

Matua Moments

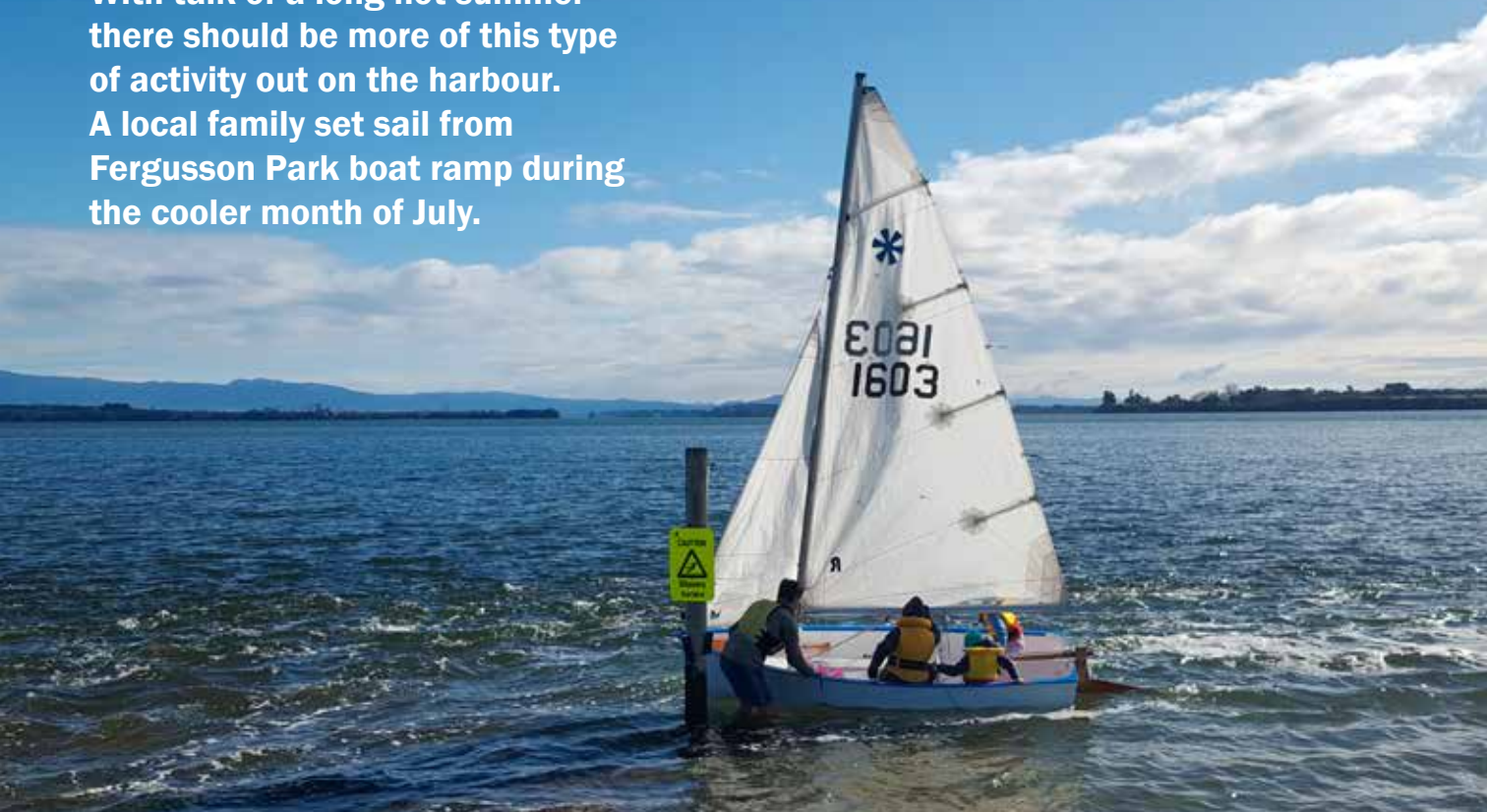
Serving the Matua Community

Issue #11 Spring/Summer
2020

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Roll on Summer

With talk of a long hot summer
there should be more of this type
of activity out on the harbour.
A local family set sail from
Fergusson Park boat ramp during
the cooler month of July.



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From The Committee

We all have a very different aspect on life now compared to the start of the year. The one thing that has been noticeable is how popular Matua is as both a place to live and as a destination with the parks, walkways and cycleways being used by people of all ages. Noticeable is the number of people with either standard bikes or the new electric bikes out and about where in previous years they may have skipped across the Tasman to get some Queensland sunshine, or maybe an Island holiday.

The milder winter went quickly for many with the covid distraction on our screens however for those at home alone it was a lonely time without family or friends nearby to visit. In saying that there were a number of anecdotal stories of neighbours taking chairs to the driveway and having daily coffee or wine get together socially distanced. Long may that continue.

For the sporting and social clubs there was a definite lack of activity and for the winter codes the season was short. Hopefully we will have a long Summer to compensate.

With a change of dates in the mix the residents Assn was able to host our regular "Meet The Candidates" and eight candidates took the opportunity to promote themselves and their party philosophy, particularly regarding Tauranga. The meeting was informative and polite despite the differences of opinion but that is the standard we like to see at our event. Pleasingly we can claim two members of parliament as residents of our suburb. All the best for the year ahead Jan and Simon.

You will notice the article on the stone bridge that spans the stormwater drain separating Kiriwai Reserve and Fergusson Park. News of the demise of the bridge through "decay" led to quite a number of submissions to TCC. Make sure you have your say in the upcoming round.

As Chairman I would like to acknowledge the work of our committee members who contribute in the

background purely because they want to contribute to ensuring their suburb continues to be such a great place to live. With pending changes it is a suitable time to seek a new generation of keen locals. With meetings held every two months it is not an onerous task, and they tend to be a very relaxed and informative couple of hours at the most.

Richard Kluit

Chairman Matua Residents Assn



GO TO
www.facebook.com/matuaresidentsassociation/
to follow us on Facebook.

WWW.Matua.org.nz

is hosted by the Matua Residents Assn and is a vehicle of communication within our community. There is information about the roles of the Association plus

Community Patrols and Neighbourhood Support
Civil Defence
Matua Estuary Care Group
History of Matua
(photos and information is keenly sought)

Links to connect to pages / websites for Matua Bowls, Matua Baptist Church, Matua Kindergarten and Matua Primary are also included. A local business directory will be included.

If your community group wants to be part of this initiative contact Richard on 0274 337 675 or any committee member.



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Celebrating Two Decades!!!!!!

Wow it's been twenty years since the first Matua Moments went into publication. We began on a quarterly basis in June 2000 and extended out to twice a year a couple of years later. The first editions were black and white newsprint, then colour newsprint. For a few years we joined with Bethlehem Star to become the quarterly Western Link. Then we were back to Matua Moments in 2015 in a gloss format. In 2009 we changed to the current style. In all that time we have had a strong relationship and support from the publisher, originally known as Pukeko Print & Design and now Kiwi Publications.



During that time we have written many articles about the history of the suburb, many of which appear on the association website www.matua.org.nz. Rarely have we repeated articles and we have kept readers informed on many topical items such as the Estuary Care group, Predator Free Matua, Emergency Management, Community Patrols, Neighbourhood Support and every club we could locate has had an article or three during that time. Most importantly for our Assn it has provided a vehicle for keeping the community aware of our activities such as Meet The Candidates, Picnic in the Park and managing of Matua hall for many years and the community tennis courts. The two latter are now in the hands of the Council.

And the Editor is unchanged – thanks to those who contributed articles or made suggestions. Such is the richness of our suburb and the surrounds that we have not had to repeat articles during that time although a few facts have appeared on more than one occasion. Copies of the publication are lodged in the NZ room at the library and a copy is sent to the National Archives to provide an insight into life in NZ as it has been through the early part of the century and the many years before.



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The council will be seeking submissions on the proposed replacement for the little stone bridge that is unfortunately crumbling away with the tide. The plan is to have a replacement 6.5 metres on the inland side of the bridge in the picture.

From the 23rd November, for a period of three weeks, residents will have the opportunity to express their thoughts. All previous submissions will also be in the mix when the final decision is made. Matua Residents Assn put in a comprehensive submission covering the style, location, safety of the open drain and the wet nature of Kiriwai reserve in the winter months.



Remember to be SunSmart

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"Hey Mr Burgler, That security door you just kicked in was there for your protection not mine!"

A couple of hours of fun

Feel like getting out on a fine Monday evening for a bit of socialising and activity. Come along to Twilight Bowls at Matua Club.

For \$5 each per evening, plus a drink and Bar B que, you can put in a team or join with others to form the teams of four. Bowls and guidance are provided so no experience necessary but a sense of humour is essential. Prizes are not won by the best bowlers so you can go home a winner having played either good or bad bowls - it just does not matter. We have up to 100 each Monday evening from 5.30 to 8.00PM comprising friends, family and often neighbours of all ages. Some are there every Monday for the 20 weeks, others are there when they can, we can work miracles around any number. Check out the website or just come along from the 2nd November. **Oh and bring that jovial nature we talked about.**



Thank goodness my book finally arrived,
I almost started cleaning the house.

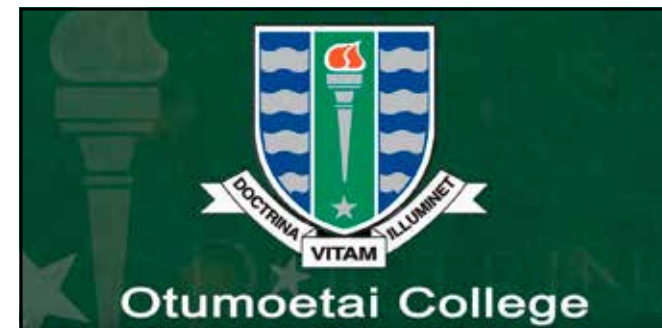


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Proud to support the walk for MND

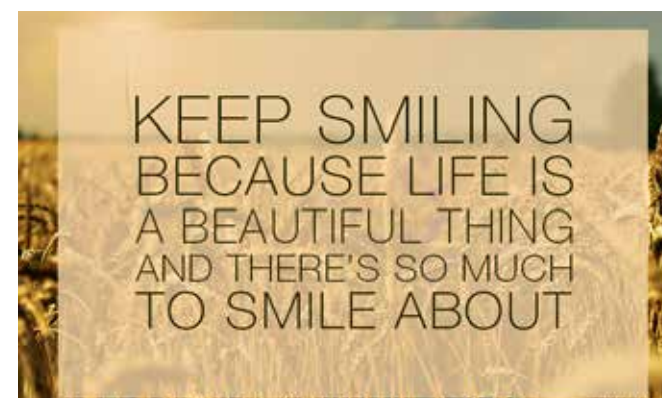
Walk 2 D'Feet MND



It's not long until senior students at Otumoetai College will be going on study leave in preparation for their NCEA exams. Despite the challenges presented by a national lockdown, many events outside the classroom were still able to go ahead this year, including several aimed at improving wellbeing and developing lifeskills.

Our student Hauora Committee has been busy, running a very successful Blood Drive and raising funds for cancer treatment through their Shave for A Cure initiative. Mental Health Awareness week was an opportunity for them to raise awareness of the Five Ways to Wellbeing with a range of activities taking place.

As in previous years, Year 10 students selected for the Graeme Dingle Foundation's Project K have embarked on a year-long programme of activities including a 3-week Wilderness Adventure, Community Challenge and personal mentoring.



Last term some of our Year 10 students headed off for 16 days on Great Barrier Island. This is a chance for students to develop their life skills through an Outdoor Education programme of adventurous activities run by PE staff member Mr Gadsbey in conjunction with other PE staff and instructors from Hillary Outdoors.



Finally, we were thrilled to hear late last term that Otumoetai College student and Matua resident Sharna Steer was the recipient of a national Graeme Dingle Excellence Award for her leadership as a Stars Peer Mentor, supporting

our Year 9 students as they make the transition into college.

Stars Co-ordinator Jade Raumati is full of praise for Sharna. "Sharna has been an exceptional mentor this year. The time, effort, care and support she has given her Year 9 students this year has been outstanding."

Congratulations Sharna!!

**Check on those people you
love and care for.**

Reach out to your older relatives, friends and close neighbours to check in with how they are and talk through their worries. Whether it is giving them a phone call or writing a letter, staying connected and connecting often is important.

Street Names

For many Matua folk the sound of the name Ranui is in the street name. There is however a much more significant local story to the name.



Walk around the base of Mauao and you pass the plaque that acknowledges the spot the launch Ranui hit the rocks after being struck by a rogue wave when returning from Mayor Island where it had taken a number of campers and a few fisherman.

Constructed of Kauri the newly launched craft was purposely built for fishing and general transport with the ability to tow over the shallow waters of the harbour with its three foot draft. When about to enter the harbour and only 100 metres off the shoreline the Ranui was hit by a very large sea that caught the starboard quarter lifting the stern right out of the water and she planed down the swell, swung broadside to the sea and then rolled completely over. For about half an hour she floated before the angry waves dashed the hull to matchwood on the foreshore. Of the twenty three people on board, several quite young, only one lucky man survived.

Just what the tie is, if any, between this tragedy and the Matua Street that bears the same name is unknown but next time you drive along Ranui Street take a moment to think of the past.



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The Gate at the Entrance



We drive past it almost every day but don't give a thought to the significance of the White Gate leading to the Otumoetai Rail Reserve. There is very little evidence that the site was once a busy railway station that ceased to operate in the 1970's. At that point the land was purchased by the Council for a recreation reserve.

Originally part of the Matheson farm "Fairview" the land was purchased in 1923 when the rail link went through. The station name was in reference to the Otumoetai Pa site that the farm land had taken over. The station was a vital part of the Otumoetai community and residents relied on it not only for their livelihoods but also as a means of dealing with isolation (Trains carried both mail and passengers as well as goods). In the 1930's the station was a refuge to those hard hit by the depression. During the 40's and 50's the only stockyard where stock could be loaded on to and off the trains that ran between Taneatua and the Waikato and Auckland was at Otumoetai where large stockyards had been built.

In the 1970's when the transport industry was to change the station ceased to function and structures were sold and removed. As well as the gate there is still the remnants of the platform alongside the rail line with a couple of explanation boards to bear witness to the past.

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An easy to use App for your phone.

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How does it do it?

Uses 15 daily activities, which indicate how well someone is ageing, to show where you are on the LifeCurve™. Knowing this empowers you to make choices to improve your health and wellbeing.

Why use it?

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When will it be available?

LifeCurve™ should be publicly available by December, 2020.

How do I find out more?

For more information or to ask a question email kathy.everitt@bopdnh.govt.nz



"The LifeCurve™ App offers practical ways to maintain health and function through your later years. It's an easy way to engage with health promoting activities and interests and help you live life to the fullest."

Professor Ngaire Kerse, University of Auckland, Head of School of Population Health.

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Otumoetai Doctors Summer Holidays are coming..... are you ready?



Remember to 'slip,slop,slap" this summer to protect yourself from skin cancers.

A melanoma is the most dangerous type of skin cancer. It grows from special cells in the skin called melanocytes. A melanoma is usually brown or blackish in colour and looks like a freckle, mole or spot. They can begin in moles, but most being in normal skin.

WHO GETS MELANOMA?

About 1 in 60 people will get melanoma. It is seen most often in people aged 30-50years, but it can occur in younger people. People at increased risk are those with:

- Several dark moles
- Freckles
- Fair white skin
- Skin that reacts to sunlight (burns easily and does not tan)

WHY DO THEY OCCUR?

We do not know why all of them begin, but they are much more likely to occur in people who have had a lot of exposure to the sun. Queenslanders have one of the highest rates of melanoma in the world. In spite of this, melanomas do not only occur in areas exposed to the sun – they can occur all over the body.

HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE A MELANOMA?

Only a few moles go on to melanomas. Any changes that occur in a mole should raise suspicion. Changes may include:

- Any change in the colour of the mole
- An increase in size, or spread to surrounding skin
- Thickening of the mole

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- Bleeding
- Itching

In fact, any change in a mole may be a warning, and should be discussed with your doctor.



WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Once suspicion is raised about a mole, it should be removed by your doctor. It will then be sent away to be looked at under a microscope, to check if it is a melanoma. Further treatment depends on the result of this test.

CAN IT BE CURED?

If melanoma are removed early, they can be completely cured. Over 95% of patients are cured with early removal.

PREVENTION IS THE BEST CURE!

To decrease your chances of getting a melanoma, you should protect yourself from the sun. These rules should be followed:

- Try to avoid direct sunlight when the sun is strongest (from 10am to 2pm standard time, ie from 11am to 3pm daylight saving time)
- Always wear a broad-brimmed hat and T-shirt or preferably long sleeves in the sun
- Use SPF factor 15 or more sunscreen on exposed skin and renew it regularly
- Sunbaking might give you a good tan, but it is also going to increase your chances of getting a melanoma and so you should avoid it.

If you have any concerns about a mole, freckle or spot, please do not hesitate to ask your doctor or nurse to check it for you when you are next seeing them.

Otumoetai Doctors
Phone 576 2321 – For an Appointment
Opening Hours:
8am – 5.30pm Monday – Friday
8.30am – 1pm Saturday



WAIPUNA HOSPICE REMEMBRANCE TREE APPEAL

2020

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you can spare two hours this November and / or December to help at one of our Remembrance Tree sites we would love to hear from you. As a Remembrance Tree Volunteer you will be a friendly face helping someone make a donation and write a message to place on our Christmas tree - simple!

If you have a friend or relative who might like to join you, volunteering is a great way to spend a few hours together in the Christmas spirit.

Multiple shift are available around the Bay of Plenty. To register your interest and get more information please contact Ella on events@waipunahospice.org.nz or phone 07 552 6892.



Book Club

Would you like to join a Book Club.



They meet once a month, during the day to discuss whatever is being read. Call Rita on 5768113 if this sounds like you.

Matua Bowling Club also have a library for members and can be accessed by keen readers.



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Thanks



"Every place is within walking distance if you have enough time" <><> Steven Wright

PREDATOR FREE BAY OF PLENTY



Predator Free Bay of Plenty is a community led, initiative aiming to bring back the Native Birds to our neighbourhoods by distributing free rat trapping tunnels to residents in the Western Bay of Plenty District Council and Tauranga City Council areas. The goal is to have one rat trap in every 5th backyard, meaning over 12,000 traps across the region.

The biggest threat to our native birds are the rats who have taken over our native bush and urban areas. With one rat likely to kill up to 50 birds in its lifetime we need your help to get rid of rats and give our native species a fighting chance.

Free trap, what is the catch? You just need to keep the trap out and baited, check it at least once a week and let us know if you catch something! It is a great

support for our forest parks to have households trapping nearby as it can help supplement their trapping efforts.

Predator Free BOP has been running since March 2018 and there have been almost 3000 traps distributed – with about 260 in Matua, about 60% of the way towards the goal. Our trapping supports efforts on Council reserves and supports the birdlife that we all noticed during our lockdown period!

**To find out more and find our local group go to
predatorfreebop.nz
or email admin@predatorfreebop.nz**



FERGUSSON PARK

We are two Herons named Tilbee and Ivy. We can be seen daily wading and fishing in the shallows and around the rocky walls. During the year we watch with interest the activities and happenings of life in our coastal home. Our family have lived in this peninsular for a very long time and we believe we are the most fortunate Herron to live, fish and call our home Fergusson Park.

We would enjoy sharing with you what we see and what we see happening at Fergusson Park.

At sunrise we watch and admire as the sun's rays dance over the Harbour giving us our morning glimpse of Mauao. The colours of the sky is our indicator to the weather we can expect for the new day at Fergusson Park.

The early morning joggers break the morning quiet with their rhythmic footfall and the hushed murmur of voices. Sometimes there can be groups, a single runner or even a parent pushing a buggy. What a splendid way to start the day at Fergusson Park.

Early also are the dog walkers. There are many and varied dogs. There are dogs on leads, dogs that are not, dogs that sniff, dogs with energy, dogs with attitude and dogs happy to return a stick or tennis ball just to please their owners. We watch as dogs and their owners meet and greet other dogs and their owners. That is what makes walking the dog such a social occasion at Fergusson Park.

Later in the morning we notice the Mothers who have taken older children to school, gather with their friends and preschoolers and join together at the children's playground. A time for the younger children to have fun on the swings, slides and climbing ladders. A safe place to learn new skills at Fergusson Park.

More cyclists than ever enjoy the freedom of cycling. There are families of four, retired folk in twos, the recreational cyclist with lycra galore. They enjoy zooming along the wind in their hair/helmets. Using their bells to signal quiet approach makes a good warning for walkers. There is room for all on the pathways at Fergusson Park.

Although we are experts and attuned to the weather and seasonal changes we watch with interest the sporting changes and activities played and enjoyed

here at our home of Fergusson Park.

Summer brings Cricket. Cricket ovals and pitches are prepared. It takes a long time to play a game of cricket. We watch as one team run back and forth and back and forth, the other team bowling the ball at amazing speed, the batter hitting it smoothly away. The teams swap places and it all starts again. Both teams have a player named Howsat. Obviously a satisfying and skilful game played with great spirit at Fergusson Park.

Summer moves on with such well supported Events such as 5K, 10K Runs and half Marathons. All Events for runners and walkers. There is such encouragement and cheering from the Support Crews as athletes complete their event. What could be better than a Personal Best achieved at Fergusson Park.

Summer is the time for BBQs, family picnics, fish and chips, swimming, canoeing, paddling and strolling. Daylight saving brings extra time for the community to enjoy the beauty and space of Fergusson Park.

When conditions are right out comes the kites. An activity to watch and behold as they capture the wind in their own special way. The colourful kites dance in the sky, strings held tight by operators of all ages and skills. A wonderful family time at Fergusson Park.

Windsurfers arrive in great numbers when their winds are right. Their gear is so wonderful, colourful and light. With wet suits and enthusiasm they take to the waves. The slap of the sails and control of ropes, their speed and manoeuvres are such a delight. These are such exciting sights seen from Fergusson Park.

Kitesurfers take advantage of the wind and the tide. They explode from the sea and cavort in the sky. Attune to the elements they dip, dive and defy. Nature's environment and man's agility displayed with such vigour and splendour at Fergusson Park.

Winter arrives. The Park is covered with goal frames - some big some small. Also hundreds of football players - some big and some small. The parents and supporters all cheer when the players kick the ball. They run the sideline and advise players of the rules and where to kick the ball. When a goal is scored the roar is so loud, an achievement relived and debated for seasons to come. It is a great sport played with enthusiasm at this ideal venue of Fergusson Park.

The highlight of the winter for us is the cross country run. At 10am they appear the children, the teachers and parents of Matua School. The children run bare foot around a course marked with red cones, scramble up the hill by the gates, down the steps, and pop thru the tree to run to the finish. The cheering is loud the encouragement called. The parents don't mind if their child comes fourth as it's all about finishing and enjoying the course. One day the Matua children will say - "Those were good days when we ran cross country at Fergusson Park".

We watch with admiration as Mums and Dads arrive to encourage, and so often stand in winter rain and frequent showers. They huddle together to shelter, their thermal layers no match for our waterproof feathers. Enduring the cold, inescapable wind creating forever fond unforgettable memories of the southwesterly torture of Fergusson park.

We observe with interest our fisherman friends as they bait and cast their fishing rods. We are even more interested when they wind in their reels and display the fish caught. We have serious competition here at Fergusson Park.

Over the years Picnic in the Park has been a happy family occasion with wheelbarrow races, three legged races, egg and spoon races, balloon throwing, gumboot throwing and lots and lots of bread, sausages and tomato sauce. The old fashioned lolly scramble was such a hit at Fergusson Park.

As Herons we're so proud to be the emblems on the school uniform of the Matua School. We were also so proud of our Uncle Percival who stood proudly and tall for many a year at the gates of the school. The school motto is "learning for life... Ako mo te ora" ... A family history of which we are so proud, we the Herons of Fergusson Park.

When we look around at this wonderful park we applaud the Otumoetai Sports and Recreation Centre Inc which must be the jewel in the crown for the Matua Residents and the wider Tauranga Community. Such a multi purpose building an incredible asset for the enjoyment and use of all at Fergusson Park.

Also Astronomy, Train Club and other users of the centre.

At the end of each day we wade once more in the shallows - our evening meal to find. Turn to the west, and are once more awed by the spectacular sunsets so gloriously displayed from our home at Fergusson

Park. With a farewell glance we take to the sky, with a squawking and cackling arrive at the tallest tree to settle and nest. We are sure dear reader that wherever you rest we are all in agreement - FERGUSSON PARK IS THE BEST.

OUR HAPPY PLACE



**When a kid says
"daddy, I want
mommy" that's the kid
version of "I'd like to
speak to your
supervisor"** 😬😂😂

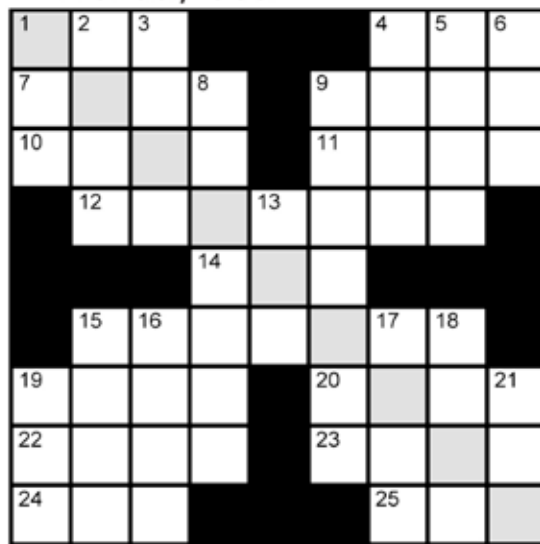
Holiday Goal

Across

1. Movie SFX
4. Short snooze
7. Neural network
9. Cheek
10. Scream
11. Eagle's nest
12. In a smooth manner
14. Wharton degree
15. Facial feature
19. Reach across
20. Peacock's pride
22. Bridge, in Bretagne
23. ___ Spumante
24. Inquire
25. Cafe alternative

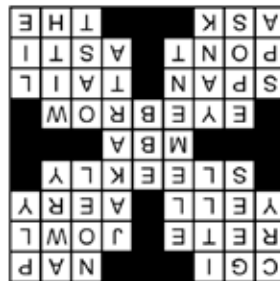
Down

1. Weep
2. The Bee ___
3. "___ have to do"
4. Christmas carol
5. Not straight
6. Thickness
8. Periodic table



listing

9. Capital of Indonesia
13. "Chicago" lyricist
15. Heroic poem
16. Tug sharply
17. Brewer's equipment
18. Accompanying
19. Hot springs
21. Fanciful story



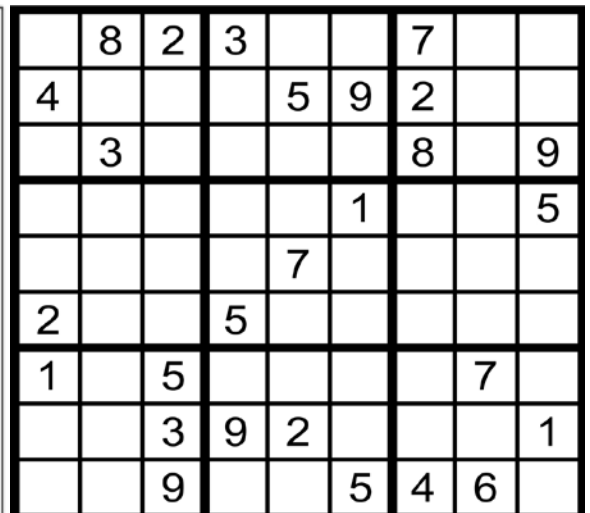
The headline is a clue to the answer in the diagonal.

Raptor Search

V C A R N I V O R O U S H
B R O A D W I N G S M P V
U R O S R E T I P I C C A
Z M N G G Z T A L C A T N
Z E B R I S O L I T A R Y
A Z A I L U F R E W O P P
R L Q S R S H R M N O S S
D L L P B D E L S E U R A
S W D B O U O L D F O E M
O Q U I E T T F G S Y T E
F T H A W K S E P A X N I
S N O C L A F R O R E U R
E H A R R I E R S S E H E
T C W Y F Y F X E M E Y S
I S K A E B P R A H S Z S
K V U L T U R E S T P V E

ACCIPITERS
BIRD OF
PREY
BROAD
WINGS
BUTEOS
BUZZARDS
CARNIVO-
ROUS
EAGLES
FALCONS
HARRIERS

HAWKS
HUNTERS
KITES
LARGE
OSPREY
OWLS
POWERFUL
QUIET
SERIEMAS
SHARP BEAKS
SOLITARY
VULTURES



How to solve sudoku puzzles

No math is required to solve a sudoku.
You only need logic and patience.

Simply make sure that each 3x3 square region has only one instance of the numbers 1-9.

Similarly, each number can only appear once in a column or row in the larger grid.

(The difficulty on this puzzle is easy)

