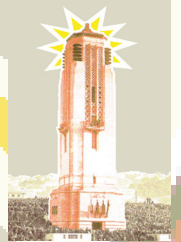


# MT COOK! MOBILISED

Mt Cook Mobilised  
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## No 8 - February 2011

Welcome to Mt Cook Mobilised. This newsletter keeps you informed of events in your suburb and the activities of Mt Cook Mobilised, your residents' and community group. We welcome your input on any issue concerning Mt Cook. Many thanks again to the Southern Cross, 39 Abel Smith St, for sponsoring the printing. **Peter Cooke**

### NEIGHBOURS DAY

Neighbours Day on the weekend of 26-27 March is all about getting to know your neighbours. It started overseas and was celebrated last year in Auckland. In a country like New Zealand where it was always taken for granted that neighbours would be a part of each other's lives, this seems a strange concept. Yet it is more relevant than ever in Mt Cook where a high percentage of dwellings are rental properties with a high turnover of tenants, who live alongside long-term home-owners.

In 2011 Neighbours Day is going national with the slogan "turning streets into neighbourhoods – hurihia nga ara hei tui i te ata noho a te tangata".

In Mt Cook we are adding extra

fun to Neighbours Day, with a **Mt Cook Mobilised Goodie Basket competition**. To enter, all you have to do is spend some time with your neighbours, and drop us a line at mtcookmobilised@gmail.com by 12 noon on Friday 25 March. The winner of the MCM Goodie Basket will be drawn and notified on Friday.

The MCM Goodie Basket has been sponsored by local businesses who are keen to add value to Neighbours Day – Mt Cook Café will have delicious carrot cake for Mt Cookies and their neighbours, outside in their courtyard (Sunday 27 March 2pm – 4pm). If you visit one of our museums with your neighbours over the weekend of 26-27 March, the Colonial Cottage Museum will give away 3-D pop-up models of the cottage, and the

NZ Cricket Museum at the Basin will discount entry prices. Hells Pizza on Webb Street will give away a 'mini' goodie bag to Mt Cookies celebrating Neighbours Day and local preschool group Mini Cookies will be holding a BBQ at the Mt Cook Playground on Hutchison Road.

### Neighbours Day Sponsors

Thank you to all the wonderful Mt Cook businesses who sponsored the MCM Goodie Basket - Martha's Kitchen, Supreme Coffee, BPM Fitness, Inhabit Design Store, Mt Cook Café, Colonial Cottage Museum, Southern Cross Garden:Bar:Restaurant, Basin Noodle House, Hell's Pizza, NZ Cricket Museum, DeLorenzo Design, Ballroom Cafe, and Wellington City Council.

(See details page 4)



### MASSEY IS BUILDING

Massey's showpiece College of Creative Arts (CoCA) building is finally underway. Work on demolishing the old gym on that site had involved starts at 6.30am so to avoid this we asked WCC what rules govern construction times. Richard Leeson of the Environmental Noise Team advised that work noise of up to 70 decibels is permitted from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Saturday.

The developer Arrow International can apply for an exemption for a Sunday to, for example, put up a crane which would hold up traffic on a weekday. The Noise Control Team must endorse the application and the contractor must consult with the affected neighbours. Mt Cook Mobilised is writing to Scott Cantley of the Resource Consent team to request that we be consulted on any application for work on a Sunday.

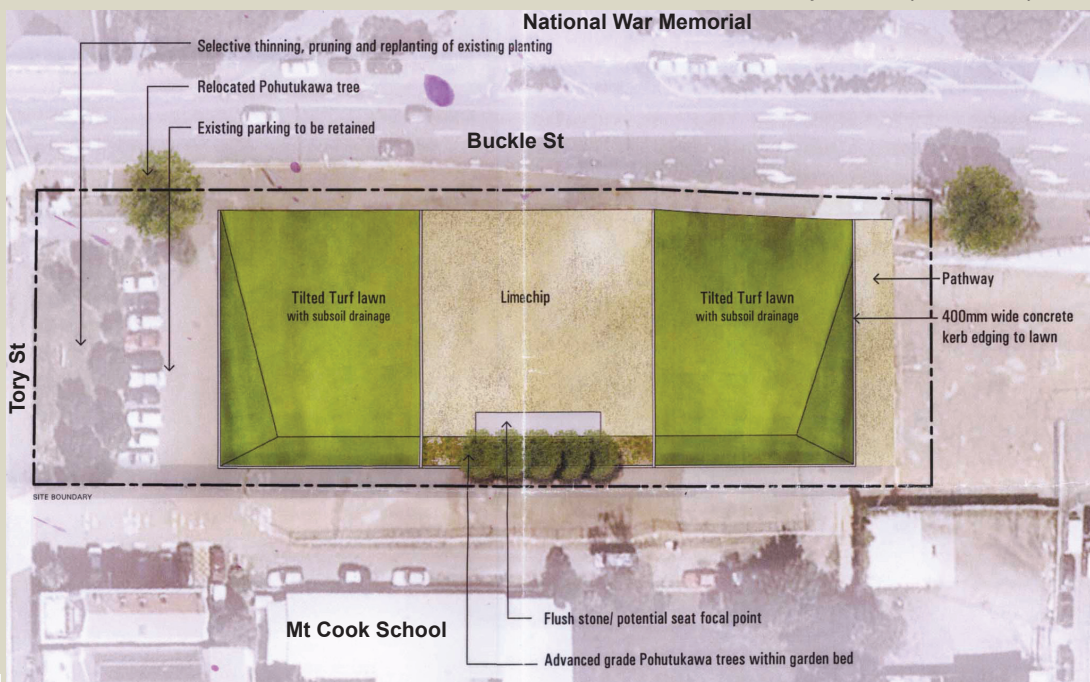
Massey has promised to hold another meeting on construction impacts, such as what routes the trucks will take, measures to reduce dust and noise, and stormwater protection. Nearby houses will receive a mail-drop advising of the meeting (you can also email mtcookmobilised@gmail.com for details).

The Site Office is your first contact point for any concerns (802 4501). Other after-hours mobile numbers will be on site hoardings. For Noise Control complaints, phone the 24-hour WCC contact centre (499 4444), or contact Scott Cantley (803 8142 week days) if the resource consent conditions have been breached.



## MEMORIAL PARK WASTELAND

*This bare parade ground is supposed to be finished by Anzac Day 2011.*



## GRAFFITI REMOVAL GUIDELINES

### REMOVE ASAP!

Where possible take a photograph of the graffiti, or tag, before removal. Email it with the date and exact location to Sgt Matthew Boyce <matthew.boyce@police.govt.nz> and Mike Mendonca <mike.mendonca@wcc.govt.nz>. Taggers are often known to Police and this evidence is helpful.

Get permission from the owner before removing a tag that is not on your property.

If you are unsure if the property is public or private, call WCC and report it. This is especially applicable if the graffiti is offensive. The WCC teams are particularly good at removing tags from brick or concrete.

### REMOVAL TECHNIQUES

**Stickers** - use a paint scraper (be careful not to damage the surface underneath).

**Felt pens** - spray with methylated spirits and wipe with a clean cloth.

**Spray paint** - Resene has a product called Graffiti Remover, which is sprayed on the tag and in 30 seconds it dissolves the spray paint and can be wiped off with a clean cloth. Then wash off the solution with water and wipe clean to protect the paint underneath. Remember to wear gloves and goggles. WCC supply a graffiti-removal kit which includes graffiti remover, gloves and goggles - collect a kit from the WCC Payments Centre at WCC Offices in Wakefield St.

### PAINTING OVER

Use a paint colour as close as possible to the original colour, leaving straight or smooth curved edges, which are easier on the eye. Felt pen often requires two coats.

Finally, don't try to remove every tag. You can't. Choose an area, even one or two houses in a street and try to keep them tag-free. If enough people do this it can make a big difference.

## THE GYM NEXT DOOR

Do you want to keep fit, but can't be bothered going to a gym in town? Massey University has a gym on Wallace Street, right opposite Bidwill St. BPM is a friendly, no-frills, 'boutique' gym. It has a cardio room (treadmills, cross trainers, rowing machines) and a strength-training room. The six staff offer a great mix of motivational programmes, and during the year the team runs challenges to give members a boost of enthusiasm. Or, if you are into yoga or pilates, these classes are on offer as well.

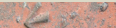
The primary focus is to keep students fit and enhance their capacity for learning. Only half of the gym members are Massey students - the rest are Massey staff, High School staff and students, and the public. If friendliness is not a draw card, the cheap rates will be - public membership from just \$12.99 a week, with no joining fee!

BPM Manager, David Driscoll, has a wider purview. Together with Massey Student Association, MAWSA, BPM is putting together an activity directory of all the fitness-related offerings in the area (boxing and hip-hop to name a couple). BPM offers programmes to help members train for local events, like Round the Bays. They work with the cardiac rehabilitation clinic at Massey, and their gym on Tasman Street is available for hire for basketball, netball, or indoor soccer.

**BPM is open from 6am - 9pm weekdays, and 9am - 5pm weekends. For more information contact BPM on 801 2545, or go to [www.bpmfitness.co.nz](http://www.bpmfitness.co.nz)**

## SKATEBOARDING - THE LEGALS

A local observer: I watch in wonder as skateboarders zag and zig their way down Tasman Street, wondering if I'm watching an episode of Nitro Circus or eco responsible commuters. Do skateboarders keep us all safer on the road as they slow drivers down or are they a hazard to other road users? Whatever you think, according to the NZ Transport Agency, skateboarders are legally defined as a wheeled recreational device that can legally be ridden on the road or the footpath. The rider of said wheeled recreational vehicle is considered to be a driver when on the road and is therefore obliged to comply with all the rules that affect drivers, for example they commit an offence if they ride through a red light. They can ride with wind blowing through their hair as they have escaped the need to wear helmets. Although NZTA encourages them to wear safety equipment, riding without a helmet is not an offence.

While riding on the footpath is legal, it is somewhat more complex for skateboarders, as they commit an offence if they do not give way to pedestrians, do not comply with pedestrian signals or use a footpath without care, inconsiderately or at a hazardous speed or in a hazardous manner. Local councils can also create bylaws that ban skateboards from various areas. So, if you are looking to commute from Mt Cook to work, feel the freedom and ride your wheeled recreational device. 

## REVIVING DEMOCRACY

Every six weeks or so, Mt Cook Mobilised meets on a Sunday afternoon. These meetings are a chance to get together to build community, talk about issues impacting our suburb and celebrate the developments we have achieved.

Our three ward councillors (Deputy Mayor Ian McKinnon, and councillors Iona Pannett and Stephanie Cook) attend and the value of this cannot be underestimated. They listen and take on board our concerns, advising, collaborating and guiding us on a way forward. We have had councillors facilitate meetings with WCC staff and help bring together private developers and members of the community.

At the meetings, councillors gain insight into community issues and we gain an insight into the workings of Council - a relationship some have labelled a "revived democracy", moving the community from a reactive to a proactive approach. The design for the new children's playground at Hutchison Road is an example of this, where Mt Cook Mobilised advocated and collaborated in the design for the playground - and WCC listened.

The meetings are a great opportunity to get a feel for what is happening in your community.

**To find out more, join the email list by contacting [mtcookmobilised@gmail.com](mailto:mtcookmobilised@gmail.com)**

## MT COOK CIVIL DEFENCE MOVES

Mt Cook's Civil Defence Centre has moved to Mt Cook School. An official opening is being planned where WEMO will invite us to celebrate the relocation, and they will present an emergency planning session to the community.

WEMO are moving away from the traditional monthly meetings at Civil Defence Centres. In essence, WEMO are centralising Civil Defence meetings and training, taking the strain off CDC Managers who, in the past, were overloaded with

organising meetings, recruiting new volunteers and organising local events. The CDC Manager role will be replaced by an Area Co-ordinator role - with WEMO doing all the organising.

**Any questions or thoughts please give Andrea Maloney (Mt Cook CDC) a call on 801 9108, or Dan Neely, Senior Advisor, Emergency Preparedness, WEMO on 499 4444.**

## LIQUOR BAN

Mt Cook and Newtown have been subject to the Wellington liquor bylaw since 1 August 2010, approximately two years after liquor was banned in the inner city. Research has indicated that drinking in public happens at 'offender convergence zones' where groups meet, reinforce socially-unacceptable behaviour, commit crime and make members of the public feel unsafe.

Christchurch academic David Small has been critical that behaviour in these zones is not always targeted and young people can be arrested or criminalised for behaviour that would clearly be tolerated in areas not under a liquor ban. Wellington Police statistics reveal that in the two-year period between December 2008 and December 2010 there were 1,080 arrests for breaches of the liquor ban and 2,275 arrests for disorder within the whole Wellington City District.

To prevent the unnecessary criminalising of young people, David Small suggests that these breaches should be handled by infringement notices, similar to

parking fines, rather than arrest. Sgt John Lewis, the Wellington Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer, believes that the power to arrest is a fundamental requirement allowing the Police to intervene before trouble escalates. According to Sgt Lewis, in most situations warnings are given, which can be logged against a person's identity, allowing those breaching the ban to co-operate by pouring their alcohol down the drain or leaving the banned area.

Another criticism of territorial liquor bans is that they change people's relationships with their parks and streets, creating a disparity between areas with and without bans. WCC has set up a dispensation process, although exemption applications are somewhat bureaucratic and time consuming, ruling out spontaneous events. Nevertheless Mt Cook Mobilised made a successful application for its Spring Fling last October and we would recommend that the exemption permit is worth getting, especially for significant community events.

To apply for a liquor exemption go to <http://www.wellington.govt.nz/plans/bylaws/pdfs/pp-liquor-application.pdf>



### Maloney Landscape Design

**Andrea Maloney**

B.Sc (Hons), M. App.Sc

**Creating a garden that works for you**

115 Tasman St

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Wellington 6021

Ph: 04 801 9108

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Email: [maloneylandscapes@gmail.com](mailto:maloneylandscapes@gmail.com)

## MT COOK SCHOOL'S EDIBLE GARDENS

Two raised garden beds have been planted by ESOL and Year 6 at Mt Cook School, with lettuces, parsley and climbing beans. The top field had potatoes in tyre-gardens, and the children made a feast of roasted wedges before Christmas. Winter crops of pumpkin, spinach, potatoes and runner beans are planned.

The beginnings of a school fruit orchard has been planted on the top field, among the native plants. School parent Andrea Maloney has selected sweet, juicy, late-fruiting trees: Braeburn apple, Omega and Burbank plums, Feijoa and an Olive tree. The children are keenly watching the growth-cycle of the trees and asking, "Can we have a dinner party with the fruit?"

**Courtenay Place Rotary** has an ongoing supportive relationship with Mt Cook School. They established a veggie garden outside Kiwi class for the Junior children to tend - with lettuce, corn, tomatoes, cabbage, parsley and chives. In November, Pekapeka and Kereru classes celebrated with a great lunch of vegetables (and delicious strawberries) from their own school garden. The junior school will get together to decide what veggies to plant next.

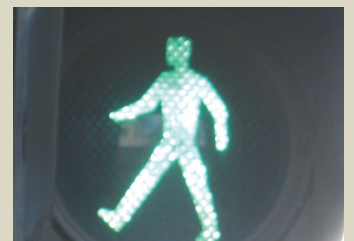
The whole school has been watching the rapid growth of their fruit and vegetables and can name what is growing. They know when the harvest will be and what will be on the menu for the next edible garden lunch. An overwhelming success, thanks to the initiative of **Diana Wood** (ESOL), **Andrea Maloney** (**Maloney Landscape Design**), **Courtenay Place Rotary** and the teachers and parents who are involved.

## SPRING FLING — FLUNG SPRUNG

Mt Cookies came out to celebrate their community on a warm October morning for MCM's first Spring Fling at Papawai Reserve. More than 120 adults and children enjoyed a family picnic with country-style races and Halloween face painting, and meeting others who live in our suburb. Papawai Reserve provided an idyllic setting - showcasing new plantings, and a stream with native fish. There was keen support from residents for an annual Spring Fling, and also for other events at the reserve or the new playground.

### WCC GRANT

MCM thanks WCC for a generous grant towards community development and a volunteer community coordinator honorarium. We appreciate this innovative approach to assisting a suburb like ours, which functions without a community hall.



### CROSS NOW!

Pedestrians crossing Wallace St below Bidwill St now have a safer scamper across these roads thanks to new traffic light phasing, with a 4-second pedestrian start. Thanks to MCM and Council traffic engineers for these improvements.

### NEW PLAYGROUND

In December, Mini Cookies enlisted the help of 'Tallies', Mayor Celia Wade-Brown and Deputy Mayor Ian McKinnon, to officially open our new Mt Cook Playground on Hutchison Rd. The Minis say a hearty 'thank you!' to Wellington City Council, — "we love to play here!"

## CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF 'HIGH'

Former students of Wellington High School can register for the weekend of 22-24 April, as our local 'High' marks its 125th. A full programme of events is planned, including historical displays, photos, sports games, tours and a roll call. On the Saturday, a Wall of Fame will be unveiled – with some of the named in attendance. The historical displays will be open to the public. The \$45 registration includes a class photo. All details on <www.whs.school.nz>. The Wellington College of Design was established in 1886, with James Nairn as the first art teacher. (Some of his gorgeous Wellington landscapes are in Te Papa, and he also started controversial nude life draw-



### Kitchen & Bathroom Design Talk by award winning Debra DeLorenzo

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April, at 7pm upstairs, 40 Wallace St

Admission by koha – proceeds to stage 2 of Mt Cook Playground.



## It's your party

bring a clown if you want to!



...oh

and don't let ya olds forget the mates and cake...

Parents - no fake I.D's!

**SOUTHERNCROSS**  
GARDEN:BAR:RESTAURANT

Check out [thecross.co.nz](http://thecross.co.nz) or give us a bell to discuss venue party-hire options  
[WWW.THECROSS.CO.NZ](http://WWW.THECROSS.CO.NZ)

p.s free face painting

ing classes!) The school evolved into Wellington Technical School in 1891, and was co-educational by 1905. As a Technical College the move to Mt Cook began in 1922. By 1960 there were 1100 day students, and 5000 in the other technical classes. In 1964 the adult technical education was split from the high school function, with Wellington Polytechnic and WHS being formed. Both built new campuses in the 1970s. In 1986 school uniforms were discontinued and the school's new building was opened in 1999.

**MT COOK!**  
MOBILISED

**community**

Choose your neighbourhood  
**GYM \$12.99**  
each week for 12 months



1 Wallace St, Mt Cook  
[www.bpmfitness.co.nz](http://www.bpmfitness.co.nz)

## Mini Cookies

Meet other preschooler parents & kids in your neighbourhood

All welcome! Just turn up at 10am

This year we are meeting at Mt Cook Playground, or over the road at Junglerama if it is wet!

- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April (school hols)
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June



For more info phone Kirsty 384 8369, or Julia 385 1782

## Neighbours Day in Mt Cook

neighbours day

26 - 27 March

**\*Mt Cook Mobilised Goodie Basket to win!!**

Get together with your neighbours and enter the draw to win this fabulous prize

\* Mt Cook locals only, please!

Sponsored by

Martha's Kitchen ★ Supreme Coffee  
BPM Fitness ★ Inhabit Design Store  
Mt Cook Café ★ Basin Noodle House  
Southern Cross Garden:Bar:Restaurant  
Colonial Cottage Museum ★ Hell's Pizza ★ NZ Cricket Museum ★ DeLorenzo Design  
Ballroom Café ★ Maloney Landscape Design ★ WCC

Thank you to our wonderful Mt Cook sponsors! ☺

