



The RAZZA

WHANGAMATA RSA NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 96
NOVEMBER 2022

Beach Hop Edition

"If you see someone without a smile - give them one of yours"



Commemorating
Le Quesnoy

Welcome to
Repco
BEACH HOP
2022!



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Geoff March

November 2022, and we are halfway through already, the weather has been a challenge hopefully it will settle down and be hot as promised.

We have a lot going on coming up, next Wednesday Beach Hop kicks off, we have a band on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday nights, then a band on Saturday during the day to complement the Truck show in our carpark, a band again Saturday, and Sunday nights. These are extremely busy times and enjoyable, the Beach Hop atmosphere is fantastic and attracts so many people from all over, who are here to make the most of their visit.

Halloween was a good happening, Ying offered a free SPOOKY desert with every Kids meal which brought a lot of people into the RSA as well, I didn't realise there were so many Kids in Whangamata, they dressed up and had an amazing time.

Le Quesnoy commemoration and Signage unveiling was very well attended, a large gathering of over 40 people attended, we were welcomed by Piper Peter, Rosie Dell the Anglican minister blessed the signs, Sue Haxton and her son were part of the proceedings, Sue's father was one of the soldiers who climbed over the wall to liberate Le Quesnoy 4th November 1918. We then came back to the RSA for nibbles and a chat to finish off the commemoration.

November the 11th at 11am we commemorated Armistice Day, the weather was not in our favour, so we held the commemoration in the RSA, thank you to the Line Dancers who we interrupted. We were welcomed again by Piper Peter, I welcomed those attending, gave a few statistics on WW1 numbers, Bugler Adrian played the Last Post, I recited the Ode, and the Reveille was played. Those attending were invited to nibbles and a chat, even the Line Dancers were invited and joined in, it was a surprise for them.

The RSA Christmas Lunch has been set for Sunday 11th December, the register to book in will be available at the bar, if you are coming, please ensure you manage your dietary conditions as we usually have over 150 people who we will be feeding, this takes around an hour from when the first meal is served. We are all there to enjoy ourselves.

Our membership is still increasing, we are currently at 2710 members, imagine 290 more and we break the 3000 members, wouldn't that be a milestone to finish the year.

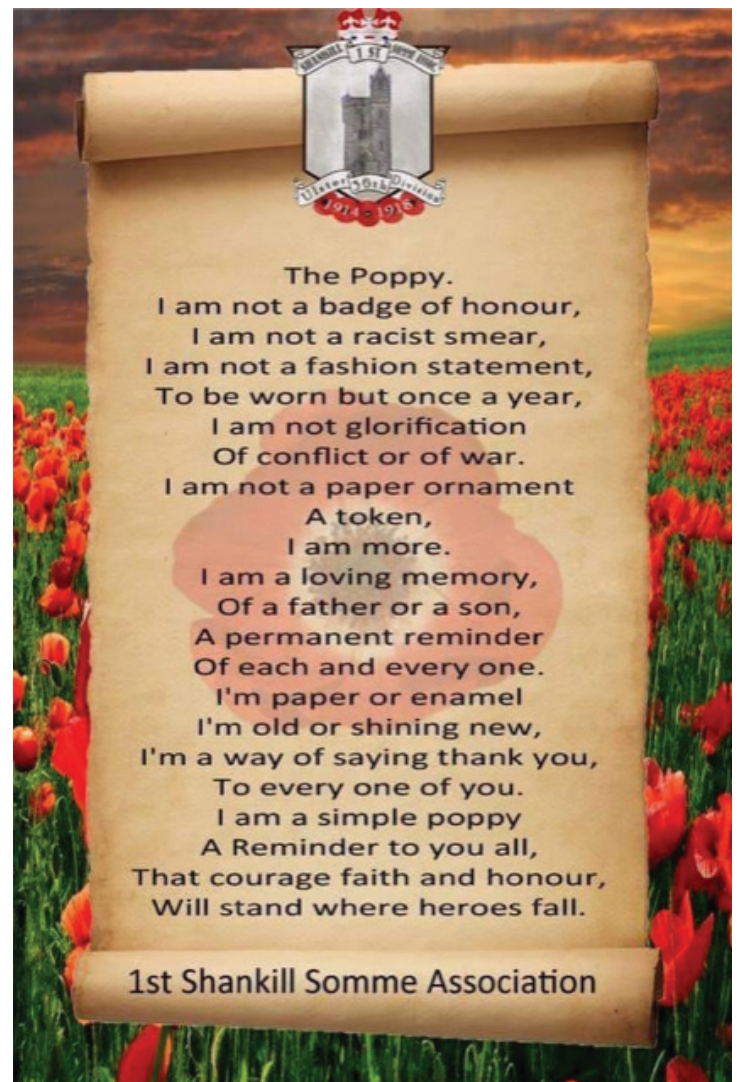
This time of the year is exciting for many of us, there are still those who struggle for various reasons, if you know of anyone who would enjoy a visit, chat or even a phone call please let someone know. That small thing can mean so much to someone and can make them feel included.

RNZRSA held its annual conference and we now have a new National President Sir Wayne (Buck) Shelford, two new vice presidents, Jack Steer, and Janet Castell.

We look forward to a new and exciting future for the organisation, BJ Clarke did an amazing job as the last president, he stood down after 8 years.

Remember we are about to get busy like we were before COVID, so please look after our guests as we normally do, make them welcome and enjoy what is on offer, we have a great RSA with a good reputation, good atmosphere, and a family friendly environment. So if you see something that is not right, please let someone know so we can address the situation, word of mouth can be good and bad depends on how it is dealt with.

Check out our Website, Facebook Page and Noticeboards, have you seen the advertising on the TV on the righthand side of the bar, keeping you up to date with what is on, and coming up.



UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS

Not getting emails? Change your address?

**If any of your details need to be updated
email rsamanager@outlook.com
put "Contact Details" in the subject line**

WHAT'S ON

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

NOVEMBER

Repco 2022 BEACH HOP™

WEDNESDAY 23RD

Toucan 'Rock n Roll Paradise' | 6.30 – 10.30pm

THURSDAY 24TH

Tony Wellington & Woody | 7.00 – 10.00pm

FRIDAY 25TH

Crowd Pleazers | 7.30 – 11.30pm

SATURDAY 26TH

Pickup Truck Show in Carpark

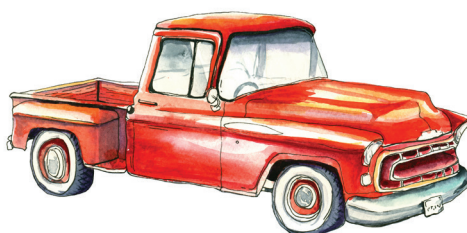
Crowd Pleazers | 12noon – 2.00pm

Crowd Pleazers | 7.30 – 11.30pm

SUNDAY 27TH

Kevin Greaves & Eddie Low | 4.00 – 7.00pm

with a Special Tribute to Roy Orbison and Elvis included in Eddie's show



DECEMBER

SUNDAY 4TH

Whangamata Country Music Club
12 noon - Guest Artist 'Toucan'

SUNDAY 4TH

Toucan - 5pm

TUESDAY 6TH

Women's Section Christmas Lunch

SUNDAY 11TH

RSA Christmas Lunch 11am
more details included
in this newsletter

SUNDAY 11TH

Kevin Greaves - 4pm

NYE SATURDAY 31ST

Kevin Greaves
Trish & Colin/Bill Bassett (USA)



Friday QUIZ
NIGHT
6.30pm

Lots of Fun - Test your Trivial Knowledge
Teams of up to six players - \$2/person

COME AND JOIN IN
ALL WELCOME!

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



firstnational
REAL ESTATE

Pacific Coast

KIDS CLUB

COME JOIN OUR
KIDS CLUB TODAY

We have over 300 kids club members!

Kids will get their very own membership card and special Kids Club Member benefits.
Kids Club Membership is Free!



KIDS CLUB
MEMBERS

OUR KIDS CLUB MEMBERS HAVE SHARED
WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN UP TO.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING THAT YOU
WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH US?

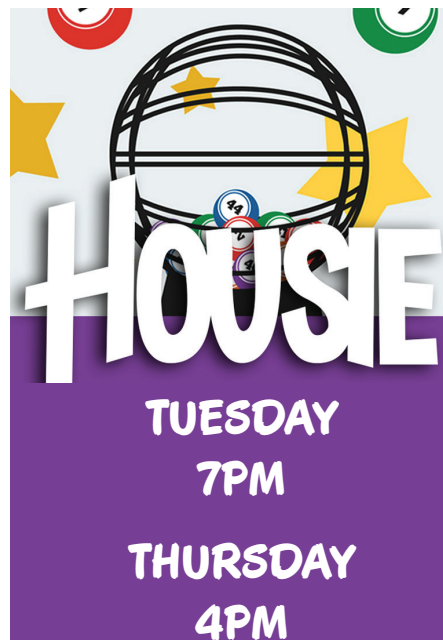
ART, SOMETHING FUN, HOLIDAYS,
SPORTS, SCHOOL, ACHIEVEMENTS?...

DRAW NIGHTS

Raffles
Jokers Wild
Member Draws

Wednesday | Friday | Saturday

from 5.15pm



HOUSEIE

TUESDAY
7PM

THURSDAY
4PM



Le Quesnoy COMMEMORATION

November 4th at 11 am, a group of over 40 people assembled at the Le Quesnoy Memorial Forest to commemorate the Battle of Le Quesnoy, which took place 104 years ago, one week before the end of WW1.

Gathered were representatives from TCDC, Whangamata Lions Club, Whangamata RSA, Whangamata MenzShed, and members of the Whangamata community, we were welcomed by Piper Peter, at 11 am the processing started with a welcome and the introduction of Rosie Dell conducting minister, plus two very special guests, Sue Haxton and her son Gerald.

Sue's father (Willian Thomas Haxton) was one of the soldiers who scaled the wall to liberate Le Quesnoy, Gerald was Williams first grandson, we acknowledged that it was also Gerald's birthday, a poignant date for him and his family.

After the welcome and a brief history on the battle and creation of the Forest, the Last Post was played, Ode recited, and Reveille played.

Minister Rosie then gave an account of the battle and unveiled the refurbished signs, the signs were unveiled by Sue Haxton and Lyn Ward, Gerald Haxton and Peter Webster (MenzShed member who refurbished the signs) and minister Rosie, she then blessed the signs, there was a photo opportunity to mark the occasion and the proceedings were over.

All in attendance were invited back to the RSA for nibbles and a chat.



CORPORAL WILLIAM GRANT

SERVICE NO: 12/3030 *BORN:* 28 February 1894 Queensland, Australia

SON OF: John and Elizabeth Ann Grant nee Dobson of Cochrane St, Thames

OCCUPATION BEFORE ENLISTMENT: Butcher for AJ Bateman Sealey Street Thames

ENLISTED: 15 June 1915 at Trentham

EMBARKATION DETAILS: 9 October 1915 bound for Suez, Egypt on HMNZT 32 Aparima as part of the Auckland Infantry Battalion 7th Reinforcements

LAST RANK: Corporal Canterbury Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion 21 January 1918 Wounded in the field in France

DIED: January 1918 aged 23 No. 3 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station

BURIED: Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Poperinge, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

MEDALS RECEIVED: 1914 – 1915 Star | British War Medal | Victory Medal



Armistice Day

COMMEMORATION

The Armistice, an agreement to end the fighting of the First World War as a prelude to peace negotiations, began at 11am on 11 November 1918.

The Whangamata RSA held remembrance on 11 November at 11am with a bagpiper to welcome guests and with a bugler, symbolising the sending of signals and orders by soldiers.

Geoff March presented an insight before the 'Ode Reveille' and the numbers he gave are truly staggering. "As we commemorate 104 years since the end of WW1 it is known that 16,697 New Zealanders were killed and 41,317 were wounded during the war - a 58 percent casualty rate."

Approximately a further thousand men died within five years of the war's end, as a result of injuries sustained, and 507 died while training in NZ between 1914 and 1918. Geoff said "recovery took many years".

It was the war to end all wars, unfortunately as we know history has proven this wrong, NZers are still involved in many areas of conflict in support roles as well as training and rebuilding infrastructure.

"ANZAC was formed in WW1 as well as the forming of RNZ RSA, we have both come a long way, the basics of both are still the core reason for both to exist".

The armistice initially expired after a period of 36 days and had to be extended several times. A formal peace treaty was only reached when the Treaty of Versailles was signed the following year.



WOMENS SECTION REPORT

Lyn Ward – President

November is the section's birthday month and the first Tuesday is also Melbourne Cup Day, so we celebrate both at our meeting. Our meeting was held on Tuesday 1st November, and we celebrated our 74th birthday with a high tea arranged for us by Sara Bain, one of our younger members.

The high tea followed our normal meeting. Our members were asked to come along dressed for 'race day' with fancy hats as we held a hat parade at the end of the day. After our meeting, we had the cutting of the birthday cake. This was done by our Patron Millie Hawtin and Margaret Reid whose birthday is in November and will be turning 90 this year.

Everybody enjoyed the high tea and this was followed by our members parading with their race day hats. Prizes were given for best hat (Sharyn Yearbury), 2nd best hat (Adrienne Aislabie) and most original hat (Trish Fagan). Trish had one of her late husband's caps on sideways with flowers on the peak and it looked great.

A big thank you to Sara who made a lovely job of baking the little cakes, muffins etc and setting out the high tea and thank you to the committee who made the sandwiches. All the great work was very much appreciated. All the members that were able to attend had a really lovely afternoon.

Our next meeting will be our Christmas lunch meeting and I hope to see as many of our members there that are able to attend. This will be on Tuesday 6th December and we will start at the earlier time of 11.00am



Unique Wonder Tournament

Over 88 players attended the Unique Wonder Tournament which is in memory of Gay Laurenson and is hosted and played annually by the Whangamata RSA Mahjong Group at the Whangamata RSA.

The tournament is named after Gay Laurenson's favourite hand and was held on Saturday 12th November. Players came from Auckland, Katikati, Cambridge, Morrinsville, Omokoroa, Rotorua, Mt Maunganui and Tauranga. 36 people represented both Whangamata Clubs

When entering the RSA the loud sounds of tiles were overwhelming and actually very soothing, the sound of tiles during the shuffling is meant to resemble the chattering of sparrows.

Interestingly, Mahjong is a tile-based game that was developed in the 19th century in China and has spread throughout the world since the early 20th century. It is commonly played by four players (with some three-player variations found in parts of China, Japan, South Korea and Southeast Asia).

The game and its regional variants are widely played throughout East and Southeast Asia and have also become popular in Western countries. The game has also been adapted into a widespread online entertainment. [Similar to the Western card game rummy, Mahjong is a game of skill, strategy, and luck. To distinguish it from mahjong solitaire, it is sometimes referred to as mahjong rummy.

The game is played with a set of 144 tiles based on Chinese characters and symbols, although many regional variations may omit some tiles or add unique ones. In most variations, each player begins by receiving 13 tiles. In turn, players draw and discard tiles until they complete a legal hand using the 14th drawn tile to form four melds (or sets) and a pair (eye). A player can also win with a small class of special hands.

While many variations of mahjong exist, most variations have some basic rules in common including how a piece is drawn and discarded, how a piece is robbed from another player, the use of suits (numbered tiles) and honors (winds and dragons), the basic kinds of melds allowed, how to deal the tiles and the order of play.

Although the chattering of tiles was rich, the silence of players at each table was tremendously quiet, intense and likened to no other game of strategy and fierce competition.

- Jennie Black Whangamata News



Players from left to right: Dena McAlpine, Janet Randell, Elizabeth Wilson Liz Routley and Karyn Jones in front, with Richard Laurenson (Gays son).

This year the prizes and Trophy were presented by Richard Laurenson.

First: Janet Randell | Whangamata RSA

Second: Karyn Jones | Whangamata RSA

Third: Liz Routley | Whangamata Club

Fourth: Dena McAlpine | Katikati

Fifth: Elizabeth Wilson | Lauriston Park Cambridge



**Whangamata RSA
Mahjong group meet
Thursday mornings
10am to 1pm**

**Come along newbies and
all heavenly hands!**



Captain Rimene

From Gordon Pourau, information
about his Great Grandfather



Ihaia was brought up by Ihaia and Ehetera Whakamara. Ehetera Was a sister to Marara. They also brought up Pani Morris.

Wharewanga married Huripaki and had twelve children. (George) My father was a captain in the Wairarapa Mounted Rifles. They were highly regarded as a military unit throughout New Zealand and the pride of the district. Five members were chosen to represent New Zealand at the Diamond Jubilee celebration held in honour of Queen Victoria in 1897. They were Mita Anaru, Tuhokairangi, Puhara Te Tau, Taiawhio Te Tau, Captain Rimene and Major Brown (H.P), and Tunui-arangi.

Prince George later to become King George V presented Captain Rimene with a sword which is now in the Museum in Wellington.

In 1901 on the visit of their Royal Highness the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York the Wairarapa Mounted Rifles were chosen as personal bodyguards and escorted the Royal Family from Masterton to Rotorua.

A quote from the newspaper report as follows:

"the eye fell on Māori in modern military guise, The escort of mounted troops. Bay were the mounted rifles from the Wairarapa ninety strong, in the ordinary khaki uniforms with brown facings and plumed hat. A remarkably fine body of men, exceedingly well horsed and armed; They were under the orders of Captain Rimene, who in 1897 was one of the Māori Contingent which with other colonial troops, marched through the streets of London with Lord Roberts in the Diamond Jubilee procession".

On returning home the people of Masterton presented him with a sword. Captain Rimene was also presented with a Walking Stick from the Duke of Gloucester. The Walking stick is buried in the cemetery at Muhonoa Levin. Upon hearing that captain Rimene was ill King George V wrote a letter...



1918.

The Queen & I wish
you God-speed, a
safe return to the
happiness & joy of home
life with an early
restoration to health.

A grateful Mother
Country thanks you
for faithful services.

George R. I.

INDOOR BOWLS

Tuesday 11th October saw us play our Club Championships 4's Tournament with 5 teams entered.

Four games were played, with only the one team of Ellen McSkimming, Ellen Martin, Marilyn Steel and Barbara Mathieson qualifying, so therefore they were declared the winners.



On October 25th we held the Ladies Singles Championship. Only 3 ladies, Ann Costar, Joy O'Sullivan and Erin Wyatt entered the tournament. This was played as a round robin format and each player won 1 game each. On a count back of ends won, Erin Wyatt was declared the winner with 12 ends and Ann Costar runner-up with 8 ends.



The Barbara Watson Memorial Trophy Ham Tournament was played on Tuesday 15th November. 30 players participated as teams of 3. The play was hotly contested with very close and numerous drawn games. The eventual winners were John Hares, Betty Wilmer and John Aislabie who had 4 wins and a draw.



SNOOKER

GOLDEN OLDIES PRACTICE ROUND

Date: 25th October 2022 | Players: 10
Highest Break: Voucher – Stephen 18 Points
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Barney; 4 Wins, 180 Points
Runner Up: Voucher – Grant; 2 Wins, 128 Points
Raffle: Meat at the Beach – No. 8 Barney

Date: 1st November 2022
Highest Break: Graham, 16 Points
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Cherie, 4 Wins, 202 Points
Runner Up: Roger, 4 Wins, 193 Points
Raffle: No. 14 – Stephen H.

Date: 8th November 2022
Highest Break: Nil
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Cherie, 3 Wins, 223 Points
Runner Up: Voucher – Stephen, 3 Wins, 185 Points
Raffle: No. 2 Kerry

Date: 15th November 2022
Highest Break: Voucher – Bob, 18 Points
Winner: Ying's @ the RSA – Graham W; 3 Wins, 197 Points
Runner Up: Voucher – Barney 2 Wins plus Draw, 114 Points
Raffle: No. 10 Graham W.

THURSDAY SNOOKER

Date: 27th October 2022	Date: 10th November 2022
Winner: Graham W.	Winner: Paula
Runner Up: Ken P.	Runner Up: Graham W.
Hi Break: Ken P.	Hi Break: -
Sponsor's Prize: Cherie	Raffle Winner: Joyce D.
Raffle Winner: Alex	

The runners-up were Don Gardiner, Brian Wyatt and Basil Johnstone with 3 wins, 1 draw and 1 lose. Third place went to Alex Steel, Patrick Cairns and Pat McCartney with 3 wins.

A good time was had by all with lots of laughs during the day.

Barbara Watson was a stalwart of Whangamata Indoor Bowls and her husband Bill donated the trophy in her memory. The late Bill was also the Patron of the RSA Indoor Bowls Club.

The raffle of a ham was won by Shirley Taylor. The Consolation Draw ham was won by Norm Sayer.

Lucky prizes for Skips was won by Laurene Eades, the Twos was Joy O'Sullivan and the Leads was George McCartney.

Featuring V.A.C. Award Winners

Toucan

Whangamata RSA Sunday 4th Dec 5pm



Ken Strong Karen Davy

Playing Hits from the 50's to now



Whangamata RSA Christmas Lunch

Sunday 11th December 11am

Members **\$30** | Non Members **\$35**
Children: under 5 **free** | 5-12 **\$15** | 13+ **\$30**

Bookings Essential by Wednesday 7th December




Some roads aren't meant to be travelled alone

TRIUMPH OWNERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB VISIT WHANGAMATA RSA

By chance Whangamata News caught up with the Waikato Bay of Plenty Chapter of the Triumph Owners Motorcycle Club.

We spoke with Judy Nightingale representing the group of 8 riding their Remembrance ride for past members. With the plaque in tow Judy tells me "on these rides we spend a lot of time together - like a big family".

Members on the day came from Hamilton, Papamoa, Waihi, Mount and Katikati.

The Whangamata RSA was their planned destination to remember those lost and it was NZ Remembrance Week. The club is in its 25th year (NZ Triumph Owners) Judy told me on their travels if one breaks down or branches off, the group turns back to assist.

"We never leave anyone behind".

- Whangamata News



FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A
CROCODILE AND AN ALLIGATOR



THE CROCODILE IS THE ONE
NEXT TO THE ALLIGATOR

MEMBERSHIP

Haven't paid your Subs for 2022/2023 yet? It's not too late!
Come in and see us or you can pay online: Bank Account 02 0472 0020608 00
(Please include your name and membership number)

Membership is available for Returned, Service and Associate Membership

Over 18 years of age (\$35/year)

Veterans Returned and Service 75+ (\$15/year)

Junior Membership is available for 16 to 18 years of age (\$20/year)

Current Serving Members - Serving Uniformed Members of the NZ Defence Force
and NZ Police - this is a complimentary membership. (Free)

Paid your Subs but don't have your card yet?

Come in and pick up, your card will be at the bar waiting for you.

(This applies to members with a Whangamata address - if you have an out of town address your card has been posted, please contact us if you have not received your card).

Thank you



HALLOWEEN

A Halloween Party Fundraiser for the school was held at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 29th October. Ying's @ the RSA offered FREE Spooky Desserts with Kids Meals. Witches, Zombies, Monsters, Clowns and many more had a frightfully fun night!



ADJUNCTS AND GROUPS



GOLDEN OLDIES SNOOKER

Tuesday
1pm

SNOOKER

Thursday
6pm



500

Wednesday
1pm

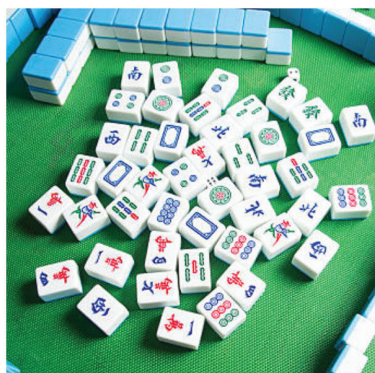
INDOOR BOWLS

Tuesday
9.45am



FISHING

Please check
noticeboard by
8 Ball tables for
trip info



MAH JONG

Thursday
10am



8 BALL

Wednesday
Register by 6.30pm
Play starts 7pm
All Welcome
\$3 Entry
Pub Rules

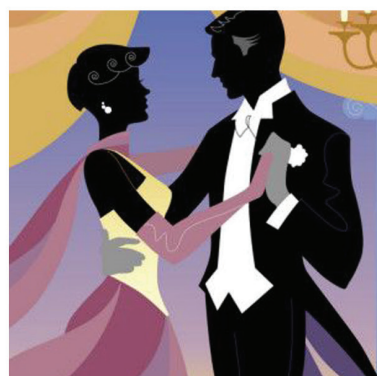
UKULELE 'HIGHLY STRUNG'

Thursday
1.30pm



TAI CHI WITH CHERRY

Wednesday &
Thursday
9am - 10am
\$5



BALLROOM AND LATIN DANCING

Tuesday
4pm - 6pm
all skill levels welcome



LINE DANCING

Friday
(every 4th Friday 1pm)
9.30am beginners
10.30am - 12pm
\$3/person
all ages, abilities welcome