

Eureka Express

vol XXXVII no.2 Circ 315

Mar 2016



The people have spoken...

New Zealand Flag Referendum 2016

Eureka Express Guest Editorial

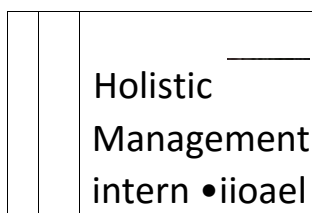
Introducing ourselves, Percy and Linda Sharp, to the Eureka community after having been here for almost 10 years is a bit overdue, but better late than never.

Originally from Zimbabwe, circumstance almost forced us to leave our wonderful home country and relocate to New Zealand in 2003. Our three children, Tommy (36), Nicola (34) and Steve (29) had started fleeing the nest and two were already living outside Zimbabwe as the opportunities there were no longer attractive or adequate. We decided to move somewhere where they might be enticed to join us. I felt we had to stay in the southern

hemisphere and thankfully our New Zealand applications materialised before those in Australia. Our plan has worked and we now have Tommy and his partner Sonay with their daughters Linita(5) and Kayleigh(4) living in Auckland. Nicky and her husband Iain, daughter Maddyson(3) and a baby boy due on 1st April live here in Hamilton. Steve and fiancé Becky also live here in Hamilton.

Being a veterinarian, I was fortunate enough to have a pre-arranged job as a MAF vet at a meatworks in New Plymouth. We spent 2 and a half years there and then moved to Hamilton in 2005 to revert to the field of veterinary science that I had specialised in, namely embryo transfer. Since September 2006 we have established a small IVF embryo transfer centre here at 590 Holland Road and do work for predominantly dairy farmers throughout the North Island.

Looking after 12 acres keeps us occupied but our pasture management probably has neighbours doubting our methods. 25 years' involvement in the Holistic Management movement dictates what I do and the highlight of my day is going out to move our small Wagyu herd to their next strip of grazing. Four pure bred Wagyu calves, imported from Australia as embryos, have just been born and are a valuable addition to the other half-bred Wagyu cattle that we run. The aim of being able to grow adequate cattle fodder without using any chemical inputs or having to preserve fodder in any form has been achieved. Our 2-3 month July/August lake has also disappeared. healthy land.



sustainable

Linda, being the extrovert in herself known to many of ensure there is never a dull some of you may have seen 'the beast', her bright red Dodge

future.

the family, has probably made you and she does her best to moment around. I'm sure

Nitro, travelling around the district.

One of the major changes we have experienced between living in New Zealand compared to Zimbabwe, is the huge reduction in the level of anxiety we are exposed to with respect to our safety from crime and violence. For the last 35 years that we lived and dairy farmed in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe through the 15-year liberation war and the violent farm evictions, we slept in locked, security fenced and burglar-barred homes, constantly on the alert for any threatening noise or dog barking. We have even got used to the gunfire from the gun club just down the road from us. It is comforting to know that when one of our possessions can't be found, we have just forgotten where we put it and it has not been stolen.

A difficult adjustment for us was having to start life over again at 50 and living in a country where we were strangers and spoke with an accent. Coming from a community where my great-grandfather moved onto our farm in 1909, I was used to going to town and meeting people whose grandfather knew my grandfather. Thankfully we now occasionally bump into people we know and appreciate that we feel people are now starting to trust us. I am having trouble getting Linda to support the All Blacks. I am slowly getting round to being a supporter especially when they play against Australia, but as most young Rhodesians aspired to becoming Springboks, I still find it difficult when the All Blacks play South Africa.

We would like to extend our thanks to Graeme and Colleen, Karl and Sally and Robbie, our neighbours when we arrived in Eureka, for helping us settle in and for their on-going friendship. Colin at Eureka Motors has also been most friendly and helpful. Thank you also to all the Kiwi farmers who provide us with a livelihood.

We have no plans of leaving the district soon, so we hope to get to know a lot more of you.

Percy Sharp

RURAL SUPPORT WAIKATO-HAURAKI-COROMANDEL

The Rural Support Trust is a charitable organisation set up to assist when circumstances beyond your control lead to a rural business crisis — be it financial, climatic or personal they are ready to assist.

If you or someone you know in your community needs help call 0800 787 254 and their experienced staff will take your call or in times of high demand will return your call - always. They will choose the facilitator best suited to assist in resolving the specific problem.

The Trust members are local rural people with a wide range of experience and knowledge and are used to dealing with challenging rural situations. Their service is free and confidential so don't hesitate to call if you, a friend or family member need someone to share a problem.

A copy of their pamphlet and other information is available on their website www.waikato.rural-support.org.nz

EUREKA EXPRESS ACM REPORT

The 36th Annual General Meeting of the Eureka Express was held on 15th March 2016 at the Eureka Hali. Six residents attended the meeting which was chaired by Editor Gail Mayall. Resignations were received during the last year from Dinah Booth, Leanne Hilder, and Shona Clements.

Income for the 2015 financial year was \$3,692.76; Cash expenditure \$2,957.93 — a profit before depreciation of \$734.83. Bank balances at the end of the financial year were — Encore account \$3,050.16, Bonus Saver account \$10,968.47. Advertising charges will remain the same.

The Editor outlined the events organized by the Eureka Express team in 2015 including the Annual Easter colouring competition — 34 entries were received, a very successful community lunch in May, which was also an opportunity to farewell the Kimber family who had farmed in the district for 80 years, and a very enjoyable Ladies Night in November.

Guest editorials continued and are a feature of the Express enjoyed by all and the Editor thanked those who contributed. She acknowledged the meticulous care of the Express accounts by

Treasurer Gayle Orr. She thanked Sheryl Gordon who reviews the Express accounts, Wendy Morch for her work pre printing, Anna Drever who designs the covers, Lorraine Morrison, Margaret Smith and Jill McGuire for their assistance on printing days and the other Committee members who make a big contribution to the smooth running of the Express; also Waikato Sheds, Eureka Motors and other advertisers, regular and new contributors and those who assist with delivering the Express each month. The Committee is also grateful for the many donations they receive from past and present residents of Eureka.

Two new members were welcomed on to the committee, namely Linda Journeaux and Sue Marshall.

The Editor commented the Express Committee would welcome offers of assistance from residents at any time. Wendy Morch expressed an interest in training someone to take over the management of the website.

Committee 2016

- Patron — Colin Duncan
- Editor — Gail Mayall
- Assistant Publisher — Wendy Morch with assistance from Jill McGuire and Margaret Smith
- Covers — Anna Drever
- Minutes Secretary — Jill McGuire
- Club Secretary — Lin Buckley
- Treasurer - Gayle Orr
- Gardening Gurus — Mike Roach
- Ladies a Plate column — Committee contributions
- Website host Wendy Morch
- Printing Assistants
- Lorraine Morrison, Margaret Smith, Jill

- Typists — Margaret Smith and Jill McGuire
- Committee / News / Collating: Sue Marshall,
- Karin Vink, Jennifer Mace

ADVERTISING RATES

CONTACTS -Gail or Gayle

Small Advertisements insertions	Business x 10	\$10 'month	\$80 : year
One Third Advertisement insertions	Page x IC	mcnÉh	\$1201 year
One Half Advertisement insertions	Page c x fO	St SO I	\$201 month year

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 R D 6, HAMILTON 3286
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BABYSITTER AVAILABLE:

Hi, my name is Constance Rothery. I am a year 11 student from Eureka Road, with a fair bit of experience in babysitting. I am available for babysitting any day except Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Feel free to text me on 0277232098 or call me on 8241188. Thank you.

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TICKET

SNIPPETS



BIRTH. NEW BABY CONGRATULATIONS: to Sheena and Kieran Thompson of Tauwhare Road who became the proud parents of a beautiful daughter, Ava, on 29 February. Congratulations and best wishes to all.

NEW GRANDCHILD CONGRATULATIONS: to Ron and Karen of Platt Road who welcomed a new granddaughter, Frankie May, in NSW on March 21. A lovely daughter and first child for Greg and Jamie Spyve. Best wishes to all.

And new grandchild congratulations also to Brian and Yolande Insoll of Hunter Road who were delighted to welcome a new grandson on March 26 in Melbourne. A darling son and first child for Robert and Michelle Insoll. Best wishes to all.

WELCOME TO EUREKA: to Mike and Renee O'Neil who have bought Ace and Vicki Dance's ex-home on Eureka Road where they, Mike and Renee, have been living for the past 3 years. Lovely to have you both as permanent Eureka residents now.

FAREWELL TO EUREKA: to Geoff Roan and Orla Fahey and their two young children, Ryan and Tayla. of Morrinsville Road. who have sold their property and are moving to new opportunities across the ditch in Oz . Our very best wishes go with you all.

GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS: to Cherie Trenberth, only daughter of Tony and Rose Trenberth of Tauwhare Road, who will graduate in April with a B Education in Primary Teaching from Waikato University. Cherie is presently teaching in Tokoroa. All the best, Cherie



Trinaka Kenny at the Waikato
Swimming
Champs



EUREKA EXPRESS EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION

Juniors 5 — 7 years

- 1st Daniel Pryor (6)
- 2nd Stirling Grant
(6)
- 3rd Wilha Grant (5)
- HC Shaun Mayall (5)

Commended: Patrick Gordon (6), Ashlee Winter (7), Cali Chamberlain (7) Bianca Ellesmere (6), Leon Davidson (6), Katlin Chamberlain (6)



Seniors 8 — 10 years

- 1st Mikaela Davidson (9)
- 2nd Wyatt Grant (10)
- 3rd Lauren Pryor (8)
- HC Zac Griffin (10)
- HC Jessica Winter (9)

Commended: Summa Campbell (10), Leo Wallace 99), Jack Campbell (8), Hannah Gordon (8), Jessica Chambers (10). Ryan Cambers (9), Ben Newman (10), Noah Ellesmere (8), Jesimae Strawbridge (8), Letitia Taylor (9), Alex Meredith (10).

Pre-School

Bruno Wallace (4), Griffin Hopkins (4). Scott Taylor (4), Ruby Sampson (4), Leon Morris (3 %)

Covers

Brodie Ware (11), Rachel Basi (11). Danielle Gordon (13), Amy Gordon (11), Ashleigh Mayall (11).

The judges (independent and unbiased as always) were once again most impressed with the high standard of the 38 lovely entries this year. Congratulations and thank you to you all. We hope you all enjoyed your prizes and also enjoyed seeing your colourings displayed in Eureka Motors windows over Easter.

RAINFALL

	February 2016	Year to 29 th February
Total (mm)	72.5	167
Average (1994-2016)	62	143
Difference	+ 10.5	+ 24

Rainfall recorded on 7 days.



Rainfall recorded on 7 days.

TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

Opening night was enjoyed by all, and was a good time for a catch up and to play bowls yet again. Welcome to Helen and George who are our newer bowlers and very keen. We extend an invitation to any person(s) who would like to join us on Thursday evenings at the Tauwhare Hall at 7:20pm. Come and give bowls a try - it is a game for gents, ladies and junior boys and girls (aged from about 10 years plus). For further information contact Robin - phone 07 824 1819 or go to the NZ Bowls website www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz Bowls is a very affordable sport for the whole family and an excellent way of meeting people residing in our own district.

Good to see Ernie Morris return and welcome to Emily who is also very keen.

I have just perused the contents of two large envelopes of bits and pieces which arrived in the mail this morning. One from NZ Bowls and the other from Waikato Bowls. I will display what I can on the Notice Board and the remainder will be put with the "please read" folder on the stage. Please take time to have a look at what is going on in the bowls realm.

Results:

8 March 2016 — Opening Night

- Winners B Meads, G Singers-Ritz

10 March 2016 - Club Night

- Winners R Coxon, N Stolwyk, R Arnold

17 March 2016 - Club Night

- Winners R Arnold, H Bargh
- Runners Up I Spencer, E Morris



Upcoming Events

7 April 2016 Triples Championship
14 April 2016 Open Tournament (plate please)
19 April 2016 Erin Rosebowl (Triples) at Matangi
21 April 2016 Club Night (Family night)
28 April 2016 Rinks Championship
5 May 2016 Club Night

FAMILY NIGHT 21ST April at 7:20pm (School holiday)
This was a great night in 2015 — make it happen again
Families and individuals are ALL WELCOME

Good bowling everyone - Robin Bargh Phone 824 1819



EUREKA BADMINTON CLUB



Eureka Junior Badminton

Junior Badminton will begin the season on Wednesday May then every Wednesday in the Matangi Hall from 6pm to 7.30pm.

Racquets available

For further information please phone Bryce on 8295398

MORE ON THE RABBIT PROBLEM

Sue Edmonds

Well the rabbit meeting I wrote about last month was duly held at the Hall, and a very satisfying 19 people turned up to hear Chris Monk of the Regional Council talk about responsibilities and methods of extermination, with slides to show what to do.

With the proliferation of lifestyle blocks, and animals everywhere, Chris warned that guns might not be the first or best choice of method. Horses, in particular, can be terrified by gunfire, and can do themselves, or their fences, considerable damage. Not only that, but someone has to have the requisite licence to shoot. Shotguns are very noisy but useful at close range, while .22 rifles, while quieter, have a much longer range and you need to aim very carefully.

So quite a bit of Eureka probably isn't gun country these days.

Chris talked about Pindone, a rabbit poison, but warned that it could only be used in bait stations, and definitely not spread on paddocks unless the person spreading it had a Controlled Substance Licence, and permission from the Medical Officer of Health. It only seems to come in biggish containers and costs \$100 or so.

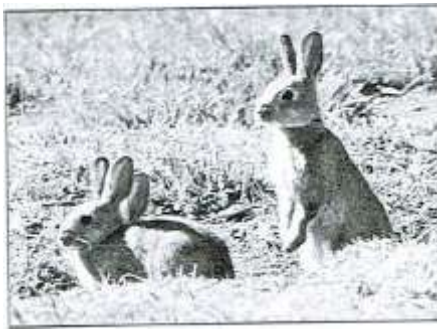
That left the fumigant Magtoxin, which can be bought from Farmlands and other stock agents. It's about \$50 for a small container of pellets (about 160), and comes with instructions. I sold half my container to my neighbour, but mistakenly put my share in a glass jam jar with lid. Chris warned that sunlight on glass will cause the fumigant to start coming out, and it must be kept in the dark and preferably in the original metal container.

My family came for Easter and we did a group exercise in rabbit extermination on my one hectare with Magtoxin. First we walked all over the paddocks and marked all the likely warren holes which were deep enough to be being used. Then we fetched the pellets, a spoon, a spade and a wheelbarrow of soil and donkey doo (of which I had piles). The process works best when there is moisture around, which starts the pellets off. Saturday was rather humid and we'd had some rain, so the soil was damp too.

I threw two pellets down each hole with the spoon (the recommended dose), and then the family shovelled and stamped and filled each hole solidly. Even putting the cap back on the jar very quickly each time I found that the fumes were getting to me by the time we did the last holes, so be warned not to lean over the open jar/tin.

Since then none of the holes has been excavated, we have seen one or two rather 'lost' rabbits the next day, and there were two on my drive which probably came from next door, but haven't returned. So make sure your neighbours are also making efforts at extermination, or all the effort will be for naught!

There was talk at the end of the meeting that if the whole district got together, they could negotiate a discount on Pindone with the manufacturers. But it would need a biggish group, a number of bait stations, or some legal and medical permissions for wider spreading. I'll be sticking to Magtoxin in the meantime.



COWS IN MORRINSVILLE

Sometime ago I wrote enthusiastically about Eureka being represented with a painted cow in the streets of Morrinsville.

Well I spent three whole months painting it, and the big crowd at the official launch loved it, and the Gallery people were looking forward to having her outside.

However, my sponsor and his wife, both avid football fans, but no art lovers, were obviously expecting an 'emblem' Mooloo, rather than an art work.82871983

They decided the black wasn't black enough, the eyes were wrong, and some of the lines weren't straight enough for them. Also the sides, which were a greeny grey decorated with footballers, weren't green enough.

So they took it to a car painter, had it completely resprayed, removed the small decorative touches, and painted the sides bright emerald green. Not only that, but the football figures were photographed, turned into stickers, and stuck on.

When I heard she was being 'touched up' I rang the Cow Committee and asked that my name be removed from any association with that cow, and suggested that a spray painted, stickered cow was hardly appropriate outside an art gallery.

However, money obviously won out and she eventually appeared, quite different from her original look.

Lately I have learned that the original plaque with my name on it as painter has been attached to the base. I have therefore demanded that it be removed forthwith. We await developments. What you will see outside the gallery is a travesty of the original. I apologise if people in Eureka feel let down, but I and my Morrinsville and gallery friends have been devastated. I'd always been told that long term Morrinsville residents had no taste for art (it took 5 years to get the gallery open), and this would seem to prove it. I've attached a photo of the original (even if not in colour) so you can see what we lost.

Sue Edmonds




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Greetings from the School

It's been another incredibly busy Term so far at Newstead, we:

PTA Corn Fundraiser

Again we'd like to thank our wonderful PTA and A HUGE HUGE THANK YOU to all the parents and teachers who helped pick and pack the corn this year - we couldn't have done it without you. A special thanks again to the wonderful generosity of the Syben family, and a very big THANK YOU to McFarlane Contracting for planting the corn! We truly appreciate your fabulous generosity. Once we have a final price for the corn sold to market, we will update you all with a final amount raised.

Swimming Sports

Last Tuesday we held our school swimming sports. It was fantastic to see so many children participating and 'giving it their best shot'. We talked as a school about how days like these provide opportunities to go out of your comfort zone and the importance of taking advantage of those days. It was great having so many parents and whanau come down to support the children. Our 'place getters' represented our school at the Country Schools Cluster Swimming Sports at Matangi School.

Easter Break

A reminder that all schools in New Zealand will be closed on Tuesday 29th March. This means our Easter break runs from Friday March 25th to Tuesday 29th March. Children return to school on Wednesday 30th March. Term 1 ends on Friday 15th April.

Present and past Newsteads and their parents competing in the XRace during a weekend. Well done everyone! Who can you spot?



Congratulations to ...

Matthew Wade who gained a 2nd placing at this year's X Race. Well done.

Also, to three of our 2015 Yr 6 children who received placing's. Trinika Kenny came 1st, Millie Wallace came 2nd and Samantha Crawford came 3rd.



The school pool will be closed after Easter. Please return swipe keys as soon as possible O

COUNTRY & CITY CLUSTER SWIMMING RESULTS

Huge congratulations go to our 23 swimmers that attended the city/country cluster swimming sports at Hillcrest last Friday. They all swam brilliantly and were excellent representatives for the school. We were represented in 16 finals — the highest number of children in the finals ever.

Freestyle Blake Evans - 4th Maddy Kay - 2nd Hannah Gordon - 3rd Jesimae Strawbridge - 4th Danny Sinclair - 4th	Breaststroke Liam Wells - 3rd Hannah Gordon - 1st Maddy Kay - 2nd Mitchell Robinson - 2nd Danny Sinclair - 1st Bridget Hill - 4th
Backstroke Hannah Gordon - 1st Maddy Kay - 4th Emerson Bell - Finalist Mitchell Robinson - 4th Danny Sinclair - 3rd	Medley Matthew Sinclair - 4th Hannah Gordon - 1st Danny Sinclair - 1st

A special thank you must go to Gary Brown for making the starting block for Tauwhare children to practise on. This definitely had a positive effect on their confidence. A special thanks also to our teachers who have all been upskilling and honing



their teaching of swimming skills.



MARAE VISIT

The whole school and pre-school spent a day at the Waimakariri Marae, and what a fabulous day it was. We heard stories of the history of Tauwhare and of Waimakariri Marae from our Maori elders. We enjoyed activities such as harakeke weaving,



waiata and rakau. We all had such a wonderful time.

our Topic - CONNECTED TO PEOPLE. CONNECTED TO PLACE is well underway with learning about ourselves, our families, our heritage. Most children have completed their mihi and have drawn their visual mihi.

PROJECT ENERGISE have started our Healthy Eating sessions raising the children's awareness of the nutritional value of a variety of food.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Teachers are involved in a wide variety of learning this year, including SOLO Taxonomy which teaches high level thinking skills, Accelerated Literacy Learning and Incredible Years Programme for Teachers. All staff have trained as CogMed Coaches this term. CogMed is a computer based programme which focuses on improving working memory- which helps with things such as spelling, basic facts, memory recall and focussing ability. It is a very exciting new programme which is backed by solid research from around the world.

Pukeko Preschool — April 2016

We would like to thank everyone who has been helping us with our orchard as it is such a delight to eat apples from our own trees.

Our focus at the moment is "Hope for the Future" and with these amazing children Tauwhare is looking very bright. We've been celebrating friendships and developing our skills for looking after the planet and growing food.

Building Update:

It is all on, plans have been drawn up, fire reports have been done, the school wants their building back so this means we need to get the building built. Everyone in the Tauwhare Community owns the preschool and it is important that we build a preschool that meets the needs of future generations. Please feel free to pop in to the preschool and meet the teachers, come along to trust board meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month or help out with the up and coming garage sale.

WE WANT YOU!

Our community preschool is in a good place and we are looking for a chair person to lead us in the coming years. This is great way to give back to the community and if you have children attending the preschool we offer a discounted rate for all trust board members. 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 have spaces available most days — call in and see us, ph 824 0860, or email us on pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz. We offer the 20 hours ECE and you may also be eligible for the childcare subsidy. Contact us for more information.



n+ Tauwhope Hadl sa+upday 2 April 2016

Boooam42000pm

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

Rg"o

Tauwhare Playgroup

It has been a fun term so far, with lots of time for outside play in the late summer weather. We had a great time playing with the water play equipment, filling watering cans and floating boats.



Painting is always a favourite activity for children (and adults!). We often get the painting supplies out after morning tea, for everyone to get creative. And we have found that letting the children experiment with colours and textures is more important than trying to create something perfect to go on the fridge!

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 e Imaginative play
- Outdoor and free play
- 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

Hi Folks,

Well the weather has been horrid going for us all. I think this would be the longest drought we have had for many years, yes we have had rain, 50mls in a very small area. Eureka got some of that.

Winter is just around the corner. Winter veges should be planted now. That includes broccoli, cabbage, Cauliflower, kale, spinach, some lettuce varieties, parsley, garden peas, silverbeet and beetroot etc.

All the above will grow in cooler weather but growth will slow when the temperature drops.

Now is the time to order your plant requirements for planting this winter. These include all trees, roses, fruiting trees etc.



At Roach's we have outdoor spray free tomatoes in buckets, approx 6.2kg for SIO each
Also 1 kilo, 1st grade tomatoes, for \$3 per kilo.

Its the last week for gherkins

\$10 per kilo small — medium

\$8 per kilo medium — larger

Happy gardening everyone

Mike Roach

07 8241725

0274955183



LADIES A PLATE

Fresh Fig Cake

This recipe makes a moist cake filled with a mixture of fresh figs, brown sugar, and lemon juice.

Ingredients

1/4 cup butter, softened	1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup white sugar	1/4 teaspoon almond extract
1 egg	1 cup chopped fresh figs
2 cups all-purpose flour	1/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt	1/4 cup water
2 teaspoons baking powder	2 cups chopped fresh figs
1 cup evaporated milk	1 tablespoon lemon juice

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Spray two 8-inch round cake pans with vegetable Oil spray.
2. In a medium bowl, sift together flour, salt and baking powder. Set aside.
3. In a large mixing bowl, cream butter with the sugar until fluffy. Add egg and beat well. Add flour mixture alternately with the evaporated milk. Fold in vanilla and almond extracts and chopped figs.
4. Divide into two prepared 8 inch round cake pans. Bake at 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) for 30 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out dry.

To make the filling: In a saucepan, combine 2 cups figs, brown sugar, water and lemon juice. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat to a simmer and cook until thickened, about 20 minutes. Spread thinly between layers of cake and on top.



Gluten-free Chocolate and Almond Brownie

A fabulous, easy to make, brownie that everyone can enjoy!

Ingredients

200 g Butter	1h cups Caster sugar
3 tsp Vanilla extract	4 Eggs
1 cup Dutch cocoa powder	% tsp Baking powder, gluten free
h tsp Salt	1% cups Rice flour
% cup Slivered almonds h cup Dark chocolate, chopped, plus an extra half a cup to add after baking	
1 serving Cream, softly whipped	

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 180C.
2. Melt the butter in a saucepan then stir in the sugar and vanilla. Remove from the heat and whisk in the eggs, one at a time.
3. Sift the cocoa, baking powder, salt and rice flour together.
4. Add to the egg and butter mixture with the almonds and chocolate.
5. Pour into the prepared slice tin and bake for 20-25 minutes or until the centre is slightly firm to the touch.
6. Let cool before slicing and topping with slivers of chocolate. Serve with cream



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

Field Workshop

Weed and Animal Pest Control

Saturday, 9 April 2016

9.30am—3pm

4/398 Luck at Last Road, Maungatautari, Cambridge



Two members of the Waikato Weedbusters Squad at a Waingaro Bush Reserve August 2015

FREE Workshop for Community Groups and Landowners

- Weed ID
- Plant pest control of the most common weed species in the Waikato
 - Plant pest management plans —Prioritising plant pest management activities
 - Animal pest control possum, rats and mustelids
 - Animal pest management plans for effective results •
- Monitoring for successful animal pest control

Presenters: Waikato Regional Council and Department of Conservation

Morning tea provided. Bring your own lunch. And bring a picnic chair to take the weight off over lunchtime.

Petrol vouchers provided to Community Groups by Trust Waikato through the Waikato Environment Centre

For details and to RSVP (by Friday 1 April March 2016) contact Moira Cursey 0800 246348 or m.cursey@xtra.co.nz.



NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR



I am receiving a number of calls around the appearance of a pest plant Yellow Bristle Grass on our roadsides. This summer-growing weed is now flowering and is a significant threat to pasture quality on adjoining farms. AgResearch's advice for farmers is - to top it, spray it or make silage out of it but don't make hay. On roadsides it can be topped but ensure the mown grass isn't spat into the paddock and be careful to clean your mower so the seeds don't spread to other areas. I am notifying staff of areas of infestation and they are arranging for our contractors Alliance to spray the affected areas. Thus far I have been advised of affected areas in Eureka and Tauwhare — let me know if it is in your road. Yellow bristle grass is an upright annual-seeding plant growing 25-45cm high. The yellow seed head is a cylindrical 'spike' 2.5-10cm long.

The Eureka / Tamahere Wards Heritage Committee is still meeting monthly and we plan to meet in different venues around the Wards to enable more residents to participate. I will let you know when we are meeting in Eureka so you can bring along items of history (documents, photographs etc) that you would like scanned and archived. We already have a domain name set up to 'drop in' items of history for each of the districts — Eureka, Matangi, Tauwhare, Puketaha, Newstead, Gordonton, and Tamahere.

Council is getting closer to finalising a plan to relocate the Huntly Museum. Eventually this Museum Will have a role in archiving Waikato District history but until this happens it is important that local documentation is preserved.

An Open Fire season came in to effect at midnight on 21 March until further notice, During an open fire season permits are not required unless the fire is within a 1km margin of a DOC area in which case a fire permit from DOC is required.

Work on our network of 2,422km of roads is now managed by a partnership between Council and Downers. This Alliance does work ranging from routine maintenance and assessment, roadside mowing and weed control etc through to construction of roads and drainage. So far this partnership has been very successful. The Alliance will shortly be moving out of the Council building to the Strada building in Ngaruawahia with Strada probably moving to Huntly.

As I mentioned in last month's Express the turning of the first sod of the Hamilton Section of the Expressway was held on 11 March and was attended by the Prime Minister and Minister of Transport. This 21.8km section will cost \$973m and is due to be completed by 2020. It includes 17 bridges, five interchanges and cycling and walking paths, will use 28,450 cubic metres of concrete, 212km of road markings and 126km of fencing and it is estimated the project will require up to 4 million cubic metres of earthworks and 1.3m tonnes of aggregate. This project will have quite an effect in some areas in the Eureka Ward. There will be extensive "greenfield" work and a bridge is to be built across Puketaha Road, an interchange at the Ruakura Road/SH26 intersection and an interchange at Greenhill Road. Ruakura Road will be stopped just beyond Ruakura Motors and redirected to feed into the Ruakura Interchange.

This month I attended the quarterly meeting of the Hauraki Guff Forum, at which I represent Waikato District. I find the information we are given at these meetings is very extensive and informative and the work being done to preserve the environment in the Gulf is a credit to those involved. At the March meeting we received a report from IFAW (International Fund for Animal welfare) and it was interesting to learn that, between June 2014 and Dec 2015, as the average mean speed of all vessels in the Gulf fell from 12kts to 10.8kts the risk of whale fatality trend also fell. We also heard that monitoring at Goat Island Marine Reserve shows that, although during the 1990's the numbers of crayfish increased four-fold and snapper were noticeably bigger and more common, numbers of crayfish and snapper are lower now than when the reserve was established in 1975. This monitoring suggests fishing pressure on the offshore boundary of the reserve for crayfish is so intense that animals that stray outside it are being caught faster than they are able to recruit back into the reserve. This shows the need for greater integration between fisheries management and marine protection and Government's proposed reform of marine protected areas legislation, its review of the fisheries management system and the current investment in the Sea Change Tai Tirnu Tai Pari marine spatial planning process creates an opportunity to do this.

Planning for further sections of the Te Awa River Ride is progressing with the designs for the bridge on the Ngaruawahia to Horotiu section underway. Plans are also progressing for the Hamilton to Cambridge section. The Perry Bike Park will be opening soon with direct access from Te Awa's Horotiu section. Te Awa River Ride have teamed up with Hamilton Gardens and Novotel Hamilton Tainui to offer a range of new bikes for hire — full day and half day hire is available which includes helmets and bike locks and the bikes are available from both locations. For more information contact the Te Awa River Ride Team or read their newsletter on www.te-awa.org.nz

Contact me any time:

Rob McGuire - Councillor Eureka Ward

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

Email rob.mcguire@waidc.govt.nz or robmcguire@xtra.co.nz Waikato District

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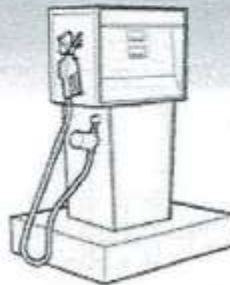
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