



SCHOOL TALK

April 2017

Bikes, Bikes, Bikes!

BIKE TORQUE SUZUKI MIGHTY MOKAU TRAIL RIDE

Every year it just gets bigger. Mokau School would like to thank the community and businesses that supported our annual Mighty Mokau Bike Ride particularly the land owners who open their properties each year - the Smyth family of Piripiri Station, the Omelvena, McDaviit and Hammond families, as well as, Ian Atkins and Bike Torque Suzuki the ride's major sponsor.

The school is humbled by the support it receives to make this event happen and the planning paid off with another record breaking field of 680 riders enjoying the Mighty Mokau experience.

Every year there is variation in the tracks on offer and this year there was the added challenge of relatively deep river crossings which drowned a few bikes. Marshals were kept busy all day, but thankfully there were no major incidents or accidents. Back to the 'original' direction riders were tested on a variety of terrains over a well marked course.

The peewee track for younger riders was also put to good use with many youngsters enjoying a day of riding the loop track with their friends. More experienced young riders took the challenge of riding the novice track.



Money raised will be used to fund a variety of school events and experiences for students including a leadership conference, camps, other education outside the classroom experiences, e-learning opportunities, ICT equipment and classroom resources.

Please support the Mighty Mokau Bike Ride's sponsors, local and further afield, who have supported this wonderful community event.

Bike Torque Suzuki - Multifert - Te Kuiti New World - M J Barrowcliffe Shearing Ltd - Progress Transport Ltd - Pace Engineering Ltd - Rotor Work Ltd - Northcott Contracting - Precision Helicopters Ltd - Fat Pigeon Café - Ravensdown - Placemakers Te Kuiti - Keryx Wireless - Junction Service Station - Rural Fuel - Whitebait Inn - Magills Retail and Wholesale Meats - Silver Fern Farms - ANZ - FMG - Grainger Motors - Atkinson and Associates (Pio Pio vets) - ASB Bank King Country Rural - Ballance - Farmlands Taranaki - Farmlands Te Kuiti - Agrisea - Stihl Shop Te Awamutu - Peter & Jenny Manson - PGG Wrightsons - Design Solutions Ltd - Mokau Motel - Inframax - More FM - Tents and Toilets Waiwhakaiho - Tainui Search and Rescue - Bexley Herefords - Awakino Hotel - Farm Source Pio Pio - Oily Rag Pio Pio - River Run Café - Farm Source Waitara - Mokau Butchery - The Sign Factory - Awakino Lodge - Ecofx - Pio Pio Orchard - Taranaki Motorcycles

VINTAGE BIKE VISIT

Students at Mokau School were very lucky to have a group of bikers from Wellington visit on their vintage bikes. Riders each gave children a brief explanation of the make and model of their bike - surprisingly 'vintage' can be not really that old in bike years.

Students and their parents were delighted when they were each offered a short bike ride - there was no shortage of volunteers to sit in the side-car or on the back of the bikes as they went for a quiet jaunt around the field.



Going Down to the Country

Mokau School is a Fonterra Ambassador School and as part of the program, students spent a wonderful morning at the Jones' farm up the Awakau.

Students watched cows being milked and the milk being pumped from the vat to the 'milk for schools' tanker.

While students took turns churning the butter at the farm house there was a farm fencing relay competition and games of giant jenga.



The butter was sampled on fresh bread and the morning was topped off with a Tip Top ice cream.

Students at Mokau enjoy daily milk for schools milk and understand where milk comes from, but for some young students this was the first realisation that butter and ice cream is made from the cow's milk too.

Respect for our School

People are welcome to use the school grounds after hours and in the weekend, but you need to respect that privilege. It has been reported and we can see the evidence of the misuse of our school grounds.

There have been reports of older children on the roofs, swimming unsupervised and propelling the new swings over the top rail so they are inaccessible for other children. Our sand pit has been half emptied of its sand, the metal slide is now all pitted, the new pencil sculpture has been dislodged from its founds, there have been stones thrown in the pool and beer bottles smashed by the wood shed. These acts of vandalism are very disappointing and frustrating.

This is a reminder that ALL children should be supervised in the school grounds. ALL children under the age of 16 need supervision when swimming and also need to adhere to the rules displayed and the contract their caregiver has signed (including no bombing or diving) or their key will be revoked.

Also a reminder that the Mokau school grounds are smoke and alcohol free and that dogs are not permitted.

Please adhere to these rules so the facilities can be enjoyed by all.

Thank you from Eve and Ocean



We had an awesome week at the Girls' Brigade NZ Fonomarae Camp in Marsden Bay thanks to everyone who helped us fundraise by buying our Cookies and also giving us generous donations. This was the first time Tainui Girls' Brigade has been represented at Fonomarae. We loved meeting girls from all over NZ and swapped badges with them. There were even girls at camp who had travelled from the Cook Islands, Niue and Papua New Guinea! We have made so many new friends. The food was great, there were so many helpers and Lorna Child did a brilliant job organising us all. It was a fantastic week of fun and adventure as we sailed in the Bay of Islands, climbed trees in forests near Whangarei, tried to Highland Dance over swords, decorated homemade bags and aprons with jelly art, had a go at 'tossing the caber', visited the Treaty House at Waitangi and much, much more. Each evening all 170 of us gathered with our leaders to reflect on the day, give thanks for who we are and what we have achieved and sang some songs round the 'campfire'.

A huge thank you to Mrs Dorothy Lowry who made this possible. Thanks too to Mary-Elizabeth Hagenon for coming to the start of camp and helping us settle.

We can't wait for the next camp in 2020!