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JUNE
2018



To Our Valued Customers,

Welcome back to our monthly newsletter. Sorry I missed last month but there has been a lot happening, not the least of which was another grandchild. Our eldest son, Andrew and his lovely wife Lisa blessed us with a beautiful 9lb 6oz grandson. They were really hoping for a boy and Lisa commented how Andrew has never been so happy to see a "small penis". Their daughter, Mischa, is very proud of her new brother Corban, as are both her Nanas & Grandads. Jamie & Claire's youngest daughter, Brooke turned 3 last month and then their eldest, Michele had her 13th birthday, so there has been plenty to celebrate with our grandchildren. They certainly are one of the great pleasures and treasures of life.

*You know you are a grandparent when you used to get angry at your kids
and now laugh when your grandkids do the same thing.*

The Local Scene

Interesting to see the harbour development has been given a sideways shunt by Shane Jones. I agree the high cost of its construction could be a large burden on the ratepayers, and of even greater concern is the cost of maintaining it. The increasing number of adverse weather events occurring could mean our children and grandchildren are faced with some large repair/maintenance costs. While I would like to see it become a reality, the enthusiasm for it from some of our leaders needs to be tempered by the longer term costs we could be faced with if due diligence isn't done now.

The National award for local couple, Mark & Catriona White, following on from their regional award taking out the top prize for the whole of NZ at the big event held at Te Papa last Thursday. This is a tremendous result and goes to show what can be achieved when passion, dedication, innovation and plain hard work are combined. Thanks for putting Opotiki in the news for all the right reasons.

Patience is a key element to success. - Bill Gates

Motor Racing

Just advance warning – we are going to have a couple of the Team Kiwi V8 race cars coming to visit Lowes Hire & Engineering on Friday afternoon July 6th. They will also have a couple of simulators with them so our team and members of the public can test their skills to see who is the fastest. A number of the top NZ V8 super car drivers have come through the Team Kiwi training programme. I saw a couple of weekends ago in the V8 Supercar race in Australia, Kiwis filled the complete podium for the first time in V8 Supercar history – great to see!

While on the racing theme, I see our very own Scott Dixon is now number 3 in the world for the most IndyCar race wins with his 43rd win at Texas Motor Speedway. Only the legendary A.J. Foyt and Mario Andretti have won more races. Scott is very highly respected in America especially – not just because of his driving skills, but his conduct on and off the track.

I had the pleasure of meeting him at the Leadfoot festival and can testify to his humility and genuine nature. He is both ordinary and extraordinary, an incredible ambassador for NZ and motorsport. I see his net worth is estimated at \$32 million. It reminds me of a book I have, titled “Nice Guys Can Win”. There is no better example than Scott. One day NZ will recognise his tremendous achievements appropriately.

Hire News

Sticking with vehicles, we have added 2 more 12-seater mini buses to our fleet. These are the wider body versions with high roof for more comfort and space.

Power Outage

As a result of Sunday’s lengthy outage, generators were in high demand. Sales of new generators have been very brisk, especially the larger Briggs & Stratton models and their inverter range. Call in and view the range in stock and we can advise your options. The most important advice is to buy a recognised brand that is covered by a good warranty and excellent back up support. Buying local is another important plus.

Husqvarna & Honda Fielddays Specials

If you didn’t get to the Fielddays – no problems. The deals are available right here in Opotiki. Yes we can offer all the specials, and there are some good ones across the Husqvarna range plus some excellent deals on Honda such as Post Hole Borers only \$1,299, plus they come with 1 FREE auger, either 4’, 6’, 8’ or 10’, valued at up to \$353. Water Pumps in 1-1/2” for \$639 and 2” for \$649. That’s great buying and you know it’s a quality product with Honda Power Equipment!

Eastern Bay Community Foundation

I am pleased to be a volunteer trustee with this special foundation. There are 16 foundations throughout NZ and philanthropist Sir Stephen Tindall has been a major contributor to their establishment here. The purpose of these foundations is to manage and invest donations and bequests and then pay the interest earned to the donor’s choice of organisation. These payments are generally made annually and continue forever, as the principal remains invested. Community Foundations are the fastest growing form of philanthropy in the world, largely due to donors’ confidence that their donation will be managed responsibly so that their chosen charity will benefit the most from it.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to find out more about how your gift could benefit a charity or organisation of your choice, give me a call at work or on 027 486 8897 or any of the other trustees. Information is available on the website www.easternbaycommunityfoundation.nz which is currently being updated.

*No person was ever honoured for what he received.
Honour is the reward for what one gives. – Calvin Coolidge*

Thought For The Month:

Life is better when you laugh a lot, cry a little and are thankful for everything you have got. Have a great month. All the best from your friendly team at

Lowes Hire and Engineering – “so much more than just a hire centre...”