

# Taihape Farmers Market

The inaugural Taihape Producers Market was held in the 'outback' in January 2008 and was a resounding success - and with the community's support will get bigger and better. Many locals came to stock up on delicious fresh Taihape produce and to check out the wares of some of the talented artists and artisans in our community. Many of the products had sold out before the market had finished.

The exciting news for the community is that this market will be a regular fixture in Taihape. The market is a fantastic way to encourage local entrepreneurs and budding producers. Get your kids and students involved and get them making their own pocket money. The market is taking place fortnightly on the outback area by the gumboot throwing strip and the next one is on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March - get down there and support local or even better get some local produce together and have a stall (or even better still get your kids to get some local produce together and get them thinking and earning for themselves).

## Rules

The market will consist of local growers, farmers and artisan producers who sell their wares directly to consumers. All goods sold at the Taihape Producers' Market must have been grown, raised, created, farmed, pickled, crafted, preserved, baked or processed by the vendor from the extended Taihape area. (This is defined as the area bounded by Rewa, Hunterville and Raetahi). It is anticipated that the market will draw visitors in to Taihape and encourage locals to stay in Taihape and shop locally. Other New Zealand towns that have introduced local producers markets have found that surrounding businesses have benefited greatly from the increased numbers of shoppers. It is also hoped that the market will act as an incubator for budding local entrepreneurs.

The organisers are keen to expand the range of goods available at the market, so if you would like to have a stall please do get in contact with Rachel Hansen 388 0871 or Helen Luoni 388 9209. There is a free stall available each week (e.g. sausage sizzle) for a local non-profit group that wishes to raise some money but for regular stall holders the fee is a measly \$10 per market day (\$200 - \$250 at other markets). People are welcome to come along and try selling at just one market day.

## Committee

A committee has been formed and they are in the process of creating the 'Taihape Producers Market Incorporated'. The objectives of this group are:

- To provide consumers with local produce and goods of high quality and standard of presentation
- To educate and motivate the consumer to purchase products of Taihape and surrounding areas
- To establish a venue for producers of Taihape and surrounding areas to market their goods.