

# TOM *Fitzroy*

NOVEMBER 2009

## New Plymouth Surf Riders' Club hosts the Del Festival of Longboarding



*And this is what it's all about – having fun, enjoying the water, the competition and the lifestyle.*

PHOTOS BY MARK SIMPSON

*Brian Clark (Oakura) winner 50+ final, and 4th Open final.*

*(Full story on page 2)*



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How are you going with the new cell phone rules? I hate being told what to do (no surprise to some I'm sure!) and I resent the government making a new road rule telling me what I can and can't do in my own car. (Can I use a cell phone on a bike with my lights on?!) But I do concede this is one of the more sensible rules the government could make especially for teenagers. At nearly 30 years driving experience I consider myself quite a dab hand behind the wheel, whether those hands be holding a cell phone, eating a pie, putting on my lip gloss or giving the kids a cuff around the ear – oops forgot that's illegal too! Or holding the wheel at ten to two. But there are less capable drivers who do need a bit of guidance so I suppose the new rule is OK. I have in fact pulled over and used my phone so I am a bit scared of the big bad meanies in their fancy pancy cars with their fancy pancy flashing lights. But it is a bit frustrating from a mother's point of view because if you can manage to survive a car trip with a load of toddlers in the back, fighting, arguing, crying, demanding, whinging then a cell phone is hardly a distraction. Next kids will be banned from cars too because they cause accidents. Why don't we reward good drivers rather than punish bad ones – if you're caught pulled over on the side of the road talking on your phone then you get \$10 off your car registration – oh but that won't bring in any lovely jubbly money for the government coffers will it?!!



Kim

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

# Del Festival of Longboarding

October was, for surfers, just as frustrating for the rest of the public with its poor weather made up of cold winds and below average sea temperatures.

The fortunate managed to score some good days when the wind turned to the south east and cleaned up the surf for a day before the swell dropped and the westerlies returned.

Therefore we looked towards Labour Weekend with some trepidation as that is when the Club hosts the Festival of Longboarding which this year was sponsored by Del Surfboards and Taranaki Hardcore.

But the surf Gods were smiling on us and provided the 32 competitors with two days of good "logging" waves and fine weather.

The Del Festival of Longboarding is a life style weekend which combines the skills and style of surfing in the 1960's with good music and good food.

To compete a surfer must ride a board that is at least 9 feet long. They must also surf utilising only the traditional surfing manoeuvres from the golden age of surfing; e.g. walking the board, nose-riding, showing style and skill, and importantly completing a manoeuvre to gain points.

The club was again blessed to have many of New Zealand's top exponents of longboarding attending including, Trent Lillis (Orewa), Nicholas Brikke (Wellington), Matt King (NP), Brian Clark (Oakura), Joe Every (Mt Maunganui), Steve Teague and Mark O'Connor (NP) and Nick Sergeant (Christchurch). There were no easy heats and the level of skill displayed was well appreciated by the audience.

This is an open event with all competitors from the youngest at 17 to the oldest at 67 competing in one division. First round winners move straight to the third round while all others get a second chance to qualify in round two.

As well as the open final we hold a "Mystery Final" where all those who did not progress through round two are placed into a draw for four to contest a final. This year it was won by our youngest competitor, Sam Bound (NP).

We also note who are the top four "over fifty" competitors and they surf off in an over 50's final which was again won by Brian Clark (Oakura) who kept the young guys honest by also making the Open Final where he placed 4th.



*Nice day for a nose ride.*

The final was a 20 minute spectacle of top surfing and was won by Matt King (NP).

Matt was presented with the Dillon Walsh memorial trophy to recognise our dear friend and club-mate Dills Walsh who passed away a few months ago aged 18 after a two-year battle with cancer.

The DEL Festival of Longboarding is a full-on weekend. On Friday night we were entertained by Drew Bowden while registrations were taking place. Saturday saw a barbeque at 6.30 with entertainment by Frank, Erin and Friends and the New Zealand premier of Thomas Campbell's film "The Present". We were also able to view the award-winning three minute film by Nic Brikke which showed surfing from a rarely seen angle.

Prize-giving night gave us one of New Zealand's top entertainers, The Thomas Oliver Band and the club rooms were full as we appreciated great music to close off a great weekend.

Our thanks to our sponsors, Del Surfboards, Taranaki Hardcore, Fitzroy Service Station, Red Dog Surfboards, Harvey Mack Panelbeaters, Starbucks, Cartridge World, Paragon, R.J. Eager, Honolua, The Most FM.



Mystery Final - Brian Kettle 4, Hobie 3, Sam Bound 1, John Sims 2.

(Thanks to Mark Simpson for the photos)

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# Vicarage Pottery

Go around the back of the Te Henui Vicarage and potters' workrooms and you may find it is a hive of activity. As part of the club's celebrations surrounding its 36th Annual Exhibition we are delving into the art of Soda Firing with Guest Selector and Exhibitor Janet Smith. Janet, formerly from Taranaki, lives in the Waikato. We started with a two day workshop in August in which participants made teapots and learned about building an oil fired kiln and the slips (similar to glazes) used to decorate the pots in a soda firing. In this type of firing (very briefly) the soda mix (baking soda plus a couple of other ingredients) is introduced to the kiln when it is very hot, over 1200°C. The resulting vapour settles on the pots and combines with silica forming a glaze. The temperature is kept at this level for between 1 and 2 hours and then cooled quickly, another rather risky business as pots tend to crack when cooled too quickly. This technique is highly unpredictable, especially for the novice, but rewards you with great highs when it goes according to plan.

Although the club already has a number of different kilns, soda firing requires its own which leads us to the second phase. Using fire bricks stored since the demolition, tens of years ago, of the club's original brick kiln, women members got to work to build a kiln which will be heated using a relatively simple system. It was all hands to the bricks as members sorted, cleaned the bricks and built the kiln to Janet's instructions using simple clay based mortar. The kiln is not big and has the advantage of being easily dismantled and the bricks reused. Oh, we did enlist the help of our 6 foot president to top off the chimney.

The annual exhibition opened to the public on November 7th at the Real Tart Gallery in Egmont Street. There are, displayed and for sale, selected works from club members and nationally renowned potter Janet Smith. If you would like a guided tour of the exhibition please ring our Secretary, Gail ph 753 6207.



*Kathy and Graham putting the finishing touches to the chimney under the discerning gaze of Louise.*



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## Local Area Bustling Over Labour Weekend

The mix of a long holiday weekend and plenty of long overdue sunshine saw scores of locals and visitors out and about at Labour weekend enjoying our beaches, walkways and other facilities along our local stretch of coast.

After reports of mysterious lawn mowing in the dark at the East End reserve the arrival back of the Big Wave Café on the aforementioned mowed patch was welcomed by many of the area's coffee lovers.

The East End skating arena was busy with yet another National Tournament being hosted there. In September the Inline Hockey National Championships were held but at Labour weekend it was the turn of another sport on wheels. A total of nine Roller Hockey teams competed at our local arena over the three days to decide the winner of their national title. Teams from Papatoetoe won the senior men's section and the youth/women's section. Our local senior men were placed third.

Skate boarders from near and far packed out our local skate park highlighting yet again what a fantastic facility this is and how popular it has become. The new basketball hoop alongside the skate park got plenty of use over the weekend too.

Further along the foreshore on Sunday afternoon the field at the bottom of Nobs Line became a Top Town venue for the New Plymouth Revival Fellowship who was hosting the bi annual New Zealand convention over Labour weekend. Using the East End Surf Life Saving club as their convention venue they were responsible for the appearance of lots of arrows and signs pointing the way along the various walkway routes to their venue.

I spoke with Pastor Bryan Smith about how the weekend went and he said, "It was just awesome." The visitors from all over New Zealand as well as those from overseas were impressed with the whole weekend. The fact that the weather was perfect helped showcase Taranaki. He went on to say, "As well as our meetings during the day we held concerts at night." It seems quite a number of people had followed the slightly cryptic signs, were curious and had come to check out what was on offer. "Of particular interest to people was the simplicity of the Salvation message. One instance of this was when a man from Papua New Guinea here working as a geologist checked out the displays we had at the surf club. He realized he needed to get right with God and do what the Bible commanded, so he had prayer to receive God's Holy Spirit which he did and was baptized later in the weekend. This is exactly the same experience that our visiting International pastors talked about happening worldwide and is available to everybody. So if anybody is still curious about what 'God Knows' they should come along to a meeting on a Sunday morning or Wednesday night at our hall down at Moturoa on the corner of Bayly and Breakwater Roads."

At the Fitzroy end of our coastal strip the focus was on the water with the New Plymouth Board Riders holding the Del Custom Surfboards Festival of Long boards in 1 metre surf. Taranaki surfers were dominant across all divisions.

Also on Sunday afternoon the Fitzroy Surf Life Saving Club held its opening day with new and existing members registering for the new season and having a social BBQ get together.

All in all Labour weekend saw our local area humming with activity and as usual it was a great place to be. With summer just around the corner it can only get better!

By Jackie Tomlinson



*Busy convention goes at East End Reserve.*

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# TOM garden of the month

The TOM garden this month is truly a family garden although on first glance you may not think so. From the road the six large lush Queen palms and other plantings give a stylish structured look that belie the fact that things were planted with children in mind.

I spoke with owner Gill Miles about changes to the garden that she and husband Greg had done over the 12 or so years they have lived here with their three children Alice 14 yrs, Henry 12 yrs and George aged 10.

In 2002 they had various garden plans drawn up but none really suited until they enlisted the services of Michael Mansvelt who created a design that really met the needs of them and their young family. They used his basic plans with just a few minor changes and are really happy with the end result.

Gone are the 'rockery', scrubby trees on the south west boundary, terraced gardens with lots of roses [too many balls got punctured!!] and all the arches and curves. Instead the garden is now all straight clean lines, mass planting and hardy child friendly plantings that can handle a bump or two with a rugby or cricket ball.

The six Queen Palms were central to the plan and are flourishing. When Greg planted them they were quite small, he dug them in quite deeply and gave them plenty of extra nutrients and slow release fertilizer. Under the now very large palms, Dietes Grandiflora are mass planted and as a border hedge Corokia 'Silver Ghost'.

This same planting of Corokia is repeated along the concrete brick wall on the SW side of the lawn. There are also Arum lilies and Aristea major planted along here, as well as a persimmon, passion fruit and feijoas. A healthy hedge of camellias in reds and pinks offers privacy and shelter on this boundary too.

The concrete wall was a labour of love by Greg who had a huge load of broken concrete delivered and from which he then cut into 'brick' sized pieces to make up the wall. This turned into quite a neighborhood work with lots of local kids helping.

Children's playing areas are well catered for with a cricket practice net and area of artificial turf on the lawn. Henry aged 12 has just been selected for the Taranaki under 13 Cricket rep team so this will be getting plenty of use over the summer months.

There's a basket ball hoop for Alice to practice her shooting and at the very front of the property a tree hut and small trampoline have their own separate area. This eventually will be planted differently when the children no longer need the space.

With children in mind Gill has implemented some clever ideas into the garden. The strip of trees bordering the main lawn playing area is an 'edible garden' with feijoas interspersed with cranberry bushes. The kids munch along quite happily when the plants are in fruit. The cranberries are prolific apparently with fruit for about three months over summer and enough to feed the whole neighbourhood! As well as keeping all the kids fed they even have a drinking fountain in the garden, this says Gill stops the thirsty masses invading the house.



*The Miles' garden with cricket pitch and drinking fountain.*



Gill tells me that Greg is the one with the green fingers and round the back of the house this is evident with raised vegetable gardens filled with healthy looking plants of every description. Bordering the back deck is a selection of dwarf fruit trees including peach, nectarine, apricot and mandarin. The trees' small size is perfect for the relatively enclosed space in this part of the garden.

Some of Greg's growing skills have obviously rubbed off on youngest son George aged 10. He has a thriving supply of tomato, eggplant and zucchini growing in small pots which he sells from home!

The garden of this growing family is a real focal point for their home. As well as meeting their many needs it looks fantastic and all in a relatively low maintenance way. You can't ask for more than that in a garden!

*By Jackie Tomlinson*

**Gardens featured in the Fitzroy TOM receive a garden voucher kindly donated by our local garden centre, Fairfield's.**





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- 2 Core Competencies (Level 3)
- 3 Residential Care (Level 3)

**Foundation Skills (Level 2)** is a suitable course for newly employed care givers, those unfamiliar with study. Students cover infection control, quality of life, a safe and secure environment, how to work safely and meet the requirements of care plans, use of pre-packaged medication and consumer's rights and responsibilities.

**Core Competencies (Level 3)** covers generic skills and knowledge that are essential for care givers working in rest homes. The compulsory unit standards include elder abuse, contributing as a team member, professional behaviour, consumer's rights and responsibilities, supporting quality of life, maintaining a safe environment, practicing cultural safety, self advocacy, risk management planning, ethical responsibilities, and the role of the support worker. The elective section allows the student to choose specific unit standards that suit requirements for their work situation.

**Residential (Level 3)** is a prerequisite for the residential qualification which covers the skills and knowledge that are essential for those working in residential care facilities.

The facilities within the complex are a private hospital for high care residents and palliative care, a rest home for medium care residents, serviced apartments, self sufficient villas and a nursing bureau which serves as a recruitment centre. Students enrolled with Avatar Institute of Learning are able to use the facilities within the complex for education and workplace assessment.

The National Certificate in Community Support Services provides rest home staff with the skill base and incentives to provide quality care in rest home facilities.

Entry level training for caregivers is ideal for people who have not had recent or formal education and those who speak English as a second language.

Avatar Institute of Learning recognises the need for education that accommodates shift work, family commitments, time constraints, varying learning abilities, cultural and language differences. Additional learning support includes tutorials held in the morning or afternoon and one-to-one support if required. Groups are intentionally small to allow for open communication and interaction for productive learning sessions. Student learning is self paced to complete workbooks and workplace assessments with a qualified assessor.

Avatar is enrolling students now for the next intake and you can contact Pat or Kathy for course information: **Avatar Institute of Learning** at Maida Vale Retirement Village, 917 Devon Road, Bell Block, PO Box 7015, Fitzroy 4341.

Phone: 755 0558.

## Golden Win for Rugby Girls

As winter sporting codes make way for summer The TOM caught up with one young local who was part of some great rugby success for the region over the season.

For the second consecutive year the Taranaki Secondary Schools Representative Girls Rugby team has won and claimed gold in the Regional Tournament.

There were several girls from our local area in the team. I caught up with one of them to chat about the win.

Merrilands teenager Jessica Lampe is one of seven girls from Sacred Heart Girls College to be selected to play for the winning Taranaki A Squad of 24 girls.

The other SHGC students were Bridgette Lawn, Claire Richardson (captain), Evie Trolove, Johanna Paul, Natalie Jones and Mary-May Hunt.

New Plymouth Girls School also had a large representation of girls selected with the remainder coming from Opunake, Waitara and Hawera High Schools.

Jess who is aged 16 and is a Year 12 student at Sacred Heart started playing rugby three years ago at school. Originally she joined the school team because they needed extra players but now because she really enjoys the sport with all the rough and tumble and physicality it entails. Jess plays as a lock and is the player lifted in the lineout. This is the first year that she has played as a Taranaki Representative and she says it was a great experience. It began when Sacred Heart coaches Phil Muir and Leigh Lawrence put her name forward as one of the girls for a Rep trial. From here girls participated in special trainings and a trial game from which the two Taranaki Representative squads were selected.

Once selected for the Taranaki A squad Jess was training twice a week with the team with training focusing on ball skills and positional play. In between these training times players were expected to do other fitness and Jess would run 2-3 times a week.

The Regional Secondary Schools Tournament was held in Taranaki this year at Yarrows Stadium with teams in Division A from Manawatu, Wellington, Hawkes Bay and Taranaki. In Division B teams were from Horowhenua, Wairarapa Bush, Wanganui and Taranaki.

Although Taranaki A was dominant throughout the tournament, winning all their games, the final really tested the team's skill.

It was Hawkes Bay that played the final against Taranaki and it was apparent from the outset that this was not going to be an easy win. In the first 20 minutes Hawkes Bay was up 10 nil but just before half time Taranaki got a try and converted it to bring the score to 7-10. Early in the second half saw the Taranaki girls score another try with a successful conversion bringing the score to 14-10 in Taranaki's favour and the score remained at that right through to the final whistle.

As I mentioned earlier this saw the Taranaki girls taking out the Gold medals for the second consecutive year, something many of their male counterparts in the sport would I'm sure envy this season.



*Jessica, aged 16, who played lock with the gold medal winning 2009 Taranaki Representative Secondary School Girls Rugby Team and 6b of The jubilant Taranaki girls after their hard fought win against Hawkes Bay in the final.*

Like most sporting events at this level parental support is key to a successful event and this was the case for this tournament. Jess went on to tell me how the girls' parents had secured sponsorship to ensure the tournament dinner went ahead and was a success.

A clever idea to get all the teams mixing saw the dinner tables seating arranged so that players sat at a table with players from other teams with the same number as them, for example all the 1's sat together and so on. As well as this all the various coaches sat together at a table as did the managers, the ref's right through to all the bus drivers. This made for a very social fun night where new friendships were made.

When I caught up with Jess, the rugby season may have finished but she was no less busy. Far removed from the rugby field, she was immersed in the world of theatre as props person for Miss Saigon. She became interested in theatre through her involvement with 'Stage Centre' run by Warren Bates.

Along with her interest in theatre Jess keeps busy playing social basketball in winter and Surf Life Saving with the Fitzroy club in summer. Last summer saw her compete at the Surf Lifesaving Nationals with the Fitzroy Women's Canoe team. The team of four girls were silver medalists in both the Under 19 long and short course events.

As the school year winds up Jess like most Year 12 students will soon be in the midst of NCEA exams. She is hoping to do Primary School Teacher training when she leaves school. A part time job doing after school care at a local school has given her a bit of an insight into the skills she may need for teaching.

In the meantime she has one more year left at Sacred Heart and would love to be involved with rugby as a Secondary School Regional Representative again. With her positive attitude and commitment I'm sure we will hear of more of Jess's success in the future in her chosen sports.

*By Jackie Tomlinson*

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# Ice beckons in Canada for inline convert

Jaden Murphy-Pine leaves next month for Canada to play ice hockey in the City of Edmonton Senior ice hockey league.

This is the first time a goalie from New Zealand has been permitted to play ice hockey in this elite league. This opportunity for Jaden came about through the efforts of his coach and mentor Sandy Nimmo. Sandy is the Director of Coaching and Club Secretary at the Rimutaka "Renegades" Inline Hockey Club in Upper Hutt (just outside Wellington). Sandy is an ex-pat Canadian and was the Head Coach and Manager of the Gold medal winning Canadian Women's team in 2002 at the inaugural World Championships for Women's Inline Hockey in Rochester, New York.



*Jaden dressed for life in the goal mouth.*

Jaden started playing inline hockey in New Plymouth for the Ravens Club before moving to Wellington to study at the Institute of Sport. Jaden currently plays inline hockey as a goalie but last year attended an elite level ice hockey goalie camp in Quebec, Canada. The camp was offered by Francois Allaire, one of the best ice hockey goalie coaches working in the National Ice Hockey League.

Jaden has many achievements in inline hockey including being selected for New Zealand teams for the last four years and winning two Nationals titles. At the beginning of October, Jaden was in New Plymouth competing in the National Inline Hockey Championships for the Premier Rimutaka Renegades team. They finished in third place after a nail biting close loss in the shoot out of their semi final, probably the best game played during the entire National Championships. Jaden was also selected to play for the invitational NZ team against Brazil at the Nationals. More recently Jaden participated in the Inter-

Regional competition in Auckland where he played in the Lower North Under 20s team and they won.

He is excited about the opportunity to go to Canada and says he is going with an open mind and with no expectations but he hopes to pick up skills that aren't known here. He hopes to bring those skills back to New Zealand to help further develop the sport.

"Jaden is an exceptional young man who has the passion and the skills necessary to excel in ice hockey even though he hasn't played it before" said Sandy. She also says Jaden has not been overly challenged here in New Zealand and this opportunity will give him the chance to develop his game. It may take him five or six sessions to progress but it will be the ideal experience with the potential of helping him make the next step to playing the sport professionally. Professional ice hockey players can command huge salaries in Europe as well as in both Canada and the United States. There aren't the same opportunities in inline hockey. The game of ice hockey is similar to Inline Hockey says Jaden, but it is more "funner" and is a faster game with a very clear structure. The future is looking bright for Jaden and Sandy says Europe could be the next step but we need to take one step at a time. Jaden needs to get himself established in Canada first so we will wait and watch his progress while wishing him all the best overseas.

*By Kim Ferens*

## Merrilands Indoor Bowling Club

We have just completed another successful indoor bowling season. There were fun nights, lots of laughs, serious bowling for championship titles and a great feeling of fellowship among our members.

Our congratulations to the following 2009 champions:

Fours: Yvonne Bailey (skip), Faye Meuli, Marcia Lawn, Ann Bridgeman.

Triples: Brian Horo (skip), June Clough, Tiara Popata

Pairs: Shirley Lykles (skip), Mario Marinovich

Open Singles: Ray Bailey

Ladies Singles: Shirley Crafar

Mens Singles: Ted Broadhurst

Junior Singles: Tiara Popata

Congratulations also to (1): our four members who this year gained their gold stars – Ted Broadhurst, Marcia Lawn, Shirley Lykles and Faye Meuli. (2): Shirley Crafar who after winning the club ladies singles went on to take the Central Division ladies singles title. Well done.

In appreciation for the year of dedicated service to the club, Raewyn Lucinsky became our newest life member. Well deserved, Raewyn.

Our 2010 season begins in late February and if you are interested in joining our friendly club please contact Roly Ph 7537223 or Gray ph 7512151

*Colleen Briscoe*

## Egmont Athletics

Egmont Athletics club night for children has already started but if you're still keen, rock on down to the Sacred Heart sportsground on Wednesday from 5:00 - 6:00pm. We cater for 2-9 year olds teaching them the basics of running, jumping and throwing.

Our season goes from 11th November - 16th December and restarts in the New Year on 3rd February to 10th March.

Any queries, phone Karen (7581569) or Vicky (7589326)

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## Waiwaka Tennis Club

The competition tennis season got underway on the 30th October for Waiwaka Tennis Clubs' junior and senior teams. The Club is fielding eight junior teams catering for primary, intermediate and high school youth, three senior teams in the Taranaki Tennis Association A-Grade competition, and one team in the Northern Districts Presidents grade competition.

Results from the opening day of the competition saw the club's Soffe Cup team, "Stumble Inn Waiwaka" put in a sterling performance against the current cupholders Rotokare, when they were narrowly beaten during a tie break in the final deciding match of the day. The Wilson Trophy team had a good win at home against Manaia, and the youthful Sumpter Trophy team put in a spirited performance against a more accomplished Okaiawa. Junior, Youth and B-grade results saw a mixed bag of results, with commendable performances from all players, with the promise of a solid season ahead.

Junior group coaching is well underway now with over 60 children, ranging in age from 6 to 17 years, participating in the Club's junior coaching programme on Wednesdays after school. The programme is free to all Club members.

The Club has a healthy following for its Wednesday morning social group, which is a great way to start the day as the warmer weather descends on us, and a great precursor to that well earned cuppa. Reminder: Senior Club nights, Thursdays 6 pm, just turn up at the courts; Wednesday morning social tennis: ph. Renee 759 4220; Juniors: ph. Yvonne 757 4232; All other enquiries: ph. Bob 758 4044; Club located at Chilman Street, Lower Merrilands.

Club sponsors are Stumble Inn & Cafe, Merrilands New World, and van Beers Motors.

NEW ! Grasshoppers Tennis - for 5 to 10 year olds; 15th & 29th November, 13th December. For information & registration ph Yvonne, 757 4232.

Bob Momich, Club Captain

## Fitzroy Golf Club

Some of the Fitzroy Golf Club ladies recently went out on a mystery bus day trip. Dress up was compulsory and other than the organisers, no one knew where they were going. They were all hoping it wasn't somewhere public but lo and behold they found themselves at Kauri Cottage, Egmont Village for a delicious morning tea. Next stop was Pukekura Raceway where the ladies enjoyed a wet afternoon of friendship and trying to pick winners. All winnings were divided up at the end of the day. The ladies certainly looked the part in their 1920's garb.



J Cowley, V Brown, M Stewart, J Barron, G Palmer, S Newsome, M Munro, R Holdener, M Baeyertz, J Clarke, E Rowlands and B Wallace in front.

## Ravens League

Many of our Ravens players were selected to represent the Central region at the 2009 Inter Regional Championships held in Auckland. There were some very tight games and great competition over the Labour weekend. The Central regional teams won gold in Under 12's, Under 14's, Junior Women and Senior Women. All these teams had New Plymouth Ravens players in them. I would like to congratulate all of our New Plymouth Ravens players that were selected to play for the Central region. You did the club proud. School league is now under way. If you would like to play but do not have a school team to play for, please email us at krys.beardman@xtra.co.nz. and we can put you in a team. School league is played either on a Thursday or Friday from 5.30pm onwards.

The players in the picture below all started out playing school league and yes, they fell over a lot when they first started out. Come and give it a go. It's so much fun.



Under 12's Central Regional Team Gold medal winners 2009. In the Under 12's team we had 8 players and a coach representing the New Plymouth Ravens: Michael Watts, Ella Toa, Pedro Valentine-Robertson, Cameron Sharrock, Keegan Thompson, Mitch Hurley, Alex Gray, Rodney Cruden-Powell. Asst Coach Julian Beardman.

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# GETTING WET!

## East End Surf Lifesaving Club

**Season Opening Day Sunday 29th November, East End Beach Nobs Line New Plymouth. Old and new members welcome.**

The day starts with Junior Surf training from 10.30am until 12.00 with a sausage sizzle after training. Get the kids involved within a great club atmosphere that teaches them fun at the beach with other kids their age, plus confidence and safety in and around the surf. Parents are welcome to stay and get involved and join in the activities. The junior section of the club holds regular training sessions on a Sunday morning and pool sessions for swimming confidence during the week for the older age groups. Children train in the various surf sport disciplines and test themselves against other clubs at junior surf carnivals throughout the season.

Season Opening Day for the senior club starts with a life guard refresher course for qualified life guards from 1pm followed by refreshments.

If you are interested in getting involved in a great club atmosphere that provides an opportunity for you to learn new skills, get fit and to help provide a valuable community service during the summer months, come down and inquire about joining East End Surf Lifesaving Club.



## New Plymouth Surf Riders' Club

Ocean and Earth Winter Teenage Rampage junior series is an excellent breeding ground for fostering talent. The third and final competition was held on Saturday 17th October at Fitzroy Beach. It was the first time in the series that competitors were greeted with cold, onshore conditions. However the 2-3 foot waves were still highly contestable and didn't dull the mood around the comp site, with quality warm eats provided by the Waitara Boardriders and guest MC Keone Campbell throwing out some good sounds and commentary. Again it was extremely well organised with great prizes and spot prizes thanks to the major sponsor Ocean and Earth and the co sponsor CSA surfboards.

Special thanks and praise must also go to the contest director and Boys High Phys Ed teacher, Kane Rowson for his support, enthusiasm and integrity.

At this event the overall champions were crowned and they were:

**U14 Boys** – Sean Kettle (Taranaki) **U16 Boys** – Tyler Lawson (Hawkes Bay) **U16 Girls** – Alexis Poulter (Raglan) **U18 Boys** – Michael Mallalieu (Taranaki) **U18 Girls** – Alexis Poulter (Raglan).

### Councillor Heather Dodunski



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**Phone 7695-170 Evenings**  
Email: [h.dodunski@xtra.co.nz](mailto:h.dodunski@xtra.co.nz)



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# Fitzroy Kindergarten

## Mama Mia ... here we go again

Music rings through the Kindergarten daily as children set up and join in bands, dancing and dramatic play situations together.

Mama Mia meets New Zealand idol as some children perform and others write down the judging scores. Appreciative audiences buy tickets and clap and cheer as each performance ends.

With their great 'give it a go' attitude our children delight in dressing up, singing, dancing and playing in the band.

Terese Hoyle author of *Positive playtime* tells us the benefits of play include:

- 1 Developing and strengthening friendships.
- 2 Increasing physical and emotional wellbeing.
- 3 Increasing resilience.
- 4 Improving cognitive development.
- 5 Improving emotional responsiveness.
- 6 Promoting team work and camaraderie.
- 7 Experiencing fun and joy.
- 8 Expanding children's development, learning, imagination, creativity and independence.
- 9 Providing opportunities for children to encounter boundaries.
- 10 Reducing stress.
- 11 Developing language.
- 12 Boosting confidence, self esteem, and emotional literacy.

Through play children learn basic relationship skills such as getting along with others and taking turns. They learn to negotiate rules, co operate, form alliances and concede with grace, all with little or no adult intervention.

At Fitzroy Kindergarten dramatic play opportunities are supported by an inviting and extensive range of dressing up clothes and accessories, musical instruments and music all freely available to children to access and use, inspired by their imaginations and enthusiasm

We are sure you'll agree, there is something wonderfully contagious about starring in your own favourite musical with your friends Mama Mia!



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# Local Toy Library Benefits Many in Our Community

The Taranaki Toy Library has been operating in Taranaki for 25 years and in its present location for the last three. A bonus for local families is that it is right here in Fitzroy at the Knox Presbyterian Church.

Unlike some of the busier spots around town that the toy library has resided in, the current location in a hall at the Knox church is very family friendly being tucked well off the road with plenty of free parking. This is a real plus when returning or collecting all the toys your children will invariably want to take home with them!

I have fond memories of our family's weekly visits to the toy library when my children were young. Although it's been many years since I've used the Toy Library for our children, it seems this fantastic service continues to go from strength to strength.



*Toy Library member Jack Walters, aged 22 months, having fun choosing a toy to loan from the Toy Library.*

I spoke with Library Trustee and coordinator Denise Duncan who told me there are currently 173 families that are members of the Toy Library.

But families are not the only ones to benefit from this great facility. Denise went on to say that many rest homes are members and they loan toys and puzzles to use for occupational therapy with some of their residents. Schools with special needs students also make use of the Toy Library's quality, well designed and educational toys.

While the membership fees are reasonably priced Denise said that assistance is offered to low income families wanting to use the Toy Library.

The toys available are predominately aimed for the birth to 5 year age group although there are puzzles for the older child. With emphasis placed on the quality, design and educational benefit of the toy, unlike a toy store you can be pretty happy that whatever you or your child selects to come home is going to be suitable.

While I visited, 22 month old Jack Walters was busy making his selection with his mum. Dressed in the library's dinosaur costume tail Jack was having fun trying all the various ride on toys that were available. I remember that for our family the bigger toys such as ride ons were great to loan as often a toy you may not have considered buying can be tried out.

The toy library has just had its big fundraiser for the year with a new and 2nd hand book sale the proceeds of which will go towards purchasing more toys for the library. In these economically tougher times the toy library offers good value for money for families and I'm sure many would like the fact that borrowing rather than purchasing is more environmentally friendly.

However you look at it once again Fitzroy residents are lucky to have a great facility such as this available in our local area.

Toy Library Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9.30 am – 1.30 pm  
Saturday 9.30 am – 12.30 pm.

524A Devon St East, Knox Presbyterian Church, Fitzroy.  
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## Merrilands School News

### New Playground at Merrilands School

ERO, in their recent review, stated that Merrilands School had "an attractive setting, expansive grounds and significant outdoor resources supporting students' independent and co-operative play". Anyone visiting our school would certainly agree as we have what is probably the most spacious primary school site in New Plymouth. Merrilands School's wonderful Home & School Association is committed to further improving the facilities for our students and, after several years of fundraising and grant applications, have just completed their latest project - a new \$50,000 Senior School adventure playground.

We now have two adventure playgrounds - one for the Junior School and the other for the Senior School.

Both have a varied range of activities with the new Senior Playground set up as a fitness circuit that will help develop and challenge upper body strength.

The students love the latest addition to their playground.



## New Plymouth Boys' High School

New Plymouth Boys' High School is very proud of James Fuller. He is studying Level 3 Music, Mathematics, English, Physics and Audio-visual Technology. James is renowned for his musical ability with drums and percussion. In the Rockquest competition, the group in which he plays drums won the competition and then a few days later he won the National Chamber Music competition in a school group. James has also won the \$10,000 Muriel May Scholarship for musicianship. James also played percussion in the recent 'Miss Saigon' production at the TSB Showplace. He gained a Tiger Jacket for Music and won the top award for Cultural Performance in the school.

MJ McMenamin  
Headmaster

*James Fuller, complete  
with Tiger Jacket and  
drumsticks.*



## "Echoes in the Park"

Summer Sunday afternoons  
from 1st November

Live music at the Tea House on the Lake

2:00- 4:00pm

Pukekura Park - Ph 758 7205



## Mangorei School - Gypsy



Passed October 2009

Gypsy was very much loved and adored by all who knew her.

Although she could be a bit naughty at times, she was always the teacher's pet and the children's playmate, and every morning, the child on "Gypsy Duty" would fill her food bowl and give her a pat. She has been at Mangorei School for fourteen years. Gypsy will be sorely missed, but she will linger on in the memories of all.

Rest in Peace, Gypsy xxx

*From the Students and Staff of Mangorei School*



Gypsy.

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## Fitzroy Automotive Shine at MTA Awards

The Annual MTA Awards for North and South Taranaki were held in October.

It was a fantastic evening. Kelli from Fitzroy Automotive went home with the Top Apprentice Award for Taranaki as well as being awarded third for the National MTA Apprentice Award.

Kerrie also won an award for MTA Taranaki 2009 Top Technical Business Leader, but says she is particularly proud of Kelli's achievement.

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### **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](mailto:fitzroyscoutgroup@xtra.co.nz)

### **New Plymouth Chess Club**

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

### **NP Roller Sports Club Family Skate Nights**

21st November, 28th November, 5th December, 12th December.  
A fun night the whole family can enjoy. \$5 Admission includes skate hire. No Eftpos available.

### **New Plymouth Swords Club - Fencing**

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

### **Rotary**

Meets every Wednesday night at 5.15pm at the Beach Street Hall.  
Enquiries to the Secretary, Ross Smith, phone 758 4194. Email, [rossandanne@slingshot.co.nz](mailto: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](mailto:lancasters@xtra.co.nz) entry \$3 non-members \$2 members. Supper provided.

### **Saturday Morning Golf Croquet**

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

### **Summer Mah-jong**

At the New Plymouth Croquet Club will be played 2 Sundays per month, 1pm— 4pm, commencing 22nd November & 11th & 20th December.  
Watch this space for monthly dates. Any queries to Val at 758 1957.

### **Taranaki Model Powerboat Club**

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

### **Taranaki Radio Control Car Club**

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

### **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). For further information contact the secretary ph 753 3574 – Never too old to learn!

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