

## Welcome return to Halcombe home

GEORGE Kereama is delighted to be back home in Manawatu after spending a long time gone.

The former New Zealand Army officer and Wanganui District Council Personnel Officer has returned to Halcombe in retirement and is already immersed in community affairs.

Mr Kereama was recently appointed to the Manawatu District Council's Marae Consultative Standing Com-

mittee as Taumata O Te Ra Marae's representative – an appointment that also represents another return. He had been among those responsible for setting up the committee about 14 years ago and becoming the marae's first representative.

"I was living and working in Whanganui at the time and commuting to meetings," he said. "After two years I felt somebody who

lives locally should take my place, so I stood down." When Mr Kereama returned to Halcombe last year, Taumata O Te Ra Marae was looking for a new representative, "so I decided to put up my hand to fill the vacancy". He felt that with his 25 years' experience at Wanganui District Council he had some understanding of the processes of local government and the responsi-

observations, beliefs, concerns, joys and privileges.

"You need to be part of the decision-making process if you want to maximise benefits to the whole community, not just to Maori, as the things we talk about impact upon everyone."

Born and raised in the district, and a former president of the School Council at Feilding Agricultural High School, Mr Kereama said even though he was away



TAUMATA O Te Ra Marae's representative, George Kereama, at his Halcombe home.

mittee as Taumata O Te Ra Marae's representative – an appointment that also represents another return. He had been among those responsible for setting up the committee about 14 years ago and becoming the marae's first representative.

"I was living and working in Whanganui at the time and commuting to meetings," he said. "After two years I felt somebody who

lives locally should take my place, so I stood down." When Mr Kereama returned to Halcombe last year, Taumata O Te Ra Marae was looking for a new representative, "so I decided to put up my hand to fill the vacancy". He felt that with his 25 years' experience at Wanganui District Council he had some understanding of the processes of local government and the responsi-

observations, beliefs, concerns, joys and privileges. "You need to be part of the decision-making process if you want to maximise benefits to the whole community, not just to Maori, as the things we talk about impact upon everyone."

## Tricky questions in library quiz

WHAT does "cozen" mean?

That question, and two others, can be found on Feilding Public Library's website as it runs an on-line quiz series to raise awareness in the value of its five leading information and educational databases.

The four week-long competition this month – sponsored by Feilding firm DR Electronics Ltd. – requires participants to access the library's databases for the correct answers.

The databases are Encyclopaedia Britannica

Online, World Book Online, EBSCO (text news and magazine stories), Gale (health and student resources) and the Oxford English Dictionary.

Library Manager, Simon Johnson, said he was hoping library users would respond to the quiz and discover the importance of free access to on-line alternatives to Wikipedia.

Questions are posed each week for three age categories – under 12, 12 to 18 and 19 and above – and can be easily answered by using the library's databases.

from Manawatu for nearly 50 years, "my heart was always here because my people and marae are here".

Mr Kereama said the district had much to offer New Zealand as it was so verdant and productive.

"But when you look at the agricultural side, there are things that we can do to improve that, like greening it up more," he added.

Each correct answer will go into a draw for DR Electronics' vouchers valued at up to \$150.

Other questions this week involve giant squid and underwater vehicles.

Participants need to have a password to the library network and guide to its electronic resources. These are available from library staff.

The weekly questions are at the library, on the library's web page, www.mdc.govt.nz/library and at DR Electronics, 47 Kimbolton Road.

## MAC plans draw response

A TOTAL of 102 submissions were received by Manawatu District Council for its Draft Annual Plan 2010/11 after a four week public consultation period ended on Monday, with more than half of them involving planned developments at the Makino Aquatic Centre.

And the majority of those submissions were opposed to proposals that the current 50m outdoor pool be replaced by a deep water 25m indoor pool and a covered dedicated learners' pool.

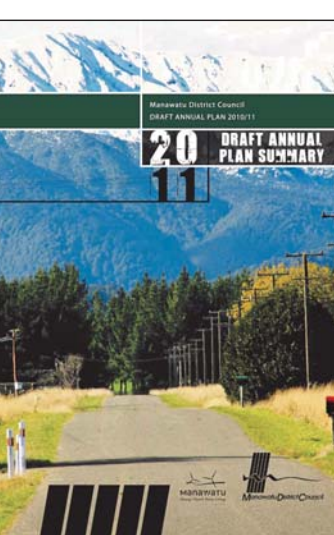
Submitters calling for the pool's retention felt it not only provided important opportunities for recreational swimmers but was an increasingly popular asset used by schools for their sports days and outside swim coaches for training.

One submission even suggested a widening of the pool, while another advocated the use of a retractable roof over the facility.

Though the MAC development proposals drew the biggest response, a significant

number of submissions were also received on roading issues and Totara Reserve Regional Park.

A case for traffic lights to be installed at the corner of Derby Street and Kimbolton Road and the corner of East



Kimbolton and Lytton Streets was put forward and another submitter asked why street lighting was not installed when the Mt Taylor sub-division was developed.

More footpaths, the state of kerbs for mobility scooters, tables and chairs outside cafes and the state of back

country roads also drew attention, and council was again asked to consider upgrading the unsealed section of Main South Road between Apiti and Rangiwahia, especially in view of the Country Road initiative.

Submitters indicated strong support for the transfer of control and management of Totara Reserve to Horizons Regional Council and there was also agreement for council's proposed purchase of The Coach House, which features the Manawatu Vehicle Collection Trust's vintage machinery museum.

Other topics that drew detailed submissions included amalgamation with Palmerston North City Council, improved cycleways, economic development, Manfield Park, rates, parking and the Sanson building facility.

Public hearings regarding the Draft Annual Plan will be held in the council chamber in the week beginning Monday, May 24.

## Rating database available for inspection

THE rating information database records all information required by a local authority for setting and assessing rates on properties within its district. It is available for

public inspection for the purposes of identifying and correcting errors that may exist in the database. The rating information database for the Manawatu District Council

can be inspected during normal office hours at the council's administration building, Manchester Street, Feilding.

Manawatu District Council

## Funding for creative applicants

SEVEN organisations in the Manawatu District have received a total of \$14,050 in the Creative Communities Scheme's first round of funding for 2010.

The scheme provides financial help to projects which stimulate local arts activity, both established and new, and encourages greater participation.

Successful applicants are: **Feilding Civic Centre Trust** – for Star Search Manawatu 2010, \$950. **Feilding Kowhai Patchwork Quilters Club Inc.** – for quilting exhibition from

October 15 to 17 in The Coach House, \$920.

**Feilding Brass Inc.** – purchase of Eb (soprano) cornet, \$750, and Feilding's 17th Festival of Bands, \$1000.

**Manawatu District Creative Communities NZ**

**Manawatu Garden Festival** – to expand the landscape design gardens at the Manawatu Garden Festival and assist with designer's project costs, \$1000.


**Junk and Disorderly** – for

a series of workshops pre-Wearable Arts in July school holidays and at the start of term 2, \$4130.

**Purapurawhetu Co-op** – semi-professional production of "Purapurawhetu" performances, \$2800.

**Hapaitia te Kohanga Reo** – to provide carving and drawing workshops to children, parents and wider whanau, \$2500.

Applications for funding for the next round will be in August and advertisements will appear on the "Bulletin" page from early June.



### Notice of Impounding and Proposed Sale of Impounded Stock

The following stock has been seized for impounding:

**one sheep - ram** (found on Turners Road)

Notice is given that unless claimed by the owners the stock will be sold by public auction or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the Impounding Act 1955 at: Manawatu Pound, Awa Street, Feilding, on **Friday, May 21 at 10.30am**

**Lorraine Vincent**  
Chief Executive