.nz) website

We will be hearing five days of submissions on the **2015 – 25 Long Term Plan** during the week 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May – 500 submissions have been received, so if any Eureka resident/s have put in a submission I hope to see you there. In May there will also be hearings for the Reserve Management Plan, a District Plan Stakeholders meeting and our usual round of Council meetings.

A large number of events were held in the Waikato to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **Gallipoli** landings. I was encouraged that school, pre schools and day care teachers were telling their children about ANZAC day and Gallipoli. Our 5-year old grand daughter was very proudly wearing a poppy and could, in simple terms, tell me its significance.

**Te Awa River Ride** – Work on a further section of the river ride will commence this year thanks to a \$4.5m funding partnership between the Te Awa Trust, central government, Waikato District Council and the NZ Transport Agency. This funding will be used to progress the Horotiu – Ngaruawahia section which will then complete 30km of non-stop walk/cycleway from Ngaruawahia to Hamilton Gardens. Some interesting facts from the Trust about the River Ride – 22 kilometres of concrete path constructed to date; four sections officially opened; 13,000 plants planted along the trail by four schools on 12 planting days; 358,393 users on average using the trail each year. Their Hamilton maps will shortly be available from Hamilton i-site offices. You can also download a printable version from their website [www.te-awa.org.nz](http://www.te-awa.org.nz)

As you may have read in the press – the funding has been approved for the last section of the **Waikato Expressway** - the Hamilton section which goes from Lake Road to Tamahere. The contracts will be signed off by October 2015 with work commencing in November. The expressway is now fully funded and will be finished by the end of 2019. This will give a huge economic boost to the Waikato and move a great deal of the heavy traffic off local roads. If you visit Cambridge as your destination for business and shopping – that section of the Expressway is likely to be completed in the latter part of 2015 / early 2016 rather than the scheduled date of late 2016.

I have previously mentioned that I represent WDC as a member of the **Hauraki Gulf Forum** and it has been interesting to visit some of the islands where rodents have been eradicated and bird life is returning in large numbers. Approximately half the islands in the Gulf are now rodent free and some rare bird species have been returned to these islands by DOC. Quite a few islands are populated so if you get an opportunity to visit the Gulf it would be worthwhile exploring the islands and using the walking tracks put in by volunteers. The island with the largest permanent population is Waiheke and it has two primary schools and one secondary school.

In February we heard 56 submissions to the **Local Alcohol Policy and Gambling Venues Policy**. Updates on these policies can be found on our website and *Facebook* page.

**- Contact me at any time**

**Rob McGuire - Councillor Eureka Ward**

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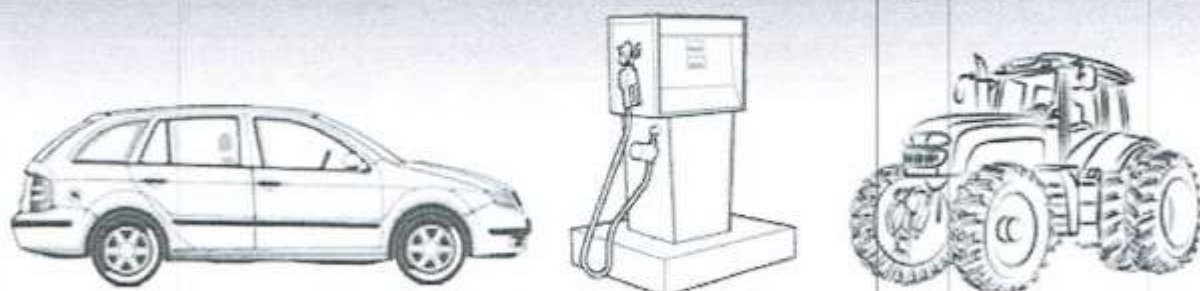
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