

# Eureka Express

VOL XXXVI no. 4 Circ 306

May 2015



Field Days 10-13 June



## Guest Editorial

I'm a mum of three teenagers, and as so I do many household chores. From getting kids off to school, planning meals, food shopping, vacuuming, dusting ...general cleaning, attending sports practices and games, mending clothes, and feeding of animals.

One of the least favourite of mine is the washing...to be specific...matching up socks. Why is it that a pair of socks go into the washing baskets or washing machine, yet by the time they come off the clothes line there seem to always socks missing.

Some say washing machines eat socks...I ask why only socks...other small items go in and come out fine. As a kid I heard that trolls that lived under beds and stole socks...but only the left ones. I use to think that that was just a story that parents told kids so they would keep under the beds tidy. Now I'm not as sure...after all...where do all the socks go if not stolen by left footed trolls.

One thing I do know as not matter how up to date the washing is and how tidy under the beds are most of the missing socks never come back. So with the lonely sock now sitting in a basket in a hopeless effort that it's mate might come back one day (to no avail)...what do you do with your leftover socks.



We have used a few of ours in craft projects, such as sock puppets when the kids were small...you can stuff four or five socks in another sock and tied the end off with string the tied another few places up the sock to make a caterpillar look...they make great chew/tug toys for dogs who like to play.

Mostly after a while of realising the righties are never coming back, I give them to a local kindergarten, so kids can make sock puppets too.

Thanks for your time, and if you see any trolls stealing socks, tell him this...If he took the right socks as well and turned them inside-out, they become left socks too.

**Liana Adamson-Coop**





## SNIPPETS



**DONATION THANKS:** to Robert and Bev Kimber.

**GOLDEN WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS:** To Robin and Russell Bargh of Tauwhare Road who celebrated 50 years of marriage, all lived in Eureka, on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Hearty congrats and best wishes to you both.

**WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS:** to Chloe Walling, elder daughter of Len and Becky Walling of Friedlander Road, and Clinton Bell who wed at the Red Barn, Hinuera, on Saturday May 16. A lovely day was had by all. Every best wish to you both for the future.

**NEW BABY CONGRATULATIONS:** to Orla Fahey and Geoff Roan, of SH26, who were delighted to welcome a darling daughter. A dear wee sister for Ryan. Very best wishes to you all.

**MERCY SHIP VOLUNTEER:** We are indebted to Heather de Groen (nee Duncan, yes, Colin's sister, an ex-Eureka lass) who has written an account for us of her recent experiences aboard the ship *Africa Mercy*, off the coast of Madagascar. Read her fascinating story within.

**COMMUNITY LUNCH:** What a great day we had on Sunday. Thank you to all who turned out to meet and greet their neighbours and other locals. Lovely food, good weather and good company. Sad to farewell Robert and Bev but they take a lifetime of memories with them (see Farewells).

Please phone Gail 8241758 if you left behind a black Swandri jacket, or tea towel(s), or an oven mitt. A big thank you to all the Express and Hall Committee helpers on the day.



## FAREWELL

Robert and Bev Kimber.



Sadly, an era has ended in Eureka. After 80 years the Kimber family will no longer farm and own land on Hooper Road with Robert and Bev having sold and relocated to Morrinsville.

Back in 1935 Robert's parents, Dennis and Evelyn Kimber, came to Eureka along with Robert's grandfather, Harry, and Uncle Stan. Dennis and Evelyn initially share milked for the Duncan's on the Hamilton side of Hooper Road, and during their second year there purchased 100 acres across the road, from Toby Inglis.

The four Kimber children, Iris, Robert, Graeme and Denise were all born, raised and educated in Eureka. Robert remembers riding horses, Bonny then Dandy, to and from Eureka School, being the last pupil to ride to school.

When Robert left school he farmed with his parents, marrying Bev in 1962. They lived in the house now owned by Sharon Laurent and Mark Fisher at first. Sadly, Evelyn died very suddenly shortly before Bev and Robert's first son, Peter, was born in 1963. Soon afterwards, before moving away to Levin, Dennis sold the farm to Robert and Bev and subdivided a section off for his other son, Graeme, who built a home (now Middlemiss') and lived there with his wife Delwyn and family for the next 20 years.

Robert and Bev and their two sons, Peter and Wayne, lived in the farmhouse (most recently Horsburghs) until 1990. They had gradually acquired several adjoining blocks until the farm finally tallied 127 ha. When they purchased the Bartrum (ex Townsend) land and homestead in 1990 they lived there for 16 years until building a new home on SH26, opposite Hinton Road, nine years ago.

Always town supply farmers, which means all-year round milking, Robert and Bev's Friesian Halbourne Stud was well known and they enjoyed success showing their stock on the A & P Show circuit for some years. One year they had the top two year old in NZ.

Bev, who had learned her seamstress skills from her mother who was a tailoress and milliner, spent a number of years working from home when the boys were young as a bridal dress maker.

Work at LIC kept Bev busy after that and when retirement beckoned it was her chance to learn to embroider – a hobby she loves.

During the boys' school years both Robert and Bev were actively involved with the School Committee and PTA and Robert also put in a stint on the Hall Committee. Badminton was their sport as a family for many years and Peter is still a keen and excellent player.

Robert spent more than 20 years as an AB technician and in his 'spare' time sang with the Cantando Choir, ran, cycled, motorcycled and windsurfed. These days Bev is involved with the Waikato Embroidery Guild and Morrinsville Lyceum Club activities, and Robert sings with the Pakeke Lions 'Pavarotti' Choir and helps out at the Waihou Riding for the Disabled. They are proud grandparents of four grown grandsons in NZ and two teenagers in the USA.

We wish them well in the lovely new home they have built in Morrinsville and trust they enjoy many more happy, active years together.



## FAREWELLS

Another year has flown by and sadly it is that time of year again when we must bid farewell to farming folk who are moving onward and upward with their lives and careers. Our good wishes go with you all.

- On Hunter Road it is farewell to Martin and Debbie Platt who have sold their farm after nine years, and are moving on to a bigger farm they have bought at Te Pahu, where family members will join them and they'll farm together, Goodbye and all the best.
- After 13 years sharemilking for Robert and Bev Kimber on Hooper Road, Brent and Tracey Horsburgh and their children, Dylan, Tayla, Blake, Ryan and Jordyn, have moved on to Te Awamutu now the farm has been sold. Our best wishes go with them all and we trust Brent makes a speedy recovery from his knee surgery.
- On Eureka Road, on the Hinton farm, it is goodbye after two years to Jeff and Lara Woolford who have moved over Horsham Downs way.
- And opposite, on Eureka Road, it is goodbye to Chris and Pat Olsen after three years on the Mayall farm. Chris and Pat are moving to Hautapu.
- To Schollum Road it is farewell to James St John who has spent a year working for Meeks.
- And also leaving, but not going far, are Mike and Jo Deverson who are moving to Ruakura Road.

## RAINFALL

	April 2015	Year to 30 <sup>th</sup> April
Total (mm)	185.5	377.5
Average (1994-2015)	97.5	314
Difference	+88	+63.5

Rainfall recorded on 16 days.



## 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>
<b>Small Business Advertisements</b>	<b>\$10 / month</b>	<b>70 Eureka Road</b>	<b>1139 SH26</b>
• x 10 insertions	<b>\$30 / year</b>	<b>Ph 8241 758</b>	<b>R D 6, HAMILTON 3286</b>
<b>One Third Page Advertisement</b>	<b>\$15 / month</b>	<b>Fax 8241 028</b>	<b>Ph 8241 713</b>
• x 10 insertions	<b>\$120 / year</b>	<b>e-mail:</b>	<b>e-mail: <a href="mailto:sorr@xttra.co.nz">sorr@xttra.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>		

## MARKET PLACE:

### FOR SALE:

#### Split Firewood.

Blackwattle and hardwood for sale. \$90.00 cubic metre. Pickup or delivery negotiable.  
Phone 021 02889247

#### Fresh Meadow Hay.

Good quality conventional bales. Any amount of bales up to max 200. \$11.00.  
Phone 021 02889247

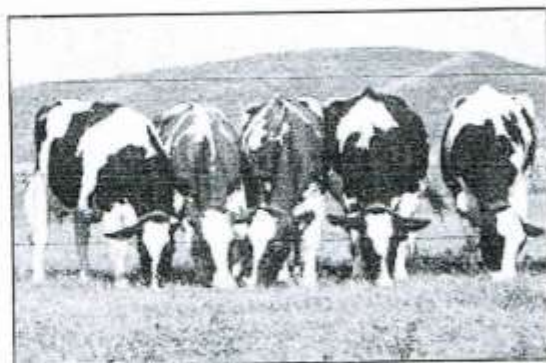
#### Firewood.

Phone Mike 0274 955183

**Fixed term Dairy Farm Position Available.** An honest and reliable person is required to work alongside sharemilker through calving and mating on 245 cow Eureka Dairy Farm. Duties include; milking, calf rearing, and associated tasks. Modern facilities. Terms of employment negotiable. For more information, phone Tom and Nicole 824 1692 or Tom 027 3187 981

#### Position Wanted.

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



## EUREKA BADMINTON CLUB



Eureka Junior Badminton

Every Wednesday 6pm to 7.30pm.

Matangi Hall.

Ages 7 years upwards.

Racquets available. Enquiries to Bryce 8240923







Roll: 168

## VISION AND STRATEGIC PLAN

The Tauwhare School Board of Trustees has begun to review its Charter and Strategic Plan in full. We would like to gather your thoughts and ideas to enable us to shape our school's direction for the next 3 – 5 years.

This is a great time to look at where we are, where we have come from and most importantly, where we are going for the future.

Our first step is to review our Vision or Mission statement. Vision statements are short phrases or sentences that convey hopes for the future and should inspire people to dream. They are concise so that every word counts, and are easy to remember. Mission statements deal with the present and broad goals to make sure we reach our vision or future goals.

We would really appreciate it if you could spare 5 – 10 minutes to have your say on the future direction of the school.

The survey can be filled in on line at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3DQMM7W>

## Waitomo Caves Trip

– the trip was a brilliant learning experience for the children. The teaching session was very interesting and touched on many aspects of the learning, from the limestone cave formation, to the glow worms, to other cave dwellers. The feedback from the children and the co-constructed planning sessions highlighted how much the children had learned, and what they wanted to learn, from the experience. Our two trips this year have shown the benefits of hands on



experiences for the children's learning.

Rooms 5 & 6 (Yr 1 & 2) have constructed their own caves in their classrooms complete with starry glow worms.

**Accelerated Literacy Learning** – year 5 & 6 teachers have started the ALL project which is to run for 15 weeks and is targeting a small group of learners in both Room 1 and 2. The project will be a hands-on building project with a focus on authentic writing and explicit teaching of writing.

## YOUNG LEADERS' DAY

Our future leaders were absolutely buzzing when they got back from hearing such inspirational speakers. This is such a wonderful opportunity for our children to realise that they can make a difference in their world, and to aim high and overcome adversity. Mrs Cook said there was also a very clear message that you don't have to have adversity to make you stronger, you just need to want to make things happen and go for it.



Selwyn Cook, from next door, asked us to help Z Service Stations for their *Good in the Hood* promotion.

Mr Cook donated \$500 to the school for our help which we will put toward

purchasing kapahaka costumes.

The children have really enjoyed learning about filming, cutting and editing to make a 30 second sequence. Special thank you to Colin Morely from JCM Images for his help with the filming and editing.





## Pukeko Preschool June 2015

We welcome Nadine Rothery who is joining our teaching team; Nadine will be covering Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. Nola will continue on Mondays and Tuesdays. Congratulations to Tammy who successfully applied for Louise's position. Tammy will be here on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and continue with her Monday and Tuesday afternoons.

We are getting closer to our goal of building our new preschool next door, and will be running a number of fundraising initiatives over the rest of the year. Our current fundraiser is selling Cadbury chocolates; many of our families have taken some boxes to sell at their workplaces or to family and friends. If you would like to buy some chocolates, or put a box in your workplace for us, please contact Clare at preschool.

Our fundraising committee are full of exciting ideas and really appreciate the support of the Tauwhare and Eureka communities.

We are really looking forward to our trip to Hamilton Zoo. We are entering a competition run by the Early Childhood Council as part of our zoo focus – the children have had great fun designing a zoo mural, and we have our fingers crossed for success!

A few spaces have opened up with children going off to school. If you have friends who are looking for childcare or new people moving on to your farms please let them know about our wonderful community centre where children come first and our fees are very low. Brochures available.

Remember our 3 session times:

Main session: 8.45am – 2.45pm

Short session: 8.45am – 1.00pm

Long session: 8.15am – 3.30pm

Call in and see us on the grounds of Tauwhare School, or contact us by phone 8240860, or email [pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz). And don't forget to check out our website [www.pukekopreschool.org.nz](http://www.pukekopreschool.org.nz)





## Tauwhare Playgroup

At playgroup this term, we are enjoying being at St Andrews Church in Tauwhare. It is nice to have a change of venue for a couple of school terms. An unexpected bonus is that the horse in the paddock next door comes up to the windows to see us, as if to say 'hello'!

We've been spending time doing art and craft projects with the children this term – we plan to have a special activity each week along with free play time.

This photo is of the children decorating cupcakes with icing and toppings, which was very popular. The children loved it, and they made enough to take some home for their brothers or sisters. Thanks Siobahn for making so many lovely cakes and for buying the decorations.



We have more activities planned for Term 2, including craft activities, a dress up day, a Fieldays farming themed day, and fun with playdough.

Thanks go to all the parents and carers who help make playgroup work so well – it is lovely for the children to get to know each other. And of course, great for the grown-ups to make friends too!

### About Us:

We are a friendly and fun playgroup, and welcome families / carers with children ages 0-5 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



## **Our wonderful school needs to offer a huge number of thanks this term!**

1. Twenty five members of the finance team from LIC came and gave us a day's work in response to their community outreach programme. Tracy Crawford and her team did an amazing job. They cleaned up the front gardens along the road boundary; they reset the ground under the virtue poles and concreted in stones to denote the edge of the garden; they water blasted the ramp and path at the back of the front entrance (sounds Irish) and the outdoor seats, ready for staining; they painted the new shelf unit in the corridor leading to the staff room; they glued tiles to the ramp leading up to the staff room, made by students from the last two years; they weeded the front classroom gardens; they laid pavers around the sensory garden and cleaned up the area; they emptied the sand pit ready for a new load of sand; they transferred sand to restore the jumping pit; and did a great job in repairing library pits.
2. Being a finance group I thought it might be interesting to cost what the school would have to pay to get that equivalent amount of work done. Their work hours total 125 hours @ \$30.00 an hour = \$3,750.00. Wow, what a gift.
3. We sent a group of children down to LIC to present a 'Good Sorts Certificate,' There are photos on our face book page showing the children presenting their individual thanks.
4. We need to thank Chris Ulyatt for his work on the front deck last weekend. Chris removed old carpet and water blasted the deck in preparation for laying our carpet. He has quietly done a number of jobs for us during weekends and never wanted any reimbursement. He has been a real Good Sort for us.
5. We need to thank a great team for organising Gary Buttimores invitation farewell last Wednesday evening. It was a splendid function attended by Gary's invited guests, including colleagues and work mates from the past. It was superbly MC'd by Keith Hallam who ensured the programme moved through very smoothly. Thanks must go to the staff who prepared the Eureka Room and organised the power point.

On Friday Afternoon the children prepared for a truly Newstead children's farewell. The children were highly excited and prepared some very special contributions for him.

It was a lovely event where every class participated and Gary was treated by some of his favourite songs and even had one written for him.

6. We need to extend our thanks to Andre Syben from Regal Agriculture who through his association with Cash4Kids has nominated our school to receive a donation of \$300. This was a very kind gesture and the money will be tagged to ICT equipment and/or sports equipment and books. Many thanks to Andre.

Isn't it great that we have so much to give thanks to folk who have offered so much to our wonderful school community!!!



## NEWSTEAD SCHOOL CORN FARM VISIT

Yesterday the whole school went to the corn farm. We travelled in the bus. We hid in the corn and then we jumped up and yelled "SURPRISE!"

Then we hid in the corn again and jumped up again. It was fun!

I went into the corn and picked some cobs and then we went back to school. We ate our lunch and the person who was filming us for TV came to school and filmed us under the shade sail.

**By Grace (Kereru Room)**

We went to the corn farm, we travelled by bus. When we were getting off the bus Hayden from TV1 filmed us. We hid behind the corn. It was really squishy and itchy! When Brent came we jumped up and said "SURPRISE!"

Hayden filmed us eating our lunch under the Shade sail. It was a great day.

We are going to be on T.V on Sunday.

**By Olivia (Kereru Room)**

When we went to the corn farm we went in a bus, it was noisy!

We got filmed getting off the bus. We hid in the corn while Mrs Bowen went to find Brent McFarlane. When he got to us we jumped up and surprised him. We went back to school and it was already lunchtime and we even got filmed eating our lunch by Hayden from T.V 1. It was exciting. It was a great day.

**By Jerome (Kereru Class)**



# NEWSTEAD MODEL COUNTRY SCHOOL

All past pupils, teachers and staff are warmly invited to attend our

## 125 YEAR JUBILEE CELEBRATION

20 and 21 November 2015.

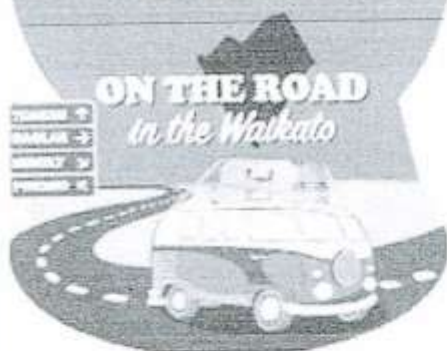
For further information and to Register contact us on the

Newstead School website

or phone the office - 07 856 5946



**How would  
you plan our  
district?**



### Tell us at one of our drop in sessions

We're reviewing our District Plan and making pit stops across the district to chat to you about the way land is used, developed and subdivided.

### Next stops....

#### Tamahere

Tuesday 9 June, 3 - 7pm  
Tamahere Community Centre

#### Matangi

Tuesday 23 June, 2.30—5.30pm  
Matangi School Library

 Visit [www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz)

 Follow [www.facebook.com/waikatodistrictcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/waikatodistrictcouncil)

 Email [districtplan@waidec.govt.nz](mailto:districtplan@waidec.govt.nz)





# TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

Once again news for April/May is a mixture of results. Our annual Burnside Trophy match with Matangi resulted in a win for Matangi.

Eastern Sub Centre has completed two of their three Gruppen Cup matches. Eastern vs Morrinsville resulted in a win for Eastern. B Meads, R Arnold and R Bargh were in the team. The match vs Hamilton Green resulted in a loss for Eastern. B Meads and R Bargh were in the team.

Eastern won the Waikato Sub Centre's 10's Tournament on a count-back of points. Belatedly they were declared winners of the Vivienne McNally Memorial Trophy. Well done team members. B Meads and R Arnold. B Meads and J Arnold qualified to play in the post-section of the Eastern Sub Centre Singles Championship, which was won by P Chubb (Puketaha) with C Archer (Matangi) Runner up.

After two days play the New Zealand team playing Australia for the Henselite Trophy led by a small margin - NZ 23 points, Australia 21 points. Go the Mat Blacks on the final days play.

## **Results:**

### **16 April 2015**

#### **- Skips and Threes**

- Winners B Meads, R Bargh
- Runners Up J Arnold, L Verner

#### **- Leads and Twos**

- Winners D Appleton, John Bargh
- Runners Up H Bargh, Glenda Goodare

### **24 April 2015 - Rinks Championship**

- Winners B Meads, R Bargh, L Verner, John Bargh
- Runners Up J Arnold, I Spencer, H Bargh

### **30 April 2015 - Club Night**

- Winners J Arnold, H Bargh
- Runners Up R Bargh, R Arnold, John Bargh

### **7 May 2015 - Club Night**

- Winners K Williams, J Arnold
- Runners Up H Bargh, R Arnold and Glenda Goodare, B Meads equal

### **14 May 2015 - Pairs Championship**

- Winners C Olson, L Verner
- Runners Up Jim Bargh, K McNally

## **Out & About**

### **12 May 2015 - Gordonton Open Tournament**

- Winners R Coxon, C Olsen, H Bargh, K McNally

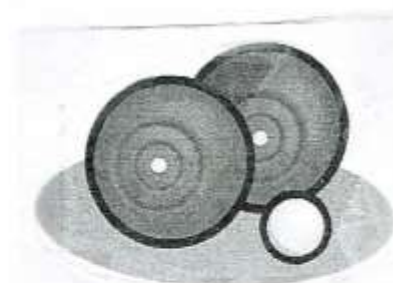
## **Upcoming Events**

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 4 June 2015  | Esme Pope Memorial (Handicap singles)                 |
| 11 June 2015 | Club Night (Progressive bowls)                        |
| 18 June 2015 | Open Singles - 4 games qualifying <b>(7pm start)</b>  |
| 25 June 2015 | Club Night  |
| 2 July 2015  | Mens and Ladies Singles qualifying <b>(7pm start)</b> |

Good news has just come to hand - New Zealand has won the Henselite Trophy in the match vs Australia held at Tauranga. Well done Mat Blacks and our three team members from the Waikato - Teri Anderson, Maureen Pruden and Linda McCurdy.

Also, Eastern won their third game vs Hamilton Red in the Gruppen Cup contest. B Meads, H Bargh and R Bargh were in the team. This results in three teams with two wins each Hamilton Red, Hamilton Green and Eastern. There will be a count back to determine the winner, which is a work in progress at the moment. We can only pray - hard!!

'Til next month- good bowling everyone - **Robin Bargh Phone 824 1819**



# LADIES A PLATE

## Feijoa and Apple Crumble

If you have a feijoa tree, you may have so many feijoas that you don't know what to do with them! We are always trying new recipes in an attempt to use them all. This Feijoa and Apple Crumble is a fantastic autumn dessert.

### Crumble

- 75 g butter, diced
- ½ cup flour
- ¼ cup coconut
- ¼ cup rolled oats
- ½ cup soft brown sugar

### Fruit Base

- 12 ripe feijoas, peeled and sliced
- 2 apples, peeled and sliced
- ½ cup Cottee's Maple Flavoured Syrup



### Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C.
2. To make the crumble place all ingredients into a food processor. Blend or pulse until combined.
3. Place the fruit in a soufflé or baking dish. Pour over Cottee's Maple Flavoured Syrup and mix. Top with the crumble mixture. Bake for 35-40 minutes, until fruit is cooked and crumble crisp and golden.

### Tips

Double the crumble mix and then freeze the leftovers. Great to have on hand for a speedy dessert. Replace maple syrup with 1/4 cup of sugar if wished.

## Feijoa Shortcake with Vanilla Ice Cream

- 150g Softened Butter
- 1/2C Sugar
- 2 Eggs
- 1tsp Vanilla Essence
- 1 1/2C Flour
- 1 tsp Baking Powder
- Feijoas
- Icing Sugar for dusting
- Ice cream or cream for serving



1. Cream the butter and sugar, add the eggs one at a time.
2. Add vanilla Essence and then fold in the flour and baking powder.
3. This mix should be soft not too sticky or firm add more flour or a few drops of milk if you need too.
4. Grease a slice tin, press half of the shortcake into the bottom of the tin.
5. Add the peeled feijoa (sliced, or halved), break small pieces of the shortcake and place on top of the feijoas (like a crumble but flatten them out more).
6. Bake for 25-20mins or until cooked and golden brown.
7. Remove from the oven and let it cool, dust with icing sugar and serve with ice cream or cream



## Africa Mercy Madagascar

My introduction to the Mercy Ships came at a conference I attended 4 years ago, when a Tauranga Theatre nurse spoke about her experience on the ship when it was based in Togo, West Africa. I knew then that this was something I would do once I retired. While I was still fit and able enough!

Initially, the ship's destination was to have been Guinea, but, Ebola broke out and plans were changed. Negotiations began with the government of Benin. However, as Ebola's ravages increased among those West African nations, the administration reconsidered and began negotiations with the government of Madagascar. A great deal of preparatory work goes into setting a mission service. Often access roading has to be improved, upgrading of wharf facilities for the ship, locating buildings nearby and upgrading them to provide support services for rehab, physio and follow-up appointments.



Madagascar is the world's 4<sup>th</sup> largest island, situated in the Indian Ocean off the east coast of Africa off the coast of Mozambique. It has roughly 14,000,000 inhabitants, most of whom are extremely poor with very limited access to medical care.

The ship is staffed by an international team, all of whom are volunteers. At any one time there are 400 people living on board the ship who are volunteers. English is the official language. The *Africa Mercy* is a fully accredited, self-sufficient hospital in board a 16,000 tonne ocean-going vessel. The volunteers are nurses, doctors, physiotherapist, laboratory personnel. Anaesthetic technicians, radiologists, pharmacists, cooks, cleaners, deckhands, engineers, plumbers, pursers, navigators, human resources personnel, chaplains, right up to the captain. Many have been volunteering on the ship for several years.

There is also a team of local Malagasy people who are translators, deckhands and cleaners, who are paid for their services. Security is strictly maintained by 6 Gurkhas who check every local day worker, whilst the volunteers have to sign in and out whenever leaving the ship.

My role was that of a recovery nurse (post anaesthetic care). I ensure patients wake from their anaesthetics without incident, monitor their vital signs, check wounds, assess bleeding and manage their pain relief. Once they meet specific criteria they are considered stable enough to transfer to the ward nurses care.

The ship has 5 operating theatres, plus a dental service which is located on shore. There were 8 dentists and 1 dental hygienist volunteering at the time I was aboard. The surgical procedures performed are dependent on the speciality of the surgeon volunteering. Some volunteer for just 2-3 weeks others for 2 months or more. Some regularly return on an annual basis. Dr Gary Parker the maxillo-facial surgeon has been volunteering for 28 years. He met and married his wife on the ship and has raised his children here. He is a very dedicated man and has changed the lives of so many people in need of facial reconstruction.

For example, Jacques is a young man of 18, who, as a child, had his nose and upper lip eaten by a flesh eating bacteria – Noma. Noma is akin to necrotising fasciitis. Most children die from this disease because they have no access to antibiotics. In profile, Jacques' face is hollow, front-on – it is empty. Inside (emotionally), Jacques is also hollow. He turns away from us, so that we cannot see his disfigurement. He is a village outcast, teased and tormented by the other village children and young adults. He has walked with his brother for 2 days to reach the ship, having heard about it on the radio. At his pre-surgery screening he is told that it will take at least 3 surgical procedures to improve his deformity.

Stage 1 is to bring a flap of skin from his hairline down into position where his nose ought to be. This pedicle flap remains attached to his scalp as it provides the blood supply to nourish the tissue which is to be his nose. His lips are sewn together in such a way that his lower lip will provide tissue to fashion the top lip (Abbe graft). For the next 4 weeks he is tube fed. Today's surgery takes approximately 6 hours.



I am fortunate to be an observer the day that Jacques' new nose is separated from the flap and the flap reinstated across his scalp. His lips are separated and resutured to form 2 lips. This days surgery takes almost 5 hours. His new nose is actually a bit flat and flattish, but, it is expected to shrink a bit. Jacques will have to return to theatre in about another 4 weeks to have some bone taken from his ribs and fashioned to give the bridge of his new nose more shape and form.

When Jacques wakes from his anaesthetic and becomes aware that the operation is over I offer him the mirror to view the change. He studies is changed features for a long time, then looks at me with tears in his eyes and gives me a 'thumbs-up'. After this Jacques just blossoms. His stature improves, he begins to participate more in ward activities, every time we meet in the corridors he gives me a 'high-five'. This is really precious stuff!



A sad twist to Jacques story is that his mother died the weekend before he had his second surgery. It grieves me to know she will never see her son's new face or the changes in his confidence. Not see the new sparkle in his eyes or the change to his demeanour.

Mioty is a 4 year old girl accompanied by her mother and younger sibling. As an infant her face and left eye were eaten by a rodent. We were warned she was 'a wild child'. None of the nursing staff were able to get close to her. We were advised to get her mother into recovery as soon as Mioty began to wake for we would certainly be scratched and bitten. Wisely we heeded the warning. Mioty procedure was similar to Jacques with a pedicle flap harvested from her scalp hairline and brought down to form her new nose. Her left eye was enucleated and the scarring on her face released and grafted. As the days go by Mioty also changes. She begins to play with the other children in the ward, soon she is singing along with them. Any nurse sitting at the desk is sure to have her ponytail or plait untied for Mioty to brush with her fingers.

We surgically treat numerous children and young adults with hare-lip and cleft palates. Conditions, which in this country, would begin treatment while they are still infants. There is a steady flow of large lipoma for removal, sizeable goitres, large hernias, scarring and contractures from burns.

Then there are the ladies with vesico-vaginal fistulas. Women who have endured days of labour only to deliver a dead baby and are so torn internally in the process that they leak urine constantly. They smell bad. Their families do not want them in their homes, their husbands abandon them. They become outcasts, shamed and desperate. Surgery for these women takes on average 3-4 hours. Sadly it is not always successful. For those women whose surgery is successful there is a graduation ceremony. They are given a new dress, shoes and hat. They parade through the ward and as many staff as can cram into the room come along to applaud them. It is a very happy afternoon.

This is only touching on some of the work of *Africa Mercy*. I haven't mentioned the agricultural projects they support in conjunction with other NGO's, the orphanage and prison visits, the mentoring of local doctors and midwives, or the boost to the local economy from having the ship in port for such a long time. *Africa Mercy* will spend another year in Madagascar, and is in the fact-finding process of determining the location of the following year's field service. Within two years Mercy Ships will have another hospital ship added to the fleet. That is a call for a large number of volunteers.

Whilst I have no intention of spending an extended period of time on *Africa Mercy* I do feel that there is more for me to do over there. The gratitude of these people is something to be treasured. To see them leave the ship with renewed confidence and hope is priceless.



# In Your Garden

Hi Folks,

Another month slips by and nearly half the year is already gone.

Growing most veges for winter is reasonably easy. The main ingredient is good soil and compost.

One of the most beneficial vegetables is Kale! It's the most sort after vege at the garden centres and markets. Beetroot both Cylindra and Globe are also very beneficial for a healthy diet. Beetroot can be boiled, roasted, steamed, pickled, juiced or added to smoothies.



Research has proven Beetroot boosts energy levels, fights cancer as well as lowering blood pressure by 2% by drinking 70mls or more of beetroot juice!

It is rich in antioxidants and you can also use the leaves for in juices, smoothies or salads.



Rhubarb is another very good food source for fighting cancer. Plants need lots of compost and if you cannot keep up with the stems it produces remove older one to promote more new growth. The leaves are poisonous and must not be fed to animals or eaten by us.

If you haven't ordered your roses, fruit trees, shelter plants, deciduous trees etc you can do so now. These will be available from June on at garden centres around the country.

Remember bark as mulch will rob the soil of nutrients including lime.

I would suggest compost, well rotted mushroom compost. The compost we sell has no bark and is sterilised at mushroom farm before it is delivered so is guaranteed weed free. You can put generous amounts into the hole when planting most things and you will see the results with very healthy plants.

Roach's have Poplar Trees, Roses and Compost available. Ring through your order so we can have it ready for you to collect.

Times are tough, but as I often say there is always someone worse off than us.

Happy Gardening Everyone.

### Farming in tough times: lessons from a survivor

Next season will be a challenging one and cashflow will be tight. An anticipated low milk price, coupled with a low retrospective payment this winter means dairy farmers will be facing some tough times ahead.

North Waikato dairy farmer Hans Burch has been farming with his wife Gabriela for over 30 years now, and in those years they have come through a number of particularly challenging times. However, Hans actually thinks that tough times are a good thing – he feels that they taught him a lot and overall made him a better farmer.

There a number of key lessons he has learnt for getting through the tight times, which include:

- Talking to your accountants/ bank managers early
- Bringing your farm system back to basics and managing the things you can control – pasture is your cheapest feed so focussing on getting that management right is key. In high milk price years, using supplements to increase production are definitely worth it, but in low milk price years Hans cuts this down to next to nothing.
- Making the cows do the work – they are your cheapest mowers. Hans isn't afraid to put some of the herd back into a paddock to bring down the residual. "Every time I start a tractor it's costing me money, I'd rather put the cows back in for a few hours and sit at home than get out there with a topper".
- Focussing on more than just the immediate cashflow. For example don't compromise next season when it comes to cow condition – if those cows are light now, they need to be dried off.

Hans believes that in times of stress, decision-making becomes even harder and can even impair your ability to make sound decisions for both current conditions and the future.

Having systems or policies for making decisions can take the stress out of the tough times. Or even having someone who is removed from the business to help make some of the key decisions is also a good idea.

For example, Hans's decisions around once a day milking and dry off are based on pre-determined measurable levels. It can be tempting when looking at cashflow budgets to try to milk on, but this may jeopardise next season's milk production if cows don't calve in optimum condition.

Farmers nationwide are sharing their experiences with others as part of DairyNZ's Tactics for Tight Times campaign. A second series of Tactics for Tight Times events began in the Waikato at the end of April and will run until June.

For more information visit [dairynz.co.nz/tactics](http://dairynz.co.nz/tactics).

*Brigitte Ravera is the trainee consulting officer for North Waikato*





## NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Thank you to the Eureka Express and Eureka Hall Committees for organising a pot luck luncheon on Sunday last for their community. It was great to see such a good turnout with an opportunity to farewell those leaving the district and welcome those who have moved to Eureka during the last few years.

During the week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> May we heard submissions to the **Draft Long Term Plan (LTP) 2015 – 25**. Over 500 submissions were received and over 80 submitters wished to be heard. We spent three days hearing submissions in Tuakau, Raglan and Ngaruawahia (one day in each town); then on the Thursday we made our deliberations. .

Through the Long Term Plan process Council has decided that the status quo will remain for rubbish and recycling collection for the 2015-16 financial year but the targeted rate will increase from \$196 to \$218 per household. Next financial year, 2016 -17, it is planned to fix the targeted rate at \$128 for recycling (two bins per household) and \$1.50 per bag of rubbish. However, we are still fine tuning the solid waste strategy and a decision whether to supply stickers or rubbish bags is yet to be finalised.

We have also settled on a 2.9% general rate increase and a \$432 Uniform Annual Charge for the rating period 1 July 2015 – 30 June 2016. Council will finalise the LTP before the end of June and it will come in to effect on 1 July. (This Long Term Plan is for a ten year period but it will be reviewed every three years.)

Despite there being suggestions that Tainui will not go ahead with its **inland port**, due to the fact there are opportunities appearing for other entities to build an inland port around Hamilton, I can confirm Tainui's inland port will go ahead. The Ruakura Interchange will become part of the Hamilton section of the expressway which will have the ability to service the inland port.

Our **District Plan** is to be reviewed. A series of Community open days are scheduled to be held over the next few months. The open days will be held throughout the district but those being held in this area are:

- |            |                   |  |
|------------|-------------------|--|
| ○ Tamahere | Tuesday 9 June    | 3:00 – 7:00pm in the Tamahere Community Hall |
| ○ Puketaha | Wednesday 10 June | 3:00 – 6:00 in the Puketaha School           |
| ○ Matangi  | Tuesday 23 June   | 3:00 – 6:00 in the Matangi School Library    |

Please come along and meet with me and staff to give us feedback on the District Plan and let us know your concerns or discuss any other part of the Plan that is important to you. This is the first stage of the review.

This year marks the third annual Waikato district **Matariki Festival**. In the Maaori calendar Matariki is the start of the 'new'. To mark this a number of events are happening across the district throughout June and July and during the festival district libraries are holding a Matariki competition. There are three sections – short stories, poetry and art (to design a book cover). More Information and entry forms are available on our website [www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz) or from any district library. Entries close 5pm 3 July. A Matariki kai challenge was launched at Turangawaewae Marae on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to promote food grown and produced in the Waikato. Matariki inspired food will be available to the public at participating outlets in the North Waikato and Hamilton from 15 June to 19 July. A People's Choice award will be open for the public to vote.

The government has introduced a **new Food act** which comes into effect from 1 March 2016. This will affect anyone preparing food, growing or harvesting produce, selling at road side stalls or markets and cooking sausages for your local fundraiser. But the Act recognises that each food business is unique and outlines different requirements for businesses based on the food they produce – e.g. cafes and restaurants preparing higher risk foods will operate under a Food Control Plan. However if a club wants to raise funds they can for example hold a sausage sizzle or cake stall up to 20 times in a calendar year without having to register. They must then ensure that the food they sell is safe and suitable to eat. If you want to check how the changes will affect you call our Environmental Health Team on 0800 492 452.

**- Contact me at any time**

**Rob McGuire - Councillor Eureka Ward**

Ph. 824 3696 / fax 824 3645 / Mob 0274 970 966

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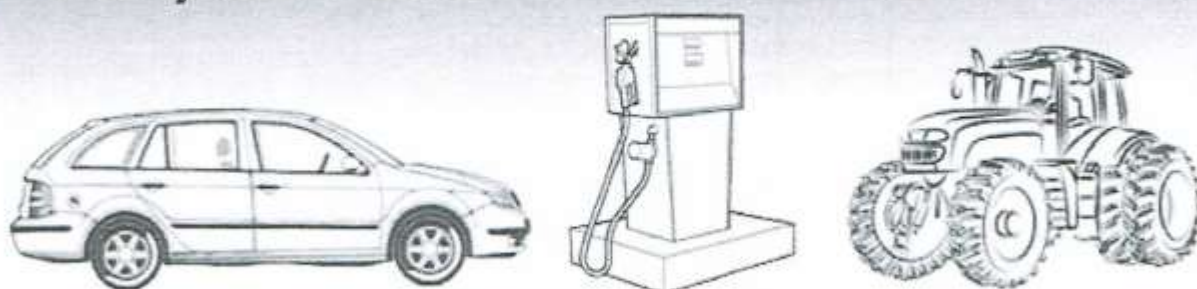
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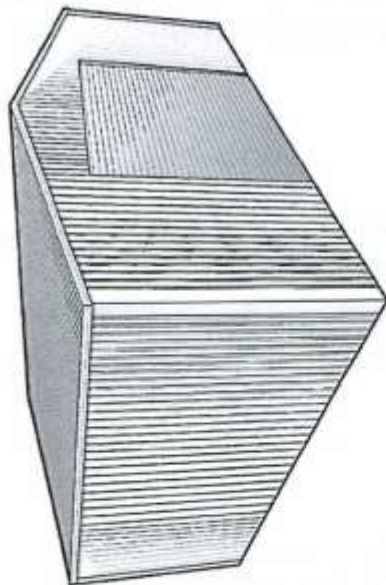
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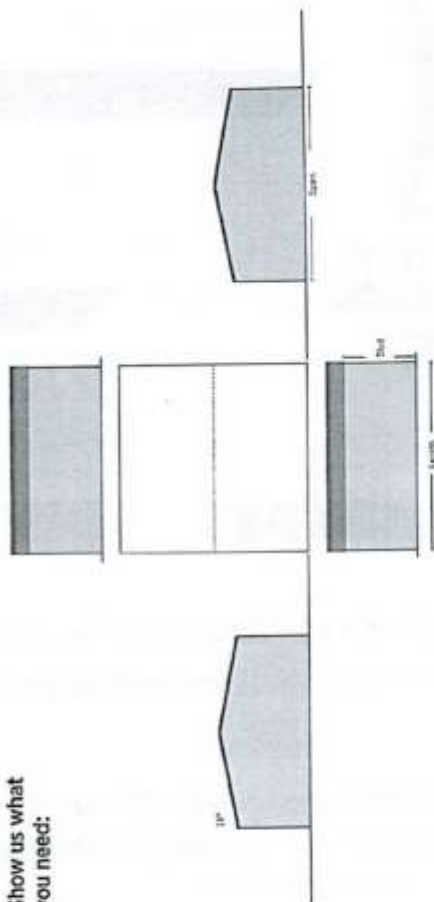
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