

Matua Moments

Issue 1

Spring/Summer 2015

Welcome to the first edition of the new look Matua Moments. Those of you who have lived in Matua and Cherrywood for some time will recall the previous editions of this community newsletter that in 2011 became part of The Western Link publication. With that publication no longer in existence the Association has taken this opportunity to bring back Matua Moments.

This will be a twice yearly publication with the intention to bring items of local interest to the community. Local clubs and organisations will be able to promote their activities to 3000 households within the suburbs of Matua and Cherrywood.

The colourful Radius Care team van transports residents to activities and outings in the community. Whether it be to Cherrywood for a bit of shopping and afternoon tea at the bakery or off to compete in the Rest home games our grandmas and grandpas are a key sector of the Matua community.



Matua Residents' Association

Community Patrols

Neighbourhood Support • Community Groups • Tennis Courts

Visit the community website:

www.matua.org.nz

or email us:

community@matua.org.nz

Matua Estuary Care Group: estuarycare@matua.org.nz

Richard Kluit... an area specialist for over 20 years and passionate about our community



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From the Committee

Welcome back to our voice in the community. Some of you will be new to the suburbs of Cherrywood and Matua so welcome to you and we trust you will become fully immersed in our special part of the city. For the long term residents we thank you for your ongoing support.

The Association has a membership of \$10⁰⁰ and we hope that you will see the benefit of membership in supporting us in this small way to enable us to undertake the activities we do. So what do we do:

Every Waitangi Day we host the Picnic in the Park. This is a free Bar B Que for the community where we have fun activities for families. The old fashion races such as three legged, sack, wheelbarrow, egg and spoon feature along with the vertical bungee and bouncy castle and many more fun events for kids and parents. Together with Otumoetai Lions and Matua Scouts we like to celebrate this special NZ day in our fabulous backyard of Fergusson park.

We support community initiatives such as Neighbourhood Support, Matua Estuary Care group, and Community Patrols. We clean up our foreshore to assist with sea lettuce clearance. We make submissions to Council on matters that affect our community such as the storm water problems experienced in recent years. We have made contributions to the facilities at Fergusson and Matua Parks.

We host public meetings for local body and central Government elections and our annual general meetings have guest speakers on topical issues.

Check out the article on the proposed "Haiku style" walkway.

If it affects our community we are at the forefront. If you want to be involved either on the committee or helping with an event please email us on community@matua.org.nz

PS: We have our own website
www.matua.org.nz

A Bit of History

It seems no doubt that the name for our suburb stems from Matua-Iwi Pa, the history of which is on the Residents Assn website. There are two definitions of the name Matua-Iwi. One is parent Pa, all the other Pa being it's offspring. A second interpretation is Totara Pa - all the other Pa in the locality are it's branches.

Matua only really gained it's name in the late 1960's, prior to that it was part of the greater Otumoetai region and more latterly part of Otumoetai West. Even in 1965 it was loosely known as "The levers Road area" after the family that originally farmed it. The primary school established in late 1965 was initially known as the Levers Road school until it changed in 1966 to Matua School. The bowling club also took the name of Matua. The Otumoetai West Ratepayers Assn sought to have the name changed and suggested following the school name.

Back in 1951 a public meeting was called at Otumoetai School to discuss an offer from a Mr R Sanders to donate 1/5 of an acre of his property on Levers Road on the proviso that a community hall was built. By 1952 a committee was formed and became the **Otumoetai Progressive Club Inc.** The first Annual General Meeting of this Club was held in the hall in April 1953 - albeit 2/3 finished at that time.

In November of 1953 the inaugural meeting of the **Otumoetai County Ratepayers Assn** was held in the hall. By this time much of the wider Otumoetai area was being taken over by the Tauranga Borough. Residents of Otumoetai West, which included

Matua, were still very much part of the County Council and were concerned their voice needed to be represented. Concerns of the time were over Post Office officials replacing Rural delivery with postmen, the need for street lights on Otumoetai Road, the speed of traffic on Otumoetai Road, pot holes on Otumoetai Road and the need for 3" water main along Levers Road. In 1961 the committee changed it's name to **Otumoetai West Ratepayers and Citizens Assn.** Minutes of the time show needs to address schooling requirements and the strong demand for an automatic telephone exchange.

In 1967 it was noted that it was becoming increasingly difficult for strangers and the postal people to pin point address in such a wide area known as Otumoetai so in line with the school the name of the Association was changed to Matua Ratepayers and citizens Association. At some point this organization ceased however in the early 1980's the new Association emerged from the community in response to "concerns" over the Matua shops on Tilby Drive being developed. The focus widened to a range of activities such as the community tennis courts. Until 2013, when the city took back control, the Association managed the community hall on Levers Road. Today the focus is on promoting and supporting the community.

Compiled by Richard Kluit from minutes sourced at Tauranga Library.



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Otumoetai College Dance Students take on LA

Our two weeks in LA was a trip of a life time!

As students we arrived dancers then left performers after attending a huge variety of workshops at various famous dance studios including the Edge and Millennium. Watching the Production "Hairspray", meeting various celebrities and being a live studio audience for "So you think you can Dance" Street vs Stage (5 hours of filming).

As students we participated in Twerking, Burlesque, Jazz Funk, Hip Hop, Ballet, Musical Theatre, contemporary, Jazz and Tap classes sometimes taken by famous choreographers. These classes opened our eyes into the fun and competitive world of dance. We also had classes on Personal development and Auditioning. We also had the amazing opportunity to perform live on Hollywood Boulevard and on the Disney Stage at California Adventure. We visited Warner Bros, Universal Studios, had three days at Disneyland also shopping Malls, outlet stores and the Stars along Hollywood boulevard.



Otumoetai College Kapa Haka Perform at Turangawaewae



Members of Otumoetai College's kapa haka group will remember forever their recent performance at the coronation celebrations in Ngaruawahia. Mats were spread out on the marae and crowds were gathered to watch the performances. King Tuheitia was seated in the porch of the meeting house, flanked by some of his advisors. Senior student, Te Kawari Fidow, said he was

nervous but honoured to perform their bracket.

The whakaeke, or opening chant, was followed by a short whaikorero delivered by Wisdom Toki, acknowledging the original karakia given prior to the Takitimu waka departure from Hawaiki. The moteatea, or traditional waiata, was sung to support his words and the poi referred to the places where the waka landed on its migration. The action song told of the local landmarks of Tauranga and was followed by a rousing haka from the young warriors. The final whakawatea, or exit, ended with the group positioned on both sides of the stage while the group leaders went up to pay their respects to the king.

After the performance and a meal in Turangawaewae's dining room which seats about 1,000 at one sitting, the students wandered across to watch some of the many sports games, participate in the Homai Te Pakipaki auditions and eat mutton birds or mussel fritters in the food tent. It was an awesome experience and the ropu is hoping to return for the 10th coronation celebrations in 2016.

Congratulations to Holly Morton on her success as a finalist in the National Schools Poetry competition. Holly finished as a runner up with her poem 'Tahanan'.

Otumoetai College overcomes basketball rivals Tauranga Boys College

Finals night in the local basketball competition deemed to be extremely successful for the Otumoetai College Senior A Boys team. Going into the finals against rivals Tauranga Boys College the Otumoetai boys were the underdogs, after the disappointing blow at their Regional tournament were they missed out on National qualification. The boys went into the game extremely determine to win and that they did, in a nail biting game coming from behind the boys went on to win 78-74. The boys played completely out of their skins and left nothing on the court, they proved to everyone that the strength in Basketball at Otumoetai College has increased over the past couple of seasons and they are now competitive at that top level.

Jack Neale was named MVP of the final and also in the all-star five. The junior boys also finished off a tough season with a young team 3rd in the local competition with Beau Joss named in the all-star five. (The all-star five is the top five players in the competition for each age group).

We are excited and looking forward to next season with basketball and the strength we have following through.

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Matua Garden Club

On the third Wednesday of each month members of the Matua Garden Club gather at the Matua Hall on Levers Road where they host guest speakers on a range of topics, mostly but not always garden related.

There are discussions on problem plants, prize blooms offered up for competition along with a floral art competition and a sales table. There is a small door charge along with raffles which go towards bus trips to places of interest.

The Club membership continues to "grow" as more people enjoy both the social aspect as well as the opportunity to increase their knowledge on all things garden. Contact Maureen Keenan (576 5768) will happily give details for eager new members or just turn up at the hall at 1.30pm on the third Wednesday.



Article supported by:

There's no place like home!

Liz Watson

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De Lux Beauty

What a privilege it is to own a business in the Cherrywood shopping centre - I am grateful each day for this opportunity as it is a very special place. It's a shopping centre of a different kind - in a way it is like old fashioned New Zealand with a new age topping of the world we live in now.

The other business owners. In my view, are proactive, albeit sometimes in a conservative way and they make the centre a different experience than I believe we get anywhere else in Tauranga. Our De Lux Beauty team are a gorgeous group of woman who make the tea room a place of relaxation, fun and laughter and this spills out into the salon and onto the street.

There are always local buskers and over the last year I have gotten to know Josie Lawrence-Brown. She and other buskers bring music to our streets and for those of us who were born in the first half of last century, love their music - its our music. Josie has just recorded a song and recently she



had her first time ever in front of a microphone and in a recording studio. Her talent is amazing and her voice is incredible.

In recent weeks driving to work from Matua the sight of the cherry blossoms was amazing - they were a joy each day to see. We are enjoying more sunshine these days and hopefully it will stay. When the blossoms were in full bloom these beautiful children were playing in the haven of the community gardens. These gardens are a credit to all those who have worked so hard creating them.

All in all, those who live in this area have formed a fabulous community spirit and the surrounding businesses undoubtedly appreciate the community support and enjoy supporting community projects fundraisers and the like.



L to R: Cousins under the blossom canopy - Amy Evans, Morven Minnell and Kaia Buckley

A typical Support Group

CARING - Have we all become too busy with our daily lives to stop for a few moments every now and then to get to know just who lives in your street? Having had the pleasure of living in the south where life has not quite picked up the speed of the north, people knew who their neighbours were and even took the time to check on them to make sure they were okay. Maybe, it was keeping a special eye out for them over their property or collect their mail. **CARING** can mean so much to many people of all ages.

CARING is such a small word that seems to be losing favour in our busy society

CARING becomes a very big word that is used often in NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT.

CARING does not cost, nor is a financial burden. In this day and age when burglaries from private residencies and vehicles are common, we all need to be more vigilant and not make it any easier for these undesirables in our society.

Percival Avenue, of which I am the Neighbourhood Support, Co-ordinator held a most enjoyable get-together in the form of a "Pot Luck" drinks and nibbles earlier this year. Many new and old neighbours meeting for the first the time. We were fortunate to have a spare section available to use. We certainly will be doing it again later. If you are a new resident of Percival Ave and wish to know more, please contact me on phone number 576 7387.

Neighbourhood Support

Neighbourhood support is all about community supporting each other. The organisation grows in strength throughout the city and we are keen to form street groups throughout our suburbs. Neighbourhood Support focuses on a number of topics.

Here in Matua we are fortunate to have low crime rates. It only takes a few burglaries to get people thinking of their neighbours and how victims of crime can be helped. How do you recognise things that are not normal or suspicious in your area. When do you ring 111, and when do you call the Police station?

How do we handle a natural disaster? Are we adequately equipped with the knowledge we need to look after ourselves first, and then others in the event of a natural disaster?

Who in our neighbourhood has a special need, limited mobility, or live alone?

These are all things that Neighbourhood Support groups learn, and as a consequence become aware and part of a caring community.

If you are not part of a Neighbourhood Support group, then now is the time to enquire and move to implementing your own. Most groups are informal and friendly. Maybe you are part of a group that may need an up date with what is going on.

We have a new data base that is providing regular and important updates and facts about what is going on in your neighbourhood. Some earlier groups were formed before this new system and some of the earlier data has been lost. If you are part of such a group, please contact your local Matua Coordinator, Neil Chinnery-Brown, on either 576 5991 (leave a message) 021 158 5204 (text is fine) or contact on neilc-b@clear.net.nz so we can improve contact, or help you form a new group.



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- Initiate some family traditions, great for stress relief
- Sun-sense time - "SLIP, SLOP, SLAP" and remember sunglasses too
- Travel safely. Allow extra time for crowded roads and drive defensively
- Moderation in all things
- Alcohol especially. The sober driver always enjoys the next day best
- Savour the day and consider it's significance in history



Do you go to see the dentist only when there is a problem?

Most people seem to put off their visit to the dentist until the last minute when the pain from their teeth gets too severe to ignore. By the time you feel a problem with your teeth, however, it is often too late to save the tooth through simple fillings, as the disease could have progressed to the nerves of the teeth.

This can also be the case with gum disease. Untreated gum disease can progress and spread fast, which can lead to bleeding gums and loose teeth. Healthy gums mean strong foundations for teeth and are crucial for a healthy smile. Gum disease is a common disease occurring with age. It can affect a lot of people and causes mobile teeth.

Good home oral hygiene such as tooth brushing, flossing and mouth rinses are very important to help prevent decay on teeth and maintain healthy gums. Therefore, with every patient we go over their individual oral hygiene plans and use of fluoride supplements, to help educate them and achieve the best possible oral hygiene.

An important concept to understand is that most dental disease is irreversible without treatment. Once the tooth structure is taken away, either because the tooth is decayed or broken, you cannot regenerate it and the tooth will need a filling to fill the broken area. The bigger the hole, the more complicated the treatment becomes and badly broken teeth may require full reconstruction through crowns (caps).

Therefore, depending on what stage the disease is detected, different dental treatments are needed. The earlier the treatment, the better the long term success for the teeth and the less complicated the treatment will be.

Unfortunately, it is very hard for you to spot a problem at an early stage in your mouth, so this is why regular 6month or 1year check-ups are very useful to prevent more complicated and serious problems. With thorough examination, highly advanced technology and the modern dentistry available today, we can detect these early problems in the teeth and gums. With minimally invasive treatments we try our very best to help you keep your teeth and to give you a healthy smile.



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Tauranga Bridge Club



Bridge is a game a little like Five Hundred, and is derived from a card game called Whist. It involves two partnerships playing against each other to win tricks and gain points. It is a game suited to all ages and can be enjoyed at all levels from a casual game of cards to serious international competitions - and everything in between.

Bridge is a popular game in Tauranga with the Tauranga Bridge Club having in excess of 400 members and sessions on each weekday - some daytime, some evening. There is also a lesson programme which starts in early March of each year, and an Improvers Group for those wishing to hone their skills. If that is not enough, there are more than 100 Bridge Clubs throughout the country and a thriving tournament scene for those with a more competitive instinct.

While Bridge can be challenging to play at higher levels, it is easy to learn the basics. The Tauranga Club is located at 252 Ngatai Road and has a website: taurangabridge@co.nz

Article supported by:

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Andrea Cawley

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Tauranga Astronomical Society

The Tauranga Astronomical Society continues to benefit from the amazing scientific advances in exploration of our solar system. Mid July showed us with incredible clarity, pictures of Pluto and it's moon, Charon. Huge mountainous ranges on the planet, perhaps ice covered, and a puzzling mountain rising out of a major canyon on Charon. There is a vast amount of water in the Universe and finding water on Mars last week, opens up the question of whether there has been life. (ie. Replicating cells in any form, on this fascinating planet. If so what does this represent in our galaxy, or the billions of galaxies in the Universe?)

On Tuesday 27th of October at 7.30, the Society has a free open night where we will have a video presentation 'Our Universe', followed by a power point presentation, 'The Night Sky'. Telescope viewing if the weather is clear.



Article supported by:

No nonsense real estate.

Jason Hyde-Hills

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EYES

Using a Mortgage Broker...

It appears to me, that as with every occupation, profession or service, quality ranges from poor to excellent, from slow to fast, and from cheap to expensive. My passion first and foremost is to provide objective and appropriate advice according to the customer's circumstances. When you come to me, I want to know all about your past, your present circumstances as well as to understand your goals for the future. Without understanding your financial circumstances, we cannot begin to provide appropriate financial advice around a mortgage.

For most, obtaining a mortgage is the only way to purchase a house. That is the easy part. The conflict with the banks is that generally the bank would like you to have a mortgage for as long as possible. Compare that to my position, which is to show you how to repay your mortgage as quickly as possible, saving you thousands of dollars in interest.

On the matter of interest and cash back incentives, mortgage brokers are in an excellent position to compare different banks offers. This allows us to take away the mystery for you compared to when you go to the bank on your own terms; how do you know if the bank has offered you a reasonable deal?

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www.matua.org.nz
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Matua has a website to provide information to our local community, and inform others from around the world just what is on offer in our fabulous suburb. It is our intention to add more information and provide links to other areas of interest and business networks that will benefit residents. We have a number of photos of early Matua that we would like to add to the site and hope there will be other photos out there that some of our early families can provide to us.

We are keen to develop this asset further but the committee lacks the skills to take it to the level we would like it to be. If you have these skills and would like to contribute to our community then we would like to hear from you. Email to the above or contact Richard on 027 433 7675.



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Storm water update



Following on from previous submissions to Council the Residents Assn and a number of affected residents made submissions to the Ten Year Financial Plan. This was to show our opinions on what options should be taken regarding water running through properties in the heavy downpours, such as the three in the last ten years.

Councillors made the decision that it is more economic to buy residents properties and allow them to relocate. The cost of this option is less than prevention although in some areas of the city there may still be works undertaken. The \$2M annual fund will enable house purchases, assist with cleanup costs, provide emergency response and recovery and in some instances delivery of infrastructure.

As a result eight houses have been purchased and six removed between Eaton Crescent and Matua Road. Residents in other locations who had water running through their homes are awaiting decisions.

Many others who simply had water running through their sections and outbuildings should make their own decisions on how best to prevent this occurring in the future. We recommend you talk with neighbours before taking permanent action that may create problems for those around you. In need involve council drainage staff for advice.

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Strange lights just appeared



There have been some strange goings on in the early evening at Fergusson Park. During the middle of winter twelve lighting poles appeared around two of the football fields. The night sky was lit up by the brightness of these pitch invaders. Now that the season has finished they have moved and stand in a line at the foot of the southern bank, just like a line of foot soldiers on parade. Cricketers who must have been greatly concerned when they first appeared can now relax and prepare for a summer of cricket. The training lights are just part of a City Council program to take ownership of all such lights around the city and maximize the availability of park space for winter sports codes to train. Come the end of daylight savings these "foot soldiers" will be craned back in to place for their winter deployment.



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Otumoetai Golf Club

Corner Ngatai & Bureta Roads, Tauranga. Phone 576 9739

Have you enjoyed the wonderful asset we have in our community, Otumoetai Golf Club.

The club provides all the usual facilities for golfers of all abilities, including full membership with both 18 & 9 hole member options.

Casual (non member) golfers are also warmly welcome to call at the club to play the course by paying "green fees" with clubs also available for hire.

A regular Twilight Golf competition is held every Tuesday evening during the summer months with start times from 3pm to 6pm, prize giving by 8.30pm, everybody welcome.

The club is also the ideal place for any social occasion, offering a fully equipped Clubhouse, Kitchen, Bar and BBQ option. Arrangements can be made for any function you may require, maybe including a "social" game of golf.

Summer is the perfect time to enjoy Otumoetai and the club has discounted membership options available NOW from \$225.00 with Learner Golfer lessons available - dependent on demand.

Golf lessons are available from a successful & experienced NZ golf

professional, Jan Higgins, who has joined Otumoetai Golf Club in a permanent coaching/management capacity. Jan has a strong Tauranga background we are very excited to have her working at Otumoetai.

Enquiries welcome at any time - visit the clubs shop, corner Ngatai & Bureta Roads, Tauranga. Phone 576 9739.



What is Windows 10 and should you update?

The good news is that Windows 10 is a great operating system, perhaps the best ever released by Microsoft. It is free for users of Windows 7, 8 and 8.1. It has some nice new features including the return of the Start Menu! It also has voice activation software called Cortana.

The bad news is that Windows 10 is still a little bit buggy and can be unstable on some systems, especially older systems that don't have updated drivers with Windows 10 support.

I would recommend waiting until next year (2016) before updating. If you have upgraded your windows Vista or XP system to Windows 7 or 8, I recommend that you do not upgrade to windows 10. Instead, wait until you buy a new computer that comes with Windows 10 pre-installed.



Bowls Matua Inc



Located in Levers Road and known as the "Friendly Club" we're Community based rather than a Commercial organisation and we've in Matua a while. You see, we celebrate our Golden Jubilee next year and welcome new members and the public alike.

Twilight Bowls starts on **Monday 2 November at 5.30pm** and everyone is welcome. Make up a team of four, if that's too hard, just show up and we'll fit you into a team. The BBQ will be at "full noise" and prizes are won by marble draw rather than skill, so everyone has an opportunity as the emphasis for the whole night is on fun. So bring the family, all you need is a smile and a pair of flat soled shoes... bare feet qualify!

If you wish to enter a team before the 2nd November **call Don on 576 8402 any time.**



Article supported by:

Matua Estuary Care Group

Matua Estuary Care Group (MECG) was established in the early to mid 2000's by a group of dedicated individuals who wanted to make a difference on and around the Matua Estuary. The Group has now been operating for around 10 years, and has some 30 core volunteers who live within the Matua and Otumoetai area. Many of our volunteers do not look out on to the estuary but like all of the group have a passion to protect this wonderful asset located inside the Tauranga Harbour. Working closely with Environment Bay of Plenty the care group undertakes the following;

- Mangrove management, both adult and juvenile, under resource consent, with the aim of protecting an open waterway for all to enjoy, without the inhibition of encroaching mangrove colonies.
- Pest eradication. 3 teams man a series of rat and pest bait stations and traps from the Matua Salt marsh right around to Fergusson Park. Through their dedication the birdlife has been improved right across the peninsular.
- Rubbish removal from the estuary. The largest item recovered so far has been an in-ground spa pool.
- Beautification project at Bay Street. The establishment of a native planting band designed to inhibit the illegal dumping of household waste into the mangrove colony

and to shield the mangroves from the neighbourhood.

- Estuary care education with local groups.

Since inception we have been fortunate to have been awarded several accolades from the Tauranga Community Awards.

2007 and 2008 winner of the Heritage and Environment section.

2010 Regional Runner Up of the Heritage and Environment section.

MECG is an active care group which undertakes upwards of 6 estuary working events lasting no more than 2 hours over the year as well as enjoying an active social program. Like all volunteer groups we are always looking for keen volunteers to help out. If you would be interested in belonging to our dynamic group of hard working locals, then send your contact details headed up "MECG chairman" to cbas@actrix.co.nz



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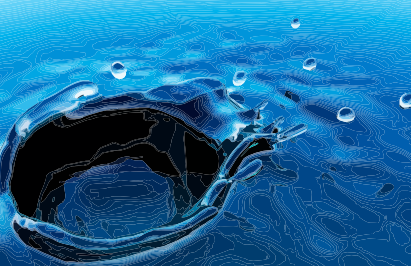
Sunday Service at 9.30am
Midweek Communion 10am first Wednesday of month
Basement Boutique Wednesday/Thursday Fridays 10am - 4pm
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Conversation Cafe Thursdays 10am -12pm
Walking Group Fridays 9.30am
Indoor Bowls Mondays 7pm
Free playgroup 0 - 5 y o Tuesdays 9.30am
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Triple Finalist for Fern Garden Preschool in OTUMOETAI

- 2015 FINALIST
"BEST EMERGING BUSINESS"
- 2015 FINALIST
"EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP"
- 2015 FINALIST
"EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION"

Imagine launching a small vision that would one day start coming true? A multi-award winning group of childcare centres whose origins are our very own, local, ECE industry leading and award winning Fern Garden Preschool, has done just that.

The husband and wife owners Nikeeta and Dr Darius Singh, with three generations of teaching background in both their families, have had a single vision: "To lift aspiration and raise educational achievement for all New Zealanders", starting at preschool.

In 2011, they embarked on a journey in Tauranga to design and build "childcare like you've never seen before" and they have endeavoured to deliver on their vision and promise to our communities every year since. Their first national award came after their first year of operations in Otumoetai, with their patented invention of an online learning system that lets parents watch their toddlers' and preschoolers' gain NZ curriculum outcomes like leaves emerging on a growing tree. The child's entire learning portfolio is mapped on their tree so that areas (branches) of their strengths, interests and opportunities can be identified faster than ever before by parents and teachers to create holistic and balanced learning experiences at daycare. This invention took out the top innovation award by the NZ Early Childhood Council and was presented by the Hon Hekia Parata, Minister of Education. This is one of the many advantages that are exclusive to Fern Garden children and families.

"childcare like you've NEVER SEEN before"

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www.ferngarden.co.nz

In 2013, their outstanding design of a solar powered and innovative childcare centre in Auckland, called Magic Kingdom, took out the Bronze Prize at the NZ Commercial Building Awards - inspired by their sustainability philosophy (i.e. rainwater recycling and worm farm and vege garden projects) which are all found in Fern Garden too.

In 2014, they won a nation-wide tender to offer exclusive care and education services to a leading multi-national corporation called Orion Healthcare, based in Auckland city. Their centre is called Milky Way, which is modelled on Fern Garden's best practices. In 2015, they recently made FINALIST for three categories: "Best Emerging Business", "Excellence in Innovation" and "Excellence in Business Leadership", with the addition of their new centre called Chrysalis whose goal is to raise hopes and dreams of families in a low decile neighbourhood of West Auckland, by providing world class childcare and education - again modelled on Fern Garden, right here in Otumoetai.

It's no wonder that the last 5 years has been an exciting journey for the proud owners and teaching team, and even more so to see Fern Garden play such a lead role in the growth. Being in a leadership position, Fern Garden has recently committed to further major investments in its centre environment to reach even higher goals as set by Nikeeta and her dedicated leadership team. "Fern Garden will always be like our first baby and be our proudest achievement. This is where we started our vision to lift aspirations and hope for all children and families - especially those who are struggling", says Nikeeta. "To have come so far in a few short years, with a national award each year is mind blowing, but very humbling, and we feel so blessed that all these accolades are going straight into our tamariki's everyday learning and experiences at the centre that the Ministry of Education, ERO, awards judging panels and most importantly, our children, can all see".

Call the friendly team on 0508 PRESCHOOL or (07) 576 1976 or fill an enquiry form on the website <http://www.ferngarden.co.nz> or pop in anytime for a tour to see "childcare like you've never seen before".



Your Fun-Loving Teaching Partners at
Fern Garden Preschool

Sea Lettuce Bonanza



The scientists are foretelling a bumper season for sea lettuce this summer. In preparation the Residents Association organized a public cleanup of the foreshore to clear away the rocks that would impede the contractor's machinery in clearing this unwanted natural phenomenon. The recent work on the rock walls have greatly improved the sandy nature of the beaches in front of the walls and in time this will make it easier still to clean away.

The worst and smelliest areas are in front of the storm water outlets where a black sludge develops due to the constant wetness. We recommend residents call TCC when these areas develop and the smell becomes unpleasant. Whilst unsightly the green and white sea lettuce is not the source of the putrid gas smell. Gas builds up in the storm water pipes as sea lettuce is swept in with the tide and rots within the pipes. The gas can make it's way hundreds of metres along the pipes and come out of street and house storm water outlets many streets away. **No complaint means no action!!**

In the months ahead as the shipping channels are deepened there will be sand from this source placed along our foreshore. The Regional and City Councils will oversee placement of the "cleansed" sand to improve our foreshore and ease the cleanup operation.



Residents out cleaning up the foreshore.

Civil Defence for Matua

The Residents Assn has developed a strategy for emergency situations that may affect the suburb. This is intended to be supportive of and not contrary to advices put out by Tauranga Civil Defence Management Group or Tauranga City Council.



Individually we must all take steps to be able to survive for three days in a major emergency. The idea of the Matua strategy is that by promoting information on five key areas should the worst scenario occur and the city is majorly affected by a major earthquake or Tsunami then we at least have people with the knowledge of how to react.

Key areas are **Communication, Resources, Accommodation, Access and skills.**



The strategy is based around Matua hall as the focal point and Matua Bowls and Matua Primary the supportive facilities. These central points are all in the safe zone should a Tsunami strike, have proximity to outside access and importantly Matua Radius Lifecare which has the potential to provide many assets but alternatively may require the most support.

As well as having hall space for accommodation, kitchen and multiple toilet facilities there is also plenty of land around for camper vans and caravans to provide extra along these lines. Owners of these vehicles please take note- we will need you to provide these for the community.

We are strongly supporting Neighbourhood Support where streets will look out for each other and ideally within each of these hubs there are people taking leadership. These "leaders" will also likely be those who step up when the need is greatest and can spread the word for those who are out of their homes.

The Matua website www.matua.org.nz has further detail but the most important message we want to get out to you is to talk about and register in your minds that in an emergency this is where leadership will occur.

Hopefully we never experience such a disaster.

Litter Free Matua

Greetings from a new neighbour hood group in Matua.

Matua is a lovely place to live and one of the most beautiful areas in New Zealand, but we can make it even better.



I have been involved with Keep New Zealand Beautiful for 8 years and having just moved to Matua I wish to set up a voluntary group of people

who are keen to take pride in their immediate vicinity, by doing regular clean ups of our streets. We also want to educate people of how they can help reduce the amount of litter on our streets.

Here are some ways that can help with this:

- 1. Secure rubbish bins and don't overfill.
- 2. Take responsibility for the area immediately outside your own property.
- 3. Regularly empty your mail box of papers etc, as well as your neighbours if it is obvious they are away or the property is vacant.
- 4. If you are out walking pick up rubbish you see lying about.

The Tauranga City Council are right behind Keep New Zealand Beautiful. They will help with larger items of rubbish that may be of concern.

I would love to have a few volunteers to assist me with this project. It helps everyone and is also a lot of fun as well as being good exercise.

Please contact me - David - on 027 6988774 if you would like to help, or email rufustogo@yahoo.com.au



Park to Park Haiku Style Art Coastal Trail - A COMMUNITY PROJECT

As residents of Matua we have many varied community facilities but our ultimate facility is of course the beautiful Fergusson Park and foreshore. We all enjoy nature at its best - the always busy sports fields, ever changing tides of the harbour, expansive views to the blue of the ranges enhanced at days end by spectacular sunsets. Add to this just the companionship of fellow walkers, joggers, cyclists and picnickers or just take the time to soak in the ambience of the harbour but let's not forget the wind which for the kite boarders is heaven sent.

The Matua Residents Association has a proposal to further enhance this by creating a Park to Park "haiku style/art coastal trail" from Fergusson Park to Kulim Park and have received favourable interest and encouragement from City Council and Creative Tauranga. To further this project we now need to create a proposal / plan / concept and a working committee. We now invite residents of Matua to support this project with your ideas and time. Please phone (07) 576 4942 Lynn or 027 433 7675 Richard to discuss. With community input this will become a cultural feature to be enjoyed by both all residents and visitors to our city.

(Haiku - are short, simple poems generally three lines long, not intellectual thoughts but capturing the moments - what is happening now). The Haiku is engraved on low selected rocks.



Matua of Yesteryear Photos of Matua courtesy of residents and The NZ Room of Tauranga Library.

There are many photos of early Matua available in the New Zealand room at Tauranga Library and a selection can be found on the association website www.matua.org.nz



Proceeds to administering the Otumoetai Sports and Recreation Club Hall at Fergusson Park

SPRING Clean-out MONSTER COMMUNITY garage sale

Enquiries: 0274337675

Date: Saturday 14th November, 2015

StartTime: 8.00am

Address: Fergusson Park, Tilby Drive, Matua, Tauranga 3110

Proceeds to support the Otumoetai Sports and Recreation Club, Inc.

Donations of goods can be dropped off at the club Monday thru Thursday 5.30pm-6.30pm 2.11.2015 to 12.11.2015. Thank you for your support. No TVs, no sale deliveries - thanks

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The Matua 576 6794

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Shoebox Bookkeeping
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Church

Matua Baptist 576 3743
St Columbia Presbyterian Church
576 6756

Hair and Beauty

De Lux 576 9626
Matua Visage in Beauty 570 3077
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Matua Primary 576 9027
Otumoetai College 576 2316
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Matua Residents' Association

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or email us:
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Matua Estuary Care Group: estuarycare@matua.org.nz

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