PIOPIO

BIRDTALK

Bi-monthly community newsletter covering Piopio, Aria and Mahoenui districts

Aug/Sep 2024

AGE: 23

HEIGHT: 1.79m

WEIGHT: 87kg

WHANAU:

Cortez with dad

Peter-Lee, sister

Lyhric, and mum

Deiresa at his

debut against

England.

Our Tez; All Black #1214

AN IMMENSELY PROUD Piopio/ Aria community has followed the rise of local rugby hero and now All Black, Cortez Ratima, through school and regional rugby, and now we have been watching as he plays his first games for our national team.

And while the rest of us watch with excitement and pride, his mum Deiresa Marshall also has a bit of trepidation.

"I get so nervous. When you watch him on the field, compared to all of those big guys, he looks so little even though he's not. My heart beats so hard and I am thinking 'have a good game but don't get hurt' – mum's anxiety."

His recent game in San Diego had him in great form, diving for a try against Fiji before hitting the deck and a concussion. He is hoping to get back and up and running by next game.

Deiresa says Tez has blended in well with the team, lapping up the time he spends training with the experienced players, but loves coming home to be with his family – partner Phillipa and son Kyvie as well as the rest of the whanau back in Piopio/Aria.

Cortez's dad Peter-Lee Ratima said his son always had the knack for rugby, even as a four year old.

"It was just a matter of time really. He chose rugby over motorcross which he was also pretty good at." Peter-Lee says he is still in a bit of shock over his boy being named in the team, despite it being a part of the strategy they put in place years ago where being an All Black was a goal for Tez to aspire to.

"The key is to make it a realistic goal and implement short term plans and processes towards a long term plan. I am actually still trying to come to terms with it. It's been a pretty awesome journey to watch."

Peter-Lee said one of the perks of being an All Black's dad is all of the new friends that want to suddenly talk to him

Cortez's parent's encouraged him to finish a diploma in Business Management, so he would have something for after rugby.

But Deiresa says Tez still has big plans.

"His end game is to be a G.A.B., a Great All Black. He doesn't want to just stop at being an A.B., and I know he will do it because he puts the work in. He always gives it a hundy. He made a lot of sacrifices, we all did to get him to where he is, but when you sit back and look at where he is now, it was all worthwhile. "





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Change of Officers for Piopio Lions

DUE TO the club losing its site at the others went shopping. Fieldays, club members and some local groups were able to provide helpers for the Ngaruawahia Lions and the club received some income from that arrangement. A big thank you to all who helped out.

The caravan was taken to Aria for the schools Orienteering day and, despite the weather not playing its part, we managed to have a good day.

Our Change of Officers was held at Cambridge and was attended by a good number of members and their partners. Some of us went to visit the Cambridge Car Museum just out of Cambridge and

Lunch was held at Stables restaurant, with the swearing in of officers done by Vice District Governor. Stuart Darke was inducted as President of our Club.

Congratulations to those members who received long service awards: 10 years - David Cooper, Ross Smith and Jeff Andrews; 25 years – Stuart Clarke; 30 years - Neil Fairhurst; 40 years -Gavin Todd; and 45 years – Ken Perry.

Ross Smith is now our Zone Chairman; congratulations to Ross who has put an enormous amount of time into our Club and was awarded the "Quiet Achievers Award". This was in recognition of him being President last year but also taking charge of the caravan.

The club is looking for someone who would like to cook their meeting dinner, once a month, approximately 20 people - meat and three veg - nothing too elaborate. If interested please contact Gavin Todd 021 0870 0545 or Ross Smith 027 285 1703.

Paddys Market is going to be held at the beginning of October, so keep that in mind if you have anything you can donate to our Auction.

We are always looking for new members to join our Club. If you think this



is you, or would like some further information, please contact us.

Ross Smith - 877 8880 Gavin Todd - 877 7700 Paul Jones - 06 752 9765 Bob Dawson - 877 8297





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SURR U DI DISTRI TS Mahoenu ole an s Woolshe Aria Cosmopolitan Club Watan uru Hall

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MATTHEW LEE AND HEREWARD BASHER

Tony & Paula Buckman t.pbuckman@xtra.co.nz



06 7 2 71 M KAU

Piopio Fruit & Veg Stand

sixth year of our Community Fruit & share with you. This year I'm trying to Veg Stand. I'll save the next round of learn how to grow and dry beans for vegetable-themed cupcakes for our longer term storage and later use in tenth birthday, but this is still a major salads, soups, stews and casseroles. milestone to acknowledge.

regular contributions throughout the them up out in the backyard, and have year and the seasons, which is fantastic. Right now it's citrus, with lemons, shop perfecting a design. The Trust limes, mandarins and grapefruit in has provided me with information on abundance. Our jam makers also crank which varieties can be eaten green, up their efforts during the rainy days green and dried, or dried. Hopefully of winter using frozen fruit stashed you'll join me on the journey as I put during the summer and autumn sea- some of these seeds out in the stand

sons. Clean, small jars are always appreciated to keep the jam coming.

In mid- August I start heirloom tomato seed trays in the glasshouse for our annual October giveaway. Last year we distributed about 600 seedling

plants, this year my goal is 1000. Fin- there's good background information gers and toes are crossed, but I think on the website too. I've got enough recycled pots to hit that, then some.

everyone is growing enough tomatoes my focus will be on seedling pumpkins/butternuts and heritage beans. Heritage Food Crops Trust, the chariplease don't hesitate to get in touch. table research organization based in Whanganui behind Monty's Surprise apples, has sent me over 25 varieties

AS AUGUST arrives we celebrate the of heritage bean seeds to grow and I've researched different support We've been seeing a good level of structures that might work to grow nephew Mike on the job in the work-

> so we can all learn! The Trust will

send out free bean and heirloom tomato seeds anyone who sends them a stamped, self-addressed envelope; it's a great way to get interesting seeds for your veggie garden and

Updates on what is on offer can be found on the Piopio Community Fruit Once we get through making sure & Veg Stand Facebook page, along with occasional recipes and growing

Any questions / issues / suggestions

Karen Barrett struanfarm@gmail.com 0275 727 407





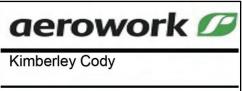












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Cleaning up at Aria's Big Day Out

ON THURSDAY, July 18 the Aria community organised a 'Big Day Out' to hold working bees at Aria School, St Helens Domain, Aria Hall, and the Aria Cosmopolitan Club.

The day culminated in a shared meal

at the cossie club, with food sponsored by King Country River Care.

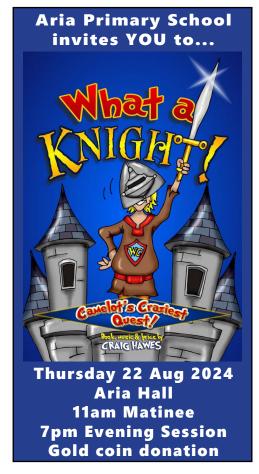
A lot of work was carried out, including waterblasting, painting touch-ups, cleaning of signs, fencing, planting, and general interior cleaning.

Everyone participating were invited to enjoy a delicious hangi meal prepared by Glenn 'Jonesy' Jones and his crew, as well as the Aria Netball Club.

A big thank you to all who helped out around the district.















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Local salon - new faces and treatments

owned and operated by Piopio local feel great. Paige Brooks.

Paige opened Hairloom in February 2022, and has more than a decade of hairdressing experience. Opening a sa-Ion has always been a dream of Paige's and having it in Piopio was her preference.

"I've always wanted to run my own business in my hometown - it's convenient for locals, plus I wanted to do my bit to support our town

business goals which meant taking on nourishing your hair so it's win/win. more staff.

"I was always fully booked, and I offering women's, men's hate turning people away. I also knew and kids cuts as well as I wanted to create an opportunity for colour, foils, conditionsomeone starting out, so taking on an ing and straightening apprentice was the obvious choice."

Hairloom welcomes new staff

Heidi Austin joined the team last year at a discounted apprenand is now in her second year of her tice rate. apprenticeship. Heidi loves transforming hair through treatments and is the a great range of hair master when it comes to relaxing scalp products to keep your massages!

In July, Jessie Loudon joined the Hair- ing good. They also sell loom family. Moving here from South- self-tanning, skin, and land she is in her final year of training, beauty products - perwhich means she needs to complete fect for treating yourself enough hours and her last assess- or as gifts. ments to become fully qualified. Jessie

its third year of business. Located on and loves creating personalised colours the corner of Kea Street, Hairloom is and styles that make her clients look and

Paige is excited to see her salon grow

with two up and coming hair stylists and accommodate the growing demand for appointments, it also means they can often now take walk-ins.

straightening treatment now available Hairloom has just introduced a new cutting-edge straightening treatment - Nanoplasty which lasts up to eight months! Paige was so impressed after seeing this product in action that she knew she had to offer it to her clients. The

and create employment opportunities whole team are now fully trained and can offer this treatment which will leave hair Paige has predominately been flying feeling soft, silky and looking frizz free. solo for the last two years, except for After washing and drying your hair, it is having Kim Simpson work one day a left smooth and straight, no straighteners week (in between her nursing shifts). needed, which is a real time saver. Plus, it Late last year Paige set some new has the added benefit of hydrating and

Hairloom have the whole family covered

treatments. Services with both Jessie and Heidi are

Hairloom also hair looking and feel-

Paige extends her

HAIRLOOM Hair Design is now in is available for all services and treatments thanks to all Hairloom's wonderful clients who have supported them over the last two years.

> "I am so grateful for every single person who has supported our local hair salon, we truly appreciate it."









KC Rivercare

IT'S BEEN a busy couple of months for King Country River Care as we have rolled out our Exploring 'Carbon Neutral' Field Days, held across the sub-catchments from Kawhia to Piopio. We would like to thank all who supported our pilot project summary field days.

Conclusions from the project and field days were:

- That it is possible to make changes resulting in a net- carbon zero emissions position.
- That some farmers could be in this position now, depending on the age and type of vegetation they had on hand, and what was deemed an allowable rate of sequestration for each block.
 - The right tree in the right place is still the best approach.
- Unless farmers dramatically changed feed use levels, achieving the agricultural sector reduction targets on an individual farm would most likely have to make use of "lower methane genetics", plus the new vaccine/inhibitor technology.
- It is possible to begin some methane emissions reduction measure immediately.
- The possibility of a cost being applied to methane emissions had not gone away.

Our summary report and presentations can be found on our website and will be included in our upcoming monthly newsletter.

King Country River Care would like to acknowledge and thank our valued sponsor for this pilot project – Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI), Beef + Lamb New Zealand, Greenlea, Silver Fern Farms and Perrin Ag. Special mention to Watkins, Scott and Turner families who hosted these field days on the farm.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Central Sub Catchment Water Quality Summary Dinner Monday, August 5 from 5:30pm onwards.

Freshwater Ecologist, Merrin Whately presenting our annual 2023 catchment summary update:

- Trends for the 7 central sub catchment groups and how we can help on farm.
- Freshwater Biodiversity
- Identifying Risks and Actions

5:30pm Summary Updates for:

Upper Mangaokewa, Upper Mokau - Mangapehi, Mapiu - Mapara, Mokauiti - Aria.

7:30pm - After Dinner

Mangaotaki - Mairoa, Mid Mokau - Piopio, Lower Mokau Awakino.

Dinner provided - RSVP essential for catering.

King Country River Care AGM followed by comedian Te Radar. Tuesday, August 27

AGM: 5:30pm.

Dinner: 6:30pm - RSVP essential for catering.

Te-Radar: 7:30pm

All Committee officer positions are filled, however interested and new committee members are very welcome.

Te Radar says he is very much looking forward to coming down to talk. He says that "What we need at this time

of year is the chance to get together, share some food, catch up with friends, meet new people, and have a laugh. The presentation is suitable for everyone, it'll be fun, nostalgic, and thought provoking. It will also contain references to crumbed brains and celebrate the best of what it means to be a New Zealander who loves food."

First Aid & Chem Handler

Sessions are booking up fast if your keen to join please reach out to confirm availability

- First Aid (Fat Owl, 8am 4pm), July 30 full,
- August 21 limited spaces available
- Chemical Handlers (Fat Owl, 8:30am 5pm)
- August 6 limited spaces available.

We will also be hosting the Bitches' Box: Episode 4 on Wednesday, December 11, Mahoenui.

Mark it in your diaries for a fun filled evening.

We are working to bring further upskilling courses to the area - if you have any recommendations please get in touch via email.

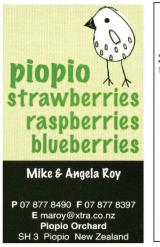
Our next committee meeting is September 17 so get in touch if you would like to attend.

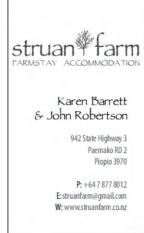
RSVP to kcrivercare@gmail.com for events above.

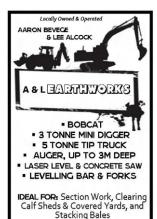
Lana McCormick; 0278172111 Anna Nelson; 0274 900501 Robyn Williamson; 0274182946 Reon Verry, Chairman; 0272788678

kcrivercare@gmail.com, www.facebook.com/kcrivercare/









hone/Fax: 07 877 7754 Mobile: 021 412 486



Aria Squash Club update

OUR JUNIOR Coaching programme has been running on Monday nights for all of Term 2, with up to 15 children attending and improving their skills.

Many were then able to use these skills to play at competition level game.

Some of these Juniors will be a part of our 2024 Junior Interclub Team and will continue training to participate in 12 upcoming Interclub dates, playing other Juniors of similar ability from around the Waikato.

Aria Squash members participated in the annual Club Champs over a two-week period mid-July. Some fantastic games of squash were played.

RESULTS:

Junior Girl Champion - Amber Alcock
Junior Girl Runner-up- Charley Carter
Junior Boy Champion- Regan Bevege
Junior Boy Runner-up- Jackson Alcock
Ladies Open Champion - Lee Alcock
Ladies Open Runner-up - Jenelle Coxall
Men's Open Champion - Sam Anderson
Men's Open Runner-up- Mike Kjestrup
Most Improved Junior - Jackson Alcock

Most Improved Sub-Junior - Logan Lyford and Mac Carter

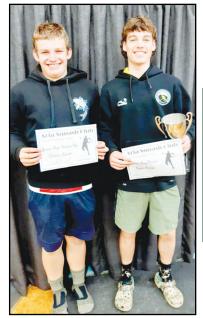
Most Improved Ladies Club Player - Storm Harris

Most Improved Men's Club Player - Carl Alcock Ladies Most Interclub Points - Megan Hassall Men's Most Interclub Points - Sam Anderson Winter Interclub has now finished, with our men's team finishing 5th in their division.

Spring is beginning shortly, so Friday social nights will continue. All welcome from 6.30pm.

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Aria Squash Club

junior members with their certificates.
See story on Page 7.







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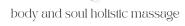
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More good news for Rural NZ

coalition of a Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) is welcome news and a significant step forward for the rural sector, promising a brighter future.

It is exactly the shot in the arm we need after years of neglect, during which our basic infrastructure was allowed to deteriorate, and much-needed projects that could have produced sustainable growth and prosperity for the provinces were gether.

and welcome a new era of development and progress.

The RIF creates a 30-year pipeline for infrastructure work. This will provide a national view of projects being planned, offer an assessment of infrastructure priorities, and will be www.growregions.govt. able to showcase a stable and secure pipeline of work to attract consistent al-infrastructure-fund/ to investment in New Zealand.

A transparent 30-year pipeline will deliver more long-term certainty, enable more effective planning, and reduce project costs.

THE CREATION by the National-led will provide a foundational reset of how we consent and deliver infrastructure projects for New Zealand. And don't we need that? We all know it is hard to build things in this country. Consenting processes cost \$1.3 billion a year, and the time taken to obtain a consent has nearly doubled in the last five years. We will cut red tape and make building the big stuff we need easier to reduce our infrastructure deficit.

So, the RIF is a win-win situation for either put on hold or cancelled alto- the provinces—on so many levels. And let's not forget that the announcement It's time to farewell years of neglect comes hard on the heels of last month's announcement by Minister Simeon Brown of a \$4 billion pothole repair and prevention fund.

> There is a lot more to the RIF than I can cover here, and I recommend visiting nz/new-funding/regionfind out more.



BELOW: National Rural MP's out there supporting their communities, at this years Fieldays (from left: Tim Costley MP for Otaki, Barbara Kuriger, Melissa Lee List MP for Mt Albert, Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel & Ryan Hamilton MP for Hamilton East).









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Supreme Lime Quarry m. 021 900 304 379 Mangarino Road e. graeme.mcket e. graeme.mckenzie@ravensdown.co.nz PO Box 273







Covering the King Country

Nik Bryant & Gwenda Bryant Ph: 027 310 7388 macsspreading@gmail.com





Cocking Cup vied for

The Aria Cosmopolitan Club hosted the mixed drawn snooker pairs Cocking Cup recently.

Pictured below are winners Glenn 'Murph' Murphy (left) and Donald 'Duck' MacRae (right), with Bruce Cocking (centre) who presented the cup.

This is the second year in a row that Duck has won



Hockey happenings

CONGRATULATIONS Aria School hockey kids on an awesome season of hockey.

It has been so great to watch you all grow in confidence and skills.

The Aria Wildcats finished 3rd and Aria Tigers 5th in the Junior A competition. Aria Lions finished 4th in the Junior B competition. Well done to all of you.



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LOCAL FACILITIES

Aria Cosmopolitan Club

028 465 8143

E: ariacosc@gmail.com

Carley Jane Beauty

M: 021 042 4493

Cloverleaf Café

(07) 877 8368

Fat Owl Motel, Bar and Eatery

(07) 877 8767 E: fatowl@xtra.co.nz

Fat Pigeon Café

(07) 877 8822

E: fatpigeon@xtra.co.nz

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Hairloom Hair Designs

Paige Brooks (07) 877 8975

King Country Chiropractic

Dr Scott Mouatt (07) 873 7376 E: kcchiro@xtra.co.nz

Piopio Berry Orchard (07) 877 8490

Piopio Cosmopolitan Club (07) 877 8204

Piopio Dental

Dr Kim Tatham (07) 877 8864 smilingkiwi@piopiodental. co.nz

Recreation Centre

Kimberley Cody (07) 877 8700 M: 027 210 1860

The Ferret's Nest

Grace Cortes Montecinos M: 022 154 9745

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Aria Playcentre

Hannah Bodger-Kearns (07) 877 7898

Aria Toy Library

Librarian: Karen Jones M: 021 038 5153 E: ariatoylibrary@gmail.com

Aria Primary School

(07) 877 7857

Curious Keas Preschool

Stephanie Brough (07) 877 8224

Kohanga Piopio

(07) 877 8185

Mainly Music

All Saints Church, Moa Street Music and movement for children 0-5yrs & caregivers. Thursdays @ 10am Alyson Singleton (07) 877 8840

Piopio Playcentre

Jo Stockley M: 021 148 7556

Piopio Primary School

(07) 877 8103

Piopio College

(07) 877 8173. Meeting rooms available for hire

COMMUNITY

Piopio Police

07 877 0490

Crime Stoppers

0800 555 111

We live in a great community so let's stop these few who are taking from us. E: Tony. schrafft@police.govt.nz www.crimestoppers-nz.org

All Saints Church Co-operating Parish of Piopio, Aria & Mokau

Main Road, Piopio. Worship service 10am

Community Fruit & Vege Stand

Karen Barrett (07) 877 8012 E: struanfarm@gmail.com

Housie

Thursdays 1pm Senior Citizen's Room All welcome. Paddy Coffin (07) 877 8367

Justices of Peace

Vikki Hall (07) 877 8058 Clive Fredericks (07) 877 8048

Piopio Garden Circle

Visits are 3rd Thursday of every month except January & August Gillian Hooper (07) 878 7880 M: 027 345 9603

Laver Marine

(07) 877 8484 M: 0211054737

Opportunity Shop/ Mustard Seed

Cara Bryant 027 345 3389 Tasha Bryon 027 324 6016

Mahoenui Hall

Lynette Adams E: lynadams@xtra.co.nz

King Country Christians

Everyone is welcome. We gather every Sunday at 10.30am in the Piopio Senior Citizens Hall. Judy Bromham (07) 878 6985

Piopio College Community Library

(07) 877 8173 E: library@piopio.school.nz 18 Aria Road

Senior Citizen's Organisation

Meetings first Monday every month, 11am. All welcome. Wendy Weinberg 021 0826 5622

Seniors' Exercise Classes

Wendy Weinberg 021 0826 5622

Marriage Celebrants

Clive Fredericks M: 027 280 3867 Heidi Preston M: 027 679 1931 Tuituia (Ripeka Price) M: 021 464 000

Piopio Lions Club

Stephen Cooper (07) 877 8159 Gavin Todd (07) 877 7700 Ken Perry (07) 877 8035

Piopio Memorial Hall

Book venue or facilities through Waitomo District Council (07) 878 0800

Piopio/Paearuhe Retirement Village

Jenny Brodie (07) 877 8033

The Old Piopio Post Office Art Gallery

M: 022 437 0789

Waitanguru Rural Women

Maree Jones 027 475 9805 (06) 752 9765

SPORTS & RECREATION

Aria Squash Club

President Mark Anderson (07) 877 8950 Secretary Lee Alcock E: ariasquash@gmail.com

Light Horse Club

President Helen Potter E: helen.neilpotter@ gmail.com

Line Dancing Club

Linda Oliver (07) 877 8313

Piopio-Aria Golf Club

Hamish Roach M: 027 578 5905

Piopio Bowling Club

Nigel 027 255 0898 or Wendy (07) 877 8686

Piopio Community Sports (Rukuhia Domain)

Tony Schrafft Tony.schrafft@police.govt.nz

Piopio Rugby Club

President Peter Hurley (07) 877 7577

Piopio Swimming Club

Matt Carter M: 021 569 311 E: piopioswimclub@ gmail.com

Pony Club

President Olivia Buckley Secretary Amanda MacLachlan (07) 878 7182

Tennis Club

Reon Verry (07) 878 8678

King Country Hunt

Master: Joy Hurley 027 577 7881

Trail Bikes & Moto Cross Track

Darren Lupton (07) 877 8054

Waitomo Ski Club

Kim Tatham (07) 877 8820

Waitomo Aero Club

Pete Voyce (07) 877 8254 John Carter (07) 877 8290

ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

Piopio and Districts Museum

Mark Verry (07) 877 8842 Key available from Piopio Superette

Piopio Market Day

3rd Sunday of each month Alison Turner M: 027 615 8754

Piopio POP (Tui Park)

Waitomo District Council (07) 878 0800 Key for toilet available from the Cloverleaf tearooms or Snow Nicol

College celebration of Matariki

first kaupapa where our kura and representitives from Aotahi (Chalet Bidois and Xavier Turner) alongside our Noho Committee and team leader (Whaea Amana), planned a new initiative of the flax to making a range of Putiputi. learning beyond the classroom.

followed by our seniors to our local Napinapi Marae.

The students are embracing the tikanga within the marae and our external providers have been welcomed on. The students are currently in their chosen activities.

by Matua Amai and Whaea JoAnne with help from local parents (Hera Muraahi, Corey Barnsdall, Paiaka Muraahi, Patea Muraahi, and Rob Young).

Pūniu River Care, our 2nd option, giving a hands-on workshop about caring for our waterways and propagating seeds found around the marae.

Ormsby and his daughter Kiana who are experts in Mahi Toi. Our students

WEDNESDAY, June 19 marks our very paired up to complete some Māori artwork on canvas.

> Lastly we had the Harakeke, lead by Whaea Rauora Rauputu and Whaea Ripeka. From gathering and preparing

Our year 7, 8 and 9 students not stay-Day 1: Go Bus transported the juniors ing over will return back to kura to catch the bus home. We have a few students from Yr 9 - 13 spending the night with staff. Tonight we hope to share stories and waiata under the stars, and hopefully a good sleep.

Day 2: And we are back on site at Napinapi Marae. An early start for A popular option is Hāngi prep. Led our Hāngi pit 'crew', slight delay with breakfast then off to kura to pick the rest of the kura up before the hīkoi up Kahuwera maunga. A brisk walk with a chilly wind, a korero from Simon Muraahi, and then back to the marae for our shared hākari.

A huge thanks to Napinapi Pā and the Committee, Chalet Bidois, Xavier Turn-Our third activity, we have Daniel er, Rob Young for your awhina towards our kaupapa.

[SOURCE: Piopio College Facebook page]









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