

Taranaki Life Guard of the Year



Taranaki Life Guard of the Year, Emma Crofskey with some of her employer's boats in the background!

Looking Forward to the New Season on the Water

As this month's TOM arrives in your letterbox summer will just be around the corner and many of us will be looking

forward to relaxing over our upcoming summer holidays.

However for our local surf life saving clubs and their members this is when they are gearing up in preparation for

their busiest time of the year. The clubs play a huge part in keeping our local beaches safe for everyone as well as

more on page 10 ➔



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The Hobbits have been vanquished to Matamata where they belong and now we await the arrival of the big fat man in the red suit. Don't suppose he lives in Matamata? Funny word that – Matamata. My Maori dictionary says it means point, top or sudden. Sounds a bit like a Hobbit ear! Last time I was in Matamata it wasn't at the top of anything or pointing at anything in particular so maybe having the sharp end of the film industry ensconced there is divine or witchy justice!



The world rowing champs just down the road at Lake Karapiro seem to have captured the imagination of the nation and isn't it nice to focus on something other than rugby for a change. Now those little rowing boats are sharp and pointy and I often wonder how the rowers keep their behinds in them. Well done to all the NZ teams who did so well – their commitment and dedication to their sport is second to none.

Kim

DECEMBER

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

hot tips from the Fire Brigade

With the warmer weather upon us the electric blankets are put away and the BBQ is brought out. BBQs are a great way for the whole family to get together at mealtimes but it pays to follow a few simple tips.

- 1 Check for gas leaks around the cylinder valve and fuel line by spraying with a soapy water solution from a trigger spray bottle. If bubbles appear it may mean you have a leak. Turn off the cylinder valve and have it checked by a professional before using.
- 2 Keep looking while you are cooking. Inattention may cause more than just burnt sausages.
- 3 Don't drink and fry, wait until you have finished cooking.
- 4 Do not add flammable fuel to a fire. It may flashback up into the container and explode.
- 5 BBQ outside in a well ventilated area, and always turn the gas off at both the cylinder and the BBQ when finished.
- 6 If you are cooking over an open fire remember to douse the coals with water before leaving and be aware that any unattended fire can quickly spread and grow in dry grass and scrub.

Fires along our city beaches often cause problems for us over summer and are generally not permitted by the Council. The main problem is one of safety: hot coals from driftwood fires are still capable of burning bare feet the next day and may lie unseen under a layer of sand. Our beaches should be a safe place for children to play.

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

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

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

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

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



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The typical ways we deal with stress - drugs, alcohol, smoking, medication, eating (despite having their own health risks) are actually counterproductive in that they can worsen the stress and can make us more reactive (sensitive) to further stress.

So what's the solution? Take a deep breath - it's that simple! Proper breathing has proven to relieve physical discomfort, to destress,

to relax the body, calm the mind and transform overpowering emotions. Peter Mittermuller travels the country teaching people breathing techniques in the Art of Living workshops; that are said to eliminate physical and emotional impurities. He says breathing is the link between the mind, the body and activity. "When people are experiencing emotions, such as anger or sadness the breath pattern changes. Using the breath you can harness the mind and gain control of your emotions, giving you so much freedom" Peter said.

Breathe out stress – breathe in joy for life!

The 'Art of Breathing' is a 15 hour inspirational workshop held over four days. The course includes: pranayama (breathing exercises); yogic wisdom; meditation and yoga. Your next opportunity to catch this course will be 16th- 19th December (venue to be confirmed). Check out the website www.artofliving.org.nz or contact Jacqui on 06 7524942 or 027 602 7700 / jacqui7@hotmail.com to find out more.



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Arthouse News

**Arthouse brings the first Environment Film Festival
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Saturday 27th November, 12.00 noon:

Last Paradise

*Director : Clive Neeson :: New Zealand :: 2010 :: 108 mins
2.30pm*

The Hidden Life of the Burrowing Owl

Director: Mike Roush :: USA :: 2008 :: 5 mins
This little animated owl takes on his biggest predator in the real world. Will he successfully avenge his mate?

My Crisis

Director: Joseph Procopio :: Canada :: 2009 :: 4 mins
Joseph (14) examines the oil crises for a school project and wonders if there will be a water crises in his lifetime.

Blue Gold: World Water Wars

Director: Sam Bozzo :: USA :: 2008 :: 89 mins
Using a skilful blend of expert commentary and documentary footage, this film builds a convincing and often shocking tale of how climate change, population growth, politics, greed and ideology are already combining to create catastrophes of the highest order. With Government imposed changes in the management of Canterbury water and talk of privatising water supplies, this might prove to be one of the most topical films of the festival.

5.30pm

Rethink Happiness

Director: Choom Lam :: Canada :: 2009 :: 2 mins
Do all these wonderful products really make our life better? Rethink your lifestyle; rethink happiness.

Dark Clouds

Director: Peter Szewczyk :: UK :: 2009 :: 2 mins
A beautiful animation of rain that shatters flora and fauna. Be grateful this is not screened in 3D!

Rethink the Shark

Director: Erica Brumage :: South Africa :: 2008 :: 1 min
Fear of JAWS is omnipresent but is that fear justified? Expect to see more of this little beauty.

The Bill

Director: Peter Wedel :: Germany :: 2009 :: 4 mins
These German blokes in a pub talk like us, but get the bill presented in a whole different light. Bring your wit and speed reading glasses, and be sure to see this one!

The Age of Stupid

*Directors: Fanny Armstrong & Lizzie Gillette :: UK :: 2008
:: 88 mins*

This cleverly structured and extraordinarily thought-provoking take on modern civilisation's oil-fuelled drag race against planet Earth. In the devastated world of 2055, the curator (Pete Postlethwaite) of an archive of relics from the last days of human civilisation asks while looking at footage from our present, "Why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?" Another chance to see this powerful and essential film.

Arthouse Cinema is now nice and cool; the heat pumps fundraised for are a reality thanks to Cowley's, and the insulation thanks to Placemakers. Friends of Arthouse and Sponsors are to be thanked too for achieving this over one cold winter. Look for an exciting line up of Environmental Films including *Age of Stupid*, *End of the line* and for the re-release of *Young at Heart*, as these Seattle oldies that belt out punk and new wave 80s anthems tour N.Z. soon. *LAST PARADISE* is at Arthouse all summer, check out screening times online at www.arthousecinema.co.nz.

Gift Vouchers for \$30 and \$60 for Christmas are available online and at the cinema.



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Garden of the Month

When I visited this month's TOM garden, a week of sunshine had seen gardeners around town finally being able to venture into their gardens and enjoy all the changes that spring has brought to them. This month's garden was recommended by my husband's work colleague and once I pulled up in my car outside I could see why.

Twenty one years ago Doug and Maureen, the couple that owns this month's feature garden, moved to New Plymouth from Ohura where Doug had been a prison officer. Over the following 21 years the couple settled into life in the city and made lots of changes to their garden. Maureen tells me it's very hard to even remember what the garden used to be like, but one thing that she does remember was the big glasshouse in which the previous owners grew grapes that used to fill a big part of the rear of the property. Although Doug didn't mind the glasshouse, Maureen really wanted it gone so with the help of family members they dismantled it. Where it once stood is now a nice open area of lawn with garden surrounding and it's hard to imagine a glasshouse filling this space now.

There are four distinct areas in the garden and at the rear of the property where the glasshouse once stood is now where Maureen has cultivated a large array of succulents. She has lots of large Agave in pristine condition using their strong shape to great effect. They and the other plants sit on the terraced garden that the couple created, making walls from broken concrete. Maureen recalls that when they were building the walls they would visit sites where houses were being moved and ask to take the broken concrete away. She went on to say her mum who was a great gardener was a big help when establishing the garden.

A path winds up through this garden up to a sheltered sunny area that houses the vegetable garden. Doug does all the heavy digging here and takes care of the potatoes while Maureen looks after the rest of the vegetables. At the moment she is growing strawberries, lettuce, silver beet and corn as well as some recently planted boysenberries.

On the south side of the couple's home is a sheltered and shady narrow strip of garden. Here Maureen has a large stand of red clivia that she has grown from seed. There are also bromeliads and a climbing fuchsia on the south wall. In between the large concrete ground pavers lush dwarf mondo grass keeps the weeds at bay.

Round the front of the house is where the main garden is located and this is Maureen's favourite part of her garden. Standing up at the house you have a lovely view of flowers and greenery. A large oval of grass is surrounded by a huge variety of flowers shrubs and trees. Maureen likes flowers of all colours and this is evident in this part of the garden. She has a large variety of roses, many in bloom, and those that aren't yet flowering are all smothered in buds. Amongst the roses there is a pretty pink Bantry Bay, Cottage Maid, Mary Rose and a beautiful apricot climbing rose called Crepuscule. The trees at the front include a pink snowball tree, several Japanese maple as well as a fantastic magnolia that is just finishing flowering, and a healthy medium sized kowhai. Other flowers include violas, cinerarias, iris, hellebores, wall flowers, snapdragons, a purple heliotrope with its gorgeous vanilla scent and a large yellow leucospermum. Hostas and miniature agapanthus add to the mix and a large grass hangs over the fish pond softening its edges. It all comes together with a cottage feel. Maureen told me she doesn't like a too formal garden and she likes lawn just to be lawn without plantings interrupting it. A path leading up to the house has a lovely

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Gardening

old wisteria growing over an archway. Maureen tells me they are enjoying the flowers from this as much as they can this year as the trunk has borer and they are not sure how much longer it will survive.

Its obvious Doug and Maureen love their garden and get a lot of pleasure from it. Although Maureen is the 'gardener,' Doug helps with any heavy work or if things need trimming or chopping down. When he is not busy he is in his workshop making beautiful old fashioned turned wood spinning tops. Unlike many great gardens that are hidden away behind high fences or the house itself, this property is situated on a corner with a low fence so almost all the garden is visible from the streets pavement. So their lucky neighbours and anyone passing by also get to enjoy this beautiful garden.

By Jackie Tomlinson



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Waiwaka Tennis Club off to a swinging start

The tennis season is underway, and by the time this goes to print, most of the Club's competition teams would have played at least three ties. Having said that, we always welcome new players, both competition and social of all/any age or ability, at any time of the season. So if the warm weather and extra daylight is encouraging you to get outside and get the blood pumping, then why not come and visit us on one of our Club nights, or make contact with us. We also offer junior and adult coaching - so all experience levels are embraced. See below for details.

This season the Club continues with three competition teams in Taranaki A grade - divisions 1 (Soffe Cup), 2 (Wilson Trophy) & 3 (Sumpter Trophy); seven junior/youth teams in the Taranaki North competition; and one Presidents grade team. The Club also hosts a successful, 12 team, business house competition, with a social flavour, on Monday evenings.

The Club's Soffe Cup team, at time of writing, has had two very close ties, one against last season's Cup winners, Manaia, resulting in a win and a loss, both with 9-7 scorelines. The Wilson Trophy team is currently relishing the player depth available this season with the introduction of a few new faces, and is looking forward to being competitive in the top four of the 12 team competition. The Sumpter Trophy team is full of youth, and they are showing great promise and are keen to extend themselves in the A grade format, which is a new competition for all team members.

Junior coaching is very well attended, and the Club's coaches Yvonne and John are doing a great job at organising and teaching skills to the many club members being given the opportunity of free group coaching.

Club and A2 team member, Thomas Burrell, had success at the recent Taranaki Junior Open, by winning the 16 and under section. Other members also featured well in the tournament - Michael Lloyd & Nicholas Lloyd. Well done.

The Club wishes to acknowledge the support of the following organisations that have enabled the delivery of quality coaching and equipment this season: New Zealand Community Trust, and the Lion Foundation. The Club is also sponsored by the following local businesses, who make a valued contribution to the Club: Stumble Inn & Cafe, Merrilands New World, Van Beers Motors.

Senior Club evenings are on Thursdays, from 6pm. These are a social event, run in a convivial atmosphere. They are a great way to meet and play against a variety of players, with (mostly doubles) games run informally on a rotating, 'pot-luck' draw. "Try before you buy" - come down to the courts and join in, no obligations. Junior coaching is on Wednesdays and Thursdays after school.

Club membership entitles players to court access at all times, subject to competition fixtures.

For any enquiries, please contact Bob Momich on 758 4044 (ah), 021-1400151; or for Juniors only contact John Sims on 758 1026 (ah) or Yvonne Chamberlain on 757 4232.

NP Croquet Club

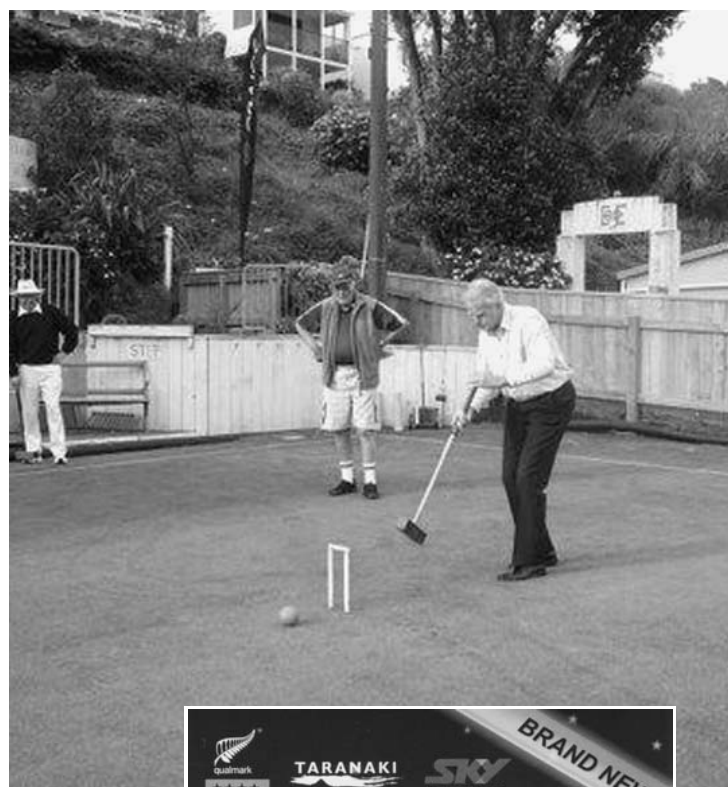
The New Plymouth Croquet club recently hosted their 86th annual tournament and this year it was sponsored by Maurice Betts of Craig's Investment Partners.

Teams from throughout the North Island competed - 78 players in all and the New Plymouth weather did us all proud.

Games were played at the three Taranaki Greens Inglewood, West End and New Plymouth and were played over a period of four days with games of doubles and singles at all greens.


This year we had a good cross section of players many of whom have represented New Zealand at World Tournaments


A good time was had by all, with many of the players finishing their day of Croquet and dashing off to enjoy our Garden Festival.




Maurice Betts showing some stylish croquet.

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NP Ravens Club

New Plymouth, once again was the venue for another prestigious inline hockey event in 2010. The New Zealand Inter Regional

Inline Championships were held over Labour Weekend at the East end Skating Arena.

Players selected to represent their region came from all over the North and South Island to compete with the main aim of winning the NZ Regional Championship Trophy.

The event is hosted on a rotation basis by each of the four regions with New Plymouth providing the venue for the Central Region in 2010.

The National Regional Championship event has been hosted for fourteen years beginning in 1997, with the Central region winning the trophy three times, the Lower North Region winning nine times and the Northern Region winning twice.

The event has grown as the sport of inline hockey has developed and now provides competition for regional representative players over 10 divisions, from Under 12 years to Veterans. There were 60 games played over the three day long weekend.

The local New Plymouth Ravens players were well represented across the grades with players and club coaches taking part in the event.

Five Central teams finished in first place winning gold medals, these were Under 12, Under 14, Junior Women, Senior Women, and Under 18, the Under 16 and Masters teams finished with Silver with Bronze medals went to Under 20, Senior men and Veterans.

The competition season is now all but complete, however players are now waiting eagerly for invitations to trial for New Zealand teams to attend the Oceania Inline Hockey Championships being held in Carrara, Queensland in April 2011. Trials will be held in December at the Hamilton new skating arena.

NZ team coaches were appointed some time ago with Anna Carrington coaching NZ Junior Women and Sam Beardman coaching NZ 18 & Under.

The popular Ravens School League got underway again at the beginning of the fourth school term with teams playing every Thursday and Friday night at the East End Rink.

The club have five nominations up for Sport Taranaki awards this year with Abby Bridgeman (Junior Sportswoman), Julian Beardman (Junior Sportsman), Under 18 Team (Junior Sports team), Senior Men (Senior Sports team) and Valerie Bedford (Volunteer of the Year). In the recent New Plymouth District Council Young Achiever Awards, Julian Beardman was named the "Young Achiever Male Sportsman of the Year". Julian is captain of the Ravens Under 18 team, winning gold at National Championships, a member of the 2010 NZ 18& Under team winning gold at Oceania in April, Silver in Los Angeles at the AAU Junior Olympics and Gold at NZ Inter Regionals. He also coached the regional Under 12 team winning gold at Inter Regionals.

Remember the club offer public sessions on Saturday nights from 6.30pm and the venue is available for private hire to host kids skating birthday parties and school or social group outings.



Photos by John Velvin Photography.

Trent Kemsley in action.



Julian Beardman on the right demonstrating team play!



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GETTING WET!

Life Guard of the Year **cover story**

educating youngsters through the school Beach Education Safety programmes on surf awareness and responsible behaviour at the beach.

I spoke with Emma Crofskey, club captain at the Fitzroy Surf Life Saving Club about the upcoming season and about the award she received earlier this year for 'Taranaki Lifeguard of the Year.' When she attended the awards night she said she had no idea that her club had even nominated her and then went on to say, "It was a complete surprise and an honour to be recognised in that way."

Her involvement with the sport and her surf club duties keep her busy most of the year not just over the summer season. There is a lot to do for the club and this includes diverse roles such as coordinating the TOM Fitzroy deliveries which the club does as a fund raiser. Emma is a keen and successful competitor in the Surf Life Saving women's IRB events where she performs as a crewman with fellow club member Katie Watts as driver. The pair has been a formidable team at National level in this event, taking out top honours five years in a row. This year they haven't been able to start their training as early as usual due to work commitments so won't compete at the North Island event in mid November but will compete in later Taranaki carnivals in preparation for the NZ event which is the last one on the SLS calendar in late March 2011.

When I spoke with Emma she had just returned from overseas where she had travelled to Monaco. Employed by Fitzroy Yachts, she was in Monaco at a boat show where one of the company's luxury super yachts was on display. After the week at the boat show she spent time in London visiting family and then went on to Egypt to the Surf Life Saving World Championship. Whilst she wasn't competing she helped with videoing the New Zealand team and enjoyed their various successes which were huge. She explained that almost every NZ team member came away as a world champion in one or more events. Australian based Fitzroy club member Paul Cracroft-Wilson was there and she saw him win the beach flag title for the New Zealand team. NZ was pipped at the post for overall for first place by Australia by just 23 points.

Home less than a week, Emma was off to the United States two days after our interview for another boat show this time at Fort Lauderdale. I asked her what her role at Fitzroy Yachts is and she told me she manages the interior fittings of the



The Fitzroy women's crew with Katie Watts driving, Nikki Askew the patient and Emma crewing.

yachts, acting as a coordinator between the interior designer and the yard. She is no stranger to the world of these amazing super yachts though.

After she finished a five year PE degree at Otago, followed by two years doing her masters in marine science at Auckland, she worked as a deckhand on a super yacht sailing round the Caribbean and Bahamas. New Zealanders are sought after as crew on these boats she says because of their good work ethic and ability to get along with people. One of the boats she worked on was a 75 metre ex salvage tug converted into a luxury cruiser. She worked on the boat for around eight months which she says "was fun but hard work." Cleaning and driving the tender were among a few of her duties and she said a considerable amount of time is spent with chamois in hand polishing the boat.

These days when she's not flying off to exotic locations with her job Emma is happy to enjoy the lifestyle that we have here in Taranaki. Surfing, running her dog on the beach and gardening are favourite pastimes when she gets the time.

It's easy to see once you meet Emma why she was nominated by her club for 'Lifeguard of the Year.' She is so enthusiastic about surf life saving and the Fitzroy club which she says is very family friendly, social and lots of fun. When I spoke with her the club was due to have its annual opening day on the 30th October. Whole families can participate, with junior surf club for children aged from age seven up to thirteen and then anyone over fourteen can sit their lifeguard award and once they pass can be on one of the club's five patrols.

It was one such patrol that was awarded 'Taranaki Rescue of the Year' on the same night Emma received her award. The TOM reported on this mass rescue that took place in post tsunami surf in February. The patrol crew which included Adam Fraser, Jordan Lampe, Daniel Lampe, Marissa Clough, Jessica Lampe and Evie Trolove as well as off duty lifeguard Steve Harris rescued ten people from the surf and guided another 80 or so swimmers into safer water.

Surf lifeguards in Taranaki carried out 5015 hours of patrol and rescued 23 people last season but their main role is to prevent people getting into difficulty and last season's figures relating to that showed that Taranaki lifeguards performed 1779 preventative actions that affected 3781 people.

When you see that SLSNZ statistics show that those most at risk from drowning are aged less than fourteen, things like the Beach Education programme and getting children and their families involved with their local surf club are really valuable tools in keeping young ones safe at the beach.

So if you missed the Surf Club opening day but would still like to be involved in this rewarding and exciting sport Emma says the club would love to hear from you and can be contacted by phone 7586743 or email fitzroyslsc@xtra.co.nz

By Jackie Tomlinson



Emma driving a tender for Fitzroy Yachts.

East End Surf Life Saving Club

From left to right: Andy, Emma, Geoff and James on the podium after winning Mass Rescue.



A huge congratulations to our Premier IRB Crew: Andy Cronin (driver), James Morwood (crewman), Emma Cronin (patient), Geoff Cronin (patient). They competed in Egypt in October at 'The Worlds' (International World Lifesaving Championships 2010).

East End SLSC is immensely proud of our crew and their achievements. They dominated the event by bringing home three gold medals, making them world champions in IRBs.

They raced so well that they won all 12 races, throughout two heats, semifinals and finals in each event for single rescue, mass rescue and tube rescue titles. New Zealand has a proud heritage in IRB racing and the standard of racing in New Zealand held the crew in pretty good stead against the international crews. They were pushed during the races and because of the tough competition at our own national championships they were able to come through."

East End would also like to congratulate all our new Lifeguards that passed their exams in October. Jen Hooker, Heath Tarrant, Morgan Collier, Joshua Andrews, Matthew Morwood, Thomas Stevenston, Hamish Andrews, Matt Hau, Wayne Howarth, Jamie Rump, Amy Brookes, Liam Cole, Tyler Sutton and Alex Smith. We are now gearing up for the next group of fantastic people who are wanting to become Lifeguards, to help keep our beach safe for all to swim at.

We also held our open day on the 31st October, which was an awesome day, with slippery slides, tours of the club, IRB rides, demonstrations of canoe, board, and ski racing, with a fun beach flag event. Watch out seniors, there are some awesome juniors coming through the ranks. The day was rounded off by SAR training happening off East End Beach. Everyone got a huge kick out of watching people jump out of the helicopter into the sea and then being winched back up again.

A lot has been happening in the way of up skilling our lifeguards. We have had nine Lifeguards pass their Marine VHF Radio Operators Cert, ten Lifeguards attend Intermediate Guard training, and three Lifeguards attend Motor Workshop (trained to look after rescue motors). There have been First Aid, Oxygen and defib refreshers, and seven Lifeguards are working towards getting their Instructor Award.

We have 14 lifeguards working towards their IRB Drivers Award, which involves a minimum of 10 hours driving time each.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped East End with their support and sponsorship. Without your support we would not be able to provide the services that we provide.

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New Plymouth Surf Rider's Club

Labour Weekend provided us with good weather and good surf for the third DEL Festival of Longboarding, Food, Music and Art based at Fitzroy Beach.

The festival focuses on competitors with longboards which must be a minimum of 9 feet in length (2.74 metres) and riding them in the traditional style of surfing's golden age, the 1960's, which is based around control of the board, using the whole length of the board (walking up and down), style and completing manoeuvres.

So popular is this event becoming it attracted many of the top New Zealand longboard exponents including Daren McBride (Mt Maunganui), Paul Browne (Orewa), Brian Clark (Oakura), Matt King (NP -2009 winner), Ian King (Auckland), Michael Northcott (NP), Robbie Walsh (NP), Nic Sergeant (Christ-church), David Storck (Piha) as well as many lesser lights who immerse themselves in the joys of longboarding.

Additionally we were excited to host an art exhibition provided by Daren McBride and Tony Ogle, two of New Zealand's top surf-scene artists; along with music provided by local soloist Johnny Mac and Wellington's rising *The Common Ground*. On Friday evening after registration the competitors were entertained by the newly formed local three-piece *Cut The Cord Trio* kicking off a fantastic life-style weekend.

Two years ago our dear friend and top longboarder, Dillon Walsh passed away and now through the generosity of his parents, Mike and Brenda, longboarders compete for the Dillon Walsh Memorial Trophy and as well look forward eagerly for the top spot prize, a DEL "Glide" surfboard shaped by Robbie Walsh and generously sponsored by Nigel Dwyer of DEL Surfboards.



Although the sea breeze on Saturday took away some of the surf's quality, both rounds one and two were surfed with the round one winners progressing directly to round three and all others surfing the round two repechage. It was here that our sole women's competitor, Michelle Harley, took out top Orewa surfer Paul Browne to progress to round three. Michelle surfed brilliantly to reach the quarter finals before succumbing to the quality and skills of New Zealand's top echelon. But to prove girls can do it Michelle won the top prize of the DEL Glide.

Sunday provided excellent "logging" waves and spectators, many of whom were enjoying a walk on the Coastal Walkway and stopped to watch, were treated to a display of skill and grace not seen in other facets of the sport. Sunday was finals day with the highly anticipated Mystery Finalists announced. The Mystery final is made up of a random draw for all who failed to progress beyond Round two and is a most enjoyable event. Those aged over 50 years also enjoyed their own final.

Results were:

Mystery Final: 1 – Johnny Mac, 2 – Gary Foster, 3 - Max Bound, 4 – Colin Scott (all NP).

50 Plus Final: 1 – Paul Browne (Orewa), 2 – David Storck (Piha), 3 Brian Clarke (Oakura), 4 – Robbie Walsh (NP).

Women's Final: Michelle Harley (NP).

Dillon Walsh Final: 1 - Matt King (Auckland), 2 - Daren McBride (Mt Maunganui), 3 – Nic Sergeant (Christchurch), 4 Michael Northcott (NP)..

A wonderful weekend and all will be back for more, particularly after enjoying the Sunday evening entertainment by The Common Ground.

Cleaner Wanted – The New Plymouth Surf Rider's club is seeking a Club Cleaner. The position would suit a retired person. For terms and conditions please contact the president

Mark O'Connor on 027 5580 400, 759 8290, or kitchenz@masonappliances.co.nz

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Mystery Final: Gary Foster (2nd), Johnny Mac (1st), Max Bound (3rd), Colin Scott (4th).



*50+ final
 Paul Brown (1st), David Storck (2nd), Brian Clark (3rd), Robbie Walsh (4th).*



Open final Mike Northcott (4th), Nic Sergeant (3rd), Ian King (1st), Daren McBride (2nd).

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Under 16 surfing title for Boys' High student

NPBHS student Sean Kettle recently had great success within his chosen sport - surfing at the National Scholastics event. The TOM asked Sean some questions about the win and about his surfing.

TOM: You recently won the Under 16 Boys division at the National Scholastics Surfing Champs. What was it like winning this event, because although you performed individually it was a team effort, so how did that compare to competing at a regular comp?

Sean: It was good to have the support of the team throughout the event and I knew that winning my division was great for the team points; it was also good for me to get a good result.

TOM: How long have you been surfing?

Sean: I was pushed into my first wave by dad when I was nine.

TOM: Have you had any other good results at contests this year?

Sean: Yes I was 5th in the Under 16 boys division at Nationals and I was 3rd in the National Ocean and Earth Rampage contest.

TOM: What's your favourite place to surf?

Sean: My favourite place to surf is Stent Road.

TOM: What boards are you currently riding?

Sean: A 5'3" New Wave but I am getting a new board shaped by CSA surfboards at the moment.

TOM: You have recently had some extra coaching from Australian coach Gary Cruickshank, how do you think that helped at the Scholastics?

Sean: It was a great help and I instantly had better outcomes with my surfing.

TOM: What surfers from NZ and overseas inspire you in your surfing and why?

Sean: I look to Dane Reynolds, Julian Wilson, Mitch Coleborn and Chipka Wilson because they all do big airs.

TOM: When you're not surfing what other sports if any are you into?

Sean: I just focus on my surfing.

TOM: Does surfing figure in your long term career goals?

Sean: Yes it is my overall goal to go pro but I know that will take a lot of hard work.

Sean Kettle.



TOM: Do you have any advice for kids just getting into surfing?

Sean: Just keep going and surf whatever the weather.

Like most successful people Sean is showing a real commitment and focus in achieving his goals in regards to his surfing. I'm sure the TOM will be reporting on more of the endeavours of this young up and coming surfer in the future.



Sean in action at the Scholastics competition.



NP Potters Club

One might think that New Plymouth Potters have moved to Real Tart this month.

We have a special exhibition this month from the winners of the Peoples Choice award from the Real Tart Pottery Challenge held each February. Cecily Bull the 2010 winner has a selection of her beautifully glazed platters and bowls, some coiled hand burnished pots and another of her lovely arum lily arrangements. Jan Pidwell who won in 2009 has a menagerie of birds and animals, bathroom antics and especially for Christmas, some angels. Ask Sarah if you don't quite understand the concept of the fence post angel. In addition Joyce Young has a special collection of paintings and pottery and Bev Rea, Kathy Gates and Barbara Nicholls are displaying special pots of porcelain, copper red glazes and Bev's wonderful glazes that sometimes defy description.



Cecily Bull exhibition pieces.



Jan Pidwell and Cecily Bull –exhibitionists.

This is not to say things are quiet at the Vicarage. A recent club night saw members having fun sharing ideas for making ceramic jewellery. Come to our market days on the last weekend of November and the first weekend of December to see some of the results. We hope to have a really fine collection of pottery for you. The market is often an opportunity for members to find good homes for their not quite perfect pieces at real bargain prices but there will also be lots of high quality pieces if you are looking for a special gift for Christmas, a wedding or just to treat yourself. Other art and craft will also be on sale.

The recently started intermediate classes teaching the intricacies of glazes and using our kilns has been a great success. We'd like to hear from you if you are interested in these or our beginner classes for next year. Ring Jan 751 3291.

The club welcomes enquiries from a variety of groups, schools etc for demonstrations, advice, firing of work, or hands on sessions. We are always ready to discuss these with you. Ring Gail 753 6207.



Cecily Bull and Jan Pidwell collection

Jan Pidwell Gannets.



new plymouth potters



New Plymouth Boys' High School

NPBHS is very proud of the following students:

- Jamie Hatch** High Distinction in Economics Competition.
- James Varley** Distinction in Economics Competition.
- James Innes** Winner of Y10 Speech competition.
- Jay Maaka** Winner of Best Poet competition.
- Chad Collop** Second Place for TV2 "Mad Movie Competition".
- Sefton Garlick** Runner-up U17 NZ Golf Championships.
- Wade Stafford** Chosen for the NZ Baseball team.
- Casey Wanakore** Chosen for Rotary's RYPEN outdoor experience.
- Sean Kettle** Second prize winner for National Japanese Speech Contest.
- Dwight Rawson** Winner Hip Hop Section of Taranaki Talent Show.
- Julian Weir** NZ U16 Surfing Champion.
- Isaac Robinson** Second place National Photography competition.
- Mitchell Brown** 3 x 1st, 2 x 2nd; 1 x 3rd and 7 Taranaki records in NZ Age Group Swimming Championships.
- 1stV Basketball** NZ Rugby League U17 side.
- Tenth National Championships.**

The NZ Secondary Schools Chess Nationals were held in Christchurch last weekend. The boys performed superbly and came second equal. Last year they came 43rd! It is an incredible result and we are thrilled for them after all their hard work. Congratulations to Alan Ansell, Jacob Tomlinson, Jesse Watt and Tyler Stuart.

Congratulations to Mr Justin Hyde (staff) who gained a \$3000 Scholarship for "Excellence in Education." Justin's expertise lies in e-learning (MOODLE) and he has made a significant contribution to the boys' education. If any parent is interested in learning more about how

your son can use MOODLE, please contact Justin at: Justin.hyde@npbhs.school.nz



Above: economics gurus, Jamie Hatch and James Varley.



Japanese speaker, Wade Stafford.



Casey Wanakore Hip Hopped to the top.



Surfing champion, Sean Kettle.



Super swimmer, Julian Weir.



Hot lensman, Dwight Rawson.



Justin Hyde.



Right: outstanding chess players, Alan Ansell, Jacob Tomlinson and Jesse Watt.



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NPBHS perform well at Chess National Championship

This year the NZ Interschool Chess Finals were held in Christchurch over the first weekend of the September school holidays and the Chess team from New Plymouth Boys' High School travelled to Christchurch to represent our region. The combination of timing and venue presented the team which included Alan Ansell, Jacob Tomlinson, Tyler Stewart and Jesse Watt with a few logistical and financial difficulties compared to past, North Island based events but the boys worked hard to raise funds.

In the months leading up to the event, in addition to fund raising, the boys also prepared hard by playing chess at school and participating regularly in tournament play on club nights at the NP Chess Club on Tuesdays from 7:30 pm. One week before the Interschool finals the boys also took part in a full day rapid-play chess tournament organised especially by the Club and kindly hosted at NPBHS. The tournament was well supported by club members, providing a real test for the boys, who nevertheless performed very creditably.

After all the preparation and fund raising efforts, the Christchurch earthquake, occurring just three weeks out from "kick-off", provided a bit of a scare. Enquiries just two weeks out revealed that, while our accommodation was still standing, the plumbing was malfunctioning and the tournament venue itself (Christchurch Boys' High School hall), was still awaiting final engineering clearance. Fortunately these issues were resolved in good time and in the end the earthquake caused no real disruption to proceedings. Despite the venue and possible deterrent factor from the earthquake, altogether 32 teams, across the three divisions, Primary, Intermediate and Secondary, had made the trek South (with St Joseph's School, Stratford, representing Taranaki in the Primary and Intermediate divisions) as well as eight South Island teams also participating.

In total 12 teams contested the secondary schools division, with top seed and runaway 2009 champions, Auckland Grammar, the hot favourites for gold. This year NPBHS were seeded 4th and hoping to improve on their somewhat disappointing showing last year, when they finished in 11th place in a field of 14. Play was scheduled to take place over seven rounds, with five rounds to be played on the Saturday and two on the Sunday, with each player having about 30 minutes to make all their moves in each round. The NPBHS team was on 19 points at the conclusion of the first day's

play (from a maximum possible of 40), roughly in the middle of the pack.

After a quiet day, seismically speaking, we experienced three really decent, and quite unnerving, aftershocks on the Saturday evening - so we then had a small insight into how the poor citizens of Christchurch city had been suffering. Fortunately we had a relatively "quiet" night and the boys must have found their sleep and the much later start on Sunday morning restful, because they started the day with a 6th round clean sweep of bottom seeded Opotiki College (Bay of Plenty). This 8:0 result catapulted the team well up the rankings so that they were drawn against the second seeds, St Paul's Collegiate from the Waikato, in the 7th and final round, with a realistic chance to win silver or bronze medals if they played well.

And they did play well, managing a 6:2 score, with wins on three boards. This left NPBHS on 33 points, in second place, but, incredibly, tied with three other teams (St Paul's Collegiate, Westlake Boys' High - Auckland, and Palmerston North Boy's High)!

A nail biting few moments followed, while tie breaks were calculated to decide the winners of the Silver and Bronze medals (Auckland Grammar having once again won Gold, this time with the incredible score of 49 points, having dropped just 7 points over the 7 rounds). The Silver medal was awarded to St Paul's and the Bronze to Westlake Boys' High. The boys were disappointed to come so close to winning a medal, only to miss out on tie break. However they can be justifiably proud of their performance - as a Taranaki supporter, I know I am - which was a vast improvement on 2009, and they might also feel some moral claim to Silver, with a convincing 6:2 victory in the final round over the actual Silver medal winners, St Paul's Collegiate. Next year they will surely have Auckland Grammar in their sights!

The boys are grateful for the support they have received: from the members of the NP Chess Club, particularly Errol Tuffrey and David Notley, who gave regular coaching sessions throughout the year at NPBHS; from Mary Porteous, Teacher in Charge of chess at NPBHS; Pip Campbell at NPBHS, who made many of their travel arrangements; and generous sponsorship from an anonymous benefactor whose father was a keen chess player with a leading role in establishing the New Plymouth Chess Club; and from, not least, their parents!

It was a pleasure to take on the role of "camp father" for the boys, and

I would happily take them all again.

John Ansell

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Youth Awards

Eco-Friendly Award:

Winner Sarah Harris (NP)

Sarah has shown fantastic commitment and dedication to caring for the environment. She has both organised and participated in a number of eco-friendly initiatives. She was a Coastal Ambassador for the 2010 Care for the Coast beach clean-ups, which entailed recruiting volunteers, promoting the event and physically getting involved in the clean-up. She represented Taranaki at the Youth Environmental Leaders forum and is the chair of the New Plymouth Girls' High School (NPGHS) Environment Council. Sarah led the organising of the highly successful NPGHS 2010 Earth Hour and both founded and monitored the schools anti-litter programme.

Super Student Award:

Winner Paige Muggeridge (NP)

Paige is considered an outstanding student with a vibrant and confident manner, and the ability to bring out the best in others. She is currently Head Girl at NPGHS and has the utmost respect from her peers and teaching staff alike. Paige is very focused on her academic results and as a Year 12 student completed NCEA 1, 2 and 3 all with excellence, her university entrance and two New Zealand scholarship subjects. This year as a Year 13 student she entered in six New Zealand scholarship subjects and extra NCEA level 3 subjects she had not previously taken. Her current grade average of the year to date is 100. She has been a top scholar for each of her five years at the school. Her qualities extend to her involvement in a wide range of school pursuits from school productions, school committees, musicals, fundraisers, house events and cultural events. Paige is described by her Year 13 deputy principal as the most rounded and capable student she has found in more than 27 years of teaching.

Highly Commended Male Sports Achievement:

Max Williams (NP)

Max captained the New Zealand Junior Tall Blacks Team earlier this year when they competed in Germany at the Albert Schweitzer Tournament. In 2009 he captained the NZ U18 Team which competed in the Australasian Youth Olympics in Sydney, where they won bronze. Max is a Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship recipient and has been recruited to the Pistons basketball team. He won Sportsman of the Year in 2009 at New Plymouth Boys' High School (NPBHS), held the Head of House position and was nominated for the Daily News Sportsperson of the Year in 2009.

Highly Commended Male Sports Achievement:

Dane Brooks (NP)

From an early age Dane has shown exceptional sports ability. At the age of seven he started reading his dad's sports magazines and was hooked on the importance of nutrition and physical activity. His sports successes to date include being a member of the U15 New Plymouth Basketball rep team, the U14 Taranaki cricket team and the NPBHS junior development team; winner of the Year 9 Taranaki high jump, and competing regionally in cross country. Dane has a strong sense of fair play and responsibility when it comes to playing any of his chosen sports.

Mayor's Choice Award:

Mikaere Gardiner (NP)

Mikaere is a young person passionate about art. He has gained great satisfaction from producing art that can be freely appreciated by the public in the form of murals around New Plymouth and the free gallery space he

recently opened in town. He regularly donates his own time and materials to his murals and exhibitions, hoping to create visual stimulation and broaden the artistic range of the district. He was the Found Object section winner at the 2009 National Youth Art Awards and has completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts at WITT majoring in painting. He hopes to start his own mural business based in New Plymouth to encourage budding young artists and their families.



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On the morning of 22nd October 2010 all of the students at Mangorei school were running around like headless chickens getting their exhibits and pets ready to take to Mangorei School to be judged. The day started with people bringing in their lambs and calves to register and students bringing in their creations to set them up. Students completed a huge range of displays from sand saucers and cross stitch, to miniature displays and delicious lolly creations. Some classes even had amazingly painted gumboots and painted tiles.

One of the main events of the day was when Sergeant McLeod and Harley, a police dog came to show us what the dog could do. The officer told us that they only use German Shepherds, because they are big, can scare you witless, they like to please their trainer, they are smart and last but definitely not least, they will not hesitate to rip off the arm off someone who threatens their trainer.

In the afternoon there were stalls and games, such as target shooting with a paintball gun and a bouncy castle for the little kids. Throughout the day the Mangorei PTA were selling baking, candy floss, sausages, lamb burgers and much, much more. Some of our seniors were dunked with freezing water in the throw and dunk stall and a bowling competition was held on the cricket pitch. One of the more popular things that ran in the afternoon was slushies, run by Room 6 and their teacher Emma Saywell.

Every single year since Mangorei school opened in 1929, we have had petday and every single year the students love it. A huge well done to Mr Greer our Principal and the staff for working hard to make the day a great success and to our parents for encouraging us with our exhibits and home creations.

By Katherine Spencer (Y8)

Poem used from a speech of Curt Evans (Y7)

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CLUBS & GROUPS

East End Indoor Bowling Club meets in the Community Hall Sackville St Fitzroy at 7.30 pm every Monday evening. New members are very welcome. Please phone Betty Death 757 9968.

Fitzroy Outdoor Bowling Club. Season now open and new members welcome – both men and women. Join our friendly members who play on two greens with an upmarket clubroom and fine facilities. Contact President Neville Goldsworthy 758 8846 or Secretary Sherylle Watkins 755 0125.

Fitzroy Scout Group. For boys and girls from age 6. We meet on Mondays 6.00 – 7.30pm at The Scout Den, Clemow Road, Fitzroy (near Lake Rotomanu). Visit us to see what we do. The first term/part term is free! For further details 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

Freemasons Worldwide are ordinary men in the community, 21 years and over, of all religions and backgrounds, who share a concern for human values, moral standards, and the rights of individuals. Meeting monthly in Fitzroy. Phone Roger Marshall, 06 7591755.

Mahjong. 2010 Summer Season - alternate Sundays 1pm-4pm at NP Croquet Club Rooms, East End Reserve. \$3.00 per day includes tea & biscuits. Small prize for hand of the day. Phone 757 5913 or 7581957 for more details.

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

New Plymouth 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.

The New Plymouth Croquet Club. New season of Twilight Golf Croquet starting on Wednesday November 10th, at 5pm through to 7pm. Games are \$5.00 for the evening, balls and mallets supplied. Please wear soft soled shoes. This is a fun game and great for team building. Enquiries to: Barbara Anderson, 758 2710 or Barbara Johnston 757 9938.

Skating Sessions 2010

Family Skate Nights 6.30 – 8.30pm, Saturday Evenings.

November: 13th, 20th, 27th. **December:** 4th, 11th, 18th
Sessions will then take a break until Mid January, 2011.

The Taranaki Jazz Club. Five top local musicians to play at club day, Sunday October 17th, 4pm at the New Plymouth Club, Gill Street. Performing as *Mood Indigo* will be Don Boyd (keyboard/vocals), Juliet McLean (vocals) Ross Halliday (guitar), Simon James (bass) and Phil Cook (drums). Adults \$15, Jazz Club/New Plymouth Club members \$10, Students \$4.

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

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

TSB NP Contract Bridge Club plays Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs at 7.20pm and Friday afternoons from 12.45pm at 70 Hobson St. Ph the President 758 8985 or the Secretary 759 0258.

U3A New Plymouth. Monthly meetings are held at the Trinity Church Hall, 8 Henui Street, Fitzroy at 2pm on the second Thursday of each month (except January). Contact the Secretary, 752 3801, for more details - never too old to learn.

Victoria League Bridge Club. Very social bridge, every Tuesday from 1pm to 4pm. Phone 757 5913 for more details.

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