

LOCAL NEWS

Check out what and who's in Lumsden

By Kirsty Macnicol

A desire to keep passersby in Lumsden just a little longer has led to the opening of a new business in the town's main street.

What's n Who'z was opened on September 1 by Bafe Bakery owners Chris and Jude Paama.

The couple, who hail from the North Island, have lived in Lumsden for six years now and proudly call the south home.

They have been actively involved in projects to put the town on the map. Most recently that was spearheading the building of a shaded seating area for locals and travellers to take a rest and enjoy their lunch.

But Mr Paama said once having enticed people to stop, it was apparent that more was needed to encourage people to take a wander along the street and pop into the shops.

He secured a lease on a shed at the back of VetSouth and approached various artists and craft and furniture manufacturers

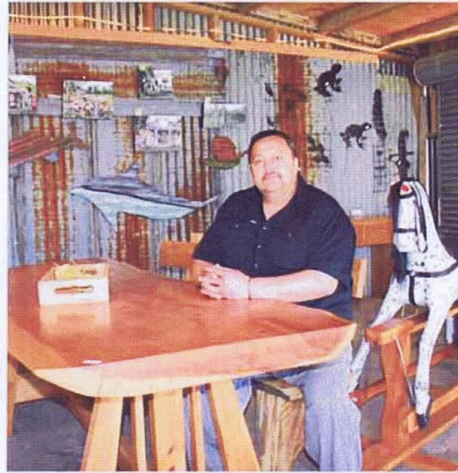
with the offer of displaying their goods on a commission sale basis.

"I don't buy anything in. I just secure it, show it and try to sell it for the guys and I get a percentage out of whatever sells."

And it's complimentary to his primary business as he encourages his Bafe customers to buy a doughnut and coffee and "go for a bit of a stroll and check out what else is here".

Among the items he has on sale are furniture made from recycled timber by John Timpany, of Invercargill; indoor and outdoor furniture made from salvaged old logs by Gordon Lawrence, of Underwood; garden features by Aaron Abernethy, of Fairlight and a selection of native plants from Home Creek Nursery in Manapouri. There is also a varied selection of art work and helium balloons. Prices in the store range from about \$15 to \$1500.

The name, What's n Who'z, was chosen to highlight the curiosity factor.



Chris Paama with a selection of the handcrafted goods on offer at his new store What's n Who'z in Lumsden.

"It's what's in Lumsden and who's it belong to?" he said.

Mr Paama knows the venture won't make him rich and he's comfortable with that as long as the business covers its costs.

The primary aim is that people spend more time in Lumsden and take advantage of what's on offer.

"Lumsden's a good little town, it just needs a bit of a spark up," he said.

Ladies' Lunch

A Ladies' Luncheon is being planned for Winton next week in support of the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation.

Co-ordinated by the Winton Business Association, the lunch will be the first of what is hoped to become an annual event. Association president Maria Scammell said businesses had been hugely supportive of the initiative, donating spot prizes and goods to be raffled, with the proceeds going towards breast cancer research.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among New Zealand women and the leading cause of cancer-related death in females. Early detection increases the chance of survival and between 1997 and 2007 the death rate decreased by nearly 19.3 percent.

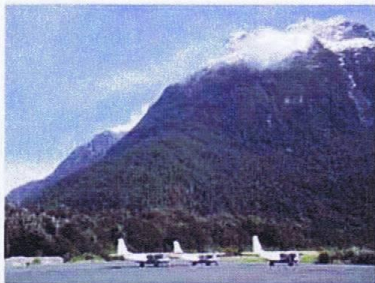
Mrs Scammell said the pink-themed lunch would be held in the garden bar of Winton's Top Pub from noon on Friday October 14. Tickets cost \$25 and are available from The Local, Skin Dynamics, Marlene's Hair Salon and Country Jewel. Attendees are encouraged to dress in pink.

Welcome to Milford Community Trust News

The Milford Community Trust was established in 2007 by the Southland District Council and the Department of Conservation with the assistance of Environment Southland. It was created to provide leadership and governance for the Milford Community in Milford Sound Piopiotahi. The Trust is made up of a board of seven trustees with representatives from stakeholder groups. It is chaired by Mike Schuck. This is the first of regular updates from the Trust. Each time we will feature what the Trust has been involved in, and also introduce a trust member.

Airport facilities discussed

A number of ongoing problems with the facilities at Milford Airport was highlighted at the recent Milford Community Trust meeting. These include inadequate parking facilities for vehicles, the limited space for buses to manoeuvre and the lack of passenger facilities at the airport such as toilets. Trust chairman Mike Schuck said it is essential to improve the experience of Milford Airport for users. "The trust would like to see commercial operators at the airport develop better facilities for passengers and agree on plans to improve access for buses at the airport and parking," Mr Schuck said. "A fair and equitable way for all flight providers to fund these facilities needs to be worked out. The meeting was a great first step in getting people to think about this."



NEW EMERGENCY VEHICLE

The Milford Community Trust and the New Zealand Rural Fire Authority (NZRFA) are looking at equipping Milford Sound with a new 4WD emergency response vehicle and building to house it.

NZRFA is providing a significant portion of funding for the project but it leaves a shortfall in money which Trust chair Mike Schuck "does not want to fall back on the community".

A site has been set aside for a new building to house the emergency response vehicle which is a "priority project".

The building will also be used as a base to train and meet with volunteers running the emergency service.

Walkway completed

Work on the Foreshore Walkway at Milford Sound has been completed and paid for by the Milford Community Trust. Chair Mike Schuck believes the walkway "enhances the experience of Milford Sound" for visitors and locals alike. An arrangement has been made for repair work on the walkway. "Ongoing maintenance is being taken care of at no cost," Mr Schuck said.



Trustee Lou Huia

Lou Huia is the Milford Community Association representative on the Milford Community Trust. He has worked in Milford since 1996 and is presently with Cruise Milford. He loves the area because it is so unique and he has come to know Fiordland very well. "I am hoping I can contribute something back as this place is absolutely awesome."

Next meeting on 4 November

The next meeting of the Milford Community Trust is on 4 November. Community members are invited to the public session and if they are unable to attend, they are encouraged to get in touch with their community representatives who can speak on their behalf. "We'll be discussing the plans for redevelopment of the wharf area at Deep Water Basin at the next meeting. It's the biggest challenge facing the Milford Community Trust," chair Mike Schuck said.

