

TAKE ONE MOMENT

SEPTEMBER 2011

# TOM FITZROY

## THE DAY IT SNOWED AT FITZROY BEACH

A lone surfer heads off for a surf  
over the white 'sand'.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAISY DAY

- more on page 3



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# TOM FITZROY

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

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

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## EDITORIAL

Rugby fever is upon us and for those who don't like rugby I am guessing this is quite a trying time with the intense media coverage and rugby fever that seems to have taken over the streets (literally with a blue line on ours leading to Yarrows Stadium).



On the other hand for those who find themselves willing the All Blacks on to victory in the World Cup, it is also a very intensely exciting and nail biting time. If only we could win the World Cup with will power alone!

For those of us old enough to remember the last time New Zealand hosted the World Cup, it is to remember the victory and not much else because in those days there wasn't quite as much hype as there is these days. A young person said to me if we lost the World Cup this year then there would be riots in the streets. I chuckled indulgently, having lived through several World Cup failures by the All Blacks (though admittedly not in New Zealand). The sun still came up, the rain still falls and the wind still blows, work has to be done and life carried on with so I am guessing we would all do the same again. NOT that I am anticipating a World Cup defeat by any means. I just wish it was a game not a corporation. You could say the media machine has done a great job of stirring up the nation and getting everyone involved in what has become a public relations monster but at the end of the day it comes down to the 30 men on the field.

I am so glad Taranaki salvaged something out of the ITM Cup rugby competition because I think they deserved to be in the final though Canterbury probably would have dished up a hiding to them too. But the Ranfurly Shield is a pretty good memento to take away from the season and a 17,000 strong crowd at the last game goes to show how much it means to locals. It will certainly make next season an eagerly anticipated competition so well done to the boys and all the people behind the scenes who help make the team a success.

Go the AB's!

Kim

## COVER STORY

# The day it Snowed at Fitzroy Beach...

August 15 was like any other weekday morning in our household. That was until about half past seven when I got a phone call from Kim, the TOM's editor, who excitedly told me it was snowing at her house at Omata! Not long after her phone call she emailed me photographic evidence of her decks and home covered in the white stuff, amazing I thought. Not long after this my daughter was getting texts from a friend who lived in Spotswood that said they had snow falling at her home. My daughter happily went off to school hoping for snow at school. I meanwhile sat at home feeling jealous that here in the eastern end of town we had missed out on all the action.

It was apparent from news reports that a huge amount of snow had fallen overnight in Taranaki but living right near the beach at East End I still didn't hold out much hope for snow here. How wrong I was...within an hour the temperature had plummeted followed by soft flakes of snow floating over our home. I will be honest here and say I was squealing like a two year old, racing around our house and garden taking photos of this unique event.

Unique it certainly was, this polar outbreak was described by the Meteorological Service as a 'major weather event that drew interest from around the world.' Their website went on further to describe the polar blast 'While heavier snowfalls have been recorded before in some regions, this is undoubtedly the most widespread and prolonged event since 1939.'

As I was out and about during the day what struck me the most was the cheerful and excited way people both young and old from all walks of life talked about this event, to put it simply everyone I spoke to or heard speaking about our out of the ordinary snowfall was rapt. Kids were allowed to leave lessons at school, doctors' appointments were interrupted, surfers walked through the snow for a surf and people in general just stopped whatever they were doing to take time to experience the moment, a rare occurrence in these hectic times we live in.

Facebook was littered with my friend's snow stories and generally it seemed everyone was kicking up their heels and having fun in the snow. Some of the most remarkable images of the day came not surprisingly from local surf

photographer Daisy Day. As luck would have it she was down at Fitzroy beach doing an early photo shoot as the swell was up. She described the morning to me "I thought a rain cloud was coming over about 9.30am, so I put my big lens back into the car and just had my standard camera gear. It gradually went really dark and quiet, the swell increased and then the flakes came fluttering down. I could not believe it. The walkway was covered as was the beach. It would have made an even more fantastic sight if the tide was low, as the snow would have covered the whole beach. I was so excited as this was a first for me ...snowing on a beach. The poor surfers were frozen as they came out of the water, frozen eyelashes and cheeks. Yet a couple more ran across the white 'sand' to grab some waves, everyone was hooting."

Another friend told me she was in the middle of a doctors' appointment when she and the doctor noticed the snow.... the distraction was just too great and the surgery staff and patients all went outside to see the snow.

Kids definitely made the most of the winter wonderland. Siblings Alysha and Joshua Gulliver grabbed their inline hockey sticks and a puck for an impromptu game of 'ice' hockey on the street outside their house. There was even enough snow at their Merrilands home to make a wee snowman and for Alysha to lie down and make a snow angel.

This sudden unexpected climatic event further encouraged a number of local inline hockey players keen to see an ice skating rink built somewhere in New Plymouth. There were a few light hearted comments made that this snowfall was a 'sign' that that their dream may one day be realised!

Most schools in our local area saw classes interrupted and children allowed outside to experience this magical and possibly once in a lifetime event. John Mansfield, Principal of Fitzroy School, described the schools 'Snow day' to the TOM. "It was pretty amazing. The first few drops arrived and one class came out, followed by another. Pretty soon all classes and teachers were out in the playground. They played in the snow for about 30 minutes and loved it - children and adults. Then as quickly as it arrived it went. We had some buzzing kids and really good written language and artwork afterwards."

It seems that most people will remember fondly the gentle taste we received of the 'polar event.' It certainly brought smiles to the faces of many of our local residents.

*By Jackie Tomlinson*

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# Whitebaiters Out Enjoying Spring Sunshine

The first day of spring saw a handful of whitebaiters trying their luck in the Te Henui stream. The sun was shining but the whitebait weren't running. I spoke to a couple fishing by the East End Bridge. They had been coming for six days and hadn't caught anything.

Barry George from Bell Block wasn't having much luck either and told me it was reportedly the same down at the Waiwakaiho river. He told me he had had one good catch on the day when the snow fell in town, but since then it had been pretty poor. On the other side of the river a chap was catching a few, but declined to be photographed as he was meant to be working! Further along the river friends Bridgette Darvill- Jackson and Amba Huggard were enjoying the sunshine, but only had two whitebait to show for their efforts. They were heading down the coast to Okato to try their luck in the Stony River.

Hopefully by the time the TOM goes to print all the local whitebait lovers will have enjoyed a meal or two of this sometimes elusive delicacy.

*By Jackie Tomlinson*



Barry George from Bell Block whitebaiting in the Te Henui stream.



Amba Huggard (holding the bucket containing their catch of two whitebait) and on the right, friend Bridgette Darvill- Jackson enjoying the spring sunshine.



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## Hot Tips from the Fire Station

QUOTE FROM NZ HERALD NEWS:

### "WALL HEATER SETS BABY'S ROOM ON FIRE."

An unusual wall heater has sparked concerns with the Fire Service after it started a fire in a baby's room in a Te Puke home. The wall heater caught fire, filling the room with smoke and igniting a nearby chest of drawers while the baby was sleeping in a cot nearby. The mother had left the baby at home with her teenage son in the house while she went to drop off a child at the school bus stop at the end of the driveway. She returned to find the fire and managed to extinguish it and move the baby to another room.  
- Herald Online, Bay Of Plenty Times

There is debate about the origin and safety of the heater that caught fire and the recommendation that "buyers should exercise particular caution when buying products that could expose themselves or their families to serious harm if they are faulty. Always be prepared to ask the seller if the product meets known and trusted safety standards."

This is certainly good advice but the fact remains that anything electrical has the potential to malfunction and cause a problem in our homes and that the best way for you to protect yourself and your family from fire at home is to have working smoke alarms installed in all areas, particularly those where people may be sleeping. Working smoke alarms will give you an early warning of a fire and having an escape plan prepared means that everyone can escape to a place of safety.

The Fire Service recommends the fitting of photo electric smoke alarms, particularly the new models that are now available with a 10 year battery life, and we are always happy to give advice and assistance. For more information you can ring us at the station on 757 3860 or check [www.fire.org.nz](http://www.fire.org.nz)

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One of the things that so many of us take for granted is continued good health.

We really don't know what is around the corner, and the Kiwi "She'll be right" attitude is the only plan that many of us have in pace.

For a large proportion of the Kiwi population, there is a reliance on the public health system. In 2000 the government implemented an elective services strategy that aimed to ensure no-one waited more than six months for a first assessment with a specialist and those who needed surgery got it within six months.

According to Lyn Provost, Auditor-General, "About 6,800 people do not receive required services in the six month timeframe and some have waited up to two years."

The stress on our public health system is set to increase. With an ageing population and fiscal pressure building on the public health budget, people will increasingly be called on to make greater contributions towards their health costs".

Your health insurance is going to be more important in the future.

In most cases, the younger you are when applying for health insurance, the fewer exclusions that will be applied to your policy. This is another reason to maintain your health insurance and make sure it does not lapse.

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instructors are caring and friendly. They understand the importance of exercise and the difference it can make to anyone's life no matter the age or ability. Of course after every class there is always a cup of tea, time to chat and the opportunity to talk with the instructor. The programme is for both men and women. If you would like to know more either come along to Te Henui Church Hall, Henui St, Fitzroy

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## Cricket with the Taranaki Wanderers

A few months ago the TOM brought you the story of the Taranaki Wanderers cricket team and their upcoming tour of England. They have returned to New Plymouth with an excellent tour result of 10 wins from 11 starts. Six Fitzroy boys in the team were Ryan Watson, Josh Roguski, Sam Fastier, Rupert Young, Gerald John Pike and Mitchell Aro. The team was coached by Debu Banik.

The first game of the tour was a 50 over game played on July 11 against Haileybury School. The Haileybury team was coached by former NZ Cricket captain Geoff Howarth. Of the Fitzroy batsmen to feature in this game, Gerald John Pike got 49 runs, Sam Fastier 31 and Ryan Watson 31 not out.

The second game was played against Knebworth Cricket Club. The setting here was great with the huge Knebworth Castle in the backdrop of the cricket field. In this game the Taranaki Wanderers batted first and made 259 runs. In reply Knebworth were dismissed for 225 runs in the 44th over. Ryan Watson was one of the best bowlers taking three wickets for 16 runs.

The next game was against Southend on Sea Cricket Club. In 1948 Don Bradman and the Australian Cricket team played at this venue. The Wanderers won this game by 47 runs. Top scorer was Sam Fastier on 84 and Rupert Young scored 69.

The boys had their fourth straight win the next day against Richmond Cricket club. The Wanderers batted first and made 326 runs for six wickets off their 50 overs. Richmond was all out for 215 in their 42nd over. Taranaki Wanderers player John Dickson scored 129 runs which was the highest of any Wanderers player on the tour. Ryan Watson scored 29 runs and took two wickets for 10 runs off five overs. Sam Fastier took three wickets for 10 runs.

The next game was against Sutton Cricket Club. In the clubrooms there is a photo of WG Grace who played here in the late 1800s and early 1920s. Harry Secombe was also a regular visitor to the club as he lived just up the road. This was another win for the Wanderers with Josh Roguski taking four wickets for 36 runs.

Next up, the Taranaki Wanderers continued their unbeaten run with a 31run win against Bromley Cricket Club in Kent. Josh Roguski top scored with 60.

The next game on the itinerary was against Thames Ditton but was unfortunately rained out.

The seventh game for the Wanderers took them to Hampshire to play the Hampshire Hogs Cricket Club. This was another win. Rupert Young scored 37 and GJ Pike 26.

The Wanderers continued their winning way when beating Byfleet Cricket Club in Surrey by 60 runs in a 45 over



**The Wanderers playing at Knebworth Cricket Club with Knebworth Castle in the background.**



**Above and below, the Wanderers before their first game at Haileybury College.**



**The boys coming off the field at Haileybury. The four boys in the group at right of picture are Gerald John, Rupert, Sam and Ryan with the white wide brim hat.**



game. Sam Fastier top scored with 54 runs, Josh Roguski hit 29 and Rupert Young 21. Gerald John Pike took two wickets for six runs.

The Wanderers then recorded their ninth straight win on tour with a five wicket win against Spencer Cricket Club in London. Ryan Watson bowled outstanding and took two wickets for eight off six overs. Sam Fastier made 46 not out and Gerald John Pike 26.

The next game played in Surrey was against Reigate Priory and was probably the most exciting! Unfortunately the Wanderers lost this game when Reigate Priory won off the last ball. The batsman to hit the winning run was Wellington's second highest run scorer in history, Neal Parlane. Rupert Young scored 59 and Sam Fastier 33. Mitchell Aro took two wickets for 18 runs.

The last game was played at Wingham in Kent and the Wanderers finished the tour on a winning note. This was a 40-over match and the Wanderers scored 274-7. In reply, Wingham struggled and were dismissed for 146. Rupert Young scored 72 and Josh Roguski 21 not out. GJ Pike took three wickets for 22 runs.

The Taranaki Wanderers ended their cricket tour with 10 wins from 11 games. Fitzroy boys Rupert Young and Sam Fastier were third and fourth highest run scorers respectively for the tour with an average of 32.9 each. Al McDougall and Tony Lendrum did a wonderful job in managing the team, and 12 of the 14 boys in the touring team had parent/s that travelled to England to support the team on the sidelines, including three siblings. The team stayed at Brunel University and had a bus and driver to transport them to the games. Rest days were spent in London. The boys visited the usual London attractions such as Big Ben, The London Eye, Tower of London and an evening at the Victoria Palace to watch Billy Elliot. One of the highlights was a visit to "Lords" the home of cricket, and being able to watch a county game of cricket from the Long Room. This will be a trip these young men will treasure and remember for a lifetime!

For more detailed reports on the cricket games and more photos please go to [www.sportsground.co.nz/taranakiwcc](http://www.sportsground.co.nz/taranakiwcc)

By Rosie Fastier

# Waiwaka Tennis Club - Season's Greetings

The tennis season is upon us. Waiwaka Tennis Club will swing into action with its Senior Open Day and Junior registrations during September. Keep an eye out in the TNL papers for details. All interested players, regardless of experience level, and existing members are welcome. Senior Open day is for senior grade competition and social players, with Junior registrations to be taken for keen primary, intermediate and high school age youths who wish to join the Club's free coaching programme or interclub games.

Junior Club days will start in October. All current junior members, new players, and those new to the sport are asked to attend. Parents and caregivers most welcome. The Club will be providing free group coaching to all junior members on Junior Club days. These sessions are grouped and graded by age and ability.

For any juniors or seniors wishing to give tennis a go, or develop their existing skills in a supportive and fun environment, then the Club environment is the ideal forum. Waiwaka Tennis Club has resident coaches that are Tennis New Zealand registered and certified, who provide free coaching on Junior Club days, and offer additional tuition to groups or individuals of ALL ages and ability, Seniors included. Not forgetting to mention Club days and evenings which offer players a friendly environment to try out your skills, have a go, and meet a great bunch of new people.

A key step towards improving our coaching facilities this season will be the arrival of a new ball machine, to supplement the teaching offered by the Club's registered coaches. We are sure that Juniors and Seniors alike, will benefit greatly from this new facility. Many thanks to the Lion Foundation for its very significant contribution which was essential for the success of this initiative.

The Club will be fielding junior and senior competition teams, and also holds Club afternoons, evenings, and smaller midweek groups (subject to interest). Membership entitles players to court access at all times, subject to competition fixtures.

So, pick up that racquet and come on down to Waiwaka Tennis Club, Chilman Street, Lower Merrilands.

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



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# Snow, Snow and More Snow



Medical Centre staff enjoying an unexpected photo opportunity in the snow.



The snow covered children's playground at Fitzroy beach.

PHOTO BY DAISY DAY



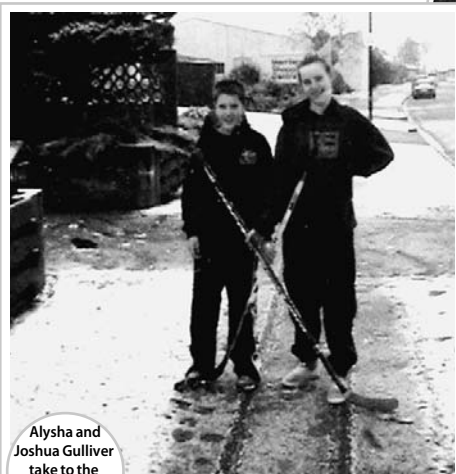
Fitzroy School students playing in the snow.



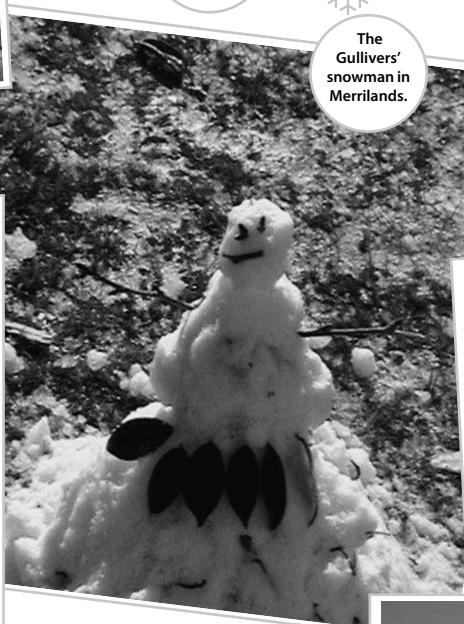
Winter down the beach and snow in Molesworth St.



The Gullivers' snowman in Merrilands.



Alysha and Joshua Gulliver take to the street with their hockey sticks.



Snow covered boardwalk in front of Fitzroy SLSC.

PHOTO BY DAISY DAY



Fitzroy school students play in the Junior playground.



Snow on the beach.



PHOTO BY DAISY DAY



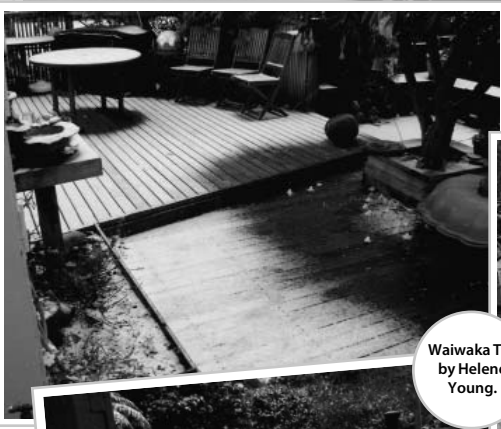
Children at  
Merrilands  
Kindergarten loving  
the snow.



Tayla McAuley and  
Poppy Marshall-Kirby  
with snow balls they  
made.



Top 10 Holiday park van  
from Princess St pretends  
to be a snowmobile.



Waiwaka Tce  
by Helene  
Young.



Emma Hatch  
and Tanika  
Hodson.



# TOM Garden of the Month

Finding a garden to feature in the TOM over these last few months has proven to be quite tricky. With snow and frosts hitting our region it's hardly surprising that people weren't so keen to have their garden on show and most gardeners and their gardens have been in hibernation.

With spring now here gardeners everywhere are busy and their gardens will be literally coming to life. The owner of this month's TOM garden generously allowed me into see her garden after a spell of less than perfect weather and I was envious of how well she had created a garden that obviously looked great all year round.

Joc Vickery and her husband Malcolm have lived in Fitzroy for eight years. They bought their section, built a low maintenance townhouse and laid a fairly low maintenance garden. Coming from a farm in Tikorangi where she looked over her large garden to paddocks rolling down to the sea has been a big change for Joc but she says she loves both living in town and her garden here. The couple's ties to Tikorangi are still very strong, with Malcolm travelling out there to help their son at his farm most days. They are also keen rugby supporters and Malcolm has been the treasurer of the Clifton Rugby Club for many years.

Talking with Joc I soon discover that this keen gardener generously looks after many gardens as well as her own. The neighbours, her daughter and two of her girlfriends' gardens all benefit from Joc's green fingers. She also leads a team of 'girls' who care for the Jean Sandel Memorial garden at Taranaki Base Hospital. There's ten 'girls' on the list now as a few have had to pull out with knee and hip problems but the remaining team members all have turns at keeping the hospital garden looking beautiful. Joc went on to tell me most weeks there's really not enough hours in the day. When she's not gardening Joc is also involved with Probus and likes to play cards with friends. She's also a member of Coastal Garden Club.

I asked Joc if she had a favourite plant and was greeted with an emphatic 'no' as she says she likes all plants and all colours in the garden. She went on to say, "The thing I like in a garden is to have the ground covered, so the weeds don't beat you."

Walking around the garden there is a wonderful variety of plants, many of which are planted closely together to achieve the coverage that Joc prefers. Some of the plants in the garden are camellia and daphne: one of the camellia is a compact double white that Joc says was out early this year and gave a beautiful show; another one called 'Fairy Blush' was looking very pretty too on the day I visited. There's also hyacinth, mondo grass, a magnolia and a 'Lemon Lodge' rhododendron through to a huge variety of succulents. For me it's the succulents that win the day. Joc's clever use of these plants both in pots and in the ground as well as having such a wide range of varieties creates focal points all over the property. Because these plants generally look good all year round they hold the whole 'look' of the garden together well.

Two newly installed raised vegetable gardens have just been planted with carrots, beans, lettuce and celery and Joc is

also raising some broccoli seedling in trays on a sunny spot on the terrace.

The garden didn't escape damage from the -2.3C frost we experienced at the end of July. It has left its mark on several plants including a large viburnum which was very badly burnt. Other plants like the agave have also been damaged and Joc is waiting until the weather has definitely warmed up before she trims back any dead foliage.

Another passion of Joc's is recycling and she does this as much as possible. She sorts through all her recyclable waste and then takes it to the recycling plant at Colson Rd. Joc hates water to be wasted and declares 'plastic' as the bane of society, recounting to me that on several overseas trips to Morocco and the US she was staggered by the amount of plastic bags and the like littered everywhere.

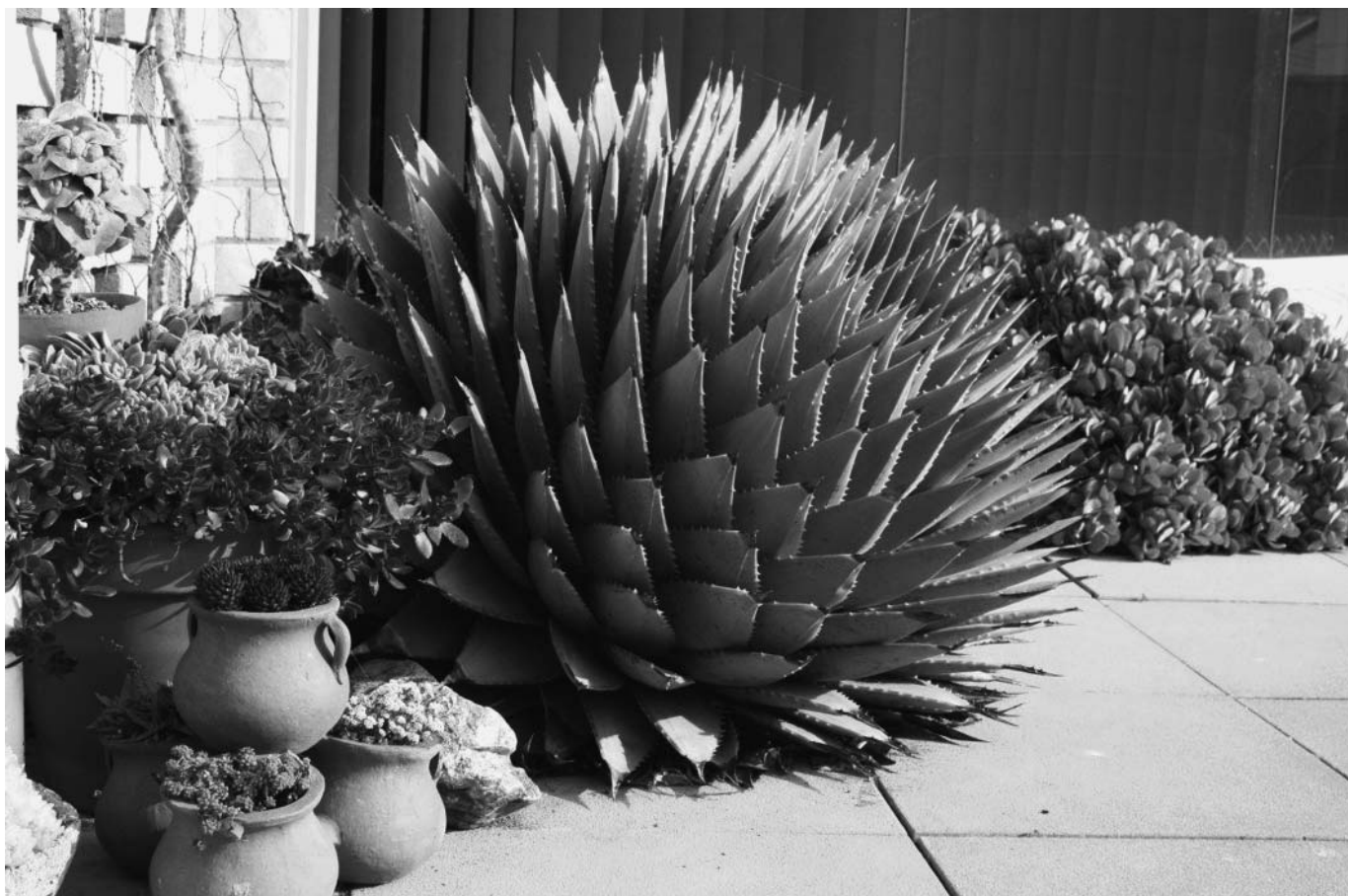
Her interest in gardening has extended to having her garden open with the Fringe Festival three times, the last time was in 2010 and she says most of her garden visitors were people from out of town wanting to see what could be done in a compact townhouse section. Even though she isn't opening her garden to the public this year she has already had a request from a group to come through her garden.

In a contained space Joc has succeeded in creating a really attractive and functional garden. In spite of the weather conditions we have faced over the last few months and the damage they have done to many plants this garden and its clever owner were very inspiring and a pleasure to visit.

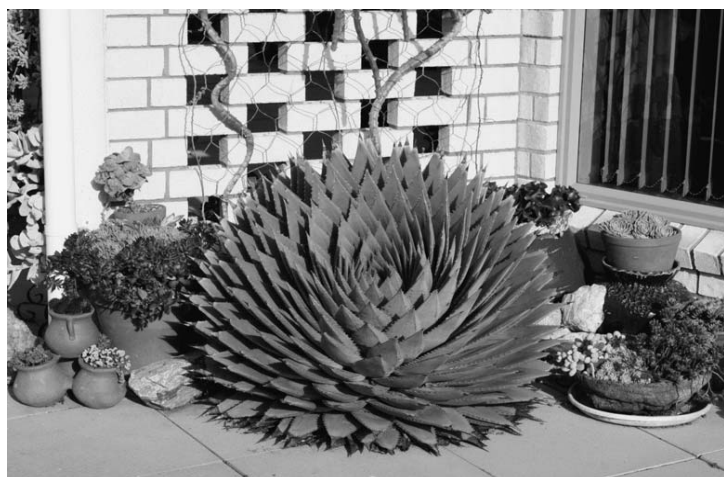
*By Jackie Tomlinson*

**The owner of this month's TOM Garden is the recipient of a garden voucher generously donated by Fairfield's Garden Centre.**





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# TOM Citrus Tree Competition Winner



**The laden lemon tree of Mr Coulton.**

The winning entry of the TOM citrus tree competition is a cute little lemon tree in a Fitzroy garden. The garden owner, Mr Coulton, tells us the tree is only three years old and for the last two seasons has had a bountiful crop of lemons. He says he doesn't give it any special attention other than a little liquid fertiliser.

It is certainly a healthy little specimen and its branches look like they are straining under its load of fruit! Mr Coulton's photo of his lemon tree wins him a Fairfield's garden voucher.

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# New Plymouth Boys' High School

## THE SCHOOL IS VERY PROUD OF THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS:

Julian Weir did extremely well in the Nationals, winning Gold in four events and Silver in one and breaking eight individual Taranaki records, and was a member of the relay team, breaking two Taranaki Relay records:

Gold in 50m Backstroke in time of 26.25, (breaking his record previously 27.17)

Gold in 100m Backstroke in time of 56.37 (previous own record of 58.66)

Gold in 200m Backstroke in time of 2:05.36 (previous own record 2:08.81)

Gold in 200m Freestyle in time of 1:54.60 (previously Dylan Dunlop-Barrett 1:55.80)

Silver in 100m Freestyle in time of 51.51 (previous own record of 53.74)

4th in 50m Freestyle (broke record in relay 24.15, previous own 24.73) and again in own race 24.08 (previously 24.15)

6th in 100m Individual Medley in time of 1:01.21 (previous own record 1:01.84)

Connor Anderson represented NPBHS at the NZSS Karate competition held in Porirua during the July school holidays. Connor is a student of Shotokan Karate which is the traditional form where the NZSS Karate championships was held.

Connor is a multiple NZ Champ and the Queensland Champ in Shotokan Karate and has represented NZ in Japan and Australia as the NZ Junior Team Captain. Jay Cadman-Kennedy made three finals in the Swimming Nationals and was member of the relay team breaking one Taranaki Relay record. Talor Owen competed well in his two events at the Swimming Nationals and just missed out on making finals and was member of relay team breaking one Taranaki Relay record. Rhys Poingdestre was chosen in the New Zealand U16 Rugby League team.

Pun comes to us from Thailand and is already the New Zealand Secondary Schools Badminton Champion.

The 1stV Basketball team won Super 8 and came 4th in the Nationals.

The Jazz Band won GOLD at a recent competition in Hamilton.

Our 2010 Scholarship winners attended assembly to be honoured.

Jayden Davy returned from the World BMX Championships in Scandanavia.

Mitchell Brown made the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Rugby XV.

Squash Team won the Plate in National Championships.

Chess Team won the Taranaki Championships.

Surfing Team came 2nd in National Championships. Sean Kettle is the NZ U16 Champion.

Last month we reported incorrectly that Jake Church has won a gold medal in the NZ Chamber Music competition when in fact Jake Church had won gold at the CONCERT BAND Nationals. Jake's Jazz group Me Llamo Esteban won the NZSM National Jazz competition also. On RWC opening night Jake and his band Living Lightly played lead band to Shihad in central New Plymouth.



**Julian Weir – ultra talented swimmer.**



**Reece Poingdestre – Kiwi rugby league U16 representative.**



**Musician Jake Church, gold medal winner at the Concert Band Nationals.**

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*Printers for the TOM Group Publications*

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*Wendy Hayman (06) 751 1300*

*Email: [sinp.mission@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:sinp.mission@yahoo.co.nz)*

Soroptimist International New Plymouth @ Mission are raising funds to enable us to continue our support of the New Plymouth Women's Refuge by sewing and filling toilet bags with essential items for the women and children.

# Merrilands Kindergarten

On Friday 2nd of September the kindergarten held a fathers' day which was well supported by the dads. Fathers came to kindergarten and spent time with their children. The event gave some fathers (normally working) an opportunity to experience what happens at kindergarten. It was an awesome day.



**Dads dig  
kindergarten,  
too!**



The dads who came to the kindergarten fathers' day helped the children establish a garden which we have entered in the Tui Garden Challenge.

Also exciting is the new playground and equipment which we started using on Friday 2nd of September. The children, the teachers and the community have been waiting patiently for it for some time and we can say it is worth the wait.

For more updates of what is happening at Merrilands Kindergarten you are more than welcome to pay us a visit.

*From the teachers at Merrilands Kindergarten  
Fortunate, Libby, Yvonne, Denise and Brenda.*

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## TOM PET OF THE MONTH

Name: Max

Breed: Fox Terrier

Age: 15 months

This month's TOM pet is a cute little bundle of muscle, full of beans and a real character according to his owner Ian. He lives with his family and two other dogs: another Fox Terrier that is 10½ and a Ridgeback Huntaway cross that is 5½.

Max's energy and youthful exuberance have led to a bit of a 'story' about an adventure he had recently.

In July Ian took Max for a walk along a track on the northern side of the Waiwakaiho just down from the Rewa Rewa Bridge. Max took off and ran ahead of Ian when he started chasing a hare. Ian lost sight of him and he wasn't coming back when called, but Ian and his wife then heard someone yelling out for the bottom of the cliff that borders the river. It seems Max had literally flown off over the cliff into the Waiwakaiho river.

On the other side of the river a lady with her pet Boxer dog called 'Bullet' watched in horror as Max flew over the cliff where he amazingly landed safely in the water. He squealed a bit with the impact but managed to swim back over to the rocks.

While Ian raced down to where Max was the lady had already waded and swum over to the other side of the freezing river to try and rescue Max. He was terrified by then and wouldn't budge off the rocks until Ian finally got to him.

Understandably the lady was pretty quick to want to go home and get warm and dry and in all the chaos Ian and his wife didn't get a chance to get her name or thank her properly.

If you are that lady that braved the icy waters to try and help Max or you know who she is could you contact me [jackie@thetom.co.nz](mailto:jackie@thetom.co.nz) so that we can put you in touch with Max's very grateful owners. You see they have lost two much loved foxies in very tragic circumstances prior to owning Max, so he is a very special part of this dog loving family and they are very keen to thank you properly.

*By Jackie Tomlinson*



**The spot where Max forgot to open his parachute!**



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# Fitzroy TSB gets a Floral Make Over for the Rugby World Cup

New Plymouth Floral Art Club members have been busy helping make local TSB banks look great for the Rugby World Cup.

Branches in the city, Westown and at Fitzroy have seen club members creating a floral art mountain, oil rig, Wind Wand as well as a rugby themed display.

The Wind Wand has been recreated at the Fitzroy bank. When I visited the bank Floral Art Club members Shirley Dickson and Denise Rowe were cleverly creating the base of the wind wand using the silver underside of flax. They had used dried blue hydrangeas to represent the sea as well as white carnations cascading down the side of the Wind Wand base to represent the white foam of crashing waves; the finished piece will even have a small stickman wandering by along the 'coastal walkway'. The large Wind Wand structure itself was put together by another club member Christine Scrimgeour.

*By Jackie Tomlinson*



Denise Rowe (L) and Shirley Dickson working on the Floral Art Wind Wand they have created at the Fitzroy TSB for display during the Rugby World Cup.



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## FITZROY CLUBS & GROUPS

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

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

### **Exercise to Music.**

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

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

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

### **Fitzroy Scout Group.**

For boys and girls from age 5. Keas meet on Tuesdays from 5pm - 6.15pm, Cubs meet on Mondays 6.00 - 7.30pm, Scouts meet on Mondays 6.30 - 8.00pm at The Scout Den, Clemow Road Fitzroy (near Lake Rotomanu). Visit us to see what we do. The first term/part term is free! For further details contact the following: For Keas (years 1-3) phone Ashley on 06 7583918 / 021 292 2686. For Cubs (years 4-6) phone Cory 06 759 9312 / 027 291 7334. For Scouts (years 7-10) phone Vinnie 06 755 0328/027 486 6210. Or email: fitzroyscoutgroup@xtra.co.nz

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

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

### **Fitzroy Womens Probus.**

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

### **Freemasons Worldwide**

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

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

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

### **New Plymouth Croquet Club.**

Winter months at New Plymouth Croquet Club Rooms, East End Reserve. *Cards & Rummy Kub* every Friday afternoon starting April 2nd, 1pm - 4pm, \$3; *Mah Jongg* every Saturday afternoon starting May 7th, 1pm - 4pm, \$3; *Winter Croquet* will start on Wednesday 1st June, new members welcome, \$3 session. Please ring Barbara 758 2710 for more details.

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

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

### **New Plymouth Pakeke Lions**

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

### **New Plymouth Potters**

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

### **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

### **New Plymouth Toastmasters Club.**

Speechcraft Course. Commencing Thursday 15th September, 5.30pm at the Cricket Pallivion, Pukekura Park. All welcome. For more information please ph Margaret 027 232 1899, Anne 758 6287, or Shirley 752 3698. Building Confidence, Speaking Skills and Self Esteem.

### **Rotary**

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

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

Meets every Friday night 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.

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

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

### **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.

### **Tasman Club**

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

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

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

### **U3A New Plymouth.**

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

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

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