Driven to distraction

Injured mum of autistic boy grateful for ACC help

BY JASON HOWELLS, Winter journalism student

When Te Awamutu four-year-old Daniel Hoskin escaped from his well secured house, started the family car and backed out of the garage last week, he made sure he was wearing ear muffs.

Unlike many young boys, he can’t stand loud noises.

He also has Autism Spectrum Disorder and is more like a young Houdini than a four-year-old child.

Mother, Linda Hoskin, says Daniel has unique abilities with locks due to his ASD and can escape easily.

The car is manual so he had to put it into reverse.

“I thought I was hearing an electric car open, then I looked out the window and realised what he had done,” says Ms Hoskin, who is partially deaf.

She made it out to the car as fast as she could and shifted her son into his car seat before driving the car back off the cul-de-sac onto her property, hugely relieved Daniel had come to no harm.

Ms Hoskin says Daniel told her previously that he was going to drive the car.

“I was assuming a four-year-old was just interested in cars, I didn’t realise he was planning in his mind to actually do it,” she says.

At 12 months Daniel was already opening the previously installed gate.

“He had been shimming up the gates and was climbing into the pool area ... I installed six volt electric fences to keep Daniel out of the pool,” says Ms Hoskin.

Aside from an acute sense of hearing, Daniel also has sensitive skin, a lack of balance and Daniel has pica disorder (inducing non-food items) and constantly breaks things, which Ms Hoskin says makes Daniel more than busy.

Daniel was only officially diagnosed as having Autism Spectrum Disorder recently — after a long process that can only begin when a child turns three, which saw Ms Hoskin go without ACC assistance for Daniel after she suffered a neck and back injury in September, when ACC came to her aid after the ASD diagnosis.

“When three hours of Daniel’s incident an assessor was here,” Ms Hoskin questions the Government’s policies with ACC when someone working can get cover if they are looking after a child with ASD, but not a stay at home mum such as herself.

For she believes that if she had had prior respite care for Daniel it may have prevented his car incident.

“The issue we have in the Waikato is that we don’t have enough respite carers, and for people dealing with ASD to come forward and help expose the current problems surrounding it.

Ms Hoskin says she too was ignorant to the needs of ASD diagnosed pre-schoolers until she had Daniel, and understands that people often mistake the disorder as bad parenting, but is optimistic the public is becoming more aware of the condition.

“Everyone has been great — I want to thank Child Development, Te Awamutu Taxis, Rosetown Pre-school for fulfilling our needs; and to ACC — that they came through this time.

“The community is here for us if we have a need.

“The issue is that we don’t realise there is a need.”

DON’T DO THIS AT HOME: Daniel Hoskin is proud he drove the family car, but mum Linda has taken steps to ensure it never happens again until he is the right age.
Regarding the recent $1 million grant to the velodrome concept I wonder how much supporting the Waipa brand of champions — had to do with the vote.

Time will prove that the financial projections for producing revenue are at least totally idealistic. No sporting venue of this type has ever lived up to the initial financial projections and frequently become a charge on ratepayers.

I have not seen any information that the management of the velodrome concept have been told never to come back to the ratepayers for help with maintenance and improvements. It would seem that St Peter’s School has been offered thousands of hours of free use for donating the land.

If these free hours are charged at a nominal $5 an hour then it would seem that this free use would be substantially more than the value of the land. Also all these free hours will accelerate the cost of repairs and maintenance. Perhaps the velodrome management have covered this accelerated cost in what members of the public will pay to use the facilities. This $1 million could have been spent in much more productive areas that would have shown a much greater financial return for Council and helped offset future rate rises.

To disadvantage Waipa ratepayers with two lots of extra rates means some members of Council have totally broken faith with ratepayers especially when they voted that we would not be disadvantaged. Roll on the next local elections.

KEN GEORGE

Editor’s note: current correspondence on the velodrome will be closed after Thursday’s issue.

Memories of Ena Bicknell

I was privileged to spend the last eight weeks with Ena Bicknell, she shared so much of her life with me in that short time.

There are some people who I would like to acknowledge now. Ann and Dennis Greagan, John and Thelma Bayley and Ann Perry, Ena was very fond of you all. She loved to hear from you and it was wonderful that you all got to see Ena recently.

Thank you for the support that you gave me and the lovely stories that you shared with me.

John Hayward your kindness the afternoon of Ena’s passing will never be forgotten. Awesome brandy — I slept well.

The Te Awamutu District Nurses Dawn, Lorraine and Leoney and Lyn from Hospices, their work and support made keeping Ena at home where she wanted to be possible.

They are invaluable. Jill from Healthcare your support and rapport with Ena was lovely you will not be forgotten.

I refer to a letter published in the Courier — gee Wai Hastie you sure made a blunder in your assertion that sport is a super glue in much more productive areas that the public will pay to use the facilities.

I respectfully suggest Mr Hastie that you indulge in a rethink about recreational activities cluttering up and providing an effective smokescreen over the real issues battering our society at this very time.

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Pokuru pupil’s poster preferred

BY CATHY ASPLIN

Zion Whakaruru (10) has utilised his computer design skills to help promote a Rural Women Health Information Evening.

The Year 6 Pokuru pupil was the winner of a design-a-poster competition run by the Pokuru branch of Rural Women. Children were asked to create a poster that could be used to publicise the health check and information evening at Te Awamutu Methodist Church Hall (Bank Street) on November 7 (4.30pm - 8.30pm).

Spokesperson June Lambeth says there will be ‘something for the whole family, from age 0 - 100.’

“A wide range of health and fitness professionals will be on hand to provide information and carry out checks.

“People can have their blood pressure, glucose levels and fitness checked, seek advice about issues such as immunisation or nutrition and talk to professionals about any health concerns.”

Groups/professionals included so far are:
• Immunisation Advisory Centre
• Stroke Foundation
• St John Ambulance
• Te Awamutu Medical Centre
• Asthma Society
• Vick’s Dunlop Physio
• Heather Leong Nutritionist
• Life Education
• Citizens Advice Bureau
• Bruce’s Fitness Centre
• Te Awamutu Pharmacy
• Kainga Aroha Community House
• Plunket
• Mainly Music
• Tobocs Ear Centre

The results of the annual Resource Management Act local authority survey has revealed Waipa District Council is continuing to be a consistently high performer, exceeding the average performance of other local authorities.

For the purpose of the survey, which assesses individual council performance against statutory requirements and compares that performance across all councils, Waipa was in the same category as many larger councils.

Planning and Regulatory manager Wess Allan says this year Waipa District Council achieved a rating of 96 percent compliance with resource management timeframes which was a “fantastic result”.

“In addition, our average fees and charges are significantly lower than most other councils,” Mr Allan says.

In the 2010/11 year Waipa District Council processed 421 resource consent applications. Of those only two of those were declined, four were publicly notified, six were limited notified and 411 were not notified.

There were 198 consents for subdivision and 223 for land use activities.

Staff under delegated authority made decisions on 412 applications and nine applications were heard by councillors as part of a hearing panel.

There were no appeals to the Environment Court on the resource consent decisions made by Council.

Average median charges were:
• Subdivision limited notified $5982 ($10,562 nationally)
• Subdivision non notified $1676 ($1312 nationally)
• Landuse notified $729 ($934 nationally)
• Landuse limited notified $3579 ($3651 nationally)
• Landuse non notified $785 ($834 nationally)

Mr Allan says Waipa District Council is committed to continuous improvement as part of its “One Stop Shop” initiative.

“This was designed to enhance the seamless delivery of our regulatory functions to our customers and encourage investment and development in our district whilst maintaining our ‘community values’, Mr Allan says.

Reading improvement rewarded

Altrusa Book Awards guest speaker this year was local author Sharon Holt.

She gave an inspirational speech about ‘finding your dreams and working at it till they achieve it’.

Over 30 children who had shown improvement in their literacy skills received book awards at the 17th Annual Altrusa Book Awards.

Despite a wet, cold evening there was a good turnout in the Te Awamutu Intermediate Hall.

Altrusa spokeswoman Robyn Moore says it was very heartening to see so many family members and teachers attending to support the children from 17 local schools.

“IT was heartwarming to see the children receive an award (in the form of books they chose themselves) for their hard work,” she said.

A big thank you to Paper Plus for their help in keeping track of all the books.”

The evening concluded with a supper and time to mix and mingle.

Altrusa is committed to supporting children’s literacy skills and members enjoy the challenge of presenting the Book Awards each year.

“We are also very grateful to Te Awamutu Intermediate for their support and use of their facilities.”

Pink your sink for breast cancer

Sunlight is aiming to raise $40,000 to assist with breast cancer research.

It is encouraging Kiwis to ‘Pink Your Sink’ with proceeds from every purchase of Sunlight Pink Grapefruit Dishwashing Liquid in October going to the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation.
RE: Fraction Outdoor Glass Sculpture Exhibition - Waitakaruru Arboretum & Sculpture Park, Scotsman Valley Road. Open daily from 10am-6.30pm.

2nd October-11th November

Monday 31st October
Te Awamutu Light Party - Selwyn Park from 4.30pm to 8.00pm. A yearly gift from the local Christian churches of Te Awamutu to the Waipa Community. There are games, barbecues, Face Painting, Bouncy Castle, Maize, Jeeps, Talent Quest, prizes. All Fun and ALL FREE. A great family evening for all.

Tuesday 1st November
Melbourne Cup - The Race that Stops the Nation

Wednesday 2nd November
Cambridge Cruise Night - ‘Classic & Custom Vehicles’ on display from 6pm onwards Victoria Street, Cambridge CBD.

Thursday 3rd November
Rugby ‘Revue’ - Concert by the Students of the Te Awamutu College Music Department, College Hall, 7.30pm. $12.00 Adult, $6 Child. Door Sales.

Friday 4th November
Te Awamutu Rose Society Inc. 54th Annual Rose & Flower Show - 1pm-6pm St Patrick’s Hall Rewi Street. Adults entry $4, children $3.

Community Fibre Exhibition TA Group - Burchell Pavilion
David Dallas with live band - at the Cambridge Town Hall, doors open 8pm. For tickets visit www.1-night.co.nz or from the Stables Bar & Grill.

Saturday 5th November
Te Awamutu Rose Society Inc. 54th Annual Rose & Flower Show - 9.30am - 4pm
Creative Fibre Exhibition TA Group - Burchell Pavilion
Walkato Fireworks Festival - Ohaupo Rugby Grounds
Altrusa Annual Garden Ramble - Tickets available from Playmates or Jewellery Boutique Te Awamutu

‘Flower Power’ - Mixed art and media exhibition at Inspirit Studio & Art Gallery, 370 Pencarrow Road, Tamahere. Phone 0274 386 416 for an appointment time.

Wednesday 9th November
Ukefest '11 - Featuring ‘The Big Muffin Serious Band’ and The Nukes. Doors open 7.30pm. Tickets $20 each available now from Cambridge and Te Awamutu Information Centres.

Saturday 12th November
Te Awamutu Annual Craft Fair - On Selwyn Park 9am to 3pm. Large variety of New Zealand made crafts.
Jamis - Karapiro Half Ironman - Start Mighty River Domain, Lake Karapiro. Errol Newlands phone 027 577-0079 or email errol@onyabike.co.nz


Victory Dance - In conjunction with the Armistice Day - war time dance with a military theme, Cambridge Town Hall. Tickets available now from Cambridge i-SITE. Phone 07 823 3456.

Te Awamutu Rugby and Sports Club 7’s Tournament - Albert Park, 11am to 6.30pm.

Tuesday 17th November
Pride of Te Awamutu Awards - 7pm Te Awamutu Golf Club

Friday 18th-20th November
Equidays - Exhibiting, demonstrating and educating the business and recreational aspects of the equine industry. Mystery Creek Events Centre, Gate 2. Open daily 10am-5pm. Adults $25, child (5-14yrs) $15.

Saturday 19th November-4th March
Summer Exhibition - at the Waitakaruru Arboretum & Sculpture Park, Scotsman Valley Road. Open daily from 10am-6.30pm.

Sunday 27th November
Cambridge Charity Kustom Car Show - Classic & customised cars and motorbikes on display. Lake Te Ko Utu, Albert Street, Cambridge. Contact Martin Bennett 021 281-4488.
Pianist staging concert for musical opportunity

BY CATHY ASPLIN

Gabrielle Peake has set her sights on furthering her piano studies in London.

To do this she needs to audition at two of Europe’s leading music schools — Guildhall School of Music and Drama and The Royal College of Music.

If successful she will commence studies for an Artist Masters in Piano Accompaniment next year.

Gabrielle says being able to undertake postgraduate study in London, from one of the best music conservatories in the world, would be a life-changing experience.

The opportunity to develop as a musician in a specialised degree is unique.

“London has a great atmosphere for the arts and provides many opportunities for working with world class musicians and performing in historically renowned venues.”

“My development as a piano accompanist could be huge and I know postgraduate study in the UK may be the start of a successful career as a professional accompanist and musician.”

Currently Gabrielle is living in Auckland where she is undertaking a Masters in Piano Performance at Auckland University.

The former Te Awamutu College student completed a Bachelor of Music (First Class Honours) majoring in performance at the University of Waikato in 2010.

In 2010 Gabrielle was also the recipient of the prestigious Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship and Performing Arts Blues Award for outstanding commitment and artistic progress in piano studies.

She was a competitor for the National Piano Concerto Competition and Royal Overseas League Chamber Music Scholarship in September and December of 2010 and participated in the Nelson Adam Chamber Music Summer School.

To help raise funds to get to the auditions in London, Gabrielle is staging a concert at The Woolshed on Saturday October 29 (2pm).

The programme for the local concert will be the one she will also be performing for her Masters Recital next month at the School of Music, University of Auckland.

It includes pieces by Debussy (Images Book 2), Schumann (Fantasy Pieces Op.12) and Rachmaninoff (Moments Musicaux Op.16).

The concert will have door sales only: Adults $20, Seniors and Students $15. Under 15 Free.
The Instrumental Section of the Te Awamutu Performing Arts Festival attracted a large number of Waipa-based students, participating as soloists and in the ensemble and duet classes.

Adjudicator Michael Joel (conductor/violinist) offered gems of insight to them.

He encouraged each participant in their performances and emphasising how much their music is appreciated by the listeners, no matter what stage they are at on their ‘musical journey’.

He was impressed with how high the standard of playing was overall.

The Competitions Society acknowledges the generous support of the Te Awamutu community and sponsors.

This enables the annual event to continue, providing a performance opportunity for students of all ages and at different levels of learning, enabling them to develop in their chosen instrument and art form.

Results:

- Dunlop Trophy, Outstanding Performer Overall: Olivia Francis (Cam).
- Orchestral Instrument Recital: Te Awamutu Rotary Club Award: Olivia Francis 1, Timothy Carpenter (Ohaupo) 2, Lauren Grout (Ham) 3.
- Chamber Ensemble, Drs LeQuenve & Heywood Award: Duo Deciso (Waikato University) 1, Golden Soul Olivia & Isobel O’Mara (Puk) 2.
- Junior Chamber Ensemble, Dunlop Trophy — Per- cussion: Ash Russell (Ham).
- KBB Award — Jordan Oosterman (TA) 1, Elizabeth Woollutt (TA) 2; Open: Angelina Yang (Ak). 3.
- Junior Recital Woodwind Cup — Angelina Yang (Ak).
- Awards — 14yrs & under: Emma Parker (TA) 1, David Woollett (TA) 2; 15-18yrs: Kent Russell (Ham) 1, Elizabeth Humberstone (TA) 2; 15-18yrs: Angelina Yang (Ak) 1, Anna Billing (TA) 2; Open: Angelina Yang (Ak).
- WYMA Trophy/Saywell Contracting Award Duets/Trios: The Minstrels (Ham) 1, J & M Dunlop (Puk) 2.
- NZA Trophy: Hamish Hutson-Hill (Te K).
- Russell Trophy — Percussion: Ash Russell (Ham).
- Te Awamutu Travel Cup — Woodwind highest mark: Angelina Yang (Ak).
- Lambert Trophy — Brass highest mark: Blair Stanbridge (Cam).

The Highland Dancing section had 22 competitors from as far away as Hawera, Auckland and Tauranga this year.

Competition in the Pekerau Highland section was particularly strong in the under 10, under 14 and open classes.

Four local dancers competed this year (Haley Cole, Jennifer Sinclair, Amy Lawrence, Kyra Marty), with the latter two on stage for the first time.

Highland section strong

KBB Award — Celeste McIvor (TA).
KBB Award — Jordan Oosterman, Adam Scott (Te Awamutu).
Brass: Delysye Storey Scholarship — Mason Hollaway (Te Awamutu).

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Taranaki-King Country MP gets good feedback at pub, ‘barbie’

SHANE ARDERN and supporters stopped off in Alexandra Street when the Taranaki-King Country MP launched his 2011 campaign last week.

By GRANT JOHNSTON

Taranaki-King Country MP Shane Ardern launched his 2011 election campaign with a ute trek last week — and once again found visiting most of the 17 towns in his massive electorate a great way to gauge the ‘pulse of the nation’.

He was amazed by how positive the reaction was at every single stopping place.

“I’ve been in politics long enough to realise that while 51% of voters giving you their vote is great, almost half the people still wish you weren’t there, or worse. When you show up in towns with 11 utes in convoy, you usually get the odd negative reaction, even if it’s just for just holding up the traffic. But there was not one bit of negativity. I’d have to be realistic and put a lot of that down to the (Rugby) World Cup feel-good factor but whatever the reason it’s great to see such positivity.”

The trek began at Stratford early Tuesday morning and returned about 1.30am Thursday. Late night drinkers at Whanganomona pub that night were keen to share their solutions to most of the world’s problems.

They told Mr Ardern of their concerns over meat and wool farms being bought up by out-of-towners wanting to plant trees, to take up Government incentives.

During his 2008 ute trek, Mr Ardern said he wanted to see a decline in forestry addressed.

“And we are now planting more trees than we are cutting down, which has reversed the trend from before we came into Government,” he told the Courier last week.

“But incentives were put in place to encourage planting of trees in areas on farms where it is difficult to grow pasture and not to take good pasture out of production, so I have agreed to look into their concerns.”

At a barbecue in Honikivi on Tuesday night, Mr Ardern was told of concerns over the speed of the rollout of fast broadband to rural areas.

“Businesses right across Taranaki-King Country are increasingly reliant on the internet for running their business. They were very pleased with the recent Government announcement of extra funding for the rollout of rural broadband (with $300million of infrastructure earmarked for more and faster broadband to rural areas over the next six years).”

Mr Ardern says many of the concerns about the meat and wool sector that he had three years ago remain.

“The industry itself has not taken the opportunity to tackle the reforms that are needed.”

Mr Ardern says more than ever there is an opportunity to grow the New Zealand economy at this critical time with the rural sector as the engine room of the economy.

“The opportunity to export high quality high protein foods has never been greater in the modern world. The target for the next three years is maintaining momentum to keep hitting those growth targets.”

While he says there is much work still to be done, Mr Ardern has relished the past three years as part of a National-led Government, after being an MP in opposition for 10 years.

“As Jim Anderton put it in his valedictory speech (recently), one bad day in Government is worth 10 in opposition.”

FARMERS’ MARKET
THURSDAY OCTOBER 27
AT SELWYN PARK
3.30pm to 6.00pm

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New Potatoes • Fresh Strawberries
New Season Asparagus • Broccoli
Fancy Lettuce and more!
Straight from our gate...to your plate
www.waikatofarmersmarkets.co.nz
Targa Rally roaring through

Over 100 race and sports cars, spanning almost half-a-century in development, will descend on the region when Targa New Zealand 2011 Rally roars through on Thursday, October 27 — Day 3 of the annual event.

The public has two chances to get up close to the vehicles, which range from a 1964 Fiat Abarth Berlinetta Corsa 1000 to the latest Porsche Cayman RS.

In the morning session there is a 15 minute service stop at Pirongia’s Franklin Street following Special Stage 16. Cars will start arriving at 9.30am.

In the afternoon there is a 30 minute service stop at Wharepapa South School following Special stage 21, with the first cars expected from about 2.40pm.

The day’s racing and motoring stages take in Pirongia, Te Aanga, Waitomo and Te Kuiti regions and concludes at Taupo.

For more details on Targa New Zealand check www.targa.co.nz

THE Holden Monaro of Murwai husband and wife Mark and Anne Storey leading the way during last year’s Targa New Zealand tarmac motor rally.

Airport land sale could signal ‘liftoff’

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Full 8 seater, new generation 2.5 eng, alloys, car, well maintained, very nice car, easy access in, out. NICE!
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2.0 sport, new spec edition, alloys, tinted glass, full body kit, just traded. Super popular model!
SALE PRICE $2,990

02 NISSAN WINGROAD
144k automatic, 5 in stock, great cond, air con, electrics, factory aero kit, low kms, 5 speed, very nice car
SALE PRICE $6,990

05 NISSAN TIDA
Live shape, 1.5, 5 speed manual, great condition, new 80k, 5 in stock, reliable & economy, lots of interior space, easy access in & out. Low kms
SALE PRICE $3,990

99 NISSAN GLORIA
2.6L, new shape, 2.1 Neo W.I, rear diff, air con, tinted glass, alloys, just serviced, very popular model!
SALE PRICE $8,990

01 NISSAN PULSAR SUNNY
1.6, very low kms, few km fitted, low rego, great cond, graffiti free, comfortable, great value!
SALE PRICE $9,990

01 MITSUBISHI LANCER WAGON
4WD, AWC, Sunroof, leather, factory aero kit, mixed spec, just 126k, very popular model. Low kms, very nice!
SALE PRICE $10,990

03 SUBARU LEGACY GT-B 5/6
5/6w automatic, stainless, alloys, leather, factory aero kit, lots of extras, just 59k, very popular model.
SALE PRICE $10,990

LOW Kms
99 NISSAN TIIDA
2.0 sport, SWB, high spec edition, alloys, tinted glass, full body kit, just traded. Super popular model!
SALE PRICE $8,990

STUNNING NO DEPOSIT TAP $12,990

99 NISSAN SERENA
3.0L, low kms, 7 in stock, 6 speed Auto, leather, fully loaded, very nice!
SALE PRICE $10,990

99 HONDA ACCORD
2.4L, very nice car, very economic, low kms, 4 in stock. Be quick!
SALE PRICE $9,990

NEW ARRIVALS – GREAT SELECTION – AFFORDABLE PRICES
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RMVT M10853
PAK’nSAVE Te Awamutu... celebrates 1 Year Anniversary

SIZZLING ‘ONE DAY’ SPECIALS

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>BUTCHERY</td>
<td>Chicken Drumsticks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>PRODUCE</td>
<td>Washed Potatoes</td>
<td>3.99ea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>GROCERY</td>
<td>Pams Sugar</td>
<td>5.00ea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>FREEZER</td>
<td>Logan Farm Corn</td>
<td>1.99ea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tastings throughout the week

Spot Prizes to be won including:
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- Woolrest Biomag
- Coffee Maker
- BBQ
- Rice Maker
- Gift Cards

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Face Painting
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Lake relay teams impress in Rotorua

Turbos mix it up with young runners

BY COLIN THORSEN

Te Awamutu Turbos exceeded all expectations placing third overall out of 212 teams in the Ekiden Round Lake Rotorua Marathon Relay.

The event involves six athletes running over distances ranging from 5km to 9km.

As well as finishing third overall, the Paperplus sponsored Te Awamutu Turbos team of Laura Sinclair, Simon Brdanovic, Murray Green, Glenn Sexton, Megan Bethell and Tony Olsen easily won their social mixed grade of which 67 teams finished in breezy, cool conditions.

Team manager, Murray Green says College teams have dominated the relay in the past.

“It was a different story this year, the Turbos, along with a team from Waiariki Academy of Sport, mixed it with the young ones all the way.”

The first College team home was in fact Glendowie College in fourth spot after Wanganui College had a see-saw battle with Waiariki until the Rotorua team’s hot last runner broke clear.

“We were virtually alongside of them at three of the five changeovers,” says Murray.

“Our time of 2:51:17 was pretty good, especially considering we were much older overall, with three of our athletes in their 40’s,” he says.

“Getting within eight minutes of the winners, and four minutes from second was pretty cool.”

Gyde Wansbone entered two teams in the Corporate sections.

Their mixed and women’s teams finished within a minute of each other at 4hrs 19mins, in 82nd and 83rd place overall.

The women’s Corporate team of Karen Budden, Devonnee Lunt, Jinine Brindle, Shiree Sorenson, Joanne Wansbone and Anna Krielen placed third in their grade, and the mixed team of Lance Fielder, Graeme Wansbone, Matthew Bradley, Pamela Shaw, Wendy Ward and Sue Gyde were 18th.

Fielder’s memorable day was capped by winning a major spot prize for a Sky Dive above Lake Rotorua.

Support people for Gyde Wansbone were Stu Budden, Shane Berry, Tracey Reekers and Merv Gyde (chief van driver).

“Support people for Gyde Wansbone were Stu Budden, Shane Berry, Tracey Reekers and Merv Gyde (chief van driver),” says Murray.

Green says the Lake Relay is a great event.

“You can have a lot of fun even if it takes over six hours to complete, like it did for some teams.”

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Highly successfully Te Awa- 
mutu athletics coach Murray Green in Waikato regional SPARC Volunteer of the Year.

Guest speaker, Nathan Twaddle presented Green with his certificate and prizes at a function held at the Don Rowlands Centre last Wednesday night.

The SPARC Sport Volunteer Awards celebrated local volunteers in grassroots sport.

The 39 Volunteer Finalists acknowledged were nominated by athletes, clubs, sporting organisations and schools.

SPARC acknowledges the huge contribution that volunteers like Murray Green make to community sport in New Zealand, says SPARC community sport advisor Trafford Wilson.

“We value these occasions in recognising the massive undertaking by our community.”

Waikato regional finalists, in all three categories, can be rightfully proud of their achievement and have satisfaction in the knowledge that they play a crucial role in ensuring that sport thrives in their communities.

Achievement and have satisfac-
tion in all three categories, can be

mised too many lows since

staring coaching a group of

girls from the College in 2003.

was especially pleased to have

Linda (wife) and Jacqui (daugh-
ter) there, as well as athletes

Laura (Sinclair) and Megan

(Bethell), as it is their

achievements that motivate me
to keep going.

I am so proud to have been involved with these high

achieving athletes.

Green says volunteers give up a lot of family time and don’t always get the appreciation they deserve.

“It is nice to be recognised
tonight as often both coaches

and administrators are provid-
ing for other people’s children

and generally taken for

granted.

Other memorable moments
include Laura Sinclair winning
medals at New Zealand Second-
ary Schools’ and New Zealand
Club Championships, Jenna
Hansing winning a national title
and representing New Zealand
at the Oceania Games (placing
second) and the Youth
Olympics in Singapore.

Historic highlights include Laura Sinclair winning medals at New Zealand Secondary Schools’ and New Zealand Club Championships, Jenna Hansing winning a national title and representing New Zealand at the Auckland Games (placing second) and the Youth Olympics in Singapore.

Other memorable moments
include several times.

He joined the committee in 1990, had a stint of 5-6 years as
treasurer and became chair of SPARC in about 1997.

He has been club delegate to the Athletics Waikato/BOP

and to the children’s section for

to many years, and recently attended the Athletics NZ Con-
ference and AGM in Christ-
curch. He has also been the

Waikato/BOP team manager to the national championships

several times.

Keith Bain and Neal Webb
were nominated for the Life-
time Achievement award for

volunteering, won by equs-

reign coordinator for the

Waikato region Jocelyn

Charlewood.

The Wattie’s Student Sport Volunteer Award went to

Harriet Fish of Cambridge for

help with coaching/ refereeing

netball and touch.

All winners received a Wilk-

ato Institute of Sport & Leisure scholarship valued at $1500 for a coaching or administra-

ation course, and $400 Rebel

Sport vouchers.

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Other memorable moments
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Grandfather’s perfect gift

BY DIANA DOBSON

Rising Te Awamutu showjumping star Melanie Weal gave her grandfather the perfect 74th birthday present.

Weal and Hopeful Illusion notched their third grand prix win of the season heading a 14-strong field to take the class on the final day of competition at the Gisborne A&P Show on Saturday afternoon.

Weal had told her grandfather, Trevor Payne, a week ago that she would win the grand prix on his birthday.

The 15-year-old is in her third season with Hope. They have notched an impressive run of wins already — 14 pony grand prix victories and counting.

Ten of the 14 starters went through to the jump-off.

Weal and Hope showed no fear flying around the course in 44.49 seconds to clinch her victory.

The pressure was all part Weal’s plan.

“I was worried about Rebekah (Porter) following me. I knew I had to go fast and put the pressure on her,” she says of her Hastings show, winning all three of her starts on her horses — she also took out the 1.1m pony class aboard Hex Sweet As and the 1.15m horse class on Cross Your Heart.

Weal and Hopeful Illusion, who were in sixth spot and the best of the Kiwis going in, jumped cleanly.

“We thought we might as well give her a good pony while we are around to see her go.”

Weal has her sights set on winning the overall pony grand prix series this season after finishing second last year.

She currently leads the series after six of 30 shows held throughout the country.

If she can do well in the class at the 2012 New Zealand Horse of the Year Show at Hastings then that would be a bonus.

“I’ve taken the pressure off myself a bit there,” she says.

Results: Melanie Weal (Te Awamutu) Hopeful Illusion 1, Rebecca Porter (Hastings) Chobidong 2, Nakeysha Lammers (Hikurangi) Airbourne Magic 3, Laura Lush (Waikato) Miss Munroe 4, Emily Fraser (Takapau) Tony the Pony 5, Rebekah Van Tiel (Pukekohe) Homeland Hero 6.

Nicholson rides clear on Mr Cruise Control

Andrew Nicholson has come from behind to finish strongly and claim a stake in the final leg of the grand slam of eventing.

Nicholson and Mr Cruise Control finished second in the four-star international three-day event at Les Etoiles de Pau in France, moving him from sixth to third in the very lucrative HSBC FEI Classics. It was quite a payday for Nicholson, who also won the CIC two star aboard Viscount George.

Nicholson says he came to Pau with no expectations, so was delighted with the efforts of his whole team.

“My Cruise Control is probably my third choice for the Olympics,” he says.

“He is a big horse, but he gets better every year.

Of the 46 strong field, 19 combinations were eliminated, withdrawn or retired on the cross country course but Nicholson and Mr Cruise Control, who were in sixth spot and the best of the Kiwis going in, jumped cleanly.

In the two star, Nicholson picked up time faults in both the cross country and show jumping but still finished just ahead of Australian Paul Tapner on Kilrnan.

UP AND OVER: The winning style of Melanie Weal and her crack mount Hopeful Illusion.

Handicap pairs bowls champions

Terry Osment skipped Bryan Ryburn to victory in the men’s handicap pairs at Te Awamutu Bowling Club.

They beat Joe Tolich and Tom Nadin 21-11 in the final after both teams started on the same handicap.

Gammery consultant John Apeldoorn and Miles Purser with a hard earned 21-21 victory in the semifinal after Osment had started with a two handicap.

Ryburn started on a two handicap, ousted Ian Taylor and John Jones 20-16 on the other side of the draw.

Former Waikato representative Trevor Wright and Brett Denton took out the men’s 2x4x2 pairs.

They beat former international cricket umpire John Hastie and Rod Kilgour 20-17 and 21-19.

In the women’s finals, Wright ousted Bruce McGill and John Apeldoorn, while Hastie downed Noel Ballinger and Bryan Ryburn.

Shirley Grey all the way

Shirley Grey was a stand out player winning both the division two scramble and flag match at Pirongia Golf Club.

Grey topped her scramble with 69 net, from G. Howell 73 on women’s club day. She also carried the flag furthest, with three shots down the 19th hole.

Former club champion Jillian Reid was a stand out in the division one, with 70 net, from D. Coyle 71.

Kilgour won the division one flag, as well as scoring the longest putt.

The nine hole flag match went to Ellie Harper.
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Win Annabel Fay CD

Annabel Fay is appearing at the 2012 More FM Summer Vineyard Tour on Claudelands Green, Monday, February 6 with the John Butler Trio and Aloe Blacc, and to celebrate we have her CD Show Me The Right Way for you to win.

The inimitable catchy pop soul-infused style of Kiwi songstress Annabel Fay is seen to no better advantage than in her current offering Show Me The Right Way.

Featuring the well known songs Show Me The Right Way, River and the new single Already Home among it’s 10 catchy tracks, it’s easy to see why this rising Kiwi talent was chosen to support the shows two co-headliners. The John Butler Trio is Australia’s biggest selling band and their amazing array of worldwide hits I Need A Dollar and Losing You & Killing Me among their solid repertoire to wow local concertgoers.

Their latest album Good Things is a must have for anyone into neo-soul and it’s easy to see why Aloe Blacc is loved by many as the man re-defining Soul in the 21st Century!

The John Butler Trio is australian’s biggest contribution to the jam band movement and it’s easy to see why. With such great numbers as Losing You, Better Man, Danielia, Oceans, What You Want, Funky Tonight, Good Excuse, One Way Road, Close To You, Something’s Gotta Give, Don’t Wanna see Your Face and the anthemic Zebra among their amazing array of music it’s no wonder the John Butler Trio is the feelgood band that festival goers worldwide just can’t get enough of.

A great line-up that will have you kicking back and ready for the sunshine, a glass of wine and a real fine time. Tickets are also available from Ticketek.

■ To be in to win this prize simply put your name, address and daytime phone number on the back of a standard sized envelope. Address it to the Annabel Fay CD Competition and make sure it reaches the Te Awamutu Courier office by 5pm, Friday (October 28).

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<tr>
<th>MON 31st</th>
<th>TUE 1st</th>
<th>WED 2nd</th>
<th>THU 3rd</th>
<th>FRI 4th</th>
<th>SAT 5th</th>
<th>SUN 6th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch - Saturday 20th October visit to Waikato Army Museum. Names with payment no later than Wednesday 20th October.</td>
<td>1pm 500 Club Card</td>
<td>12noon-2pm Restaurant open for lunch</td>
<td>5.00pm Sunday Carvery 2 roast meats &amp; delicious dessert</td>
<td>6.30pm approx – Jokers Wild win up to $1000</td>
<td>5.30pm to 6.30pm Membership Draw &amp; Raffles</td>
<td>5.00pm Restaurant open</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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TE AWAMUTU COURIER, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2011