

TOM *Fitzroy*

AUGUST 2009

Local student given the opportunity to shine on London stage

By Jackie Tomlinson

PHOTOS & CAPTIONS SUPPLIED BY NICOLA MORINE

Fifteen months ago a life changing journey began for a group of New Zealand Secondary School students.

Read about our local connection page 4.



The Globe Theatre, taken from groundling position, i.e. just below stage level.



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The Citizens Initiated Referendum on smacking children has been an interesting exercise in futility. If you tick a box or no, will that change what thousands of Kiwi's do? The good parents are going to continue being good parents while the bad parents won't give a stuff. I was motivated to vote not because it is my duty to do so but because I believe parents are being made impotent by do gooders, so I stood up for choice and voted. I think it is important to give parents as many options as they can possibly have. If a controlled smack is one option or the naughty corner another option, we should all support our parents in their quest to bring up well adjusted individuals. I had an interesting conversation with a friend recently about the lack of seeming options available for parents with children taking drugs – what do you do? I don't know the answer but I was dismayed to think so many of us don't know the answers and isn't that what our tax dollar should be spent on - helping parents find the most appropriate solutions, not referenda?



Kim

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TOM garden of the month

The days have started to get a bit longer and there's even a smattering of blossoms about. Just as I was starting to get enthusiastic about the arrival of spring in the not too distant future and the effect it will have on my garden I happened to tune into a weather discussion on the National programme. Jim Mora and Bob McDavitt were discussing what was in store weather wise and they talked about the truth that underlies the saying. "As the days get longer, winter gets stronger". Bob's ensuing weather forecast backed that up; so much for spring it seems I'll have to be patient a little longer.

While some of us decide a tropical island escape is needed at this time of the year, one Fitzroy couple simply step out onto their conservatory for a taste of the tropics. Running along the North side of their home is a large 35 sq metre conservatory. Within its warm confines are the couple's 14 stunning pineapple plants.



Fruits of their labour.

Phillip and Rose have been growing pineapples for around 10 years now. What started as an experimental planting after cutting the top off a shop bought pineapple has turned into quite a passion for the pair. This practice is no longer possible as MAF about five years ago stopped pineapples being imported with their 'tops' on. The couples first plant or mother plant to all the others is large with a thick trunk. Nestled in its sharp fronds is an enormous pineapple.

Phillip says they are unsure from which country their first plant originated, possibly Hawaii or the Philippines but one thing was certain, it was a producer of very large fruit. The two pineapples they have on plants at the moment are certainly testament to that.

The pineapple plant is a member of the Bromeliad family and the plant has a big root ball but no tap root. When grown on plantations they are planted very close together so that the plants support one another. Philip and Rose find their plants which they grow in large squat pots require extra support when fruiting or when they are first repotted.

They had the conservatory built with pineapples in mind and the day I visited the temperature in there was a lovely 24°C. In

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summer that heat can get up to 35°C and it's in the warmer temperatures that the plants grow a lot faster. It takes 18 months to two years for the fruit to develop. It's a fascinating process and for about two weeks at one stage the fruit has beautiful mauve flowers on each of its spikes. Many of the plants have small 'pups' growing on their sides and these will eventually be able to produce fruit.

I asked Philip what maintenance was required to keep the plants healthy. He said "They are a thirsty plant and require watering once a week in winter and twice a week in summer". He uses about 25 litres of water when watering the plants and for feeding them uses Thrive liquid plant food.

The reward for these patient gardeners is when finally the fruit ripens to bright golden yellow and they can eat delicious fruit unlike anything you would ever buy in the supermarket. Visiting this months TOM 'garden' was a real and unique taste of the tropics in beautiful Fitzroy.

By Jackie Tomlinson



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Me in school uniform.

cover story

From a 'cast' of 5,200 talented young people, which included New Plymouth Girls High student and Merrilands resident Nicola Morine, just 24 were chosen to perform at the London Globe Theatre as part of the Shakespeare Globe Centre NZ Young Shakespeare Company for 2009.

It was back in April 2008 that Nicola and two friends from NPGHS entered the University of Otago National Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival. They chose to perform Shakespeare's 'The Winters Tale' in the five minute performance category. But this was Shakespeare with a twist, the girls set the play in the 1950's, they used swing music and a strong theme of jealousy, with green highlights in the props on their set. Their singing, acting and set designing skills saw them win the Regional five minute performance category and then go onto the National competition where they won two awards, one for the most effective set design and another for the most outstanding use of music in a student piece.

Here at the National competition the numbers were whittled down to just 48 students selected to participate in a week long drama camp and be part of the National Shakespeare Schools production. Nicola was one of those selected.



have more depth they soon were overshadowed as the talent was of such a high standard. This camp was designed to sort the talent out and to see who could work as a team.

While she gained so much from her week long camp Nicola had no real expectation that she would be selected to go to the Globe. "I was only in year 12 and the standard was so high" was how she described it.

The selectors thought otherwise and they recognized the X factor in this young local. That and her ability to work and perform in a company saw her selected as one of the 24 students that would get to travel to the London Globe theatre to perform a work of Shakespeare's in 2009.

With the dream now becoming a reality, the huge task of fundraising \$8000 that was required for the trip was now a priority. Nicola and her parents say the support and generosity they received was just incredible.

One highlight was the 'Shakespearean' themed night at the Plymouth organized by the ladies at their church the New Plymouth Central Baptist.

This along with grants from the Taranaki Arts Council, The Dame Malvina Major Trust, and also funding from ETL Group saw the fundraising target met and this wonderful opportunity actually coming to fruition in July this year.

Nicola is the fifth NPGHS student to be chosen to perform at The Globe. This is a wonderful testament to the strength of the performing arts department at Girls High.

A day and half stop over in Hong Kong set the scene for what was to be a whirlwind two and half weeks of totally new experiences for Nicola. The tour guide showed them the warts and all version of Hong Kong from the opulence of super yachts and incredible buildings to the squalor of slums and rubbish dumps on the waters edge where people picked through rubbish for food. This was a



Us rehearsing on the stage.



Based at Wanganui Collegiate the students had 'Loves Labours Lost' to perform. Nicola played one of the lead roles as Maria. This was the first time she had performed as a female, coming from girl's single sex school someone inevitably has to take a boy part. Apart from finally having a part as a girl Nicola was amazed at the talent she was surrounded by, many of the students already even had their own agent. She said that if people had made it as far as the Wanganui stage of the competition based on one strong performance but didn't

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The group onstage after completing our performance at midnight.

real eye opener for the young New Zealanders many of whom had never left NZ before. After very little sleep in Hong Kong the students then flew onto London where on arrival they went straight to the Globe to watch a performance of Romeo and Juliet. Fellow New Zealander and actor Rawiri Paratene was performing in this play. They stood through the performance as 'groundlings'. This is the lowered area immediately around the stage, in Shakespeare's time it was for the poor folk. But for Nicola although she and her fellow travellers were exhausted it was quite simply the best place to be. This was as close as you could get to the performers Nicola rested her elbows on the stage and was obviously entranced. This she said was to be one of the highlights of the whole trip.

Romeo and Juliet was one of many performances the group would get to experience. The Globe is extremely busy with a full schedule each day beginning in the afternoon running through until after midnight. Sets are changed with each new group doing their performance.

Besides the huge amount of talent on constant display there was the wonder of the theatre itself. Recreated in 1997 (the original Globe was lost to fire) it is a faithful reproduction of the original. Nicola told me the attention to detail is incredible with amazing art work painted on each level of the performing area.

The Globe is an open air theatre with the central stage surrounded by three levels of seating, historically the seats directly behind the stage were for the important and wealthy so they could be on 'show'.

The small roof that is above the stage is painted depicting the heavens. It is up quite high so doesn't keep the weather out. The night the New Zealand students were on stage a thunderstorm raged and they performed in the rain. This only added to the experience says Nicola.

For the NZ students some days would see them at workshops and rehearsals until 2.00 am. They were expected to journal their experiences each day and there was an intensity to the experience that some found a little overwhelming. Nicola at this point says "It's really difficult to describe how amazing this whole experience was" so much was packed into the two and a half weeks.

Their experiences weren't confined to the Globe though and early on in the trip a Rally was arranged around London. Travelling by tube the students had to make their way around the city finding different representations of Shakespeare, things like a statue, the Shakespeare pub etc. Seeing and experiencing other London theatres was also on the agenda, these included the huge National theatre and another on Westend. Here they saw shows and were given back stage tours.

Before returning home there were a couple of days to relax when the students visited Stratford upon Avon and enjoyed boat rides and a chance to see The Royal Shakespeare Company performing 'As You Like it' and aptly the play that brought Nicola to this point 'The Winters Tale'.

Now back at Girls High Nicola is busy working on the next drama challenge set by her teacher Mrs Riley. The topic is Climate Change and Nicola says the play starts out funny but becomes serious. This serious side to her drama has developed since the Globe experience she says. Since her trip Nicola tells me she has realised that she had only "scratched the surface" with drama. Now her interest is fuelled to such a point that she plans to do a Bachelor of Arts and Theatre studies at Victoria next year along with a Bachelor of Commerce.

Her talent coupled with the enthusiasm that saw Nicola shine and be selected for the Globe experience will undoubtedly continue to develop over her time at University and her name will be one I'm sure we will hear more of in the future.

By Jackie Tomlinson

wonderful memories . . .

Growing up in our Area

There has recently been a new seat installed at Waiwakakaio. It's in a fantastic spot to sit and enjoy the view of the Waiwakahio River meeting the Tasman Sea.

The seat was donated by June Olley and the inscription on the small plaque on the back of the seat reads;

*In Memory and Gratitude
June Olley
for my
Waiwakahio Childhood*



Phoebe aged 13 and Oatie enjoying the view from 'June Olleys' seat.

June obviously had fond and happy memories of her childhood in our local area. Today most locals would agree this is still a great place to grow up. The list is endless of things for children and young people to do, building driftwood huts on the beach, fishing at Waiwakakaio, whitebaiting in the Te Henui stream, cycling on the walkway, surfing at a local break, skate boarding at the skate park are just a few that springs to mind.

June's seat has made me think that there must be many stories and 'memories' out there in our local community amongst our TOM readers. Stories of growing up in times past in this wonderful location. If you have a childhood story/memory you would like to share with our readers I'd love to hear from you.

jackie@thetom.co.nz or Phone Jackie 758 5442.

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What's new at the pottery

The kilns at the New Plymouth Potters Club have been doing overtime with firings for the public classes run by members of the club for WITT. Those interested in taking part in classes should contact WITT.

The classes for term 3 are full, but there is space in the 4th term starting on 20th October. This class is a beginners' class covering hand-building, including pinch pots, coiled pots, slab work and use of moulds. At the end of the programme there is time to work on some individual projects. The course concludes with glazing and firing of the work.

The kilns have also been busy with a tile painting weekend by club members, and preparation for club exhibitions.

We are exhibiting at The Stage Gallery in Hawera from the 16th August to 12th September, in combination with the Hawera Creative Fibre Group, so a trip to see this could be worthwhile.

Also, our annual exhibition with a Supreme Award of \$500 for the Best Selected pot will be staged at The Real TART Gallery from November 6th. This has been transferred from 28th August due to renovations at Real TART but it is always a good place to look for pottery as the club members display their works at the Gallery on a monthly roster.

Also, as you all know, The Vicarage Pottery at the club rooms at 288 Courtenay Street is open every weekend from 1pm to 4pm.

If you call in and ask the duty member, they will be pleased to show people through the club rooms and see what goes on there. It is a very busy club and if the weekend is not possible for a visit, members meet regularly on a Thursday from 10am and there is always plenty to see when they are there.

By Graham Mulvey



hot tips from the Fire Brigade

Kitchen Fires

One of the situations we are regularly called to are kitchen fires, often started by unattended cooking.

In the last month we were called to two incidents in New Plymouth where the occupants had gone out and forgotten that they had left food cooking in a pot on the stove.

In both cases we were called because a smoke alarm was sounding and we arrived in time to limit the damage to thick black acrid smoke through the building, the smell of which is very difficult to remove from furnishings etc.

The big bonus is that nobody was hurt. However, the same situation occurring in a house without a working smoke alarm and somebody asleep could result in a death through smoke inhalation.

The message is clear: PLEASE have sufficient working smoke alarms in your home to give you an early warning of fire. We recommend photo electric alarms and that you install one for each bedroom, living area and hallway.

Another frequent cause of fire fatalities related to kitchen fires is the situation where people come home from a night on the town and feeling a big hungry decide to have a cook-up and then fall asleep, leaving the food cooking on the stove top. Breathing in the smoke has the effect of putting them into a deeper sleep, and unfortunately unless somebody helps them, death may follow soon after.

SO - FIT SMOKE ALARMS

- KEEP LOOKING WHILE YOU ARE COOKING and
- DONT DRINK AND FRY!

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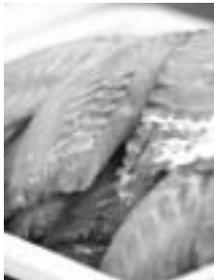
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TOM sports



Ravens Inline Hockey Club



The Club has been enjoying a lot of hockey this last month. We hosted the Secondary Schools Championship won by Kerikeri High School with New Plymouth Boys' High School in second place and Francis Douglas Memorial College in third. We also hosted the Ravens junior tournament which was a great success with teams competing from as far away as Nelson. The Ravens U10's, Ravens U12 /1's and Ravens U14/1's all won gold and the Ravens Junior Women won silver. Congratulations to all the winning and competing teams for a fantastic weekend of hockey. I would like to pass on my thanks to everybody who helped with the smooth running of the tournament. It was also so good to see so many of you at Breakers Café & Bar after the tournament enjoying a meal and for some a well earned drink. Good luck to all the players heading to regional trials at the end of the month.

We look forward to hosting the national competition here in New Plymouth in the next school holidays.

Sue Toa, President



Ella Toa (right) competing against Waihi.

Secondary Schools Championship - on left, bronze medal winners, Francis Douglas and on right, New Plymouth Boys High School, silver medal winners .



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Golf croquet season underway

Tucked away down by the Te Henui stream in the East End reserve is our local Golf Croquet Club. In what must be one of our areas most scenic settings this relatively new sport is proving to be a hit with New Plymouth folk.

The East End Croquet Club was established in 1922 and until recent times only the more traditional 'association Croquet' was played here.

Golf croquet was introduced to the club by members Roger Dunnett and Allie Croad and since that first introduction the sport has proved so popular that the club of just over 100 members has 93 Golf Croquet players in its ranks!



The golf croquet clubrooms and playing lawns.



This modern twist on traditional croquet is fast paced, fun and strategic so it has wide appeal. People come to the game from various sporting backgrounds including many that have played 9 hole golf. There is a mixture of both social and competitive players and Club Captain Gary King has the task of ensuring both groups have their playing needs met. He obviously does a great job as there is a large 'purely social' group but on the competitive side the club is well represented with players with world rankings. In November two of these players, Mavis Brogden and Gwen Salisbury, are off to represent New Zealand

in Melbourne at the World Golf Croquet Championship event. The day I visited the club groundsman Bill Heaphy had just mowed the croquet lawns and even on a gloomy winters day the bright new club rooms were welcoming and the playing lawns looked fantastic.

I chatted with Club President Barbara Johnston, Club Captain Gary King and two other members about why the sport is proving so popular. They said that because the game is quite quick (around 40 minutes) and because it's gentle exercise it appeals to many - but what also keeps it interesting is the various strategies you can bring into the game. It's a real thinking persons sport. The East End club is apparently one of the largest in New Zealand and this came as no surprise as I'm sure new members and visitors are made to feel very welcome if the friendliness of the members I met is any indication. The club also hosts private functions and in recent times businesses have had their end of year function at the venue with after game catering done by club members.

The Club had its opening day on August 14th but it's not too late to go along to try your hand at this fun sport. You can turn up on a Saturday morning from 9.00 until 12 noon and all you will need to bring is flat soled shoes and \$3. You will be taught the game by club members, but be warned you'll want to come back for more.

Later in the year in November another time slot is available for those wanting to try the sport. 'Twilight Golf Croquet' on Wednesday evenings has proved popular in recent years. What a great way to spend a summers evening in this idyllic setting. If you'd like to try a new sport, get some gentle exercise and make some new friends then go along to our local Golf Croquet Club at the East End Reserve.

Any further enquiries contact Club President Barbara Johnston Ph 7579938

By Jackie Tomlinson



Fitzroy Golf Club goes high-tech

This month the Club is installing a Dot Golf system for members which will print scorecards, and give results of tournaments and competitions, which will be projected on a screen. The member uses the system by interacting with a computer terminal, using a touch screen monitor. He can enter his membership number and the system prints his scorecard for the upcoming round. If there is a competition for the day, the golfer interacts with the touch screen monitor to enter. No longer is the golfer required to write down his name to enter haggles - just has to simply touch a button on the screen. In the club lounge the leader board is projected on to a screen which progressively displays the competition results as rounds are completed and entered into the system. The cost of setting up this system is substantial and the Club is grateful for a grant of \$10,000 received from TSB Community Trust towards this. A further welcome donation of \$2,300 to help with the expense was received from Brougham Heights Motel. Fitzroy members are eagerly awaiting completion of the installation of the Dot Golf System which will provide both the Club and the golf club member an enhanced golfing experience using cutting edge computer technology.

Cheers

Barry Seebeck

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GETTING WET!



New Plymouth Surf Riders Club

At last! After twenty four days of onshore winds with a few good days of mainly small surf mixed in, the south easterly change brought not only some welcome warm weather but a healthy head-high swell to tempt surfers away from the fire and out into the 14 degree water.

Although the swell was not quite right with too much westerly focus in it meaning that big wave spots such as Waiwhakaiho and other points were not working properly, Fitzroy turned it on, with heaps of surfers gaining entry to "The Green Room", or in today's vernacular, "Getting Pitted".

However in Taranaki we are blessed with an abundance of quality breaks and while many fought their way through the crowds at Fitzroy many quality waves went unriden, such as Belt Road.

This winter has not provided the usual quality and quantity of surf that Taranaki is renowned for and surfers have been pouring over the weather and swell maps searching for that elusive spot that would provide waves. Two of our members, Gerald and Dave, could not wait that long and spent a week on the East Coast grovelling in the small waves on offer there. And the usual large numbers have already made or are about to make their annual pilgrimage to Indonesia, where Bali has breaks such as G-land off endless tubes and bath warm water. Samoa is also proving attractive as surf resorts take advantage of the numerous breaks being discovered there.

On midwinters weekend, Surfing Taranaki held the first Taranaki Surfing Championships to be run since 1998. Open to any surfer born or currently living in Taranaki, the event was a huge success. It attracted the cream of Taranaki talent, except for our sole professional surfer, Paige Hareb, who is off competing overseas.

Held at Rocky Point in rising three to five feet waves the competition was dominated by surfers from New Plymouth Surf Rider's Club winning three of the four divisions. Bachelor Tipene – Open; Thandi Durham - Women's; Josh Kettle - Cadets [under 16]. Tyler Anderson from Oakura took out the Juniors [under 21].

Congratulations to all those who competed in truly competitive surf conditions.

Allen Pidwell



Mark Parthemore at Rocky Point.



Saturday 25th July.



Belt Road Rights Saturday 25th July.

East End Surf Life Saving Club

Despite winter having a firm grip on the region, spring is not far away and East End SLSC has lots happening as we prepare for another busy summer.

Junior Surf winter training continues at Bell Block Pool on Wednesday nights from 6:30pm- 7:30pm. This is a great opportunity for your child to improve their swimming ahead of the busy summer months. New and existing members are welcome. Contact John Dent (06) 7572294.

East End Old Crocs Masters Swimming Club is a group of older ex members and supporters who have formed a swim and walking group which is all about keeping fit and having fun. We supply swim training programmes and offer an adult learn to swim programme to suit any members wishing to start out.

If you are interested and would like to find out more, contact Craig Dent on (06) 7538110 or ee6man@xtra.co.nz

Surf Life Guard Award training will begin with an information session on the 23rd of August, 12:30pm at the clubrooms. Anyone who is interested in becoming a lifeguard or learning more about Surf Life Saving is invited to come down. You need to be at least 14 years old (or turning 14 during the summer). No previous experience is required, just a positive attitude and a willingness to challenge yourself.

We will also be offering separate sessions for Adult Lifeguards. These sessions are open to anyone over the age of 25 and are tailored to suit an older group. This training was introduced successfully last summer and is a great way to learn about surf safety without being caught up in a group of teenagers.

For further information, contact Andy Cronin 0272 943438 or coach@eastendslsc.org.nz

As always enjoy our fantastic coastline and remember if you see someone in difficulty and there are no lifeguards on duty call 111 and ask for the Police.

A passion for swimming lessons

Ben and Marion Vermeulen of The Bathing Co's Swim School took a few moments out of their busy schedule to show me around their business.

And what a pleasant experience it was! Swimming lessons have come a long way since my children attended a decade ago.

The first impression you get when you arrive at the Puni St premises is of a lovely place to sit and enjoy the winter sunshine (I was lucky, the sun was shining) while the children flap about in the water. Inside you could easily imagine you are in a child care centre – it is bright, clean and stimulating. The Swim School is set up to cater for the needs of toddlers, children, parents and more. There are toys, activities, tea and coffee facilities and of course a protected pool area with changing rooms and a shower bay. Hygiene, cleanliness and safety are the Schools point of difference says Marion.

The Swim School is owned by Ben and Marion these last seven years and in that time Marion tells me the school has grown and adjusted into a well run thriving business with students from six months old through to 80 years old. She says they get quicker results because of the temperature of the pool, their small group sizes (up to six) and by providing a live feed to a television that parents can watch without hindering the children. It's a great place for parents to interact with one another and form ongoing friendships through meeting at the Swim School.

You'd be mistaken if you thought the Vermeulens only offered swimming lessons - there's more. Learning to swim is their key focus but they also have fitness classes called Aquasize. These classes cater for those wanting to improve their fitness but they may be hampered by arthritis, prior injuries or advancing age. The Swim School is the ideal place because the water temperature is around 32 degrees, the area is enclosed and there are no spectators.

The Swim School also specialises in special needs children and has regular visits from various schools and their small groups of children. Physiotherapists send along patients for rehabilitation and one on one care.

Marion says the Swim School runs school holiday programmes whereby children can attend in the second week for five days in a row and these are very popular with many out of town visitors attending.

All the swim programmes are designed to teach children what water is doing to them through awareness, to gain confidence, learn water safety and learn techniques for competent swimming. Squad training is also an option for improving fitness and technique.

The School boasts ten staff including three trainees, five trained teachers (one of whom is Marion), one reliever and one receptionist.

A near death experience in the water prodded Marion into learning to swim, not as a luxury but as an essential life skill and for the last 26 years Marion has endeavoured to pass this on to as many children as she can. It would be fair to say she is passionate about it and just loves watching the enjoyment children get out of learning to swim.

Contact the Swim School on ph 758 0212, 14 Puni St Fitzroy.

By Kim Ferens



Marion and Ben in the pool with a preschool learn to swim group.



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New Plymouth Boys' High School: scholarship winners



Scholarship winners, James McKerrow, Chris Hewlett, Akshay Sridhar, Jacob Meads, James Hewett, Sam Varley, Elohim Northcott, Hamish Fleming, Gye Simkin.

New Plymouth Boys' High School was delighted to welcome back to the school last year's Scholarship winners. These young men gained 14 Scholarships in total which puts them in the top percentage of students in New Zealand. There are separate Scholarship examinations offered at the end of each year for the top academics in every school to enter – for these young men to gain a Scholarship is a high achievement. They returned for a school assembly where they were honoured and presented with a gift from the school.



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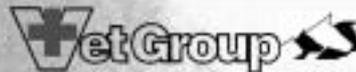
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St John Bosco School: exercise for learning

Our children at St John Bosco School have been participating in a new initiative which is actually Occupational Therapy. This is based on a programme of focused movement that is set up once a week with Lyndal Henry, an Occupational Therapist, and continued each day (twice a day) under the guidance of Clare Thomson, Teacher Aide.



Left to right: Stacey, Georgia (obscured), Ellis, Taku & Matthew. At the rear are Clare Thomson, Teacher Aide and Lyndal Henry, Occupational Therapist.

All exercises are based on developing the whole child, strengthening the neural pathways necessary for success. The routines develop concentration, fine motor skills, co-operation, self awareness, listening skills, confidence and many other skills. We have been running this programme for two terms and have seen marked increases in the children's ability to participate more fully back in the classroom.

The children love doing it and say things like:

"I feel calmer and quieter in the classroom."

"I just feel better after Occupational Therapy"

"I can listen to the teachers easier and my reading has got easier"

The trial has been so successful that we can see it actually changing the way pupils address their classroom work, and their ongoing education.

The dream would be to find a sponsor, a benefactor, anyone who can help us pay for the services of Lyndal and Clare. To not continue to offer this kind of support would be to deny the children their opportunity to be fully, successfully engaged in their learning.

We thank Rachel at Hardy's Health Shop in Centre City for an initial donation that enabled us to get this programme up and running. Thank you!

Marie Barrett, Principal

Mangorei Medical Clinic

Dr Ganesh Thaneeru
MBBS

Phone: 06 758 2880

Fax: 06 758 9759

Email: mangorei@world-net.co.nz

65 Mangorei Road,
New Plymouth 4312

ENROLLING NEW PATIENTS NOW

Fitzroy Kindergarten

Our Community Kindergarten

At Fitzroy Kindergarten, we pride ourselves on being a 'community kindergarten', involving families wherever we can. Once a term, our fabulous Committee organises a fundraising event, and although raising money is a priority, having the families and community involved is probably just as important to us. Having these fun events gives families opportunity to meet and to network together.

In the past we have had trike-a-thons, women's nights, a Christmas Picnic, to name just a few! At present our Committee is organising the annual Fancy Dress Disco, which will be on Thursday 20th of August, 5.30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Beach Street Hall. This is an exciting event and our children are already on the big countdown and have planned what they will wear! This disco is not limited to our kindergarten children, and we invite other children in the community to come along and join in on the fun. We have yummy food and drinks for sale.

Many thanks to Piccolo Morso and Marta's@Wai-ti Cafe for their generous donations.

Our Committee has also just booked two evenings with Lyn Webster, who writes the weekly Saturday newspaper article "Pig tits and parsley sauce". Lyn will demonstrate different recipes and share her money saving ideas. This will be held over two evenings in September. Thanks to Jason from The Ugly Duck who has generously provided us with the venue. For more details contact Rachel on 757 3519.



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Merrilands School News

Cool School

The week starting 3 August was Peace Week. This national week, organised by The Peace Foundation, is about helping students to understand and manage conflict in their own lives and in their community.



Marianne & Ayla having a drink break from their Peer Mediation duties.

The Peace Foundation is also responsible for the Cool Schools Peer Mediation Programme. Merrilands School became a Cool School this year after staff and student training in "Peer Mediation."

During morning break and lunch hour, student mediators are in the playground. These mediators work with students to resolve their minor playground disputes. As a school we want to strengthen our students' ability to become more independent in sorting out their social problems and not expect adults to do it for them. The mediators provide a service for other students as "peace-keepers."

They model skills and processes which will last a lifetime and are readily transferable to the home, workplace, community etc. They certainly help make the school environment (both playground and classroom) a happier, safer, more peaceful place to be.

Friendship Club

Another recent initiative at Merrilands School is Friendship Club. Each lunch hour students can choose to go to the Friendship Club. This Club has proven to be very popular. It provides another way for students to socialise but in a more structured environment than the playground. It is wonderful to see how well students interact and support one another through the games and activities provided. The students are also lucky to have lots of new games and activities, thanks to Methanex and Rotary very generously providing \$600 in grants for the Friendship Club.

We are now getting visits from other schools who have expressed an interest in setting up something similar to better meet the socialisation needs of their students and it has been wonderful sharing our success in this area with them.



Kyra & Isla enjoying a lunch hour game of Junior Monopoly at Friendship Club.

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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.

NP Roller Sports Club Family Skate Nights

A fun night the whole family can enjoy.
Skate nights for September are: 5th and 12th.
\$5 Admission includes skate hire. No Eftpos available.

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 2659230 or email lancasters@xtra.co.nz entry \$3 non-members \$2 members. Supper provided.

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 7699166 or 0212994168.

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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