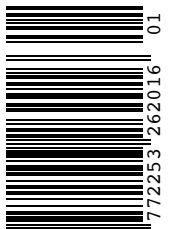


# BAY BUZZ

ISSUE NO.39 • JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018 • \$8.00 INCLUDING GST

INSIDE:  
SUMMER  
EVENT  
GUIDE

## SUMMER IN HAWKE'S BAY



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# BAY BUZZ

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018

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## This Month

It's summer in Hawke's Bay. And that's what this edition is all about. Information and perspectives on how we spend our summer vacations – where we go, the activities we prefer, our faves for summer drink and dining. Go behind the scenes at Black Barn events, Mission Concert and Art Deco Festival. Meet people passionate about their summer pastimes – from cricket to croquet, sailing to mountain biking to fly fishing, gardening to barbecuing. And a dose of serious issues too – skin cancer, sea rise, solar power, safe swimming and boating, restoring the Ahuriri Estuary. And nearly 50 summer events to choose from.

Cover photo and above: Ocean Beach  
by Florence Charvin

## Features

### 6 / EVENTS

Summer happenings ... dozens of choices in Jan/Feb.

### 10 / OUR SUMMER FAVES / Tom Belford

How we spend our summers, according to our *BayBuzz* online survey.

### 20 / BEHIND THE SOUNDS OF SUMMER / Keith Newman

The trials and tribulations behind mounting our biggest summer events.

### 28 / JEWEL IN THE CROWN / Mark Sweet

Will we ever get it right for the Ahuriri Estuary?

### 34 / SOLAR POWER: SUNNY OR CLOUDY? / Keith Newman

Is solar power ready for mass consumer pick-up?

### 40 / TURNING THE TIDE ON DROWNING / Sarah Cates

Why people drown. And how to prevent it.

### 48 / SLOW SIMMER THREATENS OUR COAST / Tom Belford

How our region will adapt to sea rise and coastal inundation.



39

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018

---

## More summer sunlight

54 / MAPPING THE SUMMER APPS / Keith Newman

58 / MOVING SKIN CANCER OUT OF THE SHADE /  
Sarah Cates

60 / FAVES / Lizzie Russell

Heaps of ideas for what to do and where to do it ...  
from the experts.

68 / RELUCTANT CAMPER ... PAUL PAYNTER

70 / JOHN SCOTT: COME FLY WITH ME / Andrew Frame

74 / WATERY ORIGINS / Ngahiwi Tomoana

76 / THE JOY OF SAILING / Barbara Arnott

78 / MOUNTAIN BIKING ON THE PEAK / Damon Harvey

80 / CROQUET: VICIOUS OR GENTEEL? / Colin Hurst

82 / CRICKET AND CONSERVATION / Matt Miller

84 / A SUMMER SPREAD /  
Michal McKay

94 / THE BBQ KING / Michal McKay

98 / SUSTAINING A SUMMER  
GARDEN / Michal McKay

102 / SUMMER READS / Picks from  
Poppies, Wardini Books, Beattie & Forbes

104 / LETTER FROM THE COUNTRY /  
Mary Kippenberger

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Associate Editor Michal McKay and assistant Mimi hard at work on the *A Summer Spread* feature.



**FEATURED CONTRIBUTOR:  
CARLEE ATKIN**

Carlee has been hooked on advertising and communications for the last decade. She has worked across many magazines, from *Healthy Food Guide* through to *Your Home and Garden*, and more recently within a creative agency in Queenstown servicing a wide range of clients.

She's moved back to her home base of Hawke's Bay (a Taradale High grad), as the pull of family, music, sunshine and incredible lifestyle was far too strong.

Her HB summer faves include dining out at the local wineries, spending weekends at Ocean Beach, and enjoying all the events HB has to offer.

She's been known to front a band, and lately to sing in the HB Operatic Society's recent production, *A Great Face for Radio*.

Carlee is passionate about publishing and this region, so *BayBuzz* is perfectly in tune.

**BAYBUZZ  
REGULARS**



**MARK SWEET**  
Napier-born, Mark worked overseas in Hong Kong and Scotland, before returning to Hawke's Bay, and establishing Pacifica restaurant. Re-creating himself as a writer, Mark's first novel *Zhu Mao* was published in 2011; an extract from his next novel, *Of Good and Evil*, has been short-listed for the Pikihiua Awards, will be published soon.



**KEITH NEWMAN**  
Keith is a journo with over 45 years' experience across mainstream and trade media. He's won awards for writing about hi-tech, produced music programmes for Radio NZ and published five books, one on the internet in New Zealand and four on New Zealand history.



**LIZZIE RUSSELL**  
Lizzie has been working in the arts and communications in Hawke's Bay since returning in 2010. Along with her work for *BayBuzz*, she also runs Tennyson Gallery in Napier

TOM BELFORD:  
FROM THE EDITOR

## Happy Summer!



WE LUCKY RESIDENTS of Hawke's Bay have a super-abundance of opportunities to entertain ourselves during our splendid summers.

*BayBuzz* celebrates that abundance in this edition.

Every article offers perspective or information on the summer activities available to us ... starting with a report on the *BayBuzz* 'Summer in Hawke's Bay' online survey, which reveals the ways and places we prefer to spend our summer time – where we go, what we do, how much time off do we enjoy ... our faves, from eating out to ice cream.

In Hawke's Bay, we take our summers seriously! Nearly four in 10 of us work in a business that totally shuts down for some interval in the summer. As I write in the report, 'urgent' and 'summer' do not co-exist in Hawke's Bay.

Some articles introduce people who are passionate about their pursuits or help bring us the experiences we enjoy.

Interested in mountain biking, try Damon Harvey's survey of the bike paths on Te Mata Park. Read about Barbara Arnott's passion for sailing, or Colin Hurst's passion for croquet ... "vicious or genteel"? Meet local trout fishing legend John Scott.

Learn about the dual focus on cricket and conservation at the Clifton County Cricket Club ... and join the fun.

If camping is your thing, follow reluctant camper Paul Paynter as he 'shops' at Kathmandu for the essential gear.

For Mary Kippenberger, summer is family ... and welcoming a new-born calf into it. *Yay, MooMoo!*

Our survey shows that barbequing looms huge in our summer experience. If you want to improve your own technique, read *The Barbeque King*, featuring local legend Raymond von Rijk.

Thinking about the perfect summer

lunch or picnic? Consider the menus of chef Leyton Ashley (Te Awa), chef Ben Cruse (Little Black Bird Café), and caterer Kate Lester in *A Summer Spread*.

Or maybe your summer challenge is gardening in HB's dry and heat. Consider Kay Bazzard's advice in *Sustaining a Summer Garden*.

For some, summer is about HB's marvelous array of entertainment events. *In Behind the Sounds of Summer*, empresarios Francis de Jager (Black Barn), Garry Craft (Mission Estates Concert) and Glen Pickering (Art Deco Festival) give us a peek at the trials and tribulations of mounting some of our region's most iconic events.

For help charting your way through the maze of summer treats on offer in January and February, check out our expanded *Events* listings. Or look through our listing of clubs, favourite tramps, tips from our local iSites, and the 'Top Ten' personal favourite summer things to do from Annie Dundas, general manager of Hawke's Bay Tourism.

For more assistance in plotting your summer, *Mapping the Apps* describes the online tools that can help you navigate digitally through your summer.

Of course HB summer means sun and swimming, each bringing both pleasure and dangers. For a dose of caution, I urge you to read our important articles on skin cancer and safe swimming and boating.

Continuing on the serious side, this *BayBuzz* looks at a number of issues to think about as you loll and play in the summer sun.

Sun means solar, and *Solar Power: Sunny Or Cloudy?* examines the present viability of solar power, perhaps right for some, not yet for others. *Jewel In the Crown* looks at the state of our regionally (and nationally) treasured Ahuriri Estuary – Te Whanga – through

the eyes of key players with critical roles in its future. And *Slow Simmer Threatens Our Coast* reports on how our region is preparing to adapt to global warming and its escalating threats of sea rise and storm events.

And as Ngahiwi Tomoana writes in *Watery Origins*, it's water – awa – that defines us.

Not everyone in Hawke's Bay 'turns it up a gear' during summer (42% will). Instead, 38% say they will 'slow down, chill out and relax'. And indeed, our survey says the absolute top summer activity is ... reading!

Great news for *BayBuzz* ... and don't miss our summer book recommendations from Poppies, Wardini Books and Beattie & Forbes.

Enjoy!

tom@baybuzz.co.nz

**P.S. Summer brings our best-ever *BayBuzz* subscription offer ... even current subscribers can take advantage.** Every new subscriber who signs up by 28 February – and every current subscriber who extends their subscription or gifts a subscription by then – will get a \$20 cash voucher to use at Clearview, Takaro Trails, Birdwoods, MYLK or Wardini Books. AND go in our draw to win a fabulous Black Barn Experience – accommodation & luncheon for four, gift hamper and wine.  
**Details on p 18**

[Editor: In our last issue (Moving On article), we incorrectly reported that the Crossroads Wines facility at Fernhill was purchased by Zephyr Wines. Actually it was taken over by Zeffer Cider, www.zeffer.co.nz]



COVE OUTDOOR designed in New Zealand and now available from Hutchinson's. This unique collection is made from the finest materials used specifically for their ability to deal with New Zealand conditions including grade A plantation teak, Sunbrella fabric, Quick Dry Foam and powder coated aluminium.

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THE BAY BUZZ

# SUMMER EVENT GUIDE

## Summer Cycling Carnival

January 5–10

Check out the website for all the info on the range of cycling events which attract top cyclists from around the country, plus the fun stuff for pedallers of all ages – including the Big Bike Film Night, the Bay Espresso Winery Fun Ride and the iWay Family Fun Ride.

[summercyclingcarnival.co.nz](http://summercyclingcarnival.co.nz)



## Sundaze with the Puketapu

January 7 & 21 and February 4 & 18

Head for the hills – Sacred Hill – for top notch, super-relaxed Sunday food, beverages and live music including Eilish Rose, Tim Hansen, Ian Munro and Men in Black.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## Hawke's Bay United vs Hamilton Wanderers – NZ Football

January 7

See the boys in black and white take on the Waikato lads at the Bluewater

Stadium, Park Island. Enjoy great refreshments and atmosphere on the sidelines as you watch the beautiful game.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## Precocious Percussion at Oruawharo Homestead, Takapau

January 13

Jenny Raven from the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra and guests will delight and entertain with superb percussion music in a superb rural setting – plus there's high tea!

[oruawharo.com](http://oruawharo.com)



## Another Day in Taradise at Moana Park Winery

January 13

Sip on delicious craft beers and Moana Park wines in the sun while indulging at the food stalls or enjoying a picnic. This family-friendly event is a great chance to check out a fantastic winery, just over the hill from Taradale.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)



## Bad Company, Foreigner: Rock Steady Supergroup at Linden Estate

January 13

Dave "Bucket" Colwell (Bad Company, Humble Pie), Rick Wills (Foreigner) Ronan Kavanagh and NZ's own Gordon Joll have joined forces as Rock Steady and are touring the country playing all the hits from Bad Company, Free, and Foreigner.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## Sunday Session: The Cellar Door Band at Te Awanga Estate

January 14

Sunshine, picnics, pizzas and platters and a little something from the wine list – sounds like a sweet way to spend a few hours in Te Awanga. Throw in the Cellar Door Band with their tribute to all things Neil Young and you've got a pretty perfect Sunday afternoon.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### Shed2 Triathlon & Duathlon Race #3

January 14

At each of these events there are three different races offering distances and options to suit everyone from beginners to hard-core athletes. Walkers are welcome and there's a kids' Aquathlon too.

[trihb.kiwi](http://trihb.kiwi)



### Neil and Liam Finn: Where's My Room at CHB Municipal Theatre

January 15

Neil and Liam Finn, together with Sharon and Elroy Finn, Connan Mockasin, champion whistler Molly Lewis, John Carroll Kirby, Jimmy Metherell and songbird Eliza-Jane Barnes are hitting the road-less-travelled this summer for a tour of small town halls. There will be Finn family classics, plus new songs from the father and son's upcoming collaborative album.

[neilandliamfinn.com](http://neilandliamfinn.com)

### School Holiday Workshops at Hastings City Art Gallery

January 17 & 24

Let the talented team at HCAG take the littlies for a few hours in the holidays. The fun and creative workshops for kids are based around the current main gallery show, Everyday Lines.

[hastingscityartgallery.co.nz](http://hastingscityartgallery.co.nz)

### Wairoa A&P Show

January 18-20

For a classic community day out, head for the Wairoa Showgrounds and take in open rodeo, competition shearing, dog trials and top-class showjumping and equestrian events, as well as sideshows, Lulu the Clown, local performers and activities for the kids.

[wairoashow.co.nz](http://wairoashow.co.nz)

### Ciaran McMeeken at the Common Room

January 19

The southern singer-songwriter takes on his first major tour of the country, supported by solo artist and friend, Jasper

Hawkins. McMeeken will be promoting his self-titled debut album, which was released in August after EPs The Valley (2014) and Screaming Man (2015).

[undertheradar.co.nz](http://undertheradar.co.nz)



### Bridge Pa Wine Festival

January 20

Eight wineries of the Bridge Pa Triangle come together to offer a brilliant day of wine, food, music and special wine experiences, all enjoyed from the hop-on hop-off buses. The wineries are Abbey Estate, Alpha Domus, Ash Ridge, Ngatarawa, Oak Estate, Paritua, Red Metal and Sileni.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### Jimmy Carr at Napier Municipal Theatre (2 shows)

January 20

Jimmy Carr has been on the stand-up and British TV scenes for fifteen years and in that time has performed 9 sell-out tours, playing more than 2,000 shows to over 2 million people across 4 continents. Now it's Napier's turn to see why he's won the British Comedy Award for 'Best Live Stand-Up Tour' and been nominated for the Perrier Award.

[napiermunicipaltheatre.co.nz](http://napiermunicipaltheatre.co.nz)

### The Original Mack at the Common Room

January 20

Enjoy an evening at Hastings institution the Common Room, listening to Fraser Mack's distinctive tapping, picking, strumming style as he rolls through his set of acoustic covers and originals.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### Branded Country Music Fest at Hastings Racecourse

January 24-28

Country comes to town for five days of country music from some of New Zealand's top talent.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)



### Moana at Mitre 10 MEGA Outdoor Movie Season at Bay Skate, Marine Parade

January 26

Here's a unique, affordable and family-friendly event right on Marine Parade. Check out animated hit Moana while looking out across the Bay. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids – cheaper than the cinema!

[napier.govt.nz](http://napier.govt.nz)





Kitty, Daisy & Lewis at Black Barn

wines and supping on pizza while local band The Inquiry takes care of the sounds.

[eventfinder.co.nz](http://eventfinder.co.nz)

### Hawke's Bay United vs Auckland City – NZ Football

February 11

Auckland City are the team to beat, so head along and support the HBU players from the festive sidelines of the Bluewater Stadium at Park Island.

[eventfinder.co.nz](http://eventfinder.co.nz)



### Tremains Art Deco Festival

February 14 – 18

The 2018 Art Deco Festival is the thirtieth, and organisers have got loads of new events in store to make this the most inclusive and entertaining festival yet. There's a musical theme this time, so check the programme for all the concerts and performances, and don't forget the free, family-friendly events like the Vintage Car Parade (Sat, February 17), the seaside Gatsby Picnic (Sun, February 18), The Royal New Zealand Navy Concert at the Soundshell (Sat, February 17) and the Costumes and Coiffures and Bathing Belles competitions (Sat, February 17). And be sure to look up on Friday evening Saturday to spot the Brebner Print Memorial Flying Displays. Even just wandering the inner city during the festival is great fun – the thousands of locals and visitors in full period garb are a gorgeous spectacle themselves!

[artdeconapier.com](http://artdeconapier.com)

### Napier Port Ocean Swim

February 17

Take the plunge or join the carnival atmosphere on the beach and walkways for the eighth annual port swim, which takes place in the relatively sheltered waters along Ahuriri's Hardinge Road. There are five individual events and three group events, so most fitness levels are catered for, but training is recommended.

[napieroceanswim.co.nz](http://napieroceanswim.co.nz)

### Cable vs Wake at Backpaddock Lakes, Waipukurau

January 27-28

The popular Cable vs Wake wakeboarding/wake skating competition will make a splash in CHB. Riders compete behind the boat on Saturday and on the cable on Sunday.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### The Jungle Book at Mitre 10 MEGA Outdoor Movie Season at Bay Skate, Marine Parade

February 2

Disney classic The Jungle Book is the second movie in NCC's series of outdoor films on Marine Parade. Be sure to book asap for a fun family night out.

[napier.govt.nz](http://napier.govt.nz)



### Fat Freddy's Drop at Black Barn

February 3

Fat Freddy's and The Nudge return once more to Black Barn on the FFT Summer Tour. This is the chance to experience songs off the band's upcoming new album.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### New Zealand Sidecar Championships at Meeanee Speedway

February 5 & 6

The NZ Sidecar Championships attract over 40 Sidecars from as far away as Invercargill. Riders with their Swingers (passengers) race elbow to elbow at over 130kph, and brakes are illegal!

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### Kitty, Daisy & Lewis at Black Barn

February 9

The talented British sibling trio return to NZ, this time with their father Graeme Durham, new bassist Popcorn, and legendary trumpeter Eddie 'Tan Tan' Thornton in tow. Expect to hear some of the band's most popular tunes, such as 'Going Up The Country' and 'Baby Bye Bye' as well as material from new album Superscope.

[blackbarn.com/events](http://blackbarn.com/events)



### Hunt for the Wilderpeople at Mitre 10 MEGA Outdoor Movie Season at Bay Skate, Marine Parade

February 10

Gather a group and make a night at the outdoor screening of this instant kiwi classic. Be sure to book tickets!

[napier.govt.nz](http://napier.govt.nz)

### Eclipse - The Ultimate Pink Floyd Tribute Show at River Park Event Centre, Waipawa

February 10

Pack the tent and head for Waipawa to experience the music of one of history's greatest bands. Ticket price includes camping!

[eventfinder.co.nz](http://eventfinder.co.nz)

### Sunday Session at Te Awanga Estate: The Inquiry

February 11

Soak up the hot February sun on the lawn at Te Awanga Estate, sipping on

### 2018 Hawke's Bay Backyard Cricket Championships at the Meeanee Hotel

February 17

Here's your chance to take your BYC game to the next level: gather a team of five and enter the Backyard Bash competition, which comprises of round-robins, then semis and finals.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### Kevin Bloody Wilson: Almost Awesome at Napier Municipal Theatre

February 2

"Australia's most unique international comedy legend" is back to share his distinctively irreverent, politically incorrect humour with his loyal fans. This time he has special guest artist, Jenny Talia, in support.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### Arcee Rapper & Greta Bull: NZ Tour at The Common Room

February 23

This talented Dunedin duo are on their first headlining tour of New Zealand and promise show-womanship, soultronic guitar and piano rap in Hastings' cosy and cool Common Room.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### Automatic 80s at The Cabana

February 24

Automatic 80s is billed as New Zealand's Premium 80s live show, and features front man Justin Maclaren, backed up by the pitch perfect Pearl Runga (sister to Boh & Bic), drummer Bobby Kennedy (Opshop), lead guitarist Danny McCrum (The Buskers, support to Eric Clapton, John Meyer and Simple Minds) bassist Clint Harris (Opshop/The Feelers). Lights and staging combine to take the crowd back to the colourful, crazy 80s.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### Ice Skate Tour at Coronation Park, Waipawa

February 28 – March 4

It may not be real ice, but it looks like ice and glides like ice, so why not? Kids are provided with helmets and gloves and a super safe way to experience ice skating in the midst of the Hawke's Bay summer.

[eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### XRACE, Napier

March 2

XRACE is an international programme, thought up in New Zealand, and encourages kids' self-esteem



and family bonding. It's a mystery adventure race where parent and child aged 6-14 race together, locate and complete 10 mystery challenges; racing the clock and all the other family teams. Registration is a must and there are lots of details on the website.

[xrace.co.nz/napier](http://xrace.co.nz/napier)

### The Piano: The Ballet at Napier Municipal Theatre

March 2-3

Twenty-five years since the release of Jane Campion's iconic film *The Piano*, the Royal New Zealand Ballet now presents the full-length dance work by Jiří Bubeníček. Excerpts from Michael Nyman's original film score are blended with evocative music by Debussy, Arensky, Stravinsky, Schnittke, Brahms and Shostakovich.

[napiermunicipaltheatre.co.nz](http://napiermunicipaltheatre.co.nz)

### MCL Construction Triple Peaks, Havelock North

March 10

The Triple Peaks is one of Hawke's Bay's longest running, challenging and rewarding events, and in 2018 it celebrates 30 years.

Management of the event has changed, and there's a new course, but the local flavour remains. This time all funds raised are going to Te Mata Park, for trail maintenance and the establishment of new paths and tracks.

Competitors can run, walk or mountain bike the 50 km course. Participants will traverse private land on Mount Erin, Mount Kahuranaki and Te Mata Peak, and can race as individuals or as part of a three-person relay team.

[triplepeaks.co.nz](http://triplepeaks.co.nz)



The Piano: The ballet at Napier Municipal Theatre

## Our Holiday Practices

38%

WORK IN A BUSINESS THAT TOTALLY SHUTS DOWN FOR SOME INTERVAL.

77%

WILL TAKE AN OFFICIAL BREAK FROM WORK

27%

WORK IN A BUSINESS THAT REMAINS OPEN, BUT "TENDS TO OPERATE IN SLOW MOTION"

37%

WILL HAVE MORE THAN TWO WEEKS OFF

33%

WORK IN A BUSINESS THAT OPERATES "PRETTY MUCH BUSINESS AS USUAL"

27%

WILL HAVE TWO WEEKS OFF

### Frozen treat?

OUR TOP ICE CREAM FLAVOURS:

1. HOKEY POKEY
2. VANILLA,
3. FELJOA OR BERRY (3RD EQUAL)

22%

WILL HAVE ONE WEEK OFF

# OUR SUMMER FAVES

TOM BELFORD

THANKS TO ALL OUR READERS and friends who responded to the *BayBuzz* 'Summer in Hawke's Bay' online survey.

Your responses, while not meant to represent a 'scientific' sampling of our population, offer some fascinating insight into the activities and places we most enjoy as part of Hawke's Bay's stunning summers.

And as this survey indicates, we take our summer holidays seriously!

Of those presently employed, 77% will take an official break from work over the summer. Of those, 37% will enjoy more than two weeks off work (women predominate here), 27% will take off two weeks, 22% one week, and the balance just a few days.

Our seriousness about summer is reflected in the holiday practices of our businesses. Fully 38% work in a business that totally shuts down for some interval. And 27% say their businesses remain open, but "tend to operate in slow motion". Only a third of our respondents' businesses operate "pretty much business as usual".

I suspect the experience of anyone in Hawke's Bay trying to get anything 'discretionary' done in January would validate those statistics! In most cases,

**"I suspect the experience of anyone in Hawke's Bay trying to get anything 'discretionary' done in January would validate those statistics! In most cases, 'urgent' and 'summer' do not co-exist in Hawke's Bay."**

'urgent' and 'summer' do not co-exist in Hawke's Bay.

And how will we spend our holiday time – slow down or speed up?

Slightly more, 42%, say they will "step up a gear", pursuing "heaps of outdoor activity", compared to the 38% who say they will "slow down, relax and chill out". The remaining 20% approach summer "pretty much the same as always".

Interestingly, men are far more inclined to step up a gear, while women prefer to relax and chill out. Hopefully this split doesn't lead to too much household strife!

Looking at specific summer activities in more detail, we see a kaleidoscope of interests pursued. We asked respondents to consider a list of activities, assigning a rank of '5' to those they most enjoyed ("can't get enough of").

Looking at just the '5' rankings, the 'Top 3' activities with broadest appeal are not that surprising – reading (which, of course, pleases *BayBuzz*), barbecuing, and swimming (especially those age 50 and younger). Gardening sits slightly behind in fourth place.

When we include both '4' and '5' rankings, we get a broader picture. Reading (driven by the women and those age 65 plus) and barbecuing still rule, but both gardening and home projects tie for third place, edging out swimming. Women seem to be big fans of barbecuing. If my household is an indicator, I suggest this reflects who actually stands over the grill!

The full response is on the next page. The surprises here to me are the relatively low ranking for activities like camping, tramping, fishing and even cycling. Aren't these part of the Hawke's Bay identity? Where do you sit?

# Favourite summer activities

WHERE 1 = DON'T PARTAKE AND 5 = CAN'T GET ENOUGH

	1	2	3	4	5
CYCLING	34	22	24.5	13.5	7.5
MOUNTAIN BIKING	72.5	16.5	4.5	3	3.5
FRESHWATER FISHING	78	10	5.5	3	4
SALTWATER FISHING	67	14	10	6.5	3
GOLFING	85	12	2	0	1
TENNIS	73.5	15.5	5.5	5	1
SWIMMING	8	22.5	23.5	23.5	22.5
HITTING THE WINERIES	18	23.5	32.5	15.5	10
GOING TO OUTDOOR CONCERTS	12	24.5	33.5	20	10
READING	4.5	6.5	19	28	42.5
ENJOYING LOCAL PARKS	3.5	18.5	35	31	12
TRAMPING	35.5	28	19	10	7.5
GARDENING	4.5	19	26	30	21
BARBECUING	5.5	10	20	31.5	33.5
SAILING	76.5	16	4.5	2	1
CAMPING	34.5	24	20	11	10
PROJECTS AROUND THE HOUSE	2	16	31.5	39	12

We took a different look at how HBers liked to spend their summer days by asking about somewhat more specific activities. Our question: "Thinking only of last summer or this coming summer, which of these activities have you done or plan to do?"

Tops here were: go to the beach, go to a farmers' market, take a visitor to Te Mata Peak, take a visitor to a winery – all pretty generic and unsurprising. But the full response sheds a bit more light on our faves.

The surprise here for me ... nearly half going to Lake Taupo.

Food and drink loom large in the Hawke's Bay summer experience, as the popularity of barbecuing attests.

We asked an open-ended question: "For a casual summer drink or nibble, what's your favourite place?" While heaps of establishments were mentioned – Clearview and the Ahuriri strip leading the pack – far and away the most often volunteered response was some version of 'barbecuing on my deck'.

My favourite: "Gary's place. He lives in Napier Road. Or Brett's place in Middle Road."

And what do we prefer to barbecue?

Steak, by far and away, at 33%.

However, less meat for the women and those under age 50 please, and more seafood and chicken.

Matched with our favourite summer drink ... wine at 50%, followed by something "cold, but non-alcoholic" at 26%, and then beer at 20% (but beer is tops for men). Gin & tonic fans like myself clearly bringing up the rear.

As for desserts, we asked about only one summer classic ... ice cream.

The top five flavours: hokey pokey, vanilla, feijoa and berry (any berry) tied, passionfruit, chocolate. Just

## Specific Activities

WHICH OF THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU DONE OR PLAN TO DO?

ATTEND BLACK BARN OPEN AIR CINEMA	49%
ATTEND MISSION CONCERT	24%
ATTEND CHURCH ROAD CONCERT	14.3%
TAKE A VISITOR TO TE MATA PEAK	71.4%
ATTEND A BLACK BARN CONCERT	42%
TAKE A VISITOR TO A WINERY	67%
GO TO THE BEACH	91%
PARTICIPATE IN A RUN/WALK EVENT	19.6%
GO TO SPLASH PLANET	30.3%
USE A PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL	34%
GO TO LAKE WAIKAREMOANA	17%
GO TO LAKE TAUPO	49%
VISIT THE AQUARIUM	18%
GO TO HASTINGS OR NAPIER FARMERS' MARKET	81.2%

## Our Holiday Practices

42%

WILL STEP UP A GEAR, PURSUING  
“HEAPS OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITY”

51%

WILL STAY IN HAWKE'S BAY  
FOR THEIR SUMMER HOLIDAY

38%

WILL “SLOW DOWN,  
RELAX AND CHILL OUT”

36%

WILL SPEND TIME  
ELSEWHERE IN NEW ZEALAND

20%

WILL DO PRETTY MUCH  
THE SAME AS ALWAYS

4%

WILL SPEND TIME  
OUTSIDE NEW ZEALAND

## Our top three activities

- » GO TO THE BEACH
- » GO TO A FARMERS' MARKET
- » TAKE A VISITOR TO TE MATA PEAK

77%

ARE EXPECTING SUMMER VISITORS  
FROM OUTSIDE HAWKE'S BAY

## Our Holiday Practices

50%

SAY WINE IS THEIR FAVORITE  
SUMMER DRINK

33%

PREFER TO  
BARBECUE STEAK

26%

PREFER TO DRINK SOMETHING  
"COLD BUT NON-ALCOHOLIC"

18%

PREFER TO  
BARBECUE LAMB

20%

PREFER TO DRINK BEER  
(BEER IS TOPS FOR MEN)

14%

PREFER TO  
BARBECUE CHICKEN

**If you holiday away from  
Hawke's Bay, where do  
you go?**

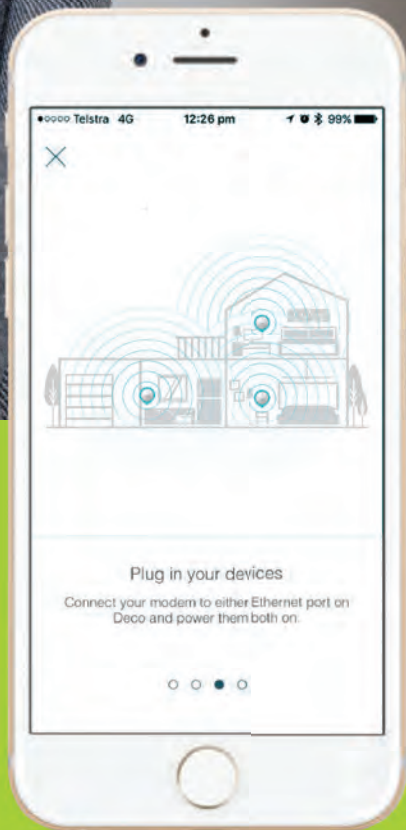
OUR TOP TWO CHOICES:

- » NORTHLAND
- » COROMANDEL

11%

PREFER TO  
BARBECUE BURGERS

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about every flavour under the sun was mentioned. And local brand loyalty prevailed, with a number mentioning Rush Munro, as opposed to a flavour.

Of course, not all summer dining is at home. We asked: "For a special summer treat, what's your favourite outdoor dining spot?" Here's the response.

Top choice for women was Elephant Hill; for men, Ahuriri waterfront. But Clearview won out with balanced appeal. The most frequent 'Other' mentions were, again, some version of 'my backyard', or picnics, especially around water.

We locals tend to remain loyal to the Bay for the summer. We asked: "Can you think of a better place to spend your summer than Hawke's Bay? Fully 78% said NO. Of those who would stray from HB, Northland and Coromandel received the most mentions. And then there was St Moritz!

So, 51% will stay in the Bay for their summer holiday (76% of those over age 65 will), 36% will spend time elsewhere in New Zealand, and 4% outside NZ. The rest were unsure.

In fact, the larger tide is coming our way! Fully 77% of respondents expect to entertain summer visitors from outside

## Eating Out

FOR A SUMMER TREAT, WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE TO GO?

CLEARVIEW	20.5%
AHURIRI WATERFRONT	18.75%
ELEPHANT HILL	16%
THE MISSION	10.7%
TE AWA	4.5%
CRAGGY RANGE	1.8%
OTHER	21.5%

Hawke's Bay. As they say in tourism circles, that's a net inflow of 37%!

What will we do with our summer visitors? We've already seen in responses above the popularity of taking visitors to our beaches and wineries.

And that was reinforced when we asked an open-ended question: "If you are having summer visitors from outside HB, what is the one thing you would insist they do?" Arguably this question gets at what we locals regard as our top local attraction.

Winner of top 'must do' activity ... visit Te Mata Peak, especially the Redwoods. Checking out the wineries, beaches and farmers' markets followed.

A few more adventurous would venture to Lake Waikaremoana or the gannet colony. And one suggestion of Bareknuckle BBQ ... hmmm!

What strikes me about our own view of the 'best' that Hawke's Bay offers in the summer is that it is not any particular 'attraction' ... certainly no commercial venue or attraction like an aquarium or water park or Hobbitown.

Instead, it's a 'place' – an accumulation of outstanding natural features, complemented by a broad assortment of food and wine experiences to which many enterprises contribute.

Aren't we privileged to enjoy summer in Hawke's Bay?!

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## Here's more on the Black Barn Ultimate Experience draw

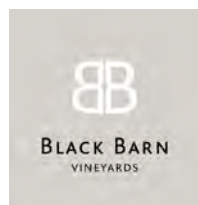
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# Behind the Sounds of Summer

*BayBuzz* takes us behind-the-scenes with the empresarios who bring us our summer faves, like the Mission Estate Concert, Black Barn's gigs and the Art Deco Festival.

KEITH NEWMAN. PHOTOS: FLORENCE CHARVIN

BEFORE THE FIRST NOTES are played, organisers of Hawke's Bay's long summer of outdoor concerts and events will have spent months – even years – securing top local and international acts to ensure the right chords are struck across generations and genres.

Despite doing their professional best, event managers must keep their cool, particularly when facing the unexpected – cancellations, battles with bureaucracy, delayed flights, equipment failures, pre-loaded punters or the big one: wild weather.

The Mission Estate Concert in Taradale, the largest winery gig in the country, can attract up to 25,000 people with ticket sales and accommodation going into overdrive as soon as the headlining artist is announced.

Neil Diamond was booked after a decade of discussion and a previous cancellation, but the only available day, Saturday 17 March, was smack in the middle of the country's premier equestrian event, Horse of the Year.

Diamond had never played a winery or worked with a support act before, requiring careful negotiation between Mission concert event manager Garry Craft, promoter Paul Dainty and the artist himself.

Craft says the attractiveness and history of the venue and the pedigree of previous headliners had a strong bearing on the outcome.

Diamond, very particular about how his shows run, is bringing a support

**“The venue is shaped just right, it's the biggest commercial weekend for business in Hawke's Bay and many artists have said it's by far the best winery event in the world.”**

MISSION EVENTS MANAGER  
GARRY CRAFT

crew of 70, including his big band. “He's one of the great performers; everyone's getting older and you need to grab these chances when you can.”

Craft had been chasing Tom Petty for 15 years before his death in October last year. He's now keeping a watchful eye on others he'd love to see at the Mission – The Eagles diminishing original line-up, and Phil Collins, “whose health hasn't been good lately”.

Black Barn's intimate amphitheatre is another premier venue with the winery now booking higher profile names at its off-site venue along the Tukituki Valley, starting with UB40 which attracted around 8,500 punters.

It also attracted a lot of traffic, resulting in parking issues and long delays getting into and out of the venue. Logistics experts and more buses were called in to keep things moving for the sell-out Bryan Adams concert in January this year.

## Art Deco diversity

Underpinning Hawke's Bay's reputation for hosting open air extravaganzas is Tremains Art Deco Festival from 14 to 18 February. Around 40,000 visitors, including 5,000 international tourists, are expected to attend 250 free and ticketed events this year.

The five-day celebration recalls the miraculous resurrection from the tragic Depression era event of 1931 when a 7.8 magnitude earthquake all but levelled Napier and parts of Hastings with the loss of 256 lives.

In the two years after the quake the twin cities rose from the rubble and ashes in thoroughly modern styles including Art Deco and Spanish Mission. Although there are more Art Deco buildings in Hastings, there's a greater concentration in Napier.

Glen Pickering, fresh from managing the World Buskers Festival in Christchurch, was employed by Hawke's Bay's Art Deco Trust in late 2015 as “a set of fresh eyes to diversify the audience”.

Now at the helm of the 30th Art Deco Festival, the former Wairoa boy is hopeful everyone will see themselves reflected in a more inclusive event with greater local focus and more ethnic diversity, “not just a bunch of old white people”.

Maori offered much help during the 1931 earthquake crisis and recovery. The festival opens with a powhiri (welcome) and kapa haka performance in keeping with the era, following on



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from 2017 where aspects of Te Matatini kapa haka festival and the Waka Ama Regatta were embraced.

Pickering also wants to balance the dominant theme of American culture, jazz and architecture with more Hawke's Bay's stories, people, music and heritage.

The He Manu Tioriori exhibition at MTG, the story of Ngāti Kahungunu at the forefront of Māori jazz orchestras and showbands from the 1920s and 1930s, will be part of that. "Many well-known New Zealand songs were written during that era so we'll be mixing that in as well," says Pickering.

This year's musical theme features 250 hours of rhythm and tunes, 90 more than previous years, with 30 music groups and shows including Michael Griffiths showcasing Cole Porter; Jennifer Ward-Lealand's Marlene Dietrich cabaret, Falling in Love Again, and performances by the big bands, including those of the Royal NZ Navy and Hawke's Bay Jazz Club.

A highlight will be Friday Night with the Stars featuring Moses MacKay from popular operatic trio Sol3 Mio and acclaimed jazz saxophonist, vocalist and recording artist Nathan Haines.

**"I have a gut feeling these days. I know straight away whether an idea has merit, (but) it's a cut-throat industry with a lot of risk involved."**

BLACK BARN, CELLAR AND EVENTS MANAGER, FRANCIS DE JAGER

#### Best winery event

Events manager Garry Craft says the Mission concert is iconic and envied by promoters. "The venue is shaped just right, it's the biggest commercial weekend for business in Hawke's Bay and many artists have said it's by far the best winery event in the world."

It was originally 'a cultural gathering' with a conservative music line up premiering with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa in 1993 and subsequently Ray Charles, Dionne Warwick, Shirley Bassey, Kenny Rogers, Julio Iglesias, the Beach Boys, Boney M, Lulu, Engelbert Humperdinck and The Seekers, attracting crowds up to 10,000.

When Craft took over in 2003,

his first act, Cliff Richard, attracted 15,000. Since then, a Who's Who of nostalgic chart toppers have graced the stage, including Tom Jones, Eric Clapton, *The Motown Event*, Sting, Barry Gibb and Carole King and Rod Stewart.

In 2015, Melanie C, Leo Sayer, Billy Ocean, Ronan Keating and Sharon Corr were promoted as The UK Invasion, but quickly rebranded The British and Irish Invasion after complaints from the Irish community.

One Taradale resident vented: "Men lost their lives trying to be Irish and remove the yoke of British imperialism and now they are not recognised?"

#### Where's Napier again?

The Mission doesn't book rock bands or young acts leaving a diminishing pool of 'suitable' high profile performers, who often need convincing to come to a place they've never heard of.

While most love it when they get here, commercial jets can't land at Napier. And it must be a Saturday night and aligned with other bookings to make it viable.

Some of the biggest deals sign-off only months before the concert.



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Glen Pickering

Several attempts were made to secure the Dixie Chicks, one was cancelled due to conflicting dates.

In the end, says Craft, the 2017 concert was one of the great ones, attracting 20,000 people, with emails of appreciation flowing for weeks afterwards.

He shrugs off local media claims that Grammy Award winning artists insisted on enough flowers to fill four rooms and wanted to play golf while they were here. They flew in from Auckland on a private jet in time for the concert and left immediately afterwards, "because they didn't like propeller planes".

A concern for all outdoor event managers is unpredictable weather. It was touch and go for the Dixie Chicks as a tropical cyclone dropped sheets of water on the day. "We had to keep cars and trucks off the paddock and change how we got equipment in."

The 600 vehicle VIP carpark was underwater "so we had to work with the council to relocate parking and find more buses...It's just part of the job...it's what we do," says Craft.

Cancelling Lionel Ritchie in March 2009 was a real disappointment. A

## **"You have to ask, why is it there and how does it reflect the art deco story. Everything should feel like people have stepped back into the 1930s."**

ART DECO FESTIVAL EVENTS  
MANAGER, GLEN PICKERING

storm arrived the day before and didn't stop. The gates were open... people were arriving, but Craft, St John, the police and insurance brokers concluded it was unsafe.

"We've spoken about getting him back; his career peaked again in the UK a couple of years ago, but no-one quite knows why it's been pear-shaped in other places like here."

### **No dropping Freddy**

The day Lionel Ritchie was cancelled, Fat Freddy's Drop were booked to play The Black Barn Amphitheatre backing on to the foothills of Te Mata Peak, Havelock North.

Cellardoor and events manager

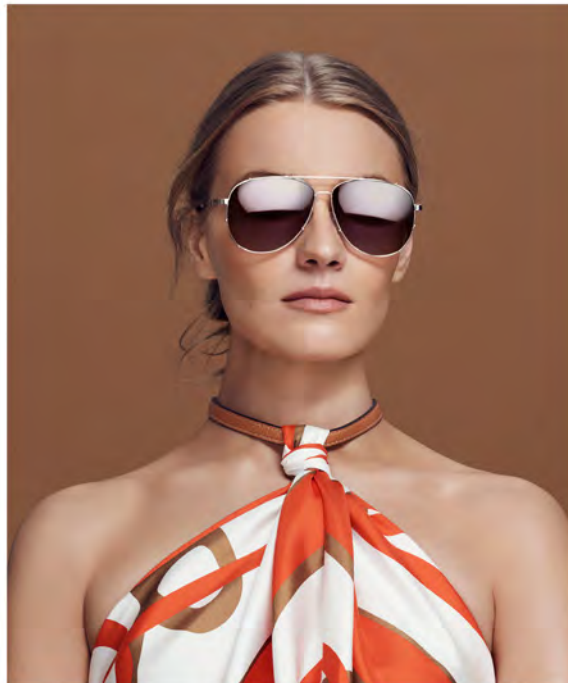
Francis de Jager had been chasing the brassy groovemeisters for a couple of years as part of his mandate to attract a younger age group to the winery without alienating the baby boomers.

The former professional cyclist, who studied wine marketing and grew into events management, was determined the sold-out gig would go ahead.

"Coming from a function and competitive sport background you learn not to panic...you evaluate your options around what you need to do."

The stage was purpose-built to be waterproof and safe for the band, so he and his team arranged to lay limestone 10cm deep wherever it might get muddy or slippery. "People turned up in wet suits, rubbish bags, gumboots and bare feet...it teemed down the whole time, but it was the most amazing concert."

From that time on, he says, Black Barn and Fat Freddy's Drop have had a great relationship. Their Kiwi groove is "perfect for what we do here, the demographic is broad and easy going". Tickets are snapped up months ahead, including February 2018 dates following sell-out concerts in Europe and the UK.



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## Weather or not

It rained for the first Art Deco Festival in 1987, which had only seven events, 14 vintage cars and the now-popular Gatsby's Picnic. The 30-person picnic was transferred to the stage at the Municipal Theatre.

It also rained – the first time in 17 years – for Glen Pickering's debut at the Art Deco helm in 2016. The main marquee was flooded and he and his team worked overtime relocating, reinventing and rescheduling eight events over three days.

Pickering knew he had to remain calm and clear thinking; taking deep breaths and not rushing things, as key events were moved to the Rodney Green Centennial Events Centre.

Cancelling would have only created "frustration and resentment", says Pickering. The goal is to try and achieve the best outcome for the most people. "They're forgiving when little things don't happen if you do everything you can for them."

In the end people improvised; during the vintage car parade there was a sea of umbrellas down Emerson St and spontaneous dancing in the rain.

## Diverse genres

The Black Barn Amphitheatre, built by owners Andy Coltart and Kim Thorp in the late 90s, supports up to 1,800 people, mostly positioned on terraces surrounded by grapevines with a view back across Hawke's Bay.

Opera divas Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and Dame Malvina Major were among the first to perform with de Jager. Tasked with broadening the appeal, he chose the The Ladykillers – Tina Cross, Suzanne Lynch and Jackie Clarke – for his first event in 2005.

A close relationship with Dame Malvina resulted in an invitation to up and coming act Sol3 Mio. "We were lucky to get them ... before they got huge. That next summer they exploded." They keep coming back and were a Christmas highlight again in 2017.

Winery Tours approached Black Barn for their first event – now they're regulars. The early February tours have featured Gin Wigmore, Brooke Fraser, Bic Runga, Dave Dobbyn and other celebrated Kiwi artists.

This year it's Annie Crummer, Che Fu, Betty Ann Monga, Hollie Smith, Jason Kerrigan and Tammi Neilson. "They're great, feel good, summer acts."

Black Barn hosted the Clash of the Titans, Mi-Sex, Dragon and The Angel

## "People had said to their friends, 'I'll meet you at the tree or 100 metres to the left of the tree' and that created all sorts of problems."

MISSION EVENTS MANAGER  
GARRY CRAFT MUSING ON THE  
IMPACT OF HIS TREE FELLING  
EXERCISE.

for two years. "When they approached us, I wasn't sure it would work, but it was one of the best concerts we'd ever had. The audience were in to it, singing along with all the songs.

Another singalong de Jager favourite was The Hollies Highway of Hits tour in February 2017. "They were a brilliant act to have here...my father reminded me they had more number one hits than The Beatles in their time."

## Stars didn't align

During their 12-month planning cycle, de Jager and his team keep thinking outside the square to book fresh acts. "I have a gut feeling these days. I know straight away whether an idea has merit, (but) it's a cut-throat industry with a lot of risk involved."

Just when he thinks he's caught a big one, an artist's schedule might change. At one stage he thought he had secured Fat Boy Slim. "We've been trying to get him for two years and we'll just keep trying," says de Jager.

There were a couple of years 'where the stars weren't lining up' for the Mission Concert, so the plug was pulled on the 2015 event and it looked like 2016 might be a no-play replay.

Events manager Garry Craft agreed to take Simply Red and Ben Harper from a third-party agent for two separate concerts, but when Harper pulled out everything hinged on Simply Red, who pulled only 6,000 people.

"We wouldn't do that again. If we don't get the right act, we won't have a concert. We have a brand to protect and too many loyal people who've been to every concert; Simply Red wasn't necessarily for them, but they came back for the Dixie Chicks."

## Classic cars, planes

Art Deco events manager Glen Pickering has seven months to secure artists, venues, entertainment and

accommodation so the following year's programme can be printed by September.

The sprawling event continues to feature vintage aerial acrobatics, a soap box derby, flapper dancing, a return steam-train ride between Napier and Waipukurau, and the country's largest vintage car parade with over 300 vehicles.

There are stories of classic cars with oil incontinence, belching smoke, making horrific noises then spluttering to a halt at critical moments during the parade before being pushed off the circuit by willing spectators.

All this is outweighed by appreciative fans awestruck at the variety, rarity and marvel of the well-preserved, moving museum of historic 60 to 80 year-old vehicles.

As for the buskers, they're far more curated now with permits required and no room for uninvited opportunists parking in doorways playing 1970s cover songs.

Celebration on the Street features up to 20 musos and performers dressed for the theme. Uninvited interlopers will be politely asked to move on.

Pickering will cancel what doesn't work and tweak what can be improved. Some events work only for a year, others probably shouldn't have been there at all, including a couple of dinners that were marginally Art Deco.

"You have to ask, why is it there and how does it reflect the art deco story. Everything should feel like people have stepped back into the 1930s."

## Dealing with detail

Black Barn's de Jager says event management is about getting the little things right as one bad experience can ruin it for the artist or the guests. "The more detail you add the more seamless the experience."

Anything can happen, and it often does. "It might be a weather event, equipment failure, a blown fuse, or late flights so artists can't make the sound check...all of which have happened."

On one occasion tensions exploded between groups of pre-loaded punters. Media reports were of 'a high level of intoxication' and fights at the Katchafire, Kora and Sons of Zion gig in March 2016.

"I was relieved when that got diffused," says de Jager, who had his manager's licence suspended for 28 days after that and subsequently beefed up security and the vetting process.

Highlights for de Jager often come at the end of a long night, at the top of the terraces with a sense of relief, perhaps catching various artists combine for a final number or a jam.

“Spontaneity is a big part of how these events progress; its happened in the Winery Tours and with Fat Freddy’s or Katchafire and the Kora guys – it’s pretty special for them and the audience,” says de Jager.

### Unintended consequences

When decisions are made without thought for consequences, things can get tricky...for example the year Gary Craft decided to remove a large tree from the centre of the Mission concert paddock.

“People had said to their friends, ‘I’ll meet you at the tree or 100 metres to the left of the tree’ and that created all sorts of problems”, with bewildered newcomers wondering, what tree?”

Originally the Mission concerts were a BYO affair. “People would arrive, meet up with friends, find their spot, open up their eske (chilly bins) and settle down, with little foot movement unless you wanted a top up or to go to the toilet.”

Changes in licensing regulations in 2011 required all alcohol to be sold on site, limited to one bottle of wine or the equivalent of four cans at a time.

“If the wife drank champagne or white wine and the husband drank beer you had to go back twice,” says Craft.

That meant thousands of people wandering around, topping up every hour, creating long queues and an unsettled crowd.

While local authorities and police were only following directives from above, Craft says, tongue-in-cheek, it could be worse, “If they said we could only sell one drink per person at a time ... that’s when it would be all over for us”.

In 2017, police told everyone entering the James Taylor concert at Church Rd Winery to empty their water bottles. “They haven’t pulled that stunt on us yet.”

Rather than blanket decisions, Craft reckons decisions about behaviour and alcohol ought to be based on how well events have been run in the past.

### People power

You can plan only so much, then you let events run their course

as entertainers and public come together, says Art Deco’s Glen Pickering.

He’s fascinated with the psychology of how the festival changes people’s attitudes as they get into character, compliment each other on their costumes and engage. “It gives people permission to break with normality and move into a magical space for a couple of hours where laughter and dancing are infectious.”

With everything in place for a very music-based festival this year, Pickering is already planning 2019’s fashion theme with national and local designers invited to learn Hawke’s Bay’s Art Deco story, then create Art Deco-infused fashion to be showcased on a Napier Soundshell catwalk.

No doubt the Mission, Black Barn and other venues are already negotiating for the right combos for 2019. A concurrent challenge will be whether accommodation providers, both traditional and the growing rent-a-home trend, can keep pace with burgeoning visitor demand as word spreads about Hawke’s Bay’s legendary summer events.

In 2012, the Regional Council formed a stakeholder group to look at the best way to manage the waterways of the Tutaekuri, Ahuriri, Ngaruroro and Karamū catchments. **The project quickly became known as TANK.**

In 2018, the TANK Plan will give clear direction to consent holders and other water users.

It’s an opportunity to balance water use and environmental protection. The rivers and aquifer have to come first, but water users should also be able to rely on safe, secure water when they need it.

**Who gets the water?** Learn more: [hbrc.govt.nz](http://hbrc.govt.nz) search: #tank





**“When you look  
at the history,  
and the state  
of the Estuary  
today, it’s  
polluted to hell.  
I don’t know  
what other way  
to put it. It’s  
polluted to hell.”**

PIRI PRENTICE, MANA AHURIRI  
CHAIRPERSON

# Jewel in the Crown?

MARK SWEET

“WE PRETEND IT’S THE JEWEL in the crown, but when we poke at it, it’s not really that flash.” Richard Munneke, Napier City Council.

On the fringe of Napier City sits one of the most significant estuarine environments on the east coast of the North Island – Te Whanganui a Orotu – known to many as Ahuriri Estuary, but more and more referred to simply as Te Whanga.

For thousands of years Te Whanga has been habitat to numerous migratory and resident birds, and the feeding and breeding grounds for many fish species. For Maori it was a treasured food resource.

With remarkable resilience, Te Whanga has withstood being ravaged by human intervention and abuse, to still provide food and shelter for birds and fish, although with prejudice, its waters are deemed too polluted for humans to feed from.

Over the years there have been numerous attempts to ‘clean up’ the Estuary. None have succeeded. There is hope, however, with a new initiative. A statutory management committee has been formed with representation from all stakeholders, and Napier City Council have produced a draft ‘Masterplan’ for discussion (July 2017).

## The guardian

Ngati Hineuru, kaumatua, and Mana Ahuriri Chairperson, Piri Prentice, were members of the Iwi negotiation team in the Treaty of Waitangi settlement with the Crown.

“During the negotiations one of the things we highlighted was to ensure we had some stake, or some real play, in the way that Te Whanganui a Orotu was going to be managed.

**Over the years there have been numerous attempts to ‘clean up’ the Estuary. None have succeeded. There is hope, however, with a new initiative.**

“When you look at the history, and the state of the Estuary today, it’s polluted to hell. I don’t know what other way to put it. It’s polluted to hell. Te Whanga was the pantry for our people. It provided so much food resource. As an infant my grandparents would take us down to the Iron Pot before the boats were allowed in there, and the cockles were plentiful and beautiful.

“We had to negotiate with the Crown around how to sustain and manage Te Whanga as a part of the settlement. One thing the Crown didn’t want to do was get into the sort of negotiations they did with the Waikato River, which became a real bane for them in many ways, so initially they refused.

“We came up with a plan that we manage it in a way that forced the collaboration of key stakeholders to work together. We offered some management principles based on the way our old people grew kumara. In the key stages of growing kumara there would be assessment and evaluation, and you couldn’t progress in the process unless you tidied up the last bit. That’s the part we liked, and so did the Crown.

“Then we asked the negotiators that we bring all the stakeholders onto the Estuary for a day, the idea being that we could hear what each stakeholder was doing – sort of a stocktake of where things were at.

“There we were on the Estuary with all stakeholders. (Government representing the Crown, Napier City Council, Hastings District Council, Hawke’s Bay Regional Council, Department of Conservation). We asked who was doing what, and when we finished, it was obvious to the Crown and everybody that no one knew what the others were doing. There was little collaboration or co-ordination. There may have been good intent, but it was going nowhere.

“In further negotiations it was agreed there should be a statutory management body for the estuary, and they (the stakeholders) mooted that Mana Ahuriri become the permanent chair of that body. We’ve just put together the personnel for the committee – stakeholders have put up their people – and we are in the process of putting it all together.

“I think we’re fortunate to have Wayne Jack (CEO) at the Napier City Council. He was directly involved in the clean up of Lake Macquarie (New South Wales, Australia). He brought to us documents and costings of how they cleaned up that estuary. It’s four times the size of ours, and was a worse mess. Now it’s pristine. They filter all the stormwater, and we can do the same.

“At the end of the day the winner must be the Estuary. I’m not worried about the political credits and debits for each of these stakeholders. The winner has to be the estuary. When stakeholders are looking for political credits it’s not going to work.

“The thinking has to be collaborative, thinking as one mind – he whakaaro kotahi – thinking as one mind for one purpose, to clean up Te Whanga.”



**“Napier City Council are the main protagonists... As administrators of the District Plan they skewed the playing field in their own favour, resulting in catastrophe.”**

NEIL KIRTON, HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL

### The politician

Neil Kirton is a former Member of Parliament. He currently sits on the Hawke's Bay Regional Council and is Business and Marketing Manager Hohepa Homes Trust Board.

“The history of the Estuary is really quite bleak in terms of neglect by our public officers right across the board. A solemn undertaking was made in the Management Plan (1992) to protect the Estuary, but from the day the document was produced, people looked the other way and the Estuary was abused instead.

“Napier City Council are the main protagonists.

“For two decades under the past administration they were both poacher and gamekeeper. As administrators of the District Plan they skewed the playing field in their own favour, resulting in catastrophe.

“They developed around 1,100 sections in the Parklands-Tamatea zone on very sensitive land. Contamination pollutants from rooves, washing cars, garden sprays all go into the storm water, and with no mitigation ... flows straight into the estuary.

“They allowed tanneries, rendering, powder coating, right on the cusp of the Estuary. It's a recipe for disaster.

“I've spoken to Stuart Nash and we're calling for the immediate exit of all the heavy industry located in Tyneside-Pandora zone. We should never have had heavy industry in that zone.

“In April (2017) Napier City Council discharged their own raw sewage into the Estuary and we had people hospitalised from eating contaminated

shellfish. If they could speak, there would be loud protest from the fish and birds about their contaminated food supplies. “I'm furious the Regional Council compliance people enabled that to take place.

“The current scenario is a testimony to the greed and intellectual desert that was part of the Napier City Council for two decades.

“Change of consciousness is no excuse. We're talking about articulate, intelligent, and able people who had the opportunity to make change, but they chose not to for greedy, self-centered reasons. As a result you now have dilapidated services – for example, sewage and waste water systems unable to cope. They took over \$50 million from subdivision sales, and chose to bank that rather than keep up with infrastructure (development and maintenance).

“With a change of CEO and many new councillors, there's now a recognition that Ahuriri Estuary is a very important strategic asset, and Wayne Jack, to his credit, has experience in developing estuarine environments in Australia.

“Thankfully we have a much more enlightened approach at Napier City Council now. I'm seeing a sea change in how they approach their role in urban planning and design. What the grand plan is doing is seeking to mitigate their discharges into the Estuary – whole of Pandora – put storm water into Lagoon Farm and do water storage and wetlands ... mop up sediments and contaminants.

“No less than what was required on day one.”

### The planner

Director of City Strategy at Napier City Council, Richard Munneke, has been in the job three years. Previously he was regulatory manager with Horizons Regional Council.

“The city is built in such a way that since the earthquake (1931) most of the storm water goes into the Estuary. Back in the day it was a fine idea, but we know a lot more today, and wouldn't do that again.

“Estuaries are complex environments and their flushing is very different from the open sea – very slow – so whatever contaminants are there hang around, so I think it's important to acknowledge that. Rightly or wrongly, that's what it is, and we can't change the orientation of all the pipes so they all go out to sea. We have to make the most of what we've got, which is, how do we manage the storm water into the Estuary?

“We're looking into creating wetlands for the residential component, designed to treat contaminants you want to settle out. It's complicated engineering. You want heavy metals to fall out before they go into the Estuary, and they can be dug out and removed. We haven't done the design yet. We're at the stage of recognising the need and in consultation. The plan has gone through extensive consultation, and is now at stage of knowing what community most want advanced.

“The April (sewage) discharge was a rain event, and the option was we either flood people's houses with waste, or we discharge at a highly diluted rate. Every city has only so much capacity with severe rain events. The problem is the sewer pipes are not perfectly sealed and the ground water infiltrates the pipes (under pressure). It's mostly water but it has got faeces in there.

“History has not done us any favours. We allowed heavy industry in the area of most sensitivity because it was an easy dumping ground. Think of the old freezing works – the rivers used to run red. It's complex and expensive to relocate industry. They're doing their best with on-site (containment) and we're doing our best to manage the situation.

“We have a working party – the Thames/Tyne Working Group – led by (Napier) Council, which has good dialogue with industry. Communication and transparency is fundamental. We need to have it with every one, and industry has come to the party, each having environmental

management plans.

“We can make land value an incentive for industry to relocate. It’s a softer and smarter approach than enforcement. We have to have the discussion and ask, ‘Is this where Napier wants to keep its industry?’”

### The scientist

Anna Madarasz-Smith is Senior Scientist-Coastal Quality at Hawke’s Bay Regional Council. She holds a Master of Science in Marine Biology and Biological Oceanography.

“Previously the Estuary was a marine lagoon of over 3,800 hectares. Farthest inland, near the Esk River inlet there were fresh water mussels, eels, fresh water fish. At the sea end were paua, crayfish, mussels, and sea fish – everything you’d associate with a marine environment.

“When the earthquake hit in February 1931 the lagoon rose by one to two metres, exposing about one-third of the inter-tidal platform.

“However, what we see today is not so much a result of the earthquake, but the result of drainage, diversion, and reclamation. About one-tenth of the original Estuary remains – around 470 hectares. Most of the farmland around

**“Probably the best known equatorial migrant is the bar-tailed Godwit. It’s a tiny little bird and flies non-stop all the way from Alaska (12,000 kilometres) and takes nine days.”**

ANNA MADARASZ-SMITH, SENIOR SCIENTIST-COASTAL QUALITY, HAWKE’S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL

the Estuary is at or below sea level and water has to be constantly pumped from the land for it to be useable.

“Despite extensive modification, the estuary has maintained a number of it’s values.

“Around 29 species of fish use the area at some time of their life cycle. Some, like kahawai, parore, stargazer, come



for feeding, and around 11 species also use the area as a nursery or spawning ground. These include commercially important species like flounder, grey mullet, and sole.

“And the Estuary also provides feeding for around 20 species of trans-equatorial migrant birds ... waders and terns ... six Australian species ... herons,

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Ben Deller, EIT student  
Master of Applied Management



ibises and ducks ... and several native species, including white heron and royal spoonbill.

“Probably the best known equatorial migrant is the bar-tailed godwit. It’s a tiny little bird and flies non-stop all the way from Alaska (12,000 kilometres) and takes nine days. When it arrives it needs to eat to regain its weight. If it can’t eat it dies. And a massive problem we have is dogs disturbing them from feeding. They’re amazing little birds. They actually internalise their organs – the organs shrink in size – so they can put enough fat on for the return flight to Alaska.

“But the Estuary ecosystem is becoming increasingly stressed, and just like humans, when too stressed, disease and ill-health can be the result.

“Most of the pressure on the Estuary is not coming from the ocean, but from the land use in the catchment beside it.

“In the upper Ahuriri particularly, we have a major toxic sediment problem. It’s the black muddy gluginess you see, and is caused by too many nutrients coming into the system.

“An Estuary in a natural state will be mostly sands, quite aerated, and less than 10% mud in sediments – a relatively healthy system. Once you hit 25% we’re looking at a sediment-stressed system. In places at the top of Ahuriri Estuary we’re completely infilled with 96% mud.

“We’ve also got a massive problem with an invasive tube worm, *ficopomatus enigmaticus*. It’s been in the estuary since around 1990 and hasn’t been a problem. For some reason in the last five years it’s absolutely

**“There’s talk of putting in a cycleway up the top of the estuary. If they do that it’ll be the end... I support cycleways, but they have to be in the right place. They are not compatible with a sanctuary.”**

HANS ROOK, WETLAND RESTORATION EXPERT

exploded. Algae blooms are a problem too. We sent a sample to the Cawthron Institute for analysis and it had the highest biomass they’d ever seen.

“We’ve been monitoring – taking samples – in the estuary for 10 years now and the water quality has deteriorated and is getting worse.

“How can we improve things? “We have to come up with an integrated management plan with a shared vision. The process has started with the statutory management committee, we’re working with Hohepa on wetland restoration, and we’re removing the worm in stages. Farm nutrient management programmes are being implemented, and a riparian planting programme initiated.

“Yes, there is hope, but there’s a lot of work to be done.”

#### **The protector**

Hans Rook began his career in the Wildlife Service over 45 years ago (Department of Conservation). He is an internationally recognised expert in wetland restoration and passionate

about protecting the critically endangered bittern/matuku.

“We’re sitting on around 750 to 800 birds nationally, maybe less, because the Whangamarino (Waikato) population has crashed. We’ve probably got more than Australia because their population isn’t doing too well, and they’re gone from New Caledonia.

“Bittern were self introduced. They flew across the Tassie thousands of years ago and people think because they’re Australian immigrants they’re not as valued as native species. Probably the underarm bowling incident still at play.

“We started actively protecting the matuku in 2011, and we’ve got eight booming territories on the whole (Te Whanga) complex. That includes wetlands on farmers’ land who are doing great work, like Ginny and Lloyd Cave, and Philip Holt.

“During breeding time the males boom. They’re very elusive so that’s how we count numbers. We reckon there are five or six females. It’s the females who do the raising of chicks. One of the chicks from three years ago was heard (booming) in the Taipo (stream) and we haven’t seen or heard birds there for two decades, so we know it’s working.

“When I started my career, matuku weren’t common, but they weren’t rare either. They copped it because they’ve got quite short legs and their habitat in the shallow wetlands got belted first with drainage ... it was the cheapest and easiest to drain. At the Balance Farm Environment Awards I asked an audience of around 200 East Coast farmers how many had seen or heard a bittern, and only four or five put up their hands.

“Matuku feed on a variety of things, including frogs and tadpoles, even baby rats, and if you want to find where inanga, adult whitebait, spawn, the matuku will show you.

“The habitat I’m working on is ideal for bittern, and people say to me, ‘We should open it up so people can get an appreciation for the birds’.

“I say, ‘No we don’t, because if we do, it’s all over rover.’

“There’s talk of putting in a cycleway up the top of the Estuary. If they do that it’ll be the end. We’ve got miles and miles of stopbanks in Hawke’s Bay, which are ideal, and I support cycleways, but they have to be in the right place. They are not compatible with a sanctuary.

“We have to be so careful with Te Whanga that we don’t love it to death.”

## WELCOMING THE WORLD

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An aerial photograph of a residential neighborhood in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand. The image shows a variety of houses with different roof colors and styles, including grey, white, blue, and red. The houses are surrounded by lush green trees and lawns. A road runs horizontally across the middle of the image. The text "Hawke's Bay: perfectly placed north-facing roofs and abundant sunshine" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**Hawke's Bay:  
perfectly placed  
north-facing roofs  
and abundant  
sunshine**

# Solar Power: Sunny or Cloudy?

KEITH NEWMAN

IT'S NOT JUST YOU heating up in our summer sun.

The case for solar is warming up too, with next-tier customers holding out for a shift in the cost of the latest kit – and in the position of electricity lines and retail companies – before taking advantage of Hawke's Bay's perfectly placed north-facing roofs and abundant sunshine.

Obstacles to uptake include the high price, reduced buy-back rates, Unison's solar pricing, and official reports stating return on investment (ROI) doesn't stack up.

Regardless, the industry is consolidating and bracing for growth with the arrival of next generation panels, tiles, lithium-ion batteries, smart appliances and new financial packages that lower the bar for entry.

"This is the future where we'll be plugging our car into the house; where any excess solar generation goes into a 14kWh battery that will be hard to use up unless you're operating a lot of machinery," suggests Te Awanga-based solar broker Sebastian Nilsson.

Many hope a Labour-Greens update on previously rejected Fair Go for Solar and Electricity Industry Amendment bills and a supercharged Electricity Authority (EA) will provide direction and force the industry to be more accommodating to solar.

Solar buy-back rates, once over 10 cents per kWh, dropped to 7-8 cents per kWh from 2014, reducing surplus solar savings.

## Setting the price

Then in April 2016 local lines company Unison introduced its solar pricing – dubbed by some a 'solar tax' – saying its flat-rate prices were creating

**“Power reticulation costs off the main road or for new rural homes or subdivisions can approach \$100,000, compared to going off grid with solar for \$25,000- \$30,000”**

SEBASTIAN NILSSON, SOLAR POWER BROKER

unfairness between customers with and without solar. Unison argues that customers who can't afford solar shouldn't have to carry the cost of the network being available when still needed by solar customers.

It says solar reduces daytime consumption but makes “no contribution to reduction in peak demand, particularly when customers need it most in winter”, which is a major driver of network costs and investment.

Bruce Emerson, owner of Harrison's Energy Solutions regional franchise, says the solar differential of “3 cents per kWh to draw on the Unison network”, along with low buy-back rates, created a level of uncertainty.

Most people have ‘calmed down’ after the initial shock and are now figuring out other ways to make solar work for them.

“Inevitably solar will play a significant part of the electricity matrix; it may never be on par with grid electricity, but in five years it will be substantially bigger,” says Emerson, a comment seconded by Unison.

Emerson, recalling lengthy power

cuts during the 2016 Hawke's Bay storm, warns there will be increasing pressure on the network and national grid as storms become part of our changing weather patterns.

## Uptake still minimal

While early adopters have ‘filled their boots’, Harrison's is having to work much harder to convince next-level home owners who are mostly waiting for prices to drop.

Some members of the Sustainable Electricity Association (SEANZ) are trying to help by offering solar as a service or Solar PPA (power purchase agreement) deals, where customers pay a fixed power price to have a system installed.

Spokesperson Kristin Gilles says “upfront costs need not be a barrier” now that you can get solar for zero-dollars down.

Just over 700 of Unison's 110,000-plus mainly residential network customers across Hawke's Bay, Rotorua and Taupo – less than 1% – are on solar.

That's a far cry from 20 solar installations in 2012 and 500 by April 2016, and with about 20 switching monthly, it's a promising trend.

From 1 April 2017, Unison began rolling out a time-of-use (TOU) price structure to reward customers actively managing their demands, thereby reducing peak time network pressure. Under this pricing, solar users pay on average \$185 less in lines charges than non-solar customers in recognition of their lower demand.

Emerson says solar customers are already “fairly savvy” about load shifting their power, and applauds Unison's move to TOU, hoping it will eventually make solar pricing

redundant “because everyone will be on the same page”.

In November, Unison CEO Ken Sutherland, who’s also Electricity Network Association (ENA) chairman, slammed electricity retailers for pointing the finger at lines companies ahead of the Government’s first independent review of electricity generation and retail pricing in a decade.

He pointed out the irony of Meridian, Mercury and Trustpower – each posting ‘bumper profits’ – wanting the likes of Unison to drop their charges.

Unison, currently exploring distribution pricing with retailers and customers, expects to withdraw its solar pricing by April 2020 when new pricing is introduced. In the meantime, customers can move to Unison’s TOU price plan.

### Marketing microgrids

In April 2016, Sebastian Nilsson, working for Gold Power Solar, outlined his vision for a solar-powered settlement along the Cape Coast after getting the Farmyard Zoo, Haumoana Four Square and Clifton County Cricket Club over the line.

The independent solar broker wants to progress the concept with local developers, claiming they’ll need only a single power line to sub-divisions with solar microgrids taking homeowners a step away from going off grid.

Excess generation would be fed back to the network or help fund community projects.

He’s also proposing that residential developers and owners of large commercial premises offer their tenants



## “The benefits for consumers are not there yet”

KEN SUTHERLAND, UNISON

low cost power as part of their lease in a scheme that could pay off solar installations within five to 10 years.

Nilsson says it’s worth considering that power reticulation costs off the main road or for new rural homes or subdivisions can approach \$100,000, compared to going off grid with solar for \$25,000-\$30,000.

“I’ve done a few in Hawke’s Bay and if you are worried, you have a back-up generator, even a solar powered one... things are moving forward.”

### Solar school savings


As part of its zero emissions and ‘100% renewable electricity by 2035’

aspirations, the Government is investigating solar for schools.

SEANZ reckons an investment of \$150 million for 25 kWp (kilowatt peak) systems would enable the country’s 2,500 schools to save \$20 million a year.

More than 130 schools have solar panels or are moving that way for lighting and appliances. Locally, Freenergy Solutions has installed a small system on Tuai School and a 10kW system on a day care centre in Hastings and is currently installing 21kW (72 panels) onto Napier Intermediate.


Kristin Gilles from SEANZ says schools are perfect for solar as they



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consume all their energy during the day with savings diverted into better learning opportunities.

She says Pegasus Bay School in Christchurch, New Zealand's first net-zero energy school which opened in 2014, now produces as much energy as it consumes. Its 86 kWp solar system is expected to save \$28,000 a year.

Gilles believes new financial packages offered by solar installers will help other schools make the switch.

### Unison in trial era

Through its solar generation and battery trials at Fitzroy Avenue in Hastings, Unison is learning first-hand the impact of solar, batteries and EV uptake, seeing how consumption patterns change and impact the system, and what the real costs and benefits are.

For now the company says domestic cost benefits remain marginal for most consumers, who are still heavily reliant on its network.

While "the benefits for consumers are not there yet", Ken Sutherland agrees that in-home battery trials suggest "significant potential to help reduce peak demands."

With improvements in price and performance, Unison will revisit consumer opportunities; potentially partnering with technology providers and retailers and trialling "peer to peer trading among consumers".

Sutherland says those with "fairly constant daily and seasonal loads" – including large retail complexes, or "green communities" – could benefit from "an optimised combination of grid, solar and energy storage or a



Haumoana Farmyard Zoo. Photo Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

triple-play of solar, storage and EVs."

### Chinese whispers

In 2014, then-Mayor Lawrence Yule, was buzzing over the possibilities of a solar technology partnership with Dezhau City in China, a big idea that fizzled out within a year.

The Chinese planned a business here with Yule imagining council and the Hawke's Bay Regional Sports Park rooves hosting leading-edge solar systems offsetting daytime power bills and high lines charges.

He hoped Unison might see value in distributed generation but after their representatives checked out the technology they backed off, claiming

other parts of China and Korea were further advanced.

"Everyone knows solar is the way to go but it comes down to economics and when to go with it," says Yule, who suggests everyone's still waiting for a pivotal price shift.

A series of reports from consulting group Concept, backed by the Government's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (ECCA), *Consumer* magazine and the major power companies, further fuelled solar industry concerns.

Concept stated the \$20,000 price tag of a full solar system would be better invested in home insulation and a second-hand electric vehicle.

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PEUGEOT



It said outdated electricity pricing structures didn't reflect "underlying cost drivers"; that "skewed uptake decisions" could increase greenhouse emissions, with inefficient expenditure potentially costing \$2 billion over the next 20 years.

It concluded that significant uptake of solar panels could result in the wealthiest people getting lower power bills, while the poorest paid more.

### Leadership needed

Strong leadership is needed, says My Solar Quotes founder Kristy Hoare, particularly when the country is trying to build as many houses as quickly as possible, mostly without considering the value solar could bring.

Some subdivisions make it compulsory, but most architects and builders aren't bothered because it's not their expertise or concern. "They just keep building the bare minimum ... and make them look pretty so investors can buy and sell and make a profit."

She suggests regulators include solar as a requirement for a high-end

**“Strong leadership is needed, particularly when the country is trying to build as many houses as quickly as possible, mostly without considering the value solar could bring.”**

MY SOLAR QUOTES FOUNDER  
KRISTY HOARE

Homestar rating.

Solar, she says, is "going crazy" in many parts of the world. "China is installing the equivalent of a football field of solar panels per minute and there's no chance a few companies in New Zealand can stop that momentum."

A recent Australian case study revealed large power companies that lobbied hard against solar ended up being big installers. "It was a case of, if we can't beat them, join them," says Hoare.

While some remain averse, Vector and Mercury now sell solar systems. "Genesis was really sceptical but is now coming out roaring with adverts for a smart futuristic home including solar."

### Users pays stays

Unison's Sutherland remains adamant that all customers meet their fair share of costs, so no single group is "subsidising another's access to the network". While incentives for EVs make sense, he doesn't think solar fits the bill as there's a high percentage of renewables already in the electricity grid.

Bruce Emerson doesn't favour intervention either, believing the market will "find its own level" as installers become more proficient and competition drives prices down, weeding out those not committed to quality.

What's needed, he says, is clear Government direction so lines companies and retailers don't disadvantage solar. "They need to be told to work with the emerging technologies and develop policies and strategies that embrace them rather than pushing back."

While Unison is "starting to move with the times"; evaluating the technology, installing charging points for EVs with solar batteries at remote DOC huts, Sebastian Nilsson says more needs to be done to positively shift the case for solar ROI.

And he says, "the Government needs to be more honest". He claims data on the EECA website is either old, collected under a tree in the shade, or a generalised average, because "in Gisborne and Hawke's Bay solar is gold."

Nilsson, with a young toddler and a baby on the way, plans his own off-the-grid home. "I don't want to remain in the cycle of 8% price hikes in electricity every year for the past five years."

He predicts power companies will soon start battling it out to keep customers and "treating people a little more fairly, otherwise more will just bail and get off the grid".



Unison is pleased to sponsor robust examination of energy issues in Hawke's Bay. This reporting is prepared by BayBuzz. Any editorial views expressed are those of the BayBuzz team and do not reflect the views of Unison.

## Discipline required for solar payback

Although the price of solar panels has plummeted around 90% since 2005, the case for increased uptake and payback still largely depends on efficiency, prioritising daytime use, battery readiness and market awareness.

Making solar sing requires discipline – ironing, vacuuming and cooking during the day – and smart appliances or timers to schedule dishwashers, washing machines, clothes dryers, air conditioning and heat pumps.

Phone apps can help determine how much power you are generating, when to divert it to the water cylinder, activate smart grid appliances or offload to the grid.

Kristy Hoare, founder of My Solar Quotes, says an average 1.5kW solar system costs \$6,000- \$10,000 with return on investment of 10-15% annually, depending on how much you use, when, and what you export.

My Solar Quotes, which connects installers with customers, says a standard 3kW system with eleven 275W panels on a metal roof would range

from \$10,000-\$13,000, compared with around \$40,000 seven years ago.

A higher specified 5kW 18-panel system would cost around \$15,500.

### Setting the scene

Hoare says many Kiwis are opting for smaller modular systems that can expand as needed. And while there's excitement over Tesla products, including Powerwall batteries, they've stopped taking orders because they cannot presently meet demand.

While similar battery systems are available, most installation companies advise getting panels on the roof with an inverter and grid connection so they're 'battery ready' when the price is more attractive.

Solar broker Sebastian Nilsson claims payback on a home solar system can be under five years, "dropping your power bill from \$380 to \$30 if you are doing it correctly", including using a diverter for hot water.

If you're generating 1500kw/h per 1kw panel, he says that's the equivalent of 9000kw a year to match or offset peak load, potentially saving 50% on annual power bills.

Panels typically have a 30-year warranty and while new and innovative designs are on the way, Nilsson says those installed by the Israelis 45 years ago are still working.

While panels will become more efficient, batteries will keep changing as well. "You just need to do your homework and know what you are getting."

Bruce Emerson says all Harrison's battery shipments are pre-sold, mostly to early adopters who increasingly think about self-sufficiency without concern for the cost – typically \$12,000-\$15,000. "It still doesn't make a lot of sense financially for most people."

Nilsson suggests lithium-ion batteries will drop \$3,000-\$4,000 over the next couple of years, eventually bringing the relief the market is waiting for.

### Resources:

- ECCA/ Energywise solar calculator. Is solar for you?
- [www.energywise.govt.nz/tools/solar-calculator/](http://www.energywise.govt.nz/tools/solar-calculator/)
- SEANZ online ROI calculator: [www.solaroptimiser.nz/](http://www.solaroptimiser.nz/)

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# Turning the Tide on Drowning

SARAH CATES. PHOTOS TIM WHITTAKER

IN OCTOBER 2017 Hawke's Bay swimming legend John Beaumont died, a man who had committed his life to swimming.

Countless numbers of Havelock North children were taught how to swim under his – some would say – 'rough love' but very successful method of swimming. John was admired. So respected, the Havelock North Function Centre could barely accommodate the number of mourners who came to pay their final respects to him.

During the funeral many messages were read aloud. One stood out, a woman who spoke with a clear confidence. She said "Thank you, John, for teaching me how to save my own life. When I was a child I got caught in a rip at the ocean. I was scared but I heard your voice. "Get on your back! Look up at the sky, relax, let the water take you and think of me!"

The lady did not fight the ocean, she remembered John's words. Thanks to John she survived, and is here to tell the tale.

Unfortunately, many are not.

We love our water. A high number of kiwis participate in water based activities utilising our abundance of rivers, lakes, beaches and pools. On average, each year 3 million people visit beaches, 1.1 million people participate in swimming activities, 630,000 people go fishing and there are over 20 million visits to public swimming pools.

But our love for the water does not make us competent swimmers and many of us find ourselves in trouble at

**"Thank you, John, for teaching me how to save my own life. When I was a child I got caught in a rip at the ocean. I was scared but I heard your voice. 'Get on your back! Look up at the sky, relax, let the water take you and think of me!'"**

MESSAGE READ AT SWIMMING INSTRUCTOR JOHN BEAUMONT'S FUNERAL

one stage or another. Drowning is the fourth highest cause of accidental death in New Zealand after motor vehicle accidents, falls, and poisoning.

Water Safety New Zealand's (WSNZ) DrownBase for 2016 recorded a total number of 107 deaths from drowning, seventy eight of these were preventable. Key findings in the 2016 WSNZ Drowning Prevention Report showed fatalities are highest in males between the ages of 15-25 – 67 of the 78 preventable drownings occurred in this group. Three pre-schoolers were lost and there was a 55% increase in fatalities (based on a five year average, 2011-2015) in the 45-54 year old bracket. This is the highest since 2009.

A further 1,200 deaths were prevented through rescues. 2016 currently rates as the highest year

for hospitalisations since the records began in 2003, with 207 people needing medical attention as a result of a non-fatal drowning incident. The waters of Hawke's Bay claimed six lives and five hospitalisations. New Zealand has one of the highest drowning rates per capita in the OECD, twice that of Australia.

As of the 4 December 2017 the preventable drowning toll for this year stands at 73; that's five more fatalities than this time in 2016.

## Stay between the flags

Michael Bassett-Foss is a board member for Water Safety New Zealand. Michael, also being a life-long, dedicated member and past-president of Surf Life Saving New Zealand, is passionate about reaching the goals set in the Water Safety Sector Strategy 2020.

This strategy was developed collectively by organisations within the water safety sector to address New Zealand's drowning problem. Its key aims are to halve preventable male drownings, reduce the number of preventable drownings to 50 fewer, reduce the number of hospitalisations to 100 fewer, and bring the number of pre-schooler drownings down to zero, by 2020.

Michael says, "It's the kiwi psyche. We like to seek out those less busy places. Those secluded areas, away from the crowds. And we are lucky in New Zealand, we have many beautiful beaches, rivers and lakes. But when we find those places, we classically overestimate our swimming ability and



underestimate the drowning risk.”

“The majority of people think they can handle the conditions. 85% of hospitalisations from beaches occur from getting yourself in trouble in and around rips. Just because you can swim it doesn’t necessarily mean you can save yourself in the water. It has been proven that swimming between the flags prevents drownings! In 126 years or so of Surf Life Savers there has not been one. It’s a proven formula!”

However, as Michael says, it’s not the kiwi way to stay between the flags.

He continues, “We have some of the world’s leading research into drowning prevention coming out of New Zealand. I have just returned from the World Conference on Drowning Prevention where the latest international research and thinking on drowning prevention and lifesaving was discussed. I was fortunate enough to be the New Zealand delegate.

“The overarching message that came from this convention and previous conventions is prevention. We have to

**“It’s the kiwi psyche. We like to seek out those less busy places...But when we find those places, we classically overestimate our swimming ability and underestimate the drowning risk.”**

MICHAEL BASSETT-FOSS,  
BOARD MEMBER FOR WATER  
SAFETY NEW ZEALAND.

work on ensuring all our children have the practical water skills to be able to save themselves and others, should they find themselves in trouble. But equally important is educating them in how not to get in trouble in the first place and recognising when they’re in trouble.

“It is evident that just being able to swim 200 metres freestyle in a pool does not mean you have the skills to survive in rivers and cold open

water, which is where most drownings occur. Based on these findings, we have introduced a new initiative in swimming tuition that teaches our kids a combination of water safety and swimming skills.”

The thinking behind swimming has changed. Research across New Zealand showed that our traditional ‘Learn to Swim’ programmes were inadequate in teaching our kids the necessary skills required for drowning prevention. The new initiative, ‘Water Skills for Life’ (WSFL), places a greater emphasis on teaching water safety skills stroke and distance skills.

WSNZ, Swim New Zealand (SNZ), and Sport’s Hawke’s Bay have collaborated to provide funding and support to schools to deliver the Water Skills for Life program to all Hawke’s Bay children.

#### **Water Skills for Life**

Karen Dalldorf is Hawke’s Bay’s Education Adviser for SNZ. She says, “Basic aquatic skills have been steadily

declining in our kiwi kids over the past few years. WSFL is designed to ensure we build the basic aquatic skills for our kids to enjoy the water safely. Pooled funds enable us to provide schools with training.

“I teach the school teachers how to deliver the WSFL program in their own school pools and provide ongoing support. This includes classroom-based activities to encourage critical thinking in water safety and awareness. This includes safe decision making and recognising an emergency. This element needs to be worked on, developed and constantly refreshed. 70% of our schools in Hawke’s Bay still have their pool. This gives the children a huge advantage as they get more time in the water to build their confidence and basic swimming skills.”

For schools that no longer have their pools, funding is available for the children to participate in 10 lessons at a local pool. Karen continues, “There are 23 schools in Hawke’s Bay that do not have a pool. To counteract this SNZ is training swimming instructors to deliver the program in public pools. These lessons, and transport to and from the pool, are funded. I have had a

100% uptake from the schools, it’s a great programme. I am looking forward to seeing some really positive changes. In some cases it’s literally ‘zero to hero!’”

Karen is confident that the WSFL programme will help create a culture in which every New Zealander will understand the risks associated with being in and around water and will have the ability to survive in all aquatic environments.

#### **Boating safety**

This is a culture Hawke Bay’s Harbour Master Martin Moore is passionate about cultivating. One of Martin’s many duties as Harbour Master is to ensure that we stay safe in all the recreational boating activities that take place in our region’s rivers and along our coast line. This includes kayaking, row boats, sailing boats, waka ama, paddle boards, dinghies, jet skis etc.

Martin spends a lot of his time educating people about navigation and safety, but he has a special fondness for the Safe Boating in Schools Programme. This is a highly successful interactive and fun programme which is run at no cost to schools, afterschool care centres, and more recently

community and church groups. Throughout the year Martin can interact with around 1,800 children. Martin is often seen at boat ramps and boating events talking to people about being safe on the water.

Martin says, “There are many positive synergies with what we deliver and what WSNZ has introduced. It’s really about connecting with our communities and finding the best way to effectively deliver safety programmes so they reach everybody, in a way they may understand. We have diverse socioeconomic and ethnic groups in Hawke’s Bay. A high number of drownings occur in the lower socioeconomic groups, ethnic minorities and in our rural communities. We need to reach all these people.”

Boating accidents claim the second highest number of lives. Of those who drowned in a boating incident, 73% were not wearing life jackets. “This is our huge push to the kids!” Martin continues, “Life jackets save lives! Most people I meet and talk to are trying to do the right thing, but I often come across families where the children are wearing life jackets but the parents are

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not. Frequently the life jackets can be the wrong size, not secured properly, and not fit for purpose. We hope that wearing the correct life jacket will become as natural as putting your seat belt on or wearing a cycle helmet. By going out and educating the kids in a fun way we hope the message gets back to the families the kids actually go out on the water with.”

Martin’s programme consists of a comprehensive dry land session that covers all the essential information for a safe boating experience. The kids learn extensively about life jackets, how to signal for help, the importance of good trip planning and preparation and overall safety on a boat. Martin adds, “This is where some of the synergies can happen. We can deliver the dry land session, which can then be backed up with a pool or open water session. This way, the kids get to really test out the importance of life jackets and how different they feel in the water compared to dry land.”

The WSFL programme includes a

**“Life jackets save lives! Most people I meet and talk to are trying to do the right thing, but I often come across families where the children are wearing life jackets but the parents are not.”**

HAWKE’S BAY’S HARBOUR  
MASTER MARTIN MOORE

pool-based life jacket session where the kids learn what to do in the event of a capsized boat or falling overboard. They learn how to work as a team, organise themselves in a huddle, how to move through the water together, the best way to keep warm and the importance of keeping a positive morale. Much of this is done with the instructors spraying the kids with a high pressure hose and creating waves in the water!

#### **On the beach**

As much as the swim instructors try to create a ‘real life’ experience, the reality is that cold open water is completely different from a controlled safe environment of a public swimming pool. Louise Basset-Foss is the self-confessed ‘Surf Mother’ of Surf Life Saving (SLS) based at Waimarama Beach. “I did my first patrol on Christmas day when I was 10 days old, I am literally in it for life!” Louise beams.

The second highest number of fatalities in 2016 occurred on beaches. A high percentage of these involved getting caught in rips. A rip is a strong current caused by water from breaking waves flowing back to sea through channels in the sand. This current can easily pull swimmers out to sea. The location of rips changes.

Louise comments, “We have great beaches in Hawke’s Bay. Most of which are relatively safe for swimming as long as you are careful, follow beach safety messages and



consider potential risks. Surf Life Savers patrol West Shore, Marine Parade, Ocean Beach and Waimarama. Equally beautiful, but un-patrolled beaches in our region are Tangoio, Waipatiki, Haumoana and Te Awanga, and Clifton.”

“Drowning is a complex problem. We have so many varying degrees of knowledge and attitudes surrounding water, and this coupled with a changing environment, unpredictable weather patterns, and throwing youth and alcohol into the mix, you have a recipe for disaster.”

The SLS community is a strong one with many life-long dedicated families passing their skills on from parent to child. Waimarama Surf Club has retained its numbers really well and has the continuous support of the community. This enables the club to confidently provide the best service to all Waimarama Beach goers and train its surf life savers to the highest standards.

Louise adds, “The craziest things our surf life savers see usually involve young men, fully clothed, and alcohol. Frequently these men have not even planned to go swimming. Many fatalities are caused by immersion incidents where the person had no intention of being in the water. Unattended children is also fairly common. We have to remind beach goers that we are not babysitters! Sometimes

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parents, particularly if they are visiting and staying in one of the rentals beach-side do not know the risks. Our community in Waimarama is great though! We all look out for each other and our visitors.”

Louise is concerned about our high school students. She explains, “Currently high schools do not receive any funding towards swimming tuition or water safety skills if they have a pool. Some funds are available to high schools if they do not have a school pool to get students into the water. However, you need a supportive board and a motivated teacher to make this happen. Schools need to fight for their pools! But without a committed board, they will go.”

As the PE teacher for Napier Girls, Louise has long supported and advocated for compulsory swimming tuition and time spent in the water. She says “Many of our girls, in particular our Maori and Pacific Island girls, have had no formal swimming lessons. These take time, money and commitment. Families on low incomes

**“Basic aquatic skills have been steadily declining in our kiwi kids over the past few years. WSFL is designed to ensure we build the basic aquatic skills for our kids to enjoy the water safely.”**

KAREN DALLDORF, HAWKE'S BAY'S EDUCATION ADVISER FOR SWIMMING NEW ZEALAND.

rely on schools to provide this. These girls don't even own a pair of togs and are used to 'river swimming' in shorts and a T-shirt.”

Louise feels really lucky as Napier Girls has a very supportive principal and governing board. They run varied swimming programmes, including one aimed at international students, who are frequently terrified of water. Many of their students patrol the beaches of Hawke's

Bay during their holidays and weekends and are competitive swimmers.

Louise rounds off, “The learning our girls receive from being surf life savers is priceless. I would love to get more young people involved, but it takes parental commitment and money. It is expensive to patrol beaches, we have huge insurances, paid lifeguards and training costs to cover. It would have a dramatic impact on the safety of those who visit our beaches if Surf Life Saving to go.”

Hawke's Bay is a beautiful waterland. We have a plethora of rivers, and a stunning coastline. During the weekends we flock to our watery sanctuaries to relax, train, swim, boat, go fishing, and have fun. We want to keep it this way. Safety for ourselves, families, friends and those who visit Hawke's Bay is paramount.

Like the woman who thanked John Beaumont for literally saving her life, learn about the risks, learn how to be safe, and learn how to survive. And importantly, live it.



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0-20 Years: Renourishment + Control Structures  
20-50 Years: Renourishment + Control Structures  
50-100 Years: Renourishment + Control Structures

**CLIFTON**

0-20 Years: Sea Wall  
20-50 Years: Sea Wall  
50-100 Years: Managed Retreat

# Slow Simmer Threatens Our Coasts

As you enjoy your favourite beach this summer, give some thought to its future. Our planet is on ‘slow simmer’ according to every credible, peer-reviewed study and model on the matter. And indeed more and more evidence indicates we’re on a path that’s turning the temperature up even more ... ‘moderate heat’ might be more accurate.

TOM BELFORD

IN TERMS OF the multitude of foreseeable adverse impacts of global warming, perhaps none is more ominous to this island nation than sea rise and increasingly severe storm events that will endanger and, in some cases, inundate our coastal communities and our natural and physical assets.

The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment in 2014 put sea rise at 20 cm in the last century, with another 30 cm predicted by 2050. The latest international science consensus is moving the 100-year planning target from a metre rise to 1.5 metres.

But now, with latest studies estimating a 93% chance that global warming will exceed 4 degrees by the end of this century, the sea rise scenario looks to worsen dramatically. Says Victoria University climate professor Tim Naish, “If we don’t stabilise temperatures at 2 degrees C, we could commit the planet to 5.6 metre sea level rises.”

In response to this threat, since 2014 a group of Council staff (Regional, Hastings and Napier), consultants and community stakeholders have been working to get their heads around this inescapable challenge. Their aim: to produce the Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Hazards Strategy to address the twin long-term threats of coastal erosion and coastal inundation.

The assignment has been daunting if for no other reason than human nature. Voters are prone to complaining that politicians can’t see beyond their next election; but the fact is, most voters have difficulty with long-time horizons as well ... like

planning tomorrow night’s dinner or, more seriously, preparing for what our job might look like (if it still exists) in 10 years time.

In this case, how do we prepare for a set of local and planetary consequences that we are rapidly losing the opportunity to avoid, and therefore must plan to adapt to?

The group has worked through three stages – first, defining the problem as it will present right here in Hawke’s Bay; second, developing a decision-making process that must encompass reflection on science, on risks, on response options, on values and costs – all while including lay representatives of the community together with required experts; third, using this process to actually identify preferred response paths to be tested with the broader public and elected officials.

And that’s where the process stands now – ready to put preferred responses on the table for public input, and to address the myriad of implementation and costing issues involved in translating the paths selected into shorter-term actions.

## At the cellular level

We’re not talking about microbiology here! In briefest terms, the approach has been to break down the Tangoio to Clifton coastline (other parts of Hawke’s Bay to follow) into 16 cells or units – each reflecting unique physical conditions and risk factors. Two community Assessment Panels (consisting of about 30 members) – Northern and Southern – were formed to work with Councils’ staff

and the outside experts to evaluate the situation in their respective areas.

Based upon assessment of risk in the near-term, the highest priority cells were identified to be: Whirinaki, Bay View, Westshore, Pandora, Ahuriri, East Clive, Haumoana, Te Awanga, and Clifton.

For each of these cells, the nature of the risk was established more precisely. Alternative response paths over three time frames – 0 to 20 years, 20 to 50 years, 50 to 100 years – were examined, preliminary preferred paths were identified, costed in broad terms, then re-evaluated with a final preferred pathway established for public input and more detailed development.

For each cell, the range of alternatives considered included: do nothing, more modest interventions like beach renourishment, control structures like groynes or sea walls, ‘retreating’ to more defensible coast lines, and managed retreat ... the latter involving moving people, homes and other assets out and relinquishing the areas to nature. Each response was considered for each of the three time frames. The results are shown on the opening map.

For each of these cells, the Assessment Panels have defined specific short-term actions that need to be incorporated into the overall response plans. These include steps like more immediate beach crest protection or limited vehicle access in some areas, monitoring the erosion threat to ‘lifeline’ assets between Westshore and Bay View, or providing more immediate rock protection at Haumoana’s Cape View Corner.



### Assessment Panels

Members of the two Assessment Panels consisted of a mix of coastal residents, like Mike Harris, a retired doctor living in Haumoana, to individuals representing affected interests, like Craig Daly of the Ahuriri Business Association. All served as volunteers, and the workload was massive. Heaps of technical material to digest and a dozen three-hour after-hours workshops to engage with consultants and each other and make by consensus all the key decisions about values to protect and mitigation measures to undertake over a 100-year timeframe. I interviewed Mike and Craig, both of whom estimate they've spent easily over 100 hours on the project.

Mike sees climate change as 'one of the most pressing issues of the day' and was eager to contribute to the work on the issue. He worries about 'a lack of long-term views in a world dominated by short-term agendas' And in the case of climate impacts, notes "it's especially hard for people to get their heads around the long term", perhaps creating a bias toward short-term actions.

He tilts toward preserving the natural character of the coast and accepting the power of nature, favouring long-term retreat as opposed to 'hard engineering' approaches, and aligning himself with the Maori view of "guardianship and stewardship as

**"It's especially hard for people to get their heads around the long term."**

MIKE HARRIS, HAUMOANA

opposed to ownership at all cost ... Nature can pay you back big time if you encourage it in the right direction."

'Despite his cynicism about much public consultation', Mike is 'pretty satisfied and impressed', regarding the process as 'robust, fair and well-intentioned' with plenty of access to the technical team on offer ... "that's been marvellous".

How would Mike improve the process? "We've had a fair shot at presenting our views ... and alternative views have always been accommodated", but he would have welcomed more 'breathing space' for reflection on the information before making decisions. Both the overall work schedule and individual meetings were quite compressed.

Craig Daly, a transportation design engineer, shares Mike's positive assessment and believes his panel colleagues would agree. He calls the process "daunting, exciting, at times apprehensive and overall very good ... things have been put before the panels, argued out in a really robust way, and along the way all of us changed our

minds about something ... in most cases ending up with unanimous decisions."

The substantive shift Craig observed was that preferences in his panel shifted from 'managed retreat' approaches to engineering options. For him, "The biggest thing to come out of this is that the pathways are quite flexible if, for example, sea rise is greater or timelines slide from what's presently projected."

He believes the panels should have a continuing role.

The panel members have made an outstanding contribution to the community. Says HBRC Councillor Peter Beaven, who's chairing the process: "The panelists see benefit in what they've done, they've gained useful knowledge ... they've chewed through an amazing amount of information, and it would be helpful to engage further with them as the implementation phase rolls out."

Asked what weight the panels' recommendations would carry, Peter responds: "I would like to think in light of the robustness of this process that Councils at the very least would take the recommendations coming before them with a great deal of seriousness, because in almost every case they are unanimous recommendations and they've gone through a far more robust process than a Council would normally go through itself."

## High-level indicative costings in each cell

Cell Location	Low – 100 Years	High – 100 Years
Whirinaki	\$32,798,700	\$64,812,900
Bay View	\$14,029,200	\$42,490,400
Westshore	\$28,151,100	\$66,843,900
Pandora	\$14,365,944	\$23,287,364
Ahuriri	\$8,239,200	\$14,513,850
East Clive	\$5,478,500	\$12,674,500
Haumoana	\$17,292,000	\$40,650,000
Te Awanga	\$14,992,000	\$31,460,000
Clifton	\$4,375,000	\$7,500,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$139,721,644</b>	<b>\$304,232,914</b>

Without at this point (understandably) delving into detailed implementation plans, the working group has developed high-level indicative costings for each potential pathway in each cell, and in each time frame.

Not surprisingly, the cost ranges vary considerably. Above are the ranges for the preferred options in the priority cells.

### Now what?

First of all, the broader public needs to digest and reflect upon the work done to date by the technical advisers and Assessment Panels. All this information will be provided early in the new year.

And for that matter, anyone wishing to delve into the reports completed to date can do so at the project website: [www.hbcoast.co.nz](http://www.hbcoast.co.nz). In addition, a mapping tool has been developed to show the newly mapped hazard extents. This information is at: [www.hbemergency.govt.nz/hazards/portal](http://www.hbemergency.govt.nz/hazards/portal).

Of course a key aspect of the financial work to be done is fleshing out what these mitigation and adaption measures will cost individual ratepayers ... and how the burden will be allocated to private individuals with properties at risk versus other ratepayers. More on the politics of 'who pays' in a moment.

This level of analysis cannot be completed in time to be included in Councils' long term plans (LTPs) in the first half of next year. Ratepayers can expect, however, that their Councils will be proposing to continue to roll forward with the planning process, to the tune of several hundred thousand dollars total.

In addition, the Regional, Hastings and Napier Councils are contemplating each an initial contribution to a 'Coastal Response Contributory Fund' that would be intended to begin

accumulating reserve funds. These funds would be earmarked for:

- Recovery from extreme weather events relating to the coastal environment in the region;
- Making safe and good the areas of abandoned and or unmanaged retreat; and,
- District/regional planning costs relating to possible changes to the coastal hazard strategy.

This seems a prudent initial funding step to take, considering a potential 100-year price tag of \$140 million to \$304 million! Of course, one might hope that a succession of central governments would eventually come to the funding party given the national scale of the predicament, and our Councils are committed to pursuing such funding.

Once response pathways for each cell have been finally selected, Councils will need to design specific workplans, deciding which mitigation steps should be undertaken (and financed) first ... remember, it's a 100-year strategy. The bulk of this work will fall to the Hastings and Napier Councils, whose physical assets and coastal ratepayers – will be most threatened over time. The Regional Council might be more expected to undertake aspects of the strategy that involve environmental mitigation, such as protection of beach crests and establishment of wetlands.

Yet to be determined is whether from this point on each of the Councils will make their own decisions as to which pathways to prioritise and fund, or whether the existing Joint Committee (with representatives from Regional,



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Hastings, Napier Councils) will formulate a ‘master plan’ to implement a regional strategy. Beaven reckons that a key factor to consider in continuing a regional overview is that the coastline does not respect political boundaries, and actions taken in one cell can impact the others. To him, the critical question is: “How much of the autonomous decision-making power that the three Councils hold are they prepared to let go in the interest of working together?”

#### **Politics of ‘who pays?’**

If the proposed pathways are reasonable responses to nature’s threat, the question remains, who pays?

Not surprisingly, Councils are hoping for central government assistance. And Councillor Beaven notes this is another reason for Hawke’s Bay Councils to present an organised united front. The new government seems aware of the national scope of the financial challenge ahead, but it’s too soon to know what specific funding commitments, if any, might emerge.

But our Councils are determined to be ‘first cab off the ranks’ and believe the collaborative process undertaken to date will help position the region strongly. As Beaven notes, this rationale

**“... things have been put before the panels, argued out in a really robust way, and along the way all of us changed our minds about something... in most cases ending up with unanimous decisions.”**

CRAIG DALY, AHURIRI

is a “key driver for getting started with the Contributory Fund as evidence that we have our s\*\*t together.”

The next ‘who pays’ issue is intergenerational. Past and current generations have caused the problem, but future ones will bear the vast preponderance of the consequences. When Councils begin to spend serious capital on climate adaptation, monies will be borrowed over decades. But meantime, the temptation might be to defer spending because impacts are deemed 20, 50 or 100 years away. Beaven believes there are steps that need to be taken now and Councils would be “remiss” not to do so. A challenging ethical issue for our

community to address.

Then there’s the most immediate pocketbook question: how much of the adaptation burden should be paid for by those living on or near the coast and most immediately affected, and how much by other ratepayers who might feel little or no direct impact? For those latter ratepayers, what is the ‘public good’ to which they should be expected to contribute? Should there be a ‘blanket’ public/private split (like the 60/40 split that has been floated), or might the answer depend on the specific actions to be taken – eg, building a sea wall for Clifton might yield a different answer than moving a wastewater treatment plant.

And the actual mechanics of setting and collecting rates – with multiple Councils tapping the same ratepayers for interventions that might cross jurisdictional boundaries – will be a complicated matter to resolve.

So, all in all, quite a collection of vexing issues for Hawke’s Bay ratepayers to get their heads around. But as you loll on the beach this summer, I urge you to think about them, for they’re heading your way with no less certainty than global warming itself.

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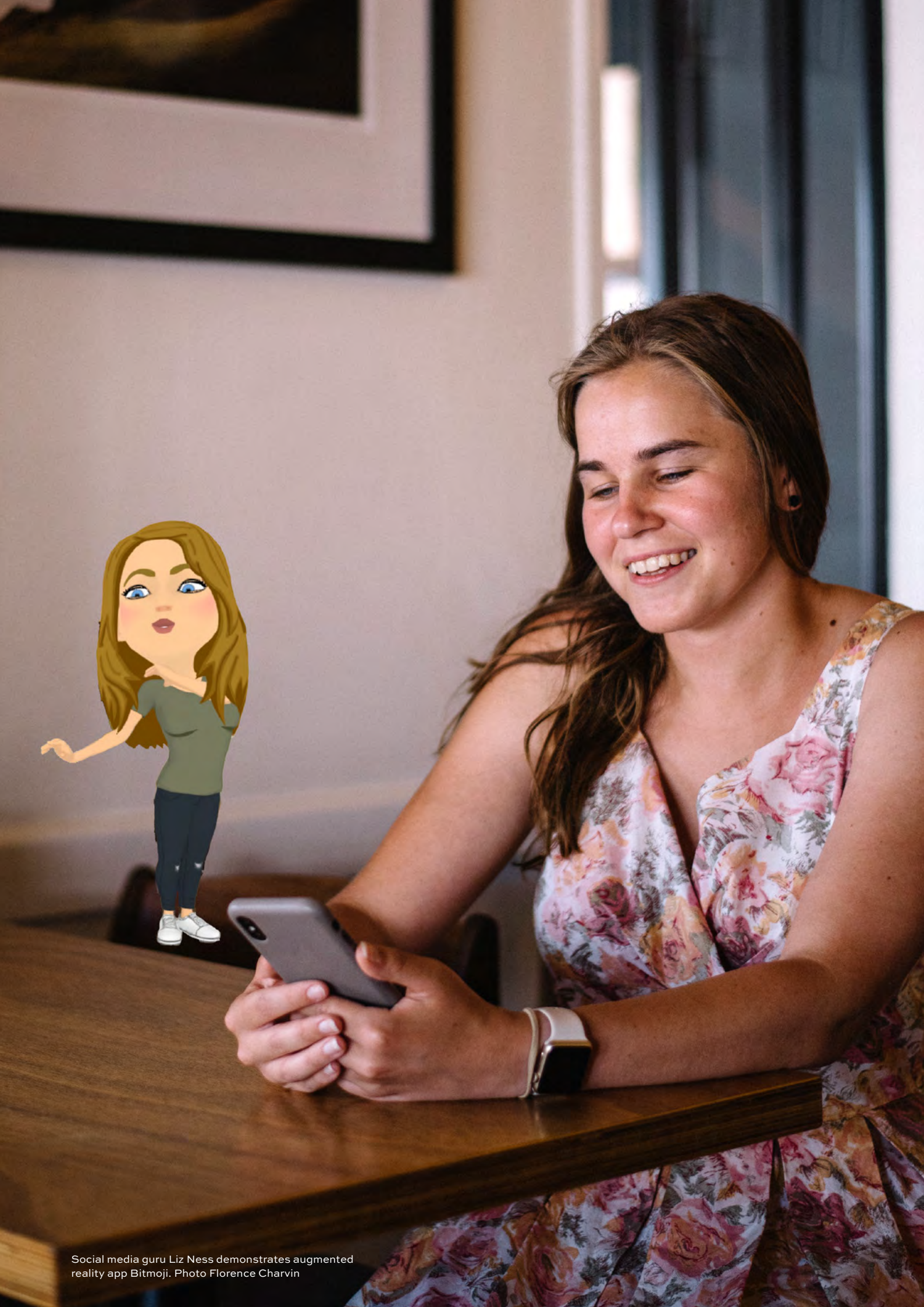
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Social media guru Liz Ness demonstrates augmented reality app Bitmoji. Photo Florence Charvin

# Mapping the summer apps

Before you commit to a digital-free summer break, consider ... With the right mobile apps, you can enhance your chill out mode by deciding exactly how you want to be informed, entertained and distracted.

KEITH NEWMAN

DOWNLOADING THE RIGHT APP can streamline decisions about where to go and when, alerting you to interesting places and events, wining and dining options, or add value to hobbies from cycling and walking to surfing, sport, gardening, cooking or just laying back with a good e-book.

There's an app (software for smart phones and tablets) for almost everything, and all the major brands want their 'click and play' shortcuts to become indispensable additions to our Apple or Android armoury.

Free or fee-based apps are available from Apple's Appstore, GooglePlay, iTunes and individual sites.

The market is maturing and consolidating. Havelock North-based social media consultant and owner of Strictlysocial.co.nz, Elizabeth-Marie (Liz) Nes, suggests the novelty of downloading heaps of apps is fading as users remove clutter from devices and get more specific about their needs and wants.

"It became a fixation; the more you downloaded the cooler you were, but now many people are deleting things that don't bring value or enhance their lifestyle."

Besides, she says, some devices limit download size and network costs can be prohibitive, if for example the app is 150Mb.

## Getting personal

Liz says users want apps to be simpler with crisp, current content, and personalised data about their hobbies, habits and goals, plus the ability to phone, email or message people or request a service and pay for it from within an app.

One attempt to encourage loyalty – or annoy people depending on the usefulness – is 'push' alerts for updates, offers and products they've shown an interest in.

She says there's also a trend back to the web, where interesting or occasional use apps can be test-driven, bookmarked and run as needed.

That's certainly the direction HB Tourism ([hawkesbaynz.com](http://hawkesbaynz.com)) is headed with its new Hawke's Bay **Playlist** software.

"Anyone can go on and gather things they want to do in Hawke's Bay, give their Playlist a name, for example 'Keith's Boys Weekend in the Bay', fill it with whatever is on the website then share it with fellow travellers," says HB Tourism general manager, Annie Dundas.

Dundas personally recommends **Campermate** for people in motorhomes with travel information and weather warnings and **Great Rides**, featuring all the national cycle trails including Hawke's Bay.

Marketing guru and Hastings Councillor Damon Harvey is interested in recreational pursuits. He pays \$5 a month for **surf2surf** ([surf2surf.com](http://surf2surf.com)) with alerts to the wave action at Waimarama, including up to the minute photos and live video.

He also uses Norwegian weather forecasting app **YR** ([yr.no/en](http://yr.no/en)) and the **NZ Met Service** ([metservice.com](http://metservice.com))

Harvey turns to crossfit app **Wodbox** ([gemywodbox.com](http://gemywodbox.com)) for a workout away from home, and while out cycling, running or walking he dons his headphones and tunes to **Spotify** or **iHeartRadio**.

**Netflix**, **Lightbox** and **Skygo** are for "on the couch, be a slouch" moments and for media he's on **NZ Herald**, **Stuff**, **Twitter** and **Facebook** which "get a bit of a hammering".

## Repurposing media

A favourite of Martin Bates, chairman of the Cape Coast Community Group, is **Flipboard** ([flipboard.com](http://flipboard.com)) where he creates a personalised virtual magazine by curating news and features from the media of his choice.

He enjoys podcasts from **Soundcloud** or **Google Play** and 'long read' audio, an emerging trend where journalists at *The Guardian* ([guardian.com](http://guardian.com)), for example, put a voice to their articles.

For personal communication he and his wife use **Wunderlist** (wunderlist.com), a shared 'to do list', as a foil for short-term memory loss.

Liz Nes makes good use of calorie counter and diet tracker, **MyFitnessPal**. Fill in weight, height, body mass index (BMI) and what you eat to determine carbs, calories and protein intake. Then add your exercise routine. "I know a lot of people who have lost weight by monitoring their eating habits."

She reckons the iPhone's **HealthApp** is a great asset. Answer a range of health questions to create a medical ID, keep track of your exercise regime, monitor sleeping patterns, and connect your smartwatch or fitbit to check your heart rate while walking or running.

Worried about overdoing it because of your New Year's/summer fitness pledge? A designated single click emergency contact is available in case of collapse!

### Jump off points

Facebook and other social media are increasingly jump off points to apps, but Liz warns that going directly to the app site is preferable, and selecting only the data you're comfortable sharing.

Hawke's Bay has been quite slow to the apps game. Liz believes complimentary or umbrella groups are the way to go; one wine or restaurant directory rather than 10 apps, something she's personally working on.

She'd like to find a meditation app that perhaps links with a Pilates regime for breathing or scheduled exercises. "For people like me who are in IT or glued to their devices for work or social media it's hard to switch off."

And she suggests the **Bandsintown.com** app, connecting fans with artists, gigs and venues should be promoted and populated with relevant Hawke's Bay content.

Havelock North global entrepreneur Rod Drury regrets we're unable to sample the benefits of **Uber**, the mobile app that hails a ride from private contractors or Uber's recent foray into the dining market, **Uber Eats**.

Uber is being resisted by taxi companies who want to impose rules and regulations on Uber contractors. That stalls Uber Eats, which relies on Uber drivers to deliver meals from takeaway outlets and restaurants.

## Twelve random summer apps

**Google Maps** (app stores) An essential app for navigating town or country, getting to the nearest beach or event and finding your way back to the campground or motel. Verbal instructions mean you don't have to look at the screen while driving.

**Essential New Zealand** (newzealand.com) Things to do, places to go, facts, figures, fun and help planning your trip with Tourism New Zealand's illustrated guide.

**DOC Campsite Finder** (app stores) Use this map to literally go remote at one of 200 Department of Conservation campsites. Social media coverage not guaranteed; an experience in nature is.

**Rankers.co.nz** 'Trusted' travel reviews of camping, campervan and travel, based on 'honest feedback' rather than 'marketing hoopla that doesn't match reality'. Includes Respect NZ Camping Map, a comprehensive database of over 500 freedom camping spots around the country, plus hundreds of well-equipped holiday parks.

**MapMyRide**. Cycle Napier, Hastings, Taradale, Wairoa; distance, elevation, time, directions, hundreds of options and for a more leisurely wander try **MapMyWalk** under Hawke's Bay: mapmyride.com/nz/hawke-s-bay

**Kindle**. Catch up on quality reading time, get lost in fact, fiction or

fantasy without a cluttered bedside table of books. There's a free app at Amazon giving access millions of books, thousands of magazines and audiobooks.

**Star Chart** (app stores) New Zealand has some of the world's clearest and most spectacular night skies for stargazers. Star Chart will help you get your celestial bearings.

**Social media musts** (app stores) Keep up with what friends are posting by loading up **Facebook**, **Twitter**, **Instagram** and **Pinterest**. Share holiday pics, swap boast notes or arrange to meet up. **WhatsApp Messenger** or **Viber Messenger** provide free secure global video, voice and messaging, group chat and document sharing.

**Foursquare** (foursquare.com) A good range of food, coffee, nightlife, fun and shopping links across the Bay.

**Pocket** (getpocket.com). Use your internet access when you've got it and save interesting content to Pocket for later viewing offline.

**Fishing** (hooked.kiwi.nz/free-app-nz-fishing-rules/) Abide by the rules, find a good location, identify your fish, keep a record of your catch and report poachers. Has short videos.

**Surf Guide** (sherpasurfguide.com) Find the best waves, live weather feed, select from 400+ detailed surf spots across the country.

Neither will be expanding much beyond Auckland and Wellington until that attitude shifts.

### During summer rain

Try games. But while games like **Family Feud** and **Puzzledom** are drawcards, they rely on continually delivering thrills and rewards for what Liz calls "the dopamine effect" that often keeps people awake half the night.

She tried **Candy Crush** for three days, but "the psychological effect" of alerts and notifications became too much, so she's switched off all gaming alerts. "It's a distraction I don't really need in my life."

However, she admits 'augmented reality' (AR) apps are often a fun addition to mobile devices, for example inserting a quirky or bizarre **Bitmoji** (bitmoji.com) into a scene; perhaps a dancing avocado, a funky frog or some

character of your own creation.

You can make it wander around the scenery or the restaurant or café while you're waiting for your order "for a bit of a laugh".

AR and virtual reality (VR) are expected to create even more immersive app experiences; greater confidence in security will result in advances in mobile commerce and banking.



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## Moving Skin Cancer Out of the Shade

SARAH CATES

Scott  
clinic

Dr Lloyd Peterson. Photo Sarah Cates

THE FRIENDLY LADY, probably in her early sixties, noticed the look of concern. Covered in countless small lesions, she turned to me and said “Don’t be alarmed, it’s a treatment for skin cancer. Growing up I spent a lot of time outdoors and this is the result of being unprotected in the sun, my mum and dad had no idea of the consequences.”

Skin cancer. These two words are just about as colloquial as ‘she’ll be right!’ and ‘no worries!’ in day-to-day kiwi lingo. Skin cancer is the most common cancer affecting New Zealanders. The combination of all types of skin cancer now accounts for 80% of new cancers diagnosed annually. This equates to around 69,000 new cases each year. New Zealand has the highest per capita rate of invasive melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, in the world. This rate has nearly doubled from 1982 to 2011.

The cost of skin cancer in New Zealand was conservatively estimated in 2006 at \$57.1 million in direct health-care costs. Broader economic cost, resulting from lost employment revenue due to skin

**“I can take detailed digital images which are extremely useful, as they enable me to study the lesion in detail and visually keep track of any changes. It’s an amazing tool in the early detection of skin cancer”.**

DR LLOYD PETERSON, SKIN  
CANCER SPECIALIST

cancer fatalities, amounted to around \$66 million. Skin cancer rates are set to increase with our aging population, placing a huge burden on the health-care system. Significant amounts of ongoing funding will be required for melanoma treatment. Melanoma experts describe skin cancer as a neglected problem, with a serious lack of skin-cancer prevention initiatives spanning across decades.

The most common forms of skin cancer are basal cell carcinoma (BCC), squamous cell carcinoma (SCC), and

melanoma. BCC and SCC are also called keratinocyte cancers. Skin cancers are named after the cell from which they originate.

Despite accounting for the least number of cases, melanoma is responsible for 80% of skin-cancer deaths. Each year, 4,000 people are diagnosed with melanoma insitu or invasive melanoma. Melanoma is a tumour that develops as a result of the malignant transformation of melanocytic cells. These cells produce melanin, the pigment that gives skin its colour. It is a highly aggressive form of cancer characterised by its metastatic nature. In its superficial form it is confined to the epidermis (insitu). Further genetic mutation leads to the tumour invading the dermis (invasive), and once the tumour has become invasive it may spread to other tissues (metastatic).

It is expected one in 15 fair-skinned New Zealanders will develop melanoma in their life time. According to the NZ Cancer registry, there were 2,366 diagnosed cases of invasive melanoma in 2013, of which 58 were

in Hawke's Bay. Melanoma incidence and mortality are substantially lower among Maori and Pacific Island peoples. Out of the 2,366 diagnosed, 42 were Maori and five were Pacific Islanders.

Dr Lloyd Peterson, skin cancer specialist from the Scott Clinic in Hastings, stands at the coalface of skin-cancer diagnosis and treatment. Like others in his field, he is the 'ambulance at the bottom of the cliff'.

He comments: "We are seeing the long-term complications of a generation – the baby boomers – who did not know the dangers of the sun's ultraviolet rays (UVR). It was commonplace for many of my patients to cover themselves in cooking oil before sunbathing for prolonged periods of time. Melanoma wasn't really recognised in the past and probably wasn't given a great deal of priority. Patients would have waited until the cancer had reached an aggressive stage before seeking medical help. We have a lot more sun-sense now. It will be good to see reductions in sun-damaged skin."

Skin cancer is the most preventable cancer, with an estimated 90% of cases being avoidable. The primary risk-factor for skin cancer is overexposure to UVR (we do need some exposure to UVR to generate Vitamin D ... another story). Overexposure to UVR either from the sun or tanning beds can result in genetic mutations in skin cells, altering their behaviour, which may result in skin cancer.

Dr Peterson explains there is more to skin cancer than just overexposure to UVR. He says, "Skin cancer risk is multifactorial. There are

genetic, family and personal history, environmental, geographical, age, and life-style factors, that all influence a person's skin cancer risk. For example, the fairer and more sensitive the skin, the easier it is for UV to cause sunburn. The amount of infrequent, but intense, exposure to sunlight in childhood increases the risk of melanoma. The number of melanocytic nevi (moles or birthmarks) that develop in childhood or adolescence as a result of sunburn also increase the risk of melanoma. Any exposure that results in sunburn – at any age – increases the risk of melanoma.

"Cancer awareness campaigns need to focus on risk factors, elements that increase a person's chance of getting skin cancer, and preventive factors such as encouraging long-term sun-smart behaviour in our children."

Prevention is far better than cure, but if you suspect skin cancer, early detection, diagnosis and suitable treatment will greatly increase a positive outcome. Melanoma spotted early can be treated successfully with surgery alone. But, Peterson says recognising skin cancer can be a tricky business. "Skin cancer has many faces, it presents very differently, and there is a lot of variation. It's not just a 'black spot'. A 3/4 mm melanoma can be featureless. Fortunately we are past the 'naked eye' stage in diagnosis."

GPs like Dr Peterson are up-skilling themselves in the field of dermatoscopy which enables greater diagnostic accuracy and is a key tool in the fight against melanoma.

Peterson explains, "Dermatoscopy

has really come into its own. A dermatoscope (a magnifying glass with its own light source) allows me to look at the structures of skin lesions or moles that cannot be seen with the naked eye. It is an uninvasive, fast and simple technique which helps me to differentiate between benign and malignant lesions. I can take detailed digital images which are extremely useful, as they enable me to study the lesion in detail and visually keep track of any changes. It's an amazing tool in the early detection of skin cancer."

The most important advice from skin cancer experts is that if you notice anything suspicious or an irregular skin marking or growth, or witness a change in an existing skin marking or growth, get it checked out! Do not hesitate.

At all times, practise protective personal behaviours. The basic guide lines are: limit or minimise UVR exposure that causes harm, seek shade during peak UVR hours, avoid sunbeds, and wear sun protective clothing (including a hat and wraparound sunglasses). If you are going to experience prolonged exposure to UVR, use a good quality broad spectrum (UVA and UVB) sunscreen.



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# ACTIVE IN HAWKE'S BAY

Maybe it's a New Year's resolution,  
or perhaps you just need to change things up and  
connect with the landscape a little more.  
Whatever your reason, we've gathered some hot  
tips and ideas on how to get out and about and more  
active in beautiful Hawke's Bay during the long  
summer days and months.

LIZZIE RUSSELL

# 1

**Join the Club!**  
**Here in the Bay we have a multitude of sports and hobby clubs, all eager to grow their memberships. Longer days make summer a great time to try something new or reconnect with an interest or passion. Here are a few ideas from the *BayBuzz* Team:**

## **Harriers**

[Napierharriers.co.nz](http://Napierharriers.co.nz) or  
[sporty.co.nz/hastingsharriers](http://sporty.co.nz/hastingsharriers)

## **Sailing**

(see Barbara Arnott's story on page 76)  
[Napiersailingclub.org.nz](http://Napiersailingclub.org.nz)

## **Croquet**

(see Colin Hurst's story on page 80)  
[sporty.co.nz/hcc](http://sporty.co.nz/hcc) (Heretaunga Croquet Club, formerly Te Mata Croquet Club)  
or [sporty.co.nz/marewacroquet](http://sporty.co.nz/marewacroquet)

## **Petanque**

[petanquenz.com/clubs](http://petanquenz.com/clubs)

## **Tennis**

[sporty.co.nz/tenniseastern](http://sporty.co.nz/tenniseastern)  
for information on all 14 affiliated tennis clubs around the region.

## **Run Walk Hawke's Bay**

[runwalkhb.org.nz](http://runwalkhb.org.nz)

## **Forest and Bird**

[forestandbird.org.nz/branches](http://forestandbird.org.nz/branches)

## **Hawke's Bay Caravan and Camping Club**

[caravanningcampingnzinc.com/hawkesbaycaravanandcampingclub](http://caravanningcampingnzinc.com/hawkesbaycaravanandcampingclub)

## **Tramping**

[Napietrampingclub.org.nz](http://Napietrampingclub.org.nz) and  
[Facebook.com/napietrampingclub](https://Facebook.com/napietrampingclub)  
[Htc.org.nz](http://Htc.org.nz) and [Facebook.com/tramphtc](https://Facebook.com/tramphtc)

We've checked in with a couple of tramping gurus – Glenda Hooper from the Heretaunga Tramping Club and Kelvin Shaw from the Napier Tramping Club – and asked for their recommendations for a quintessential Hawke's Bay walk, and another that's magic but often overlooked.

For Glenda, you can't beat the tramp to Sunrise Hut. It's well known and for good reason – it's the ideal tramp for the whole family. Taking approximately three hours to get in, and then two hours to come back down again, the Sunrise Hut tramp in the Ruahine Forest Park is ideal for new trampers, and the hut itself is comfortable for an overnight stay with the main bonus being, yep, you guessed it – stunning sunrises, and beautiful views over the Hawke's Bay Plains.

For something a little 'off-the-beaten-track' but still in the Ruahine Forest Park, Glenda recommends making a weekend of the hike to Howlett's Hut. The hut itself is the

highest in the Ruahine Ranges, and is owned by the Heretaunga Tramping Club, but available for everyone to use. There's also the lighter option of turning off halfway and heading to Daphne Hut instead.

Kelvin Shaw's picks are both in the Kaweka Forest Park. The classic, he says, is the Te Puia Hut track which follows the Mohaka River. There are a few hills and dips, but nothing too strenuous. You can head into Te Puia Hit for an overnight stay, or keep going to the hot springs for a dip. Plus, there are more hot pools and space for freedom camping at the start of the track.

As for Kelvin's suggestion for a favourite but often overlooked tramp, check out the Historic Iron Whare walk. If you head out towards the Kaweka carpark but take the lower track, a couple of hours and a stream crossing will get you to the Iron Whare – a small hut constructed from vertical slab totara, probably built in the 1870s.

You'll find all the information you need to prepare for all four of these tramps on [doc.govt.nz](http://doc.govt.nz).

Both the Napier Tramping Club and the Heretaunga Tramping Club are friendly groups always keen to welcome new members. Check them out online.



Te Puia Hut

# 2

**The knowledgeable staff at our iSite visitor centres have Hawke's Bay's best attractions sussed, plus they actually talk to visitors and have a great feel for what they totally love, and what they might be missing out on:**

## **Wairoa**

Must do activities according to the Wairoa iSite team include:

- A stroll for an hour and a half (or 30 minutes by bike) along the Riverside Walkway, which leads from the Wairoa lighthouse to Whakamahia beach.
- An escape from the heat – a visit to the recently refurbished Wairoa Museum, and then complement the heritage with some art at the community volunteer-run Long River Gallery.
- The Great Walk or any of the short walks around stunning Lake Waikaremoana.
- A soak in the healing waters of the Mōrere Hot Springs.
- An experience of a lifetime – seeing a rocket launch on Māhia Peninsula (dates TBC).

And the team suggest these two often-overlooked experiences:

- A walk in the Māhia Peninsula Scenic Reserve, one of the last tracks of lowland coastal forest remaining on the East Coast.

- A picnic overlooking the spectacular Te Reinga Falls (35 metre drop to the Wairoa River).

*You can find detailed information on all these activities at [visitwairoa.co.nz](http://visitwairoa.co.nz)*

## **Napier**

Jane Libby and her team at the Napier iSite recommend these classics in and around the Art Deco Capital:

- An Art Deco walk, either guided or self-guided, starting from the Art Deco Centre in Tennyson Street.
- A tramp up to Shine Falls, the highest waterfalls in the Bay.
- A session either watching the action or joining in at Bay Skate on Marine Parade.
- A walk or a drive up to the Bluff Hill Lookout – especially when there's a cruise ship in port.
- A visit to the British American Tobacco Building. Every day throughout summer there will be a guided tour of the iconic Art Deco building, ending in the new Urban Winery.



Mōrere Hot Springs

The Napier hidden gems we should all check out are:

- The Faraday Centre – perfect on a rare rainy summer day.
- Otatara Pa reserve for a heritage fix and some great views.

## **Hastings District**

The Hastings District is a treasure trove of great wineries, beaches and parks. The HDC team offer the following ideas for getting out and about in our beautiful backyard this summer:

- Explore the Pekapeka Regional Park wetlands – one of the few remaining large wetlands of its type in Hawke's Bay. Careful eyes might see 20 or so protected bird species.
- Take a cool walk at Mohi Bush with the possibility of spotting the tiny rifleman, New Zealand's smallest bird. To get there, head out on Waimarama Rd, turn into Maraetotara Rd, then Waipoapoa Rd (38 km from Havelock North). Once you are there, tackle one of the two loops – both relatively flat walks.

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Bay Skate, Napier; Maraeotara Falls; the Longest Placename in the World

- Visit Maraeotara Falls, 25 km from Hastings, via Waimarama Rd. There is a great swimming hole; spectacular water fall, and a heritage power station. There is a relatively steep walk down to the river and then an easy track following the contour of the river.
- We now have nearly 200 kilometres of cycle trails across the region, and one of the most stunning is the Kidnappers Coast Ride, graded ‘very easy’. The full ride is 26kms – about three hours.
- Check out Te Mata Peak’s truly majestic Redwood forest, which comprises more than 200 90-year-old California redwoods planted by the Chambers family.

A couple of recommended extra gems are the Shine Falls walk and the tramp to Mangatutu Falls in the Kaweka Forest Park – a beautiful spot for camping and picnicking.

*All the information on these Napier and Hastings activities is at [hawkesbaynz.com](http://hawkesbaynz.com)*

### Central Hawke’s Bay

**You’ll be spoilt for choice if you take a day or a weekend in Central Hawke’s Bay, so the team at the CHB Visitor Information Centre in Waipukurau have a ‘must do’ list to help:**

- Walking in the Otaia/Lindsay Bush. A beautiful walk through lowland native forest suitable for all ages and abilities.
- Centralines Summer Series Free Concerts – at 4.30pm February 18th and March 4th at Nelly Jull Park, Waipawa. Perhaps pop to one of the CHB wineries beforehand?
- Ranui First Sunday Fundays – archery, paintball, petting zoo, flying fox, cycle tracks – fun for adults and children alike on the 1st Sunday of the summer months.
- The cycle trail from Waipukurau to Waipawa (stop for a coffee then return) and later in summer the new suspension bridge over the Tukituki River will be opened so you can do a cycle or walking loop along both sides.

- Classics for those wet summer days – the Waipawa Settlers Museum and Otane’s little village museum.

If you’re keen to get off the main roads, here are a couple more ideas:

- Check out Te Angiangi Marine Reserve between Aramoana and Blackhead Beaches.
- Visit the Longest Placename in the World – Taumatawhakatangihangakoauauotamateaturipukakapikimanungahoronukupokaiwhenuakitanatahu – and then continue on to Rongomaraeroa Marae, the village of Porangahau and Te Paerahi Beach.

*See [hawkesbaynz.com](http://hawkesbaynz.com) or Facebook.com/chbvisitorinformationcentre for all the information on what to do in CHB.*



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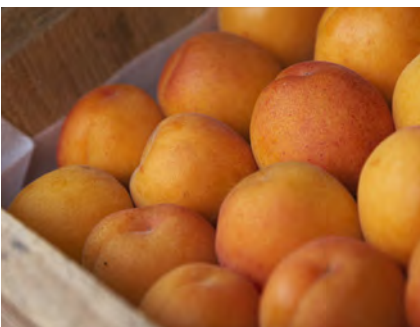
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# 3

## Ten Hawke's Bay Classics

**You may have been born here, lived here for decades, or be a total newbie, but we reckon you can call yourself a true black & white Hawke's Bay local if you can tick eight out of ten in this list. And if you can't? This summer is your chance!**

- 1** A visit (over farm or over beach) to the gannet colony at Cape Kidnappers
- 2** Walking or running up Te Mata Peak
- 3** Strolling on Māhia Beach
- 4** Tramping around Lake Waikaremoana
- 5** A day on the cycle trails or a winery bike tour
- 6** Surfing lesson/attempt at Waimarama Beach – or at least boogie boarding or body surfing.
- 7** A photo op on the Napier viewing platform
- 8** A spend-up on fresh summerfruit and berries at a roadside stall en route to a tramp or beach
- 9** Picnic (seasoned with a little beach cricket) at one of the CHB beaches – Porangahau, Pourere, Kairakau, Blackhead, Mangakuri, Aramoana
- 10** Outdoor concert at the Mission, Black Barn, Church Road or any of our beautiful winery venues.





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# 4

## My Summer 'Playlist' By Annie Dundas

**You can't actually leave the region in the summer – because everyone else wants to come visit and stay! Everyone constantly asks (and it's not because I work for Hawke's Bay Tourism) ... what should we do, where should we stay, what events are on?**



Annie Dundas. Photo Florence Charvin

We launched a new website in November and one of the very clever tools anyone can use is 'The Hawke's Bay Playlist'.

I have been using this tool to send friends coming to stay tips on what they should do while they are here. It's super simple and a bit like Pinterest where you drag and drop any bit of content or a local business into your self-created Hawke's Bay Playlist.

We have a bunch listed on our site under 'Featured Playlists' so you can see what Ray McVinnie loves about Hawke's Bay, there are a couple of surfer chaps taking on Māhia and of course there is a playlist for families.

The next stage will be publishing the 700 or so that have already been created by visitors and locals so

everyone can see what others love about the region, all the hidden gems and new hot spots.

So what is on my personal Hawke's Bay Playlist for Hawke's Bay this summer?

### **1. Crazy Good Coffee in Ahuriri**

Ryan and the team are superb and all my visitors will be taken there at some point to start the day.

**2. Waipatiki Beach** I love this beach, 20 minutes from Napier. Its big cliffs and low key pace make it a beach time favourite.

**3. The Donut Robot in Tennyson Street** It's the old school tuck-shop donut and perfect for children, although if you want something a

little more flash and refined head to **Bistronomy** to try James Beck's Isaac Hayes chocolate ganache choux pastry salted caramel 'Salty Balls'!

### **4. Exploring the CBD of Hastings**

There are some seriously cool new shops and cafes in the CBD not to mention the very new Ya Bon – you can sit, watch and smell all that incredible bread and goodness.

### **5. Taking the pooch up through the Redwoods at Te Mata Peak.**

It never fails to impress.

**6. The Black Barn Market** Such a treat on the Saturdays of summer and if you miss it you can hit the



## Design Note #04

In this series of design notes, we are summarising the three project phases of **Design, Documentation and Construction** which define our architectural design process.

The definition of Architecture is: *the Design and Construction of a building*. Our involvement during the final Construction Phase, is crucial to ensure the design ideas and detailed information is carried through to the final built project.

The **CONSTRUCTION PHASE** includes the "Procurement Stage" and "Construction Observation & Administration".

The **Procurement Stage** is a formal process of pricing the project. We provide clarification to all contractors, review pricing documents and make recommendations to you the client. Once all is agreed the NZIA Construction Contract is completed and signed.

**Construction Observation & Administration** includes weekly or fortnightly site meetings with you and the contractor. Visiting site regularly allows for changes to be reviewed and construction compliance requirements to be monitored. We track the projects time and cost, as well as other checks and balances to ensure the project progresses smoothly. These include:

- Acting impartially between the client and contractor
- Ensuring contractor and client construction insurances are in place.
- Issuing formal directions and recording/instructing any changes
- Reviewing contractor claims for payment

The involvement of the Architect during the construction phase is essential and can save tens of thousands down the line. The Architect advocates for the clients' interest during this phase, ensuring all aspects of the brief, budget, timeframe, final compliance documents, and overall design is realised in the finished building.

For more information or to discuss your future building projects, please contact us for your free initial consultation.

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Farmers' Market every Sunday at the Showgrounds. Both of these markets show what makes Hawke's Bay tick.

**7. Ocean Beach** You drive along that high wobbly gravel road and all of a sudden you see that expanse of beach and the dense blue colour of the ocean – it blows every visitor away.

**8. The MTG** There may be the odd day of rain over summer so on those days I always take people through the MTG – it is our place telling our story and visitors love it.

**9. Shopping** Well I always stop at Charleston Chic in Napier to buy sunglasses. You might think they are

just for Tremains Art Deco Weekend, but no – a fabulous wardrobe addition year-round! I always visit **So Vintage** in Te Awanga as well as **Paper Works Gallery** and have recently discovered **Blokkers Nursery** on Mill Road in Clive for the very best lilies!

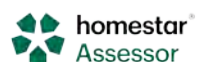
**10. Well, I would like to see a rocket go off at Mahia** That would be truly exceptional!

So if you are trying to write lists of things to do for people in Hawke's Bay – jump on to [www.hawkesbaynz.com](http://www.hawkesbaynz.com) and create your own Hawke's Bay Playlist.

*Annie Dundas is general manager of Hawke's Bay Tourism.*



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2017





# Reluctant Camper ... Paul Paynter

TOM BELFORD



Heaps of Kiwis, especially in Hawke's Bay, are zealous campers.

However, to Paul Paynter, 'roughing it' means staying in a mere '3-Star hotel with a hot tub'. In his youth, camping consisted of an occasional sleep on the beach, and even at that more adventurous age he found the toilet blocks 'feral'.

Nevertheless, confronted by the reality that his youngsters (age five and eight) are clamouring to sleep in the wilderness – "they want to be camouflaged outdoor weekend commandos" – Paul decided to browse the camping essentials at Kathmandu, accompanied by *BayBuzz*.

Ever the cynic, Paul at the outset claimed that camping meant something different in 'his day', when it involved minimum equipment – "a tin can to cook in, not a five-piece enameled pot set" – and a genuine desire to tune out the world and get close to nature. In contrast, today's 'camping' includes solar panels to keep those mobiles and iPads alive and freeze-dried packets of Coq au Vin and Apricot Crumble to dine upon.

But as his shopping tour continued, he came to admire the ingenuity that went into many of the camping accessories on offer. And he admitted that "as he got older, the ground got harder", making him appreciate luxuries like air mattresses.

First stop was finding a tent. Commanding the Kathmandu camping section was the Retreat 280 Module Tent, sleeping five, normally priced at \$1,199, but like most items in the store significantly discounted (to \$679 in this case).

Paul insisted that living in this luxurious abode was really "pretend camping ... it probably has a heat pump". He seemed to define real camping – "in the old days people were tough" – as an activity where all necessary equipment fit in a backpack one actually carries to a suitably serene and isolated location. "You want to test your perception of your own rugged endurance ... otherwise just rent a cabin."

To him, the Retreat 280 required a key accessory ... a Land Rover, driven to a campsite with plug-in electricity. And probably carefully packed to the gills by a nanny. More reasonable to Paul was

the Retreat 80, sleeping three, listing at \$399. While calling it "a bit soft", he nevertheless took a shine to the \$99 collapsible campbed.

Since Paul apparently anticipated hiking to a campsite, carrying all his gear, his attention turned to a suitable knapsack, hiking boots and walking sticks. He loved the fit and support offered by the Interloper gridTECH backpack, with a whopping 70L capacity (\$599). It seemed to appeal to his manliness, but was somehow out of sync with the pair of Fizan Compact 4 Walking Poles (\$139 each) he warmed up to, which at first glance he had dismissed as sissy stuff ... "falling is part of the experience".

To equip his trek, ankle-supporting boots were the "most important investment". Paul chose the Salomon X Ultra Mid GTX (\$379) boots for their remarkable light weight. However, ever practical, he did pause over other boots he thought more 'sensible' in that they were mountain climbing-worthy, but still stylish enough to wear to dinner at the 5-Star lodge as well.

As for suitable clothing, Paul was hard to please. From thermals (“I get hot and they are the first things you want to take off”) to top-of-the line Aysen GORE-TEX jackets (\$599), he was reluctant to buy. “These jackets look great for standing on the sidelines at your kids’ freezing cold netball game, but they’re too over the top to want to wear stomping through the mud and the bush.” He also didn’t like the bright ‘Scandinavian’ colours of many of the jackets ... “You want to look ‘local’ ... wear black and green, muted ... don’t want to stand out.” The ‘most critical’ clothing item to Paul was a Pelorus Beanie (‘looks tough’), easily done at \$15.

Sustenance was next on the list. Passing on the three-burner stove (\$179), the steam-whistle polished chrome tea kettle (\$29) and the five-pot cooking set (\$119), none of which were deemed backpack capable, Paul chose instead the super lightweight titanium backpack one-burner stove (\$139) – “the ultimate in credibility” – and a can of butane (\$10). But he couldn’t resist the freeze-dried foods, going for the Honey Soy Chicken ... and Spaghetti Bolognese for the kids (\$12.78 each).

The subject of water came up. “You used to be able to look at the water and see it was clear and fit to drink; now you worry about what might be upstream.”

But what to do after dinner, when daylight disappeared?

On offer was a Solar Panel and Battery Charger (\$199), which promised to fuel the devices that could connect his family to the outside world. But Paul vehemently resisted the whole concept of taking solar power to his campsite. “Give up the phone for a couple of days.”

Instead he opted for a straightforward Camp Lantern (\$149) and for his two kids, 400 Lumen Raven Head Lanterns (\$199) to illuminate those nighttime toilet trips.

But with all lights out, it’s time to crawl into those cosy goosedown sleeping bags. Top-of-the-range at Kathmandu is the XT Polaris Bag (\$999) in sunset orange, guaranteed to maintain its insulation even when wet and protecting the sleeper down to -16C temperatures. In the case of sleeping bags, unlike jackets, he would opt for a bright colour – “it’s easier to find your own bag”.

A concerned and vigilant Paul grilled the store manager, Danelle Gove, on how the goosedown was sourced. To his satisfaction (“marginally better for the ducks”), she vouched for Kathmandu’s adherence to the Responsible Down Standard, which focuses on animal welfare (e.g. no live plucking, no force feeding).

Outfitting Paul cost \$3,813, although BayBuzz did throw in that jacket he didn’t really want. Adding backpacks, boots,

head lanterns, some meals and sleeping bags for another three family members would bring the total to \$10,437, although skinflint Paul probably wouldn’t ‘spend’ as much on the kids! And of course, Paul would take advantage of those Kathmandu discounts.

By the time Paul’s browsing was completed, BayBuzz thought he was warming slightly to the concept of a family camping trip ... or at least an outing to enjoy “the cool stuff ... we never grow up”.

#### Outfitting Paul Paynter

Tent – three-person	\$399
Backpack	\$599
Hiking boots	\$379
Hiking poles (2)	\$278
GORE-TEX jacket	\$599
Beanie	\$15
Titanium stove	\$139
Butane	\$10
Freeze-dried food	\$48
Camp lantern	\$149
Head lantern	\$199
Sleeping bag	\$999
<b>PAUL’S TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,813</b>
<b>FAMILY TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,437</b>

[Editor’s note: All prices noted are full list; most items could be purchased at substantial discount at the time of Paul’s shopping trip.]



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Fisherman extraordinaire, John Scott. Photo: Tim Whittaker. [tim.co.nz](http://tim.co.nz)



# John Scott: Come Fly With Me

ANDREW FRAME

Local trout fishing, fly tying, and environmental legend John Scott says Hawke's Bay is very spoilt for choice with its myriad of rivers and fishing spots and a relatively low number of anglers.

And he's worked hard to ensure this continues on for future generations.

One of John's earliest trout fishing memories was with his father on the Tongariro River in the 1950s. Trout were hooked and, as they say, so was he.

But while being a keen angler like his father, family and work took precedence over angling for John too, and it wasn't until having to give up work at 47 that he was able to fish more extensively.

Since then he has certainly made up for lost time.

## **Something in the water**

At 73, despite all those years of angling experience, John says he's still learning.

He says skill makes up a big part of trout fishing – being able to 'read the water', knowing what sort of waterway it is, the size and type of lure required, and how and where to cast the fly so it will float naturally into your target's attention.

Often you won't even see the fish. "You're not always looking for 'trout', rather a smudge, movement, or a discolouration in the water," says John.

"You have to learn the seasonal changes in rivers – where trout migrate from and to.

"Eighty percent of the fish live in 20% of the river and you have to learn why."

John illustrates this, explaining that in the height of summer the Tukituki River has areas of "high recharge" – where cold water comes into the river from streams, springs and tributaries – trout love these areas and knowing where these recharge points are can make the angler's task easier.

John says trout are also very picky eaters and the range of environments that exist across Hawke's Bay's many fishing spots can make life hard for an angler.

"Trout know exactly how much and what sort of food there is in their river and how much they need to eat, making fooling them into taking a lure even harder," he says.

"The trick is in replicating the trigger that makes the trout take the fly."

## Come fly with me

The most potent weapon in any angler's arsenal is the fly – that little lure that resembles an insect or some other form of natural fishy food.

John loves making them.

He can make a standard 'nymph' in as little as two minutes – that's up to 120 per day if he's feeling industrious, and as a result he has amassed quite a collection.

The work that goes into fly tying can be very technical and intricate. Using multiple techniques and up to eight different materials for a single fly, he can recreate fluffy or winged insects that have fallen into the water, or a tiny lure with a holographic glint to imitate a larva rising from under a rock, supported by its own air bubble.

John has taught a lot of youngsters how to tie flies through the local anglers' club and at Lindisfarne College.

He says his passion for fly tying comes from starting with nothing but a hook and ending up with something realistic enough to convince a trout to take that fateful bite.

John enjoys tying flies and giving them away – often to fellow anglers he meets on the river, taking satisfaction in knowing they will get enjoyment from using those flies to catch fish.

## International influence

Tying flies got John into guiding visiting overseas anglers.

He made some lures for a local guide who liked them and the guide asked John to help out, which he did for three years.

John doesn't consider his guiding to be 'work' – he enjoys interacting with people and a number of those he has guided have become good friends, as evidenced by these comments *BayBuzz* 'hooked'

**“If you were playing golf and someone let cows or diggers or cars drive all over the fairway and greens you'd be really annoyed – it's the same with waterways!”**

JOHN SCOTT

from one of his close fishing mates, Dick Bradshaw:

“John Scott is one amazing fellow, the most knowledgeable fisherman I have met. More important is his willingness to share his experiences. He enjoys watching other people catching fish as much as catching them himself. And when not fishing, John is working hard to resolve the conservation issues of the Bay.”

New Zealand has become a very popular destination with overseas anglers thanks to glossy magazine articles and YouTube videos singing our praises across the globe. It's not unusual for a local angler to wander down to their usual fishing spot, only to find a guide and two to three clients already there.

While not such an issue in Hawke's Bay with a relatively lower number of anglers, John thinks Fish and Game NZ need to find a way to manage this influx into the future.

The overseas anglers John has guided seemed far more sympathetic to the environment than New Zealanders – having seen the deterioration of waterways in their North American and European homelands.

And as our interview continued, John too focussed less on the fishing and more on the environment.

## Reviving rivers

“You don't have to catch a fish to enjoy the surrounding environment, but if you do it's a plus.”

Over the years, John has noted a growing degradation of the local waterways.

“Most New Zealand males, at some stage in their lives, participate in a ball sport that requires a quality playing surface that's looked after – rugby, golf, soccer etc.

“I noticed that rivers and streams were the same and needed to be looked after just as much to reach their optimum conditions. If you were playing golf and someone let cows or diggers or cars drive all over the fairway and greens you'd be really annoyed – it's the same with waterways!”

John was influential in the creation and running of the Maraetotara Tree Trust in 2002 to help restore the Maraetotara River, which flows from inland of Waimarama to the sea at Te Awanga.

Working with Hawke's Bay Regional Council and local land owners the trust focussed on fencing the river off from stock, removing the riverside willows and replacing them with native trees and plants.

A big part of the process was getting the local land owners on board and, once they were involved, they became very proud of the result.

John has gone on to be involved with seven groups protecting Hawke's Bay rivers and he has received four environmental awards, including the Ministry for the Environment's Green Ribbon Award in 2004.

“All anglers have responsibilities to hand over rivers in a better condition than they found them to the next generation,” he says.



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# Wine: Stories from Hawke's Bay

Mark Sweet. Photographs Tim Whittaker



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**John Saker, Cuisine**

An engaging read that I heartily recommend for the depth and character it adds to the Hawke's Bay wine experience.  
**Alwyn Corban, Ngatarawa Wines**

I heartily recommend this book to anyone interested in a well-researched piece of important wine history, a glimpse into many of the characters who have helped build a thriving wine industry, a winemaker's view of what makes the region and its wines special, or a beautifully illustrated adornment for a coffee table.  
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# Watery Origins

NGAHIWI TOMOANA

Ko wai? No wai? Mo wai?

Who are you? Where did you come from? Who do you stand for?

This is a traditional greeting protocol of Maori. “Wai” means water, so “Ko wai?” literally means where are your birthing waters and from whose womb did you emerge, who are your parents,

grandparents and your ancestors. What is your DNA, your whakapapa?

We are made up of 90% water. So a simple question of an individual has a multiplicity of replies, but the essence is the birthing waters. And from that we can ascertain character and nature of a relationship.

When I was much younger travelling around, I’d get asked, “Ko wai koe?” To which I would say my name and the reply would be, “Oh, you’re Kuini’s mokopuna”. Never mind who my mum and dad were; instead, straight to my grandmother. And then “How’s Tokomaru Bay?” would follow ... “Is so and so still in the bach and is the

Mangahauini still good for eels? How many brothers and sisters have you got?"

All this before you find out who you're talking to.

The second question then is "No wai?" ... where are you from or what waters nurtured and nourished you and your whanau, hapu and iwi. What river, lake, stream, or spring supported your pa and your community?

So I would say, "No Heretaunga ahau" ... I am from Heretaunga. The follow up response would be, "Ah, the Fruitbowl of New Zealand, Ngaruroro River".

There is also a reciprocal question of how have you protected these waterways and water bodies because as we derive our histories and customs from these taonga we are also duty bound to protect them.

That's why we jump up and down when someone wants to dam, drain, over-allocate, divert or pollute our waters. The recent campylobacter epidemic in Havelock North was a blow to this iwi's ability to manaaki or support people, as we have a reputation of possessing Heretaunga haukunui or Heretaunga of the lifegiving waters. Instead we were the disease and death giving waters to thousands.

We having been fighting in the Waitangi Tribunal for over 20 years now trying to get our rivers and lakes and aquifers cleaned up, but to no avail. And now look what's happened.

Havelock poisoned. Hastings chlorinated. Napier dry.

We have not been very good kaitiaki guardians over our water resources. Our responsibility is to drive water quality improvement and more efficient use. So that when we are asked "No wai koe?" we can puff our chests out and say, "Heretaunga haukunui ... the fruitbowl of the world."

## **We having been fighting in the Waitangi Tribunal for over 20 years now trying to get our rivers and lakes and aquifers cleaned up, but to no avail. And now look what's happened. Havelock poisoned. Hastings chlorinated. Napier dry.**

NGAHIWI TOMOANA

The third question then is "Mo wai?" ... "Who do you stand for and who will benefit from your watery origins?"

And the answer is usually ... "Tatau katoa" meaning "Everybody".

From my birth waters and the waters of my whanau, hapu and iwi, by protecting the womb of human resilience, and the womb of papatuanuku, waterways and aquifers, then the future of our communities is guaranteed.

To stand on the side lines and look is a recipe for disaster. For example, several years ago the Hastings District Council and Heretaunga hapu were before an environmental commissioner instructing us to reach an amicable solution, given the odds between tikanga, whakapapa, western science and engineering. The issue was the discharge of raw sewage into the sea.

Hapu demanded that this cease immediately as it was an affront to "shit in one's own foodbowl", meaning the domain of Tangaroa. Council decided to

remove the solid waste and deposit it at the landfill, which meant marae being passed every day by truckloads of fresh tiko during hui, tangi and so on.

This was just as bad so we decided on leaving it to enter the ocean, but with conditions. That the faecal coliforms, pathogens (nga mokopuna o Whiro) in the waikino, or polluted water, be attacked by nga mokopuna o Tane (bacteria), rendering the solids noa, or neutral and lifeless. The engineers came up with a bio-trickling filter system that did just that.

However noa or lifeless forms are not desirable in te ao Maori, so it was agreed to install a papatuanuku rock passage into the system so that by touching the rocks' mauri, life force would be reinstated, but of the positive kind. Entering the saltwater, waitai, would further enhance the mauri as would the festering winds and waves of Tawhirimatea and the fiery ultraviolet rays of Tamanuitera, the sun. Hence the waikino would become waimauritu.

This agreement did not only save capital and operational resources, but also was much more effective than more expensive systems.

This is the answer for the future, whakapapa, tikanga, science and engineering working together to create solutions for future generations.

So if I am asked "Ko wai?" ... "No wai?" ... "Mo wai?" I will answer "Ko Ngahiwi Tomoana tenei of Ngati Kahungunu from Heretaunga haukunui, the life giving waters and fruitbowl of the world, enhancing the waiora and wairua of our peoples and places forever!"

*Ngahiwi Tomoana is chairman of Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated, the third-largest iwi in New Zealand by population.*



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# The Joy of Sailing

BARBARA ARNOTT



Courage, independence, resilience – put your child in an Optimist dinghy and launch her on the ocean, she'll learn all of these values and have fun at the same time.

Watching young people manage their boats is an enlightening experience. Put water and people together and things aren't always ideal. Tempestuous seas, inclement weather, wind changes, boat traffic – all have to be dealt with and the problem solving that has to be learnt to sail a boat is necessary and invaluable.

I have great admiration for young sailors, but I was never one myself.

About 30 years ago, I literally fell into a boat because its builder wanted a photo shoot to market the new fiberglass mould of a Sunburst yacht.

The resulting photo was great, a shocking pink two-man boat surfing down waves with its pink spinnaker flying, spray everywhere from a perfect ocean sail. *Sea Spray* magazine got its cover photo but I was hooked, by the sea and the freedom of being on it.

Marketing has a lot to answer for!

The Sunburst was my skipper's boat (very inclusive man, chose the shocking pink himself), aptly named 'Fast Forward'. We have sailed together competitively for over 30 years ever since, first on the Sunburst, which is close to the water ... a bum-wetting boat and all the better for it. Now, age is a factor and sailing takes place in a 25 foot Noelex, no less exciting but warmer and mostly drier.

I'm crew. I do what I'm told (mainly) and leave the important decisions to the skipper. And trust him completely to bring the boat and crew home in all conditions. Bob Witham (the skipper) has the skills, sailing since he was a boy, nationally and internationally.

It is only proper that the real sailor Bob tells you himself.

*"When I started sailing in 1962 in an old planked, gaff-rigged P class (my pride and joy) in Wellington, sailing was a challenge given the clothing we had, the lifejackets we used and the good old Wellington weather. We all started sailing like youngsters do today in single-handed yachts, which are a wonderful way of teaching you how to survive alone.*

*"Mastering what the elements throw at you – and how you can use this to your advantage – continues to be a challenge, but what is learnt on the water also has an influence on many other areas in life. The sailors you meet and the people you sail with of all nationalities become special friends."*

Being on the water has always had significance. It is a changing medium and for me, on a summer's day out on the bay, my mind is concerned only with the wind, water and boat.

Competitive sailing has taken me around New Zealand for national competitions and regattas. The sea is such a different environment from that of our day-to-day lives. It throws up wonderful experiences, fascinating wildlife and challenges. The challenges can be extreme and sailing competitively is not for the faint-hearted. Bruises and bumps, breaks and unexpected swims are all part of the sport if, like me, a sailor isn't attentive continually.

It does help in the times where waiting for wind is the name of the game to have interesting and entertaining crew on board with you. I've had that in spades.

I sailed throughout the 12 years I was

mayor and political events had to have a high threshold to take me away from the water. It's that addictive.

In Hawke's Bay recreational sailors are hard pressed to find enough interest to keep them out on the water. It has been mooted that a couple of islands towed to the bay and moored would give a focus.

That said, our family's best holidays have been on the water – the sea, the sun, the food, the wine, the fellowship, the fun, the freedom.

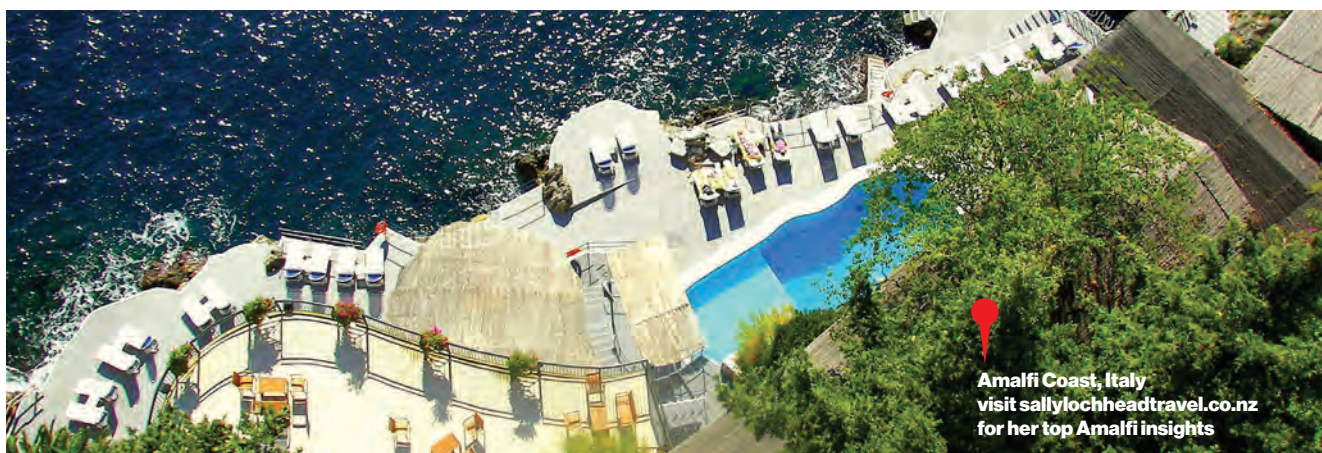
So, good sailing in Hawke's Bay depends on competitive sailing and that needs a framework to exist and plenty of dedicated volunteers.

The Napier Sailing Club is one of the few clubs in New Zealand that can cope with international classes. This means hundreds of boats as in the Optimist Nationals or 1,000 people as in the Waka Ama Nationals in October. The club is a fantastic facility with a range of events, sailing classes and a good record of safety.

This year the club is going all out to maximize sailing for new sailors. Whether you're eight or 48 there will be classes over summer available from an international coach and our coaches. My first sailing experience was about luck, but the summer classes offer a wonderful opportunity for children to have some competent coaching to give them confidence on the water – whether or not it becomes their sport.

I have much to be thankful for.

Sailing for me is joyous. It's about the great people I sail with, and against ... the excitement of a sport that takes me out of a comfort zone and into the environment ... and the satisfaction of meeting whatever challenges the wind and sea throw up on the day.



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# Mountain Biking on the Peak

DAMON HARVEY



I vividly recall my first forays exploring Te Mata Park on a mountain bike.

Unfortunately they're probably not the best experiences I've ever had on a bike, but they did begin an enduring relationship with the Park, as well as mountain biking.

As a child growing up in Hastings, I don't recall too many visits up Te Mata Peak. My parents weren't too active (it was the 1970s!) and our journeys from Hastings would have been in the Toyota Corolla for a drive out to Havelock North for an ice cream and maybe on the odd occasion a quick drive to the Peak summit.

So fast forward to the mid 90s, when Raleigh 20s and road cycles were being replaced by mountain bikes that weighed a tonne, such as Diamond Backs and GT.

Close friend Tim Wilkins had become a world-class adventure racer and was introducing his mates (me included) to his recreational pursuits. Te Mata Park was on our doorstep, so it was the closest place to go for a run or ride.

I recall a ride up the Peak on his spare bike, which was super flash because he'd brought it back from the United States. We biked up and down some very narrow and rutted sheep tracks that we shared with some grumpy walkers.

We were the 'new age' users of the Park, a bit like snowboarders were to skiers, and to walkers we were very unwelcome visitors. We had found their beloved tracks and now we were recklessly hurtling down them with no concern for our bodies, or theirs.

When I returned in 2001 from the UK, I chose the Bay more for the lifestyle than career opportunities. I wanted to be able to get out for a surf or a ride as quickly as possible without the hassle of traffic.

Being a mad keen surfer in the Bay is a challenge, as the surf is usually fickle. Weeks can pass without a decent wave. I needed a more regular adrenaline buzz and decided mountain biking was the answer.

For many years Te Mata Park has remained undeveloped for mountain

biking. Rogue tracks by mountain bikers were built when no one was looking and over time, a rebel trail network slowly developed.

However, perhaps there was a vision by the Park's Trust in the early days as a track was purposely built just below the summit car park. It was a downhill trail and you had two choices – either slog it out on the bike to the top or get dropped off by vehicle. I had an awesome aunty who I lived with for a while who would shuttle my cousin and me to the top at the weekends.

Some 25-plus years later that trail, which some say was one of the first official mountain bike trails in New Zealand, has just been given a revamp.

Today thanks to locals such as Tim Wilkins, Russell Nettlingham, a local riding club – Bennelong Mountain Bike Club and more recently Te Mata Park Trust, we are getting a bit closer to realising the tourism opportunity that mountain biking brings.

### **Dedicated paths arrive**

This will be the first summer we have new dedicated, professionally-designed and built trails on the Peak, that have bedded down perfectly over winter.

I love being able to drive to the Village, park the car near Hawthorne Café and within 1km be riding through a network of reserves that weave all the way to the bottom carpark at Tauroa Road.

There's a great new track system within Tauroa Reserve including a bike-only track that weaves its way through the bush and across the stream.

Like anyone who gets a taste of something new, I want to see more. In reality Te Mata Park has only one uphill trail, three downhill trails and one kid-friendly track – which is currently too overgrown to use. At this stage the tracks are more suited for the more experienced rider with grades of intermediate, advanced and extreme.

The uphill track called Te Aratipi is a weaving switchback that connects you to the first downhill trail, Te Kahu, at the

horseshoe bend near the water tanks. The climbing switchback is a great trail with plenty of twists and turns that help you forget that you are climbing uphill.

When you meet back up with the road at the water tanks, you can head down Te Kahu or continue to climb (up the road as there's no off-track trail) to the next two downhills – Hori (or Georges to some), which is graded as extreme or up a bit further to the old mountain bike trail, which is now called Te Ihu, suitable for advanced riders.

My current favourite is Te Kahu, which can take you all the way back down to the Tauroa carpark or you can kick off at the Chambers Walk intersection and head back up Te Aratipi. Te Kahu is a challenging ride – with sweeping berms, a couple of jumps and a rock garden section that tests your ability to stay on the track!

I've biked in Queenstown, Naseby, Taupo and Rotorua and what's unique is the 360 degree views. Queenstown can't really compete with us on that front; their trails do overlook the town below, but you can't see over the other side,

On Te Mata Peak you can see the snowcaps of Ruapehu and the Ruahine/Kaweka Ranges to Waimarama, Ocean Beach, Cape Kidnappers, Mahia and Napier Hill.

That's where I see the opportunities. Te Mata Park is unique as a mountain bike park because every corner provides an awe-inspiring vista of the region.

The Park sits above Havelock North, which has the potential to be the hub for bike tourism in the Bay. Riders of all ages and capabilities can choose to go and explore the Old Tukituki Road, the Rotary Pathway to Haumoana, the Cape as well as Napier, navigate some reserves up to the Peak or head down to the BMX track for a bit of action.

So where is my favourite place to ride? Havelock North – it has it all. Well it has the potential to have it all ... the vision is there, it just needs to be fast tracked.

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2

# Croquet: Vicious or Genteel?

COLIN HURST





Whenever I get into a conversation with people about croquet, the majority of them invariably utter, "It's a vicious game!" I'm always baffled by this perception, as most of them have only ever played on someone's front lawn using a child's croquet set.

On the other hand, everybody else I talk with say it's a game played only by old women, essentially a bit of a sissies game. Both camps are so adamant in their conception of the game it makes me wonder what they're basing their assumptions on.

I admit that before I took up the game the mental picture it conjured up for me was one of Victorian ladies tapping balls around the vicarage lawn while the vicar and his cohorts watched on drinking sherry.

When I became involved with the sport I quickly came to understand that there is no relationship between the aforementioned tranquil scene and the sight of top players hitting the ball with such ferocity that it can break a cast iron hoop. The sight of a player jumping his ball over the top of an opponent's ball at a distance of six metres would I am sure have made the vicar drop his sherry.

In reality, croquet is what you want it to be. You can play it soft or you can play it hard. I can say with confidence, however, that without exception those people who are competitive and wish to progress to higher levels of competition will elect

to play the hard version of the game. As you might well imagine, the young man wearing a reversed baseball cap and a hoodie will not be playing croquet like the vicar's wife.

So what is croquet?

There are two variants of the game and here I will concentrate on Golf Croquet, which is by far the most popular version. The aim of the game is simply to negotiate through six hoops and the first person or team (the game is played in either a singles or doubles format) to score seven is the winner. The players' object is to prevent the opposition from scoring hoops.

It sounds simple enough; however, it is likened to chess in the intricacy of the tactics employed. Couple the tactical intricacies with the physical skill needed to smash away opposition balls, jump shots, stop shots, top spin, back spin etc and you've got quite a game.

We're well served for croquet in Hawke's Bay with clubs in Gisborne, Marewa and Havelock North.

The Heretaunga Croquet Club in Havelock North is probably the premier club in New Zealand, having a total of nine lawns and approximately 130 members. It has in recent years been the venue for the World Championships amongst other notable events. At time of going to press, together with the Marewa Croquet Club, it will be hosting the National Championships and then it's all hands to the pump in preparation for the Women's World Championships to be held in February 2019. The hosting of this event, also to be shared with Marewa Croquet Club, will attract the very best players from all over the world.

It is worth pointing out that in 2012 the then Te Mata Croquet Club merged with Hastings Croquet Club to become the

Heretaunga Croquet Club. This bringing together of the two clubs provided sufficient funds to allow the purchase of the Te Mata Croquet Club land, securing the future of croquet in Havelock North. One stipulation of the merger was that following purchase of the land it should then be gifted to the Hastings District Council. This was done and the croquet club is tenant in perpetuity on council land.

As you'd expect, as in virtually every other sporting activity, New Zealand is rather good at croquet. Over the years our teams have competed around the world at the very highest level, finding major success in all avenues of the game and at all age levels. In the modern game our junior players are leading the way, excelling in top flight competition.

Josh Freeth. Winner of the under 21 Golf Croquet World Championship 2015.

Felix Webby. Winner of the under 21 Golf Croquet World Championship 2017.

George Coulter. Runner up of the under 21 Golf Croquet World Championship 2017.

Ironically, despite the success and the interest shown by young people throughout New Zealand, we in Hawke's Bay are experiencing little interest in our own youth programme. This is particularly disappointing as the scope for participating youngsters is phenomenal.

If anyone feels inspired to take up the wonderful sport of croquet I'd be delighted to hear from you. Alternatively if you feel that you'd like to help sponsor the Women's World Championships 2019 I'd be delighted to hear from you about that as well.

*Colin Hurst (cohurst@hotmail.co.uk) is Heretaunga Croquet Club Secretary and Vice President Croquet Hawke's Bay. The Heretaunga Croquet Club is at 341 Napier Road, Havelock North.*

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# Cricket and Conservation

MATT MILLER



Kate Howard goes to bat for conservation side. Photo: Tim Whittaker. [tim.co.nz](http://tim.co.nz)

We know that participation in sport enriches lives and connects the community. And an active population is much healthier. The combination of regular exercise and social bonding of organised sport are the perfect preventative for the modern-day plagues of obesity, depression and diabetes.

But participation rates in organised sport are falling among New Zealand adults, and sport is in danger of losing its place in our lives.

Set against this backdrop, the re-emergence of the Clifton County Cricket Club seems absurdly anachronistic.

Based at its splendid home ground in Te Awanga, the club seems like an eccentric throwback to another era, when weekends were time off, and socialising meant getting together with your friends on the sports field, and not online.

The club is the reincarnation of the

club of the same name, which had been dormant since the 1980s, when regular games between local country teams were a feature of the summer social calendar. The most obvious feature of the old photos is the enormous smiles on the faces.

Perhaps mass participation in sport was a peculiarly 20th century phenomenon, when adults could devote their weekends to sport, and before the economy took huge chunks out of our leisure time through weekend shopping and always-on service jobs. And before computer games, smartphones and social media, designed to grab our attention and never let it go, consumed so much of our spare time.

To accommodate these societal trends and compete with newer self-directed activities like mountain biking, surfing, and going to the gym, traditional organised sports have introduced shorter

forms that are more suited to the time-poor modern lifestyle. Cricket, for so long a conservative pastime wedded to its traditions, has been at the forefront of this shift, with the emergence of T20 cricket, a format perfectly suited to the attention-deficient generation. Each complete innings of a T20 match typically lasts no more than 75 minutes.

The driving force behind the club has been Havelock North resident and club secretary Sam Howard. There are now hundreds of paid-up club members and the club has been largely self-funded: social events and auctions have raised nearly \$50,000 and the club now has its own purpose-built pavilion and the ground has been extensively developed with irrigation and topsoil.

All this has created national interest, including a short documentary on CCCC played between innings at international

cricket matches, a story on TV's Seven Sharp and numerous print media articles.

A highlight was the club's hosting of the Art Deco match during the 2015 World Cup, attended by a number of cricket stars including New Zealand batting great Martin Crowe shortly before he died.

### Add conservation

But there is a lot more to this club than cricket. As befits a 21st century organisation, the other 'C' words – community and conservation – are a big part of the mix.

Activities by the club have raised funds for the Flaxmere Boxing Academy and the Mark Parker Memorial Trust. A number of cricket teams from around Australasia have visited for games and the club's ground is used by Haumoana School.

And the club has become a significant conservation project with thousands of native trees planted in five fenced areas with 10 hectares near the cricket ground as part of a wider conservation project, called the CCCC Restoration project, to enhance Hawke's Bay birdlife.

The ground was identified as a potential cricket oval by Te Awanga farmer Matthew 'Fox' Nilsson and DoC worker Tom Barr, an ex-British army soldier who took it upon himself to fence off the ground. Barr had a utopian vision for the area as a conservation project, but unfortunately lost his job soon after cricket at the club started in 2012 and moved to the South Island.

Kate Howard, Sam's wife and proud mother of a five-week-old baby, stepped in to continue the work and approached Hawke's Bay Regional Council and DoC for funding. Her application was rewarded with five years of funding.

The stated aims of the CCCC restoration project are to create an ecological stepping stone between existing adjacent vegetation and ecosystems; to take the overflow from the nearby Cape Sanctuary and be a



Clifton County Cricket Club marries conservation and cricket (pavilion and pitch at right). Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

stepping stone in Hawke's Bay Regional Council's Cape to City project; to increase native lowland vegetation; to increase the diversity of aquatic habitats by re-establishing marginal and backwater wetlands along the stream channel, and to maintain flood channel capacity by keeping larger trees and shrubs on the fenced upper terraces.

There are three phases to this type of regeneration project: regeneration of flora by planting natives, predator-proofing the area, and then the return of native fauna. The nearby Cape Sanctuary at Cape Kidnappers has a predator control fence and the peninsula is now predator-free. As part of this effort, predator control has become a significant part of the CCCC project.

The regeneration project is an example of DoC's partnership model. Instead of buying the land or coercing farmers and landowners to regenerate native flora, DoC fosters partnerships between the

landowner and the community. In this case it is a partnership between Cape to City, the farmer and the cricket club (the community).

Kate Howard says, "It teaches about conservation and instills great values in children. The bird life is really cool. And soon the club will be able to provide kakabeak seeds to the rest of Hawke's Bay." New Zealand's rarest wild shrub, the kakabeak, is critically endangered and wild specimens are prized for their genetic purity.

"It's really amazing to see the growth and progress of the project. There is a physical, tangible reward," says Sam Howard. "The vision for the club goes beyond being a venue for cricket enthusiasts. It's a family oriented social club. It's not elite, it's a conservation project and community asset. In 10 or 20 years, when the plantings come to fruition, it will be a genuine nature park."

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# A SUMMER SPREAD

Long summer days and nights tap the entertainer in us. Fun if you're a domestic god or goddess. But not so much if of questionable culinary skill. Here some of the Bay's best entertainers tell us how they (and you) turn hosting into a fine art.

MICHAL MCKAY. PHOTOS FLORENCE CHARVIN



CULTURE &  
LIFESTYLE





A family BBQ - Little BlackBird Cafe

**Ben Cruse**  
 Chef, Little Black Bird Cafe, Hastings

Little Black Bird Cafe is unique. Almost everything is created on site, including the bread. Simple dishes made from fresh, seasonal and local produce (where possible organic), are standard. Gluten free and dairy free also feature on the menu. Which probably should not be a surprise given the couple behind it.

Ben and Sarah Cruse are advocates of animal welfare. Ben is the chef; Sarah runs the ship.

Some 20 years ago Ben started as a pot washer in a big Yorkshire hotel and even then realised that “kitchens were interesting places to hang out”. He did a course in hospitality and management and although he did well, “I’m a cook, not an academic,” he comments, he got a job in a local restaurant and “went from there”.

He had baked from an early age, nine or 10 years old. “I entered a local village fair. Mum was a good cook and my grandmother’s baking ‘mmmmmm’. So I had an introduction to the sweet side of pastries which developed into a true culinary passion.”

His CV reads a bit like a *Who’s Who* of

the English restaurant business. A move from Ilkley in the Yorkshire Moors to work with the Roux Brothers in London was his making. “The pastry chef went on holidays; I took over in the evenings and that was that. It’s a very precise and focused area, and teaches discipline ... you have to follow recipes.” Four years later he went to Somerset House where he did the entrees. “I was the only English-speaking chef of the 13 who were there.”

But having worked hard since the age of 18 doing incredibly long hours, travel was a lure. So he went to Australia – Perth, Fremantle to be exact – where he worked in a pizzeria and developed a love of dough. “I was working for a fourth generation pizza chef whose delicate touch was so subtle it was like watching a ballet. We had two woodside ovens and produced 220 pizzas a night. And pizza dough can be wayward.”

But family called in the way of his mother’s 50th, so he went back to England with the intention of staying. “Then I got another call and seemed to keep returning to the other side of the

world, doing summers in the wineries here apart from other things.”

Meantime Sarah – also English – had come to Hawke’s Bay with her sister. Ben by this time was head chef at Diva in Havelock North. “She came in one day and I plucked up the courage to invite her out. She said ok.” The rest as they say is history. They now have four children under seven. But in between they went back to England, where he worked in the Lake Districts concentrating on his bakery skills – breads, cakes, slices – before going to Alaska and Canada and ultimately returning to New Zealand.

“I went to Boldersons – now the Village Green – and worked part-time for Epicurean, the veggie growers, learning where and how food actually grows. It was intensive; I found out how amazing food tasted when grown locally. And the cook in me decided to get back into the kitchen.”

Old Church was next “as a pastry chef and back into the world of weddings and more weddings. During that time we had two daughters and we had to work out whether we should stay or go back to our



Sarah and Ben Cruse - Little BlackBird Cafe, with the Cruse quartet ( Mirabelle, Arthur, Maggie and Elsie)

family in the UK.”

England won and proved to be the answer to one of Ben’s dreams ... “to work for a restaurant with a Michelin star.” He went to the Yorke Arms in the Yorkshire Dales with renowned chef Frances Atkins. She and her husband Bill bought in 1996 and in 2003 gained their first star, which they’ve held ever since. “Frances and her head chef Roger are an amazing pair who every day with every service produce the best. The zest, commitment and passion were out of this world and taught me such a lot. I’ve worked with many but Frances was outstanding; only one of six women in the UK to hold a star. It changed everything, reinvigorated me; I wanted to be better and understand the way they treated food.”

With a third child on the way, “the ‘what now’ question came up again,” he admits. “We were both working there. Sarah was on the desk; she’s really good at everything she does and they thought the world of her, but living in the UK is expensive and hard. And really the only way to give the kids a good life was to

come back here. I went to Craggy Range as pastry chef - Leyton was great to work with and showed me a passion for produce playfulness. I found my own niche with the cakes and sweets.”

The Little Black Bird was the next step. Sarah came on board 18 months ago. “She’d been at home looking after the little people,” Ben explains. “We now have four under seven. But we make it work, with two at school, one at kindy and one at day care. I do the early morning shift and finish around 3 to pick them up and cook dinner. It’s busy,” he rather dryly remarks. “But now I feel we are drawing on all the experience we had. And we have an amazing staff. I feel so lucky to work with people who share my vision and give great service.”

Naturally they have a list of producers with whom they work closely. “We try to use local produce where ever possible so we love Bostock Organic Chicken and Firstlight Wagyu Beef. We also use Epicurean, Holly Bacon and Humminghill Farm Organic Free Range Eggs. We get our organic fruit from

Chantals and Norton Road Organics. Everything is fresh daily. Our ethos is fresh, seasonal and homemade. I don’t buy in rubbish; all the pastries and wraps are made in the kitchen.”

“We also supply Red Bridge and Hawthorn Coffee daily and we look after Black Barn Retreats where I am a private chef. I enjoy it; it’s nice to go back to fine dining and keep my hand in the elegant and sophisticated side. But I also love poaching eggs.”

Therein speaks a chef who savours simply good food. So who better to prepare a Family BBQ?

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- [www.littleblackbird.co.nz](http://www.littleblackbird.co.nz)



Leyton Ashley's summer picnic

**Leyton Ashley**  
 Head Chef, Te Awa Winery, Hastings

Leyton Ashley likes a long lunch. It's a Te Awa specialty. His skills need little introduction. He's built up a reputation as one of the finest chefs in the Bay's very competitive field.

From the age of 14 it was his dream. "It's the classic chef's story," he laughs. "I left school early (couldn't wait) and a friend was doing a chef's course at Polytech in Porirua, so I tagged along - under the illusion that it was a good idea cos I'd make loads of cash and learn about fine wines. These days - thanks to shows like Master Chef, that tell it like it is - the reality, as we know, is anything but."

A few serendipitous moments have helped his climb. "My first job placement was with Paris in Wellington, which at the time was The Place. It was my induction into French classic cookery. That was the moment I fell in love with the kitchen. I put a lot down to that first job post; it set a benchmark. I was there close to two years - started as a kitchen hand, got the job in the cold larder and worked my butt off. But they gave me my position ... wearing the jacket."

That was 22 years ago. A job with brewery Copperhead came next, as a chef de partie - "and I missed Paris as soon as I left. It was the classic NZ

menu of the time. Made no sense - fish and chips, pasta, stir-fry, Thai, French, English. It doesn't exactly provide a trust in the menu. But the good part was I met my partner Fleur and wooed her by sneaking her chocolate dipped strawberries." Fleur came from Tauranga so ultimately they went to Mt Maunganui and "I took a supposedly cruisey job at Gusto Cafe run by a stern German chef with a lot of Spanish influence. But it was busy."

Boredom drove him to the mines in Western Australia where he temped for an agency. "I'd be flown to Pillsbury from Perth - the middle of nowhere - and would cater for 100 people breakfast, lunch and dinner for six or seven days a week. What an eye-opener!" A job with Vultures in Northbridge, Perth followed. "It was American style, grilled steak, seafood platters. And it was a very social scene - packed, sometimes 200 plates a night. I became the junior sous chef and it was a huge step. My reliability put me ahead."

But after four years they moved to Bora Bora, Tahiti to the 5-star Aman resort. "Now THAT was a shock. If something broke it could take three months to fix it. But nothing could beat

the fishermen dragging a yellow fin up the beach ready to be cooked that night," marvels Leyton. It was where his appreciation of fresh local produce had its birth. "A new level. Handing a fish through the window of the kitchen on the beach with the boat at the door. No wonder the classic poisson cru is so good. It's just meant to be." He took on a one year contract. "But Fleur became pregnant after six or eight months so we went home. To Hawke's Bay."

He had family here, his mother and grandmother, "and it gave us a connection. I grew up in Wellington but always came here for holidays to the farm. It was new for Fleur but we found a little house in Havelock and I worked at Craggy Range, where Stephen Tindall, who was head chef (and now executive chef of Te Awa) took me on as joint sous-chef." Ultimately when Stephen left for Australian shores, Leyton became head chef; where he shone.

Suppliers took an interest in his style and "I came back to my roots of the French Classic style. I harnessed the terroir. I loved it. It really gave me a sense of what I was doing. Why being a chef was a career, not a job. And I found the passion for gardening and growing produce."



Leyton Ashley - Head Chef, Te Awa Winery

The inevitable happened when Stephen returned from Australia to Te Awa and gave him a call. "Once the seed was planted I knew we would be a good team. Ultimately Stephen took on the role as executive chef and I'm more focused on the kitchen." The lunches at Te Awa, created for sharing, are a taste sensation of local produce and famous for their originality and ingenuity. Set in the heart of the Gimblett Gravels wine region, it is a must on the Bay's list of dining destinations.

"We of course do a lot of weddings and catering" Leyton adds, "but the ethos is similar to what I have always wanted. I feel I know what will please the palate - and like to keep the food casual as well as the atmosphere. But we are very adventurous with our recipes. Why shouldn't we make special dishes? Just because its casual doesn't mean it has to be quick and easy. We love to challenge ourselves with food that is exciting and relevant.

"There is so much great cuisine in the Bay and a load of talented chefs; so I rely a lot on my favourite suppliers like True Earth Organics (they are neighbours) where we get carrots, red onions, fantastic blueberries and they let us forage for chickweed, carrot tops and what we want. Such produce can inspire a

whole dish, such as Hangi Carrot.

"We go to Yellow Brick Road for sustainable, super fresh, line caught fish and shellfish; Bostock organic chicken is on our menu as a staple; Sentry Hill organic sheep's milk cheese from Waipukurau; Hillcroft Mushrooms from Bruce the organic mushroom grower in Bay View. We use the local (Ovation) lamb shoulder from Gourmeats in the village and also our Wakanui blue beef & marrow comes from here. We have quite a strong focus on vegetables and salad dishes; what we call our garden plates. We like to harness everything available and to show off what we have locally. It might look simple but it's pretty complex."

Just like the summer picnic he has prepared.

**MENU:**

- Live oysters, puha & shallot vinegar
  - Rewena, potato, rosemary, harakeke & honey bread
  - Charcoal Wakanui beef, pickled walnuts
  - Sentry Hill sheep quark, watermelon, rocket & black olive salad
  - Cracked freekeh, smoked sweetcorn, basil
  - +Wine of course!
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Kate Lester's beach party

**Kate Lester**  
Cook, Catering, Havelock North

“Catering with the personal touch. Specialising in smaller events. Intimate weddings, engagements, the day after, canapés, corporate entertaining and dinner parties. Beautiful season produce cooked with a sprinkle of love.”

This is Kate Lester's Facebook introduction to her business. Its simplicity summarises her philosophy around food; it omits the vision and attention to detail that is the secret of her success.

Kate was born and bred in the Bay in Maraekakaho. The daughter of sheep and beef farmers (with some angora goats and deer as well) she loved the life. The feeding and nurturing part of it was imbued in her from an early age. “We had an amazing veggie garden and lots of lamb chops from the paddock,” she laughs. “My mother and grandmother

were an example. There was always food on the table – never bought, all home-made with quality ingredients shining through.” A natural cook who has taken to catering like a duck to water.

It wasn't the intention. “I studied at Uni for a degree in Consumer Applied Science with Clothing and Textiles as my major, intending to have a fashion business.” She began a shirt shop in Wellington, bravely. “But the rag trade had huge competition from China and had just been infiltrated by the internet.” The business fell over. She moved back to Hawke's Bay, working as a waitress at Sileni and became enamoured with hospitality. “I then became the barista at Bay Espresso where I ended up meeting most of Hawke's Bay.”

Obviously artistic, it was her embroidery guild that tapped into her

culinary skills. “They were having a retreat in Havelock North and needed someone to cook dinner.” Kate, whose elfin looks belie a somewhat deceptive steely spirit, put her hand up. And found it wasn't so hard. A wedding followed. And by then her boss Chris Jarvis “virtually pushed me out. He said ‘just do it’ and gave me part-time work as security.” After a month she didn't need the part-time role. “I suppose it was quite ballsy, but I didn't think about it at the time.”

Some four years later she is busy. “I don't advertise, most of it is word of mouth and my Facebook page. And every event I do is marketing. I did launch with a cocktail party of 30 selected guests who I knew would spread the word.” They did. So much so that her books are constantly full. “I like to keep the events small. I don't



Barnaby Howard - Empire Events and Kate Lester - Catering and On Your Plate.

have full-time staff and Mum and Dad help a lot. My maximum is a buffet for 100, but I prefer small and special - that includes a lot for Black Barn Retreats.

Many canapés come out of my mobile kitchen (something she regards as one of her best investments), salads figure largely, and I have a fondness for pork belly. Mainly fiddly things. But ones that have a lot of flavour because everything I make is fresh, free range, seasonal and comes from the earth. I'm not complicated. I let the flavours speak for themselves. And lemon juice, salt and extra virgin oil are my standbys."

She's also enterprising. Her list of suppliers is something she nurtures. John and Greta at Raupare Gardens, Hohepa cheeses, Origin Earth, Epicurean, Orcona, Telegraph Hill, 'Danny's Pasta' made at The Old Church and of course The Village Butcher.

Paul Greaney, who owns it, is her partner in another facet of her ever expanding CV - On Your Plate. "I've been buying my meat from him since I started and we were discussing the food business generally. There's often a lull in winter so after I had experienced

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Nadia Lim's My Food Bag, we thought 'why not?'

They've been going a year now. With weekly menus (she does the recipes every Thursday – five a week) and regular customers, it's thriving. "We have four people doing deliveries of up to 150 boxes a week and three most gorgeous Down Syndrome girls - Paul's sister, her cousin and a friend - who help. They love it." Another of Paul's sisters helps with recycling and back up.

On Your Plate operates on the principle of "you choose how many nights worth of meals you would like and for how many. Either two or four people," explains Kate "and from three, four of five nights."

Kate's catering business is pretty much a Friday/Saturday/Sunday routine. On Your Plate is the Monday weekly job in which Paul plays a prominent role.

Her other partner is Barnaby Howard; they are a couple. But they also dovetail their businesses, as he runs Empire Events – a company that hires out equipment for occasions such as weddings, parties, conferences, celebrations. Also Hawke's Bay born and bred Barnaby initially wet his feet in

the tourism trade with Contiki Tours. He and Kate were childhood sweethearts and though he enjoyed his chosen field, neither of them enjoyed the time spent apart. Which was a lot. "It's very transient and it is tiring," says Barnaby.

So he searched around the Bay for 'a gap in the market' and with Kate's help found one. Eventing was it. "There was competition - but mostly in the easy to get white plastic chair side," he comments. "We wanted equipment which would work on beaches, forests and vineyards."

His point of difference is the beautiful native timber tables and benches in which he specialises. "I've always lived in old villas, so I have a love of natural woods. Dad made tables in the past - ours are all recycled wood and they are gorgeous. I sourced some of the wood from 110 year old cottages. I love the fact they are not perfect; after all some of the trees grow to be hundreds of years old. They are pure." His stock can host up to 150 people and includes all the necessities such as china, cutlery and glassware. "But I am not a stylist. I let the party givers do their own thing there. I'm the one who does the picking up and

putting down."

He and Kate now operate together and apart ... a perfect synergy. And he has built up relationships with other suppliers who help with such things as music, lighting, flowers and decor. With Kate's menus ranging from the exotic to the traditional, and Barnaby's ability to create an instant place to put the spread, they make a pretty formidable 'go-to' pair for anyone with the urge to throw a party.

Even a casual twilight dinner on the sand dunes of Ocean Beach is a breeze.

#### MENU

- Chicken and maple glazed bacon
- Summer salad
- Watermelon and feta salad
- Charred corn, avocado and chorizo salad
- Chocolate and raspberry brownie with strawberries and cream

[kate@katelester.co.nz](mailto:kate@katelester.co.nz)

[@katelestercatering](https://www.facebook.com/katelestercatering)

[www.empireevents.co.nz](http://www.empireevents.co.nz)

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Clockwise from top left: Lemon and Herb Chicken, Ben Cruse; Live Oysters, Puhā & shallot vinegar, Leyton Ashley; Watermelon and feta salad, Kate Lester; Farro, Roast Courgette, Cherry Tomato & Bocconcini Salad, Ben Cruse.



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CULTURE &  
LIFESTYLE



# THE BBQ KING

Summer's (non)burning question – what is the best way to barbeque? We grill the Bay's expert – Raymond von Rijk – for his tips on how to get the best food, flavour and flames without burnt fingers.

MICHAL MCKAY

In his homeland the Netherlands, Raymond chose hospitality as his career path. A profession that pretty well demands the word 'travel' rubber stamped onto a CV. And he is no exception.

A graduate of the Maastricht School of Hotel Management, he lived in Indonesia and France before choosing New Zealand some 30 years ago, spending three and a half years in Auckland before discovering Vidals in 1981.

A subsequent stint at the Wellington Country Club where he was travelling back and forth between two cities gave room for pause. "I had four children and my wife was not well ... the time came to concentrate on being in one spot." That was 17 years ago.

"I became interested in barbequing, which was relatively primitive at the time. I did a lot of research and found the only other person doing a course in it was Ruth Pretty. And hers were not that regular."

He hasn't looked back.

His courses on the art of getting the best from your BBQ are legend. "I wasn't interested in just following the recipe. I wanted to share my years of grilling and spit-roasting – how to bone a leg of lamb or chicken, appreciate herbs and spices, discover smell and taste through practical lessons. I worked with the producers – meat, fish, poultry – travelled the country to learn.

"Then I went overseas to Holland, the UK, Iceland. They have great BBQ techniques even though most of the food is imported. And America of course. Most agree that the BBQ did originate here so the American barbie comes by its reputation as being the best honestly. I became heavily involved in developing new techniques – spit roasting on grape wood, Asado style in Argentina (considered to be cooking in its purest form), and the South American style of smoking, which is amazing to see and easy to do. Mothers, fathers, wives,

daughters, sons all learn at an early age."

Subsequently he began teaching ... "Special techniques, showing how to really cook from the heart, not just follow a recipe, so people have confidence in their own abilities. I teach how to taste, smell, and provide assurance in knowing how to perfect the art so students will then experiment." The courses are disciplined, structured and specific ... and immensely popular.

But Raymond also has other offshoots to his BBQ Gourmet business.

"I do a lot of catering. Can be up to 1,400 people for a Corporate 'do'. And for that you need a good team. Not only the chefs but it's the planning; things like plumbing, accounting – all the practical parts which go to producing a great night out and about which most observers have not a clue considering the need. Specially as there is a very limited time to feed everyone. Doing 18 rib eyes at once for instance! Cooking on a spit, charcoal or wood is a real show as well, because it's all outdoors. That's the point of difference in BBQ as opposed to straight catering."

His hungry audience can be anything from a conference consisting of 200 cattle breeders to a classroom of home cooks. Their commonality? A guaranteed highly critical crowd.

With 80% of BBQ Gourmet devoted to catering, Raymond covers the gamut from weddings, conferences and functions, to parties and events, but his preference is for a smaller group of around 60. He has favourite suppliers of meat, fish and poultry on whom he relies for the very best cuts and catch (an essential when it comes to firing up the barbie). He says the secret is being well organised and having a plan.

"After all, most occasions we are producing barbeque banquets way out in the wilds, in tents pegged down in paddocks out in the open air. My style of catering doesn't need an army of chefs.

Everything is prepared in advance. It's the cooking which is crucial." His own preference is for a medium rare meat, joking that he converts many palates from the tried and true 'well done' with his techniques.

Surprisingly his wife Kirsty does all the cooking at home. "She's a high school teacher and does it for relaxation. Mind you, she doesn't touch anything related to BBQ," he chuckles. She is also an integral part of his team of enthusiastic chefs and food specialists who teach, work in product development, test and devise new equipment. A team that loves to get out of the kitchen yet still indulge their love of cookery.

His business mainly comes through word of mouth. And his courses can be anything from a single three-hour elementary covering the basics to a solid three hours per week over five weeks, (or the five weeks' worth condensed into one intensiveweekend!) including Advanced Classes in understanding temperatures. He covers the country, goes to schools, and is booked frequently by corporates. Future plans for expansion include overseas.

With such a wealth of experience, obviously Raymond has a biblical store of helpful hints on how to be the best when it comes to barbequing. Here he shares a few.

## Helpful Hints:

- The first thing to understand is once the BBQ is fired up you can't leave it ... even for a minute.
- You must have a plan. Be organised.
- Don't try to impress with six different things. It doesn't work. Getting the timing and heat right for an assortment of burgers, sausages, chicken thighs, and lamb chops would be a tough job for a highly skilled chef, let alone backyard BBQ kings.
- Grow rosemary and use stalks as a brush for basting.



- Position the BBQ so you can see everyone around you - it's more fun.
- Know your rubs – they make a huge difference to flavour. (Raymond has a full product line up he has developed himself.) Aniseed and nutmeg are great on pork. Use them on fish, poultry, prawns, squid, mussels.
- Most Kiwis and Aussies think everything has to sizzle – not so ... not everything needs to be cooked red hot.
- Know your products. What is quality meat? Often companies will dump in the local supermarkets. Select your

butcher. Fortunately thanks to recent magazine and newspapers focus on good food, people are far more aware. Even the supermarkets. For instance, Progressive Enterprises won't sell anything over 21 days old.

- Chicken too. It's the most highly consumed meat on the market. Thirty-nine kilos per person per year. Be wary of this area being too industrialised. In the Netherlands, for instance, there are four grades of chicken. My mother would never buy a cheap chook. The same goes for pork.
- Know what temperatures do to meat. If you understand this then you automatically know what the BBQ can deliver – whether from a high heat or a slow heat on a coal or gas burner.
- Know when to use a lid as an oven. It's amazing what a BBQ can deliver.
- Develop charcoal skills to start smoking.
- Don't rely on mates' time keeping – it will never happen. Get specialists who are concentrating solely on cooking.
- Watch out for changes – colour, texture and flavour. It's a combo of temperature and time.
- Experiment – you are going to make mistakes, so try not to when

entertaining guests. Practise on the family and reliable friends with good taste buds.

- Get the meat or fish out of the fridge a good two to three hours before putting it on the grill. You don't want it cold on the inside.
- Cleanliness is VITAL. I can guarantee 80% of home BBQs are not cleaned properly.
- Lastly, know your barbeques. And your brands.

Raymond confesses he is a charcoal man. But he owns a variety.

“Gas is very easy – you can just turn it on and off. Whereas charcoal requires a lot more tending. But it's what I favour for guests. The range is wide and varied and a cheap BBQ isn't necessarily the worst. But generally Weber are the most reliable. Of course the XXL Big Green Egg (a charcoal BBQ) is the ultimate if you are an avid BBQ fan. Eighty percent are made in China, but the Weber is made in the US and Broil King is also good, made in Canada. Small Webers are perfect for small properties.”

Good advice from New Zealand's BBQ King. For more and some of Raymond's tried and true BBQ recipes go to:

[bbqgourmet.co.nz/recipes](http://bbqgourmet.co.nz/recipes)



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CULTURE &  
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Kay Bazzard, passionate gardener

# SUSTAINING A SUMMER GARDEN

As any green-fingered friend will agree, getting your hands in the soil and watching the fruits of your labour spring into life does wonders for the soul. Usually. But at this time of year, when an invitation to step outside is a natural part of the summer ritual, what we know as ASGD (annual summer garden despair) sets in for many and may stonewall such spontaneity. Specially in the Bay when searing stretches of hot, dry days and nights can throw a garden seriously out of kilter.

MICHAL MCKAY. PHOTOS FLORENCE CHARVIN

No one would be more knowledgeable about nature's quirks when it comes to gardening in these parts than Kay Bazzard, who spent some eight years writing the gardening column for *Hawke's Bay Today*.

Though she modestly says that may not qualify her as a horticultural expert or even remotely a botanist, it certainly has given her an insight into what can be done if there is enough passion, creativity and energy devoted to developing a botanical bounty even when starting from scratch.

On the job, visiting some 300 gardens and listening closely to their green-fingered owners, she discovered secrets about gardening in the Hawke's Bay climate, the types of planting and the limited water usage. She sums up summer very simply, "Do not try to fight against the drought in conventional ways; rather find ways of living with it."

Personally she considers gardening one of her most creative activities. "I married an Englishman and my first garden was in Buckinghamshire. In the beginning it was a necessity, but it became a passion. We had children, so I was a shoestring kind of gardener - meaning you don't throw money at plants that die. We lived for 15 years in Britain and in that time I created many gardens, gradually filling up spaces. Always with a great sense of achievement".

Ultimately she and husband Charlie (whom she had met in Australia) felt that though 'it had been a great life' they wanted to come back to New Zealand. As a lawyer doing the courtroom circuit

in South Buckinghamshire her husband was well known as 'a character'. So full of optimism he took on the Bar in Auckland "and hated it" says Kay with a wry smile. "All I wanted was for him to be happy so we bought a vineyard in Kumeu - and he loved it, I loved it and the children loved it. And I created a lovely garden in the valley while we enjoyed growing our grapes and the product it produced!"

Eventually, with one daughter living in the Bay, "we didn't want the physical stress any longer - it's tiring owning a vineyard," she comments. "So we sold up and bought in Havelock North (in a charming John Scott development)." Sadly, Charlie developed cancer, "so at 56 I began the next stage of my life. I didn't know anyone so I started writing.

"And until 2015, almost nine years later, I covered so many gardens. A lot I went back to more than once to see the development. Gardens by experts like Graham Miller, John Purdie, Lenora Buchanan, Chris Ryan (an adviser to the Guthrie-Smith arboretum at Tutira); specialists who were immersed in what they did. They were so knowledgeable and all have made huge contributions to the wisdom of others by sharing with groups and allowing visits to their gardens."

Her own garden, she says, in some ways "reflects my life".

As it is on the hill there are just some things you cannot persuade it to do. I love the trees, many of which were originally here ... the house was 13 years old when we bought it. The shingle was here, and a bit of lawn, but it's impossible to mow and the shingle is the perfect medium

for germinating trees that keep popping up. Ivy and agapanthus are essential to stop the banks eroding. I put in the retaining walls early on and immediately the soil became viable. I learnt to let the rich humus from trees develop for the plants' benefit. In fact the word ecosystem probably best sums up what develops over the years when the soil, right plants, mulch, dappled shade, insects, worms etc.etc. come together. And it's my job to control the garden thugs," she laughs. "I think being able to appreciate and celebrate the garden when it's at its best and to accept it when it is not, are really important characteristics in a gardener, as one gives up fighting against nature and develops a more sustainable philosophy."

With her encyclopaedic knowledge of what it takes to develop a sustainable garden in the Bay, there is none better than Kay to provide words of wisdom for the less weathered of us aspiring to achieve the supposedly unachievable when the sun boils high in the summer sky.

Here she dishes the dirt on how to sustain a garden in the Hawke's Bay hills:

Factors to be considered:

## Climate:

- Hawke's Bay is a winter rain area, however it's not reliable, being dependent on moisture-laden weather systems bringing rain from the Pacific Ocean.
- Frost damage often comes in winter especially in gullies and low-lying sites.
- Summer is typically dry with hot temperatures from January to March or longer.
- Hawke's Bay gardens require shade.

**Water:**

- Water restrictions will become more rigorous as understanding grows regarding the limits of available water and priorities are placed on usage. Already water pressure on my own hill drops off alarmingly during the summer months due to usage elsewhere.

**Soils:**

- Typically, light almost sandy, frequently underlaid by clay pan and influenced by the limestone geology ... untreated, this is not an ideal growing medium for plants.

**Sloping contours:**

- Not naturally conducive to lush growth because of rainwater run-off, and exposure to sun and wind. BUT - a garden is possible if a microclimate is created.

**Foundations:**

- Plant with the long-term intent of creating a microclimate in which plants thrive, by ensuring there is shelter from the wind. This creates a nursery environment for young plants; adding humus helps absorb and contain rainwater in the soil.
- Change and improve the soil structure by regularly adding humus, especially during the early years; in time the trees and plants compound the humus by their contributions of vegetable matter, falling leaves, decomposition and root systems.
- Avoid introducing large areas of heat-attracting surfaces such as concrete or tarmac.
- Keep existing trees where possible – established trees create dappled shade, cooling the air around them from

**“I think being able to appreciate and celebrate the garden when it’s at its best and to accept it when it is not, are really important characteristics in a gardener, as one gives up fighting against Nature and develops a more sustainable philosophy.”**

KAY BAZZARD

convection movement and shelter the environment from the drying effects of strong winds.

- Hillside gardening is significantly improved by building retaining walls as this contains rainwater run-off and very quickly improves the soil structure.
- A water supply for new young plants is essential, but is less so once the garden is fully established as a mature and sustainable garden.
- First plantings must be hardy and drought resistant; less hardy plants can be introduced later once those hardy types are established.

**Personal observations:**

- The privacy and ambience provided by a selection of mature deciduous trees on all boundaries. In winter the bare branches allow in the sun and light and require the arborist’s skills every two years to keep them in shape.
- I love the trees, green on green, shade and shelter they provide and I don’t mind about the leaf fall, as that comes with a treed garden.

- To walk in my garden appreciating developments or sit with a cup of tea, listening to the birdsong and absorbing the greenness around me.
- Low maintenance and no lawns – I do not want to spend a lot of time and energy on garden maintenance. I still manage to fill a large wheelie bin once a fortnight.
- I value the naturalness of the combined tree and understory plantings. Most plants are allowed quite a bit of licence and could be described by some as ‘untidy’.
- The flowering plants are not the primary feature, but are welcome points of colour amongst the green.
- The glimpses of long views to the hills and short views of the garden ... sloping contours add to the interest and bring an element of surprise.
- I love having fruit and nut trees in the garden.
- The spontaneous germination of native plants and trees in the shingle edges of the garden from the seeds dropped by birds.

**Lessons learnt:**

- Soil structure also improves over time, adding to a holistic and sustainable community of living things; plants, bugs, bees and birds.
- Over time the plants that survive learn to cohabit, developing a symbiotic relationship; the ones that were the correct choices of course.
- Shingle on driveways acts as a mulch allowing water to soak into the soil and keep the wider environment moist.
- To manage my expectations of what can be grown on a hillside garden in this climate.



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- To live with the fact that I may choose the wrong plant for the site and it will therefore die when water is short and the temperatures soar.
- A 'weed' is a plant in the wrong place and can sometimes be pretty, and that some 'weeds' have their uses, e.g. ivy and agapanthus on banks.
- That a garden is constantly evolving and over a period of 10 years a newly planted garden will go through a complete transformation.

#### Helpful hints:

- Mulch twice a year and feed with animal manure and compost. Soil will develop a rich biomass if kept moist and mulched and not exposed to the baking sun.
- Ideally grow a mix of trees and shrubs suited to the location and climate;

consider size when mature (which includes the root systems); specimen trees need space to be appreciated. Avoid drought sensitive varieties – many Australian trees are incredibly hardy and provide fabulous food sources for native birds, so include them in the mix of exotic, deciduous and NZ native evergreens.

- Lawns are unsustainable and require work, water and expense to be kept looking beautiful year round. Think about expanding the general plantings and creating lawn paths between the beds - the plants help to shade the grass.
- A concrete surface prevents rain soaking in, causing run-off into waterways and even flooding, be creative with driveways, use shingle or permeable surfaces.

#### Water conservation:

- Irrigate intelligently. I hate to see fan sprinklers going for hours with water falling on footpaths and pavements and running into the gutters.
- Take a 'minimum water use' approach and water just the essentials. Use a timer or don't water at all – many drought tolerant plants will survive a drought and perk up again when the rain falls in autumn.
- Let the lawn dry off in hot, dry conditions. It will recover by autumn.
- Mulch around plants to contain soil moisture using organic material, home compost, mushroom compost, bark, pea straw, shingle and/or groundcover plants.
- Irrigate when the temperatures are cool and there is less evaporation – at dawn, dusk and on cool days; even during light rainfall, watering boosts the effects of rain on soil moisture. Wait until the wind drops to irrigate.
- Winter soak during dry spells to maintain moisture levels ready for spring growth. I have often underestimated how dry the soil can get in winter.
- Trees and dense understory planting helps protect soils from evaporation in windy conditions.

*Note: In 2004 Kay did a course in Art and Design at EIT, discovering a passion for pastels and sculpture. These days she spends much of her time in her studio where she has a kiln and is a practising ceramic artist whose work can be found at VIVA Gallery in Napier. [www.kaybazzard.co.nz](http://www.kaybazzard.co.nz)*

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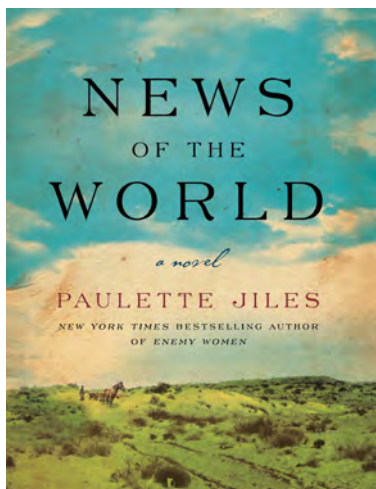
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## Summer Reads



### Poppies

#### News of the World

Paulette Jiles (Harper Collins \$25.00)  
Set In the aftermath of the US Civil War, an aging itinerant news-reader agrees to transport a young captive of the Kiowa back to her people in this exquisitely rendered book of historical fiction.

#### Two Kinds of Truth

Michael Connelly (Allen & Unwin \$37.00)  
Harry Bosch is back as a volunteer working cold cases for the San Fernando police and is called out to a local drug store where a young pharmacist has been murdered. Crime fiction.

#### Eat Up New Zealand

Al Brown (Allen & Unwin RRP \$65.00)  
With great stories about New Zealand food as well as more than 150 recipes, this is a nostalgic treasure trove getting to the heart of what New Zealand food and culture are all about.

#### A Column of Fire

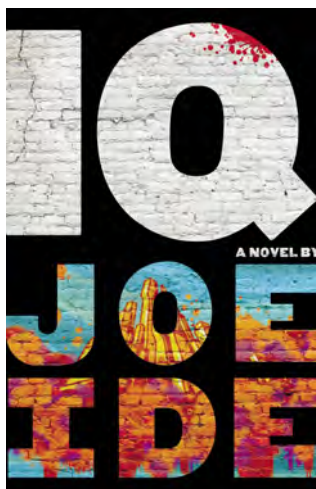
Ken Follett, (Pan MacMillan, \$50.00)  
The saga that has enthralled the millions of readers of *The Pillars of the Earth* and *World Without End* now continues with Ken Follett's magnificent follow up. Historical fiction at its best.

#### Lone Wolf

Richard Gladwell (Upstart Press \$45.00)  
The riveting tale of how NZ took on the world at the America's Cup in Bermuda and won!

#### The Last Hours

Minette Walters (Allen & Unwin \$37.00)  
This is an engrossing tale of human ingenuity and endurance against the worst pandemic known to history, the Black Plague.



### Wardini Books

#### IQ

Joe Ide (Orion, \$29.99)  
We're in Los Angeles. A rapper is being hunted down by a terrifying assassin and doesn't need the police investigating his drug-addled life. The only person who can help is Isaiah Quintabe; messed up orphan, loner, genius and nicknamed, much to his chagrin, IQ. Fast paced, violent, exciting (and for 15/16+ ages).

#### The Traitor and the Thief

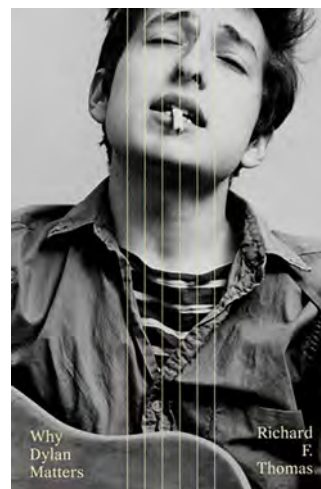
Gareth Ward (Walker Books, \$19.99)  
A Steampunk mystery of epic proportions for age 10 and up. Tessa Duder Award winner, *Listener* Top 50 Kids' Book, written by the co-owner of Wardini Books. Orphans, Dickensian criminals, gadgets, bravery and friendship. Finely crafted by one of our own.

#### Lincoln in the Bardo

George Saunders (Penguin Random House, \$32.99)  
Booker Prize Winner 2017. Supernatural, bawdy, poignant and beautifully written. Spend a few nights in the cemetery with Abraham Lincoln and some very confused spirits. This offers an insight into American history as well as being a feat of literary daring in content and format. Bonkers, but easy to read and well worth a bit of effort.

#### Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth

Oliver Jeffers (Harper, \$29.99)  
A genius attempt to explain the world and her people to a newborn child in picture book form. Beautifully illustrated in the trademark Jeffers swirly style, this is a subtle lesson to us all to appreciate our earth and our people and to celebrate diversity. Very moving.



### Beattie & Forbes Booksellers

#### The Infinite Monkey Cage: How to Build a Universe

Prof. Brian Cox, Robin Ince, Alexandra Feachem (Harper Collins, \$45)  
The authors look at a range of bizarre ideas conjured up by human imagination, from dark matter to consciousness via neutrinos and earthworms. Great to dip into. Marvel your friends with your new knowledge.

#### Artemis

Andy Weir (Del Rey, \$37)  
After his stunning debut, *The Martian*, Andy Weir brings us Jazz who lives in Artemis the lunar city. Not everyone can live in luxury and she needs to make ends meet, so ends up in a sabotage plot that isn't what it seems. Lots of fun and the science part is great. Excellent beach read.

#### Why Dylan Matters

Richard F Thomas (Harper Collins, \$30)  
When Bob Dylan won the Nobel Prize For Literature, not everyone agreed with the decision. Reading this new work by Thomas, who is an expert on classical poetry, you discover the timeless genius of the words and music and agree that he thoroughly deserved it.

#### Things a Bright Girl Can Do

Sally Nicholls (Andersen Press, \$25)  
Three courageous young women from different social groups – polite drawing rooms, freezing prison cells and the poverty-stricken slums of the East End – join the fight for the vote. They all want the same thing for different reasons. This is an engrossing story about a formative time in history. While technically a young-adult novel, it is a great read for anyone.

# LIVE HERE GIVE HERE



HAWKE'S BAY  
FOUNDATION



Orokohanga Trust provides free instrument tuition to 90 children from Camberley and Ebbett Park schools in Hastings

Early November saw 48 local grassroots community groups share \$121,500 in the Hawke's Bay Foundation's annual funding round.

Held at the Hastings Community Arts Centre, the event brought together more than 110 donors and recipients for an evening of entertainment and celebration.

The event was also a chance to 'show off' some of the success stories that the Hawke's Bay Foundation has helped, including the Orokohanga Music Trust and the Giants Boxing Academy.

Established in 2015, the Orokohanga Trust currently provides free instrument tuition to 90 children from Camberley and Ebbett Park schools in Hastings. Early in the evening, 15 students from those schools 'wowed' the audience with their skills on the violin and cello.

With continued support from the Hawke's Bay Foundation and other funders, coordinators Ngaire Shand and Suzie Weeks plan to expand the

programme to reach more students from low-decile schools.

Throughout the event, young men from the Giants Boxing Academy helped serve canapés to guests. "Giants Boxing is a great example of an organisation that is helping turn young people's lives around, and it showed in the confident way the young men mingled with the invited guests," says Foundation development manager Linda Calder.

Since being established in 2012, the Foundation has distributed more than \$700,000 across 153 organisations in the Hawke's Bay region. Funds donated to the Foundation are invested into a 'nest egg' which is invested in perpetuity. Every year the income gained from the capital investment is distributed to community organisations, while the capital continues to grow.

When someone makes a donation to the Hawke's Bay Foundation, the gift will keep giving indefinitely," says Calder. "It's a great way for donors to

give back to their community, knowing that over time their gift will far exceed their original donation."

#### **What is Hawke's Bay Foundation?**

HBF is a charitable trust receiving donations of all sizes from individuals and families around the region. These funds are pooled and invested forever. Only the earnings are distributed annually to support Hawke's Bay community initiatives and organisations, bringing about positive and social change.

The Foundation is building an inter-generational asset for the community that will support Hawke's Bay people, forever.

**For more information about HBF visit [hawkesbayfoundation.org.nz](http://hawkesbayfoundation.org.nz)**

## **BAYBUZZ**

BayBuzz is pleased to support the Hawke's Bay Foundation



MARY KIPPENBERGER

## Yay, MooMoo!

MY HEART IS BURIED in these Central Hawke's Bay hills.

Like a Rita Angus painting, dusk shadow settles in the cracks where the rolling crevice meets. If you catch it right, as you turn into the Te Hauke straight, an involuntary gasp will meet a great orange ball blocking all but sky edges. Seasons pass green to purple.

Thirty years I have made the turn into our road and for 30 years, without fail, my heart fills. Home, my Tūrangawaewae, the place where I stand. Thirty years, not yet a local, but it is where my bones will lie.

Oh dear, before I crash headlong into a bucket of nostalgia let me introduce you to a cow.

Lisa is 15 years old and is a friend of mine. When she was 12 years old a brown and white spotted, four-day-old rejected calf came to live with her. The family called her MooMoo. MooMoo lived in a paddock next to their house and for three years she was fed plum tree leaves and love. She was cuddled, cajoled and ridden by very little people. MooMoo befriended the solitary sheep and tolerated the chooks and ducks. She kept a vigilant eye on the gate in case any of her humans should make the mistake that would let her into the garden of infinite and delicious possibilities.

Although MooMoo never had a cow friend to call her own, there was one night when it would appear that MooMoo attracted the attentions of a fence-jumping bovine lothario.

One day disaster struck. The family was on the move; there was no room at the new inn for a batty beasty. Clocks ticked as Lisa told me of MooMoo's impending mince and cheese fate. The Sword of Damocles rattled with somber glee.

Well, we couldn't have that. Money was exchanged, promises made and



## Yay, MooMoo. We promise not to eat you or your baby.

MooMoo came to live at Te Rangi Farm. Our cows were furious. Black cow raged, she bellowed the bellow of an angry bull; she pawed at the ground sending swathes of dust into the air. Her anger remained unabated; such was her state of mind that she missed the hamburger baton passing her way.

So MooMoo stayed in the home paddock with Beau and Nick the Pony. MooMoo was in love. Shoulder to shoulder she stayed with her surprised new friends. Disdainful looks from Beau and the odd ear flattening made no dent in MooMoo's infatuation. Where they lay, she lay; where they drank, she drank; where they wandered, she wandered. Beau and Nick the Pony, gentlemen of leisure, enjoy a wander to the river, walks along the wooded path, visits to the garden and world peace. With forced goodwill they have accepted that MooMoo is an inevitable addition to these sojourns... an unusual sight, keeps the neighbours on their good-natured toes.

As the weeks went by it was increasingly obvious that MooMoo had had a fruitful liaison with that long ago

caller, and two days ago Janelle watched as a little spotted, black and white calf was born. Michael named her Moo2.

Beau and Nick the Pony stood vigilant guard throughout, never leaving her side. Not a blade of grass passed their lips. As Moo2 lay exhausted on the ground and MooMoo licked, fussed and nuzzled her miracle, the two horses tiptoed up to pay their gentle respect. Word spread and a human semi-circle formed adding their praise to this odd cow and her beautiful calf.

Lisa will come and see her friend and we will love her, but now for the first time she has a family all of her own. At last she can look into big black eyes and see herself reflected back. Yay, MooMoo. We promise not to eat you or your baby.

I hope this Hawke's Bay summer is treating you well and you can find respite from the hot summer sun. For us it's family, music, stories and trying to keep the garden alive. I hope, before we meet again, that MooMoo has learned to share her milk, that I have learned how to make butter, and I am busy spinning milk into gold.

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