

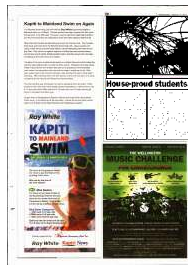


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Hit the trail

The Takarau Top Ridge Charity Trail Ride is on in Ohariu Valley. The ride for offroad motorcycles, run by Horowhenua Motorcycle Club, is a fundraiser for CanTeen. Entry – \$30 for the main track and \$20 for the kids' track – includes lunch. Visit hmcc.co.nz.



BIG BUILD: Kapiti College is going to build an EcoHut

House-proud students

Kapiti College Year 12 technology students are gearing up to design and create an EcoHut over the next few weeks.

Their mission is to provide an ecological hut for Andrew Walmsley, a cancer patient and CanTeen member, to use as a creative/meditation space at his home in the Otaki Gorge.

The hut will be made out of willow, collected from a local business in Otaki, to create an amazing living structure for Andrew, who is now in remission.

The students are working within a set of parameters: the budget for materials is \$100 tops, the floor area must be no more than 3m², ceiling a maximum of 2m high, and floor no more than 1m off the ground, and all materials must be from natural and sustainable sources.

After researching and designing the hut on paper and screen, the students will create a scale model, which will be on display at the Kapiti Sustainable Home

and Garden Show on March 26 and 27. Then the final build, expected to take two days, will be carried out on site.

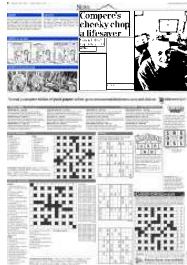
"Students really love to apply their learning and problem-solving skills in a practical and creative way," teacher Kerie Holmes said.

"And they get to do something that has meaning and benefit for one of their peers.

"This project is also a fundraiser for CanTeen,— we would love Kapiti Coasters to assist by donating at www.givealittle.co.nz/cause/ecohut."

Last year's students received outstanding teamwork and diverse habitat awards, as part of the national EcoHut Challenge, hosted by the EnviroSchools Foundation.

This year during terms two and three, Kapiti College will be the hosts of a regional challenge for intermediate and secondary schools in the Greater Wellington area.



Comperer's cheeky chop a lifesaver

Unwanted cut exposes cancer

Laird Harper

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A close shave has saved the life of a Hawera businessman.

Gary Dunlop reluctantly agreed to have his hair shorn for charity, and in doing so exposed a suspicious growth.

"It was sort of like a melanoma . . . the doctor told me that at the rate it was growing it would have grown into my skull and I would have died of brain cancer," Mr Dunlop said.

The story began last year when Mr Dunlop compered a rugby club fundraiser.

He spent the night teasing his cousin, the district's mayor, Ross

Dunlop, for the way his head looked after having it shaved for the charity CanTeen.

Suddenly the cheeky MC found his own hair on the chopping block two days later, during the Southern Rugby Club's feature match between Taranaki and Waikato.

"It was all a little bit of fun but I was not a happy-chappy having my hair cut," he said.

In fact he did his level best to avoid having the chop, but at the 11th hour relented.

After his silver hair was shorn a friend pointed out a suspicious

growth.

Mr Dunlop said the twist of fate brought home what was important to him and he wouldn't "sweat the small stuff" anymore.

"I do believe in fate. I have got to be the luckiest person alive. It's just unbelievable, I'm staggered."

Forty-two staples in his head and an invasive operation hasn't affected Mr Dunlop's spirits.

"I'm not going to be changing any time soon," he said.

He is now urging everyone to get their scalps checked.



Lucky man: Gary Dunlop says picking on his cousin saved his life. Photo: LAIRD HARPER



OUR PEOPLE



Music in the air: The crowd enjoys the music at the Dr Hook and Creedence Clearwater Revisited concert at Gibbston Valley Winery, near Queenstown, on Saturday.
 Photo: DAN CHILDS 625159498



Spice ride: Nicole Hammond with her horse Black Pepper at the Southland A&P Show on Saturday.
 Photo: JOHN HAWKINS 625157089



Demo delight: (From left) Dorothy Dodd, of Wyndham, and Heather and Robert Monteath, of Invercargill, watch Good Morning presenter Astar's cooking demonstration.
 Photo: MARK HUTTON 625158988

Right: Queens Park Golf Club life member Bryan Taylor with mates Owen Davies and Wilson Gutzewitz, who have played golf together on a Wednesday for 18 years.
 Photo: JOHN HAWKINS 625147822



Right: Central Southland College students (from left) Michelle Beck, Melissa Hall, Courtney Hughes, Jess Green, Catherine Taylor and Amy Simpson, who took part in the college's octathlon last month.





Just the medicine: Dr Hook lead singer Ray Sawyer performs at Gibbston Valley Winery, near Queenstown, on Saturday. Photo: DAN CHILDS 625159499

Shark's teeth: Southland Sharks basketball player Aaron Holland tries his hand at sawing in the Ascot Timbersports Arena on Saturday. Photo: MARK HOTTON 625158989



Right: Good Morning presenter Astar hosts a cooking demonstration. Photo: MARK HOTTON 625158990



Universal appeal: Anna Squires, 16, of Otatara, tests a unicycle-bicycle at the Bikes 4 Fun area at the Southland A&P Show on Saturday. Photo: JOHN HAWKINS 625157096



Can do: Invercargill orthodontist Keryn O'Neill cycled from Nelson to Bluff in the new year and raised \$3000 for CanTeen Southland. Pictured is Keryn and Canteen Southland members (from left) Simone Smail, Thomas Loretan, Sam Small, Joeleen Abey, Tayla Cook, Keryn O'Neill, Nicola Hamlin, Jono Cook, Louise Abey and Cohen Brown.



Ashes from relay scattered on fields

A poignant ceremony where candle bag ashes from the Cancer Society's 2010 Nelson-Tasman Relay for Life were scattered at the Tahunanui playing fields was held last night.

The anniversary gathering and garden dedication is for people to remember loved ones who are surviving cancer, and those lost, while also honouring friends and family who have made a difference.

More than 35 people gathered last night to remember their loved ones.

Last year's Relay for Life at Saxton Field saw more than 1000 Nelsonians participate in teams which continuously

walked around a 500-metre track for 17 hours.

When light faded, participants gathered around Nelson Regional Hospice chaplain Tony Barnett for a candlelight ceremony.

The event raised \$169,000 for the Cancer Society which also made donations to the hospice, Canteen and Child Cancer Foundation.

Nelson Cancer Society centre manager Linda Lucre called on Nelsonians to support next year's Relay for Life, which will be on March 3 and 4, and said they could start planning for their teams of 10 to 15.



Ceremony: T S Talisman leading cadet Gabrielle Fisk holds the bowl of ashes of the candle bags from the 2010 Relay for Life for Sue Chapman to collect and scatter at the Nelson Tasman Relay For Life anniversary gathering and garden dedication at the Tahunanui playing fields.

Photo: MARION VAN DIJK



Young man farewelled after illness

Sarah Young

A courageous young Nelson man who touched the lives of many – including the Prime Minister – died this week, and his family are grateful to those who went the “extra mile” for their son.

Aaron Ricky Bayard, 18, passed away on Monday at Wellington Hospital, after battling a rare respiratory condition called Kartagener syndrome. The condition is characterised by the reversal of abdominal and thoracic organs, and complications with cilia hairs in the nose, ears and throat which usually help to clear, and prevent dust entering, the lungs.

His older brother Tony, 22, also suffers from the condition, which requires his lungs to be drained twice daily.

Aaron’s parents, Paul and Pam Bayard, said they wanted to thank the staff at Nelson Hospital who had “gone the extra mile” for their son.

“A doctor flew up with Aaron to Wellington, in her own time, after his shift – and three other doctors had put their hand up to do the same thing,” Mrs Bayard said.

The flights were paid for by Make A Wish Foundation, she said.

Aaron’s father Paul Bayard said the doctors and nurses at Nelson Hospital and the Wellington intensive care unit had been “truly wonderful”.

“The paediatricians, and so many of the nurses that looked after Aaron over and above just being there and doing their job – they cared about him.

“It’s been so humbling for us.”

It was thanks to the Make A Wish Foundation that he also met two of his idols in January.

The huge music fan’s dream came true when he met former Korn guitarist Brian “Head” Welch, in the wings of Mainstage at music festival Parachute 2011.

Aaron also had a special visit there from Prime Minister John Key, who “treated him like his

own son”, Mr Bayard said.

“One of the things I’ll never forget is what Aaron made the mistake of calling him though. Instead of John Key, he said ‘Don Key’.

“It was very special. We will never forget those times.”

Mr Bayard said Aaron had a lovely sense of humour, and always thought about others more than himself.

“Even when he was struggling in hospital, he would be thinking about the kid in the next room, and what he could do to help them.

“You can see it on his Facebook page – how many people admired him, and how he touched their lives.”

Mr Bayard said the family was holding up well, thanks to the support from family, friends and church members.

“We have our moments, especially at night time when you tend to dwell on the worst.

“But we also came to the realisation that his body was just so tired and worn down – it had been a huge effort for him just to get out of bed, and he would have needed a special miracle to have a quality of life that was any good.”

A service for Aaron will be held at the Headingly Centre, Lower Queen St in Richmond on Saturday at 2pm.

Donations in memory of Aaron for Canteen, Starship, Child Cancer, Ronald McDonald House and the Nelson Hospital can be left at the service.

Aaron Bayard





Enticing edible entries

This year's 2011 Hastings Pak'nSave Edible Fashion Awards will feature an increase in cash prizes available for all categories.

The awards being held at the Hawke's Bay Opera House Theatre on April 9 include the Hastings Pak'nSave Designer of the Year prize, which has increased from \$700 to \$1000. A runner up prize of \$500 has been introduced for the first time.

The Car Company Adult Designer is worth \$800 for first prize while the M>Phosis Hair Studio Hot Hair Club Senior Designer winner will take away \$700.

Joanna Smith, events and promotions manager for Hastings

City Marketing says: "We are certainly aware of the time and cost involved in producing the amazing garments that were on show last year and decided that the prize money needed to be increased. We wanted to align ourselves with other similar competitions around the country and hope that the fantastic prizes will encourage more people to take part this year.

"Last year's were amazing, the detail was incredible and we cannot wait to see what will be on show this year — it is sure to be a cracker."

The theme for this year's awards is the "World of Magical Mystery" and the top three finalists from each category will

go through to the final in the Evening Extravaganza, in association with Canteen — supporting young people with cancer.

■ To enter please go to www.hastingscity.co.nz and download the information and entry forms or phone 876 9093. Book your tickets through TicketDirect for the Evening Extravaganza.

PRIZED: Tessa Paaymans, Hastings, past winner of the Edible Art Awards, with her entry last year "Tui-Tara".

PICTURE: DUNCAN BROWN

