

# Tauranga Explorers

*Tauranga Branch of the New Zealand Association for Gifted Children  
Newsletter Two for September-December 2006*

## Howdy, Explorers!

Here are some reports about our activities during the past two months. As before, this issue of our newsletter also brings you details of our planned activities for the remaining weeks of 2006, interesting websites to explore, and library news.

If your contributions could not be sent in time for this issue, they could always be included in the next one. Send your ideas to Suman, [shumbi2@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:shumbi2@yahoo.co.nz).

## Events during September and October

### **All About Stamp-collecting: September 17**

Stamp collecting is a most interesting hobby, as Betty from the Tauranga Stamp Club, proved to the Explorers. Those who were present that day heard how stamps are created and produced, and also how mail actually reaches its destination. Stamp collecting can be a good way to get to know the world, as one can collect stamps from different countries. Discussing theme-based collections, Betty was able to display her own collections based on the themes of horses and lizards. It was an informative afternoon indeed.

### **Bridge-building: 12 October**

A few Explorers gathered at very short notice to share in an opportunity to build a Bailey bridge to scale with Helen and John Irvine. The couple tours the country in a fully equipped bus to introduce secondary school students to civil engineering.

During a PowerPoint presentation, they discussed the different types of bridges that can be constructed. We heard how the Bailey bridge was the most common bridge used in New Zealand. The most famous Bailey bridge here is the one over the Whangaehu River near Tangiwai. The children were then introduced to panels, transoms, nuts, and bolts, and were able to experiment with building a bridge of their own.

### **Visit to the Gem and Mineral Club: October 14**

Bruce from the Gem and Mineral Club showed us around their premises in the Historic Village and told us about the club. Explorers were able to see the machinery used in cutting and polishing gems, and also saw some examples of petrified wood and the effect of chemicals on it. Young Explorers were able to get some of their own stones identified. For those who may be interested, the Junior Gem Club meets at the Historic Village every third Monday night, and members are able to participate in field trips and use the extensive library available to them.

### **Talk on Giftedness by Dr Roger Moltzen: Adults evening**

Dr. Moltzen, a well-known authority on intelligence and education from the University of Waikato, visited Tauranga to speak to a sizeable group of parents and teachers about giftedness. The evening held at Welcome Bay School, turned out to be an eye-opener about how much research has gone into intelligence over the past few centuries. Dr Moltzen also discussed the attributes of gifted children and

their future within a typical school system. The various ways in which gifted youngsters can be supported and encouraged academically were of particular interest to the parents who were present. Thanks to Jon Gebert there is a video and a PowerPoint presentation available of the talk .

## Activities for Nov/Dec 2006

**'White Dreams': Thursday - November 23 - 3.30pm.**

Room 3 at Selwyn Ridge School Holmburn Street, Welcome Bay.  
Talk by Helen Ahern on her visit to the Antarctic in Jan 2006.

**Ahoy there, bug collectors!**

Sunday December 10, ( time and venue to be confirmed)

Come and join David Logan on a riverside walk to find insects.

**Please Note: Bookings are essential. Please telephone Ingrid 544-9331.**

**Create-a-Logo Competition**  
We have received eight exciting entries to the logo competition so far!  
Well done, children!  
We'd like to give some more time to those who have not yet entered their  
creations.

The logo entries will now be judged after December.  
So get going, everyone and let's see more entries from you.  
Go to our website to see the entries so far...  
<http://www.giftedchildren.org.nz/tauranga>



## Websites to visit

Check out these interesting websites:

For those of you who were interested in the Bailey bridge, here's a website with details for inquiring minds: [www.answers.com/topic/bailey-bridge](http://www.answers.com/topic/bailey-bridge) .

Here's a little more about the art and craft of stamp-collection: [www.members.aol.com/shobansen](http://www.members.aol.com/shobansen) .

And remember to take a look at our very own website:

[www.giftedchildren.org.nz/tauranga](http://www.giftedchildren.org.nz/tauranga)

## Community News

We would like to celebrate the achievements of our children in these newsletters. Please send us news of your children's successes, so that we can include them.

This time we would like to congratulate *Yvonne Booyesen* and *Nayantara Bhat* for achieving a high distinction in their New South Wales Examination in English.

## Committee Roles

The contact details for the Tauranga Explorers committee members are:

**President:** Ingrid Booyesen: 544-9331

**Treasurer:** Kimberly Jones: 575-9663

**Membership:** Mellissa Mikara 578-3845

**Young Explorers (pre-school):** Mellissa Mikara 578-3845

**Children's Activity Coordinator:** Prathima Rao 544-7190

**Adult's activity co-ordinator:** Kevin Walters 544-9730

**PR:** Terri Collecutt: 576-0622

**Library:**

**Newsletter:** Suman Bhat 544-5245

**Website:** Jon Gebert: 542 2097



## Library information

Library Books are available from the NZAGC website. The national Librarian will send books to members at the cost of return postage. Please note, however, that books must be returned on time. We envisage that our club will have its own library in due course.

## Foot note:

### The Four Stages Of Life

1. You believe in Santa Claus
2. You don't believe in Santa Claus
3. You are Santa Claus
4. You look like Santa Claus

**Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**