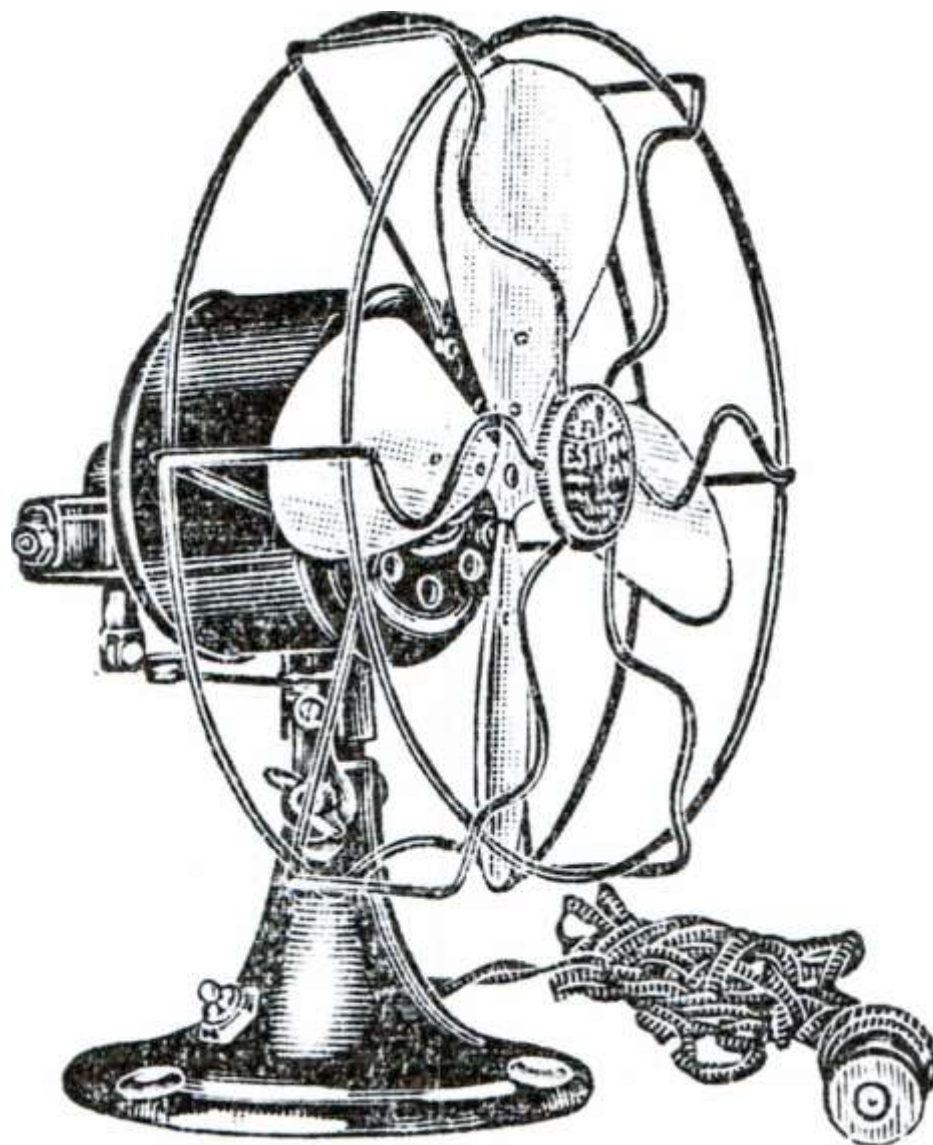


# Eureka Express

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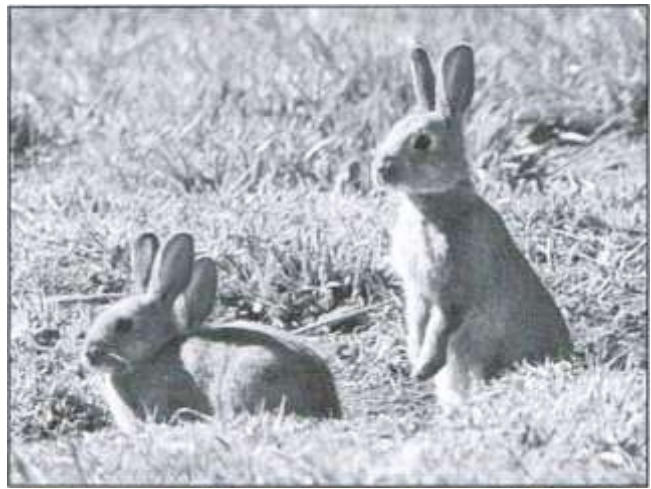
It Ain't Half Hot Mum!

## LET'S GET THOSE RABBITS

I understand that I'm not alone in having a current rabbit problem at my place. I can get up in the morning and find about six on the front lawn, and heaps more skipping around in the paddocks. And I've heard tales of up to thirteen on a drive at once!

And if you are being overrun too, we need to do something about it.

In my role on the Central Zone Catchment Committee I am now well known around the Regional Council, so when I asked if we could discuss the problem at one of our committee meetings, the Zone Manager visited the Animal Pest Management group and asked what could be done for people living rurally around Hamilton, and mentioned there were a lot at Eureka.



They offered to send their technical expert out to talk to a community meeting and do a demonstration of what is effective. But they did stress that any efforts need to be done by groups of neighbours, rather than individuals, to be effective in knocking off sufficient warrens at a time to make a difference. They even have some seed funding to help us.

So I've booked the Eureka Hall for 7.30 on Tuesday 8 March (after the Zumba class is finished), and booked the expert to come.

I know that some people have guns (we had what sounded like WWII down Hooper Rd the other night) and others have dogs. I have an elderly cat who does his best by bringing me the little ones (generally in the middle of the night). But it's not enough to make significant kill rates, and after July we can expect to see the population balloon again.

It's not so much the rabbits themselves that I find the problem. It's the endless half dug holes along fencelines, under buildings, and in the middle of paddocks. I fell down one the other day in long grass, and I have a donkey with a lame back leg at present, and I'm sure he's done the same, because it isn't the season for laminitis. I have warrens under my house, my garage, my goat shed, and another shed, not to mention all over the lawns.

So if you are cursing both the rabbits and the pockmarks in your lawns and pastures, please join me at the Eureka Hall at 7.30 on Tuesday 8 March, and we can form groups and find out how to eradicate at least some of them.

Sue Edmonds  
824 1944

## EDITORIAL

### AARON AND ANGE - COPING WITH A CRAZY LIFE

It has been a whirl wind few months since we moved to Eureka in March 2015. Soon after arriving, our family grew significantly when we acquired 2 horses and 3 pigs to go with our six children, two grandchildren and Weimaraner dog named Zeus.



Our variety of tools, especially the chainsaw, made short work of overgrown trees and forgotten hedges. The section was cleared of various objects, extra sheds and unwanted debris.

We have met many of the locals and on many occasions have been mistaken for Patsy in our CRV Ambreed ute. We have discovered a cousin who lives up the road and have had an overzealous motorist crash through our front fence. A new fence and gates are now in residences

The biggest highlight of our first year has been meeting the many people of the Eureka Community be it leaning over the fence to have a yarn with whomever may be passing by or catching up at Colin's Eureka Motors.

If you have not met us around Hunter Road we are Aaron Parker & Angela Makara. We have both come from rural backgrounds with Aaron moving up from South Wairarapa and myself from Whangamata in the Coromandel Peninsula.

Aaron has worked for CRV Ambreed for the last 20 years enjoying various roles in the company and is currently Breeding Program Manager based at Innovation Park. Over the last nine years I have worked for Jersey New Zealand in Newstead - an organisation that promotes the Jersey breed, as Genetics & Promotion Co-Ordinator, a common interest that keeps the rest of the family well up to speed with what's happening in the Dairy sector.

We are a blended family of six children ranging in ages from 27 to 9 years, 4 boys and 2 girls. Tyrone (27), Shaun (24), Liana (22), Connor (15), Kyle (12) and Jordyn (9) keep our lives full, loved and entertaining and with the addition of 2 grandchildren, Harlee-Rose (3) — Tyrone, and Leyton (2) — Shaun, our house never has a dull moment. Our well-loved dog Zeus patrols our little slice of family paradise and makes sure our section is well protected.

You may have seen us out and about on a brown mare and white and brown gelding. Chiquita and Chief became part of the family by a well-meaning friend, a trade me advert and a secret yearning on my part to once again have my favorite animal in residence. Any spare moment we have is taken up by these two wonderful horses. We have enjoyed many rides around Eureka and more recently on the family farm at Hikuai. Our next planned outing will be to a beach.

The whole family enjoy manic lifestyles which include multisport, triathlons, half ironman, surf lifesaving, rugby, inline hockey Karate, swimming, dance, pig hunting and of course horse-riding. We spend many weekends at our Bach in Whangamata where we are active members of the Whangamata Surf Life Saving Club and volunteers. Aaron is an active Life Guard, a coach, an official and a member of the Whangamata Surf club committee. Connor is also a Life Guard, a Junior Surf Coach and a competitor in the Senior Sports Squad. Kyle competes in the Junior Sports Squad and Jordyn is part of the Nippers Program. Many a weekend is spent travelling to Sport Carnivals from Orewa to more recently Gisbourne . March will be a big month with four day carnivals for each of the boys at Mount Maunganui and Ohope respectively. For my part I keep things ticking over in the administration part of the Junior Surf Club.

Tyrone is an Auto Electrician supervisor in West Africa (Ouagadougou Burkina Faso) at an open cast Gold mine and lives in Queensland Australia. When he is back home in Australia he spends all his time with his daughter Harlee-Rose. Shaun is a shepherd on a beef and sheep station near Bennydale and loves his farming and hunting lifestyle. His son Leyton enjoys all aspects of the farming lifestyle as well. Liana enjoys her job as a pharmacy assistant in Hamilton and spends her free time riding her beautiful Quarterhorse/arab whenever and whenever possible.

Aaron and I are currently back in training with our sights firmly set on the Rotorua Half Ironman in December this year. This will be Aarons second Rotorua Half Ironman and my first, a goal worth ticking off. Along our path we will be competing in a Sprint Triathlon, Half marathon in Paihia, Half marathon in Whangamata and a 36km trail walk along the Abel Tasman Coastal Track.

Our lifestyle is fast and furious but we consider it important to enjoy all aspects of our life, work included. Our life balance is about effectively managing the juggling act between work and our other activities that are important to us.

12 months ago life was moving so fast, we were passengers on our very own rollercoaster ride. We had little control. For us the move to Eureka was to slow things down and take back control so we could experience and enjoy life.

Being too busy became a habit so entrenched that it led us to postpone or cut short what mattered to us the most, made us a slave to a lifestyle we didn't like but couldn't escape. We were made to feel as if we had to be everywhere and do everything and even given the magical electronic tools to heighten this illusion.

We are lucky that we realised the need for change and while we are still busy we only do what matters the most, not spreading ourselves too thin, choosing and prioritising, even learning to say "no thanks" when required.

Every member of the family has a role to play where we need to remind each other not to waste time 'screen-sucking'. This is the modern day addiction: the withdrawal of looking at a computer screen, blackberry or smart phone. We saw a need to break the habit of checking e-mails, posting on face book, tweeting a message or swiping right. It gave us more time to talk to each other, like in the old days. In this electronic era, we must deliberately cherish and cultivate our most valuable connections to people, activities and whatever else is most important.

We moved to Eureka to take back control and to lead a sane life, a happy life. We are genuinely enjoying — while they last — the childhoods of our kids and grandkids, the ripening of our relationship, and the best years of our lives. Our lifestyle change has given ourselves permission to make the most of the short time we have on this planet.



What a great first 12 months.

←0.7B

## Snippets

**ENGAGEMENT CONGRATULATIONS:** to Shaun and Natalie Watkins of SH 26, Eureka, who became engaged pre-Christmas. Natalie hails originally from Piopio and Shaun from Auckland. A Spring wedding is planned. Very best wishes to you both. (ph 5604088 — there is a space on your phone list).

**WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS:** to three local couples.

Steve and Danielle Ratcliffe of SH 26, were wed on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at the lovely Hamilton Gardens, followed by a reception at the Eureka Hall. Every best wish for your future happiness.

Nadia Ward and Wilson Stead of Platt Road married at beautiful Oak Lane Lodge, Morrinsville, on February 6 — a wonderful Waitangi Day event for them. Very best wishes for your future happiness too.

And Craig Griffin and Alison Dunkley were married on February 20. Craig is the elder son of Gordon and Ngaire Griffin of Manor Park and Alison hails from East Sussex, England. The ceremony was held at home in Ngaire's lovely garden and the reception took place in Eureka's hall. A lovely day was had by all including Alison's family who travelled from England. Best wishes to all.

Steve and Danielle Ratcliffe

Craig Griffin and Alison Dunkley

## EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION

Due to Easter falling in late March this year, the Easter Colouring Competition needs to be done in early March. We have inserted copies inside your February EExpress. More copies are available from Eureka Motors. Please follow the instructions on the reverse side of the picture and make sure entries are in to Eureka Motors (the collection point) by loam Thursday 17 March.

Thank you,  
Editor

**WELCOME TO EUREKA:** To Paul Bartle and Sam Ware and their 11 year old twins, Milla and Brodie, who are the new owners of the Goulding property on Friedlander Road. A very warm welcome to you all. We trust you will enjoy country living after life in the city. Ph 021 867621

### **NEW GRANDCHILD CONGRATULATIONS To:**

- Andre and Hilly Wisse of SH 26, who welcomed a new granddaughter, Charlotte, on January 12, a darling first child for Willeke and Jacob Palmers. Best wishes to all.
- And John and Wendy Morch of Eureka Road, were delighted with the arrival of another lovely grandson, in Perth on February 8. Corban John Yan Morch is the second son of Evan and Michelle Morch and a dear little brother for Nolan, Best wishes to all.

TERTIARY STUDIES: Best wishes go to all local school leavers who are launching themselves into work or further study. Those we know of who are heading off into exciting pastures new at Uni or Polytech are as follows:

- Amy Drever is off to Massey to do Media Studies and Creative Writing.
- Hilda Wisse will be starting a 3 year Pharmacy Technician course at Auckland Polytechnic.
- And Maia Peart is off to Otago Uni to study Health Science.

To all our tertiary students goes our good wishes for successful studies and a bright future.



# PUKEKO PRESCHOOL

## COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

At Tauwhare Hall

Saturday 2 April 2016, 8000am to 12.00pm

Hire a stall, and sell your unwanted items. Or come along to grab some bargains.

\$15 to hire a table — sign up by 30 March.

Please contact Pippa on 07 824 0846

A Pukeko Preschool fundraiser for our new building  
Thank you for your support

FAREWELL TO EUREKA. Sadly, we must bid farewell to long-term resident, Jeanette Broome, and also to her long-term assistant Moss Brooking. Jeanette has kindly written about her arrival and establishment in Eureka with husband, Jack, and children, Paul and Carey 42 years ago, (see article within) but has modestly not mentioned her achievements and successes as a thoroughbred breeder, and her years of service to the racing industry which earned her an ONZM (Officer of the NZ Order of Merit) in the New Year's honours list of January 2000 (see below). You really put Eureka on the map, Jeanette, and you are wished a long, relaxing retirement





Jeanette Broome honoured in New Year's honours list (January 2000) with ONZM (Officer of the NZ Order of Merit) for service to the racing industry and recognizing her success as a breeder. (Pictured beside with Governor General The Rt. Hon. Sir Michael HardieBoys GNZN, GCMG, QSO).

Mrs Broome has been involved in the thoroughbred horse breeding industry for approximately 28 years and is regarded as one of New Zealand's leading horse breeders. Her breeding successes have included Jezebel, winner of the 1998 Melbourne Cup, and Seagram, winner of the 1991 English Grand National. Mrs Broome was the driving force behind the establishment of the Waikato Equine Cadet Scheme which has offered training and guidance to young people entering the training and breeding industry for almost 20 years.

S?-ee.

#### Jeanette's Life at Eureka.

Having lived in Eureka for 42 years, I am now sad to have come to the point of having to sell up and move on. I have to say I am eternally grateful to my late husband Jack for being agreeable to cut our ties with the family hotel business in Lower Hutt back in 1973 and allow me to indulge my life-long dream of breeding racehorses.

It was obvious that the Waikato was the ideal place to set up an establishment for such an enterprise. So the first step was to acquire a suitable property. We purchased just on 100 acres from the Harris family, Peter and Ethel who were share milking on their family land along the Eureka straight. The homestead was very old and somewhat run down, but we had ideas of doing it up and living in it and although it was basically sound it smelled terrible of old age and was very damp, being surrounded by big, old trees and overgrown shrubs. There was also an ancient orchard of 40 or 50 neglected fruit trees which were well past producing any decent fruit.

We then decided to pull the old house down which I think may have upset some of the locals as I think it had some historic value, having been built around 1912. There were 4 fireplaces, the one in the sitting room had a beautiful mahogany surround and mantelpiece which we saved and had restored. It was incorporated in the new house where it remains today.

While the new house was being built, we lived in the two bedroom cottage, adding a 20 foot caravan as accommodation for our son Paul, who was at Boy's High whilst daughter Carey was attending Hillcrest High. Of course we had to have an income and 100 acres was too small to be an economical dairy unit. So with the help of a friend, Len Jackson we started trading in dairy heifers. I was a quick learner and had an eye for quality stock. In

those days it was a very lucrative business with 3 stock sales a week, Cambridge, Frankton, and Morrinsville. So it was possible to buy a nice heifer close to profit at Cambridge on a Monday and on-sell her a week or so later at Morrinsville. Transport was much cheaper back then when the Edwards family ran Eureka Transport, but before long cost of fuel etc. saw the end of this very profitable business.

It did not take Jack long to realise he was not cut out to be a farmer. So he started work at the Freezing Works at Cambridge which was a good paying job. He travelled back and forth on his motorbike having always been a keen bikie. He later joined the Ulysses Motor Cycle club and enjoyed his retirement touring New Zealand from top to bottom.

At about this time Moss Brooking came into our lives when he took up relief work on the dairy farm next door. A keen and accomplished horseman he was attracted by the fact that I had by this time acquired several broodmares and was in need of help with the resulting progeny. After the new home was built we put in a very large in-ground swimming pool which left us with a mountain of soil to deal with.

Moss had many other skills and suggested we make a raised up garden out of it. We had a truck of our own and were able to access a large quantity of suitable stones in an area of Piopio and he and Jack proceeded to put in an ornamental stone wall around the large mound. Between them they also dug out and cemented a goldfish and lily pond.

Next came a trip down to the forestry where Moss had contacts and a load of Ponga logs came up with which to build a covered in BBQ area, a changing room and an area for the pool filter. Then came the mammoth task of surround the area with cobblestones. All this was not accomplished overnight but when finished looked very professional.

Several years passed with our primary interest in thoroughbred breeding remaining, and using dry stock to appropriately manage the farm.

Around 2005 it began to look evident that Jack's health was deteriorating and he was later diagnosed with dementia. As his conditioned worsened he was committed to Rossendale Dementia Care Home, where sadly he spent the last three years of his life from 2008 to 2011. By this time Moss had become a member of our family and stayed on to help manage the farm. Eventually the farm had to be sold as I became increasingly immobile and have now moved into Cascades Retirement Home. I spend my days in front of TV and hate having to go out in the wheelchair. Old age comes to us all but I am grateful of my happy memories and my time at Eureka, and of the wonderful horses I bred whilst living there.

Jeanette.



ADVERTISING RATES			CONTACTS - <i>Gail or Gayle</i>	
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1 year

# RAINFALL

	November 2015	Year to 30 November
Total (mm)	115.5	1113
Average (1994-2015)	71.5	1062.5
Difference	+ 44	+ 50.5

Rainfall recorded on 12 days.

	December 2015	Year to 31 <sup>st</sup> December
Total (mm)	26.5	1139.5
Average (1994-2015)	106.5	1167
Difference	- 80	- 27.5

Rainfall recorded on 7 days.

	January 2016
Total (mm)	94.5
Average (1994-2016)	84
Difference	+ 10.5

Rainfall recorded on 7 days.



Rainfall recorded on 7 days. Highest fall was 41 mm on the 10th

## TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

Opening Night Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016

Tauwhare Hall 7:30pm

New players and visitors welcome

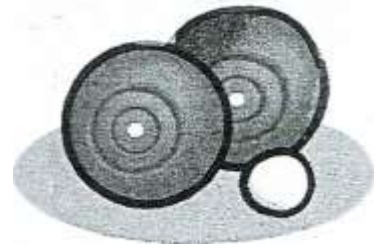
Enquiries to Robin Bargh Ph 824 1819

The 2016 season is about to get underway. This will be the 62<sup>nd</sup> year of bowls in Tauwhare. We are a very social club, with an abundance of friendship and fun.

Indoor bowls can be played by all ages — juniors and adults alike. If you would like to give bowls go' do come along and join us - you will be made very welcome. A pair of flat-soled shoes or slippers is all you need as the Club provides all the equipment.

### Upcoming Events

3 March 2016	Opening Night
10 March 2016	Club Night
17 March 2016	Club Night
24 March 2016	Mulholland Trophy
31 March 2016	Club Night
7 April 2016	Triples Championship



Good bowling everyone - Robin Bargh Phone 824 1819

## MARKETPLACE

ANIMAL FEEDER WANTED. Reliable person needed to care for domestic animals and horses when required, in Tauwhare/ Hunter Road area. Please phone Karen 0272034141

FOR RENT: 2 Bedroom farm cottage in Eureka. No children and no dogs. Please phone 839 2795

HOUSE AND LIFESTYLE BLOCK SITTER: Planning a trip away? Got pets and stock that need looking after? Would you like your property to be far more secure than it would left empty?

I am an experienced house and lifestyle block sitter. I will love your home and your household pets in your absence and I will care for your cattle, sheep, chooks and quiet horses while you are away. Feeding out/hard feeding or break feeding, no problems. I can operate ATVs and ride on mowers. I do this on a straight swap basis, generally, but I will reserve the right to charge for less than 2 weeks sit. I need to be within 20 minutes' drive of Hamilton as I do work about 20 — 30 hours per week. I will travel further out if my travel costs can be reimbursed.

I am doing this as a novel method of saving to travel when I retire in a few years' time.

References available. Phone Raewyn 0220801177 or email [raeyonscott@outlook.com](mailto:raeyonscott@outlook.com)

## AN EXTRA PAIR OF HANDS:

Hi! I'm Laura and I'm a year 12 student who is fundraising for the AAU Inline Hockey Junior Olympic Championships in Hawaii, representing New Zealand.

If you need an extra pair of hands for babysitting, feeding/giving attention to pets, or just a general help for around the house chores, feel free to text my mobile: 0278486014, phone landline 07 824 1908, or email [laurathreshr@mail.com](mailto:laurathreshr@mail.com)

\$14 an hour ONO Thank you

## BOOKS FOR SALE:

Fundraising for the AAU Inline Hockey Junior Olympic Championships in Hawaii, representing New Zealand.

Children's, Pre-teens, Teen's and Art books

Authors include: Stephanie Meyer, Peter Dickinson, Georgia Byng and Bonnie Bryant.

For a full list of books, prices and more information please email [laurathreshr@gmail.com](mailto:laurathreshr@gmail.com) Thank you.

# Tauwhare School

3287 New Zealand

Phone: 07 824 084

We have had a wonderful start to 2016 with 164 students enrolled and an excited buzz all round as teachers and children get to know each other. We have welcomed many new families to our school and I know they will love being part of our vibrant school community.

Only one thing marred the start to our school year...

### SENSELESS TAGGING

Two lads tagged our school between the hours of 10.54pm and 11.24pm. One classroom was so damaged that we had to have it repainted. We have clear pictures of both men on our security cameras but we have not yet identified them. They clearly live close to the school as they walked in from the Tauwhare Rd end of Scotsman Valley. One wore a cap, striped shirt and black trackies, longish hair, a beard and was smoking. Both were drinking beer— Tuatara brand.

I want these guys to realise how devastating it is for young children to see their beautiful school defaced in such a disgraceful way. If you recognise either one please get in touch with the police or with the school.

Staff work very hard to remain at the cutting edge of educational initiatives and research. We have quite an exciting range of learning opportunities this year including SOLO Taxonomy with Pam Hook as our facilitator and the context: Our People, Our Place. All teachers & teacher aides are training as CogMed coaches to deliver an intensive computer based programme designed to improve working memory for children struggling to retain basic facts, spelling and concentration. Senior teachers are working with ALL (Accelerated Literacy Learning) targeting boys writing in particular and 2 teachers are involved with IYT (Incredible Years for Teachers) which looks at positive behaviour management initiatives. We have one teacher training as a Reading recovery teacher this year, which will give us 6 trained teachers at our school.

So, a busy year for us all, beginning with our annual school picnic and swimming sports and a whole school visit to our local marae.

## Pukeko Preschool March 2016

Welcome everyone to 2016 at Pukeko Preschool. It was so lovely to see everyone return to preschool with big smiles full of expectation for a great year ahead.

This term we are going "Back to Basics". As we all settle back in we want to take time to celebrate our routines and rituals. It is also a great time to focus on shapes and numbers etc.

Just in case you missed the wonderful news at our Christmas Party last year: We are delighted to announce that we have been granted \$66,000 towards the cost of our new preschool building. Thank you Trust Waikato, we are incredibly grateful for your support. We still need to raise a large amount in a short time in order to get started on our new building, so if you are interested in being on the fundraising committee please see Pippa or Becky.

Big thank you to everyone who has given through our Give a Little page <http://givealittle.co.nz.org/pukekopreschoolintauwhare/donate>. Every dollar gets us closer to our goal and keeps our preschool open for future generations.

Chairperson and Trust Board members

Keren Savage has been our wonderful chairperson on the board for many years, but with her family growing up it is sadly time to pass the baton to someone else this year. If you would like to know more about this position or joining as a trust board member please see Clare or talk to Keren directly to find out more about what the job entails.

We are currently full on Wednesdays (our next Wednesday space becomes available at the end of March). We have some spaces on all other days, and more becoming available in April, June, July and September This year. If you are considering childcare in the coming years please contact us to put your child's name on our waiting list.

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, 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 [Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.](#) and like us on Facebook: "Pukeko Preschool

in Tauwhare".



## Tauwhare Playgroup

Welcome back to Tauwhare Playgroup for Term 1, 2016. We are enjoying being back at Tauwhare school, with all the toys in our shed to play with, and the amazing school playground to explore.

At the end of term in December 2015, we had a special morning at Punnet cafe in Newstead. We had morning tea in their Seedling Shed space, which was great fun. The photo below shows everyone eating their delicious ice creams. Thanks Punnet, for a lovely morning.

The trip to Punnet was also a great day, as we had our largest group for some time — 19 children along with their parents / carers. It is fantastic to see so many people coming to playgroup, thank you to everyone for supporting us.



We have many activities and crafts planned for this term, including outside play such as water and sand play in this fine weather, and celebrations for Easter and Balloons over Waikato in March.

About Tauwhare Playgroup:

Tauwhare playgroup is friendly and fun group, where parents, grandparents, caregivers, children and babies meet together in a relaxed environment.

Our playgroup is free to attend, and our activities include:

- Music and singing
- Imaginative play
- Outdoor and free play o Art and craft activities
- Trips to interesting places.

We meet at the Multipurpose Room at Tauwhare School between 9am-12 noon every Thursday during school term time. We are happy if people want to come for just a short while, you don't have to stay all morning.

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.

About Playgroups:

No child is too young for playgroup. All children from 0-5 years, including babies, love new experiences and benefit from developing sensory, social and communication skills through activities at playgroup.

Children like playgroup because they can:

- Participate in new experiences
- Develop and increase their social skills

- Learn sharing, co-operation and simple routines
- Interact with other adults and children in a safe environment
- Enjoy learning more about their world.

Adults also benefit from playgroup - a time to talk, meet other local families and make new friends and share experiences, while children have fun and learn through play.

## IN YOUR GARDEN

The Drought this year is said to be one of the worst ever recorded.

Yes, some of us have had rain every now and then but overall it is very dry for those of us who have missed the rain.

Under these conditions plants are under great stress through lack of moisture.

Plants in tubs or pots need watering daily as these plants can not send their roots down looking for moisture because of pot restrictions.

In hot conditions trees in very dry soil have been known to dry out and die.



When planting any plant in summer normally dig a hole bigger than plant or bag, put water into the hole, when water has drained put mushroom compost into the hole then remove bag or pot from the plant. Do not disturb the roots mass. If roots are going around the root mass just cut downwards in 3 or 4 places around the root base but do not disturb the roots, if you do tease the roots the plant has less than 50% chance of survival.

A Cheap way of keeping your garden damp is to lay out a soaker hose or trickle irrigation all of which are available at bulk stores.

Keep planting veggies including leeks, carrots, lettuce, broccolis, herbs, silverbeet, beetroot and more.

When fruit trees have finished fruiting you can summer prune or trim them.

Fruit trees should have centre branches cut no higher than a meter from the ground — this only applies to young trees. Older trees, which have not been pruned for years, should be trimmed back to a manageable height; this will encourage new growth which most fruits grow from.



Any other trees shrubs or hedges can also be trimmed back when fruiting and flowering is finished.

Always try and keep young plants weed free.

When planting, spread mushroom compost on the top of the ground around trees and plants.

Don't heap around stems of younger trees or plants. By putting compost on the garden you will eliminate about 80% of weeds.

Happy gardening all!

Always remember there is someone out there worse off than ourselves.

Mike Roach

Suppliers of weed free compost — Bulk or bagged



# LADIES A PLATE

## Apple Slice

This Apple Slice uses only five ingredients, it's really easy to make (and even easier to eat)!

### Ingredients

2 cups self-raising flour  
1 cup sugar  
3 apples, peeled, cored and diced (1cm)  
125g butter or margarine  
1 egg

### Directions

Toss apples with self-raising flour and sugar in a medium mixing bowl.

Melt butter in a small saucepan on the stovetop or in a small bowl in the microwave. Stir in egg.

Pour butter and egg into the apple mixture and mix until combined.

Spoon into a greased and lined slice tin.

Bake at 180 C for 35 to 40 minutes or until the top is golden brown and a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean. Keeps for about 3 days.



## Apple French Toast

Thick slices of bread are stuffed with sautéed apples in this decadent French toast recipe

### Ingredients

2 tbsp. unsalted butter  
4 large crisp-sweet apples  
1/2 tsp. nutmeg  
1/2 c. granulated sugar  
1 loaf bread  
3 large eggs  
1/2 c. milk  
1/2 tsp. cinnamon  
Pinch of salt  
Confectioners' sugar



### Directions

In a large skillet over medium heat, melt butter. Add apples and 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg and cook until apples begin to brown, about 5 minutes. Add 2 tablespoons water and granulated sugar; stir to coat apples. Cook until fruit is tender, about 5 more minutes, then set aside.

Heat a large skillet over medium heat. Heat oven to 180°. Fit a baking pan with a wire rack; set aside.

Make a 2-inch slit into each bread slice to create a pocket. Stuff about 3 tablespoons apple mixture into each bread pocket; press to close. In a large, shallow bowl, whisk together eggs, milk, cinnamon, salt and remaining 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg.

Brush skillet with butter. Dip bread slices into egg mixture; cook until golden, about 2 minutes per side. Transfer to prepared baking pan; bake batch until heated through, 12 to 15 minutes. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar.

## Share Your Favourite Recipe With Us

Do you have a favourite recipe — maybe it is one that you created or maybe it is one that has been handed down the family. If so we would love you to share it with us and we can

include it in one a future edition of the Eureka Express. Send them to [editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz](mailto:editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz)

## Discussion Group

The February Eureka Discussion Group was held at Graeme and Karen Bonnar's Property on Woodlands Rd. Josh Eales and Meghan Rogers are the Managers. The property has been under close attention with local farmers as it is the local Tactics for Tight Times Focus Farm. Historically the property ran with a stocking rate (SR) of 2.8 Friesian Cross cows per hectare (F)/(/ha) with



\$3.85 farm working expenses (FWE) producing 1050 1350 Milk Solids per hectare (MS/ha). This is a tidy level of FWE and production with a low SR. Since Josh and Megan have been running the property there have been a few changes with the farms management and now the farm is running with FWE of \$4.10 producing 135 MS/ha. Milk solids are the fat and protein component within milk that dairy farmers get paid for. Milk solids are around 7-10% of milk volume depending on breed, stage of lactation and feeding. The property has a cost protection system, of a 'service and fix yourself' attitude and a predominantly self-contained feed system.

The major change that I could see was a manipulation of feed grown on farm. Growing less maize, moving from 15 ha to 9ha, and then incorporating 15ha Chicory. Chicory is being used as a biannual crop. 7.5 ha are carried through the winter with oats sown into it. This is then used as the calving area then re-sown with chicory. In March this is then undersown with permanent pasture. In December it was noted the 2 paddocks were under performing so sorghum was planted to increase the paddocks yield. What happens with this paddock after Sorghum is unknown, but maybe annuals followed by maize?

The other change, 100t of maize was carried through the winter and 200t of PKE was purchased. Now the 100t of maize is not grown but replaced with PKE. Going forward with the farms selfcontained attitude towards feed, the purchased feed would ideally be reduced markedly.

I really enjoyed the way Josh and Meghan are looking at the farm system and maximising the yield/ha with the incorporation of feed types for quality that fit the stage of lactation and time of year. This application maximises /cow production resulting in better cow condition therefore cow health and reproductive performance.

The hot and dry season has arrived even the El Nino affect has not been felt. DairyNZ has released a new calculator to help work out the profitability of milking on vs drying off part or the whole herd. Key parameters are income, expenses that are and aren't flexible on your farm with scenarios of twice a day (TAD), 16hr milking and once a day (OAD).

Ian Taylor has tried the new Flash Mate heat detection device. Ian said the device worked very well and is another tool to use. Ian had a poor mating result last year through no fault of his own. Flash Mate heat detection devices assisted Ian and his team reach a much better result this year. I have been using Flash Mate heat detection devices, available through Gallagher over the last 3 years, helping with their development and I will be continuing to use them going forward now they have been released commercially. We will be mating in Late May and throughout June if you would like to have a look.

Yellow Bristle Grass (YBG) is making itself visually apparent at the moment. It is smart to cut the seed heads off and burn them and spray the plants. YBG seeds mature on the plant at different times so if we just spray the plant some seeds will still be viable.

It is time to start thinking about regrassing. Most farmers are unhappy with how our pastures are persisting, especially on the peat. Pastures are only lasting 3 years and then are completely run out, from this point on requiring under sowing annually. I used Lush which is a Tetraploid Italian Ryegrass with AR37. I found it gave a good quality bulk of feed over winter and were the only plants still growing well in December. All pastures sown unless a winter crop within a crop rotation need to have AR37 or Nea2 endophyte to protect it from insect pests and think seriously if considering not using super strike (SS).



Please do not confuse longevity of pasture plants through drought with endophyte. Using high or wild type endophyte pastures has negative animal health effects that cannot be ignored so don't be tempted to go back there. The best way to take pressure off pastures is minimising over grazing and more importantly frequency. Modern pastures can't protect themselves from over grazing as high endophyte pastures do so we need to manage them differently. Try on off grazing using a stand-off area once they have hit target residual (how much the cows leave behind, 1500kgDM/ha) and a 40++ day rotation. For any questions on regrassing please call Calum (0272235123) from PGG Wrightsons. Calum has a wealth of knowledge supported by Emma and Kyle from PGG Wrightsons Seeds.

Fonterra Governance and Representation (FGnR) meetings are being held through February and March for Fonterra Farmers being able to have their say. In March feedback will be reviewed with a Draft proposal being released in April followed by another round of farmer meetings with a final proposal being released in May. I implore farmers to come to these meetings to hear what is being said and to have some input. Please read the booklet on FGnR to get an understanding of the different roles of Council and the Board, also committees. Note how different they are and how they work together to make the right decisions for farmers with regard to Fonterra's direction.

The Game fishing season is in full swing with largest numbers of pelagic species being caught for years. Unfortunately, even with global oil prices being at \$30, down from \$45 in December, funds for most Dairy farmers does not permit very many hours at sea to harvest the bounty!

Always remember the most important things in life are family and friends, so give them the time and effort they deserve. Don't worry about the things you can't control and get the most out of what you can!

I am into calving now so if you would like to feed and pat the calves and shoo the flies, give me a call

Dan Hinton  
0274 267509

## SHOULD SHE STAY OR SHOULD SHE

Calving pattern has one of the biggest impacts on herd fertility; culling is a chance for you to influence next season's calving to maximise your herd's days in milk and reproductive performance.



1. Use your expected calvings report — But make sure it's accurate. Without early-aged pregnancy testing the expected calvings

report will only be based on last recorded matings which can make winter management decisions risky. Check when the best time to pregnancy test is with the clinic to maximise report accuracy.

2. ID passengers and problems High cell count and low performing cows, do you need them? Efficient, problem-free cows are essential in achieving farm profitability.

3. Use PW and LW — If you've herd tested through the season then your PW and LW will be accurate in helping you identify your profitable girls. It's not as simple as milk solids alone; milk components and live weight need to be accounted for too.

4, Cull late calvers — Late calving cows have fewer days in milk, fewer AB replacements and generally poorer fertility in the following mating. They'd need to be a well above average cow to make up for it! Do you want or need to keep all of them?

5. Meet young stock targets — Managing calving pattern starts at birth. Animals that hit live weight targets are more likely to calve down early, produce more milk, and are more likely to remain early calving.

6. Monitor condition — Meeting body condition score (BCS) targets at calving drives good reproduction. Cows need feed and time to meet these targets so resist the temptation to milk them on and make sure they are dried off on BCS and expected calving date so they can make target.

Use the opportunity culling provides to influence your calving pattern next spring. Call the clinic and we'll help you get the most from your reports with early-aged pregnancy testing. If you're wanting to get on board with young stock monitoring then we can help you monitor growth rates and assess the best and most cost effective options for your herd if there are any issues.

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## NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR



Well another year is well underway and as I write this article welcome rain is falling — a temporary relief for us, and our animals, from the intense heat.

I have noted the undulating and rough surface on the Holland Road end of Eureka Road and have asked our Roding Manager for a maintenance schedule for this work. He advises that, because of the lengthy list of rehab for the District for the 16/17 financial year (together with the carryover from 15/16), remedial work will be done based on safety with rehab done over the next two financial years. The contractor will do some reshaping and smoothing treatment to this section of Eureka Road in late March this year with rehabilitation programmed for the 2017/18 financial

year.

We are putting together a Freedom camping bylaw. At present we do not have a bylaw to cover this and you will have noticed the large numbers of campervans travelling through our district. The new bylaw will give clear guidance to those with self contained campervans and caravans where they can park overnight. The bylaw has been drafted and will be considered by Council in April 2016 and will then be put out for submission. I would be interested in hearing your thoughts on this bylaw. Other bylaws are being reviewed this year and include — the road naming policy, land acquisition criteria, unformed legal roads — decision making framework, annual renewal of bridge restrictions, review of roadside fencing policy and proposed WDC Trade Waste and Wastewater Bylaw 2016

The first sod will be turned on 11 March for the Hamilton section of the Expressway so work will soon be well underway. As you will be aware the Cambridge Expressway opened in December and I am told it is removing up to 19,000 cars per day from the local Cambridge roads.

The District has moved to a Level 2 water alert and Waikato District is now in a Restricted Fire Season. Because of the extreme dryness to date no fire permits are being issued. You can contact Council for more information on 0800 492 452 Water concerns for Hamilton, Waikato and Waipa can be reported to [wvqm.smartwater.org.nz/water-concernform](http://wvqm.smartwater.org.nz/water-concernform) If you are connected to the Southern District Water Scheme I suggest you check your pipes and tanks regularly for leaks to conserve water and save yourself from a nasty surprise when you receive your water bill.

District Plan on line — by going onto Councils on-line website and pressing maps online on the home page you can view details of any property in the district including the road boundaries, property and rating information, District Plan information, utilities information etc. Follow the instructions and type in a property address or property assessment number to search for information on the property you wish to view. Going forward we will be improving the site regularly to give enquirers more information and easier access.

Are you planning an event for 2016 and would like to ask for this to be added to our website? Please email [events@waidc.govt.nz](mailto:events@waidc.govt.nz) with details i.e. name of event, start and end time, description of the event, cost if any, contact details of organiser, an image (optional) social media link (optional). Council reserve the right to edit or refuse to publish any event.

Do you belong to a committee, school or other community group and would like to apply for funding from Council. Applications are now considered by our Grants Committee instead of through our Annual Plan process. I am a member of the Funding Committee so you are welcome to contact me if you require more information. The details on how to apply for funding are on our website -[www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/Services/Funding.aspx](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/Services/Funding.aspx)

To enable us to better understand the risk of tsunamis for our communities on the west coast - Port Waikato, Raglan Harbour and Aotea Harbour, and to provide valuable information for Civil Defence Emergency Management we have jointly funded a West Coast Tsunami Study with Waikato Regional Council and WEL Energy. We have now received the report findings that will be presented to the Onewhero/Tuakau and Raglan Community Boards in early March before a media release on the report is released to the public.

A cycling ring around Auckland's CBD is a step closer with the design of one of the final stages recently released. It will form part of a circular route around the inner city mostly separated from traffic and pedestrians. A future Karangahape Rd cycleway will complete the city loop. Construction begins in early March and Auckland Transport aims to complete the project by late May before works begin on the City Rail Link in the downtown area. Perhaps the city will follow the lead of many UK and European cities that have bicycles in docking stations around the city. In London the "Boris bikes" (after Mayor Boris Johnson) are available to hire at one of the 750 docking stations in the city. It costs £2 to access a bike using a bank card and the first 30 minutes are free. If you aren't using the bike you dock it and then pick up another one at another docking station. A similar system in Auckland, and other NZ cities, would be a great way

to see a city without the hassle of parking your car in the inner city.

## Wai kato



Contact me any time:

Rob McGuire - Councillor Eureka Ward

Ph. 824 3696 1 fax 824 3645 1 Mob 0274 970 966

Email [rob.mcguire@waidc.govt.nz](mailto:rob.mcguire@waidc.govt.nz) or [robmcguire@xtra.co.nz](mailto:robmcguire@xtra.co.nz) DISTRICT COUNCIL Waikato District Council free phone - 0800 492 452.

Les Cox and Karina Wu are the new owners at Woodside Estate Café and Function Centre.



Les and Karina yield from North Auckland where Les worked in finance for Albany Toyota and Karina worked as an Accountant for Accountability Net Ltd.

Wanting to get away from city life and the daily rat race, they purchased Woodside for a more



relaxed lifestyle. Since taking over the business from the Robinson Family in July last year, they have had very little time to relax. Les had no previous experience in hospitality however Karina had completed her Barista training and worked part time at Michel's Patisserie and The Muffin Break on the North Shore while studying at Massey University, so they have both had a lot to learn. As well as that, they have had to build a new home as there was no accommodation on the property.

Their new house was completed on 24<sup>th</sup> December so Christmas Eve and Christmas Day were spent moving in.

Their daughter Anita stayed in Auckland to complete her year at Westlake Girls High but has since moved to Matangi to join the family and has just started at Hillcrest High.

Les and Karina both feel the move has been the right decision and look forward to their future in the Waikato.

They describe Woodside Estate as their own slice of paradise and museum with the magnificent gardens, old buildings and memorabilia.

They hope to expand the gardens and keep adding to the quirky features on the property and are continually on the lookout for any old or interesting pieces to add as features to Woodside so remember if you are having a cleanout and throwing things away give them a call as they just find a place for it somewhere in around the grounds.

They are open Wednesday through to Sunday from 10.00am till 3.30pm for Brunch/Lunch and coffee.

And after many requests from locals they have started opening every Thursday evenings for light meals and social drinks.

Pop on in and introduce yourself to Les and Karina, they will make you feel most welcome.



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