

Daisy Day **Through the Lens**

Thirty Years of Surf Photography . . .

This is our first summer issue of the Fitzroy TOM so it is fitting that a long time local resident whose lifestyle embodies the summer, the beach and surfing should feature this month.

I spent an enjoyable afternoon interviewing Karen 'Daisy' Day in November, summer hadn't quite arrived but we both agreed we were looking forward to it and everything it entails.

Daisy is involved in many ways with surfing, as a surfer, surf photographer, surf instructor and mentor to a group of teenage female surfers are just a few of

(continued on page 4)



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TOM Garden of the month

TOM Garden of the Month

This month's TOM garden has always caught my eye when I pass by it. It has a slightly formal look but this is balanced beautifully with an abundance of flowers in white's blues, purples and pinks. It was nice to get a closer look and meet the owner who keeps it looking so lovely.

Margaret and her late husband moved here eight years ago. Of interest Margaret told me an elderly neighbour provided lots of history about their home and the surrounding area. Construction of the home was apparently completed on the day Japan surrendered in World War II.

A lot of good structural shape was in place in the garden when they moved here however a lot of the garden was planted in flaxes and other natives with very little colour.

Having lived in beachside properties for many years Margaret has good insight into what plants will do well in a garden near the sea and with that in mind has successfully introduced colour and a wide variety of her favorite flowers into the garden. A few of the original plantings have been removed, gone are two huge camellia trees and a lot of the flaxes, but the big Puka and Olive tree on the front boundary have been kept as well as Hebes and a number of other plants. They provide a good screen from a northerly wind; in fact Margaret says the garden is extremely well protected from all our Taranaki prevailing winds creating its own little micro climate. Early plans to harvest the olives from the tree have been put aside instead she leaves them on the tree to enjoy the birdlife they attract.

Margaret's favorite colours in a garden are blues pinks purple and white and she has huge variety of plants covering that colour palette. Daisies, cornflowers, hydrangea, sweetpeas, viola, larkspur, plumbago, hebe, lavender, carnations, poppies and a beautiful mauve chrysanthemum to name a few all mix together in a pretty jumble. Margaret says she doesn't like things planted uniformly in rows but much prefers a cottage like mix to her planting. There are also several varieties of roses in the garden including the Red Dublin Bay trained over an iron gate, Old Master and the fragrant and pretty Cecile Brunner planted in memory of Margaret's mother. Another fragrant addition to the garden is the Port Wine



Camellia tree which she says is a lovely welcome home as soon as you get out of the car when it's in bloom the perfume greets you. Some blooms that will be making a stunning show in a short while are some wine coloured poppies. At the moment they are in huge buds.

A low ornamental hedge of *teucrium fruticans* runs along the front of the house giving a little formality to the entrance staircase. It is deliberately left a little untamed though as again Margaret steers away from too much structure.

Flowers aren't the only feature on this property though and round the back of the property there is a good sized vegetable patch with a large variety of vegetables growing. There's certainly plenty of garden to keep her busy and

Margaret says she likes to spend time working in the garden a couple of times a week fitting this in around her other interests of golf and golf croquet.

The sharing of plants and tips makes gardening really special and this garden visit ended with me receiving a 'cutting' of an unusual air plant growing attached to Margaret's Puka tree. This spiky plant looked great growing in a curve of the Puka trunk. My cutting now has a similar spot on our Puka at home.

By Jackie Tomlinson



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editorial FROM THE TOM ZONE

Seven months ago the TOM Group bought the Fitzroy Voice from Ron Mells. The Fitzroy Voice had been delivering news in the community for about 39 years. That means we now have a combined score card of 40 years experience in Fitzroy and Merrilands. I think this proves there is a special place in the heart of the community for its own newspaper, its own news and its own identity.



As the editor of the TOM-Fitzroy as we now call the Fitzroy Voice (to fit in with the other two TOM publications in Oakura and Okato), it is gratifying to know that this magazine is what the community wants. TOM-Fitzroy and indeed the TOM Group isn't primarily driven by fiscal elements. Rather we are driven by working together with the community to create its own identity, record the things that give this identity and keep a permanent dossier of events that have moulded the people and the places in the community. The TOM ideology is people before profit and it is about giving groups of people and individuals a voice, a chance to be heard in their own community. It is a model that has worked extremely well in Oakura where TOM has been produced for over nine years.

The wonderful community support and backing of the local businesses is what has enabled The TOM to come to you each month and has seen us continue to be part of your community. It does come at a cost and all we need from the community is the support and backing of the local businesses – nothing more.

Just recently I had a woman email me to say she had googled her granddad and found an article I had written about him



Kite surfing at East End Beach.

on our TOM website – that's precious – that's a connection that wouldn't have existed without the TOM and I love it.

Your positive feedback each month tell us that The TOM is a project (for this is what I see the TOM as) with value and worth. You have told us that the stories about local people, clubs and groups are important to you and it has been a pleasure to continue to be the communities 'voice'.

So thank you for all your support Fitzroy-TOM readers, contributors and advertisers, we at The TOM wish you all a safe and Happy Christmas and New Year.

See you in 2010!

Kim

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Daisy Day

the 'hats' she wears. Soon 'author' will be added to her list of accomplishments with the release of her book titled simply '30 Years of Surf Photography'.

The book was conceived two years ago when Daisy felt she wanted to do something with some of the vast library of images she has taken over the last 30 years that she has been involved with surfing. It seems winter had its uses this year as it was over our chillier months that she had to turn her back on the sea for a while and put the book together. The result is a photographic journey from her early days in Wanganui up to Taranaki which has been home for the last twenty plus years.

Born to English parents in Wellington, Daisy at a very early age had a love of the ocean which was actively discouraged by her parents who saw our wild west coast as something full of danger. The family eventually moved to Wanganui living near the beach but it was at age sixteen Daisy had her first taste of surfing while on holiday in Gisborne. This signaled the start of her life long relationship with surfing.

After working as a photographer for the Wanganui Chronicle for five years she decided to look for a job with a larger metropolitan paper. There was a proviso though, she only looked at those near the coast.

In 1985 Daisy moved to Taranaki and was employed as a photographer for the Taranaki Daily News. She worked for the Daily News for 20 years, the last five as their chief photographer. This job allowed her to live the lifestyle she wanted which equated to surfing before and after work. She says "This was a fantastic job being out and about. Earlier on I did the farming page which involved trips down the coast. I'd be taking a photo on a coastal farm and I'd see the surf going off out of the corner of my eye and wanting to shoot that and not the farm". She hastens to add here with a laugh "I can honestly say I never took my board with me on a job down the coast"

As Chief Photographer Daisy did miss the actual shooting of pictures and this in turn led her to leave the Daily News and go freelance. These days she does wedding, commercial, portrait and of course surf photography.

Her job and the surf weren't the only things keeping her here though. Not long after moving to the region she met her future husband born and bred Taranaki-ite Wayne 'Arch' Arthur. Daisy met Arch at 'Surf Scene' his first surf shop he co owned with Jimmy Lovell when she went into the shop to buy a board.

Another real passion for Daisy is the surf lessons she gives. Here she gets to meet people from all walks of life such as the extreme adventure group from the English RAF she recently instructed.

A group of surfers that Daisy has special interest in is some girls from Sacred Heart College who started out having lessons with her but still meet weekly to surf together and have fun. She says it's great to see them enjoying their sport as well as competing and doing well. Daisy went on to say that the success of local girl Paige Hareb has only added to her group of girls' enthusiasm and love of the sport. With this in mind Daisy sees next years World Championship Tour event being run during the inaugural Taranaki Women's Surf Festival as an amazing opportunity for everyone including the girls to see the worlds best female surfers surfing here on their home breaks and bringing with it a different level of surfing. She believes

this will be a huge encouragement for females involved in the sport and surfing as a whole.

She remembers having the opportunity to surf with four times World Champ Wendy Botha at a Pro Am contest here in the 80's. Some of her peers pulled out at the time because they were intimidated by the level of competition but Daisy had a go and is happy to be able to say she surfed with World Champ Botha.

Going down the coast these days is often for a photographic session rather than a surf and she has more ideas for future collections of her work. One subject she has in mind is a collection of photos of local families that all surf, of which she says there's quite a few.

I was lucky enough to get a sneak preview of the proof for her '30 Years of Surf Photography' which captures some fantastic surfing images of surf, people and very importantly the essence of surfing in Taranaki. There will be some nice surprises for some featured surfers and I'm sure locals in particular will love it.

Looking at these photos you can see why surfing is one of the fastest growing sports in the world and why Daisy has been captured by it for as long as she has.

By Jackie Tomlinson



The long time BlackSand-Beach Street Girls' Surfing Team, all from Sacred Heart, at Gisborne for a Primary Schools Comp. From Left: Annie Duynhoven, Grace Taverner, Emma Croton and Lydia Walsh.

PHOTO BY DAISY DAY ~
FREELANCE PHOTOJOURNALIST/SURFING COACH




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Hot tips from the fire station

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Helping parents and caregivers overcome the problem of children fire lighting.

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This is a free service available to parents and caregivers and is strictly confidential. The content and delivery of the programme varies according to the age and maturity of the child or young person.

By working with parents' caregivers and the child we develop an awareness of fire safety issues in the home. The goal is a safer home environment and a greater respect for fire and its consequences.

FAIP caters for children and young people with fire lighting tendencies. It is voluntary except when attendance is required by a referral from Police or a court programme.

What YOU can do:

- 1 Teach young children that fire is a tool. It is dangerous and only for adults to use carefully.
- 2 Keep matches and lighters out of reach of young children. A child resistant lighter is not childproof even for a two year old.
- 3 Teach children to hand over matches to an adult.
- 4 Set a good example. Take care with matches and lighters and fire. Have a fire safe home and fit adequate numbers of smoke alarms.

MYTH: Firelighters are pyromaniacs

FACT: It is a behavioral problem which can be stopped. It may occasionally be a symptom of more widespread problems.

MYTH: It is normal for children to play with fire.

FACT: While curiosity about fire is common, child fire play is not normal and can be deadly.

MYTH: It is a phase that the child will grow out of.

FACT: It is not a phase and you must deal with it immediately or it will continue.

If you would like help or would like to know more contact New Plymouth Fire Station Ph 757 3860 or go to www.fire.org.nz

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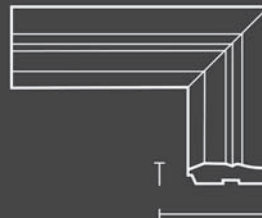
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TOM pet of the month



Name: Spike

Breed: Border Collie

Age: Turning 4 in January 2010

Personality: A loyal and very loving dog who just loves to be loved!

Spike's owners have had him since he was 8 weeks old.

He's a beach loving dog and spends some of his time living close to East End beach and the rest down the coast at the family beach bach.

U3A – The University of the Third Age

Learning never stops and for a sector of the community, belonging to U3A means learning continues whatever the age.

U3A is derived from the words – University of the Third Age. This movement had its beginnings in France in the mid 1970's and has now spread to many countries with thousands of members. U3A is a university in the true sense of the word – a group of people learning for learning's sake or following a particular activity. The third age refers to the third period of life – retirement or semi-retirement. This age provides an important opportunity for listening, learning and understanding.

U3A meet monthly at the Holy Trinity Church in Fitzroy and each meeting has a guest speaker, or a visit to an interesting place may also be arranged. Members join with others in home study groups to study a topic of their choice and new knowledge is shared in the group. One principle is that there are no teachers and no students and everyone is equal. Study areas include antiques, art history, architecture, films, food, gardening, geology, local history, music, poetry and current events.

In February the guest speaker on the 11th February at 2pm will be Donna Willard-Moore from the Art Department at WITT. The subject will be secondary school art teaching and the syllabus.

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Celebrating 75 years of NZ Society of Authors

The New Zealand Society of Authors (PEN Inc) celebrates its 75th birthday this year. Celebrations got off to a good start with the national AGM held at Parliament in March. Throughout the country the Society's branches have held 75th events, and now Central Districts Branch is winding up this special year with a short story competition. Entries are open to anyone living in the area north of Wellington and south of Hamilton. One special condition applies: 75, in words or figures, must be included in the story. Stories should be between 1500 and 3000 words in length and can be on any topic as long as 75 is mentioned. Writers may submit as many stories as they wish, but each must be accompanied by an entry fee of \$10. The competition closes on 31 December so should help while away some holiday hours for eager writers. First prize is \$500, second, \$200 and third, \$100. Winners will be announced by the end of February.


Branch Chair, Anna Mackenzie, said, 'We have held short story competitions in the past and entries have always been of a high standard. We expect that to be maintained this year.'

The judge will be respected author, Sue McCauley, and judging is done blind. "This is the fairest way because the judge is not influenced by an author's previous reputation," Anna Mackenzie said. "The best story will win, irrespective of whether it is penned by an experienced author or a newcomer to the field. All reputable competitions are run in this way."

The Branch expects a bumper crop of stories this year – and some creative use of the words or digits '75'.

For entry form and further details email the secretary at merlynn@xtra.co.nz or write to:
Competition,
PO Box 4135,
Wanganui.

For further information contact:
Anna Mackenzie –
Hawke's Bay
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Mob: 027 3345466
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Waiwaka Tennis Club

By the time you're reading this the junior and senior competition tennis season will be at the halfway mark of the minor rounds. The first five rounds have been blotted with some cancellations due to fickle weather, but we are now into a more settled scene with the days continuing to get longer and warmer, which is ideal for that extra practice session or extended social tennis gathering. The Club's Soffe Cup team has been continuing to put in commendable efforts against tough opposition, narrowly missing out on upsets against both last season's Cup holders and runners-up. With the team line up at near full strength, the remainder of the minor round promises to be tight but with well earned rewards.

The Wilson Trophy team is doing very well in the top 3rd of the ladder, and the Sumpter Trophy team is managing to keep up its team spirit amidst a raft of players shortages, both in its own team and in supplying players to the higher Divisions.

Junior, Youth and B-grade teams are carrying on well and maintaining a very keen competitive spirit, as teams and as individuals striving for improvement. The Club has been fortunate to receive assistance from the Southern Trust to kit-out these grades in uniform shirts, which is something all the young players and the Club are looking forward to seeing in action.

The 19th December is the last competition day this side of Christmas, with play resuming in the latter half of January for the senior teams. The Club's social tennis groups keep going through with just a short break over the festive season to build up reserves! So, if you're not a Club member and are thinking of picking up a racquet on one of those brilliant days or evenings, see our contact list at the end of this article.

Three day tennis programmes will be held in mid-late January for school age youth - these are open to the public and will cater for all levels. For further information and registration, contact Yvonne - ph 757 4232 (ah).

Also the Club will be hosting an 'Open Day' on the 14th February, which is part of a NZ-wide tennis promotion programme initiated by Tennis New Zealand. There will be thousands of balls being hit over the nets right around the country on that day! Keep your eye on the ball for more information.

Many thanks to the Club's sponsors - Stumble Inn & Cafe, Merrilands New World, and van Beers Motors.

Reminder : Senior Club nights, Thursdays 6 pm, just turn up at the courts; Wednesday morning social tennis - ph. Renee 759 4220; Juniors - ph. Yvonne 757 4232; All other enquiries - ph. Bob 758 4044; Club located at Chilman Street, Lower Merrilands.

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Wanganui Croquet Tournament

The competition was a Lower North Island Golf Croquet event. Five teams entered and our Taranaki Team consisting of those in the photo were runners up in the two day tournament held at the Wanganui lawns over the weekend of the 20th and 21st November.



Back Row left to right. Bob Ayles (Inglewood,) Bruce Horsup(N.P.), Peter Batchelor (N.P.), Sandy Mitchell (WestEnd) Front Row: Ian Giles (N.P.), Marlene Schultz (N.P.) Barbara Anderson.

New Plymouth Bowling Club's 125th Jubilee

Our club is proud to be celebrating its 125th Jubilee over the Easter 2010 weekend. Every endeavour has been made to send registration packs to all present/past members and staff. If you have been overlooked and wish to participate or receive the Jubilee Book please contact either: Jubilee Chairperson - Mo Mawson 06-758-2491, or Jubilee Secretary - Basil Newland 06-758-6614.

Mo Mawson

Ravens Club Awards Night

As a very long year of inline hockey wraps up, the Ravens Club held their annual awards evening in November. A good turn out of players, family members, coaches and managers enjoyed a warm spring evening where individuals from each team were presented with the overall season awards. These awards are for the 'Most Valuable Team Member', 'Most Improved Player' and 'Most Valuable Player'.

Ravens U10's

MVTM – Carlos Wilson
MIP – Jordan Williams
MVP – Jack Howatson

Ravens U12/1s

MVTM – Ella Toa
MIP – Alex Grey
MVP – Michael Watts

Ravens U14/2s

MVTM – Jack Anderson (forward)
MIP – Alysha Gulliver (back)
MVP – Louis Ferens (captain)

Ravens U14/1s

MVTM – Joseph McLay (goalie)
MIP – Callum Hurley (defence)
MVP – Greg Lockhart (captain)

Ravens U16/2s

MVTM – David Sulzberger
MIP – Mathew Barham
MVP – Jordan Lampe

Ravens U16/1s

MVTM – Simon Grey
MIP – Daniel Lampe
MVP – Hayden Whyte

Ravens 18/2s

MVTM – Abby Bridgeman
MIP – Sam Brown
MVP – Amy Sulzberger

Awards for overall best club players

Most Valuable Forwards – Julian Beardman & Rebecca Smith
Most Valuable Defence – Robert Isbister
Most Valuable Player – Sam Beardman
Most Valuable Goalie – Kayden Gibson

Ravens 18/1s

MVTM – Robert Isbister (defence)
MIP – James Konijn (forward)
MVP – Kayden Gibson (goalie)

Ravens Premiers

MVTM – Jeff Fairweather
MIP – Michael Roberts
MVP – Trent Kemsley

Ravens Senior Women

MVTM – Amy Sulzberger
MIP – Donna Cowie
MVP – Rebecca Smith



U10's coach, Gary Toa, presenting Jack Howatson with his well deserved Most Valuable Player award.



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GETTING WET!



New Plymouth Surf Riders' Club

With the sea warming up to summertime temperatures we wish all beach users an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and trust that by observing the long established etiquette of surfing that everyone will be able to enjoy the surf without hassles or frustration.

Way back in the 1960's surfers developed a set of basic rules that allow everyone to share the experience and the waves without having to put up with "wave-hogs" and "drop-ins."

Wave hogs are those surfers who believe that every wave is sent by the great Surf God "Huey" solely for their enjoyment and use. Wave hogs paddle for and try to take every wave that comes through regardless of whether it is their turn or not. "Drop-in Kings" on the other hand do not care whether another surfer has priority or may have well already caught a wave, they simply catch the wave in front of the other surfers which not only destroys their experience but also puts their safety at risk from being hit by the drop-in's board coming down the wave and hitting them.

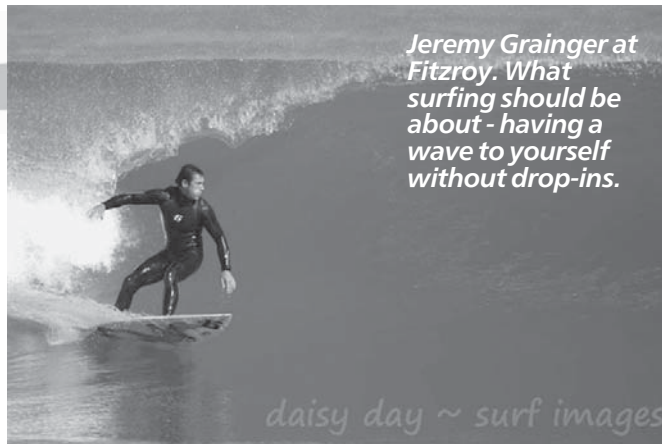
Unfortunately both of these practises are becoming more wide spread at Fitzroy as summertime crowds grow and the selfish, self-centred surfers ignore the rules and ruin everyone else's surf day.

Please remember that there are plenty of waves around and that surfing is a sport that cherishes the sharing of the experience of surfing by observing the simple rules of surfing.

- 1 **The surfer on the inside has priority.**
- 2 **Whoever stands up first claims the wave.**
- 3 **Paddle out around the take off area not through it.**
- 4 **When paddling out get out of the way of a surfer already on a wave by either paddling over the shoulder or back into the soup.**
- 5 **Do not sit inside of the take off area.**
- 6 **If you are a learner do not surf inside the main break. Please surf down the beach away from the experienced surfers. You will catch more waves there and not be a danger to others.**
- 7 **Do not surf in the Surf Life Saving Patrol's flagged area.**
- 8 **Share the waves – you and others will enjoy the experience much more.**

To all beach users, swimmers, body-boarders, surfers, kite surfers and jet ski riders, please be considerate of other users and be aware that your inconsiderate actions may preclude others enjoying the beach.

Merry Christmas and an enjoyable beach experience to all for the 2010 summer.



Jeremy Grainger at Fitzroy. What surfing should be about - having a wave to yourself without drop-ins.

daisy day ~ surf images



Lana displays the bruises suffered when another surfer dropped-in and took her out.



This is what a gnarly drop-in looks like.

Photo: Moonw



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A Taste around town with TOM

This month TOM profiles award winning piemaker Taffy Pope from Izzy's Pie Shop in Strandon. We wanted to know what rattles the pots and pans of the very interesting Taffy and his wife Izzy.



Izzy and Taffy in front of their record cover wall.

Why did you become a piemaker?

Izzy wanted to work the coffee machine out the front of the café and she sent me to the kitchen!

What is the secret to the perfect pie?

It is in the gravy. Have a great gravy and cook the meat tender then you have the perfect pie.

What time does a piemaker start work?

In our last café I started at 4.30am in the morning but at this shop I start at 7.30am

What does a piemaker do in his spare time?

Play records (hence the wonderful record cover collection in the shop), make wine and drink it!

What would you order off a menu if you were dining out?

Medium rare porterhouse steak.

If you were dying what would your last supper be?

Fresh prawns

What is your favourite food?

Fresh prawns and pea, pud, pie (made by me!)

What is your favourite drink?

My own home brew wine – a crimson cabernet

What is your worst food moment?

Eating out and getting a hair in my food! In my kitchen I dropped a pan of cooked steak on my foot.

What is your best food moment?

Eating food that tastes as good as it looks

What time does your day end?

Like everybody's – 12 midnight, ha,ha!

BUTLERS SUMMER BANDS

Here's what we've got lined up for this summer...

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with GIN WIGMORE

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NY Eve

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Have a great New Year!



The Cycle of Life Through Rubbish

Waste matter is a funny thing. Almost Trendy now. Once upon a time you put your rubbish at the front gate or dumped it somewhere seemingly inconspicuous, never to be seen or heard from again. These days waste is treated much more delicately or sensitively. After all it is our own planet we are putting this rubbish into.

One local couple who are treating our rubbish sensitively is Rod and Liz Christian of Just Rubbish in Connett Rd East, Bell Block. They run a locally owned and operated waste management company in Bell Block with a newly opened transfer station and a well established skip bin business.

The Just Rubbish transfer station offers a wonderful opportunity to the community to bring out their rubbish and recycle their plastics, glass, metal, paper and cardboard for free. Rods business aim is to minimise landfill waste. Clearly labelled bins are provided for ease of sorting. These bins are, then transported to the appropriate recycling companies. Garden waste is also recycled into *Return2Earth* compost and this product is for sale at the Just Rubbish transfer station.

Well worth a poke through is the recycled goods shop on site. This has an array of saleable goodies, you will find bikes, trikes, sports gear, household items (for those going flatting, you might like to come and see what you can pick up dirt cheap), furniture, garden items, toys and much more.

Just Rubbish bins are very visible around town in their distinctive yellow paint and black signage. Just Rubbish has frontloader bins, jumbo bins, medium bins and small mini skips all for hire either as permanent or casual arrangements.

What makes Just Rubbish unique, is that they are a local, affordable, and friendly company. Rod and Liz and their five staff go out of their way to make your day. If the idea of caring for our planet is important to you and your family and you like supporting local business people who are working hard to better the planet then get your rubbish along to Just Rubbish, 240 Connett Road East (off De Havilland Drive) Bell Block, phone 755 4135 for more details.

By Kim Ferens



Rod Christian delighting in the compost recycled from his transfer.



The recycled shop.



The recycling bins, clearly labelled and easy to use.



Just Rubbish recycling depot.

JUST RUBBISH TRANSFER STATION & RECYCLE CENTRE

Just Rubbish Now Open to the Public

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I Remember When . . .

In the 1950's skating rinks were a source of entertainment for a large sector of the community. They were predominately outdoor affairs often located near a beach or the local camping ground.

In 1954 the New Plymouth Amateur Roller Skating Club was founded at Ngamotu beach by Vince Walsh and Noel Lightband. The club was allowed to build a rink by concreting over the tennis courts in front of the sound shell and membership at the club soon grew.

Noel Lightband was the first club president and I spoke with Val Bedford, his daughter, who has seen four generations of her family involved with roller sports. Mardi Gras, carnivals and creating gigantic roller skates to go on a float in the Ferdinand parade were some of the activities Val recalls from the early days. Public skating sessions were very popular with three being run over the course of a weekend. Val went on to say, "We ran a session on Saturday during the day, another at night, and then another one on Sunday. There would be often be 200 people at each session."

A typical Taranaki tornado created problems back in the 50's when one swept through Ngamotu causing damage to the club.

In the 1960's Port development forced the club to look for a new venue for their rink and in 1963 the club constructed a new outdoor rink at East End beach. This was made possible by fundraising 'housie' nights and countless volunteer hours by club members. This new facility was the largest of its kind in the southern hemisphere at the time. It boasted a 120 metre speed track and the venue proved to be hugely popular. The club staged at the rink various shows such as 'Peter and the Wolf' where skaters performed in full costume on skates to a packed house.

By the 1970s it was apparent that an indoor rink was needed when so many skating days were lost to bad weather. Fundraising with things like Skate-a-thons took place, and with voluntary manpower, the project came to fruition in 1980 with the opening of the indoor rink.

Val said interest in skating seemed to run in 10 year cycles and after good numbers being involved in the 80's these declined in the early 1990's. That was until the new



Left & right: the roller hockey skating rink as it once was.



The 1970 B Grade Hockey Team
Front Row: Lto R L Callender, R Fenwick, D Weir
Back Row: Lto R I Weir, D Fenwick, G Sands, K Barriball.



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sport of Inline Hockey gained huge popularity in the mid 1990's. This grew to such a point that the club was forced yet again to look at expanding. With the help of grants and again lots of volunteer labour, the large new arena opened in 2003.

Val says there has been a recent resurgence in numbers at the Saturday Family skate nights with 150 skaters on occasion. This she believes is due to the relatively low cost compared with other family entertainment. The club over the last 50 years has produced many NZ champions in the various disciplines such as Artistic, Roller hockey, Speed, and more recently, Inline Hockey.

Val got back into competitive skating in 1990 and in 1994 won Masters grade Solo Dance at the NZ Championship. This year at age 69 she won gold again for figure skating in the Esquire Grade. When I asked her why she loves skating she answered, "I don't know but once you start you get the bug and want to keep going, it's been wonderful having our children involved and we would go away at least one weekend a month to an event, it was something we all did together."

This stalwart of the now 'New Plymouth Roller Sports Club' continues to run the Early Bird Skate sessions and after doing this for 25 years she now sees people she taught years ago bring their own children along for lessons.

Certainly the club has come a long way since it's beginnings at Ngamotu and today is of the few clubs to own their building and the only one with two rinks, a wonderful facility for current and future generations involved with the sport.

By Jackie Tomlinson



Merrilands School News

Merrilands, like all schools, is very busy building up to the end of the year.

Our students have recently been involved in many Education Outside the Classroom activities including Class Camps, Beach Education, and visits to Govett Brewster Art Gallery.

Senior students have also been involved in special treats in appreciation of their service to the school and fellow students throughout the year. Examples of this are Road Patrollers having a day at the Aquatic Centre and Peer Mediators going to Chipmunks.



Room 3 students climbed to great heights during their recent camp at Vertical Horizon.

This year we again farewell a large group of Year 6 students to Highlands Intermediate. Students and families are impatiently waiting the Senior Final Assembly to see who will receive achievement trophies. We love celebrating student achievement and the presentation of the trophies is the pinnacle of this for the year.

The departure of our Year 6 students means we have space for more pupils next year. If you are looking at a school for your children for 2010 give Merrilands School a call. Phone 758 8644. We would love to hear from you and have your family as part of our vision of being a "caring community inspiring lifelong learning."

Merrilands is probably the most spacious primary school in New Plymouth in terms of buildings and grounds. As ERO have recently stated: "an attractive setting, expansive grounds and significant outdoor resources support students' independent and co-operative play."

Our school has committed, experienced teachers who work very hard to ensure every student has success. We also have class sizes and wonderful teacher aides who enable that success.

Next year our Year 1 class is capped at 15 students, Year 2 & 3 classes will average 20 students and Y4 – 6 25 students.

If class size, a commitment to the achievement of your children, and regular reporting on progress is important to you, come and visit us at Merrilands School.

We wish everyone in the Merrilands Community and beyond a wonderful Christmas break and holiday with lots of opportunities to spend quality time together as a family.

New Plymouth Boys High School

At our recent prize giving the school was very proud to honour its Head Boy and Dux for 2009 – William Tennent. William is only the third person to be crowned Head Boy and Dux in the 128 year history of the school. The first was in 1912 and the second was in 1956. There was a fierce competition between our top five academics to be Dux and William did very well. The cheer that William received at the prizegiving was momentous and his parents can be very proud of their son. William was a superb Head Boy with the highlight being the organisation of the School Ball. William also won the Senior Speech prize. Perhaps though, his greatest achievement was to win the prestigious University of Auckland Scholarship worth \$50,000. This was presented to him by the Headmaster at the prize giving ceremony. We wish William all the best in his Scholarship and Level 3 NCEA examinations.

William at prize giving.



New Plymouth Boys' High School

Uniform Shop

Sole supplier of the New Plymouth Boys' High School uniform.

The Uniform Shop is located inside the Ryder hall foyer. Please use the entrance located by the pedestrian crossing on Coronation Avenue.

Summer opening schedule is as follows:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, 14/15 & 17 December, 2009.

Open from 10.00 am to 2.30 pm.

Closed from Friday, 18 December, 2009, re-opening Monday, 5 January, 2010.

Opening times from 5 January, 2010 until start of Term 1 :

Monday to Friday: 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

Saturday : 9.00 am to 12.00 noon

Sunday : closed

Cash or Eftpos available

(Sorry no Credit Card facility available)

For further information please telephone

(06) 758-5399 ext 739

Rosey's Fun Bus – The Best Teacher in the World!

As told by Jacob: On Friday 13th November three children from Room 8 at Fitzroy Primary School knocked on Ms Parker's front door. Lined up on her drive was the rest of the class forming a guard of honour. A crown was put on her head and she was given a wand (all made by Sassy) and a purple feathery thing was draped around her neck.



Rosey in her purple 'feathery thing'.



Lots of fun at Onaero Bay.

Party crackers were pulled continuously as Ms Parker marched up her drive, beaming from side to side at all her kids lined up, to the waiting bus. She was so excited she didn't even feel like crying!! So she said.

Songs were sung as the bus rumbled off. Ms Parker was having so much fun she didn't realise we were going down Airport Road. Over the loud speaker she was told she was going for a sky dive! She went pale and was very relieved when we said NOT. The bus turned round and we went to Onaero Bay. The kids built huts and had a really fun time and were so well behaved Ms Parker said she didn't even feel "in charge" and could just relax and enjoy herself.

Mr Mansfield, the principal, came out with his guitar and we sat around the bonfire singing favourite songs and roasting marshmallows. Everyone crowded around Ms Parker, some kids spoke and the parents took pictures. She is one of the best teachers I have had in my entire school life and I will miss the Fitzroy School family as I am a year 6 and will be leaving. She has individually helped me and other students heaps!

Fitzroy School Library

"There's a Lion in the Library," said Mrs Murdoch. And just like a popular children's story in the Fitzroy School library, there really was a lion in the library last term - and a giraffe, monkeys, pandas, tigers and even an elephant and a wild safari jeep.

The Wild Animal Safari theme has been most popular with the children, many who have brought their own favourite 'wild animal' from home to add to the display. We have read wild animal stories, had wild animal colouring sessions and talked about looking after the forests and endangered animals around the world.



The wild animal safari theme in the library.



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Mangorei School Leavers 2009

As Mangorei farewells 32 year 8 students from its school, we asked them three questions

What school are you going to next year?

What a highlight of your time at Mangorei School?

What are your aspirations for the future?

We hope you enjoy reading about these lively, lovely students and we will all be watching with anticipation as they develop into useful, interesting and capable adults.



Ben Leng
NPBHS.

The highlights were the Forest Lakes camp and the leadership camp in Rotorua.

I want to play rugby for England.

Cameron Bullot
NPBHS.

The highlight was the year 8 camp.

I want to be a joiner.



Abbey Christensen
NPGH

The highlights were the Forest Lakes camp and the leadership camp in Rotorua

I want to do something in sport, pursue my netball or maybe a P.E. teacher.

Ashna Rai
NPGHS.

One highlight was spraining my ankle at camp!

I want to be a lawyer or something involving public speaking.



Matheson Brown
NPBHS.

My highlights were both camps and some of the sporting things.

I want to be an inventor, builder or mechanic.

Tristin Hodge
NPBHS.

My highlights were both camps.

I want to be an architect.



Kris Campbell
NPBHS.

My highlight was camp.

I want to be a teacher and also compete at the Olympics with target shooting.

Dannie Morgan
NPBHS.

My highlight was the leadership camp.

I want to be an architect or a soccer player for Spain.



Jack White
NPBHS.

My highlight was the leadership camp.

I want to be a police dog handler and I'd like to be an All Black.

Gabrielle Cathie
NPGHS.

The highlights for me have been making all new friends and all the opportunities on offer at Mangorei.

I want to be an author.



Daniel Ralphs
NPBHS.

Highlights for me have been the leadership camp, going to tech and being an ambassador.

I want to go into the stock market and earn a lot!

Paul Stephenson
NPBHS.

Highlights for me were the camps, tech and being house captain.

I want to be a pilot.



Tom Spencer
NPBHS.

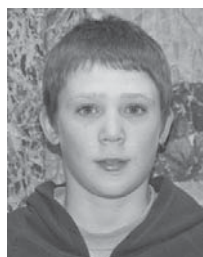
Highlights were both camps, tech at Devon and the blue light police challenge.

I want to be a rock star or a movie director.

Orin Burmester
NPBHS.

Highlights were both camps and tech.

I want to play hockey for the Black Sticks.



Hamish Sturmer
NPBHS.

Highlights were camp and pet day.

I want to be a soccer player and play overseas.

Sinman Tsui
Sacred Heart.

I enjoyed the studying.

I want to be a lawyer.



**17. Craig Gordon**

NPBHS.

Camp was fun and maths rotations. Everything overall was fun.

I want to do something in computer animation.

Erika Williamson

NPGHS.

A highlight was pet day.

I want to join the police force.

**Simone Evans**

Sacred Heart.

My Highlight was being an ambassador and being able to enjoy myself and have fun.

I want to do something with public speaking, maybe a lawyer.

**Amanda Collis**

Sacred Heart.

My highlight was that everyone is really friendly and it's a really fun school to be at.

I want to be a journalist.

**Hannah Williams**

NPGHS.

The highlights were the school camps and the pet days and hanging out with my friends.

I want to do something with art, maybe an artist.

**Bridget McGechan**

NPGHS.

The highlights were the sporting opportunities and the whole Mangorei School atmosphere.

I want to be a P.E. teacher.

**Victoria Berrie**

NPGHS.

My highlights were the year 7/8 camp and the academic opportunities such as working towards my C.V. card and getting on the honours board.

I want to be a professional equestrian rider.

**Nick Walker**

FDMC.

I enjoyed the really cool teachers and I just enjoyed everything.

I want to be an engineer and maybe design buildings.

**Kyle Sanger**

NPBHS.

Highlights were the camps, and having Mr Paulgrain as a teacher.

I want to be a builder or a mechanic.

**Kaleb Dravikski-Smith**

NPBHS.

My highlight was interschool sports.

I want to be a policeman or SWAT team.

**Damin Thorn**

Spotswood College.

My highlight was beating people at chess!

I want to do something in demolition.

**Pilar Robinson**

NPGHS.

My highlight was being with really nice kids and teachers and it is a good school environment.

I want to be a vet.



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Fitzroy Scout Group

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Visit us to see what we do. The first term/part term is free!
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
fitzroyscoutgroup@xtra.co.nz

Inline Hockey Sessions

November: 7th - Roller Derby. 14th - Artistic.
21st - Roller Hockey. 28th - Inline.
(Please Note - Val is away 21st to 28th November.)
December:
5th & 12th - no sessions due to Inline Training weekends. 19th - Artistic?
No sessions 20th December until 16th January 2010.

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

Dec 19, Jan 2, Jan 9, Jan 16, Jan 23, Jan 27, 7 - 9pm. A fun night the whole family can enjoy. \$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 021 265 9230 or email lancasters@xtra.co.nz entry \$3 non-members \$2 members. Supper provided.

Saturday Morning Golf Croquet

Learn how to play this challenging game at the New Plymouth Croquet Lawns Saturday mornings 9am — 12noon, everything supplied. Please wear soft soled shoes and bring along your friends and \$3.00 green fees. Suitable Intermediate age and upwards.

Summer Mah-jong

At the New Plymouth Croquet Club will be played 2 Sundays per month, 1pm— 4pm, commencing 22nd November & 11th & 20th December.

Watch this space for monthly dates. Any queries to Val at 758 1957.

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.

The Taranaki Jazz Club

Meets at Waiau Estate Cafe and Winery on Sunday February 21st 4pm-7pm. Entertainment from local band The Diplomats.

U3A New Plymouth

Monthly meetings held at the Holy Trinity Church Hall, 8 Henui St, Fitzroy at 2pm on the second Thursday of each month (except January). For further information ph 757 8409 – Never too old to learn!

Please phone 0800 THE TOM with any changes to your listing

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\$1000 - \$1999:	Receive 10% discount & \$100 Barter \$
\$2000 - \$2999:	Receive 10% discount & \$200 Barter \$
\$3000 & over:	Receive 10% discount & \$300 Barter \$

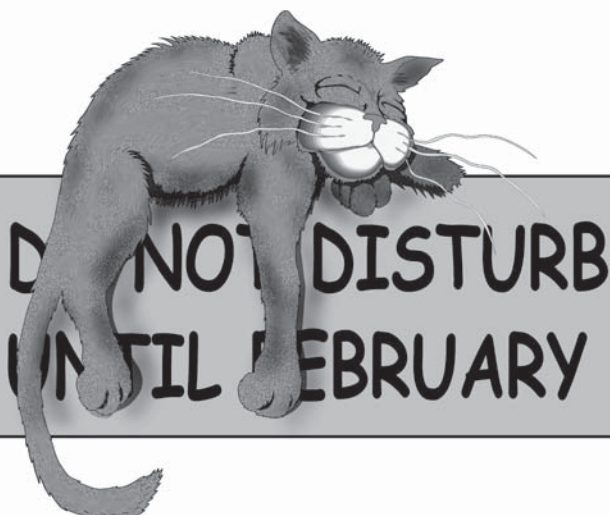
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Artist surfer adds to growing surf culture in Fitzroy

Recently at Strandon a few new businesses have made an appearance. One quietly getting established in the local area is owned by surfer and artist Brian Clark who has opened a surf shop BC Surf Shack.

Brian who is originally from San Clemente which is about an hour south of Los Angeles has lived in New Zealand for the last 10 years. He and his wife Vincenza along with daughters Leah and Jessica moved to Taranaki two years ago after living in Whangarei for eight years.

Starting the surf shop has been an idea he has had for a while. But this won't just be a surf shop, it will also be an art studio, a gallery and a base for the graphic design work he does. Brian completed a BA in Visual Arts at Northland Polytechnic and went on to teach computer graphics at the Polytechnic for three and a half years. The shop in Strandon allows him to have the three dedicated work spaces for what he will be doing there.

This isn't the first surf shop Brian has owned, he had one in the US and started making surfboards in 1976. He still likes to surf competitively and recently won for the second consecutive year the over 50's section in the Del Festival of Long boards at Labour weekend. He surfs any length board from a 5' 10" fish through to a 9' 6" long board and his shop stocks boards for both the short and long board enthusiast.

Brian has been steadily getting his stock of clothing and surfboards ready to sell. He shapes and airbrushes at the Strandon site but gets the boards glassed by CSA. The shop has a rustic feel and is more like surf shops of days gone by. This was a deliberate move by Brian who wanted that kind of lived in welcoming feel to

the shop, there's plenty to look at too with lots of surfing memorabilia on display. Some of his art work graces the walls and particularly eye catching is an oil painting of a Tahitian woman done in Gauguin's style with influences of Manet too. Brian plans to have more art on display as well as doing commission work. A lot of the art he is producing now involves using objects such as souvenirs from the South Pacific. This has involved searching things out at places like second hand stores to find these pieces that were once a treasure to someone but are now discarded, things that perhaps people bought whilst on a holiday in a tropical 'paradise'. The objects that he finds become part of the artwork either as they are or sometimes he paints over them. He described how his style of art came about "The luxury of looking at past representations in art has afforded me the chance to question the meaning of beauty and ideas we hold about paradise" A collection of this work will be the basis of his next exhibition 'Paradise' which I'm sure will interest both surfers and non surfers alike.

So next time you're in Strandon pop in to browse and chat with Brian in his Surf Shack.

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