





Manager's MESSAGE





It only seems like yesterday we celebrated Christmas 2019, and here we are again dashing towards the 2020 festive season.

2020 will go down in the history books as an extraordinary year for the whole world with the start of Covid. We were very fortunate in the fact that our residents stayed outside Covid's reach, but nevertheless Covid still had a huge impact on all of us.

With the lifting of restrictions, residents could not wait to get actively involved in Village activities and functions. Our magazine this quarter is bursting

with some of these fun filled activities; and also, functions hosted in the Village to raise funds for charitable organisations.

Even with all the "ups" and "downs" this year, we were able to publish four eventful Folkus Magazines and hope that you have enjoyed each publication.

Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas season filled with laughter, and great happiness. May the year ahead be welcoming, warm and safe, Nui Te Aroha.

Marie Annandale Village Manager

Committee

COMMENTS

Well, it has been quite a year, what with floods, storms, and at the moment very warm weather and some rain. And not only that, but we also have Covid 19 thrown in as well, with lockdowns, toilet roll shortages, and it seems this pandemic could be with us for quite some time.

However, we still managed some great fun-filled occasions between lockdowns, Father's Day Brunch, Summer Sunshine Party, Melbourne Cup with Hamburger Nights and Sausage Sizzles as well as the Festival and Movember. What a fun-filled time we have had.

The Committee, who are really working well as a team have come up with some great ideas to put on in the new year, which I am sure you will thoroughly enjoy.

The Village atmosphere is really good, and this is noticed every time an event is listed. We always have so many residents volunteering to assist and that shows to us all what great people we have here. This aspect was noticed during our recent Festival preparation. People were arriving to set up their stalls, no hassle, no problem they just went quietly and enthusiastically about their business.



Could not ask for anything better, could we. It certainly was joining the team! Thanks must also go to our "Buddies" who look after new villagers, you are doing a great job and, it certainly is noticed.

On behalf of the Committee, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, a very Happy New Year and please keep safe and well.

Enjoy yourself, **Bob Somerville-Ryan,** Chairperson



RESIDENT PROFILE



REMINISCING OF A NZ DANCE CHAMPION

When I was four years old, I was a flower girl for my aunty. I was left at the church by mistake and everyone went off to the reception. Apparently, when everyone was sitting down someone commented, 'where's Faye?' I was still standing at the church exactly where I was told to stand.

My mother spoilt me totally with dancing lessons through my childhood. I had elocution lessons, speech that included poetry, and I loved it.



I took exams in elocution and every school holidays my mother would take me somewhere in the North Island for competitions in dancing, speech, music. I used to win quite a lot and with my elocution exams I won the highest marks in New Zealand over three years in senior exams. I danced, I recited and I performed.





"The audience was hushed with sympathy and I went thud on the floor and my voice loud and clear shouted, 'SHIT! I've probably broken my leg!'

I was always the princess in pantomimes in Palmerston North. There was an older girl, I was probably fourteen or fifteen, and she was always the handsome prince. I did all the dancing as she could not dance, but she did the singing because I couldn't sing. When we sang duets, she would drown me out and that worked.

When I was sixteen and in a play in our Palmerston North Opera House for Religious Family Charities, a play about family values, I was playing the sixteen-year-old daughter who told her mother she was pregnant, then with the mother's reaction, I was to run away crying upstairs at the back of the stage into my room, which was to be a platform six feet up behind the stage curtain. Only they hadn't put the platform there! The audience was hushed with sympathy and I went thud on the floor and my voice loud and clear shouted, 'SHIT! I've probably broken my leg!' That was not so professional.

My mother made all my costumes and went to a great deal of trouble. She would hand sew sequins for weeks and months. I had beautiful costumes. I did tap dancing and character dancing. I was never a ballerina.

I started ballroom dancing after the pantomimes when I was eighteen or nineteen. I was right into Latin American dancing. I loved it. My partner and I became recognised and won the New Zealand Championships. I left my Palmerston North teacher, and my partner and I would drive to Wellington every weekend to a new teacher who was New Zealand's best Latin.

teacher. On Saturday nights I would dance with my teacher and we were the floor show in three of the biggest cabarets in Wellington.

The top cabaret was the Majestic in Wellington. It had a whole glass floor with lights under it – a beautiful, big, glass floor and two different orchestras, one at each end of that floor and they would play alternately. It was so formal. Men always bought their partners a corsage and the women wore long gloves up to the elbows. It was very beautiful with the long gowns. We were the floorshow which meant we did a couple of dances on the entire floor and the crowd clapped. We'd then race across to The Pines, which was by the sea and be the floorshow there. Then we'd go to a third one. We did this every week.

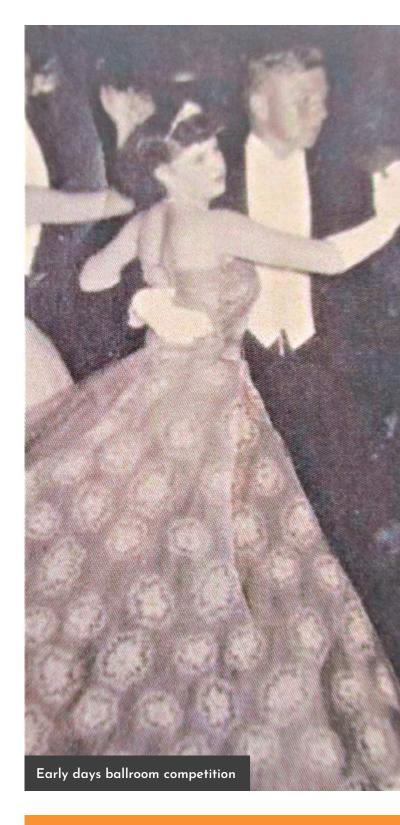
I went from pantomimes to repertory. In 1959, I played the character Gretel in Palmerston North Operatic production of, The White Horse Inn, a lovely musical. Gretel was the comedienne along with Sigismund, the male comedian. On the last night I was dancing on stage when I sprained my ankle and couldn't move for the pain! I called out to him, 'you have to come and get me.' He realised and made fun of coming across the stage with no one in the audience knowing anything was wrong.

I can't remember how many plays or musicals
I was in, there were so many. In Little Women,
I played Beth, and when Beth was dying you
could have heard a pin drop in the theatre. The
newspaper reported, 'there was a hushed silence
in the auditorium during the tragic scenes of
Beth's demise.'

As well as winning the Latin American championship, in the 1950's my partner and I won the New Zealand Rock and Roll championships.

My dancing came to a somewhat sudden end when I moved to Christchurch and married.

-Falls Roving Reporter



"As well as winning the Latin American championship, in the 1950's my partner and I won the New Zealand Rock and Roll championships."

FALLS Festival

Our 2020 Falls Festival was a great success! This could not have been achieved without the hard work, talent and enthusiasm of our residents.

There is never a shortage of talent within the Village and each one of our residents can keep their heads up high and be proud of their achievements.

We raised a total of \$1,852 plus a private donation of \$1,000 for the SPCA.

A special thanks to Libby and her team for organising this event and for everyone who attended.

Once again thank you and we hope to see you at the 2021 Falls Festival.







Bears by Anne Edge































FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH







bourne Cup 2020

All bets placed? Get ready and go! With some great thought around dressing for Melbourne Cup our residents were excited in some innocent competitive revelry.







Maria Hori -Best dressed female



Ray Bradley - Worst dressed



Gerald Batchelor & June Douglas

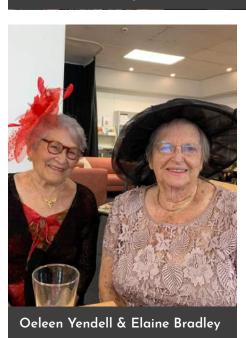




















Welcome TO THE VILLAGE



Rosemary Puddle

I was born in Auckland in 1935. My family moved to Ngawha where I attended Kaikohe Primary School before returning to Auckland to attend Epsom Girls Grammar. I began my working days as a Legal Clerk. Married Neville in 1957 and we moved to Kaikohe where we lived for nearly 40 years, raising our 4 children.

Lots of family time was spent boating. I worked as Secretary for two schools for 15 years before moving to work for an Accountant. I was heavily involved with B.O.I. Plunket Society where I was both Secretary and President. After selling our Motor Business in Kaikohe, we retired to Paihia and spent more time boating, gardening, and bowling.

I have 4 Children, 11 Grandchildren, and 8 Great Grandchildren. I am looking forward to my golden years and making new friends at the Falls.

Adele Kimber

Christchurch was where I was born and raised. After visiting family in Australia, I met my husband to be and in January 1963 we married and travelled to PNG where we lived for 18 years.

Our four children were born there and educated but we returned in 1980 to further their education. We bought a property in Glenbervie and lived there for 20 years. Joining our son and family in 2000 we travelled around North America as he was a musician.

We had bought a property in Tutukaka but chose to tour around Australia for 5 years. After my husband died last year, the property was too big, and I chose to bring my garden and settle in The Falls.





THE SEVEN SISTERS

By Lucinda Riley

To obtain this book from the Falls Library you have to be in the right place at the right time. There is an ever-increasing queue to get hold of this novel. Then once you have read this, you will be searching for the next six novels in the series.

In this six hundred plus page story, six sisters gather together in their childhood home on the shores of Lake Geneva after being told their adoptive father, an elusive billionaire has died. He left each sister an envelope containing a clue as to their heritage. His daughters had been adopted from various places around the world. Over the years their adoptive father would arrive home with a baby girl to join the other sisters, to be cared for by Ma, the sisters guardian.

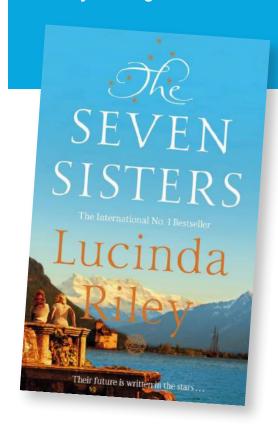
The seven sister's series is based allegorically on the mythology of the famous star constellation. Maia, Alcyone, Asterope, Celaeno, Taygete, Electra, Merope.

This first book of the series - The Seven Sisters, is Maia's story, followed by - The Storm sister, The Shadow Sister, The Pearl Sister, The Moon Sister, The Sun Sister. Merope, the seventh sister is a mystery, as she has not yet appeared. Also, a mystery throughout each novel is the circumstances under which their adopted father died - or, is he dead?

This first novel sets the scene for the following books, so I recommend this is read first. I don't think it matters in which order the following books are read as each sister searches for the reasons behind her adoption. The final book of the series is due to be released next year, 2021.

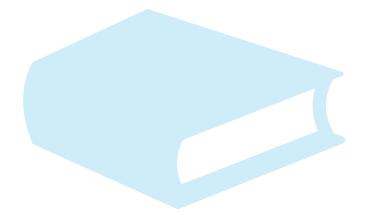
"In her stories Riley celebrates the achievements of women, especially in the past, and their contribution to making the world the place it is today."

Trudy McKnight



The Author, Lucinda Riley, was born in Ireland and traveled the world researching the story of each sister, based on factual and fictional female characters. In her stories Riley celebrates the achievements of women, especially in the past, and their contribution to making the world the place it is today.

Trudy McKnight





JILLIAN COMER'S

Winter Wonderland Holiday

AN OPPORTUNITY TOUR

'Capture the beauty of New Zealand, the beauty of our specially crafted trips and beautiful music. We bring you Winter Wonderland, a magnificent tour of the Southern Alps, Queenstown, Milford Sound, the rugged West Coast and the glaciers and lakes of this magnificent region.'

But, it isn't winter; it is spring. Covid had delayed the tour, not once, but numerous times. Hotels were closed, trains and buses cancelled. I finally set off in October, from Whangarei to Auckland to Christchurch and joined the group of thirty-seven keen travelers, and believe it or not - there were five Jillian's on this trip!

We explored Antarctic Life Centre, giving us an ice and snow experience with penguins, a Husky and the storm room - minus thirty degrees and gale force winds. During dinner we were serenaded by John and Lynette, our first concert - 'What a Wonderful World:

We travelled the Tranz-Alpine train, one of the world's famous train journeys, between Christchurch and Greymouth. A visit to Shanty Town and a try at gold panning.

Our planned hotel in Greymouth was closed so we stayed at Hokitika, a hotel right on the beach, listening to the surf rolling and crashing during the night. Dinner was at Speights Ale House with local West Coast hospitality and the local 'Oompa' band providing a fun evening.

We travelled through Paparoa National Park, a drizzly, typical, West Coast day. Visited Punakaiki Rocks and saw the old Labour Hall where in 1900 the Labour Party was established. Visited a buffalo farm that exports the milk to Switzerland to make Mozzarella cheese, making themselves a fortune. The Rainforest Tree-top walk was very impressive. A 1.2 kilometre walk, twenty metres high, along a boardwalk above the roof of the forest.

The next day we wake to clear blue skies and snow had fallen overnight, covering the mountain peaks. We walked around Lake Matheson and then, most exciting of all, a helicopter ride to Mount Tasman, over the Fox Glacier, two hundred metres of stacked ice. We get out onto virgin snow forty to sixty feet deep; it is warm and no wind. Tonight we have a mid-winter wonderland Christmas dinner and concert entitled, 'I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas'.

A leisurely drive down the coast and visit a Salmon Farm with a salmon lunch, then a two hour jet boat ride twenty kilometres up the Haast River, lots of wheelies, donuts. Great fun. We tour Wanaka, visit Puzzling World and drive through Cromwell; huge, huge, developments absolutely everywhere, lots of wineries, we drive past Sam Neil's winery, Bannock Burn. We tour the goldfields on route to Queenstown. New World, Countdown supermarkets, a huge mall. No spaces, everything so close together. The area is spoilt. So disappointed.

Arrowtown, scenic, peaceful drive through beautiful poplar trees. A beautiful old village. Drive past Millbrooke, a huge Japanese owned and built golf course, also Michael Hill's golf course, one thousand dollars per round of golf.

A full day is spent at Milford Sound, amazing water-falls, over three hundred following rain, and wonderful scenery. A two-hour cruise travelling out to the open sea, very rough and choppy.

Final day. First stop is Cromwell Heritage Precinct on the shores of Lake Dunstan. Again, lots of subdivisions, housing developments, time-share units, like little boxes on the hillside! We visit the gold mining centre with one of two Battery Stampers working. (The other one is near Thames). We stay at the award-winning luxury Millbrook Resort, on six hundred and fifty acres of beautiful countryside. Music during dinner is provided by John, Lynette and Alex, 'Showstoppers' celebrating all the hits of music theatre.

It's back to The Falls and reminiscing over the many, many, photographs.

Falls Roving Reporter



Swing Bridge



Shanty Town - West Coast



Gold Panning

Choir Master

DOUG HEALEY

THE BEGINNING

Nine years ago, the then Village Manager, Graham Tiplady, suggested I may consider re-instating the village choir. The choir had been in recess for a period due to the previous director, the late Kate Bassett, transferring to a care facility.

My only musical experience at that moment was my six years in the Whanganui Garrison Brass Band during my youthful years.

I decided to give it a go with Mel's help, with her being a competent keyboard player being my accompanist. We started with approximately twenty people singing basic songs with some success.

My involvement then began with Opera North and with the late Joan Kennaway's help, we became a little more adventurous. That is when I realized that the electronic keyboard had limitations and we engaged Lynne Cullen as our pianist.

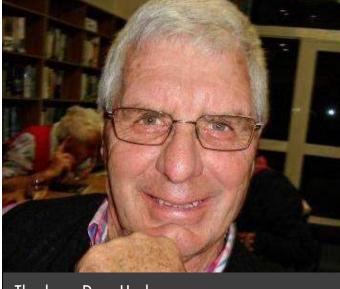
Not only did we perform within the village at the annual Christmas dinner, general concerts, Anzac Days and any other special event in the village, we sang at other villages; at Christmas Corporate functions, at funerals and the highlight for many of our members, being a 'support act' to Opera North at Forum North for the Domain Lodge Charity Show. This event was certainly a highlight, and the choir received a rapturous applause for their rendition of the song, 'Softly as I leave you.'

At this point I must acknowledge the enthusiasm and dedication of those taking part in the choir. It was always jokingly stated, the qualification to join the choir, that if you could hum a tune you were accepted. Another criteria was that you must have a huge sense of humour and be available to have fun.

Many of the choir members over the nine years have sadly passed on and were all notable for their contribution to the group. Some have moved to other



performance, from our talented village choir.



Thank you Doug Healey

care units and when we sang at their new village, they always greeted us enthusiastically and joined in the singing.

There have been many wonderful voices in the group and never in their minds did they realise their singing abilities, but we always managed to get the best out of each and every member of the choir.

During the nine years the choir has performed some thirty-four shows, including our efforts with 'Oklahoma'. During that time, we have had four managers, nine Resident Committees, all who have, without hesitation, supported the choir in every possible way.

I feel now is the time for me to step aside and let someone else have a go and in doing so, I acknowledge the fact that nothing would have happened in any success we have had, without the help and encouragement from my wife, Mel.

Also special thanks to Lynne Cullen, an accompanist extraordinaire.

Doug Healey (retired Choir Master Extraordinaire)

DOUG - YOU ARE A CHAMPION

Belonging to a choir, belting out at the top of our lungs, is proven to be very good for us. We are wired for rhythmic togetherness, especially amongst friends. Singing improves the quality of our lives, and it has been shown that we can be more generous, more ethical and more helpful towards others.

We have much to be grateful to Doug for, and these benefits are due to our being able to meet regularly and join in as a group within our village. It has been noted that not only song, but gales of laughter too resound from our rehearsals, along with lots of appreciated comments following our performances.

We 'went out' with a tremendous challenge – Bohemian Rhapsody – which caused not only Doug but us too, much angst, but we enjoyed the test!

Your wise leadership will be much missed, Doug. Thank you so much.

Lots of love, Sue O

To Doug and Mel, from Fred Sackfield:

Many thanks for the work you have both put in. To bring thirty odd, Rusty-Old- Voices up to a standard that is a performing choir. I am sure I can say that each of us is really proud to be part of it.

But what now? Monday 3.30 comes around –

No booming voice: 'STOP. STOP. You are reading it. Not singing it!'

'No! Not again! When you come to system three on page four – you go back to system two on page one!'

'Look - if I can get it so can you!'

Arriving at the Village Doug was the first resident I met. 'How about joining the Choir,' he quipped. 'Not likely,' I replied.

Well, a year or two later I did. We were a small group sadly lacking many males but us females sang our hearts out and thought move over 'North Opera' you've got competition here.

Thinking back it must have been nightmare material for Doug but his perseverance and patience has certainly paid off because the Choir today is a large group of men and women and we can match any other choir in the North.

All thanks to Doug.

Eunice Fitness.

Doug took up the baton from Kate Bassett about ten years ago. Mel became our accompanist using their keyboard.

Doug's enthusiasm saw us 'on stage' sharing the music both in the village and out in the community. Village concerts were eagerly attended by residents.

A memorable event was rehearsing our item for a Rest-home and Retirement Village contest organized by the local radio station. We drew, by ballot, 'Sex on Fire!' (none of us had heard of it.) we had only days to learn and costume our entry before the film crew arrived to record our efforts. I think we were awarded second place.

More recently, Lynne Cullen became our accompanist and Mel was promoted to position of, 'official page turner.'

When rehearsals finished, we obeyed the command, 'go home and feed your kids,' that we will miss.

Thanks, and Best Wishes Doug.

June Douglas







FOOD, FOOD, Glorious Food

OUR WONDERFUL CHEF - AMBER WALLACE

I grew up in Ewing's House, the old original homestead, that is about one hundred and twenty years old. It is near the town pools and on a half-acre site. Years ago, this whole area used to be planted in citrus trees and grape vines. Today we have about a quarter acre of the property planted in garden with leafy greens, edible flowers, and herbs. Most of this is used for my cooking and I go to Farmers' Market at weekends to top-up what is needed.

I live with my daughter and my parents. My dad is very crafty and is a boat builder. During Lock-down, he built a green-house, and all our plants are grown from seeds.

I moved to Australia twenty years ago and the old house was rented out. I was an art student, then a single mum. About twelve years ago I went to Chef school, a one-year cooking course in Sydney. It was, 'Hell's Kitchen.' And I could yell!!

I moved from restaurant to café service, doing highend restaurants and food service. It was so stressful running café kitchens in Sydney.

I had a change of lifestyle after being diagnosed with severe diabetes. I had lost weight, was malnourished, dehydrated and close to a coma. I moved to Byron Bay to a yoga retreat, a more holistic lifestyle with vegan, raw based foods.

My brother dying six years ago was a second shock to the system. He grew up with a heart condition. He was a chef and had traveled the world cooking for Royalty, the rich and famous.

I would not play victim to illness and all I wanted was to go home and grow trees. I would rent and move, rent, and move. I wanted the perfect job, perfect boyfriend, perfect place to stay in Aussie, but had none of this.

Mum worked in hospitality and my parents were in Papua New Guinea with Volunteer Service Abroad for four years before returning home. We came back to the old homestead three years ago and redid the gardens, a joint effort with my parents.

With my qualifications no jobs were available. In February three years ago, I photographed my cooking and put together a Face Book page. Covid brought me more clients and opportunities, with home deliveries increasing as people were tired of cooking. I am currently considering other opportunities I have been offered to further my business.

I work and live with my parents and so far, have not had the urge to kill each other. Together we have bonded and have an important relationship, a humbling situation. I am blessed and happy that from an idea, to have the gumption to go through with it.

Falls Roving Reporter











Movember

The Falls Estate gathered all in blue on Sunday, 29 November 2020 to shave for a good cause -Movember – and raised over \$2,500 for prostrate cancer.

A special thanks to Doug & Mel and their helpers for organising this event and for everyone who attended; and all those who were brave enough to enter the various competitions.



Arthur Needham & Mark Beer



Betty Harding - Before



Betty Harding - After



Betty Harding going blue



Dave Firman - Before



Dave Firman - After



Lew Holmwood - Before



Lew Holmwood - After



Pauline van Eybergen & Raewyn Bennett & Bronwyn Hudson



County Singers - John Porter, Trevor & Robyn Prescott and Deyal McKenzie



Doug & Mel Healey -The Organisers



Jeanette Porter & Lesley Kelly



Marie Annandale



SilverBeats Trio - Kathy Hay & Bronwyn Hudson



Sue Otto - Classic Poem



Ray & Elaine Bradley





Kevin Kelly -Police Officer on Duty



Difficult decision for the judges



Jillian Comer in disguise





TRUFFLES RECIPE

Looking for something fun and easy to do with the gran-kids over this Festive Season?

Chocolate snowman truffles are sure to go down a hit with the gran-kids at Christmas time - the perfect recipe to make during the holidays when you need to entertain them and prepare food for friends and family who will be visiting.

Snowman truffles are perfect to make a batch at the beginning of December, keep them in the fridge and use them on top of seasonal cakes, for unexpected house guests or emergency foodie Christmas presents - they are so versatile and look like you've made a real effort!

Ingredients	Quantity
Plain chocolate	100g (4oz)
Butter	100g (4oz)
Icing sugar	275g (10g)
White chocolate for grating	-
Red & Green pre-bought fondant icing for hats & noses	-

- 1. Place water in a small pan, bring to the boil and take off the heat.
- 2. Break chocolate into a heatproof bowl and place over the water. Gently stir until chocolate is melted. Add the butter and again gently stir until butter has melted. Remove bowl from water.
- 3. Sieve the icing sugar into chocolate mixture, fold until thoroughly mixed together. Allow to cool.
- **4.** Take small spoonful of the mixture and roll into a small ball. Grate white chocolate into a bowl and roll each truffle in the chocolate until well coated - keep your hands cool and it won't be so sticky!
- **5.** Once all the snowmen are complete, make hats and noses using the red and green icing then attach to the snowmen – you may need to use cocktail sticks or a little jam to help sticking.
- 6. Make a little box or use cellophane to wrap your truffles and give them to teachers, friends and relations for Christmas and as thank you pressies.

Presentations

AT THE FALLS ESTATE

Since our last publication, Betty from Age Concern visited the Village and made residents aware of the service Age Concern could offer people that may require it. We also welcomed Jo and Maree from Northland District Health Board, who discussed Medication Management, Functional Equipment, Mobility Equipment, Home Support and Advance Care Planning.

For more information about any of these topics, please contact Age Concern or Northland District Health Board directly.

















HUANUI COLLEGE

Positive Education

We welcomed Huanui College to the Village as part of their Positive Education Programme where students gave up their afternoon to do something good for someone else - for no reward. We had over 20 students visit The Falls Estate talking to residents or doing small chores around the Village.



Ank Mellema and Mary Williams with more students



Brian Atkins being interviewed by students



Chirs the gardener handing students some refreshments



Faye Jervis being interviewed by students



Chris The Gardener with more refreshments



Huanui College Students



Pauline van Eybergen and Brian Kenyon being interviewed by students

VILLAGE Laughs!

At our age we can be anything we choose tabulous!

FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH: OVERHEARD CONVERSATION

"I always wondered how pain killers work. You swallow a pill and they know which part of the body hurts and the pain goes away."

"Yeh, you would think if you had a sore foot you would put the pill in your shoe."

"Nah, that wouldn't work, you would just go limp."







ANNOUNCEMENT AT HAPPY HOUR **BY GRAHAM TIPLADY:**

'We now have for sale in the village shop, face masks. These have been made by the wonderful sewing ladies at the Falls. On the shop cash register there is no key labeled, 'masks'. We will use the key labeled, 'condoms'. We sold the last of these some years back and no one has queried the need for more!



RAY YENDELL IMPRESSES CHRIS WITH HIS GIANT TOMATO

Snapped!

Any comments & feedback are welcome! Send them to: marie.annandale@thebegroup.co.nz





Craft day at The Falls





There is no holding back

these Falls ladies!

Country Singers



Are you computer savvy? Would you like your Folkus sent to you by email?

Just let us know – email marie.annandale@thebegroup.co.nz and it will be our pleasure to save trees but ensure you get your copy of The Falls Folkus.





