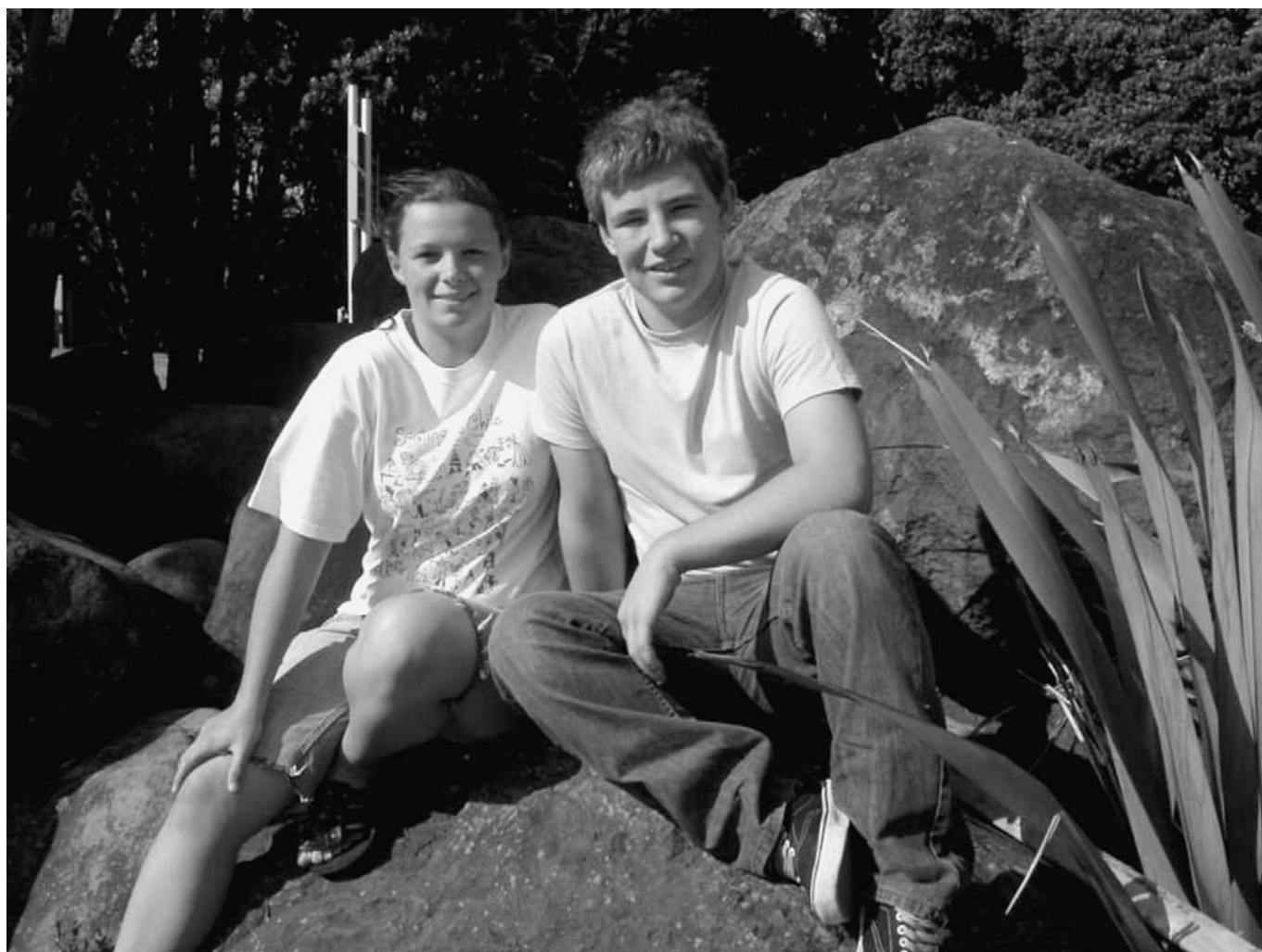


TOM *Fitzroy*

APRIL 2010

Two Local High School Students off to NASA Space School

As Adam and Rachel rocket off to the States, read their exciting story on page 2.



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I hope everyone enjoyed their Easter break and are now in the brace position for winter!

Speaking of brace position, the media is full of stories about the Easter road toll and the need to belt up, not drink, not speed, take breaks, drink coffee, stop texting etc. It makes you wonder why the message isn't getting through, or is it?

I was on the road at Easter, leaving New Plymouth on Thursday and travelling with literally hundreds and hundreds of trucks, returning on Monday with no trucks at all and I must say the Easter road toll thought hardly ever left my mind during my hours of driving. Plus there was the bonus of all my friends and family saying drive carefully so clearly I had got the message. I had one near miss when a young lady didn't see me in her blind spot and pulled into my lane, nearly knocking me off the road – a good old toot fixed that! I only saw one other foolish road manoeuvre in more than eight hours of driving reinforcing the message to me that 'the message' is getting through to a large proportion of drivers. Clearly you can't fudge the road toll numbers but when they include someone hit by a bus while crossing a road, isn't that just a little bit sensationalised? I realise no road death is acceptable but do the ends justify the means? Perhaps the public dollar would be better spent on continuing driver training.

Anyway I love driving and I hope to do so for a long time to come without continually worrying if I might be the next victim and continually watching whether others are going to do something stupid.

Kim



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In July this year two Year 12 students, Adam McLoughlin from New Plymouth Boys High School and Rachael Neville-Lamb from New Plymouth Girls High School will be representing their schools, the province and New Zealand when they attend NASA's United Space School (USS) in Houston Texas.

Forty students worldwide are chosen to attend the school each year.

Held on the campus of the University of Houston Clear Lake Extension, the Space School is situated adjacent to the NASA Johnson Space Centre and is a NASA sponsored programme.

The experience in Texas is one that will see Adam and Rachael introduced to all the various facets of human space flight. This is very much a hands on type of programme and is delivered by NASA astronauts, scientists and engineers as well as some international cosmonauts based at Houston.

Both students agreed this is a once in a lifetime opportunity and are thrilled to have been selected by their schools. The application process required them to outline the kind of things they had done for their school and what they are studying. They also had to explain how visiting USS would benefit themselves and their community. To this end, one initiative they would like to do once they return home would be to visit local Primary and Intermediate schools and share their Space School experience.

Before arriving at Space School there are assignments and required reading to be done. Once there the students are interviewed and divided into one of four teams. Within these teams they then have the task of planning a mission to Mars. This could involve a range of things such as, getting to Mars and back. They must complete assignments and presentations which are graded and at the end of the course there is a graduation ceremony. The students get the opportunity to tour the nearby Johnson Space Centre where they will see and visit things like the three mission controls and the neutral buoyancy lab.

Although there is plenty of time devoted to study there are social occasions planned too. On the first Sunday in Houston a 'Cultural Fair' is held and Adam and Rachael will be expected to make a dish native to their country as well as perform a cultural type item.

They are billeted in Houston by people that work for NASA so they will certainly be immersed in everything 'space' while there.

I asked them both what is it that they most are looking forward to at USS. Rachael, who says she has been interested in space all her life, said "I'm looking forward to meeting all the people and because I like the topic, just all things we will get to see and do."

Adam agreed and said, "I'm looking forward to the whole experience. It is also an opportunity to make connections with people. The staff and other people we meet could in the future, be valuable contacts; you don't know where this experience could lead."

In the short term the next few months leading up to their space school experience are going to be very busy for the pair with the usual Year 12 workload and the preparation for their trip.

As well as this Adam is still busy fundraising. He has some ventures already in place but he is also hoping to secure some funding from local businesses. Rachael meanwhile when she is not at school is busy training several times a week for the Oceania Asia Pacific Inline Hockey Championship to be held in New Plymouth in April. Here she will be competing with

the NZ Junior Women Inline Hockey team against Australia. Finally I asked them both what their future plans entailed. Adam says he plans to join the British Navy and do engineering whilst Rachael is looking towards a Medical Science career.

The opportunity of visiting the NASA United Space School will I'm sure inspire them to both achieve much when they enter into their chosen career pathways.

By Jackie Tomlinson

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Local Lake Venue for Sailing 'Regatta'



Lake Rotomanu was a hive of activity on the first day of April. There were people in kayaks and speedboats as well as some on jet skis and stand up paddle boards. Also amongst the mix were a group of small sailboats sailed by local fire-fighters.

The off duty fire-fighters were there having their annual sailing 'regatta'. Every year around this time they come down to compete for the memorial Alex McLaren-Terry Parrish Trophy. It is a social afternoon of fun on the water as well as remembering their two fellow fire fighters who have passed away.

It may be social but it's a fiercely competitive and chaotic event with very loose rules.

The winner is usually named weeks after the event (after the protests and other discussions have taken place off the water). Rarely does the boat that crosses the finish line first claim the trophy! From the sounds of things we have our very own Americas Cup here in Fitzroy!

By Jackie Tomlinson

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Real Tart Pottery Challenge

Every year during the month of February, Real Tart hosts a pottery challenge exhibition to encourage Taranaki potters to extend their skills beyond their regular work. The winner is chosen by a public vote over the duration of the exhibition and receives a solo exhibition hosted by the gallery. This year's challenge entitled 'Flora & Fauna,' was won by Cecily Bull's arum lilies.

On Saturday 6th March, a few enthusiastic pyromaniacs under the guidance of Bev Rea and Christina Rutherford conducted a pit firing at the club rooms. Pit firing is a primitive firing method using saw dust and wood and results in earthy colours and interesting, though unpredictable, patterns. Sometime during the afternoon of the firing, even though the fire was kept well under control, some neighbours were sufficiently concerned about the smoke to advise the fire-brigade, who sent two kind gentlemen in a 'big red truck' to investigate. After confirming that all was under control, they were

given a complimentary tour of the Vicarage for their troubles!

The club continues to be active with monthly activities to inspire members. The evening activity for April will see members learn more about making porcelain pinch pots. Porcelain is a particularly fine clay body, often used for delicate pieces, firing at around 1300°C. The next public class, teaching either hand-building or wheel work, will run on Tuesday evenings from 7 - 9 pm, from 22nd April to 27th June inclusive. Classes are held at the club rooms behind the Vicarage, 288 Courtenay St. In addition, the club will be hosting a public raku workshop on Saturday 22nd May to teach the art of traditional Japanese raku firing. Information on either of these may be obtained from WITT under the community education section. Members will hold their annual Mothers Day Market Day from 10am on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd May at the Vicarage. The annual AGM will be held on Thursday 27th May at 7pm. The club always welcomes new members. Anyone interested may contact Cecily Bull on 753 4498, or come along to the club rooms any Thursday from 11 am when members hold a regular work day.

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New Artworks around the Local Area

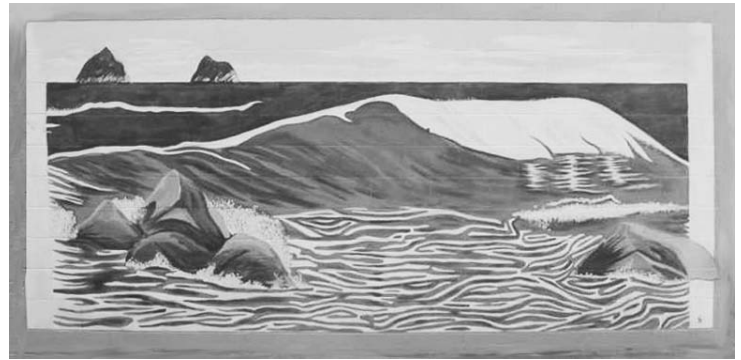
Several new and quite different artworks have appeared in our local area over recent times.

On a wall of the Fitzroy Surf Life Saving Club's lower changing room, artist Lynda Newman has painted a mural with a definite local flavour. The mural depicts the view of the sugar loaf islands from Fitzroy beach. Mainly painted in blues and greens the mural fits in well with its surroundings

Taranaki Anniversary day saw artists at work transforming a well known local wall. This time graffiti artists painted their colourful and powerful images along the wall outside of what was the local RSA. The wall has in the past been the canvas for various art works prior to the graffiti art. Michael Smithers' stunning dolphin wall that was controversially painted over and more recently the mural with a military theme met the same fate.

The event on Anniversary day is actually the inaugural event for what is hoped to be an annual contest. Quite a few graffiti artists took the opportunity to display their talent on a piece of the wall. They had to incorporate the words Te Ara into their artwork. The prize of \$500 and art space was donated by the building's owners, the Crow brothers.

The public were the judges and could vote by text for their favourite artwork with the artist receiving the most votes named the winner. Artist Blair Mare took out that honour and won the cash.

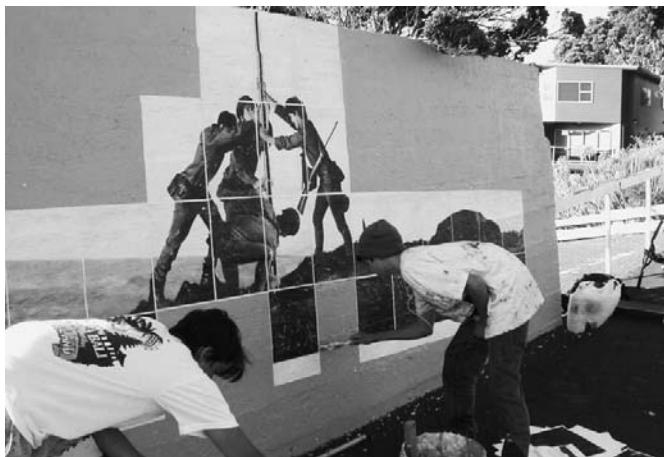


Lynda Newman's mural on the lower changing room wall of the Fitzroy Surf Life Saving Club.

Also on Anniversary day to the right of the main wall two young 'underground' artists not part of the competition were busy transforming another smaller separate wall piece by piece with their stunning computer generated work. This artwork sits directly in front of the RSA pole which cleverly becomes part of the work which depicts soldiers propping up a pole.

No doubt these new artworks in our local area will create plenty of lively debate just as the works that have gone before them did too. It's certainly great to see all this emerging talent have a platform in which they can express themselves and showcase their work.

By Jackie Tomlinson



A clever juxtaposition of artwork and the RSA pole.



Winning artist Blair at work.



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TOM Garden of the Month

A picket fence painted a distinctive red drew me to this month's TOM garden and then when I peeked over the fence to look at the garden I was hooked.

This month's feature garden, the owner tells me, is at its best around November-December but here at the end of March it was still gorgeous. There are flowers and herbs everywhere as well as lots of garden art and points of interest at every turn.

Sue and her husband Charlie have lived at this address for over 35 years. As her children got older and she had more time her



interest in gardening just took off and the garden has slowly evolved to the work of art it is today. There was no plan. "I just kept digging," says Sue.

Only a couple of the original plantings remain at the property: a magnolia tree at the front and the jasmine covering the front wall.

Many years ago when the family was clearing bamboo from the back of the section Jodi, one of Sue's sons who was about 14 at the time made an interesting discovery. He came to his father and mother with a live grenade he'd found in the bamboo. The family carefully put the grenade in the vegetable garden and rang the police who sent the bomb squad around. The grenade was then apparently taken to Waiwhakaiho beach and exploded making front page news at the time. It was thought the grenade was left there by previous owners whose sons had returned from the war.

What was once lawn out the front of the house is now gardens filled with small trees, shrubs, herbs and flowers. Brick paths wind through this garden and lead to a shady spot along the front fence line where a seat rests on a chamomile lawn.

Around the back of the house there are again the lovely curving lines of flower beds crush planted and literally spilling over with colour and variety. Hollyhocks are everywhere; these all started from a single seed head of one colour and now Sue has them everywhere in all colours. Many of the plants growing in the garden are from gifted cuttings or seeds. Having worked for many years in garden centres Sue says she knows what to plant and where. She puts the skill of how to make cuttings that she learnt while working at Duncan and Davies to good use in her own garden.

Many of the plants she has are an 'old' variety. One such plant is a favourite of Sue's: 'Mignonette,' a creamy flowering spiral spike with a lovely fragrance. Another favourite is 'Love Lies Bleeding.' Sue has several colours and varieties of this beautiful plant and one particularly eye catching one is a lovely green. She also has an upright variety growing.

You won't find many oranges and yellows in this garden other

than some marigolds in the vegetable patch and a few daffodils. The palette here is all whites, pinks, purples and blues.

I asked Sue how much time she spends in her garden and she said she likes to spend at least a day or two a week out with her plants. There are all the incidental times too; a trip to the mailbox can often end in a 20 minute tidy up session. Sue says this isn't a chore though because she is happiest when outside. In fact she insists her garden isn't a lot of work which is surprising because there is a lot of it. She says years of relentless weeding have paid off as no weeds have turned to seed in the garden and these days' weeding is minimal. She says she is more occupied thinning out the abundant growth because the plants are self seeding and spreading. She was also converted to the 'Ruth Stout' type of gardening after she happened upon a book by the American gardener who puts all her plants cuttings, trimmings, and garden waste chopped up and straight back onto the garden floor creating rich mulch that inhibits weeds. Sue says it took a bit of getting used to as it looks a little messy at first but the crowded informality of her garden lends itself well to this and it's been a real success and creates a rich fertile soil. Sue keeps her garden organic and with the Stout method there's certainly no need for chemical sprays.

Like flowers, herbs are a firm favourite with this gardener and they are scattered throughout the property. Sue puts many of the herbs to practical use such as the Saponaria or Soap Wort which Sue makes all her shampoo from.



Some interesting carvings and sculptures also have special places in the garden. There's a gorgeous owl that a friend carved from a Totara log and another gift was a statue of St Fiacre who is apparently the patron saint of gardeners. Sue has cleverly placed her garden art so they make points of interest around the property. On a wall at the front of the property is a wreath of twisted tree roots that the family found down the beach. It looks like it has been specially crafted for the wall it hangs on.

If she ever tires of her own 'patch' Sue is often to be found helping son Jodi at his Omata property. Jodi has inherited the green fingers and love of plants from his mother and is developing a seed bank of heirloom seeds.

As we finished chatting Sue tells me that her lovely garden is a work in progress and that "A true garden always has a bit you haven't got to yet. If someone says they've finished don't believe them!"

By Jackie Tomlinson

Gardens featured in the TOM Fitzroy receive a Garden Voucher generously donated by Fairfield's Garden Centre

Living art in furniture with Artesano

While heading to Fitzroy beach, let your eyes wonder and marvel at crafted art and furniture pieces by Steve Bowkett. Taranaki born, Steve has been passionate about the art of working with wood for longer than he cares to remember, but "when you run on wood-dust why not keep going?" he says.

He has recently relocated to 39 Beach Street after two years of furniture making and coffee drinking at Oakura. Before that a rather long stint in the Uruti Valley with Samurai influences among other things! "Steam-bending helped me achieve those subtle curves!

Steve uses a variety of local, decorative timbers such as NZ kauri, rimu, oak with different finishes. When asked what timber he likes best, this passionate craftsman shares that "each timber has its own elements, unique qualities." He enjoys working with each individual block to create living pieces of art in our homes.

"I enjoy the challenge of reproducing old styles like a recent commission of a Bishop's chair for St Mary's Church, retro and post modern pieces of my original designs. "Travelling overseas has inspired me a lot." "Especially living in the 'designers' paradise city' of Barcelona and crafting custom furniture for the rich and famous in London workshops." he shares. You're welcome to see examples of those influences at his showroom.

"Artesano is my new business name." Translated from Spanish, it means 'Artisan', aptly named for the exquisite, functional and decorative art pieces that Steve creates.

Words & Picture: Rosalina Pang



Steve with one of his creations.

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TOM Pets of the Month

Names: Fonzie and Oatie

Breed: Border Collie / Huntaway cross

Age: Four years

Personalities: Both dogs are very affectionate, playful friendly and intelligent.

Fonzie is very agile and can jump great heights. Lately he has taken to sharing his bed and sleeping with the families' new pet kitten.

Oatie loves chasing and retrieving balls down the beach or in the back yard.

These two local brothers had a somewhat shaky start to life. Born on a farm and unwanted they were destined for a very short life until a relative of the farmer took them to the late Kay Reynolds of Bell Block Dog rescue. Kay fostered the pups out to Oatie's family who soon decided to keep him, and happily friends of theirs adopted Fonzie.

These two are now very happy urban dwellers. Both live near the beach and it's one of their favourite places.

Getting together for their photo shoot at Oaties was a happy occasion. They played non stop and still ran in the same figure of eight pattern they did as pups! Fonzie right and Oatie left.



Oatie (left)
and Fonzie
(right).

Ravens Nearly Scuttle Aussie at Bauer Cup

The Ravens U14 inline hockey team travelled to Auckland at Easter to play in the Bauer Cup hosted by the Mt Wellington Panthers Club. They very nearly knocked out the Australian representative side in a close fought semi-final, going down by a single goal in the dying seconds of the final quarter. No one was more surprised that the game was so evenly poised than the Ravens team themselves who had gone into the semi-final as underdogs but were determined to give it their best shot literally.

The U14 team had reached the semi-final by finishing top of their pool and in the last game of pool play had faced the Rimutaka Renegades who kept the score locked up in a draw. The Ravens then won the pool play on a count back of goals.

After losing to the Australians, the Ravens then played off for third and fourth with the Rimutaka Renegades and this time won convincingly - a great effort to finish third out of nine teams.

The highlight of the Bauer Cup certainly was facing off against an international side and for many of the players; they had never faced an international rep side before. The Australians were great sports and presented each player with an Australian souvenir. They displayed a diversity of skills and tactics that kept the Ravens on their toes for the entire game and the whole team will be eagerly awaited to play against next year.



Above, the Ravens pose with the Australian team and below a tense face off during the semi final.




Waiwaka Tennis Club

The summer season at Waiwaka Tennis Club has recently drawn to a close. However the Club is still active over the cooler seasons, with Sunday mixed social tennis, court access at all times, and coaching by arrangement for members. For coaching (junior or senior) ring Yvonne (757 4232) or John (758 1026); for all other enquiries ring Bob on 758 4044 (H), or 021 1400151.

Now to the successes of the 09/10 season. Juniors - over 60 primary, intermediate and high school children benefited from the free group coaching provided to members on Wednesday afternoons by our qualified coaches. The interclub competition teams fared well, maintained good turnouts, and kept up their development and competitive and friendly spirit, generously supported by the team managers, parents and family. Amongst the Clubs' talented juniors, there were several that had regional achievements. Notably, Michael Lloyd and Nga Nicholas in representing Taranaki age groups and senior B in the interprovincial representative competitions, and Thomas Burrell in taking out the 16 year old plate competition in the Taranaki Open held at Hawera, just after Christmas.


Seniors - the three teams in the A grade competition - Soffe Cup, Wilson Trophy and Sumpter Trophy - didn't quite make it to the semi finals of their respective divisions. Most of the teams suffered from occasional player shortages and therefore lacked consistent results, but whether at full strength or otherwise, managed to put in very sound performances (and in some cases wins) against their respective Division leaders during the course of the season, and remained a force to be treated with respect. The Clubs' top Soffe Cup lady, Krystal Oakes, was consistently chosen to represent Taranaki in the top grade of the senior interprovincial competitions. A well



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Junior and Senior Club Champions at our end of season prizegiving held at Stumble Inn & Café.



deserved and earned recognition that should inspire the Clubs' younger ladies and girls. The Clubs' Presidents grade team did make it to the semi finals, but unfortunately came up against stiff competition.

Socially, Thursday evening Club nights prospered and welcomed several new faces throughout the season. The Business House competition which ran on Mondays maintained its high standards of friendly competition, relaxed and convivial atmosphere, and of course tennis fashion. Both the fashion and the competition trophies went out to different teams this year, and it is certain these will be fiercely contested next season.

The Club recently concluded both its junior and senior club championships, with trophies and awards given out at a well attended end of season function held at the Stumble Inn recently.

The Club is grateful to its sponsors - Stumble Inn & Cafe, Merrilands New World, van Beers Motors - for their support during the season, and also to the following organisations for grants provided towards coaching equipment and resources, and junior team shirts: The Lion Foundation, Southern Trust, New Zealand Community Trust.



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GETTING WET!

East End Surf Lifesaving Club

It has been another successful Junior Surf season at the East End Surf Lifesaving Club with between 80 and 100 kids fronting up every Sunday morning over the summer period. Despite cooler than average sea temperatures over the summer (what summer!), it was great to see the kids (and many parents) enjoying the water and learning how to be safe. Our programme runs from November through March with a short break over the Xmas period. We also run an extensive weekday training programme giving the kids the opportunity to develop their skills and train for the various Carnivals and National events. Amongst the many outstanding performances from the kids this season, the following deserve special recognition.

Namdokmai Northcott proved to be the Top U14 Girl in Taranaki. Liam Cole took out the equivalent Top U14 Boys Trophy. Their performances represent an outstanding effort as they require consistent winning performances across both land and surf disciplines at each of the Carnivals. Not only were they rewarded with the above mentioned trophies, both were chosen to represent Taranaki in their age group. Without a doubt these two kids are role models with many of the younger athletes aspiring to reach the levels they have in the coming years.

Also worthy of mention: 12 kids represented East End at the U14 Ocean Athletes championship at Mt Maunganui in late February. Despite a tsunami warning cancelling the last day, they made nine individual finals and one team final. Best results were: 4th in the U12 Mixed Beach Relay, and 5th place by Jessica Tarrant in the U11 Girls Beach Flags final. A great effort by the entire team.

Winter training will commence soon at the Bell Block pool. This gives the kids a chance to retain their fitness and have some fun in the water over the cooler months. The sessions are always well attended and always fun. If you would like to know more about the Junior Surf programme at East End please feel free to give me a call on 021 712128 or check out our website www.eastendslsc.org.nz.

Heath Tarrant – Junior Surf Coordinator East End

PS: Exciting news just to hand. East End has just taken out the top spot at the IRB Nationals with 77 points. They retain the title they won last year. Go East End!!!



East End U12 Mixed Beach Relay team entering the zone prior to the final.

From left Zac Howarth, Nicola Godwin, Javon McCallum, and Jessica Tarrant. (Photo: Courtesy of Keren Earp).

GETTING WET!

Fitzroy Surf Club at the National Surf Lifesaving Champs

A small but determined team headed to Ohope Beach for the 2010 National Surf Lifesaving championships recently. Fitzroy finished up with one gold medal, two silvers and three bronze to round out the three days of competition.

The U19 Women's canoe crew of Marissa Clough, Evie Trolove, Jess Lampe and Madeline Wells fought hard through three rounds each of the long course and short course canoe events at the championships to make it through to both finals. The races were long and the surf non-existent as they came through for a bronze in the long course event and silver in the short course.

It was a good weekend on the sprint track for the Fitzroy sprint team. Paul Cracroft-Wilson started off the medal tally with a bronze in the Open Men's beach sprint with Steve Harris coming through for 5th in the final.

The sprint relays were looking good with both the Open Men's and U19 Men's advancing through to the next rounds. Unfortunately the U19 team of Isaac Robinson, Steven Haami, Jordan McCormack and Scott Murfitt had to pull out due to injury, but the Open Men's team of Harris, Cracroft-Wilson, Robinson and Haami held out for a bronze in the Open Men's final.

The biggest upset of the weekend came from two Fitzroy competitors during the Open Men's Beach Flags event. Event favourite Cracroft-Wilson and Harris made it through to the final two athletes, but a slight stumble from Cracroft-Wilson stunned the crowd and saw Harris come through to take the gold medal and national title in only his second year of competition, with Cracroft-Wilson having to settle for silver. At the conclusion of the event, Cracroft-Wilson was named in the New Zealand team to compete at the World Championships in Turkey later this year.

Fitzroy Surf Club at the New Zealand IRB Champs

East End and Fitzroy Surf Lifesaving Clubs finished one and two at the recent Surf Lifesaving IRB national champs at Waipatu Cove.

East End took out the overall club honours for a second year in a row with Fitzroy placing second overall, 14 points behind. Fitzroy Surf Club finished with a tally of six gold and two silver medals at the event.

Fitzroy's premier crew of Chris Scott, Jaron Mumby and patient Nicky Askew took out the premier assembly and single rescue titles, adding these golds to the Teams Race gold won with team mates Jeremy Burton and Kent Fraser. Burton and Fraser also won a silver medal in the Mass Rescue event. Scott and Mumby are looking at retiring from racing after 14 years as one of New Zealand's top premier crews, amounting 30 New Zealand titles and competing for the New Zealand team in 2003.

Fitzroy's female crew of Katie Watts and Emma Crofskey cleaned up in the women's division winning the top female crew title for a 6th year in a row with their haul of three gold medals and a silver. Watts and Crofskey started the first day with silver in the Tube Rescue event, just behind their rival crew of St Clair from Dunedin. The roles were reversed for the Mass Rescue, Assembly Rescue and the coveted Single Rescue events with the Fitzroy girls edging out St Clair in each of these events to reclaim the overall female crew title.

Fitzroy have not finished out of the top two clubs at the National IRB champs for six years and hope to continue this run, thanks to the support from the Pelorus Trust and Sporty's Café and Bar.



The IRB nationals - Above, Fitzroy Premier crew, Chris Scott, Nicky Askew and Jaron Mumby. Below, Fitzroy Womens crew, Katie Watts, Nicky Askew and Emma Crofskey.





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New Plymouth Surf Rider's Club

A busy month for the Club which saw us retain our Surfing Taranaki Inter-Club title. Held at Back Beach on a beautifully fine day with light winds and good three foot surf, the competition drew team entries from NPSRC, Waitara Board Riders, Christian Surfers, Oakura and Opunake Board Riders. The event consists of teams of eight with each member competing in individual heats gaining points for their final position and then an eighty-minute Team Tag session. Each competitor can catch as many waves as they like but must indicate to the Judges which two they wish to be scored on by raising both arms above their heads at the end of the ride. They then paddle into shore and tag the next member of the team. Final results:

1st New Plymouth Surfriders Club (59 Points)

2nd Waitara Bar Boardriders Club (47 Points)

3rd Christian Surfers Club (42 Points)

4th Oakura Boardriders Club (29 Points)

5th Opunake Boardriders Club (18 Points)

This event gives us great confidence as we have lodged a challenge to Billabong New Zealand to bring their Team down and compete for a \$1,000 prize, put up by Billabong.

Our ladies also took advantage of the opportunity to learn some self defence, and were spoiled with the undivided attention of two highly qualified martial arts experts, Conner Anderson and Shane Field, at the clubrooms Tuesday 2 March.

With seven new defence techniques to practice at home, one has to spare a thought for the poor husbands, fathers or brothers of this group who all left the training session fired up and fizzing and by all accounts wasted no time in trying out their new moves at home!

A big 'thank you' to Shane and Connor and Jan Anderson for coming up with and executing the plan. The idea is to repeat this session in a month or two, so ladies and girls, keep an eye on your up and coming lineups for the time and place of the next one and come along to learn a few tricks that may well make a big difference one day when you least expect it.

One of our Committee members, Damien Phillis, had a moment of inspiration and quickly organised a Retro 70's single-fin competition which was held outside the Clubrooms on another beautiful March evening. Members managed to discover ten, old 1970's style single-fin boards and were given a forty minute "Expression-Session" to show their skills, or lack of, in mastering these boards which were shaped and ridden while some competitors were still in nappies. That didn't stop Jamie (Chippie) Andrews from putting on a display of flawless, aggressive carving and tube-riding.



David Farr competing in the 70's Retro competition.



Matt Smith competes in the final round of the Port Taranaki Summer series

Results:

1st Chippie Andrews.

2nd Matt King

3= David Farr, Brian Clarke.

The finals round of the PORT TARANAKI SUMMER SERIES was completed on March 27th and saw 34 Juniors and seniors compete in big, testing conditions at Fitzroy. Overall results of the three-round competition are:

Open; C. James 1, J. Hancox 2, J. Grainger 3, J. Kettle 4;

Girls; E. Croton 1, L. Walsh 2, C. Fleming 3, M. Wheeler 4;

U/18; E. McDonald 1, J. Hart 2, M. Smith 3, T. Watts 4;

U/16; S. Kettle 1, J. Kettle 2, H. Porter 3=, E. McDonald 3=,

U/14; I. Kettle 1=, M. McLeod 1=, J. Farr 3, T. Barbarich-Love 4,

U/12; I. Kettle 1, D. Farr 2, J. Farr 3, S. Martin 4;

Again we were privileged to co-host with TAFT the WOMAD performers for a barbeque and surf. The awesome sunset provided by Taranaki held our visitors enrapt as they watched the sun set over the Port.

By the time you read this our annual Fisher and Paykel Easter Masters will be completed. The report will feature in the May edition of the TOM. Following that we look forward to our Club Championships on May 1st and 2nd which will double as a team-selection for the Billabong Challenge.

Allen Pidwell



NPSRC champions Interclub team 2010.

Back - Mark O'Connor, Matt King, Hamish Bowling, Bachelor Tipene, Craig Tito (Manager)

Front - Sean Kettle, Amaia Sassia, Jarrod Hancox, Jeremy Grainger.



All-rounder off to Cambridge as Myers Scholar

William Tennent, head boy and dux at New Plymouth Boys' High School last year, has won the prestigious Douglas Myers Scholarship to Cambridge University in England.

He was awarded the scholarship, worth \$100,000 a year, for 2010 to attend Gonville and Caius College at Cambridge. There he will spend the next three years studying for a bachelor of arts in economics.

Sir Douglas Myers, a Cambridge alumnus, established the scholarship ten years ago for academically distinguished students with leadership potential in their chosen field who plan to return to New Zealand.

William was prominent in sport, co-captaining the school's adventure racing team which won two national titles. He was the Taranaki secondary schools' cycling champion, leading the school team which took the teams' title. As well he had Taranaki placings in rognaining, orienteering, cross country, triathlon and duathlon while playing cricket, soccer, rugby and basketball socially. In public speaking he topped the school in Years 10 and 13, and he gained the top senior grade in Taranaki last year in the Trinity College Speech Exams. He led the school debating team and played the saxophone in the school's bands.

Last year he took part in the Global Young Leaders' Conference in the United States.

This semester he is enrolled in accounting, economics, statistics and law papers at the University of Auckland.

William says he is "absolutely overwhelmed" to have been awarded such a prestigious scholarship. "It was such an honour as all the short-listed candidates had done amazing things in their time at school. "This scholarship will give me the opportunity to go to one of the most prestigious colleges at one of the top universities in the world. I will be interacting with some of the world's future leaders, and doing my best to be a credit to Sir Douglas, Taranaki, and New Zealand. "I am so grateful to Sir Douglas and the members of the panel for selecting me, but also my teachers, coaches, friends and family, who have supported and encouraged me to be in a position even to be considered for this scholarship."

On finishing his university studies William wants to enter investment banking and take an active role in community leadership.

Michael McMenamin, Headmaster NPBHS

Just when you think you've got the game conquered, the game conquers you (Michael Jordan)

Two Excellent Sportsmen

Jamie Hatch: The school is very proud of Jamie and his skill in yachting. Jamie is one of our Prefects and a natural leader. He won the TSSS Starling Class which is the culmination of much sailing since aged 9. The family are keen yachties.

Ben Crombie: The school is also very proud of Ben. He is an outstanding basketballer and is trialling for the NZU16 team in the April holidays. His coach is Warren Osborne and the school sees a big future for him.



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New Plymouth Girls High and Boys High Rugby Teams Play Canadian School

The first week of the school holidays saw rugby teams from NPGHS and NPBHS play County Central High School from Canada.

On a gorgeous albeit windy autumn day the girl's teams took to the gully field first. With a number of their more experienced players missing the NPGHS team found themselves struggling against the depth of the large Canadian squad and although they did score a couple of great tries the final score was 41-10 in the visitors favour.

At midday the boys played and the NPBHS team laid down a powerful challenge with their Haka and then went on to execute a convincing 60-0 win over the Canadians.

With most of the County Central students billeted with local families they got to experience a fantastic day in the 'Naki' visiting beaches, the aquatic centre, the walkway and climbing Paritutu just some of the activities they tried.

By Jackie Tomlinson



Going hard - Canada playing NPGHS.





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By Robin Martin

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Sustainability at Fitzroy Kindergarten

As global warming and environmental issues are becoming more and more of a problem for us all, we think it is important that our children have an awareness of this and learn more about how to look after their environment. We have put it into our 2010 Strategic Plan where "Teachers, children and whanau develop an understanding around sustainability, applying their new knowledge to their surrounding environments."

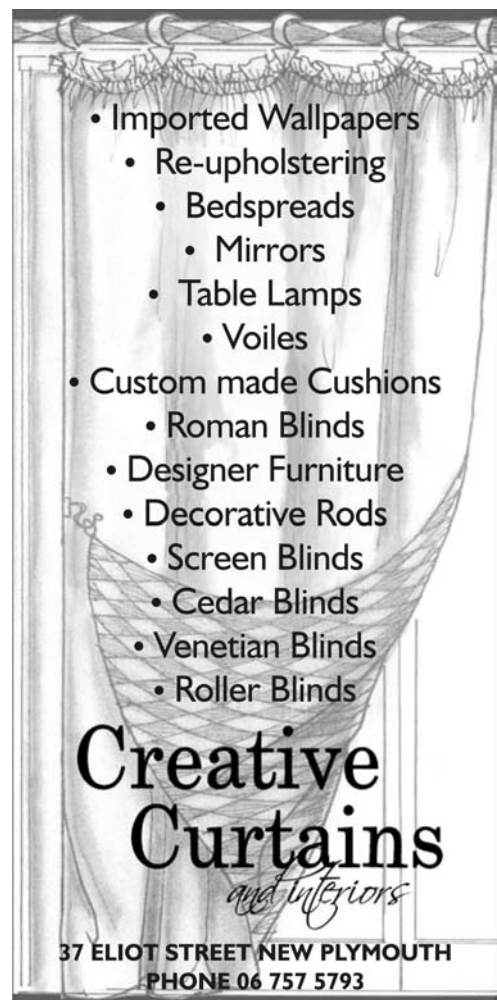
We initially wanted to start recycling, and purchased a bokashi bucket, so we could compost any food scraps the children had. Children are encouraged to help dig the compost into our Kindergarten garden, and use the juice for watering, all the while experiencing the growth cycle as plants evolve from flower to fruit or vegetables which then can be picked and eaten. We have feijoas, strawberries, tomatoes, mandarins, apples and cape gooseberries growing at present.

We also have invested in a blue recycle bin, and our children are being encouraged to sort paper, cardboard, plastics and glass. It has been so amazing to see how much our general rubbish has decreased by doing this. Children are often heard saying "Can we recycle this?"

The Kindergarten has also purchased some fantastic books on sustainability, and the children are learning more about recycling and understanding it from a global perspective. Some of the books are about saving animals from extinction, and offer suggestions as to what could be done to help with this. We encourage children to look after their very own creatures, as they experience metamorphosis through the monarch butterfly and frog cycle.

Furthermore, we are seeing our own families embracing it in their own ways. One of our parents came in and made recycled paper with our children. Others are helping with the gardening and outdoor environment. Children have been cooking with our produce from the garden. Fantastic! It is so important to all learn together.

Karen and Sue - Teachers



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For further details if your child is under 10 years: ph Cory 06 759 9312 / 027 291 7334 or 10 years + Craig 06 755 2013
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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 Swords Club - Fencing

At New Plymouth Boys High Old Gymnasium, off Hobson St. Every Monday night of school term - Juniors 6-7pm - Seniors 7-9pm. For more info contact: John Calcott, Ph 753 9186, jcalcott@paradise.net.nz

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 at the Fitzroy Hall, Sackville Street Fitzroy, at 7.30pm till 10.30pm. Information regarding club please PH 021 265 9230 or email lancasters@xtra.co.nz entry \$3 non-members \$2 members. Supper provided.

Taranaki Jazz Club

meets at the New Plymouth Club, Gill and Molesworth Streets 4pm every third Sunday. General admission \$12, club members \$7, students \$2.

Taranaki Model Powerboat Club

Holds a club day on the 1st Sunday of every month (weather permitting). It is held 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.

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