

TOM *Fitzroy*

1 year old

MAY 2010

Oceania's Trans-Tasman Clash

The influx of our "Aussie" neighbours recently with their distinctive yellow and green uniforms was not due to a sudden migration across the Tasman - it was due to a "trans-Tasman" clash in its 14th year, between New Zealand and Australian representative teams who play inline hockey, with New Zealand keen to take back the trophy they "misaid" in Perth in 2009. The event is the Oceania Asia Pacific Inline Hockey Championships. The event attracts over 250 athletes from 14 years through to senior men, women and more recently the added grades in masters and veterans divisions. A total of nine divisions competed over a five day period at the New Plymouth Rollersports



Above: a premier game in action

Below: the assembled NZ players.



Arena, one of the best facilities in New Zealand to play inline hockey. Even in Australia, venues offering the facilities like New Plymouth are hard to find.

The Australian teams, athletes and officials went home without a trophy but packed with memories of New Plymouth, the amazing weather, beautiful sunsets,

and a competition that from start to finish was expertly hosted in Taranaki.

(Continued on page 2)



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TOM-Fitzroy is one year old! With the delivery of the May issue we have been in letterboxes for 12 issues and it feels good! Thank you to the community groups, businesses and individuals who have been an active part in making TOM-Fitzroy successful, especially the TOM team who have worked behind the scenes writing, photographing, promoting, designing and editing.



When I see how information is transferred to consumers these days and how these methods are changing so rapidly I can only be glad that consumers still want to read the written word. Facebook might give you the minute detail of various persons' lives but it isn't much more than shallow is it? It has a place definitely. The era of the multi-national business model is growing (Fairfax), and I can't help but be glad I am part of a small (no tiny!) business that cares about its local community before considering its shareholders. Many publications these days are full of events and stories about other provinces' and countries' news stories – the reality of our own community's news doesn't rate a mention. A world of information is only interesting when the subject matter interests us and that is the TOM motto – local stories about local people!

Happy reading
Kim



TOM Fitzroy JUNE Deadline
Copy and Advertising - 1 June
Delivery - 14 June



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

Trans Tasman clash

Dave Hare and the Konohi Kite Konohi Cultural Group opened proceedings with the official Powhiri followed by an interactive experience for all athletes where they were shown how to perform the Haka and Poi.

The New Zealand 18&Under team with Itan Chavira (American representative player and visiting coach) provided spectacular entertainment (a New Zealand first) by demonstrating inline hockey as fluorescent "light warriors" under black lights to thrill the capacity crowd on opening night. The opening night final "act" saw New Zealand win the first game of the international championship (4 – 3) in the senior men's division.

The New Zealand teams proved too strong this year on their "home" turf, winning seven of the nine divisions. There were several overtime games showing how close the two nations are when competing at this level.

Inline Hockey is played throughout New Zealand with opportunities for players to excel in the sport and represent their club, their region and their country. Players can start to skate and play as young as five years old and as the sport has developed in New Zealand and internationally there is now a masters and veterans division. Players can play in social leagues or school leagues if they do not want to play competitively. The sport is fast, exciting and based on teamwork and game strategies with a higher goal scoring ability than ice hockey.

If you would like to have a look or give inline hockey a go, the local club offer skating lessons, coaching and can advise you on equipment needed. The 2010 season has commenced, however it is not too late to become involved. Home games for club teams are "free entry" to all spectators – see game times in the clubs and groups column on the back page of TOM

The club can be contacted by phoning 067598455 or visiting the Ravens Website www.ravensinline.co.nz

Following on the success of Oceania New Zealand will be sending two teams to the AAU Junior Olympics in Los Angeles in July. Both teams are coached by new Plymouth coaches, Sam Beardman coaches the NZ 18U team and Anna Carrington coaches the NZ Junior Women 18U team. Players from New Plymouth in these teams are: Julian Beardman, Robert Isbister, Rachel Neville-Lamb, Abby Bridgeman, Rebecca Smith, Amy Sulzberger.

By Krystyna Beardman.

A word from Local U14 Captain - Greg Lockhart

This year with the Oceania Inline tournament being held in New Plymouth was a great benefit to the local players. It was a huge honour for me to be chosen as Captain of the 14 and under team. The players were there with one purpose in mind, to beat Australia. Everyone gave their best both on and off the rink resulting in a record of 4 wins and 1 loss. The honour of pulling on the NZ shirt is huge knowing the others around you are the best players in the age group and if we were to play as a team and put into practice what our coach (Wayne Scott) had told us then we had a very good chance to be victorious. Thanks to all the players and officials for a great time at the tournament.



A haka to welcome the Aussie players to New Plymouth.



Vospers manager and funeral director Bruce Hanrahan relaxes with wife Bronwyn, daughters Rachael and Sarah, and family dog Jess.

Bruce has worked for Vospers for over 22 years and was one of the first recipients of the National Diploma of Funeral Services, recognized by the NZQA as the national standard in the funeral profession. Bruce and his team of dedicated professionals will take care of all the practical aspects of your funeral and provide a warm and caring service.

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New Plymouth District Council -

Double turning option for Mangorei/Northgate intersection

Changes have been made to lanes at the Mangorei/Northgate intersection to make it easier for drivers to drive toward Northgate.

The length of Mangorei Road in front of New Plymouth Girls' High School now gives drivers two lanes for turning right toward Bell Block, instead of the previous single lane.

"This change should help reduce the queue of traffic waiting on Mangorei Road for the traffic signals," says Manager Rounding Assets Max Aves.

"The new road markings are in now, and drivers will just have to make sure they stay within their lane as they make the right-hand turn from Mangorei Road onto Northgate.

"Considerate merging then becomes an issue for those motorists who wish to continue along Northgate."

Late last year a similar change was made in The Valley, adding a turning lane for traffic on Smart Road heading into the city, which Mr Aves says has been working smoothly.



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New Plymouth Potters Inc

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

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

The club continues to be active with monthly activities to inspire members. The evening activity for April will see members learn more about making porcelain pinch pots. Porcelain is a particularly fine clay body, often used for delicate pieces, firing at around 1300° C.



Winning exhibit, Arum lilies by Cecily Bull.

The next public class, teaching either hand-building or wheel work, will run on Tuesday evenings from 7 – 9 pm, from 22nd April to 27th June inclusive. Classes are held at the club rooms behind the Vicarage, 288 Courtenay St. In addition, the club will be hosting a public raku workshop on Saturday 22nd May to teach the art of traditional Japanese raku firing. Information on either of these may be obtained from WITT under the community education section.

The annual AGM will be held on Thursday 27th May at 7pm. The club always welcomes new members. Anyone interested may contact Cecily Bull on 753 4498, or come along to the club rooms any Thursday from 11 am when members hold a regular work day.



Gannet by Jan Pidwell.



Pohutakawa by Joyce Young.



Circle of life by Barbara Nicholls.

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Take 48 The Show Ponies

Under the auspices of team leader Stella McCallum members of New Plymouth's Lazy Writers Group met on the night of Friday 16th April to create a script for the Show Ponies entry into the V48HOURS, officially New Zealand's largest film competition.

Described as a 'boot camp' for writers and production crews V 48 is an intense and feverish experience – a script has to be devised, produced and filmed in 48 hours, genre and compulsory elements unknown to entrants until 7pm Friday night.

The talented and creative 'Lazy Writers Group', notably Stella McCallum, David Robinson and Jim McGregor rose to the occasion and delivered a witty and amusing script to director Nicola King, whose onerous task it was to turn words into moving pictures – a short film, maximum length seven minutes, to be completed before 7pm Sunday. She was ably assisted by first time producer, Sherryl Kiely.

After much legwork scouting various possible filming locations prior to the competition, the ubiquitous Stella McCallum donned her casting hat and assembled an impressive trio of actors: Anna Chamberlain, Leah World and Michael Williams, who interpreted the script with skill and spontaneity.

Tireless efforts from the accomplished and highly motivated production crew, Tim Norman and partner Erin Griffith on camera – a dazzling duo, and the infinitely patient grip, Richard Young, brought Show Ponies' short film entitled 'Broken', to its dramatic conclusion at sunset on East End Beach.

Then began the arduous task of editing, "her biggest challenge," said director, Nicola. Assisted by Richard Young she presented a completed Show Ponies entry on time to the auditors along with 13 other hopefuls. Entries to be judged on good, original storyline, production values i.e. camera work, sound, editing, lighting, and how close script and production values were to the imposed elements of the competition.

Plaudits must go to the amazing Roller Derby Girls, New Plymouth's Mountain City Rollers. The sports genre allocated to Show Ponies allowed the dedicated and hardworking girls to shine, doing what they do best under the watchful and caring eye of Camp Mother, 'El Alamean' – Kathryn Griffin. Making her debut as an actor, Nikki McCormack, 'Karmic Justice,' handled her lines with confidence and aplomb. Referee Damien Parsons, 'Omen', raced around the rink supplying roller boots and a good dose of cheer to those in need. Show Ponies owe a great vote of thanks to the Rollers who open their club doors at East End Skating rink every Tuesday night at 6pm and warmly welcome any new members. They can also be contacted by email at: mountaincityrollers@gmail.com

Asked later for an overview of the competition, regional convenor Bruce Gatward-Cook, responsible in no small measure for keeping momentum running, praised continual improvements in the calibre of talent and production values, this year marking the first time Taranaki entered the competition as an independent region – City Final on Saturday, May 8th and Grand Final screened live on C4, May 20th at 9.30pm. So, if Bruce Gatward-Cook were Peter Jackson, what would his Wildcard Pick be?

"It's got to be the 'Jampots' entry," smiled Bruce, "for being the most endearing film." Jampot Productions is a creation of the gifted and eclectic Fenton family; Dad Fenton is the film's enchanting and unassuming star.



The Show Ponies, aka the NP Roller Derby girls, during filming.

I would like to tell you Show Ponies made it through with flying colours to the City Final, but, sadly, they were disqualified, having delivered an incomplete entry with no sound track, a glitch at present undergoing analysis. They shared this experience with two other entries, one entry being delivered on a blank tape and one presented too late.

From Bruce Gatward-Cook, a word of advice for the disqualified: check, check and check again before a final entry is presented paying utmost attention to compliance with competition rules.

Nothing daunted, Show Ponies' courageous director, Nicola, a Witt student, studying Digital Film on TV and Studio 1A and first time entrant to the competition, was praised by tutors for her innovative filming and competent incorporation of the dolly zoom element. I caught up with a much refreshed Nicola just after Anzac Day. You may have noticed her filming; she was out and about the streets of New Plymouth on Sunday capturing the mood on camera as Taranaki remembered her fallen heroes.

A massive pat on the back to all involved in Show Ponies production for a truly dedicated effort and it's back to the clapper board for 2011.

Barbara Marshall



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TOM Pets of the Month

Breed: Miniature Schnauzers

Colour: Black and White

Age 5 weeks

The offspring of proud parents Penny and Zed.

Personality: These two gorgeous poppets one male and one female and their two siblings are already displaying the gentle laid back nature of their mum, Penny. Local owner/breeder Shirley Crisp told me Penny was so laid back that when she delivered her puppies, the household's other adult female, Monny who has had three litters herself, decided she was far better qualified to look after the new infants and tried to take over. Intervention was needed and Monny had to be separated from the new family so that first time mum, Penny could bond with her puppies.

Shirley says the schnauzers are wonderful pets, great with children and are very good watch dogs, alerting their families to anyone visiting the home. Schnauzers are well suited to families with allergies as they don't shed dog hair like other breeds but they do need to be clipped. This makes them good inside pets too as there is no hair to stick to furniture or clothes.

The two pictured pups are still for sale whilst their brother and sister Benny and Daisy have new homes waiting for them in Auckland and Whangamomona when they are eight weeks old.



Two very cute miniature schnauzer puppies.

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hot tips from the Fire Brigade

A dog can be a man's best friend. A recent news article told the story of a Hokitika man being saved by his dog 'Ratbag'. The dog woke him up around 5.15 am when there was a fire at his house.

"Ratbag was sleeping in the room as well and I felt her jumping on the bed and growling, that's when I woke up" Mr Matthews said. "I sat up and my head was in the smoke, I felt the heat on my face and started choking. I grabbed the dog in my arms and bailed out the window."

It was not until he was safely outside and saw the house being destroyed by fire that he realised how lucky he had been.

Full credit to Ratbag. If Mr Matthews had remained in the room for any longer the toxic smoke layer would have descended lower and even if he had been woken he may not have had time to escape from the room.

However, if a working smoke alarm had been installed on the ceiling of the room Mr Matthews and Ratbag would have been woken by the loud alarm which would have operated at the first trace of smoke, giving the occupants time to escape safely outside and possibly also allowing the Fire Service to be contacted early enough to save the building.

Yes, a dog may be man's best friend but the thing that you need to warn you of a fire is definitely correctly installed and maintained smoke alarms in your home.

The recent end to daylight saving is a good time to install new batteries in your alarms before the onset of winter and if you haven't got smoke alarms get some installed.

Of the over 3000 house fires that the New Zealand Fire Service attended last year over 80% of those homes either had no smoke alarms present or they were not working.

The Fire Service recommends that homes are fitted with photoelectric smoke alarms - at least one in each sleeping area, hallway and living area because you don't know where a fire may start and they can spread quickly.

For more information or advice go to www.fire.org.nz or phone us at the station on 757 3860.



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Holy Trinity

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Henui St, Ph 758 3611

The Holy Trinity Church Fitzroy celebrates 165th milestone

In 1842 Bishop Selwyn travelled 250 miles from Wellington on foot to come to New Plymouth to select sites for future churches and one of those selected was in Henui St Fitzroy where the Holy Trinity church still stands today.

It was 165 years ago on May 5th the church was opened for worship by the Rev. Bolland. The small thatched roofed building that was erected back in 1845 is far removed from what houses the congregation today but these early beginnings are not forgotten and indeed will be remembered when the church celebrates its 165th milestone this month.

I met with two parishioners Diana Gillies and Anne Francis who are involved with organising the celebrations and they shared some of the church's history as well as some of their own early memories of the church.

The early structure was built at a cost of 50 pounds from personal funds of Bishop Selwyn. The thatched roof is recorded



A painting depicting the church as it once was.

as housing black beetles that would fall on the worshippers when the small belfry caused vibrations to the roof. A shingled roof was added later much to the relief of the congregation!

In 1872 a more substantial building was erected and as the church numbers grew additions have been made to that as well. These have been done so well that inside the new and old have merged seamlessly.

Anne, who is one of the longest serving members of the church, has many fond memories of Sunday school taken out in the old back hall. The old hall has since been moved off the church grounds and is now a hayshed on a farm near Inglewood. It has since been replaced by a new hall at the front of the property. Anne also remembers having to cover the windows of the church at the night time services during the war.

Around the walls of the church are many tapestry and art works done by members of the congregation over the years and give a historical insight to what has gone before.

The celebrations planned to mark this 165th milestone start on Wednesday 26th of May when a Women's day is planned. There will be a service at 10.00 am in the morning followed by a lunch catered for by the Holy Trinity ladies. Anne went on to say that one of the things they will serving is their not to be missed 'secret recipe delicious Holy Trinity soup'. After lunch they have invited Taranaki personality Lyn Webster to come along to speak.

Any ladies that wish to attend this Wednesday function are asked to register their interest for catering purposes by contacting Diana phone 7586695.

A few days later on Saturday May 29th there is an Open Day at the church. The whole community are warmly invited to help celebrate this milestone event. For families with young children there will be lots of fun activities including face painting, clowns, old fashioned games as well as sweets and balloons to add to the party atmosphere. Weather permitting there will also be a free bouncy castle set up for children under twelve to enjoy. All children are encouraged to bring along a favourite bear or doll.

Inside there will be floral art displays as well as many photos and things of historical interest such as old vestments and Bibles. Devonshire teas will also be available in the hall.

The celebrations will end in the evening with a dinner planned for the entire congregation.



The church today.

Holy Trinity

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Who's who at the new Unichem Pharmacy in The Valley

Robertsons Unichem Pharmacy has recently opened in The Valley and locals will find the store a very convenient place to visit with great parking and long opening hours.

Dale explains what the pharmacy has to offer:

Prescriptions - 7 days per week, a pharmacist is on duty at all times for medical and prescription requirements.

Skin care: Sukin, Trilogy, Aveeno, Seba Med, Cetaphil, Aveve

Fine fragrance: YSL, Hugo Boss, Gucci, Dolce & Gabbana, Usher, Diesel, Rocawear 91X, Joop, Calvin Klein, Juicy Couture, Mariah, Elizabeth Arden & Revlon Fragrance

Cosmetics: Elizabeth Arden, Revlon, Moisture Mist, ZA, L'Oreal. We offer an in store makeup and skincare consultancy and special occasion makeup. We also stock an extensive range of artificial nails, nail preparations and decals and false lashes.

First Aid: Scholls, Easi Readers, USL & Futuro Sports product, we will order any sports product required and hope to work closely with local sports clubs.

Medicines: Contact lens preparations, coughs and colds, pain and fever relief and all pharmaceutical preparations required for all season allergies, infections etc, etc.

Natural Health: Good Health, Kordel, Nutralife, Thompsons, Blackmores, Kate Morgan (weight management programme)

Robertson Pharmacy - The Valley is owned by Andrew and Maree Robertson, they also own a Hawera store which is under the same name, hence they have added "The Valley". They have successfully run the Hawera Pharmacy for the past five years and have two young children. Maree juggles her time amazingly between her family and the responsibilities of Chief Pharmacist in Hawera and New Plymouth. Behind every good woman is a good man and that describes Andrew to a "T". Andrew will be well known to the Hawera farming community and he too schedules farm operations, a family and two significant businesses into each day. Who said men can't multi-task?

Also on board is Lynne Pulford – Operations Manager. Lynne has had a lengthy career in hospitality having been the owner of Zanziba Café with husband Rod Pulford. Prior to joining the team at Robertson's Lynne worked as PA to Jack Kurta at Harcourts. Recently Lynne has worked at Robertsons Hawera branch before the opening in NP. Lynne is a well known identity in Taranaki having lived and worked here all her life. Lynne's father Don Carlson was the Coach of Taranaki Rugby in the early 70s; hence Lynne is a keen rugby fan.

Rochelle Hook has worked in pharmacy for 10 years in Hawera and was part of the team that started with Andrew and Maree five years ago.

Qualified in Revlon cosmetics and with an extensive knowledge in hair care, fragrance, L'Oreal, Moisture Mist and ZA, Rochelle is well qualified to give expert advice and help. She has also worked as a nail technician for five years.

Rochelle is also a Kate Morgan consultant. (Kate Morgan is a weight management programme we offer in store with consultations and support for people wanting to lose weight but find it difficult to



The fresh and tasteful Interior of the new pharmacy.

discipline themselves). Rochelle and her family shifted from Hawera to New Plymouth to join the Team at NP.

Dale Breuer has come aboard the team at Robertsons having worked for Elizabeth Arden since 2008. She boasts 10+ years experience in pharmacy and 20+ years with the health and fitness industry working as an aerobics instructor and personal trainer. She studied sports management through Otago University and has worked in varied areas of the sports industry. Dale is also qualified in Elizabeth Arden, Revlon and Shiseido cosmetics plus she has extensive knowledge with L'Oreal, Moisture Mist and ZA cosmetics, natural health products and fine fragrance.

Rebecca Lawn is a Taranaki born and bred 'coaster'. Rebecca studied at Otago University for four years gaining a Bachelor of Pharmacy before venturing on her OE. She lived in the UK for four years working in pharmacy and travelling. Rebecca has a split roster between the Hawera and NP stores. Rebecca also comes from a rugby family and is a keen fan of local rugby in which her brother is involved.

Jin Kyu Kim is from Korea and is a NZ trained Pharmacist previously from Auckland. He is married to Minnie who is also a pharmacist working at Vivian Pharmacy. Jin works rostered shifts between the two pharmacies and loves the lifestyle NP offers.

Pop into Robertson Pharmacy, meet the team and look around the spacious well stocked premises. Opening hours - Monday - Friday 9am-5.30pm. Saturday 9.30am-4pm. Sunday 10am-4pm.



Heidi samples one of the perfumes on display.

Pippal Wellness Clinic

Pippal Wellness Clinic is the latest exciting business venue in Fitzroy on Devon Street East. It offers hands-free muscle relaxation therapy using the clinically proven Migun device. The beautiful small clinic has the atmosphere of an urban oasis and once you step inside, all you need to do is take off your shoes, lie down on one of the Migun beds and relax. The Migun thermo-mechanical massage system will do the rest. A treatment stimulates overall circulation, re-aligns your spine, speeds up your metabolism, sparks your immune system and eases aches and pains.

"At Pippal (which means 'tree of life') our vision is to make simple and effective health improving body treatments available to a wide range of people, in an easily accessible, friendly and affordable way," says business owner Sitara Morgenster. "The human body already 'has what it takes' to be vibrantly healthy, at whatever age. The Migun device builds on that principle, helping to kick-start or re-ignite your body's own healing mechanisms."

Each treatment at Pippal combines the principles of massage, acupressure, chiropractic movements and moxibustion (detoxification) by delivering heat, infra-red light treatment and soothing massage all-in-one. The device also emits negative ions and incorporates the wisdom of both eastern and western medicine. A recommended half-hour session costs only \$20.00. There are also concession cards, loyalty cards and gift vouchers available.

While one can initially feel sore in those places that, over time, have built up toxins, have calcified or undergone extreme strain, the long term effects are very beneficial. For those bodies that are already in tip-top shape, a Migun session at Pippal will give you extra energy and renew a sense of wellbeing. Clinical research has shown that the on the body equals the positive effects of a 10-kilometre run... without lifting a finger or moving a limb!

The Migun sessions at Pippal Wellness Clinic are particularly beneficial in cases of back pain, arthritis, stress, poor circulation, scoliosis, anaemia, effects of a stroke, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, asthma, chronic fatigue, insomnia and constipation. It also helps the body get rid of built-up toxins and overall leaves you feeling relaxed.

Migun sessions at Pippal are well recommended for sports people, musicians, heavy computer users and people in physically demanding jobs. Also, people in wheelchairs and people coping with chronic injuries find much benefit in regular sessions. "It is beneficial for the whole family and can offer a great and peaceful way to start or conclude your working day. Or simply provide you with a different and relaxing experience. A 15 minute trial session is free for every new client.

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Top American Inline hockey player/coach runs one of his famous hockey camps at our local skating arena

The local area was buzzing with overseas visitors from all over the world during April. The nine teams of Australians here representing their country in Inline Hockey made use of our scenic walkway to get from their accommodation to the skating arena, strolling down to games in the autumn sunshine. As well, there was a huge overseas contingent following the Women's Surfing event and when they weren't watching the surfing seemed to be out and about everywhere along the foreshore.

There was one American visitor who declared our beautiful local area 'his second home' during his stay here. For three days in April over thirty Inline Hockey players from all over New Zealand were treated to the coaching expertise of top American Inline player and coach Itan Chavira at our local skating arena at East End.

Over the course of the camp the players got to witness the phenomenal talent that Itan has and which he has made famous all over the world at camps like this one as well as the many videos he has posted on You Tube showing his incredible skill.

The camp attendees were a cross section of ages and abilities with some quite new to the sport right through to New Zealand representative players. They had one thing in common all were challenged and all came away from the camp with new skills and enthusiasm to take back to their game.

It was interesting to observe how the players behaved at the camp. From the youngest through to the oldest it was apparent that they all had huge respect for this young man who in some cases was only a few years their senior. A short blow of his whistle had them all come over to listen attentively to the next direction. His quiet laidback coaching approach seemed at odds with the absolute flair he has when he's out on the rink playing. At the camp, fitness training and important basic drills such as stick handling were all given time as well as the opportunity to see Itan do some of his trickier signature moves like skating up the sides of the rink or shooting a puck with deadly accuracy after completing two 360 degree turns! At times he seemed like the 'Michael Jordan' of hockey.

Itan (pronounced Ethan) is a 22 year old from California. The youngest of nine children he started skating when he was around nine and was taught pretty much everything he knows

from his older brother Jaquin. The brothers remain involved in the sport together and play in the same Californian Inline team, the LA Pama Cyclone which is currently the Number 1 team in the US having won all the American winter tournaments. As they head into the Northern Hemisphere summer they are on target to win all three summer tournaments as well.

A relative newcomer to ice hockey, Itan also plays for the LA Kings Ice Hockey team which is only one level down from the NHL Ice Hockey league.

Taking the pro route in Inline rather than a scholarship saw Itan putting education on hold and instead playing for various teams around the globe. Currently he is sponsored by sporting giant Reebok as well as Labeda and EFX.

His hockey career has had many highlights and one would have to be the Gold medal win when he was part of Team USA at the 2006 FIRS World Inline Championship. He was also part of the Team USA Silver Medal winning team that competed in Germany at the 2009 FIRS World Championship.

Travel has been a huge part of his life in recent years, both to conduct camps

and to play for overseas teams. He was the highest paid player in the Spanish league when he lived there in recent times and says it was quite hard living and playing in Spain as he says no one involved in hockey spoke English and all training and drills were passed on from the coach by watching what the players were doing. After Spain he was traded to a French club for a time.

Four trips to England in the last two years as well as one to Brazil prior to coming here have seen him reach the point where this trip to New Zealand will be the last for a while. He has decided to return home to pursue his education studying marketing and as he already has a production company Dangle Productions.com this will be put to good use.

Itan has loved his time here in New Zealand and would like to return with his brother and a friend to run another camp in New Plymouth. He was really grateful to Krystyna Beardman from the Ravens club for being instrumental in bringing him to NZ as well as the hospitality shown to him by the local hockey community.

One thing that he really liked is that our rink is located by the beach and not in some industrial estate as is the norm. He said he loved the relaxed friendly atmosphere of the local area, sitting outside in the sun at the Big Wave café and listening to Jack Johnson or taking a walk along the local beach. While he was here the Women's surfing dream tour event was also on so he got to enjoy some of that when he wasn't involved at the rink over the recent Oceania's. He also took his



Itan Chavira.

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The training camp attendees.

'camp' of 30 plus players down the beach during the lunch break to give them a change from hockey for an hour.

Bought to NZ by the Ravens Club for both the camp and Oceania Championship one of his roles while here was to be out on the rink during the lunch and dinner game breaks. After a few minutes on his own he would invariably be joined by NZ and Australian players eager to learn from the master.

Itan went on to say he really liked the cultural aspect of the Oceania's opening ceremony and he tries to experience that when he travels to different countries.

In the long term this down to earth and friendly young man says he just wants to be happy and have a home near his family and just be content with life.

One thing for certain, Itan had a huge impact on the players that got the opportunity to work with him both by the new skills they learnt but even more importantly by the enthusiasm towards their game that he inspired. He will certainly be welcomed back to New Plymouth 'his second home' by the many friends he has made here if he returns.

By Jackie Tomlinson

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A day in the life of a New Zealand inline hockey manager – Sue Toa

I manage the New Zealand Junior Women's team of 14 girls and one coach – Anna Carrington.

Recently we played in New Plymouth for the Oceania competition. My first full day with the girls started by getting up at 6.00am, then waking up the girls (which can be like waking the dead but not as bad as the U16's team I believe!). Off to breakfast at 6.30am to make sure all the girls eat before the game at 9.30am.

As manager I then have to load the van up with all the hockey gear, take it to the rink, then round up the girls which usually takes a good 10 minutes – by the time you have found one you've lost one!

At the rink the girls get changed into their playing gear so I make sure they have everything they need. I also make sure the score sheet is filled out with correct player names and numbers at the officials bench. I then become a pack horse for the girls, carrying their water bottles and spare sticks onto the bench ready for the game.

While on the bench, I will run one of the gates letting players on or off the rink with the help of the reserve goalie. If I am not running a gate I can oversee the girls and help with any problems (which can be anything from getting a first aid person, to helping fix a skate, filling up drink bottles or just giving them a supportive smile when things might not be going well).

After the game we take the girls back to the hotel and get showered. The girls then go to lunch where ever they wish and this can involve several stops!

The afternoon is quiet time and a good rest before their second game. But nowadays with ipods and cell phones the girls are more than happy to lie around doing not a lot. Before we know it back to the rink to play the second game, then back to the hotel for dinner.

After dinner the team heads back to the rink to support other New Zealand teams. When 10pm rolls round it is bed time and this can take forever. Once all is quiet, I can go to bed.

It is a hard, tiring and demanding job to do as you are on call 24 hours a day, but it is also very rewarding. Watching the girls fulfilling their dreams is special, some of these girls have worked for years to get a spot on the team and to be able to be a part of that, is priceless. Would I do it again? Yes!!



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GETTING WET!

In and out of the water, Kiwis played a huge part at the ASP Women's World Surfing event

When the ASP Women's World Surfing tour rolled into town last month as part of the TSB Women's Surf Festival no one expected it to turn into an event with such a 'feel good' factor. That 'feel good factor' hit an all time high when Carissa Moore who won the ASP World Tour event donated her winner's cheque of around \$21,000 to the Waitara Board Riders Club (she had already given them her \$500 cheque from winning the expression session).

Everything about the festival was in direct contrast to the lead up to the event itself.

All the negative press reporting the opposition to the tour coming to town was buried under the positive atmosphere that surrounded the contest. When ex local girl Sarah Mason took out the Women's Open gaining a wild card entry to the main event it seemed that everyone's interest was captured and the crowd numbers swelled, as suddenly now two local girls had a shot at the big prize. I stood behind an older couple at the heat between Paige Hareb and Sarah while an American explained to them what was going on and how it was scored. It was apparent that this event was no longer of interest just to the surfing community. It suddenly belonged to the whole city and people were keen to show their support.

This level of support was a welcome surprise to ex pat Eli Jacobs here working at the contest as before he arrived he'd heard about all the problems organisers had been having. Eli was approached by Mike Hareb to come over from Australia to have some input to make sure the event ran as an ASP event should run. I managed to catch up with Eli who works for Surfing Queensland at the end of the festival to get his perspective on how he thought NZ went running its first big International surfing event and what it was like coming home.

It seems that since moving to Australia seven years ago this very youthful looking twenty year old has carved out a career around the sport he loves.

Eli was born here in New Plymouth but at age thirteen he and his parents Glyn and Leanne moved to the Gold Coast. He soon started competing in surf contests in Australia. As well as competing he worked at surf comps getting on the job training at smaller events all while he was still at school. He attended Palm Beach Currumbin High and was accepted into their sporting excellence programme so that he could focus on his surfing. In this programme athletes get specialised training and school time to pursue the development of their chosen sport. They must maintain high grades in all their other subjects or they risk being dropped from the programme. Last year he was rated in the top 20 surfers in the whole of Australia for under 20 year olds.

With a strong work ethic from a young age surfing Queensland hung onto him and now at age 20 he is their longest serving



Eli Jacobs of Surfing Queensland.,

employee. These days he is put in charge of whole events and has Level 3 ASP International judging qualifications. Those youthful looks sometimes create some funny moments when people come looking for "who is in charge" and simply don't believe him when he says he is!

From January through to April he works almost seven days a week at contests the biggest being the Quicksilver Pro on the Gold Coast where he is kept busy for six weeks. He's currently got another New Plymouth surfer, Michael Malleliu learning the ropes from him and left him to finish up at the contest at Bells Beach so he could fly back to NZ for the Women's World Tour event.

Having not travelled back to New Zealand for several years he said it was great to come home. The flight into his old home town was spectacular as the sun was setting on a perfect autumn day as the plane flew past Paritutu and up along the coast.

After arriving here it was pretty much straight to work helping get the event up and running. It also meant daily 5.00 am starts with Mike Hareb to find the most suitable place to run the contest each day. Even though he's been treated to some great weather the chilly early morning starts as well as the cooler water temperatures made this ex local doubt that he could live back here.

For the future Eli is taking a break from competitive surfing as it takes such a huge amount of time. Instead he plans to save money so he can travel around the world and there is also a possibility he will be taken to the Caribbean to work on the Rip Curl search event this year.

Before he arrived back in New Plymouth Eli says although he'd been hearing all the negative stories circulating about the

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Eli on duty at the Surf Festival.

localism and wasn't sure what to expect he was still really excited about coming back home.

He says it was good to see the whole event turn out so well especially seeing the huge local support. Just as many of the competitors have voiced their desire to return, he also would love to come back and be involved when the Women's World Tour event is staged here again.

The challenge in the meantime for organisers will be to work with those who are less enthusiastic about international surfing events taking place locally, so hopefully the lead up to the contest can be as positive as the event itself was.

I'm sure if the kids out at the Waitara Board Riders Club or any of the young local girls involved with surfing were asked if they felt they benefited from or were inspired by having the world's best women's surfers competing here in our province the answer would be a resounding yes.

By Jackie Tomlinson



New Plymouth Surf Riders' Club

The month of April has been so busy for the club. We held our annual Master's Surfing Championships kindly sponsored by Fisher and Paykel. Again we were fortunate to get reasonable surf over the three days of competition and our fellow surfers competed in 10 age-group divisions plus a Plate division, a knee-board division and the renowned Dunga Derby where entrants ride 1960's style boards in quick-fire ten-minute heats. Amaia Sasia made history by becoming the first ever woman to make the finals of the Dunga and also came second overall giving the usually dominant males a hurry up.



the over 50's Bruce Richards, Maurice Smith, Doug Hannan and Brian Kettle.

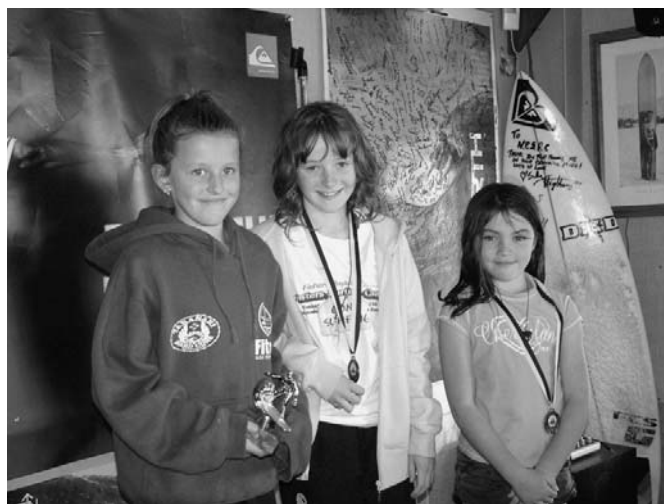
We were also fortunate in being able to support the TSB Bank Women's Surf Festival, hosting both the VIP and Sponsors welcoming evening, and the final wind-up for VIPs, sponsors and volunteers.

On the weekend of 1st May we were able to complete our 2010 Club Championships and due to the enthusiasm of young girls were able to introduce two new divisions for the under 14 girls and under 12 girls.

For the first time in many years our Club champs were held in excellent conditions with "Huey" providing light off-shore winds and a solid five feet of swell; enough to test the guns and give the lesser lights a chance to score a big score.

Our Open final was full of talent with seven-time club champ and current New Zealand Senior Champ, Jarrod Hancox up against 2008 winner, Jeremy Grainger, current NZ ranked number 14 Keone Campbell and junior hot-shot Tom Smith. The 25 minute final produced some outstanding rides but the race was always between Jarrod and Keone with KC taking the 2010 title.

(Full results on next page)



Megan Wheeler, Jana O'Connor and Tanisha MacDonald.

Women's finalists Amaia Sasia, Lydia Walsh, and Elle Richards.

more wet stuff ➡

Overall, twelve divisions were contested and the results are:

- < 12 Girls: 1. Megan Wheeler;
2. Jana O'Connor;
3. Tanisha MacDonald.
- < 12 Boys: 1. Isaac Kettle;
2. Daniel Farr; 3. Josh Farr
- < 14 Girls: 1. Lydia Walsh; Charlee Tito.
- < 14 Boys: 1. Te Rapai Barbich Love;
2. Toa MacDonald;
3. Isaac Kettle;
4. Mahorahora McLeod.
- < 16 Boys: 1. Jordan Hart; 2. Josh Kettle;
3. Sean Kettle; 4. Brodie Arbuckle.
- < 18 Boys: 1. Sean Kettle; 2. Matt Smith;
3. Eli MacDonald; 4. Brodie Arbuckle.
- 30 - 39 Years: 1. Jamie Andrews; 2. Jeremy Grainger;
3. Amaia Sasia; 4. Craig Williamson.
- 40 - 49 Years: 1. Craig Tito; 2. Simon Martin;
3. Rob Montgomery; 4. Brian Kettle.
- 50 - 59 Years: 1. Maurice Smith; 2. Doug Hannan;
3. Bruce Richards; 4. Charlie Roebuck.
- 60 Plus Years: 1. Bruce Richards.
- Women: 1. Amaia Sasia; 2. Elle Richards;
3. Lydia Walsh.
- Longboard: 1. Jamie Andrews;
2. Maurice Smith;
3. Craig Tito;
4. Craig Williamson.
- Open: 1. Keone Campbell;
2. Jarrod Hancox;
3. Tom Smith;
4. Jeremy Grainger.



*Club Champ
Keone Campbell.*



Sarah Mason in action. Photo by Jackie Tomlinson.

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*A good crowd of spectators at the TSB Surf Festival.
Photo by Jackie Tomlinson.*

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High schools combine for a musical, showcasing both their students' talents and NZ music



The cast.

For the first time in nearly a decade New Plymouth Boys' and Girls' High Schools are combining to put on a major musical production.

'For Today,' described as a 100% Kiwi High School Musical is written by Auckland music teacher Hamish Arthur and has been performed by secondary schools around NZ nine times since it's launch in 2006.

I spoke with NPGHS drama teacher and Stage Director for the show Lisa Simpson and asked her how preparation for the production is going.

"Everything is progressing really well and the production is serving as a wonderful vehicle for not only the students from both schools to work together but also for the staff to work as a team. It is strengthening ties between the schools and providing wonderful learning opportunities," she says.

Principals Jenny Ellis and Michael McMenamin have been extremely supportive of the venture. From both schools there is a core team of staff that is directly involved. From Girls' High as well as Lisa as Stage Director there is music teacher and the show's Musical Director Rose Loveridge and dance teacher Susie Freeman. From Boys High Penni Bousfield who is the school's cultural director and English teacher Hamish Kerr.

Amongst the students directly involved there are around forty actors, twelve dancers, and ten in the band but add to this stage and lighting crews, makeup artists, wardrobe assistants, artists creating set and stage props and you see the scale of student and staff involvement from both schools.

Lisa explained "Our philosophy is that while the teachers may lead we want the students involved in all the implementation of the production." An example of this is whilst NPGHS dance teacher Susie Freeman is directing the choreography students

are in charge of creating the choreography for the show and teaching it to the cast.

I asked Lisa if it is a good cross section of ages involved and she told me that they deliberately made it open to all ages. Teachers involved in the auditions were amazed at the talent and confidence of the year nine students that auditioned. The auditions were held in the second week of the school year, a time when many year nines are still struggling to find their way around their schools let alone get themselves to an audition, but it seems many rose to the challenge.

She went on to say, "The level of talent and commitment amongst the students says a lot about the calibre of the young people in New Plymouth. Also the great opportunities they are getting at our Primary and Intermediate schools in New Plymouth was evident when we had so many of the younger students auditioning for lead roles."

One of the four lead acting roles is filled by year nine student Zaria Anjaiya-Winder. The other three lead roles are taken by Year 13 students Sam Mitchell, Brad Carter and Paige Muggeridge.

These and other senior students involved have been excellent role models says Lisa, with many of them having had experience in local musical productions. Two students in lead roles with just such experience are Sam Mitchell and Paige Muggeridge. I asked them what motivated them to be involved in the school production. Sam said "It's another great chance to be involved in performance which I love." Paige agreed and said, "I enjoy performing arts and it's cool to have the opportunity to work with our peers. It's also a good chance for the two schools to work together."

It is timely that this opportunity to showcase both the talent

from our local high schools and New Zealand music is being held in May which is NZ Music month. With music from iconic Kiwi bands such Split Enz through to current favourites like Golden Horse, the production is sure to be popular with a wide cross section of the community. The musical will run for four nights from Tuesday 25th May through to Friday 28th May. There will also be a matinee performance for local primary and intermediate school to attend on the Tuesday.

Tickets may be purchased from either High School.

They range in price from \$8-\$10 for students and \$12-\$15 for adults.

By Jackie Tomlinson

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New Plymouth Boys' High School

New Plymouth Boys' High School is very proud of its boys. Miguel Sanchez is very talented in spelling. Recently he went to Hamilton to participate in the Spelling Bee Championships. Despite being very nervous, Miguel came a creditable fifth—the word he missed out on was "regurgitate".

Recently we had a special assembly for our Scholarship winners. The Scholarship is the hardest examination for a school boy and 12 of our Year 13 boys gained 24 Scholarships. Five of the Scholarship winners were able to attend the assembly.



Spelling whizz, Miguel Sanchez.



Scholarship winners from left Shae Rasmusson, Jesse Benge, Brendon Fischer, Matthew Girvan and Peter Molloy and at back Headmaster Mr MacMenamin.

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Merrilands School News

Merrilands School is celebrating its 50th Jubilee at the end of Term 3 - Friday 24th and Saturday 25th September. Students and community are looking forward to the celebration. Information and registration forms are available on our school website www.merrilands.school.nz. Click Jubilee on the menu bar. We hope many current and past pupils, families and teachers take the opportunity to celebrate our first 50 years.

Pictured are some of our students with one of the Jubilee signs that are starting to appear around the city promoting our 50th Jubilee.

Music programmes at Merrilands School have received a boost with the arrival of a class set of ukuleles. The purchase was made possible because of a generous donation from a past family and support from our wonderful Home & School Association.

Merrilands School is proud of everything we do to support successful learning for all students. We are proud of the way in which our students are inquiring learners well engaged in their learning. We are blessed with probably the most spacious grounds of any New Plymouth primary school, and wonderful playground and classroom facilities. Class sizes are small. Junior classes average 17 students per room, with senior classes averaging 22 students per room. This really enables teachers and support staff to meet the needs of each student. If you are looking for a school for your child Merrilands School is certainly worth a visit.



Students gather around one of the 50th Jubilee signs.



Merrilands students with the new ukeleles.

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Good growth is gained from great knowledge

A thousand paper cranes - Fitzroy Kindergarten

Taiki and his mother Satomi are from Japan and Taiki brought his mum along to help us make paper cranes.

We already had some origami cranes hanging in the kindergarten and some of the children wanted to know how they were made.



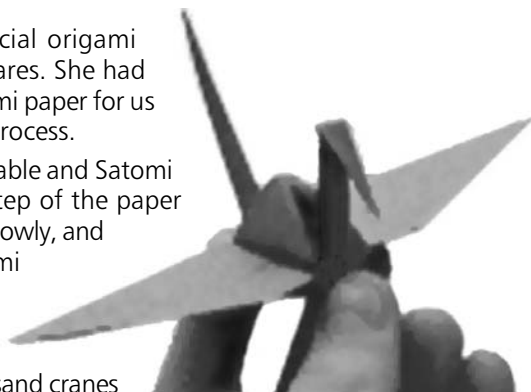
Satomi showing students the finer points of making paper cranes.

Satomi brought along special origami paper which is cut into squares. She had also made a plan from origami paper for us to follow the tricky folding process.

We sat down at an outside table and Satomi patiently showed us each step of the paper folding. We followed along slowly, and with lots of help from Satomi everyone who wanted to, made a beautiful origami crane. We learnt that some people believe to fold a thousand cranes can cure an illness or help to live a longer life. Japanese people often give a thousand cranes to a sick person in hospital. The beautiful paper cranes are often threaded on to a string. This is called Senbazuru. Hanging a Senbazuru in your home is thought to be a powerfully lucky charm.

We really enjoy learning about other cultures at our kindergarten.

Teachers, Sue and Karen



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CLUBS & GROUPS

East End Indoor Bowling Club

The 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 7579968

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

Mahjong

2010 Winter Season Starts on Saturday 1st May and then every Saturday 1.00pm - 4.00 pm at New Plymouth Croquet Club East End Reserve. \$3.00 per day including tea and biscuits. Small Prize for Lucky Hand of the Day.
Contact Betty ph 757 5913, Val ph 758 1957.

New Plymouth Chess Club

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

New Plymouth Swords Club - Fencing

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

Ravens Inline League Games East End Rink

Sat 22 May 10am - U14/1 v U14/2; 10.55am U16/1 v Hamilton Devils; 11.50am Prems v Devils; 12.45pm U18/1 v Devils; 1.40pm U16/2 v Devils; 2.35pm Open Sen v Devils; 3.30pm U18/2 v Devils.
Sun 29 May 10am U12/1 v Devils; 10.55am U14/1 v Devils; 11.50am U14/2 v Devils; 12.45pm Prems v Devils; 1.40pm U12/2 v Devils; 2.35pm U14/2 v Devils; 3.30pm U14/1 v Devils; 4.25pm Open Sen v Devils.

Rotary

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

Santa Rosa Country Music Club

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

Taranaki Jazz Club

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

Taranaki Model Powerboat Club

Holds a club day on the 1st Sunday of every month (weather permitting). It is held at Lake Cowley, just before the Go cart track in Waitara. Contact John Nicholls on 769 9166 or 021 299 4168.

Taranaki Radio Control Car Club

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

U3A New Plymouth

Monthly meetings held at the Holy Trinity Church Hall, 8 Henui St, Fitzroy at 2pm on the second Thursday of each month (except Jan and Feb). Contact the Secretary, ph 753 3574 for more details – Never too old to learn!

Victoria League Bridge Club

Very social bridge, every Tuesday from 1pm to 4pm. Ring Nan or Ian on 7578222 for more details.

Please phone 0800 THE TOM with any changes to your listing

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