



## Rural Police

February 2019

*Welcome to the first edition for 2019*

### It's Been a Busy Time

It's been a busy month for the Marlborough Police, let-alone for the Prevention team. In this issue of the Police Rural Newsletter we have put together a range of commentary relating to Police work in the last month or so, including crashes, burglars, training, rural patrols, fire risks, a pursuit and Mike Porter's account of his private trip into the Clarence River valley.

Hope you are all coping with the long, hot spell and the full moon!!

**SHUT THE GATE ON RURAL CRIME**  
TELL CRIMESTOPPERS WHAT YOU KNOW  
CALL **0800 555 111**

**crimestoppers**  
speak up, it's anonymous  
www.crimestoppers-nz.org

**speak up**  
**0800 555 111**  
**it's anonymous**

**Helping New Zealanders to speak up anonymously about crime.**

If you have information about crime or criminal activity and for whatever reason you don't want to contact the authorities directly, then tell Crimestoppers.

- ▶ We're an independent charity.
- ▶ We're not part of the police.
- ▶ We guarantee your anonymity.
- ▶ We pass on the information to the authorities for you.

**Contact us now**  
Call free 24/7 on 0800 555 111

Online encrypted message form at [www.crimestoppers-nz.org](http://www.crimestoppers-nz.org)

**0800 555 111**  
**crimestoppers**  
speak up, it's anonymous

### Emergency contacts

24 hr Police Emergency Ph 111  
Blenheim Station Ph 578 5279  
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](http://www.areyouok.org.nz)



## Some Incidents of Note

**PLEASE BE CAREFUL ON YOUR PROPERTY IF YOU ARE USING FARM BIKES – All these incidents happened within a couple of weeks in January.**

**Crash** - Information from Stuff website; – on the 7th of January 2019, a person died following a farm bike crash on a South Canterbury property. A police spokesman said they received a report of a serious crash on a private property in Milford, about 25 kilometres north of Timaru at about 5pm. He confirmed a person had died and the Serious Crash Unit was investigating. WorkSafe has been advised and the death has been referred to the Coroner, Police said.

**Crash** – Tennyson Inlet - Quad bike roll-over. Two patients, one 7 years old and the other 11years old. Helicopter dispatched with medics on board from Wellington.

**Crash** – Marfells Beach, Cape Campbell - Quad bike roll-over, youths injured. Location only accessible by 4wd, hence our drive to Cape Campbell (see later in newsletter).

**Crash** - Ross area, Quad bike Rollover onto rider. Injured rider is 59 years old. Helicopter uplifted male and he was flown to Greymouth Hospital.

## Other Snippets

**21 Jan** – Report of an attempt to steal fuel from Diesel tank on an Awatere valley vineyard.

**18 Feb** – Pursuit of a driver in a Honda Civic Motor vehicle from St Andrews near Blenheim to Ward. It was terminated in Ward Beach Road after Police deployed a road spike strip.

The vehicle eventually came to a stop in a ditch along the road and the driver, a woman from Blenheim and her passenger were apprehended.

She had been travelling at speed and overtaking vehicles on double-yellow lines when the officer decided to try and stop her.

The driver has been evaluated for driving while under the influence of drugs and Police are awaiting a blood test.







**20 Feb** – The Prevention team assisted with cordons after Police located a male and female apparently burgling a holiday home near Tom Kane's Bay on Port Underwood Road.



A member of the public had called in suspicious activity. The pair took off in a car which crashed into a logging truck on the unsealed road shortly afterwards, with the two occupants running off into surrounding bush. Police cordoned the area and two dog-handlers tracked the pair, locating them shortly afterwards. They were arrested and Picton Police are conducting follow-up enquiries. The two occupants that fled had warrants for their arrest. One has been charged with Reckless Driving. Both will be held in custody to appear in court.

## Attending a Crash

Crash near 'Calrossie', Dashwood Pass – We attended the scene where a rock dislodged from a roadside cutting. It rolled down the face of the cutting and onto the road. The rock was described as the size of a soccer ball. It bounced and hit a motorcycle pillion passenger in the leg. The pillion passenger was taken to Wairau Hospital with a broken leg from the impact. The motorcyclist had no chance to avoid the rock.



## Out & About



We were patrolling the area a couple of weeks ago, as we like to catch up with the DOC camp manager and check on what is happening in the area.





We were aware of recent incidents where people on quad bikes were annoying other beach users. There had been reports of other people causing issues over time as well.

In addition, we wanted to see how far our 4x4 could go if we had to respond to incidents in the area. It is a place that more people are accessing by foot, motorcycle and 4x4 vehicle. Police were previously called to the area after reports of youths injured after crashing a quad bike they were riding. Police had to be transported there by locals on their quad bikes. Just in case we couldn't rely on local transport next time we need to know where we could get to. After getting advice from the DOC camp manager and others regularly using the area, we managed to get to the lighthouse.



Sgt Porter at Cape Campbell Lighthouse

## Firearms

If you have a firearms licence - you are obliged to advise Police of your change of address immediately it changes. You can do this online on the Police website ([police.govt.nz](http://police.govt.nz)) but requires a login. Alternatively, pick up a form from your local Police.

We are currently doing checks on firearms licence holders who have changed address. We check the security of the gun safe or similar where the firearms and ammunition are stored.

## Fire Risk



Fire near Quaildale in the Waihopai.

Whatever farming task you carry out this time of year with machinery there is a risk, but you still have to be out there working. John Foley from Fire and Emergency NZ suggests that everybody remain vigilant due to the fire risk. If you are involved in any operation in the rural area, carry pressurised water, maybe back-pack sprayers or other supplies of water to help contain or suppress any fire.

Make sure any action you take to suppress a fire is safe for you and your team. Then let the emergency services know straight away in case your efforts are unsuccessful.



## Russell and Amy - Awatere Catch up.

On Thursday the 14th of February Police Prevention staff travelled into the Awatere to carry out some daytime patrols of the lower and upper valley areas, talk to residents and land owners, and pass on crime prevention information and advice. Constables Amy Bryant and Russ Smith said that they were pleased with the response from the residents in the Awatere and were treated to typical rural hospitality and greeted warmly on each of their visits, having more than a dozen contacts with locals during the patrol.



One of the highlights of the trip was the added benefit of seeing the stark beauty of the mountainous upper valley on such a clear, sunny day. It was very clear that the long, hot spell has had an effect on the valley, with much of the area tinder dry and locals having to make careful choices about water use.

One meeting in particular has been very productive, starting a conversation about how Police and locals might get together in a social setting at some date in the future, during which there could be some useful safety information that locals have indicated that they would like, passed to individuals and families.

The Police Prevention staff intend to make patrols of the Awatere Valley and other rural areas in Marlborough a regular occurrence, including unannounced, evening or early morning patrols designed to disturb unlawful hunters and poachers.

Remember, if you have a complaint about criminal activity in your area, please ring a police station and ask to report the matter to the Crime Reporting Line. If the matter is occurring at the time, ring 111 to report it so Police have the opportunity to react to the incident. If you have information about historical poaching, unlawful hunting or other crime, you can either pass this to Police by phoning a Police Station, or ring Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. This type of information filters down to the Prevention team after the fact and we can then act on it if practical, to reduce the likelihood of repeat victimisation.





## My trip into the Clarence

### Sgt Mike PORTER

On Saturday and Sunday the 16th and 17th of February, three friends and I travelled into the Clarence river area after getting permission from the station owner.

Our intention was to travel to a remote hut on two motorbikes and two quad bikes, to stay overnight and explore the area.

As we travelled down the east coast towards Kaikoura we drove through light rain and drizzle. We could see that the Seaward Kaikoura Ranges were clagged in on the tops, so we thought that our entry into the Clarence would at least be different from all the hot weather we had been experiencing in the build-up, so there was a quick question to all those travelling, "Who thought about bringing wet weather gear?" – Thumbs up all around.

As we entered Kaikoura the weather cleared and as we drove up the Inland Kaikoura Road the weather held but was still clagged in on the tops.

To get to the Clarence River area we entered from the Kahutara River and went up over Blind Saddle.

As the elevation increased, and that happens quickly on that road, we entered the mist clinging to the tops where the weather was expectantly cool.

We made our way down the other side to Warden Hut. While criss-crossing along the Seymour Stream we encountered Alice from Muzzle Station on her way out on horseback, accompanied by her dogs. After a quick chat and update on the conditions of the tracks from Alice, we stopped at Quail Flat for lunch.



Three of our travelling group on a grass airstrip, Mike Porter leaning against the AG bike.



We then travelled down-stream, later crossing the Clarence River. The river was low enough to do it on the bikes and quads, unsurprisingly it was warm as well. The biggest distractions on this trip were the continuous spectacular views everywhere.

It is a place that I wish I had more time to spend in and take the opportunity to photograph more of it. But we had to keep moving, we had a lot of ground to cover and weren't racing so it took time.



**Looking towards the Seaward Kaikoura Range – Manukau, Mount Saunders and Snowflake in the distance.**



**No getting away from the dust.**

We spent the night at a hut further down the Clarence. The next morning was much hotter than the day before and was ranging between 31 and 35 degrees. It made for another day of awesome riding and dusty conditions.

We explored the area further and eventually made our way back towards Quail Flat downstream.





**Mike Porter – dusted and loving it!**

To combat the heat and clean some of the dust we swam in the Clarence River. That was the refreshing break and revitalisation we needed.



**Stopped at Forbes Hut for a lunch break on our way out.**

After a break for lunch at the Forbes hut known formerly as Seymour hut we then began the return up the Seymour River and then the steep climb back up to the Blind Saddle and out to Kahutara.

This was the end to a fantastic opportunity, given to us by the land owners who allowed us access to the area beyond the DOC land. The area is isolated, especially in winter and still tough and unforgiving in summer. It was a privilege to be able to get into this area.

I've taken my 4x4 ute into Quail Flat previously and explored some of the area, but doing it on the AG bike was far more fun and I was able to get to other areas this time. What a great experience.

In the end we covered 129 kms on farm tracks and river bed. Fantastic.  
I can't wait to explore another area like this.





# SUNDOWN SPORTS SERIES

FRIDAY NIGHT - 7-10PM



YEAR 9 -13

SOCIAL GAMES!

FREE FOOD!

TRANSPORT AVAILABLE!

**HAVELOCK** - 1ST MARCH - HAVELOCK DOMAIN

**SEDDON** - 8TH MARCH - SEDDON POOL

**PICTON** - 15TH MARCH - ENDEAVOUR PARK

**BLENHEIM** - 22ND MARCH - BLENHEIM INDOOR SPORTS



FOR MORE INFO & TO SIGN UP FOR TRANSPORT:

CONTACT MARLBOROUGH YOUTH TRUST - [EVENTS@MYT.ORG.NZ](mailto:EVENTS@MYT.ORG.NZ)  
PH: 027 522 2245 OR 03 579 3143 OR [MYT.ORG.NZ](http://MYT.ORG.NZ)



## Wrap Up

Although it has been a very busy couple of months, we are so pleased that we have been able to get out and about and catch up with the Rural Community.

It's refreshing to see how positive our rural community is and the support they show for the Crime Prevention Policing Team.

Please keep supporting each other and stay safe in these hot dry conditions.



**Sgt Mike Porter**



**S/Const Sean Jones**



**S/Const Russ Smith**



**S/Const Leighton MacKenzie**



**S/Const Amy Bryant**