



Woodville News

Community Monthly Newsletter

Sharing information with the people of
Woodville, Kumeroa, Hopelands, Papatawa, Ballance, Maharahara West

Issue 47

Email: wdvnews@hotmail.co.nz

May 2016

End of an Era at Four Square

It is definitely the end of an era when on Monday 30th May John van Tuyl closes the doors of his Woodville 4-Square for, what will be for him, the last time.

John, with wife Robyn and children Katharine and Michael, moved to Woodville to take over the 4-Square from the Riley's in 1996. They purchased a property in Gladstone Street and John remembers his first visitors as being Ian and Sandra Riley who welcomed the family with a cake and the next day Ken Oulaghan, the local vet. John extended the shop operating hours from 5.5 days per week to the current 7 days a week from 8am to 7pm (or thereabouts). He also extended the premises as well as what was sold, creating a true community store where just about anything can be purchased. Not only a great range of groceries, but also magazines, papers, alcohol, and all sorts of nicnacs. Johns says that 'over the time there has been a lot of changes, in particular the compliance and licensing laws'. There have been very few times when you couldn't find John at or near the shop - there was a holiday with his sister when she visited NZ and several weeks off due to a triple by-pass. Other than that John has spent some 80,000 hours at the shop selling, amongst other things, slightly over 29,000 cases of bananas and over one million loaves of bread!



John van Tuyl serving customers Michael and Ryker

John's wife Robyn and daughter Katharine are passionately involved in the equestrian sport, with Katharine currently at the top of her eventing sport. Several years ago this resulted in a very quiet royal visit when Zara Phillips trialed one of Katharine's very good eventing horses, liked what she saw and took the horse back to the UK.

When I spoke to John he expressed a certain sense of surprise that he couldn't recall any milestones in his 20 years as being our 4-Square host. He said 'touch wood, there haven't been any major break-ins or hold ups'. But perhaps his sense of 'the sameness' is exactly why John and Robyn have been such successful 4-Square owners. They have, in their own no-fuss way, provided the people of Woodville and surrounding districts with an excellent service and been truly an integral part of our community. Another sign of being a good owner is that most of their staff have been with them for over 10 years.

While John is sad to leave as the shop is such a huge part of his life, there are several reasons for deciding to sell the business. The building requires earthquake strengthening which will be quite disruptive for a while. John didn't want the hassle of going through this, so has sold the business accordingly. In addition, he is booked in to have knee surgery in June. Filling the gap will be the new owners, Bryce and Renee Jensen who come from Opunake where they have owned and operated a 4-Square.



John and Robyn plan to remain in Woodville for the meantime. John is 'exceptionally grateful for all the fantastic support from the locals - it has been very much appreciated. There are many people who do all their shopping here, as well as many people who have supported us for a long time. Thank you for that support'.

Woodville Water Treatment Plant Tour

Visit the Woodville Water Treatment Plant and see for yourself what the problems are and how Council is planning to fix both taste, odour and volume requirements for the future. A bus will leave the Woodville Stadium car park 9.00am Wednesday 11th May. Please RSVP to Katrina Kerr, 06 3744080 or email Katrina.kerr@tararua.govt.nz to book a spot. If you have a hi viz vest or jacket please bring them. Also ensure you wear strong footwear.

Councillor's Corner

Council is looking to provide an open day at the Woodville water works on Wednesday next week. While this won't have any effect on the taste and odour of our water, it at least provides an opportunity for Woodville residents to have a look at what the problem is all about.

The issue of stray and feral cats in Woodville remains with us. As a consequence; at last Wednesday's Council meeting a resolution was passed whereby staff has been instructed to develop a cat bylaw for the district to bring before the next Council meeting.

Some may have noticed that an electrical cable has been dug into the ground in Fountaine Square ready to connect to the BBQ that is soon to be installed by the Lions club along with the replacement of the picnic tables. This should happen within the next three weeks.

The upgrade of the camping ground beside the stadium is about to take place with the drainage of the entire area followed by the development of a hard surface turnaround suitable for campervans etc. These improvements will allow vehicle access to the campground in winter.



Peter Johns
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Keep Moving
*If you don't use
it you'll lose it*

Boot Camp -
every Tuesday
and Thursday
evening at 6pm,
Woodville School
Hall. High level
exercise - no pain,
no gain!

Tai Chi - Thurs-
day 10am at the
Old Folks Hall

Indoor Bowls
Wednesdays at
1.30pm in the Old
Folks Hall

Invitation to Community Conversation

Everyone in the Woodville District is invited to a Community Conversation meeting to be held at The Woodville School on Sunday 22 May from 2 to 4 pm.

There will be a cuppa provided and all you have to bring is your thoughts and ideas about your community and a willingness to put ideas into action. Community conversations are set up to strengthen the local community by exchanging information, ideas, stories, experiences and views about the community. Manager of Project Tararua Robin Winter wants to generate a "grass roots" response to balance the in-depth report on Tararua's social needs from researcher Dr Chrissy Severinsen, which started this 3-year community and social issues project funded by Dept of Internal Affairs. For further information, questions or comment, contact Robin Winter on 0800 659 444 or e-mail office@projecttararua.co.nz

Woodville Police Report

Hi everyone. It's been a bit of a busy time in the wider area recently. We continue to have a regular problem with Burglaries to both rural and town properties. Please make sure you report anything suspicious and look after yourselves and your neighbours. Locking your doors and vehicles may sound like a simple idea, but the harder we make it for offenders, the less likely you are to become a victim. Offences reported in April include burglaries to properties in Range Rd, Nelson St, Mclean St and Vogel St. Vehicles were also stolen or tampered with in Bowen St, McLean St and Vogel St. Police from Pahiatua, Eketahuna and Palm Nth also responded to a domestic incident that resulted in a male being arrested and remanded in custody for family violence related charges. Poaching continues to be a topic of interest. The penalties for Unlawful Hunting are a fine up to \$100,000 and up to 2 years imprisonment. Any offender is also likely to lose their firearms license. If you hear gunshots or see suspicious activity on your property please ring 111 and report it. Give us as much detail as you can and we will do our best to catch the culprits. I am trying to regularly get to rural areas of interest to actively patrol these quiet stretches of road. If we can stop poachers from coming into the area, then we may stop someone getting hurt. If you are heading out duck shooting in the coming season, take care and watch out for your mates and family. Please don't mix alcohol with your shooting and hopefully everyone will get home safely. If you have any information about offences that have happened in town, ring the station on 06 3761050 and get a message to us, or you can anonymously ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. All the best. Karl Williams. O/C Woodville Police.

Nordic Tours by Shirley Hale

February: bus picked us up at 8.30, a number of people from Dannevirke and Norsewood already aboard. Travelled to Shannon. Unfortunately because their shops are open at weekends there weren't many open. Travelled onto Murrayfield. This is a large facility - café with seating inside and out on a veranda, plus a wedding or conference centre and a museum. A local lady has erected miniature buildings (some of prominent buildings around NZ). Absolutely amazing. We all had lunch here. They also have a few animals. Back on the bus, travelled through to Foxton Beach. Some went down on the seafront and paddled. Birthday gifts were given, also a raffle with three draws. Headed off for home

Nordic Tours cont ...

March: travelled to Wanganui. Had morning tea at Sanson (supplied by Doreen). Arrived at Wanganui at 11am. Had a lovely trip on the Wairau (steamer) up the river then back again. The people inside the boat had a commentary but outside you couldn't hear. It was a lovely day and very enjoyable trip. They supplied us with tea or coffee and homemade scones. Lovely! Found our own lunch places. Back on the bus and home again.

April: travelled to Havelock North. Stopped for a cuppa at Waipawa. Visited Havelock mushroom establishment. Firstly had an interesting talk by the Manger. Taken into the white mushroom enclosure. Then out to where the compost is made. All very interesting. Nearly everyone brought mushrooms at the shop. The mushroom farm has been sold and a lot of new buildings are going to be built. Landscaping has already been undertaken. Travelled to Arataki honey shop. We only had 10 minutes here. I think most travellers brought honey etc. Went then into Havelock and had lunch at a new café (only been open 6 weeks). Very nice. Travelled out to a fig orchard. We were allowed to pick and eat them. Absolutely delicious. Some took them home. They also had a shop, but mostly preserve (jam) and chutneys, all made from figs. Then set off for home.

Each trip is different, always interesting. Also a great, helpful driver - Derek.

Cheese Making

On 23 April six people had an interesting four hours with Kirsty Sylvester who makes our local Wild Bush Cheese, sold at Fox Cottage. We were all beginners in the task of learning how to make feta cheese. I loved every minute of the peaceful contemplative task of making cheese. It's slow and steady, timed to the minute and heated to the exact temperature. Stirring the curd was the nicest part of the process – your hands feel like they are swimming in silk. Best of all at the end of the lesson we all got to take two blocks of fresh feta, to be rubbed with salt morning and night for two days and then eaten with gusto ! Thank you Kirsty ☺



What's On

Housie - Every second week - Saturday 21 May and 4 June. At the Old Folks Hall, 1.00 pm.

Woodville Country Spinners meet every other Tuesday at the Anglican Church Hall, Fox Street at 10.30am. Joy Cumming 376 5409

Woodville Districts Vision meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Supper Room in The Stadium, at 7 pm. Membership is \$5 per annum, and anyone interested in Woodville can attend.

Papatawa Garden Club first Monday of the month. Further enquiries to Margaret Worboys 376 4023 or Kay Ball 376 5252

The Junction Country Music Club day is on the second Sunday of each month starting at 1.30 pm in the Old Folks Hall. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a great afternoon of country music.

Woodville Bowling Club

Marilyn Blatchford and Erika Goldsworthy won the Manawatu Champion of Champion Senior Pairs on Saturday 23rd of April. Although the wind made it very trying both girls played extremely well, beating Himitungi Beach 22 / 9 in the final.



We really showed what a small club can achieve and it was wonderful to have so many spectators make the drive through the gorge. It has been an extremely successful bowling season with Erika making it into the Manawatu under 5yr and under 8yr Rep teams. The future is looking bright with having so many up and coming young bowlers.

Erika Goldsworthy (L) and Marilyn Blatchford

Ladies Golf

At the recent Pahiatua Ladies Open day, 100 lady golfers from surrounding golf clubs joined the Pahiatua Ladies golfers in a gross, nett and stableford competition. There was some outstanding golf played in extremely good conditions, with some top scores being recorded in the three divisions. Woodville golfers (pictured from left to right) Margaret Alding, Rona Squires and Pam Huddleston achieved a clean sweep of the nett prizes in the three divisions. Well done ladies! Not forgetting Mary McAvoy who won the gross prize in the 3rd division. GOOD GOLFING . See you sometime on the green. Tuesday's and Wednesday mornings are ladies golfing days. Contact phone number, 06 376 5625



ANZAC Day

Thank you to those involved in making ANZAC Day a success - the RSA, Woodville Districts Vision, Linton soldiers, the Girl Guides for the Dawn Parade and community breakfast, and Rosie McMillan, the Telford's and Mark Taylor for the Civic Ceremony. Thank you to everyone who participated in their own way.

We shall remember them

Thank you Bruce Hutton for the photos



Woodville's Armed Forces Representation

Dot Johnstone

Two local residents, by co-incidence living in the same street (Gordon) represent our country by serving in the NZ Army. We were privileged to have these two men present and marching in the parades at Woodville on ANZAC Day.

Sergeant Stephen Pickering has been to Afghanistan twice. His role is to train soldiers. When he returns after commuting daily to Linton he takes on the position of caring for his two children while his wife Kirsty rests. She rises at 2.00am to work at the local bakery cooking up the tasty treats we enjoy.

Staff Sergeant Jeremy Edwards has also travelled to Afghanistan no less than four times! His role is also to train soldiers. He is married to Emma. They have a baby boy who looks like the image of his dad. Feeding and tending to a number of chooks is a part of their daily routine.

Also representing our country is long-time resident Major Graham Telford who delivered a memorable tribute at the 10.00am ANZAC civil service. His wife Gina read the Ode. They used to own the ex-hardware shop. When he relinquished the shop he returned to the Army where he commutes daily to Linton. Major Graham's role in the Army is commanding the Tri Service Defence Driving School. He has completed: two 6 month tours to Sinai; a 12 month tour to Laos; one 6 month tour to East Timor; one 6 month tour to Sierra Leone. Gina served 8 years in the Regular Force. They have two children. Stuart currently completing Officer Training in Waiouru and Rachael whose partner is currently serving 6 months tour in Dubai.

Mary Reuben was blown away, so to speak, when three of her grandsons totally surprised her by arriving on her doorstep out of the blue ready to escort her (dressed in their uniforms) to our ANZAC parade ceremonies. Cole Proevstel is a Corporal while Calum Proevstel is a private in the NZ Army. Lieutenant Terry Rawhiti serves in the NZ Navy. Cole and Calum have just returned from Fiji after helping in the rebuild from the devastating cyclone the country experienced. Cole works in logistics and has travelled to many countries including Antarctica, Australia and Afghanistan. These three men are the 5th generation of Mary's family to serve in the defence force. Mary is so very proud of this record.

Next time we are discontented with our weather consider how the temperature in Afghanistan varies from a scorching 40° + to a chilling - 40 °. To be sure that's when plenty of puffer jackets are a necessity.

From the Editor - Please remember to send me your stories, poems, quirky bits of information, anything of interest. Anyone having a birthday, celebrating something special? Our community newsletter really does need your input. I would like to thank Bruce Hutton for the photographs he so generously provides for this newsletter - thanks Bruce!

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Submission Deadline

Submissions for the next edition close by **Thursday 26 May 2016**. Please submit by email to wdvnews@hotmail.co.nz, or contact the editor. Editors decision on publication of items is final.