

Marlborough



Rural Police

November 2013

Great response to the newsletter

We have had a great response to this newsletter and lots of feedback and suggestions - keep it coming.

We have divided the entire group into locality groups as well which will assist if we need to pass on information that relates to one area alone. The groups are:

Awatere Valley, Flaxbourne, French Pass, Havelock, Kaituna, Kekerengu, Northbank, Para/Koromiko, Pelorus, Port Underwood, Queen Charlotte Sound, Rarangi, Renwick, Seddon, Waihopai, and Wairau Valley.

If you know of others who would be interested in receiving our emails please have them send an email to us. They don't have to respond to the questionnaire, just contact us by email so we can link them.

You thought your Rural Police Officer's Paul and Beau were just yours! Well as you can see they and I have areas and communities to cover all over Marlborough. They do want to get around all of you but as you can see, with the areas they cover it is not always possible. So the newsletter is being used to try and bridge a gap.

The main responsibility for the Marlborough Sounds falls on Picton and Havelock Police supported by all of us. It wasn't that long ago that Paul was involved in an Operation to assist a person with Mental Health problems in one of the remotest areas of the Sounds - North West Bay. Beau was involved in an Operation in the Wash Bridge area earlier in the year.

Over the last 4 months Paul has been carrying files and enquiries for the Havelock area, to help the lone officer out there. Beau is now taking a turn working out of Havelock. He will be back to normal duties in the New Year.

The heat goes on young farmers

Mike Porter was involved in the District heat of the Young Farmer of the Year competition at the Marlborough A&P show, run by the Tapawera & Renwick Young Farmers Clubs.

We set and marked the Police module - it involved questions around Firearms/Trespass/Poaching and Traffic.

We had a unique exam venue for the competitors to add to the stress, the Police prison van.

Other sections the competitors were judged on were: Financial, Fertilizer, First Aid, Fencing, Motorbike, Grapes and Chainsaw.

Andrew Wiffen of Renwick won the District heat with Marcel Van Reenen from Tapawera in 2nd place.

The Regional Final is to be held at the Murchison A & P show on the 15th February.





Cannabis growers

As we mentioned in the last newsletter it's cannabis growing season. You are the eyes and ears in the rural communities and your information is essential to the success of this operation. Thanks to everyone who has already been in contact.

If you see something call us immediately - don't wait. We will always protect the identity of those who give us that information.

Growers are already in the bush and crossing farmland and at the back of vineyards preparing for planting. Let us know of your suspicions and suspicious activity you have seen. It is well known that if we come to an area and take all the plants frequently, the growers move on to other areas.

Diesel thefts update



Three offenders are going through the court process in relation to diesel thefts. Security cameras work!



Speed warning: From the Commissioner of Police -

There is no tolerance for speeding this summer. Throughout December and January, police will clamp down on anyone they catch speeding, driving drunk or dangerously, or not wearing a seatbelt. Anyone driving more than 4km/h over the posted limit will receive an infringement notice. Stopping just one speeding, drunk or unrestrained driver can make a huge difference and can prevent the devastating ripple effect road crashes have on so many - including those of our very own who have tragically lost colleagues, friends and loved ones.

PLEASE WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT - DON'T SPEED - DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE. KEEP RURAL ROADS SAFE!



Let it be known that you have security cameras.

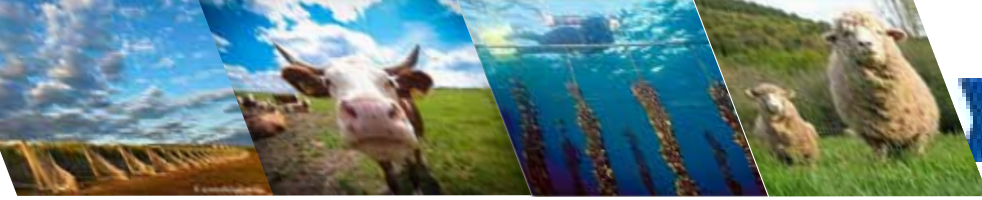
Security around homes, farms, baches & vineyards

We have found recently that one of the most cost efficient cameras are the new hunting cameras that can be disguised and left in place with minimum intervention. They are activated by movement, so placement of the cameras is important. We can give advice on this, or contact your local hunting store or electronics store.

There are also more expensive camera systems available through local Security firm or lock smith. Good equipment will get the best images. It is no good spending money to find you do not record a good enough image to use. If you've got cameras, advertise the fact!

Police recently laid in wait with six staff deployed in different vineyards over two nights. It rained!

Needless to say that exercise didn't produce the results we were after, however the cameras have led us to the offenders and three search warrants were carried out as Police sought more evidence linking the offenders.



Out and about

Paul McKenzie is soon to feature in an article by Jac Lockington - A day in the life of a Rural Constable, to feature in the A & F Bulletin (Awatere & Flaxbourne). We look forward to that and will let you know what becomes of it. Meanwhile he has been trying to catch up with everything since his return from Havelock. He recently made a trip into the Molesworth following up an enquiry that originated in Central Otago.

On 6 November Paul and other members of the Search and Rescue Team went to Mt Stace area in the Inland Kaikouras. They had the unfortunate but privileged task of recovering a trumper who fell to his death near Surveyors Spur. This man was well equipped and even had a personal locator beacon. He was also very experienced, however was travelling alone.



Get ready, get through - Christmas we mean!

There are some practical tips to assist everyone to have a calm, happy and safe family Christmas and New Year.

- Set aside money to cover bills in January and February.
- Don't spend more on Christmas than you can afford. Christmas can be about spending time together as a family, not about buying expensive presents.
- Remember 90% of burglaries happen by day, not night. Do not leave valuables displayed openly in windows, tools on the lawn or your garage or vehicle unlocked.
- Moderate your alcohol consumption. You don't need to drink to excess to have a good time.
- Don't drink and drive. Arrange for transport home prior to going out or appoint a sober driver.
- If you share custody of children, come to an agreement before Christmas so that children get to spend time with each of you.
- Take time out. If things become heated or stressful, go somewhere for a few hours to let things calm down.
- If you want help to avoid or prevent family violence, contact an agency listed below.
- If you have fears for your own or your children's safety, contact Police immediately.



They have also been involved in a local street campaign in Hutcheson Street Blenheim, where assistance is given to the majority of the street with tasks around the homes such as trimming trees, mowing lawns and general gardening. We've done this before and it encourages residents to take pride in an area again and is proven to reduce crime. It's also a good opportunity to meet Police under different circumstances!

24 hr Police Emergency 111
24 hr Women's Refuge (03) 577 9939
24 hr Victim Support 0800 842 846
24 hr Youth Line 0800 376 6333

24 hr Crisis Team (Mental Health) 0800 800 717
Family Violence (9am-11pm) 0800 456 450
Or visit: www.areyouok.org.nz