





Manager's message





It is already several months into the "New" Year – and 2021 looks as though it will disappear just as fast as 2020. Already, Easter is looming and with it the promise of far too many hot cross buns and too much chocolate. Bring it on!

Our Village seems to be in a very settled phase at present. Many residents have joined us

over the last few months – and have been welcomed into our family and are contributing to Village life in many ways. Joining any new group is always a bit daunting – but I have observed the friendly and sociable way in which folk ensure that newcomers feel very much at home from day one.

I have said before that this is a busy place, and already we have had four Village events – our "Burns Night", "Valentines Lunch", "St Patrick's Dinner" and our "Nostalgia" night, which featured resident entertainer Chas who charmed us all with songs we know, love and could sing along to. The choir is back in rehearsal for

our very special and poignant ANZAC Day service which promises to be even more special this year.

I know that we now have folk waiting to move into our Village – hoping for a home to come up for sale. We will keep offering Open Days to keep you in touch with what is for sale – but every day is an Open Day if you want a personal tour of everything this unique Village has to offer.

Give us a call – we would love to meet you to assist you to find your way into the best decision of your retired life!

Marie Annandale Village Manager

Committee COMMENTS

Village life is certainly fun – friendly – peaceful, as it should be. But on the Committee, we can add "sometimes chaotic".

Our fun theme has certainly continued from 2020 and we have certainly been busy, and when you look back committee activities have included, – December 2020, the "Jolly Holly Christmas" January

2021, the "Pairs Pentathlon Championship" Remember those darts in the wall and the floor!!! Shove a penny and tiddlywinks. A great time had by all entrants. And while Amber was away those Fish & Chip nights plus a sausage sizzle. Burns Night, with the Haggis being piped in.

February 2021, Valentine's Day



with a fabulous Steak dinner including cocktails. Chas's Nostalgia Concert followed by a Sausage Sizzle. And following all those, we had a

March St Patrick's Day, and a great time was had by all I am sure.

The Committee members and helpers have all worked very hard to accomplish all those activities and not all village activities have been included. Others are, concerts, guest speakers, new games, plus all other ongoing activities. Yes, it goes on and on and will continue to do so I am sure.

All creating a fun filled atmosphere which shows village life is moving along at an alarming pace. We have had quite a few new residents coming in during the last few months, and there will be more moving in. Thanks must go to everyone,

residents, and our gardeners for keeping the presentation of "The Best Village" (ours) at a high level, it is always tidy, neat, colourful with a friendly atmosphere.

There is no doubt all committee members have worked very hard as a team to maintain this friendly atmosphere, but we are not stopping there, we are also looking at our procedures to make sure they are all working in your interest. So please take care, keep safe and stay well.

Enjoy Life,

Bob Somerville-Ryan, Chairperson

TALKING To Bill

OUR NEWEST FALLS GARDENER

Bill (William Perewaipu) was born in Thames, 1960. He has spent most of his life living in Otangarei, attending the local primary school, then Kamo Intermediate and High School. Bill's mother is from Te Kuiti and his father from Whangaruru. Holidays were spent at Whangaruru. Bill's iwi is Ngati Wai. Bill loved spending time with the Elders and learning from them, regretfully he does not speak Te Reo.

Bill grew up in a whanau of eighteen children – fourteen brothers and sisters, plus four other children who lived with the family. They lived in a three-bedroom house, sleeping on mattresses on the floor. When Bill's mum died in 2019, most of the large whanau drifted away from Whangarei with only two brothers and some nieces and nephews still living in the area.



Bill worked at Marsden Point when he left school and is a qualified welder. He first worked at the Falls Estate, on work experience, in 2017. From that time, he has always wanted to come and work here, hoping a job would come up. Bill says he 'loves working with Chris and the boys, loves his job and loves coming to work.' Bill is currently bringing up his sixteen year old nephew who has lived with him for three years and attends high school.

Bill used to play rugby and is a keen follower of the All Blacks. Bill enjoys playing chess and played often with his brother who sadly, died last year.

Bill would love a game of chess – please, if you are a chess player contact Bill for a game and let the rest of us at the Falls know who wins!

By: Falls Roving Reporter.

RESIDENT PROFILE

Shoes! Shoes!! Glorious Shoes!

SHE IS SHOE OBSESSIVE!

She dreams shoes, lives for her shoes – she is a shoe collector – A SHOE-AHOLIC!

'I love a nice shoe. I hate to see dirty shoes in the street – even if I see just mud on the heel of a shoe, I have the urge to spit on my hanky and clean it off.'

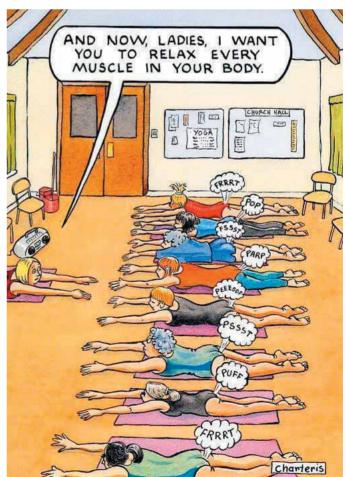
Ailsa Tiplady's obsession with shoes began at age fifteen. She would search for the highest and the skinniest of heels. Any overseas trip focused on buying high heeled shoes – weird and wonderful shoes. Her sisters had no great interest in shoes, but an aunty shared Ailsa's obsession – is this perhaps in her DNA?

But there was one drawback with collecting shoes. Ailsa has a tiny and dainty foot; only a size three. This made shoes hard to find and she had to search for shops that sold smaller sizes. Hollywood brand of shoes, made in New Zealand, stocked small sizes, and in Australia Ailsa found only one store in Melbourne that stocked her size. Today, searching is much easier with buying on-line.

Increasing age, not the shoes but Ailsa's, has over the years, lowered the size of the heels and about two years ago the big throw-out resulted in shoes that could no longer be worn – a safety and health hazard issue - being discarded. On the quiet, as Graham was present, Ailsa confided she still searches the internet and shops for shoes.

By: Falls Roving Reporter.





Nostalgia

The pressure was on again, with an excited audience glued to their chairs, waiting to be entertained by Chas and the rest of the entertainers. Songs included "Moody River", "Coward of the County", "Hallo Mary Lou" and "It Doesn't Matter Anymore", with many more old songs which took us back to our younger years and we could not help ourselves in singing along and tapping our feet.

Our very own Marie Annandale and her daughter, Marianne (Diamonds in the Rough) took the stage and entertained us with "Fly Me to The Moon", "Hooked on A Feeling", "Put Your Head on My Shoulder", closing with a song from the hippy era "Have You Ever Seen the Rain".

'The Falls Swing Dancers' never disappoint with another exhausting routine for our enjoyment. Well done ladies!

It is wonderful to have such talent within our Village and we look forward to the next show with eager anticipation.



































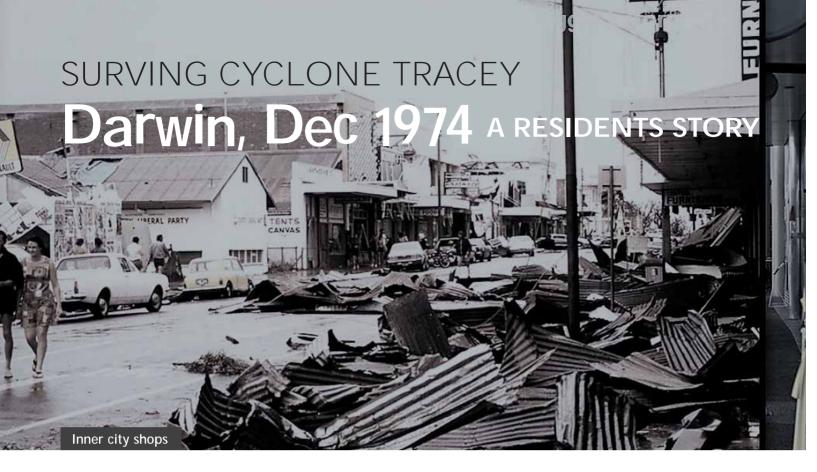












We were right in it, felt like the atomic bomb had gone off.

Thank goodness the flat we were in was well built, steel and concrete. Only three floors and we lived on the top floor on the right-hand side. The noise was terrific, building material crashing into the front, back and side of our place every few seconds and water everywhere.

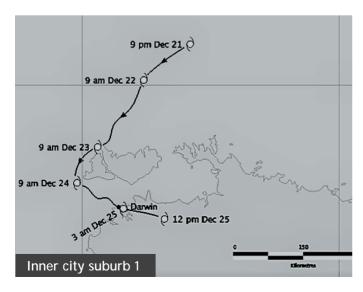
We stood in a door way for the worst times. which was the start when the wind came in at the front and at the end, then the wind turned and came in at the rear. The middle bit was the lull when the cyclone was directly overhead.

It lasted several hours then we did get an hour's sleep until the sun rose.

Our little jewellery shop was wrecked, but the night before we had put all the stock into the safe, which in the morning had loads of building rubble all over it and there was glass everywhere. We stayed only another five days after that.

We were in luck as a friend of ours gave us a Holden panel vehicle to drive down to Sydney with all our stuff in it and then he asked if we would sell it for him there.

Chris Chaplin







Welcome TO THE VILLAGE



Ian & Julie Mison

We have contemplated moving to a retirement-type surround for a couple of years. My name is Ian Mison and I was born in Wanganui in 1938 and spent time in Hastings and Wellington, where I worked on the trams (great job) and in other parts of New Zealand before going to Australia in the late '50s. I met Julie as the result of a blind date at the International Ball in Sydney.

My name is Julie and was born in Whangarei in 1936 to parents Walter and Elizabeth Newman. I went to school here and later became a nurse at Whangarei Hospital. I moved to Sydney also in the late 50s and carried on with nursing there. We returned to New Zealand, got married and raised a family of three boys who are now pretty well scattered. I had a "cushy" number as a Linotype Operator / TTS Monitor at the NZ Herald for 34 years before taking the "Golden Handshake". We moved north and I purchased Northland Rubber Stamps and ran that for several years before passing it on to our eldest son. The technology behind rubber stamps as I know it was well and truly squashed when the PC came on the market.

Kim Silvey

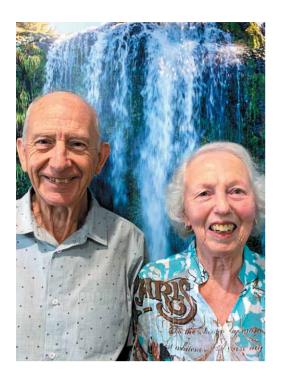
Hi, I'm Kim, I've moved from Kensington to the Falls recently. A little bit about me - I grew up at Marsden Bay, Ruakaka and trained as a Registered Nurse. After a rewarding nursing career, I diversified and have worked throughout Northland providing disability awareness advice and currently work for the Taiho Trust as one of their advisors.





Margaret Heywood

I was born in Hawera in 1933. My parents where school teachers, so we travelled a lot round North Island ending up in Northland. I was the eldest of six. I went to high school in Kaeo and my first and only job was at the Telephone exchange in Whangarei. I married Bert in 1953 and we went farming on the Hokianga and then at Hukerenui. In 1961, we purchased our own farm at Mangawhai, but when Berts health was not good, we moved to One Tree Point. I loved it there. We went fishing a lot and had a great garden. We have 4 sons, now I have 8 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. After Bert died in 2004, I shifted to Onerahi. I love travelling and have seen quite a lot of the world and had many adventures and met interesting people. I wish I could still do it but know I will enjoy it here at The Falls.



Reg & Pam Shaw

Reg Shaw - I was born in the middle of WWII, in the house at the time were mum & I, my 12-year-old brother & an evacuee from London. Dad was in Nigeria with the Royal Air Force as an engineer on the Air Sea Rescue Cataline flying boats. The village we lived in was mentioned in the doomsday (census) book of 1086 and the church was built in 1096 in the heart of Sherwood Forest, north of Nottingham. Small school, open fires in the winter, 3 rooms. Secondary school almost total disaster, except for the cadets where we had a rifle range and learned about and used .22 riffles. Maths, metalwork, and engineering drawing led to success as a fitter and turner / draughtman. Moved on to Rolls Royce and associates as a "detail" draughtsman. Some drawing for Concorde, all in both English & French, ins. and mm too. Most of my work was for the navy, submarine engines, pipework & machinery spaces, right at the height of the "cold war". Surprisingly, the work was guite dull & I moved on again. This time to be closer to Pam and her work. "Shall we get married?" Yes! After a year. "Why not move to NZ?" just for a look. Within 3 years we had 2 boys, a house & a

mortgage. Things got better & better, taught at night school - fitting and turning apprentices, which eventually led to Auckland's teachers College, Whangarei Boys High School (23 years) and Girls High School (17 years) in various roles almost always in workshop or drawing room, which brings us to where we are now.

Pam Shaw - I was born in a small town in Nottinghamshire, the youngest child of three. My childhood was idyllic even though money was scarce. Reg & I left the UK in 1968 and enjoyed a 6 week holiday on board the Northern Star en-route to NZ. Our two sons were born in 1969 & 1971 and we quickly fell in love with our new country. As the children grew up, I returned to work as a pre-school teacher, having been a primary school teacher in the UK. After a few years working with young children, I changed careers and moved to retail. We enjoyed lots of fun activities as a young family, particularly sailing, horse-riding and go kart racing. Later Reg & I travelled extensively in Europe, America, Asia, and North Africa. We now look forward to our new adventure here at the Fall Village.

Stan & Barbara Kerr



Barbara Kerr (nee Willetts), was born 1941 in Devonport, North Shore, Auckland and Ian Stanley Kerr, known as Stan, was born in Nelson a long time ago! Barbara lived in Devonport with her family, parents Isabel & Charlie and one brother, Bob for six years before they moved to Plimmerton (Karehana Bay), which was a wonderful place to grow up in, with lots of swimming and playing on the beach. At the age of 6, Barbara survived polio and was very lucky to come out of hospital not being crippled. Barbara's first job after leaving school was as a shorthand typist in Dalgetys Travel – which was very interesting, as Barbara had to travel into

Wellington each day by train - these were electric units, which took about 40 minutes per trip and Barbara used to do knitting on those train rides! Ian started working in his teens with a newspaper run and mowing lawns. Ian then worked in Lower Hutt at Turnbull & Jones as an apprentice chrome plater & metal polisher in 1955. Ian met Barbara and married in 1960, whereafter they moved to Browns Bay, Auckland. Then years later they moved to Suva, Fiji where Ian had a 2-year stint managing a chrome plating and furniture business. It was very interesting! We had 3 girls and 1 boy and moved to Whangarei in 1974. We bought a small, barely afloat, chrome plating business, which Barb and I kept going until we sold it and moved to Whangarei Heads, Reotahi, where Ian started up a transport business – Stan's Van. That grew, like Topsy - and Stan retired 2 years ago. We moved into The Falls in December, which was a very good move.

EXPLORING OUR OWN BACKYARD

A Day Out in Dargaville



Three of us from The Falls met up with sixteen other Whangarei locals and headed to Dargaville by bus. Morning tea was waiting for us when we arrived at Dargaville Museum. What a great place this is to amble around. So much history and information. I think all of us were impressed by this volunteer run museum, and sadly, most of us had not thought to visit this place previously.

After exploring the museum, we bussed to a floating wharf and boarded a boat for our river cruise. From the Northern Wairoa River, one gets a totally different perspective of Dargaville. Our very informative guide, John, from the local Iwi and owner of the cruising business was a mine of information. Who knew that Sir John Logan Campbell owned so much of Dargaville? Old homesteads and their history and previous owners were pointed out to us from the river. Some of these old houses had been moved onto their current sites from other areas as northern businesses closed many years ago.

Lunch at the Northern Wairoa Hotel was great,

great service and great food—plus a wine with it. Highly recommended.

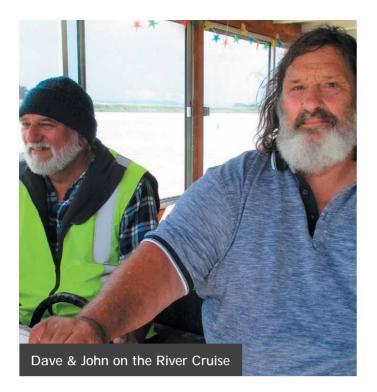
Our next adventure was by self-drive Rail Carts—re-purposed golf buggies. For an hour we travelled on the rail lines; the old original imported lines from mid-1800's. Travelling in open rail carts through farm land, kumera fields, maize fields, over bridges and through bush. Away from roads and traffic all was quiet and peaceful, only the rhythmic clacking of the wheels over rail joins. These rails had to be shortened to fit in the bowels of the ships that carried them to NZ.

Our rail trip ended at Tangowahine where afternoon tea with home-made scones waited for us alongside the railway.

A great day out and we all learned more about our history from our wonderful guide John, and his mate, Dave.

This trip was organized by, Helloworld Travel Agency, Whangarei.

Trudy McKnight







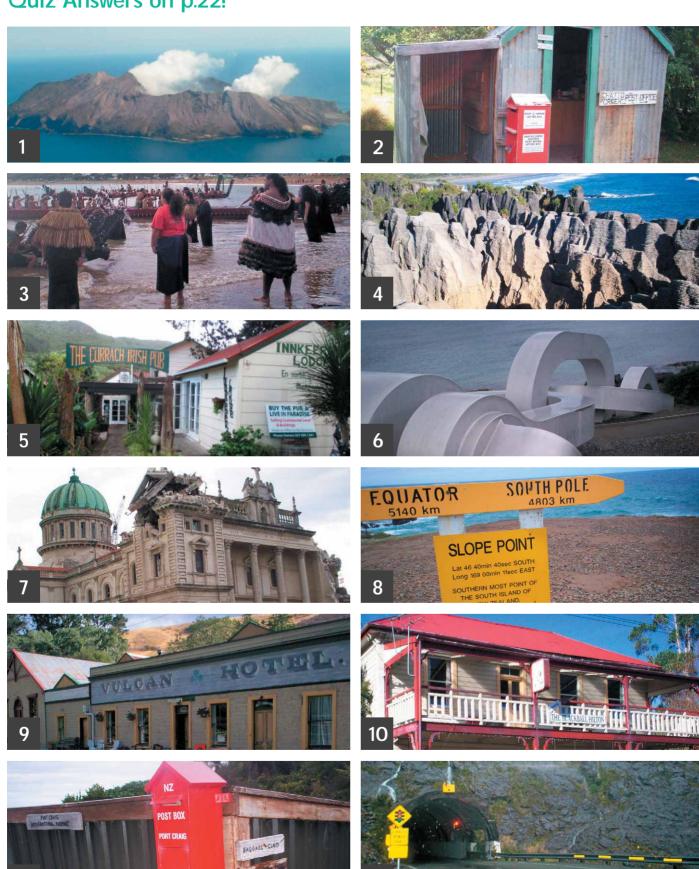




FALLS QUIZ

Where in New Zealand?

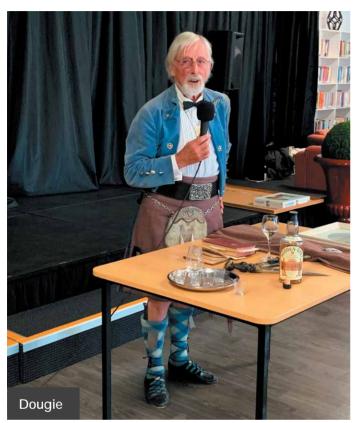
Quiz Answers on p.22!



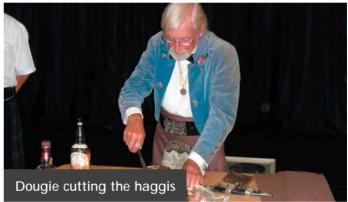
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Robert Burns NIGHT

Folk gathered, to celebrate the life and poetry of Robert Burns. Our host, resident Dougie Chowns recited the Selkirk Grace and with kilts in a row, the procession started and the haggis was piped into the venue. Dougie performed the "Address to a Haggis", whereafter the residents indulged themselves in the essential haggis, neeps, and tatties.

















"Dogs are needier than other pets. Leave a dog alone for very long and it'll start going a little nuts."

Trudy McKnight

CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT SITTER

By Blaize Clement

Following a tragic accident, Dixie Hemingway leaves her job as deputy with the County Sheriff's Department and becomes a pet-sitter for the rich and famous. She prefers animals and having only limited contact with people.

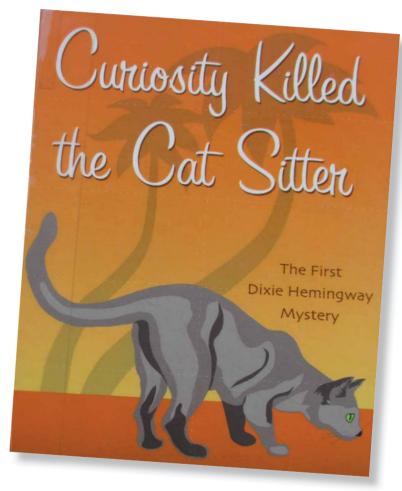
'I always see to the dogs first and leave the cats, occasional birds and rabbits, hamsters for later. Dogs are needier than other pets. Leave a dog alone for very long and it'll start going a little nuts. Cats, on the other hand, try to give you the impression they didn't even know you were gone. They will raise their tails to show you their little puckered anuses and walk away.

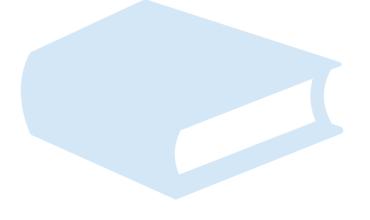
Entering an empty house to feed the animals Dixie finds a man bizarrely drowned in a cat's water bowl. From then Dixie finds herself deep into not just one, but more murders and again, involved with the local County Sheriff's men.

As Dixie makes her twice daily house calls to tend to the animals the author brings to life the individual cats and dogs being cared for, as well as discovering dead bodies and solving the mystery around the murders. The reader also discovers the reason why Dixie left her previous job with the Sheriff's Department.

This book is a quick and easy read for those who like murders that need solving and have an interest in the personality of each cat and dog Dixie cares for.

Reviewed by: Trudy McKnight





THE REAL MRS. BROWN -BRENDAN O'CARROLL.

By Brian Beacom (The authorized Biography)

Brendan O'Carroll didn't have an easy life and the story begins with his grandparents, Lizzy aged 17 and Michael, twice her age, in Dublin, Ireland, 1911. Lizzie's father was against them marrying. They purchased tickets to elope and emigrate to America. Lizzie's mother gave her father an ultimatum, accept Michael or never see his daughter again. He accepted Michael and the boat tickets were on-sold. The boat was the Titanic.

Brendan's mother, Maureen, strongly influenced his life, even long after she had died. Brendan's later career in movies and TV series shows this as his ideas are based on his childhood and upbringing. He is the youngest of ten children, 'the woman had a womb like a machine gun'.

The Carrolls lived in a little two bedroomed house. The girls in one room, the boys in the other. Their father built bunk beds up the sides of the wall, 'it was like living in a feckin' submarine.' The baby slept in the top drawer. Dad slept with the boys and mum with the girls. 'how they had ten kids is beyond me. They must have had an extension cord!'

Aged 41 Maureen was unwell and after visiting the doctor informed her family, she was either pregnant or had a growth. ('Please God it's a growth'). Seven months later the growth arrived weighing nine pounds, three ounces. She called it Brendan.

The family endured poverty and after Brendan's father died things became worse. Brendan used to think he had two uncles called Vincent and Paul. Years later he realised the men who visited on Tuesdays and handed over money were from the charity, St. Vincent de Paul.

Brendan married young and through numerous jobs struggled, eventually being bankrupt and desperate. His friends

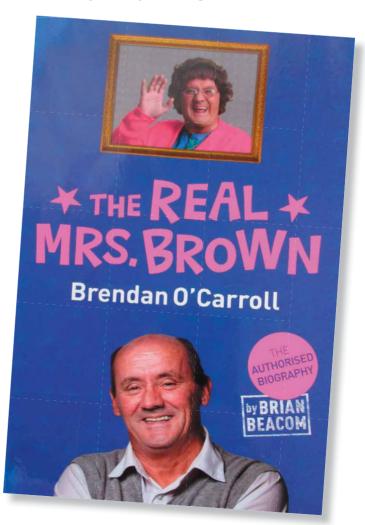
"Lizzies's mother gave her father an ultimatum, accept Michael or never see his daughter again. He accepted Michael and the boat tickets were on-sold. The boat was the Titanic "

Trudy McKnight

persuaded him to try the stage as they loved his gags.

The biographer obviously delved deeply into the life of the O'Carrolls and Brendan's story, his struggles before success is clearly brought to life with compassion and humour. 'This is the magical story of how a loveable Irishman with a wig and wit surprised everyone - most of all himself - becoming one of the best loved comedians in the world.

Reviewed by: Trudy McKnight



St Patrick's Day

With Team New Zealand retaining its claim on the Auld Mug, the atmosphere for St Patrick's Day was set to be one to remember. Our local resident entertainers made sure the night was

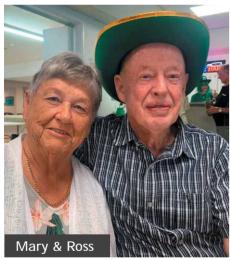
SHENANIGANS

eventful with some games and laughter. And a St Patrick's day cannot go without its traditional Irish stew, with green side dishes and dessert.



































ADVICE

From a Tree

Advice from a Tree

Stand tall and proud

Go out on a limb

Remember your roots

Drink plenty of water

Be content with your natural beauty

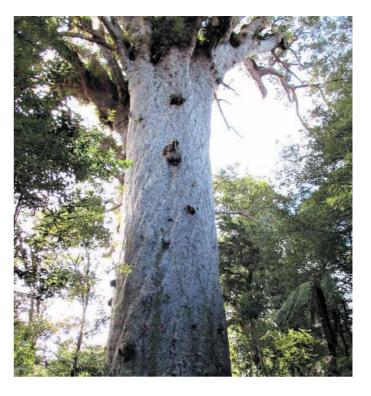
Enjoy the view.

(Tane Mahuta, Waipoua Forest, Northland)

We can't remember the moment we are born Nor will we know the instant we die And it's sad we can't laugh about it either So let's console ourselves and fall about laughing at the life between.

(David McPhail)









Presentations

AT THE FALLS ESTATE

As and when Covid restrictions were not in place, we still hosted talks within the Village. Since our last publication, Liz and her team from Seemore Tours made residents aware of their specialised tours for mature travellers, with plenty of time on their tours for nana and grandpa naps. We also welcomed Steve from Gulf Harbour Healthcare who was willing to share 7 secrets to staying active for your general health and wellbeing.

















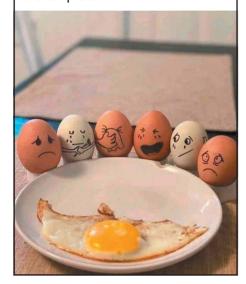
ANSWERS TO Falls Quiz

- 1. Whakaari, White Island: situated 48kms off the coast of Whakatane, Bay of Plenty, area of approximately 325ha. New Zealand's most active cone volcano.
- 2. Chatto Creek Post Office: situated on the Central Otago Rail Trail, 17kms from Alexandra. In the 1800's was a booming town with rabbiters working on sheep stations using gin traps and cyanide to rid rabbits. The tavern, built 1886, still operates.
- 3. Waitangi: Bay of Islands, 181st year Waitangi Day celebrations, 2021.
- 4. Punakaiki Rocks: a small community on the West Coast between Westport and Greymouth, on the edge of Paparoa National Park. Heavily eroded limestone formations plus blowholes. Walking tracks around the area.
- 5. The Currach Irish Pub: Blackwell Drive, Aotea - Great Barrier Island, Authentic and traditional pub with lots of character. The social centre of the Island.
- 6. Bluff: linked chains on the beach at Bluff, bottom of the South Island. Chain links are also on the beach at Stewart Island, This 'chain' is to prevent Stewart Island floating further away from the 'mainland'.
- 7. Christchurch: city centre following the earthquake.
- 8. Slope Point: situated just south of Wakawa and Haldine, western edge of the Caitlins, 71kms east of Invercargill. The southern most point of the South Island. A twenty-minute walk to the coast across private farmland.

- 9. Vulcan Hotel: built 1882, an old gold mining town in Central Otago (St. Bathans). Said to be New Zealand's most haunted building. Fewer than ten living inhabitants, others are ghosts. The most famous is prostitute, 'The Rose, who died over one hundred years ago and is said to haunt the hotel to this day.
- 10. The Blackball Hilton Hotel: built 1910. inland from the West Coast, 29kms from Greymouth. Named after the Blackball Shipping Line. An early base for gold seekers, the community developed with coal mining.
- 11. Port Craig: Fiordland National Park, southern coast, ten kilometres from Tuatapere. Access via South Coastal walking track following the old tramway. Today there remains the old wharf piles, baker's oven, school house used as a backpackers, and the Lidgerwood hauler chassis and Priestman wharf crane. The sawmill was the most technologically advanced in the country and the most productive, employing in 1916, one hundred and fifty men with logs removed by fourteen kilometres of tramway including four large viaducts, maintained today by a Trust.
- 12. Homer Tunnel: provides access to Milford Sounds, South Island. Opened in 1954, the 1.2km long tunnel passes through the Darran mountain range. During the depression relief workers commence building the tunnel in 1935, starting with a team of just five men with pickaxes. Over the years numbers grew and the men lived in a large camp on Knobs Flat. Five years later the workers broke through to the other side. The project was delayed by World War 11, and again in 1945 by a huge avalanche.

VILLAGE Laughs!

He died last fry day. Thank God he wasn't beaten. Don't worry, he went over easy. He's now on the sunny side. He's definitely in a better plate.



I ASKED MY WIFE WHY **DID SHE MARRY ME**

"BECAUSE YOU'RE FUNNY"

"I THOUGHT IT WAS BECAUSE I WAS GOOD IN BED"

> **"YOU SEE?** YOU'RE HILARIOUS"





Husband: When I get mad at you, you never fight back. How do you control your anger? Wife: I clean the toilet. **Husband:** How does that help?

Wife: I use your Toothbrush.

THEY SAY 40 IS THE NEW 30 AND 50 IS THE NEW 40

BUT ALL I KNOW IS THE OLDER I GET THE MORE 9 P.M. IS THE NEW MIDNIGHT

© BRIGHTSIDE

Best Ad Ever...

BASS BOAT FOR SALE



\$56,000 OBO 2015 Bullet 21XRS Jefferson, TX

I'm selling it because it was purchased without proper consent of loving wife. Apparently, "do whatever the f*** you want" doesn't mean what I thought.

Grandma: "What u want for Christmas my dear?"

Me: "Nice rims for my car"

Grandma: "Say no more"



Helping Grandma with the controller





Childhood injuries: Fell off my bike Fell out of a tree Twisted my ankle

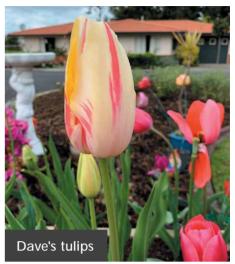
Adult injuries: Slept wrong Sat down too long Sneezed too hard

Snapped!

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















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.





