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A community newsletter brought to “ewe” by the Halcombe Community Development group.

Happy new year! We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas/New Year period.

Halcombe Community Walkway

We'd like to thank all those who have supported getting the Halcombe Community Walkway project off the ground. Many hours have gone into transforming what was disused overgrown railway land. A huge thank you to those who have given their time, expertise and machinery at no or a heavily discounted cost including John Morrese, George Bartlett, Paul Hughes, Jeff Lane, Stan Karatea, Rangitikei Aggregates, Santoft Roundwood Products, Chris Gommans Contracting and Hireways.

A special thank you to the core working bee crew of Mel + Muzz Henderson, Karen + Kane Gilmour, Richard Bain, George Kereama, David Johnson, Jeff + Rachel Lane and the Short family – this core group of people rarely (if ever!) miss a working bee! It would be great to see this “core” group expand so if you would like to join in on a more regular basis please contact us via the Facebook page, email Halcombe.community@gmail.com or 06 328 8594. Many thanks to those who have attended working bees when they have been able to and to those who supported the Leave-a-Legacy and Donate-o-metre campaigns. Plaques will be placed once the walkway edging is complete and the trees have established a little more. Pre-Christmas was a challenging time with weather hampering efforts to keep the weeds at bay and the core working bee crew becoming increasingly busy in their day jobs. Work will however continue on the walkway and we hope to have an official opening in the first half of 2015.



Waitangi Family Fun Day

We have some exciting things planned for 2015, starting with the annual Waitangi Family Fun Day. To commemorate the 175th anniversary of the Treaty of Waitangi a powhiri will be held at Taumata O Te Ra marae starting at 10am. During the community planning process we received over whelming support for marae open days so we look forward to seeing a good turnout. The powhiri will finish at about 11:30am after a cuppa and some morning tea, leaving plenty of time to get changed and have lunch before heading to the Domain for the 1pm Fun Day kick off.

On display at the fun day will be some potential plans for the village “CBD” so come and give your feedback. There will also be a feature on businesses based in Halcombe and/or owned by Halcombe locals. If you would like your business included (free publicity! ☺) please contact Mel Henderson 06 328 8131 muzzah2000@hotmail.com. Remember to bring a salad for the shared BBQ that traditionally ends the day. See you there!



Good Ol' Fashioned Knees Up

Those of you who missed it will want to mark this event on your calendar this year! What an awesome, awesome night! Held in the Memorial Hall with the band Chocolate Blonde, the Good Ol' Fashioned Knees-up was a great night out, showing just how fantastic the community we live in is. It was a true community effort with a great crew of people helping to ensure it was a fabulous event.

Congratulations!

A huge congratulations to Ben Henderson on being elected FAHS School President and BoT student representative. It is the first time in FAHS's 94 year history that the same person has been elected for both roles! In addition to this Ben is also a Youth Ambassador for MDC and an important member of the HCDG. Ben has lived in Halcombe all his life and went to Halcombe School for all his primary and intermediate years. In year 8 he was the Chairperson of the Halcombe School Council and he also (jointly) holds the record for winning Champion Lamb the greatest number of times at the annual Halcombe School pet day! We wish Ben all the best for what will no doubt be a very busy year!

HCDG Meetings – 1st Monday of the month. 7pm @ Halcombe Tavern. All welcome.

Rachel Lane (Chairperson)

Jeannette Henderson (Secretary)

Mel Henderson (Treasurer + Halcombe Memorial Hall contact)

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ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day 2015 will be one to remember with planning for the day beginning immediately after the 2014 event. Dedicated community members with a range of talents and military backgrounds will ensure the event is especially memorable. We are expecting a large gathering and proceedings will begin with a march from Halcombe School to the village cenotaph. There will be a very different look around the cenotaph this year with white crosses and poppies. As usual we request families bring a plate to share for a light luncheon in the hall after the service. The sub-committee requires some assistance on the day so please contact Richard or Wayne on the numbers below if you are able to lend a hand.



We encourage you to go to www.halcombecommunity.co.nz to read "What do we mean by the ANZAC spirit". This is very appropriate for all rural communities.

Updates on the ANZAC Service can be found on the Halcombe Community website and Facebook page.

March from Halcombe School starts at 10:45am

Service at Halcombe Cenotaph starts at 11:00am

Contacts: Richard Bain 06 328 8627 Wayne Short 06 328 8768



Halcombe Volunteer Fire Brigade

2015 marks the 60th anniversary of the Halcombe Volunteer Fire Brigade and to commemorate this special occasion we invite members of the community to join us for a day of celebrations. On Saturday 14th February we will be hosting a station open day, with a parade of emergency services vehicles and personnel, fire safety demonstrations and information, afternoon tea in the Memorial Hall with past and present firefighters, and other activities for all the family to enjoy. For those wishing to attend, we will also be hosting a celebratory meal and honours evening at the school hall on the same evening (tickets \$35.00 each – please contact Grant Joule to reserve your place: 06 328 8685). Further information about the station open day will be distributed soon but mark the date on your calendars and it in your diaries now!

We are also delighted to welcome two new members to the brigade: Murray Hendersen and Paul Jukes. Murray provides further day time resource to the brigade (always a challenge) while Paul brings additional medical expertise to the team. Please join us in welcoming Murray and Paul to the brigade.

Finally, Halcombe will once again be entering a team in the Firefighter Sky Tower Stair Challenge (May 2015). With 12 brigade members registered for the event, this will be our biggest team to date and we hope raise more than ever before on behalf of Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand. We will continue to hold our usual sausage sizzles, movie nights (taking care not to over sell the event this time!), stock drive and the ever popular auction night at the Halcombe Tavern. We'd also love to hear any suggestions that you might have for new fundraising ideas (contact Kevin Darling – 06 328 8580). If you'd like to help get our fundraising off to an early start by making a personal donation, do so by visiting the following website and searching either for Halcombe Volunteer Fire Brigade or by an individual firefighters name: www.firefightersclimb.org.nz



UPCOMING EVENTS



Friday 6th February: Waitangi Family Fun Day.

10am Powhiri. Taumata O Te Ra Marae. Hastings Street. All welcome. Koha encouraged.

1pm Family Fun Day. Halcombe Domain. Gold coin donation.

Saturday 14th February: Halcombe Volunteer Fire Brigade 60th Anniversary

Sunday 8th March: Halcombe School Trail Bike Ride.

Saturday 21st March: Halcombe School Gala.

Saturday 25th April. ANZAC Day Service. 10:45am Halcombe School / 11am Halcombe Cenotaph.

For further information on upcoming events see www.halcombecommunity.co.nz



The Halcombe Herald is moving to an electronic form (e-Halcombe Herald). For those who don't have email, or prefer to receive a paper copy, we can still post you out a hard copy. Please fill out the below form and send it back to us at HCDG c/- 210 Mt Biggs Road, RD9, Feilding 4779.

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Email Address:		
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I do not wish to receive any other Community Notices sent out by the Halcombe Community Development Group		<input type="checkbox"/>