

# AVCA Newsletter

Sun and blue-sky day for our Wharepapa Climbing Excursion last month...



## In This Issue

Arapuni Kids Climbing Excursion

Police Concept Plan Safer Communities

New Appointments





# Kids Climbing Trip

It was a lovely, sunny, blue-sky day for our Wharepapa Climbing Excursion last month. Along with Steve and Mel Parker from HEAF/Adventure Specialties Trust, and funding from a South Waikato District Council Community Development Grant, we took 10 local rangitahi (youth) for a full day's climbing at Castle Rock in Wharepapa South. Steve was well organised and had already set up the climbs on our arrival, and after a short safety briefing and a lesson on belaying, all the kids had a go. It was fantastic to see everyone giving it their best effort - either challenging themselves to try climbing and trust the ropes or building on previous experience to go higher and higher! Viands & AVCA provided lunch and transportation. Thanks, Shannon Atwill, for arranging and delivering the great kai! Also, thanks so much to our drivers, belayers and support crew: Nicki De Reus, Mel Parker, Jessica Anniss, Sarah O'Donnell, Iain O'Donnell, Matt Cheer, and Maurie and Jenny Cheer for your baby-sitting services. We could not have done it without you!



**"SORRY SPIDEY, IT'S JUST FOR THE ARAPUNI KIDS"**

Getting our youth together for events like this provides a unique opportunity for them to feel included and supported by our community. It strengthens friendships and allows them to meet supportive adults with a 'kiwi can-do' attitude. Most importantly, they get outdoors, get active, get in touch with nature and experience our beautiful local rock formations up close and personal. We hope the day has instilled a sense of achievement and reward for trying something new and having a go, and that the kids will be keen to come out with us again



**Civil Defence**  
and Emergency Management  
*Te Rakau Whakamarumaru*

## Annual Civil Defence Door Knock

Sunday 29th November 10am - 12pm

Volunteers from the Arapuni Civil Defence Welfare Committee will be checking in and updating the Emergency Phone Tree



## Policing - Have Your Say

The committee was asked by Marama at SWDC if Senior Sergeant Murray Hamilton could speak to us in regards to District Wide LTP Concept Plan Safer Communities.

"Our Policing District are wanting to meet with our communities and hear their voices about what matters and what are our needs. SS Murray Hamilton was asking if he could come to your November meeting and give a brief presentation to the board. It was suggested that if we work with you all, there would be no need to hold a separate meeting in your community but rather utilize your space."

### DID YOU KNOW?

The speed limit when overtaking a school bus is:

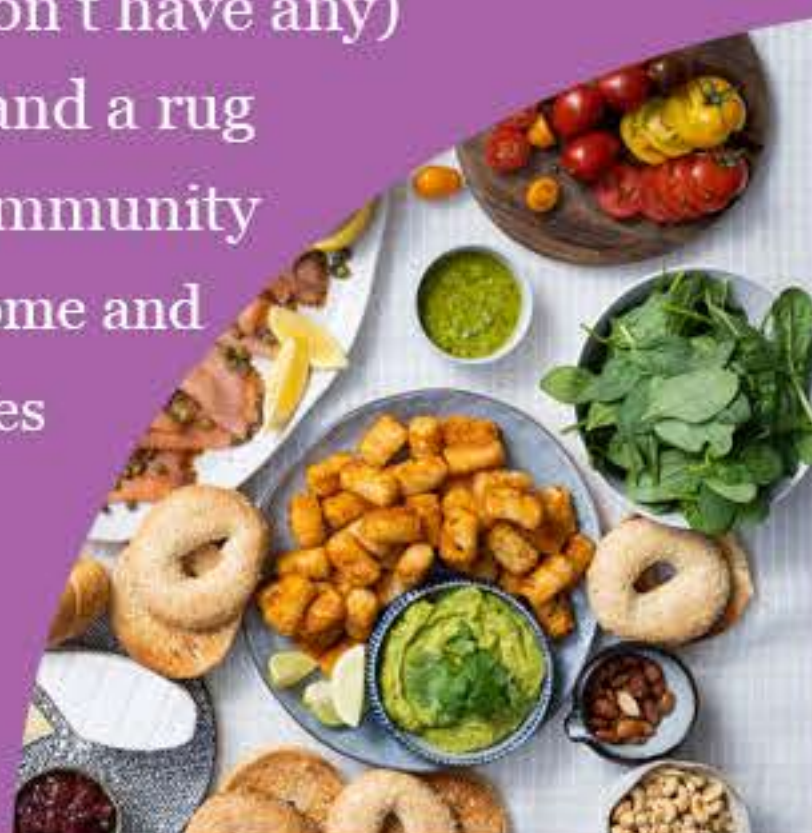


It was suggested that one of the local constables might like to join us at the next *Waitangi Family Fun Day* and perhaps give the water slide a try - *in full uniform, of course...*

## Christmas Potluck at the Hall

*Sat 12th December - From 5pm onwards*

Bring some food to share and your own plates and cutlery (as we don't have any) something to drink and a rug or chair. This is a community get together for all, come and meet some new families and some old ones, and you may even meet Santa as well!!



## Other News

### Committee Changes

Shannon Atwill now takes over from Bruce Sherman as Chair. Heather Cheer takes on the role Grants and Funding Coordinator.

### Funding Bids

The committee currently has the following funding applications in progress:

Rural Communities Trust for AED

Tindall Community Rural Event Fund

### Old School

We are still working on getting something meaningful created with the school as we would all like to be able to have the building and grounds active in our community. Committee member Janice Abo Ganis has taken on the job of getting things moving and is researching ownership and possible ways forward. This will be followed by beginning conversations with all the stakeholders and Janice is in the process of contacting relevant local iwi and government bodies.

### 50th Anniversary Celebration

The anniversary celebration was a great success with the hall full of attendees from all over New Zealand - many in their 70s and 80s.

You may have seen guides leading the former Arapuni-ites about on the Saturday morning.

Thanks to Trish and the Hall Team for making the return to Arapuni such a magical day.



I'M DREAMING OF A

# Sparkly Christmas

Let's bling our homes

Decorate your home for Christmas and be in to win a \$100 Mitre 10 voucher.

## Arapuni Village Community Association

Shannon Atwill (Chair)  
Heather Cheer (Funding Coordinator)  
Nicki de Reus (Secretary)  
Wendy Parker (Treasurer)  
Wendy Haigh (Minutes Secretary, Street Libraries)  
Janice Abo Ganis (Membership)  
Mark Brawn (Newsletter and IT)  
Raewyn Calvert (Everything else!)

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