

TAKE ONE MOMENT

# TOM FITZROY

MAY 2012

## MALTESE CROSS COUNTRY

An elated Chris Kelly keeping ahead.

*- more on pages 2 and 3*



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TAKE ONE MOMENT

# TOM FITZROY

TOM FITZROY is a monthly publication delivered free to your letterbox in the Fitzroy, Merrilands, Highlands Park, Strandon and Glen Avon areas.

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*Points of view expressed in contributed articles are not necessarily the views of TOM*

## EDITORIAL

It's incredible to think we are nearly half way through the year - how time flies.

I wonder if that's how the 74 year old Whitianga woman felt when she spent three days down a cliff recently - not very likely. I am impressed with her tenacity though, looking death in the face, clinging to the side of a cliff for days on end but obviously with a tremendous will to live. It says a lot about the human spirit.

Unlike the Invercargill woman who helped herself to an early demise by drinking eight litres of Coke a day. It sounds like stupidity in its rawest form but maybe she didn't have much of a will to live, maybe her 12 children were too much for her or her lack of teeth made living too difficult - we humans are very complex units. Makes you think though - is the power of the mind more powerful than the body - can we will ourselves to live? There are countless stories of people who survive against all odds and for seemingly no other reason than not giving up. There are countless stories of people willing themselves to live till a particular event and when it has occurred they give up. Perhaps we can all learn from these two examples. At 74 you might think there was less of a reason to live than a mother with 12 children but regardless we need to be fighters.

Keep up the fight!

*Kim*



## COVER STORY

# Silver Ferns Worn Proudly at World Secondary Schools Cross Country Championship

NPBHS Year 10 student Chris Kelly, 14, was one of a team of six young men from New Plymouth Boys' High that travelled to Malta back in March of this year for the World Secondary Schools Cross Country Championship. Chris and his father Lester travelled to Malta, Lester as the team doctor. His photographs of the two week trip give great insight into what was truly an experience of a life time for these young men.

The other five members of the team from Boys' High were Liam Jansen, Max Hardie Boys, William Jones, Matt Furze and Ross Stembridge. As well as the school team another NPBHS student Rhys Bishop travelled to Malta representing New Zealand in the individuals' race.

This is the first time a Boys' High team has been selected to represent NZ at the World Secondary School Cross Country Championships. NPBHS has an impressively large cross country team so the teacher in charge and coach Paul Dominikovich (or, as the boys know him, 'Mr D') held trials to select the top six runners. Performance times at Nationals held in Ashburton saw teams from New Plymouth Boys High and Christchurch's Rangi Ruru Girls School selected to represent NZ.

The lead up to the championship saw the Boys' High team busy training and fund raising. Each boy needed to raise \$6500 each for the trip and with their fund raising efforts as well as sponsorship they ended up only needing to come up with half of that sum. The team sponsors included TSSSA, Bounce Back Physio, Care First, Classic Hits and Frontrunner.

Chris explained his training schedule leading up to the championship. The team got together to train several times each week and had time trials over varying distances at the athletics track on Saturdays and Tuesdays. The track training would later be very valuable for the course in Malta. Chris' individual training was based on running six days per week including an hour run on Sundays as well as speed work where he would run six repetitions of 200 metres or 12 repetitions of 45 metres at top speed.

Talking with Chris and Lester it's apparent that the trip to Malta was truly a fantastic experience. The team spent a week in London prior to the race and here they experienced the myriad of things that the city has to offer. Training took place in Hyde Park

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**The team.**

and Lester said that it was wonderful to see the transformation in the boys during their time in London. He said that when they arrived the boys were all quite overwhelmed by the city but by the end of their stay were confidently navigating their way round the city using the tube and buses. The team visited places like Piccadilly Circus, London Tower Bridge, Madame Tussauds, and St Pauls Cathedral. They were also lucky enough to be hosted by St Albans School for a day. St Albans School represented England at the World Cross Country Championship and they coincidentally had a Taranaki connection in that their team doctor had worked at Taranaki Base Hospital during his time in NZ. The day at the school saw the boys training, making new friends and enjoying the unique environment at St Albans where there is a 1000 year old Abbey larger than Westminster on site.

The fun relaxed aspect of their time in London was replaced with a more serious tone once the team arrived in Malta. Here the boys were finally able to check out the 5300 metre course they would be racing on. It was described on Mr D's blog as 'tight, hard, with plenty of right angle turns and zero elevation.' As well as going over the course the boys also got to meet the students from the other twenty two countries competing at the championship in Malta. With ages ranging from fourteen through to sixteen the difference in size of the competitors was huge with Chris probably being one of the smallest competitors.

The blog that Mr Dominikovich kept both prior to and during the trip really gives a feel for what the team

experienced and in particular the mounting tensions and nerves as race day approached. He wrote in it the night before the race, "Nine months of running, planning and dreaming go on the line tomorrow morning where our team gets to measure itself against the best schools in the world."

The beginning of the race Lester described as "quite hairy" especially in the narrow gated areas. He went on to say, "After the first 80 metres there was a hard left hand turn where quite a few people went down." Going down he explained meant basically being trampled by the other runners in their spiked shoes. At one stage Chris literally had to hurdle over Will when he went down in front of him. All the boys in the team except one fell at some stage during the race. To a non-runner, this non-contact sport would seem like a battle zone.

For Chris, the highlight of the trip to Malta was "The race itself," illustrated brilliantly in a photo that his father took of him in the middle of the race. At a stage in the race when he would have had to dig deep to keep his pace up Lester has captured a smiling Chris casually fending off an Australian competitor who was trying to pull him back. The Boys' High team finished a credible 11th overall with Chris placing 49th out of 117 finishers and being the fifth 14 year old boy home.

After the race the various teams swapped clothing from their team kit. The Irish and New Zealand teams' clothing were in huge demand especially the NZ boys' black singlets. However not one of the boys swapped this treasured piece of their uniform. They traded other pieces but the black singlet with its silver fern was obviously going to be a memento forever of this great race.

Chris' goal for the future with regards to his running is to be selected for the team that will be competing at the World Cross Country Championship in 2014. It is to be held in Israel and selection will be based on 2013 racing results.

Until then his school cross country training as well as his other interests of kayaking, surfing, wake boarding, skiing and adventure racing will keep him occupied. Chris will be competing in the adventure racing Go for 12 event and in the future would like to compete in a team in the Hilary Challenge.

I have no doubt whatsoever that the goals this young man sets for himself for the future he will achieve and we look forward to hearing of his success.

*Jackie Tomlinson*



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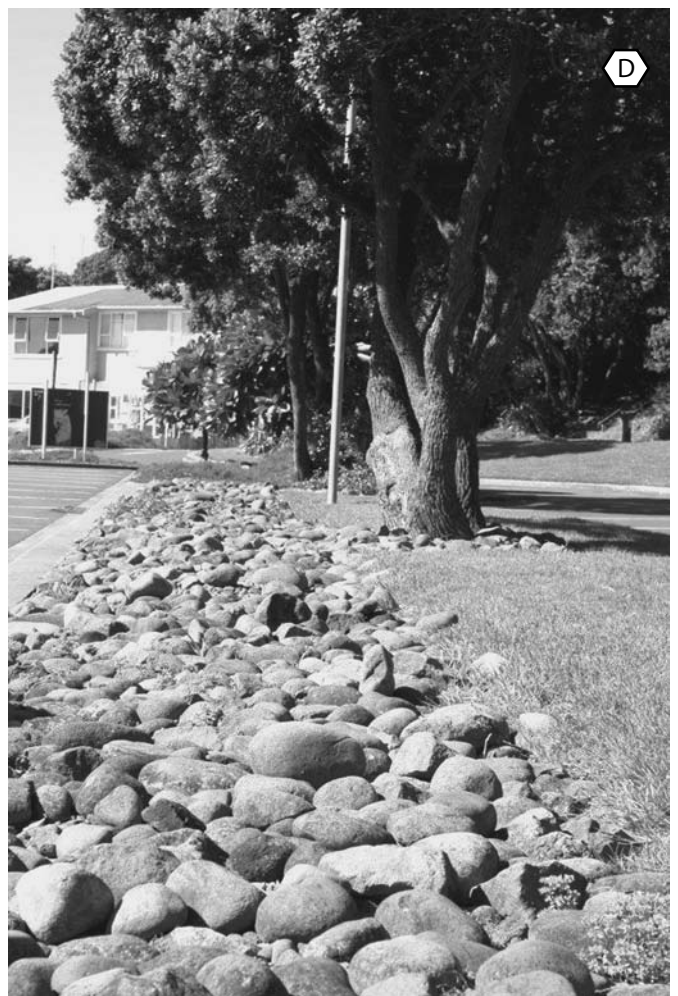
# TOM Garden Competition

Summer may have officially ended but as the TOM goes to print we have just enjoyed a prolonged spell of very summery weather. Gardeners everywhere in our local area will be happy to have had some sunshine to work in as they prepare for winter and I'm sure many of our TOM readers would be able put a garden voucher to good use.

So to be in to win a garden voucher kindly donated by our local garden centre Fairfields you need to identify where all these gardens, trees or plantings are in our local area,

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We would love to hear from you if you know of a garden that we could feature in the TOM, some of our best garden stories have been recommended by you our readers.



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# Who Let the Dogs Out . . . ?

The weekend before Easter heralded the end of daylight saving and as luck would have it so began a stretch of long overdue gorgeous sunny weather.

Easter weekend was spectacular and it was unbelievable how many happy dogs and their owners were out and about now that canines are officially allowed on our local beaches during the day. It's a long spell from October through to April for many dog owners who love taking their dogs down the beach during the day and frustrating at times that dogs aren't allowed on the often deserted beach between 9am and 6.00pm in October and November when summer really hasn't begun. It was nice to see crowded beaches at Easter and over the school holidays and lots of people and dogs enjoying themselves together.



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# Youth Mental Health Package

Young people will shape the future of our communities and many of them are already on the right track. They are learning, achieving and have high aspirations for the future. However, some find the transition from childhood to adulthood tough going. One in five young people will experience some form of mental health problem during this crucial time.

Recently Prime Minister John Key announced a \$18.6 million comprehensive youth mental health package designed to ensure young people with mental health problems receive better, faster and more modern help.

Youth workers trained to recognise mental health issues will be put in selected secondary schools and Youth Stop Shops as part of the National-led Government youth mental health package. Nurses are already in decile one and two schools and will start working in decile three secondary schools to undertake youth development checks and make referrals where necessary.

Young people are tech-savvy and use the Internet as a second home. We need a modern approach if we are to reach the kids we want to help. National will invest \$2.7 million in e-therapy for young people. It is an interactive computer administered therapy and will provide a treatment that will focus on the common problems of anxiety and depression. We are launching a Social Media Innovations Fund to support providers of youth services to better use social media technology, including smart phone apps and Facebook-related programmes. We will ask for support from the private sector to boost this fund. Parents, families and friends have a big part to play in identifying mental health issues in young people close to them. However many parents say that they are unsure where to go for advice on the childrens' behaviour. It can be difficult for parents to tell the difference between normal adolescent behaviour and mild mental illness. When they are worried about someone it is important that they have access to straightforward, authoritative information that helps them understand what they are seeing and what they can do about it. They need to know where to get help. The National-led Government will fund non-government organisations to get that information out to parents, families and friends.

When a young person with a mental illness seeks help in the health system, it is important that we deliver. We are increasing funding for primary mental health care and ensuring that more young people benefit from that money. We will set new wait-time targets for Child and Adolescence Mental Health Service to reduce waiting times as well as improve post-discharge follow-ups.

When it comes to delivering for young people, National is interested in what works. Young people who have used - or might need to use - mental health services will be consulted on the detailed design of these initiatives to ensure they meet young peoples' needs. An online survey will be emailed to over 5,000 young people nationwide. The consultation will also be advertised on the Ministry of Youth Development Facebook page and promoted to the youth sector by Ara Taiohi.

The Youth Mental Health package fills gaps in our current system and builds on the good work our mental health professionals are already doing in this area.

*Jonathan Young, MP*



**Jonathan Young**  
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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## New Plymouth Potters have a Bathtub Firing

This was held at a member's home on quite a windy Saturday morning, commencing at 9.30am. Bunches of wood were collected for our pots and seats. Bricks were placed around the bathtub for support and off we went...sawdust first then the pots, some deep in the sawdust and some pots on top. Next copper carbonate was sprinkled all around the pots, together with some salt and then some mouldy banana skins and dried seaweed. This was all placed carefully around the pots. A layer of light wood was placed on top and then filled up with some heavier pieces. The paper was then lit using long matches. There were lots of sparks and banging and pinging of wood. After letting it die down sheets of iron were placed on top with a small brick for the air. After a cuppa, the fire was checked and the bath tub was restocked with more wood and iron. It was then left to burn overnight. The next day everyone returned at about 10.30 to unload. It was a beautiful sunny morning. We lifted off the iron to lots of 'wow's', 'cool' etc. It was a great two days and we plan to have another one soon.

The New Plymouth Potters are planning their Annual Mother's Day Market weekend for the 5th and 6th of May, which is always a good time to visit for special Mother's Day gifts. The newly spruced up Te Henui Vicarage Gallery will be open at the same time, as well as every Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 1.00-4.00pm and during the day on Thursdays when members are working the in the club rooms.

Also during May, the club will be involved with the Real TART Gallery Challenge Exhibition with the theme of "My Cup Of Tea." It is open to all potters in Taranaki, so if anyone is interested in entering contact the Real TART Gallery. The final date for delivery is Friday 4 May.

We would like to acknowledge the support from the North Taranaki Community Arts Council for a grant towards our Annual Exhibition, which will be held during the month of August at the Real TART Gallery.

Hand building and wheel classes will be commencing after the Easter Break. These classes are run by two very experienced potters, in conjunction with ACE Taranaki, and offer a wide variety of skills and techniques both in hand building and wheel work. If you would like an opportunity to try something different over winter, either enroll through ACE Taranaki (phone 0800 223 827 or see [www.acetaranaki.ac.nz](http://www.acetaranaki.ac.nz)) or contact Cecily Bull on 7534498.

# TOM Sports



## Inline Hockey Championships



During the April school holidays the 2012 Oceania Inline Hockey Championship was held at the New Plymouth Skating Arena at East End. Competing there was

the second successful youth that I am profiling this month, Merrilands local 12 year old Jack Howatson. For the first time in its history, the 12 and under grade was to be contested at the championship and Jack was amongst those selected for the 12 and under team.

Jack has been playing Inline Hockey for around six years and every year during that time he has been selected to compete in Ravens teams competing at the New Zealand Inline National Championships. As well as being in teams that have won National titles he was also selected for the 2010 12 and under Central Region representative team with the team going on to win gold. Now he can add New Zealand representative to his list of inline hockey achievements. Jack is home schooled by his mum Debra and when I first spoke with him the family had a particularly busy time ahead of them over the Oceania championship as Jack's older sister Molly was also competing as a goalie in the NZ Junior Women's team.

It is at the Inter Regional Championships held in October prior, that players are selected to trial for teams to represent New Zealand, but with the Rugby World Cup held in NZ last year, the Inter regional tournament was deferred and selection to trial for NZ representative teams was made at Nationals and via recommendations from individual clubs. Jack was asked to trial and as already mentioned, gained selection for the inaugural 12 and under New Zealand Inline Hockey representative team.

Jack is like most 12 year olds: reasonably laid back and not too intimidated that in a matter of days he would be representing his country in his chosen sport. He says he was most looking forward to "just playing" at the Oceania Championship. Prior to the start of competition, talk of the Australian 12 and under team suggested that they skated well and were fast. Jack's team got together just three times as a complete unit to train but Jack says the team had jelled well as most of the boys knew each other from playing each other over the years at Nationals and in the Central league games.

Because the 12 and under grade has never been contested before it means the whole team were 'rookies' so as 'rookie treatment' all the players were expected to wear funny hats down to the rink when they went there to get ready for their games.. As Jack is assistant captain he wore a cowboy hat; the team Captain a policeman's hat and the rest of the team wore pirate hats. On the final day the rookie treatment was stepped up and the team had to turn up in pink



**Jack in his New Zealand kit.**

skirts, rabbit ears and tails as well as a pink moustache and pink ties!

The teams played five games in all over the time of the championship and the 12 and under team had the series wrapped up by their fourth game and became the first 12 and under team to win Gold at an Oceania Inline Hockey Championship.

The day after Oceania finished Jack was off doing one of his other interests - mountain biking. When he's not playing hockey Jack is out on his mountain bike or long board skateboarding or as Mum Debra described "on anything with wheels". When asked how he would describe competing at Oceania's in comparison to other games he has competed in he replied "it was fun and fast, with a little bit more pressure."

The highlight of the five days was "just playing the games, being with my friends, meeting the Aussies and GOLD." And there were Gold medals aplenty for the New Zealand teams. All but two of the grades won gold ensuring the Tasman trophy came back to stay in NZ.

This was undoubtedly an awesome opportunity for Jack and the rest of his team to be part of the first 12 and under team NZ Inline Hockey team to compete at an Oceania Championship and to make it all the more sweet to win Gold for their country. Jack wishes to thank The TSB Community Trust for supporting him.

*By Jackie Tomlinson .*





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As Benjamin Franklin once said, “it is a strange anomaly that people will insure their houses, their merchandise, and yet neglect to insure their lives – surely the most important of all to their families, and more subject to loss.”

The crucial part of risk planning for your family is to create as much certainty as possible for continuity of family life and lifestyle when you are not there to do that.

If you experience a serious illness or injury, your health may gradually deteriorate before you eventually die. In other instances, the process will be very quick – perhaps through a car accident or the sudden onset of a terminal illness.

For most people however, it begins when you are too sick to do your job, critically ill with major trauma, permanently disabled or terminally ill.

We all like to think we are invincible, but the reality is that we are not. Accidents happen and as we age, our chances of becoming seriously ill or disabled increase. Most people want to make their own decisions about their finances.

If we have families, we need to protect their future. As Winston Churchill once said, “the price of greatness is responsibility.”



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## GETTING WET

# New Plymouth Surf Riders' Club

Saturday evening April 14th after 13 days of preparation and hosting the Fisher and Paykel (in association with Mason Appliances and Mason Service centre) Easter Masters and assisting to run the TSB Bank NZ Festival of surfing including the first National Micro Groms (Under 13s) the Little Rocket Air-show, The TSB NZ Women's Open and the Dow Agro Sciences Pro featuring the 17 best women surfers in the world it's time to sit down with a whiskey and catch up on some Super Rugby! SNOOZE!!

Our club has been very active following last month's report. We not only hosted or assisted the management of the events above but also hosted the Taranaki Intermediate School Champs on March 23rd. With another good representation from the Taranaki intermediate schools it was a busy day guiding these young groms through the competition process which they all love. They will all benefit from the experience not only for their surfing but in building their character and social skills.

The 2012 Easter Masters was the 20th time the club has hosted the event and after budgeting for 85 entries which was 12 more than the average attendance over the last three years we were excited to end up with 123 entries in all age groups from the 30 year-old Micro-groms (male) and Gidgets (Female) to the Surf Goddess (60 plus) and Surf God (70 plus). In addition we had a new format. Gone is the old heat system whereby 50% of competitors are eliminated in the first round. Instead, everyone gets to surf twice in their division in almost randomly seeded heats and are awarded points for their placing with the top four point scorers battling out a final. This system was very popular and looks likely to continue; as does the Easter Masters which was in doubt to continue after this year due to falling entries.

After two weeks of good weather and off-shore winds everyone was praying the mythical god of surf, Huey, and Tangaroa to provide us with the conditions to make a great celebration of our 20th anniversary. We were not disappointed. For two days we were based at Punihos where the surf never dropped below four feet and was often double overhead (10 feet) pounding quite a few competitors onto the rocks at high tide resulting in numerous cuts and abrasions. However, Masters are resilient if nothing else, and everyone survived to enjoy the finals and take part in the Dunga derby, a high-speed celebration of the Golden Years of Surfing, the 1960's, along with the team-tag event "Taranaki vs. The Rest." Taranaki had never won this event but this year creamed the opposition winning with 247 points to 149 – YEAH! The prize-giving on Sunday evening was followed by entertainment from the Blue Monkey Racket which kept every one rocking until late. A great weekend to celebrate our 20th anniversary and we must thank all our sponsors and volunteers who make it all work.



John, Charlie and Bubbles enjoy the action.



The Masters.



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## RESULTS:

### *Micro Groms (30 to 34)*

- 1 Jamie Andrews (NP)
- 2 Jeremy Grainger (NP)
- 3 Trent Lazarus (NP)
- 4 Jarrod Hancox (NP)

### *Cadets (35 – 39)*

- 1 Jake Ursell (Titahi Bay)
- 2 Craig Williamson (NP)
- 3 Shane Bint (NP)
- 4 Mark Strong (NP)

### *Grommets (40 to 44)*

- 1 Glenn Johns (Oakura)
- 2 David Farr (NP)
- 3 Damien Phillis (NP)
- 4 Neal Pullen (NP)

### *Juniors (45 to 49)*

- 1 Brad McKinley (NP)
- 2 Craig Fraser (NP)
- 3 Mark O'Connor (NP)
- 4 Rob Montgomery (NP)

### *Masters (50 to 54)*

- 1 Mark Hoyle (JAFA)
- 2 Brent Hollis (NP)
- 3 Trevor Medcalf (Waihi)
- 4 Murray Valentine (BOP)

### *Legends (55 to 59)*

- 1 John Gisby (Gisborne)
- 2 Phil Geros (Mt Maunganui)
- 3 Chris Davies (Oakura)
- 4 Brian Clarke (Oakura)

### *Icons (60 to 64)*

- 1 Tony Ogilvy (Whakatane)
- 2 Rob Bayes (Red Beach)
- 3 Glenn Thompson (BOP)
- 4 Roger Haugh (BOP)

### *Super Groms (65 to 69)*

- 1 Wayne Brown (Maunganui)
- 2 Chris Jury (NP)

### *Gidgets (30 to 39)*

- 1 Amaia Sasia (NP)

### *Femlins (40 to 49)*

- 1 Monique Taylor (NP)
- 2 Lisa Pauwels (Wellington)

### *Divas (The Gail Steiner Trophy) (50 to 59)*

- 1 Robyn Cox (Waitara)
- 2 Daisy Day (NP)
- 3 Eleanor Ogilvy (Ohope Beach)
- 4 Valerie Haugh (BOP)

### *Surf Goddess (over 60)*

- 1 Kathy Steed (Mt Maunganui)

### *Surf God (over 70)*

- 1 Allen Pidwell (NP)

### *Grovellers (Open to men and women)*

- 1 Tracy Skelton (NP)
- 2 Paul Christophers (Oakura)
- 3 Bryan Wallbutton (Opunake)
- 4 Steve Croton (NP)

### *Dunga Derby*

- 1 Ian Parker (JAFA)
- 2 Robbie Benson-Cooper (Wellington)
- 3 Jamie Andrews (NP)
- 4 Brian Clarke (Oakura)

### *Taranaki vs The Rest*

Taranaki - 247

The Rest - 149

Next day it was on with the Festival and many of our members not only volunteered to run the TSB Bank Surf Festival but also competed in the Airshow, NZ Women's Open and the Finals day Expression Session.

And no time for a rest with the wonderful run of fine weather, off-shore winds and good long period swells we were all out again on Sunday morning enjoying the best lifestyle in the world - surfing the Taranaki Coast.

*Allen Pidwell*



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# New Plymouth Boys' High School Successes

It was noted in a recent school assembly the large number of boys at New Plymouth Boys' High School (NPBHS) who represent New Zealand or who have made a New Zealand team, and that is great, but much more extraordinary is the high correlation between boys who succeed in a sport or performing art and their attitude towards success in school work. Many of the boys below also excel in a subject studied at school and thus deserve our accolades.

We have some LEGENDS in our school and the names of Kettle, Weir, Baxter will not only be remembered for their sporting prowess, but as young men who manage time well and have the discipline to succeed in a variety of endeavours.

Congratulations Liam Paterson (pictured on right) who was selected for the New Zealand Orienteering team to go to Slovakia in July for the World Championship.



Jay Cadman-Kennedy won the U-19 title for New Zealand Secondary School Open Water Championship and Olly McCullough won the U-16 1600m event — two National titleholders!

Rhys Bishop was selected as Captain of New Zealand Athletics team in Malta — his team came second in the world!

Jai Grant chosen for the NZ U-17 Touch team.

Jono Brown-John won the NISS Athletics High Jump. In the same meet, Matt Baxter won the 3000m, breaking 8min 30sec, as did Angus White in the Juniors. Other champions are Javon McCallum and Michael MacDonald.

Ajit Rai was chosen for the New Zealand Age Group Tennis team.

Congratulations Ben Crombie who was selected for the New Zealand U-18 Basketball team.

In Rogaine — TSSSA, NPBHS students won all the boys' divisions: Senior, Charles Barnes/Mitchell Holyoake; Intermediate, Tom Spencer/William Adlam; Junior, George Tvrdeich/Angus White/Angus Timson.

Congratulations to the Tennis Team, who competed in the National finals and came 8th in the country.

The Junior Cricket XI performed well in the National Top 8 Tournament. Great news for the future of cricket in the school. Kaylum Boshier, who scored 101 not out, has a big

future. Brodie Lilley 47; Sam Morrison 44 and Davis Mills took 4 wickets.

Julian Weir broke SIX records at the swimming sports... and has gone on to break the national 50m backstroke record.

We had a wonderful School Athletics Day, the boys competed well. Congratulations to Rhys Bishop (800m in 1.54). We have rising stars in Javon McCallum (sprinting), Angus White (longer distances) and Michael McDonald (who threw the discus 45m). It was the last school Athletics Sports for Matt Baxter and Derek Albertsen (pictured right, broke the school high jump record 1.90m). Senior Champion Connor Hobbs; Intermediate Champion Jordan Young; Junior Champion Michael McDonald. At the Ocean Athletes Surf Lifesaving New Zealand Champs Javon McCallum placed 1st in beach sprints, 2nd in beach flags, 1st in beach relay. Zach Howath placed 1st in beach relay (both pictured right).



We recently invited two very special old boys back to their old school for a visit. Sir Graeme Douglas and Sir David Levene met with fellow old boys and walked the school. They then attended a special assembly where they were presented with NPBHS Alumni Merita.

Headmaster, Michael MacMenamin

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# Drummer to Share his Skills

Taranaki local artists build a diverse and vital link between us commoners and the fascinating artistic/ creative world. We have internationally recognised painters, authors, actors, dancers and poets. We also have some of the world's best musicians, both in reality and in training.

The New Plymouth region has many hidden gems when it comes to incredible talent, and reclusive Taranaki resident and veteran Kiwi Rock drummer Rob Ju is certainly one of those.

Rob and his wife Karen have chosen the surf, fishing and hunting spots and solitude of our fine coast over the big city life offered to them in the wheels at the top of the NZ music industry.

As the power house drummer of one of NZ's top bands "The Pink Floyd Experience" Rob is seen playing in huge venues capacity crowds in Australia, New Zealand and recently South Africa. The band is incredibly tight and the stage performance is really a sight to see.

A talented wood craftsman Rob has been building his own custom drum kits locally for several years and his snare drums are incredibly sought after by professionals.

Rob's local musical outlet "Highway 45" is also achieving recognition and online chart success with songs the band has written and recorded locally and the band is now touring frequently around the country.

Recently Rob has decided to dedicate his skills and talents as a top kiwi musician to teaching drums full time to lucky students of all ages at New Plymouth's own West Coast School of Rock.



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Rob Ju – (Pink Floyd Experience) Drums

Stephanie Piquette – Vocals/ Guitar

Kerr Sharpe-Young – Lead Guitar

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For Taranaki this means being given the opportunity of working with a teacher and mentor who has international touring experience and current chart success, sharing the skills and knowledge of how to get to the top of the industry.

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You can book in for lessons with Rob by calling West Coast School of Rock on 753 4765.



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# TOM Pet of the Month

*Name:* Willy

*Age:* 10 weeks

*Breed:* Miniature Kune Kune Pig

*Colour:* Tri coloured

A family in Merrilands is the proud new owners of this cute piglet. 'Willy' had only been in residence a matter of days when I visited but already was part of the family.

Living in a nice leafy enclosure at the rear of the native tree filled garden, Willy sleeps in a cosy hay filled dog kennel and has a great area for snuffling about in. Already mates with the family dog, Willy is quite happy to have him and the family and other people visit him in his enclosure. He was not so keen on being picked up for a photo however and he let everyone know his displeasure with some loud piglet squealing. His owners say his personality is already becoming evident and there's just a wee bit of attitude amongst it. As well as company Willy not surprisingly loves food and shows his happiness with lots of doggy like wagging of his very cute tail.

*By Jackie Tomlinson*



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## FITZROY CLUBS & GROUPS

### **East End Indoor Bowling Club**

Meets in the Community Hall Sackville St Fitzroy at 7.30 pm every Monday evening. New members are very welcome. Please phone Betty Death 757 9968.

### **Exercise to Music.**

Fridays 9.30am-10.30am (for everyone 50+). Te Henui Church Hall, Henui St, Fitzroy. Contact Sonia for more details 06 759 8918 or Gloria 06 752 7442.

### **Fitzroy Outdoor Bowling Club.**

Season opening on Sunday 18th September. – two club days per week – Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. New members welcome - both men and women. Join our friendly members who play on two greens with an upmarket clubroom and fine facilities. Contact the president Neville Goldsworthy 758 8846 or the secretary Sherrylle Watkins a/hrs 755 0125 or Club Pavilion 758 9062.

### **Fitzroy Scout Group.**

For boys and girls from age 5. Keas meet on Tuesdays from 5pm - 6.15pm, Cubs meet on Mondays 6.00 - 7.30pm, Scouts meet on Mondays 6.30 - 8.00pm at The Scout Den, Clemow Road Fitzroy (near Lake Rotomanu). Visit us to see what we do. The first term/part term is free! For further details contact the following: For Keas (years 1-3) phone Karl 06 755 2177 or 027 257 5910. For Cubs (years 4-6) phone Cory 06 759 9312 or 027 291 7334. For Scouts (years 7-10) phone Vinnie 06 755 0328 or 027 486 6210. Or email: fitzroyscoutgroup@xtra.co.nz

### **Fitzroy Mahjong Group**

At Beach Street hall lounge room, every Saturday 1-4pm. Everyone welcome, come along and enjoy Mahjong, cup of tea & biscuits. There will be a small prize for hand of the day. \$3 each. Note: There will be a break from 3rd December and restart 4th February 2012. For details phone 7581957 or 7575913.

### **Fitzroy Men's Probus Club**

Meets in the Beach Street Hall, Fitzroy, at 10am on the second Tuesday of every month (except January). New members welcome. Please phone Ian Raine 06 757 5825.

### **Fitzroy Senior Citizens Association**

Meets at Beach St Hall on Monday and Thursday at 1pm for euchre.

Meets at Beach St Hall on Thursday 1pm for indoor bowls.

\$2 entrance fee, includes raffles and afternoon tea.

New members welcome so please come and join our friendly group. For more information ring Rob 753 7132 or Rita 753 3425.

### **Fitzroy Womens Probus.**

Beach St Hall, meet 10am 1st Wednesday of each month. New Members welcome. Phone Margaret Stening 757 8890.

### **Freemasons Worldwide**

Are ordinary men in the community, 21 years and over, of all religions and backgrounds, who share a concern for human values, moral standards, and the rights of individuals. Meeting monthly in Fitzroy. Phone Roger Marshall, 06 759 1755.

### **New Plymouth Chess Club.**

Every Tuesday 7.30 pm. Clubrooms: 11 Gilbert St (next to Model Trains). For further information contact Errol Tuffrey 758 2626.

### **New Plymouth Croquet Club**

Card afternoons are again being held on Friday afternoons. They include Rummy Kub, or any other game of cards you may wish to play, come along and enjoy the Winter afternoons at the club. Started Friday 13th April, 1.30pm, admission \$3.00. Cup of tea provided. Enquiries to Elaine 753 9329.

### **New Plymouth Floral Art Club.**

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month. Venue: Holy Trinity Church Hall, Henui St. We have two meetings, one during the day, the other at night to cater for working women. Further information from: Shirley 758 9090 or Beryl 751 0309.

### **New Plymouth Pakeke Lions**

Meet on the last Monday of the month at the Fitzroy Golf Club, 11.30am. Contact President David May 758 4427.

### **New Plymouth Potters**

Meet every Thursday between 10am - 4pm at the Te Henui Vicarage, 288 Courtenay Street. Monday evening classes for members, 7-9pm. Tuesday evening open classes 7-9pm. We welcome new members. Contact Gail Ph: 753 6207. The Te Henui Vicarage Gallery is also open on Saturday and Sunday 1-4pm.

**New Plymouth Toastmasters Club.** The Speechcraft Course commences Thursday 17th May, 5.30pm at the Cricket Pavilion at Pukekura Park. All welcome. For more information please ph Margaret 027 232 1899, Anne 758 6287 or Shirley 752 3698. Building Confidence, Speaking Skills and Self Esteem.

### **Rotary**

Meets every Wednesday night at 5.15pm at the Beach Street Hall. Enquiries to the Secretary, Ross Smith, phone 758 4194. Email: rossandanne@slingshot.co.nz

### **Santa Rosa Country Music Club:**

Meets every Friday night 7.30pm until 10.30pm at the Fitzroy Hall Sackville street Fitzroy. Entry is \$3.00 for Members. Non members, \$4.00. Supper provided. Contact John Lancaster 021 265 9230 or George Whittaker 06 756 7670.

### **Sit and be Fit.**

Tuesdays 9.30am-10.30am (this class exercises in chairs), Te Henui Church Hall, Henui St, Fitzroy. Contact Sonia for more details 06 759 8918 or Gloria 06 752 7442.

### **St. Bosco Indoor Bowling Club.**

Meets in the Community Hall, Sackville Street Fitzroy at 7.30 pm every Tuesday evening. New members welcome. For further information please contact Con Coulton 758 0351.

### **Taranaki Model Powerboat Club**

Holds a Club Day on the 1st Sunday of every month (weather permitting) at Lake Cowley, just before the Go cart track in Waitara. Contact John Nicholls on 769 9166 or 021 299 4168.

### **Taranaki Radio Control Car Club.**

Off-road racing: Club's dirt track by Lake Rotomanu, 2nd Sunday of every month. Contact Greg Mawson, ph 753 7471. On-road racing: contact Selwyn Duthie, ph 06 765 8108. Indoor racing: contact Tracy van Beers, ph 751 1093.

### **Taranaki Seniors Tennis.**

Meet every Sunday morning at Rotokare Tennis Complex, Walsh Road - off Omata Road, 9 am till 12 noon. Everybody over 35 years of age most welcome. We have social and competitive levels and a good off court social programme for all to enjoy. Come and give it a go. Good exercise and friendship. Please phone Beth at 769 5566.

### **Tasman Club**

Situated at 35 Octavius Place, New Plymouth. Tasman Clubrooms are available for hire. Further information phone 758 5186 clubrooms.

**The New Plymouth Croquet Club** has started their summer season and invite you to join them, 9am Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday with our Twilight games starting again 5pm 9th November and every Wednesday throughout daylight saving. Golf Croquet does not require muscle or stamina just cunning and good sportsmanship. Give Barbara a ring on 7582710 for more details.

### **TSB NP Contract Bridge Club**

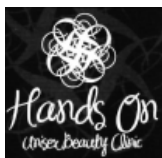
Plays Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs at 7.20pm and Friday afternoons from 12.45pm at 70 Hobson St. Ph the President 758 8985 or the Secretary 759 0258.

### **U3A New Plymouth.**

For the regular notice of U3A New Plymouth meeting: please note the Secretary's phone number has changed. It is now 753 3574. It is worth noting that you do not have to have had a university education to join.

### **Victoria League Bridge Club.**

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