

# To market, to market



They come from far and wide - some to buy, some to sell and a few to congregate with their ol' cobbles just for a yakka if nothing else.

In one sheltered corner of this car park transformed into Porirua Saturday Morning Community Market is a group that literally prays for your soul, pleads that you accept Jesus Christ in your life and repent for your sins.

Whatever their reasons, there are a fair few who attend the market day religiously.

It all makes for a colourful little cluster of people, rich in mixture and diverse in culture. Apart from the serious marketing stuff, it's become a meeting place for some, a place for a little chit-chat and a bit of socialising.

Island music blares from a middle-stall of the market and there's pop and everything else from a boom box from another part of the crowd.

Perhaps the oldest of its type in Wellington, the Porirua market was run by the Jaycees in the early 1980s.

However, the Titahi Bay Lions Club took it over in 1986 and it hasn't looked back since.

Moved from Riverside Car Park to its current location at Cobham Court in 1997, the market has grown from strength to strength.

On any Saturday morning it is a hive of activities and features a huge cross section of people with Polynesian and Asian backgrounds.

That has naturally seen an increase in the variety of food flavours and goods sold. Vegetables unheard of in the Wellington area a few years ago are now sold by Cambodians, Thais, Filipinos and other South-East Asians. Polynesians have added variety and quality over the years and there are commercial operators like fruit and vegetable retailers and seafood suppliers who begin the day at

the market with stalls.

The market apparently opens at midnight, when restaurant operators come in for fresh produce and supplies and often buy in bulk. Those finishing pub sessions or travelling to and from Wellington on State Highway 1 drop in for a bite and then you have the early morning work crews.

A busload of Prestons Meatworks crew pick up their breakfast and lunch at the market before heading to work at Ngauranga Gorge.

By 6am the general public start dribbling in and by 7am it's a buzzing market place.

"We have between 50 and 55 stalls each week and between 3000 and 4000 people go through the market each week," Titahi Bay Lions club organiser John Linschoten says.

Mr Linschoten and his wife Janette have been among the Titahi Bay Lions volunteers who have helped organise the market and seen it grow and change over the years.

"The one thing that hasn't changed is the atmosphere," Mr Linschoten says.

"It's one of the friendlier markets in the Wellington area and that's why we still have people come in from Lower Hutt and around the place. One of the chaps comes in from Wairoa. His mother lives up in Paraparamu and he comes down to see her and then heads to the market."

The market has become a steady stream of income for the Titahi Bay Lions who plough back about 80 per cent of it into the community in the form of donations, projects and other charitable activities.

Mr Linschoten estimates that the Lions put back about \$50,000 into the community annually and a third of the market day takings go to the city council.

A message from Charles Chauvel  
Labour List MP based in Ohariu:

My office is open again for 2011.

If you are having problems, then contact my office for help.



www.charleschauvel.com

ROTARY  
MARTINBOROUGH  
FAIR

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Saturday 5th FEB  
Saturday 5th MAR 2011

8.00am to 4.00pm  
FREE Admission

Brought to you by  
South Wairarapa Rotary

www.martinboroughfair.org.nz

dancestars  
School of Dance ★ Music

2011 CLASSES IN:  
KHANDALLAH,  
JOHNSONVILLE,  
WGTM CITY, PORIRUA,  
NEWLANDS

BALLET  
JAZZ  
TAP  
HIP HOP  
CONTEMPORARY  
PERFORMANCE

Times for Dancing

Ph: 04 2376450  
www.dancestars.co.nz info@dancestars.co.nz

SuperGrans  
SITUATION  
VACANT

- No Salary
- No Bonuses
- No Promotion
- No Glamour
- No Company Car
- No Deadlines
- Experienced Mothers & Grans

**BUT ALWAYS INTERESTING**

For more information please contact  
**Bronagh at Supergrans**  
(022) 0614 132  
or **Erin at Supergrans**  
04 566 9778

FASHION 14+  
designer • casual • essential

SALE  
SALE  
SALE

Get 30%, 40% or 50% OFF all SALE items.  
Sale includes Euphoria, Chocolat, NIC  
Birzeit, Nicola Waite, Jacki Peters  
Moss, Edesigned, Cafe + more

zebrano WELLINGTON • LOWER HUTT  
WWW.ZEBRANO.CO.NZ

PCN  
For advertising  
enquiries please  
call Frances

(04) 237 3203 or visit  
www.pcn.co.nz



## The most powerful reason to get weight loss help is sometimes the smallest one

With weight loss, it's not so much about what you'll lose, but rather what you'll gain- a way to improve your quality of life. A way to feel better.

For those facing the struggles and frustrations of living with obesity, the team at Surgical Obesity Service offer solutions such as gastric banding, gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy, all done via a keyhole approach.

Come along, meet the team and the doctors. To find out more about the range of weight loss surgical procedures we offer.

### Free weight loss surgery seminars:

- Thursday 17 February, 2011 at 6.30pm
- Thursday 17 March, 2011 at 6.30pm
- Thursday 14 April, 2011 at 6.30pm

Venue: 1st Floor, 242 Thorndon Quay, Thorndon Wellington  
Speakers: Dr David Schroeder and Dr Atul Dhabuwala  
Bookings essential: Please call our rooms on 04 473 6887  
www.obesitysurgerywellington.co.nz

