



# THERE'S REAL BUZZ IN WAIHI

Local business people who attended the recent Business After 5 in Waihi had the opportunity to sample a range of foods provided by students from Pacific Coast Technical Institute in their new purpose-built kitchen housed in OceanaGold's administration building in Waihi. The space was previously occupied by NJS Electronics.

The students are members of a programme designed to bridge the gap between secondary schools and tertiary education in what PCTI's Mark Hellyer describes as 'a unique and ground breaking initiative'.

The New Zealand Certificate in Apiculture will be delivered in the school timetable by PCTI. The programme allows Year 11, 12 and 13 students to work towards a tertiary level qualification whilst still meeting their NCEA requirements. A new Apiculture Centre based on school managed property has been developed and will provide opportunities for Waihi College students.

The programme is a partnership between PCTI, Waihi College, and OceanaGold Waihi. At the BA5, special mention was also made of the tremendous support provided by Hauraki District Council, and in particular the Waihi Ward Councillors. Mark says that it is largely due to their initial support that the programme is up and running.

The Waihi programme follows on from the Fat Kiwi Ice Cream Production programme developed by Paeroa College Principal Doug Black and PCTI, in which a group of students study the New Zealand Certificate in Food and Beverage Processing.



Hauraki District Council Waihi Ward Chairman Max Mclean, Economic Development Officer David Fielden and Paeroa College Principal Doug Black sample an L&P sorbet prepared by Tauranga Boys College student Tehuatahi Johnson.



New recruits listen carefully to the Corporal during their visit to 1917.

## KHAKI MINERS IN WAIHI

Children on holiday – and their parents or grandparents – had the opportunity to travel back in time to 1917 as new recruits and find out what conditions were like for Waihi miners tunnelling underground in World War One France. Four sessions were held over the school break. Each session started in 2017 in the Education Centre's Underground Experience where the visitors found out how gold is mined today. After this they went down the stairs and back in time to 1917 where men from Waihi and many other parts of New Zealand were quietly digging under the town of Arras to enlarge existing caverns for use as living quarters, and then out into No Man's land where they helped with preparations for the April 1917 Battle of Arras. Along the way the recruits learned how to use a canary to tell if there was gas in the tunnel, and how to work very quietly and listen carefully to underground noises. Each new recruit was presented with a certificate acknowledging their service. The key message? Wars are terrible, and should not be glorified or celebrated; but the people who fought for us and the families they left at home were good people, and we should remember them with pride.



## Just a few QUESTIONS ...

Each year we get an independent survey company to ask people who live in Waihi and the local area chosen at random how they think we are doing, what we can improve on, and how things are in Waihi. The data collected forms part of the Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) which is required as part of our consent conditions. You can find the previous SIMP on our website on the 'Reports and Plans' page.

[www.waihigold.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/2016-SIMP-Annual-Monitoring-Report\\_Final.pdf](http://www.waihigold.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/2016-SIMP-Annual-Monitoring-Report_Final.pdf)

The survey is anonymous. OceanaGold gets a table of the results, but we don't know who said what. The survey company will ask you for your name so, if you wish, you can go into a draw to win one of three \$100 Prezzy Cards. They don't pass that information on to us. The survey company is also ringing mobile phones as we know lots of people now don't have landlines, and we would like to make sure that we get a reliable sample of views. How do they know you are in Waihi if you have a mobile phone? Survey companies have data lists such as 'reverse phonebooks' which list the number first then the name and address.

If you get a phone call from Phoenix Research, we would encourage you to complete the survey and let us know what you think.

## IT MASTERCLASS

Education Officer Phil Salmon will continue to run practical help sessions for older people bamboozled by new-fangled technology. Can't get the photos off your smartphone and on to your computer? Like to learn how to Skype so you can talk to your grandchildren? Phil can help. He's usually available on Friday afternoons. Give him a call on 863 9880 or email him [phillip.salmon@oceanagold.com](mailto:phillip.salmon@oceanagold.com)