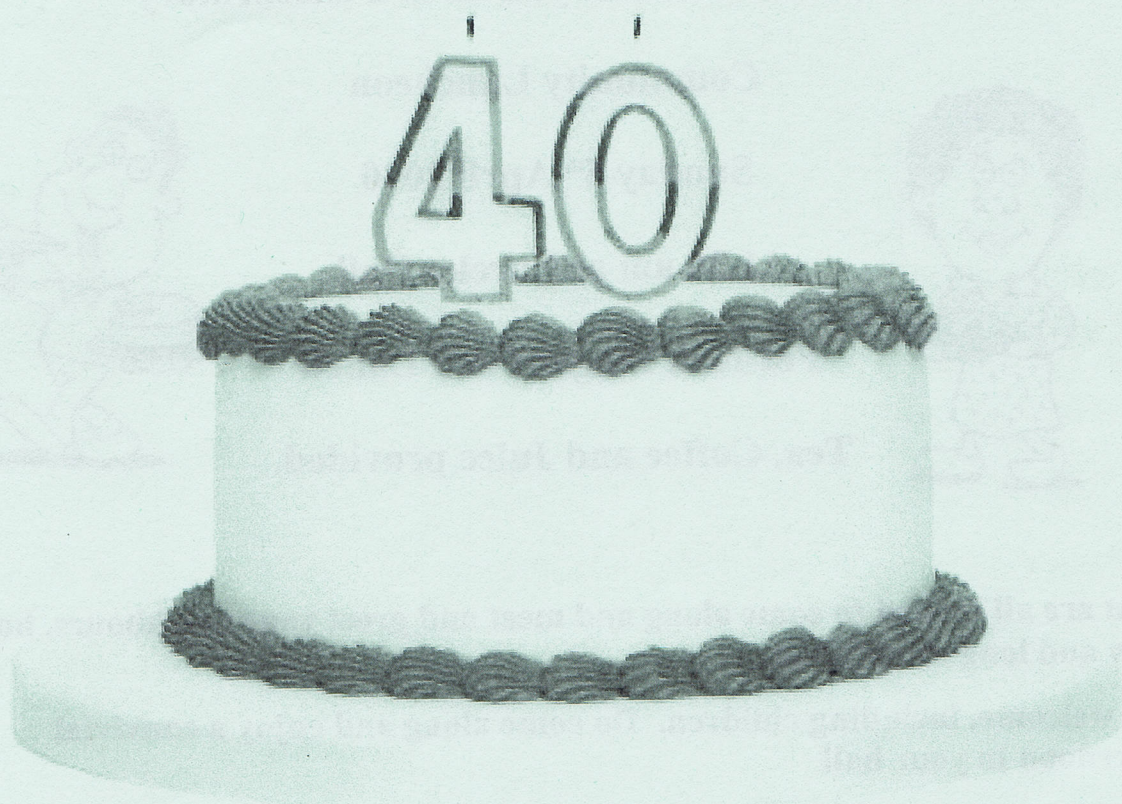


Happy Birthday
Eureka Express

Vol XLI No. 1 Circ 315

February 2020



*Welcome to the 400th issue. Yes! We've just completed
40 years of publication.*

See invitation within...

Let's do
Lunch!

Our Eureka Express is turning 40!

The committee invites you all to a Celebratory

Community Luncheon

Sunday 5th April 2020

11.30 am at Eureka Hall

Pot-luck Finger Food Lunch

Tea, Coffee and Juice provided.



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

All welcome, including children. Do come along and enjoy a convivial afternoon in your hall

Entertainment to follow lunch.

AGM

AGM

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the

EUREKA EXPRESS

Will be held Wednesday 18 March 2020

At 7.15 at the Eureka Hall.

All welcome. Supper will be served.

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Secretary

EDITORIAL

Hi

Lloyd, Sarah and myself (Heather) moved from Waiuku 22 plus years ago on the very memorable weekend Princess Diana died.

Lloyd had been working at the Steel Mill, and I was training to be a teacher at Waikato when we decided to make the move. Sarah did her 7th form year at Hillcrest High and went to study Early Childhood Education, Business Management and IT over the intervening years and now works at Waikato Hospital in the Clinical Coding Department as a Clinical Coder and Data Quality Administrator.

We have four fantastic daughters; Michelle, Tracey, Joanne and Sarah. Michelle is a Project Manager at A1 homes in Putaruru, Tracey is a Project Manager at LIC, and Joanne is an Accounts and Finance Manager at Amaroo Resthome in Berrigan, Australia.

We purchased the old Livestock Marketing property on Hooper Road and set about our Farming Enterprise. We bought with us our broodmares and have continued breeding for both racing and sales. Over the years we have had success in both areas which has allowed us to continue on.

Lloyd went to work at Brighthill Farm, and then on to Cambridge Stud, however he has done a full circle, retiring 2 years ago and now helps out during the season at Brighthill.

I did a string of relieving positions until starting at St Mary's Putaruru where I enjoyed teaching at numerous levels of the school and being part of the management team. I retired 18 months ago when my health found the long hours of teaching and the drive too much. I still retain my interest in being part of the management team one day a fortnight and still do some relief teaching.

We have seen many changes of people coming and going, and new houses in Hooper Road and the growth of Eureka due to subdivision. It was a sad day when the primary school closed but great to see it reopened as another educational facility.

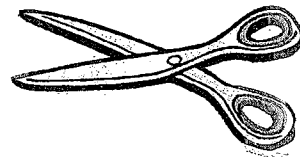
Our plans for the next few years are to renovate and paint the house and continue setting up horse fencing and stables and water improvement. We are on trickle supply and it is a very slow trickle this summer. Rain has not been kind to the district and is very evident when you see the dry pastures and hills surrounding us.

We enjoy living in Eureka with its proximity to Hamilton, Cambridge and Morrinsville. Let's hope the rains come in time to replenish tanks and above all our very parched pastures.

Cheers

Heather Monehan

SNIPPETS



WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



to: Nicola Orr, only daughter of Lionel and Gayle Orr of SH 26, and Steve Carroll who 'tied the knot' on February 8th, as a surprise addition to Nicola's 40th Birthday celebration at the Eureka Hall. Steve and Nicola's blended family of Dion, Sean, Adam, RJ and Charli were all in attendance plus grandson, William. Every best wish for the future Nicola and Steve.

GOLDEN WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

to Rob and Jill McGuire who wed in Wellington 50 years ago on February 7th. Hearty congratulations to you both and may you enjoy many more good years together.

NEW GRANDCHILD CONGRATULATIONS

to Lynette and Tony Walker of Masters Road on the arrival of a darling grandson, Louis James Blair, in Hamilton on January 16th. A beautiful son for Gemma and Ross Blair. Very best wishes to all.

FAREWELL TO EUREKA

to the Newman family of Eureka Road. Matthew and Cindy bought their block from the Morrisons some 14 years ago and built their new home where they've raised Ben, Jon and Sarah. The family have moved to Masterton where they will be closer to parents (and grandparents) and Matthew will commute to work in Wellington.

WELCOME TO EUREKA

to Bruce and Rachael McDonald and their boys, Caleb 13, and Regan 10, who have moved from Seddon Road having bought the Newman property. Bruce is a busy man working on two separate dairy farms. A warm welcome to you all. Ph. 8243531

TERTIARY STUDIES:

Local school-leavers who are heading off to further study include:

- **Taitym Stokes** of Manor Park. Taitym is starting at Waikato Uni majoring in Ecology and Biodiversity and minor in Accounting. A top maths student Taitym won the Ko Te Tangata Scholarship (Waikato Schools). Congratulations Taitym
- **Jack Deane** of Eureka Road. Jack has departed for Lincoln University in Canterbury to begin a B.Ag. Commerce degree.
- **Dylan Kenny** of Waverley Road. Dylan is set to begin his pilot training at Waikato Aviation Training School.
- And **Cameron Meredith** of Manor Park has begun a Mechanic Apprenticeship with Ebbett-Toyota in Morrinsville.

Don't they make you proud? Our very best wishes go with you all as you embark on this new and exciting stage of your life. (If we have inadvertently over-looked anyone please be in touch). Good luck to you all.

SNIPPETS CONTINUED

CONGRATULATIONS to Trinaka Kenny who has been named in the Hillcrest High School Premier Girls Futsal team travelling to France. The team has been invited to compete in the World Schools Futsal Championship in Lyon from 1st to 8th June 2020.

RD 6 CHANGE OVER. After 14 years sadly it is goodbye to our trusty posties, Erna and Sally. Erna and Sally bought the RD 4 run from John Porter in 2005. Due to its excessive growth in size RD 4 was divided into RD4, RD6, and RD 7 around 2010 and Gary Self bought RD 7. (This is now owned by Sophie Begman). Now Erna and Sally have sold RD 6 to Mike Bai and also sold RD 4, and moved away from the fogs to Katikati. A warm welcome to Mike Bai ph. 0210458846 or email mbandmbld@gmail.com

BEWARE! It has been brought to our attention that burglars are again active in our district! Please be vigilant with security and lock all houses, garages, sheds and vehicles. Be a good neighbour and be ever watchful.

USEFUL NUMBER AT WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To report - dumped rubbish,
 abandoned or burnt out vehicles
 livestock on the road

phone 24/7 number 0800492452. Animal control staff are available 24/7 to report a dog or animal issue (More on WDC website – 'livestock on the road')

It is NZTA for wandering stock on State Highways. Call 0800 4 Highways (0800 444 449). If the situation poses an immediate threat to people's lives or safety you can also contact the Police to report the situation or dial *555 from mobile phones.

\$2 BOOK FAIR

Friday 6th – Sunday 15th March

9am – 6pm

Eureka Hall



In Loving Memory of Vicki Dance



21 July 1954 -25 December 2019

Sincere condolences are extended to Ace (Robert) Dance of Eureka Road on the death of his dear wife, Vicki, on Christmas Day after a lengthy illness that she had fought so bravely.

Sadly Vicki's retirement from her 32 years of work at WINZ was measured only in months.

In her carefree youth Vicki went off on her OE and, as chance would have it, met Ace in Madrid, also on his OE with mates. Back in NZ they married in 1982 and seven years later bought a 15 acre block on Eureka Road and there made their home.

Ace had spent most of his youth living in Eureka on the family farm on SH26, much of his time spent in his father's vegetable garden and chopping wood for his mother (so not much has changed, Ace!)

For some years Ace farmed emus, baled hay with his neighbours, and generally kept busy and Vicki spent much of her spare time horse-riding. On 'Major Andy' Vicki was a keen follower of the Waikato Hunt, and while riding mainly for fun, she competed successfully at two Masters Games in Dressage, Show jumping and Eventing.

In those days, Ace and Vicki's constant companion was their beloved big Irish setter, "Wuff".

13 years ago they subdivided their block. Keith and Linda (Law) bought the bare block and built their new home first, then Ace and Vicki built their new home, renting out their cottage. All of their tenants, Dan and Abbie Hinton, Nick Hows, and Mike and Renee are still Eureka locals, with Mike and Renee having now bought the cottage and became part of the family, providing much joy for Ace and Vicki who adore little 'grandson' Grayson.

In recent years Vicki took up golf and most of her Leisure hours were spent out on a golf course chasing that little white ball. Trips and cruises were a great source of pleasure for them both.

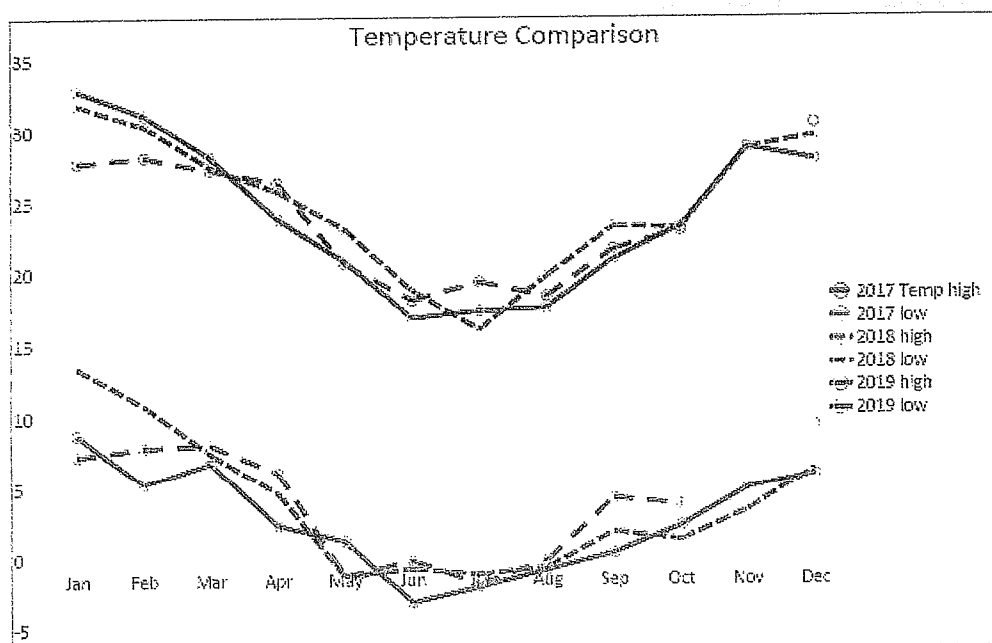
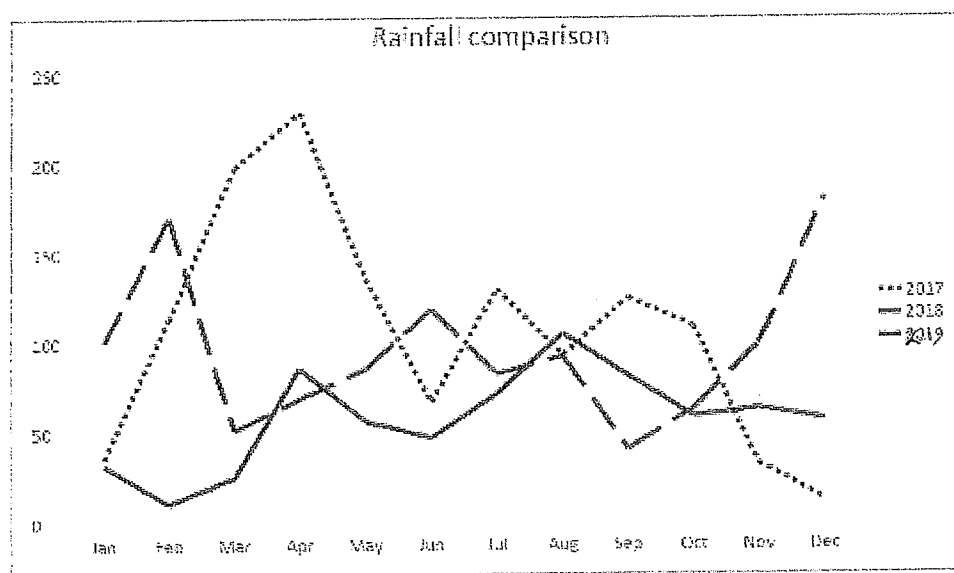
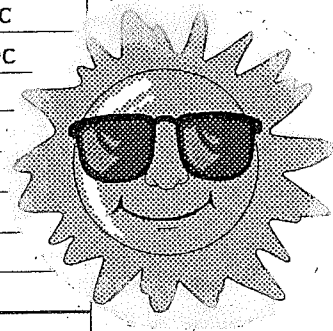
A more positive, fun-loving, caring, generous and hospitable person than Vicki would be hard to find. A fantastic workmate, neighbour and friend, Vicki will be sadly missed by us all and we offer our heartfelt sympathy to Ace, and all Vicki and Ace's extended family, on their huge loss of a very, very special lady.



WEATHER

Weather for Dec 2019		
Rainfall total	56.8mm	
Total for year	690mm	
Rainy days	14	
Most daily rainfall	20.6mm	17 th Dec
Highest wind speed	48.2km/hr	18 th Dec
Temp high	27.8 C	11 th Dec
Temp low	5.9 C	22 nd Dec

Weather for Jan 2020		
Rainfall total	3.6mm	
Rain Total for year	3.6mm	
Rainy days	4	
Most daily rainfall	2.6 mm	14 th Jan
Highest wind speed	45 km/hr	4 th & 6 th (data up to 15 th)
Temp high	31.1 C	19 th Jan
Temp low	6.6 C	13 th Jan



HALL UPDATE

The start of another busy year for us all and no doubt you have all started the year running. I know we have. The weather isn't being very kind to us with not providing any rain, and the heat is very draining. But we all just keep on keeping on with smiles on our faces.

We are getting closer to getting the heat pumps installed in the hall. I am still working with the council to get final approval. We are really pushing to have them installed before winter. This of course is our big project for the year.

The committee will be organising another ANZAC service on ANZAC day. Times and other information will be provided later. It would be nice if we could get as many locals to join us for the service and a cup of tea afterwards. I have asked the local schools if they would like to join us, however, it is school holiday time, so they are unable to this year.

We have several bookings for the hall for the start of the year, but plenty of spaces for later in the year.

Also, a gentle reminder, if you use the little library, please remember to swap a book. People are using it which is fantastic, but we are having to replace books to keep it full. Even if you have spare books at home and want to share them, the library is perfect for this.

Hope you all have a great month.

Below are the prices for the hall for this year. If you would like to book a function, contact Gail Mayall 8241758.

Usage	Residents	Non - Residents
Meeting Supper room	\$5	\$25
Meeting Hall	\$15	\$60
Social function	\$95	\$160
Weddings & Dance	\$115	\$250
Bond	\$400 Secretary's Discretion	\$400 Secretary's discretion

MARKET PLACE

WANTED TO BUY

We are looking for a good reliable economical car for our grandson to get to and from work.

Not too big as it will be his first car. Will consider any type.

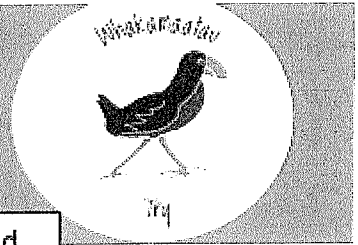
Please phone Gayle Orr 027 291 7150.

LOCAL WINDOW CLEANER AVAILABLE

Please contact Amy 027 644 6999

Tauwhare School

RD7 Hamilton 3267 New Zealand
e admin@tauwhare.school.nz
t 07 854 0864



Accomplished Learners Striving for Success in Tomorrow's World

We have made a lovely start to the new year and have enjoyed welcoming new families and staff to our school. We especially welcome Miss Amy Rodger to Room 5 and Miss Vanessa Belsham to Room 4. Our annual Picnic Day and swimming sports will be held at Morrinsville Pools on Friday March 6 where the teachers are looking forward to mixing and mingling with parents and whanau.

Our School focus this year is Making Connections where we will be looking at all the connections we have in our lives from family to Tauwhare to New Zealand to the world, from bridges to the internet to flight - a very busy and interesting year has been planned.

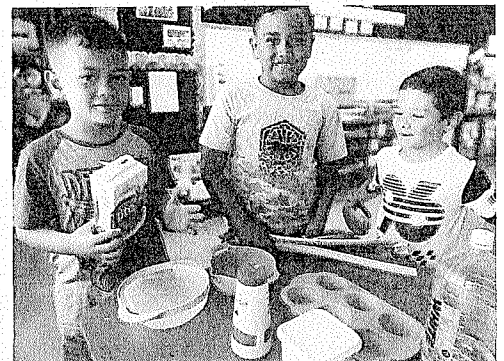
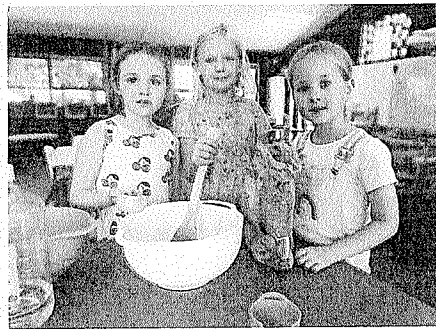
MINDFULNESS - PAUSE BREATHE SMILE The teachers and teacher aides participated in MINDFULNESS Professional Development, learning how to implement the programme Pause, Breathe, Smile into our daily programmes. We have begun the 8 week formal programme which is designed to help students feel in control of their emotions, feelings and behaviour.

Today
at Tauwhare on Monday we
went to pick plums and
Apples off the plum
and Apple Trees. I got
to taste one it was yum
Miss Bradlee came at our
take photo.



5+ A DAY AT SCHOOL

We have an abundance of fruit and veggies in our orchard and garden so the students have been happily munching on apples, pears and plums at morning tea and lunchtime. Room 5 & 6 have also baked apple and rhubarb muffins for the whole school and Room 1 have made Corn Chowder with the sweetcorn from the garden.

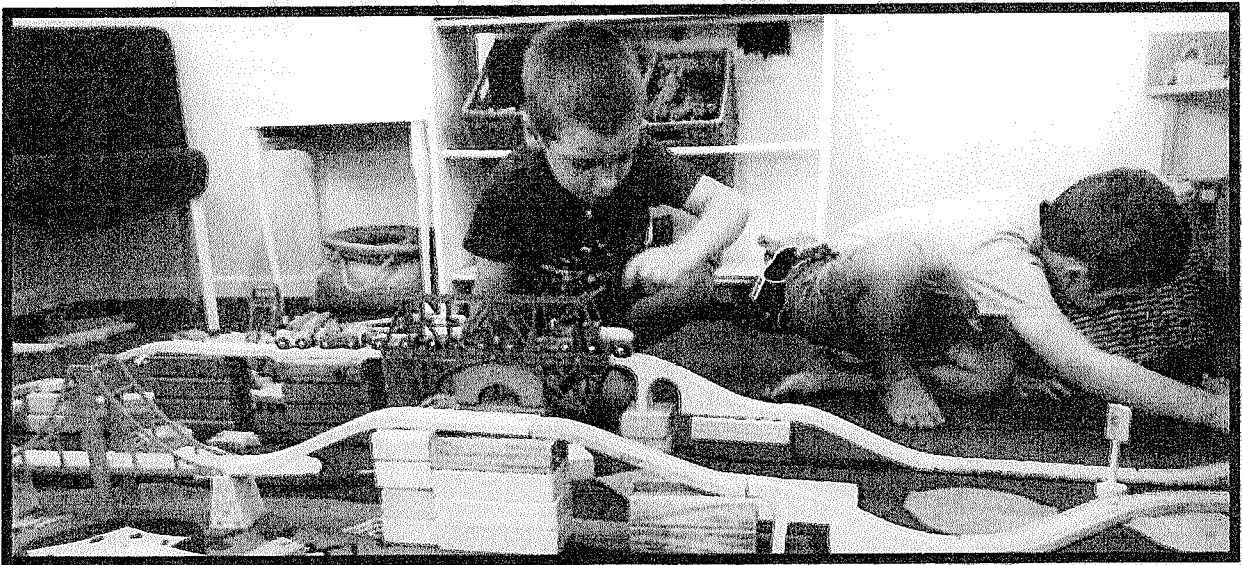


Pukeko Country Preschool

We have had lots of enrolments over the holidays and it so lovely to get to know all our new families.

With all this wonderful sunny weather there have been so many opportunities to learn alongside our friends. The school forest has been a lovely cool place to explore and enjoy the gifts of Papatūānuku. One of the big interests has been bridges, from railway bridges to draw bridges over castle moats this shared interest has been a source of many conversations. The children are already looking forward to Easter and they are digging rabbit holes so they can give them flowers cups of tea to ensure they grow into big rabbits who make big Easter Eggs.

Dear community I would like to say farewell, as I have decided to take up a new position in town. I have had a fantastic 7 years in this beautiful community and I would like to thank you all for your support over the years. It has been such a delight to care for your children and share so many delightful moments. Aroha nui Clare



About Pukeko Preschool

We are a small rural preschool situated next to the grounds of Tauwhare School on Scotsman Valley Rd. We are open from 7.30am – 5.30pm and licensed for 30 children. Session times are 8.45am – 1.00pm, 8.45am – 2.45pm, or choose your own hours for bookings over 6.5 hours. We welcome children from 5 months of age.

Limited spaces are available – call in and see us, phone 824 0860, or email pukekopreschool@xtra.co.nz. We offer 20 hours Free ECE (NO extra charges for these hours) and you may also be eligible for the childcare subsidy. Contact us for more information, check out our website www.pukekopreschool.org.nz, or find us on Facebook 'Pukeko Preschool in Tauwhare'.

TAUWHARE PLAYGROUP

Happy new year.

Tauwhare Playgroup returns on Thursday February 13th. There should be warm weather so the water play station will be set up. (Change of clothes may be needed).

We are very fortunate to have our playgroup funded by The Ministry of Education and it would be great to keep our playgroup a part of our community for as long as possible.

If you are a new family to the area, or have never been to Tauwhare Playgroup before, we invite you to join us. If you haven't been for a while or are a regular, we would love to see you again.

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 drop in for just a short while between naps or after school drop off. You don't have to stay all morning. We welcome ideas on activities or people to run a session if that interests you as well.

Please bring along a small plate of food for a shared morning tea, we provide hot drinks for parents and caregivers.

Follow us on our Facebook page "Tauwhare Playgroup" to keep up to date with what's happening, or email tauwhareplaygroup@gmail.com

TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

Welcome to February's club newsletter.

Well it is hard to believe that the bowling season is about to begin again.

Seems far too hot to be even considering playing bowls!!

PLEASE COME AND SAVE OUR CLUB – as numbers are reducing every year, we hate to think that Tauwhare Indoor Bowling Club may not survive many more years due to the lack of numbers. We are a friendly, sociable club with much laughter and banter.

We decided at last year's AGM that for the month of March this year we will only be having roll up nights. The idea of doing roll up nights for March is that for any new players that want to give bowls a try there will be no pressure as there will be no competitions or championship that month. **Our opening night will be Thursday 5th March.**

We would love to see last year's members back this year and hopefully some new members. Past members, we would also love to have you back playing for Tauwhare, so dust off your bowling shoes, shake out the spiders and head back to Tauwhare. We are always looking for junior players so if you are keen then come along and bring mum and/or dad with you.

If you have not played bowls before but would love to give it a go, then come along to the Tauwhare Hall on a Thursday evening. We have people within the club that can explain how the game is played. We start at 7.30pm but names need to be in by 7.25pm

If you would like more information, then do not hesitate to contact one of the following people: -

Jim and Rosalie Arnold	07 887 4832
Bev Meads	021 172 7822
Kevin Williams	07 824 0728

Look forward to seeing you all and having another fun season of indoor bowls.

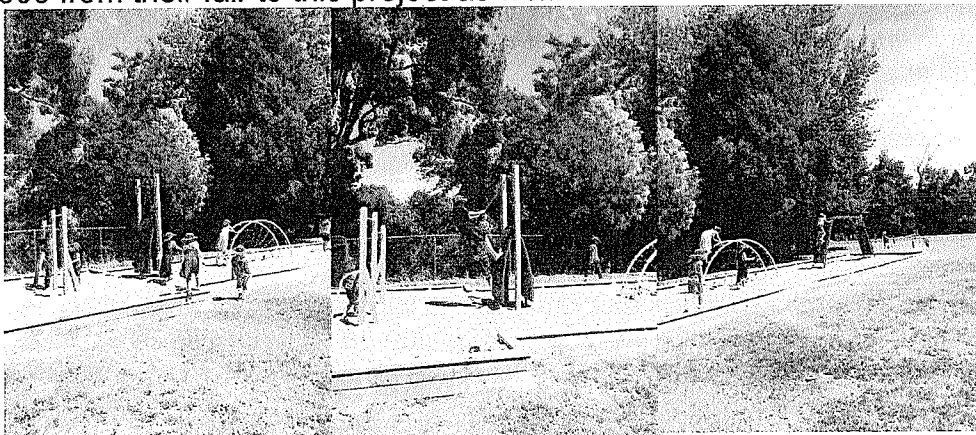


We have had a busy start to the term with lots of exciting things happening and a number of new families joining us.

While helping students develop important skills around reading, writing and mathematics remains a core element of our job and our primary school curriculum, we are also doing exciting work around digital technology, play based learning, visible learning and student leadership. Our staff are very active in their own professional development and will be involved in professional learning programmes both within the school and up at the university. We were also fortunate enough to work with Elizabeth Eley, from Poutama Pounamu, University of Waikato, a couple of weeks ago. Liz does a lot of work around the country in the field of education, particularly around social justice and looking at the role of education in Aotearoa.

Fitness Trail

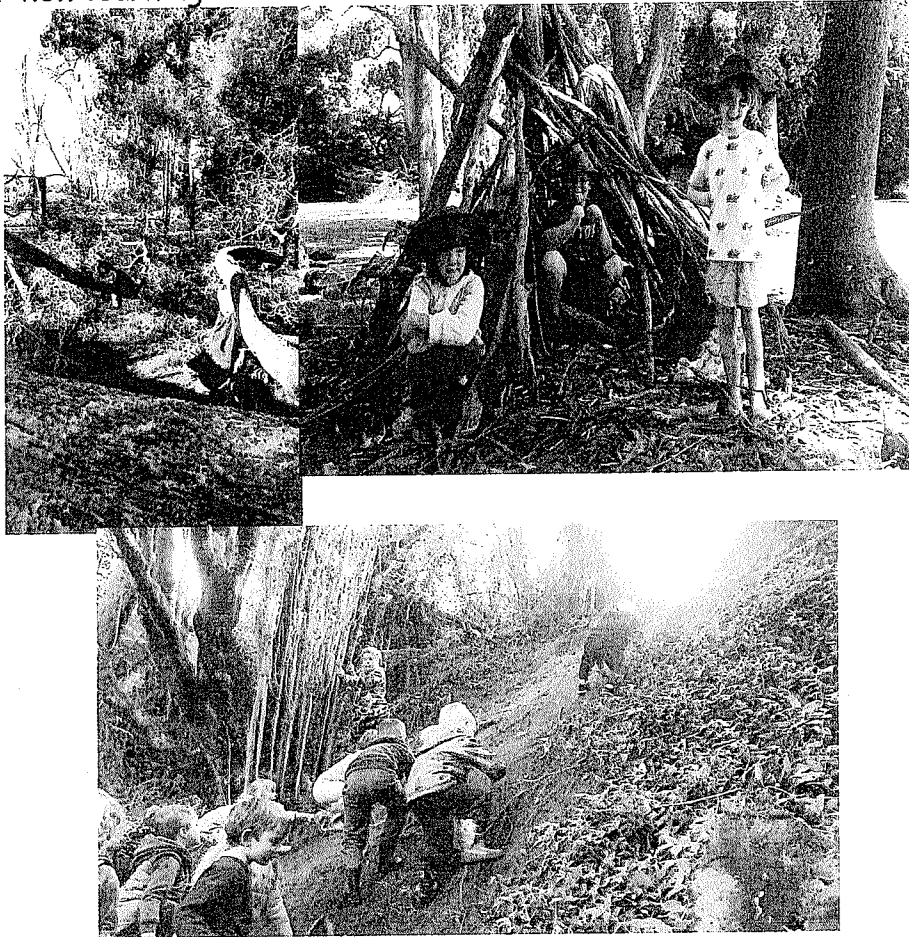
Our new Fitness Trail is now up and running. The feedback from the students so far has been really positive which is great. Last week I acknowledged our wonderful PTA and After School Care programme for funding the Fitness Trail. I would also like to acknowledge our 2019 Year 6 Cohort who generously donated over \$1000 from their fair to this project as well.



Forest School

Tui have began having regular weekly Forest School sessions in the Gully behind the school. At Forest School sessions the children are encouraged to work with others to carry out activities such as den/shelter building, role play, exploration, practical and creative skills and tasks. It is very rewarding to see

the children make the most of this wonderful opportunity to learn outdoors and apply their new learning within the classroom.



Upcoming Events

February

26 Family BBQ 5.30pm-7.30pm

March

5. Junior Tabloids at Tamahere School

11-13 School Camp for Yr 4-6

16 Senior School Swimming

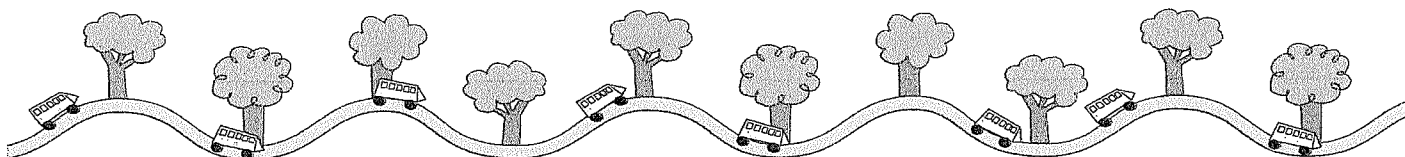
20 Country Schools Swimming

27 City Schools Swimming

April

9 Last Day Term 1

28 First Day Term 2



Motumaoho School

2101 State Highway 26, RD2 Morrinsville 3372 | office@motumaoho.school.nz | p. 07 8897597

Term 1 – February 2020

Kia ora koutau katoa,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new learners to Motumaoho School. I know you have made a very positive start in your first week of your learning journey at our school. And of course, welcome back to all our learners and families who have returned. It's great to see you all and I look forward to another successful school year with you all.

Continuing our School Values

Respect, Responsibility and Resilience. These three values are known as our 3 R's. Staff and our learners have been brainstorming and discussing what our values mean to us and how we can work together to achieve these in class and out in the playground.

Swimming Pool

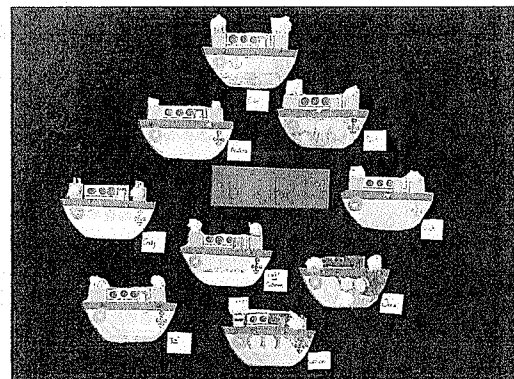
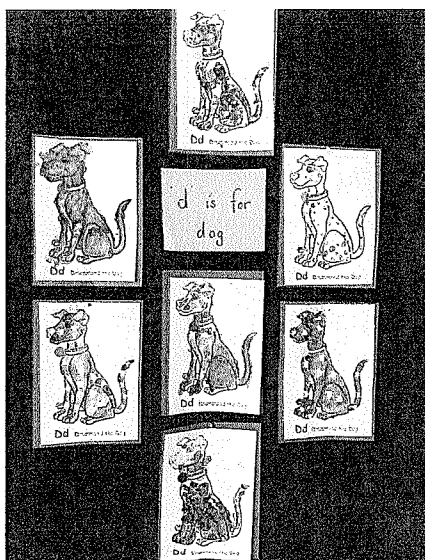
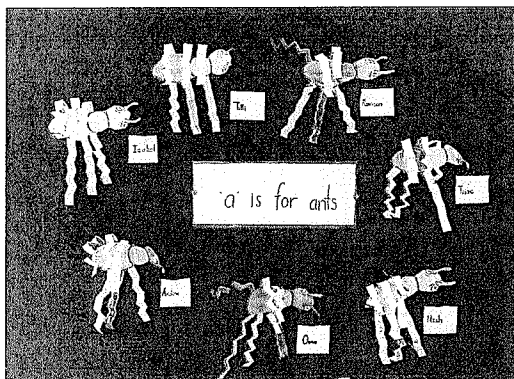
Our pool is up and running so please send your child with their togs and a towel every day. I know our learners have already been in the pool and the enjoyment on their faces is great to see especially on these hot days we have had. If you would like a pool key for your family to use out of school hours, please see Angela in the office. They are \$50 and must be returned at the end of the season.

Bikes for Donation

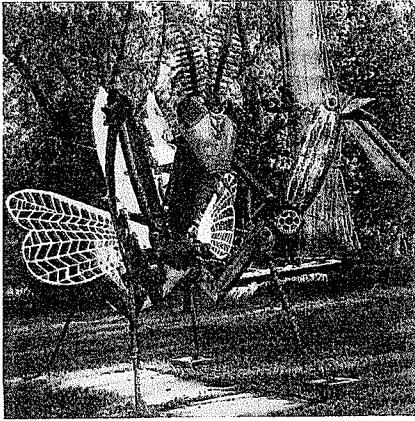
If your child has out grown their bike and you don't have a use for it now, it would be greatly appreciated if you could donate to our school for others to learn how to ride a bike. Thank you ☺

Nga mihi

Phillip Otto, Principal.



Some beautiful work on display from our Junior Room - well done!



A Celebration of Recycling

A creative look at the topic of recycling will take centre stage next month at The Sculpture Park at Waitakaruru Arboretum in Tauwhare.

Celebrating the “Art of Recycling,” will be held at the Sculpture Park over the weekend of March 14 – 15.

It will feature the work of three of New Zealand’s foremost artists all known for the sculpting of recycled material – Nathan Hull, Marti Wong and Adrian Worsley.

Metal Sculpture artist and engineering fitter-turner by trade, Nathan Hull, has been working his craft for years, transforming a host of discarded workshop items into masterpieces that include motorbikes, dragon, a taniwha, a griffin and more. His creations have won awards and are in demand both nationally and internationally.

Marti Wong is a full-time, self-taught artist specialising in metal sculpture, primarily using recycled materials. He spent years observing nature, studying books and comics then turning scrap metal into objects reflecting his unique view on the world. His pieces, which are strongly influenced by mythology and science fiction, range from small insects to life-size dinosaurs and adorn workplaces and public spaces.

Te Aroha’s Adrian Worsley designs and makes original sculptures entirely from recycled materials. A form fitter/welder he has perfected his craft over many years, blending materials such as copper, steel and wood as he transforms inanimate objects into tactile pieces of art that are much in demand. He is the creator of the transformer-style giant bull commissioned by an apple-growing and packing company in Napier.

The Sculpture Park is a 17.5 hectare ‘art-in-nature’ trail that displays over 100 sculptures and installations among more than 20,000 trees and shrubs. The woodland setting is now a protected forest. Over the past 28 years, owners John and Dorothy Wakeling turned what was a disused quarry into one of New Zealand’s largest outdoor galleries, where they now host a varied programme of annual exhibitions, and open Weekends in support of charity.

Celebrating the Art of Recycling is intended to provide an opportunity for visitors to learn about how each of the featured artists develop their sculptures, said Dorothy. There will be talks and question and answer sessions scheduled at 11am and 2pm on both days.

“The event highlights how some artists reuse waste metal” she said. The event supports the park’s principles around sustainable art. These include encouraging creativity with renewable materials and celebrating artists who use recyclable materials, and renovating and caring for sculptures and installations. www.sculpturepark.co.nz



What kind of computer should I buy?

How long is a piece of string? If a tree falls in the forest and no-one is around to hear it, does it make a sound? All good questions, supposedly without answers. Luckily the answer to the question "What kind of computer do I need?" is a little more attainable. To start with, most computer-users or 'netizens' as we used to call them (back before the internet was part of every moment of our waking lives), use computers for five activities: editing documents, checking email, going to websites, looking at or storing their photos, and playing games.

The first four require very little from a modern computer; even a computer from 5 years ago or a tablet is going to be fine for doing all of that. You can get a laptop if you want – they don't tend to last terribly long compared to desktop machines though, and if anything breaks you have to replace the whole thing, rather than just a component as you would with a desktop machine. The only reason to get a laptop is if you need to use it in different spaces.

Therefore for most users I tend to advise going for a new-ish, but cheap-ish desktop computer – and not a name brand. They (Dell, HP, etc) tend to skimp on quality and therefore have poor reliability longer-term, at least for desktop PCs. But a trusted local PC company of some sort (or your friendly neighbourhood computer guy nudge nudge wink wink) will generally have something that is "lower budget" comparatively, but more-than sufficient for your needs. Also avoid all-in-one (AIO) machines – those large screens with a computer built into them – they're worse than laptops for reliability and replacement parts.

The fifth activity I mentioned earlier (games) is where you start to see an increase in both requirements and price, if the games in question are 3D, and not your standard "solitaire" or "minesweeper" 2D games. If they're 3D, you'll need a beefier power supply (PSU) – at least 600 watts – and a graphics card. Luckily even cheap graphics cards are quite powerful nowadays, so depending on your game and monitor resolution, you can get away with not spending much. You may also want more RAM for 3D games. 8GB (gigabytes) used to be standard, but 16GB is becoming commonly recommended. Meanwhile, regular desktop users are unlikely to see any difference in performance from having more than 4GB of ram.

Something that I recommend for both gamers and non-gamers alike is an SSD drive, at least for your operating system. Compared to a regular hard drive, an SSD drive is about 10 times faster. And M2 drives (the latest standard) are about 10 times faster than that again! SSD drives make a huge difference for most computers, and are almost a necessity on windows 10, given how often it uses the hard drive. They don't tend to be as large as regular hard drives though, so if you're storing more than 700GB of documents/photos/data/etc, maybe get a secondary regular drive just for data.

At any rate, once you have your base computer, you might want to add a few things, depending on your requirements. Do you connect to your internet via wifi or an ethernet cable (a cable which runs from your modem to your computer)? If wifi, you'll need an additional card in the machine. Do you want to plug in SD cards (the type you get with older digital cameras)? You'll need something for that too!

Then there's software – the operating system (most likely Windows 10), Microsoft Office if you need it (most people can get by with the free Libreoffice), and whatever else you require. All up, a new machine with all the bells and whistles can set you back anywhere between \$700 and \$1400. It all comes down to what you want to do with it. And whether Solitaire is entertaining enough.

Email Matt on info@homepcsupport.co.nz or phone **0211348576**.
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NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

– 18 FEBRUARY 2020



As I write this, my first newsletter for 2020, we are nearly at the end of summer – black skies are overhead, but I suspect we won't see any rain today.

I know many residents in Eureka Ward who depend on rainwater to supply their household needs are struggling to source water to top up their tanks. Our family are fortunate to have an underground water source to supply water to our stock and garden and we are connected to the **Southern Districts Water Scheme** (a trickle system that sources water from Hamilton City) for our house water but we are well aware we must not waste this valuable commodity. On 5th February Hamilton City moved to **Water Alert 3** after recording the second highest usage stats ever. As no rain has fallen since then, the alert

level has not changed. **This means no use of sprinklers outside, but at this stage hand-held hosing can be done at any time.**

Therefore, if you are connected to the Southern Districts Water Scheme and live in **Tauwhare, Eureka, Matangi, Gordonton/Puketaha or Newstead** the **Water Alert 3** applies to you. In recent years only Tauwhare, Matangi and Gordonton have had to adhere to water alert level changes in Hamilton, but due to the dire nature of the situation Hamilton City asked us to include all who get water from over the boundary, whether that is town supply or trickle feed. A useful resource is the **Smart Water website**, www.smartwater.org.nz. This features tips on how to save water and a newsletter where people can sign up to be notified of any changes to water alert levels. I also recommend that you check your pipes for any leaks. We must all do our bit to conserve water to avoid the city going to a Water Alert 4 which would mean no outside watering.

Fire and Emergency New Zealand has declared a prohibited fire season, effective from 3 February 2020 for the entire Waikato district. A prohibited fire season can be imposed at any time throughout the year by the Principal Rural Fire Officer during periods of extreme fire danger, and **no fire of any description may be lit in the open air**. To check if this relates to your area and to apply for a fire permit visit www.checkitsalright.nz. Or: Visit website: **Fire and Emergency New Zealand**, Email: firepermit.enquiries@fireandemergency.nz or phone: 0800 658 628

Council reconvened in late January after our summer break. Since then we have been meeting regularly and meetings have included hearing submissions on *Waikato 2070* and the *Speed Bylaw*; commencing the Long Term Plan process; meeting with our Hamilton City counterparts - to discuss growth and boundaryless planning to improve common understanding and discuss working together to achieve the best outcomes for our wider communities; holding a Councillor only day without staff input to discuss our aspirations for the next three years and on 14th February we joined the wider community for the ribbon cutting on the 12km Ohinewai-Taupiri section of the Waikato Expressway. There are a few final finishing touches to make to this section before NZTA open it to traffic within the next month.

I also represent Waikato District on the **Hauraki Gulf Forum** and yesterday was the first meeting of the Forum where we elected our new Chair and Deputy Chairs for this three-year term. Next week I will attend the 20th birthday celebration of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.

This year we will be reviewing our **waste services contracts** as they come up for renewal. The changes to the waste industry are having significant impacts on how we deal with waste so we must meet these challenges. We'll be coming into the community to discuss how we can achieve our vision for the future as set out in our Waste Management and Minimisation Plan – we'll advertise the dates we will be in your community and also post them on our website and Facebook page.

In the December issue of Council's newsletter *Link*, <https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/news/link-newsletter>, we asked residents to report any **illegal dumping** by phoning 0800 492 452 anytime or via the Council's website www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/dumpers or on our Facebook Group @dodgydumpers. Staff also made a recommendation that green waste should not be thrown over banks, even though its organic, as it can cause lots of problems; also if you live in a village, please don't put grass clippings around the roots of street trees – we have found it is killing some of the trees.

The next edition of *Link* will be distributed from 17 - 22 February 2020. If you don't receive your *Link* during this period, please contact news@waide.govt.nz with your address details so we can look into the non-delivery. **Please note that if you have a 'No Junk Mail' sign on your mailbox we can't deliver the newsletter.**

The **Eureka Express Committee is celebrating its 40th birthday** at a Community Potluck luncheon at Eureka Hall on Sunday 5th April at 11.30am; tea, coffee and drinks provided. Enquiries to editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz

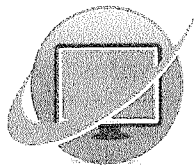
Contact me any time

Rob McGuire - Councillor Eureka Ward

Ph. 824 3696 / Mob 0274 970 966

Email: rob.mcguire@waide.govt.nz / WDC Council free phone - 0800 492 452.





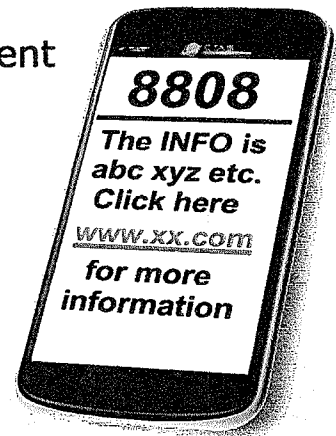
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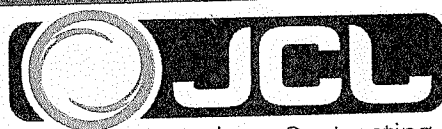
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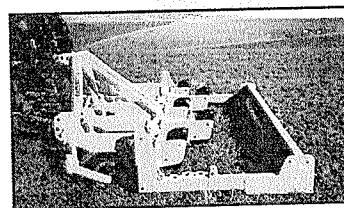
CONTACTS

Gail Mayall (Editor)
 70 Eureka Road
 Ph: 07 824 1758
 021 211 3348

Email: editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz

Glenys Middlemiss (Treasurer)
 Ph: 07 824 1647
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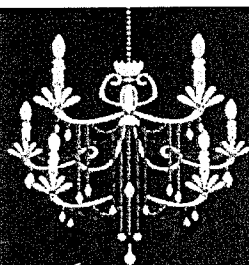
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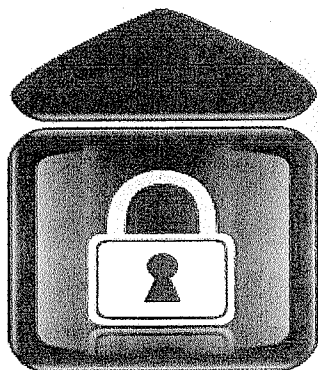
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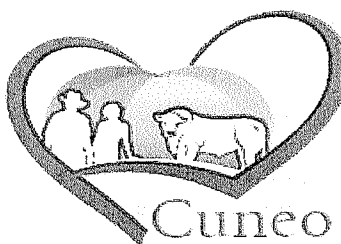
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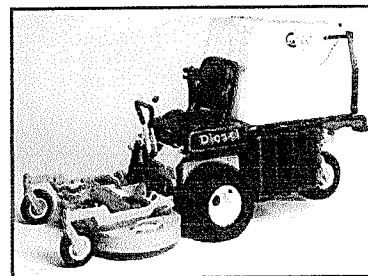


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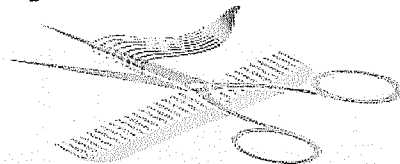
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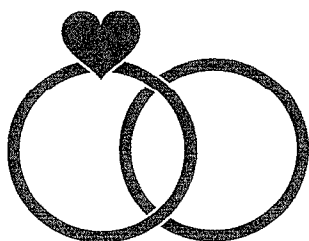
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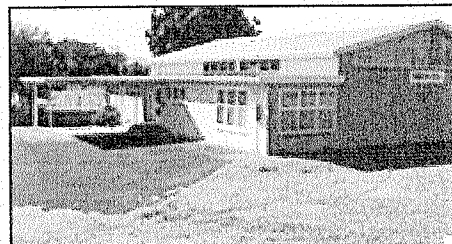
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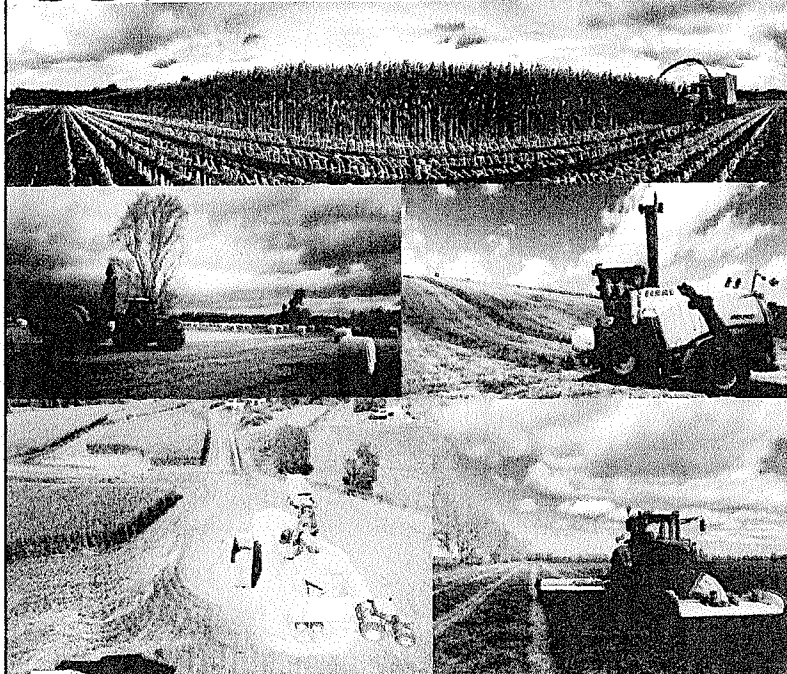
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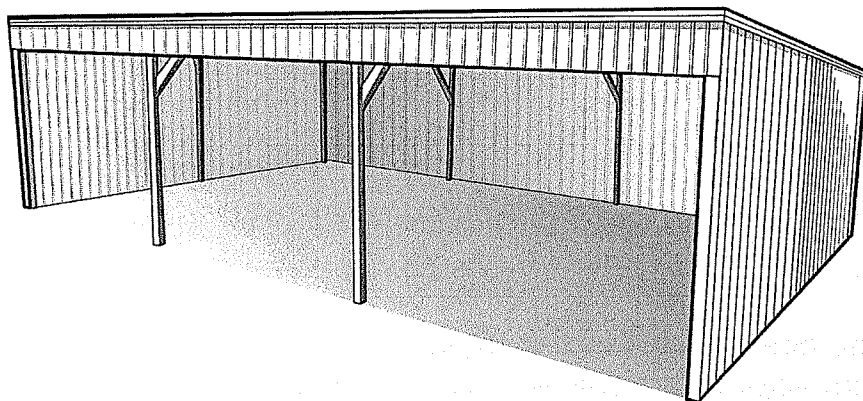
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