



TURNING YOUR DREAMS INTO REALITY...

HOW 'DOUG THE DIGGER' WAS BORN...



Having a good idea is one thing, but turning your dreams into reality takes planning, teamwork, a positive attitude and plenty of hard work!

"I remember like it was yesterday, that day when the idea for Doug the Digger first came to me," Mr Mac explains.

"On 15 november, 1997 I grabbed a piece of paper and had a go at drawing him... though I knew straight away when I looked at my sketch that I was going to need some help!" he laughs.

Help came first from Kylie Leveridge, a friend of Mr Mac's who he knew was handy when it came to drawing. "The sketch Kylie did for me really began to bring Doug the Digger to life... from that moment on I knew this was an idea worth developing," he recalls.

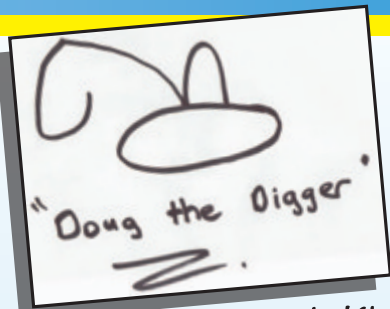
In March 1998, Mr Mac met Whangarei graphic artist/illustrator Bevan Fidler, who was commissioned to further develop the character to a point where a book about Doug the Digger could be made. "Bevan knew nothing about diggers, so the first job was to bring him down to a construction site where he could get busy taking reference photos." While the look of Doug the Digger was being developed, Mr Mac decided it was time to have a go at writing the story.

"I knew what I wanted... a story about a day in Doug the Digger's life, where he works hard, meets challenges and learns important lessons along the way... but getting the story down on paper was way harder than I thought it would be!"

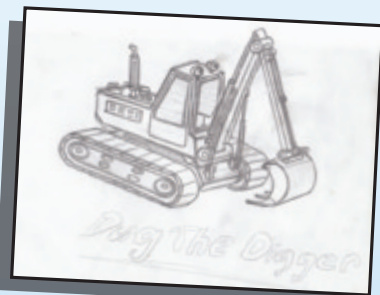
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Reference photos were used to help develop the finished art.



Mr Mac's initial sketch
(November 1997)



Kylie Leveridge's sketch
(November 1997)



Bevan Fidler's first sketch
(early March, 1998)



Face and hardhat added
(late March, 1998)



cover artwork for 1st book
(published November, 2000)

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HOW 'DOUG THE DIGGER' WAS BORN (continued from page 1)

WOW!

Look at all the steps we had to take to achieve our goal!



- ✓ **A good idea**
to create a character called 'Doug the Digger'
- ✓ **Developing the character**
with the help of Kylie and Bevan (pictures)
- ✓ **Working out the words and storyline**
(Mr Mac and Jack)
- ✓ **Creating a draft book**
(Total Idea Company)
- ✓ **Creating sketches for the 12 pages**
deciding as a team what needs to be drawn on each of the pages
- ✓ **Meetings...**
- ✓ **Recording sounds and creating music for the CD**
(Jack)
- ✓ **Creating full colour artworks for each of the 12 pages**
(Bevan)
- ✓ **More meetings!**
- ✓ **Scanning artworks, arranging text and creating 'proof' of book to check**
(Calders Design & Print)
- ✓ **Copying of music and narration onto hundreds of CD's**
(Stebbing's Studio)
- ✓ **Publishing of book "The need for good teeth"**
(November 2000)

So Mr Mac called on the services of Jack Lloyd Jones, a local recording musician with a real gift for writing catchy lyrics. "Jack's skills were the missing piece of the puzzle," says Mr Mac, "as a songwriter he knows how to make words really work." An added bonus was that Jack had a state-of-the-art recording studio at his home, so an audio CD to go with the book became an obvious addition on the working group's 'to-do' list.

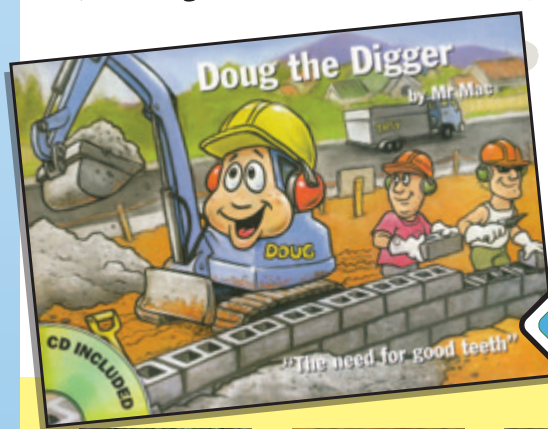
Once the text for the story was finalised, Bevan got to work creating rough sketches for artworks to go alongside the writing on each page. At this time, the team decided to call in the services of John Kearney from Total Idea Company in Whangarei to create a draft (prototype) of the book, using the text and Bevan's sketches. "This really gave us an idea of where we were heading," says Mr Mac.

After some minor changes were made to the sketches and everyone was happy, Bevan began creating the 12 original pastel artworks to be used in the book. Jack also got busy recording sounds (such as diggers starting up, moreporks hooting and dogs barking) to be used on the music CD that he was creating for the book.

A few months later, with the pictures all finished, it was time for Calders Design and Print in Whangarei to get the book ready for printing. They scanned all of the artworks, arranged the writing into separate typed-up pages, and printed out a 'proof' copy for Mr Mac and the rest of the team to check. The fabulous CD that Jack had recorded was copied onto hundreds of discs by Stebbings Recording Studio in Auckland.

And the rest, as they say, is history. The first Doug the Digger book, "The need for good teeth", was finally published in November, 2000. The team followed this up with the second book, "The need for listening" in 2003.

You can order a book with audio CD.
(Follow this link)



PLANNING, HARD WORK, AND A POSITIVE ATTITUDE ARE ALL YOU NEED TO TURN YOUR DREAMS INTO REALITY!



Alistair McIntyre
Doug the Digger creator and co-writer.



Jack Lloyd-Jones
Co-writer, musician and narrator for the book's CD.



Bevan Fidler
Doug the Digger artist/illustrator.



WHANGAREI SPECIAL OLYMPICS WOW! ANNUAL PRIZEGIVING

on Saturday 6th of August Mr Mac was thrilled to attend the Whangarei Special Olympics Annual Prizegiving, and see some wonderful athletes rewarded for their hard work!

1 Freedom Harrison and Shannon Morgan
Most Attendance for Basketball

2 Nadia Morgan
Special Attendance -
Events Most Attended

3 Anthony Roe
1st Male Special Events

4 Angie-Rose Wilson
Most Improved Female
Tenpin Bowler

5 Doug Price
Bowls - Best Player Trophy
Kamo Club

6 Steve Blagrove
Bowls

7 Janet Mold
Bowls

8 Darcy Collins
Indoor Bowls - Yearly Attendance
Award

9 Suzie Clark (left)
Most Supportive Female in
Basketball, with Kathy Morgan

10 Pixie Baker
Receiving the Collins Trophy from
Michael Collins for Track and Field
Best Achiever

11 Shannon Morgan
Most Helpful, Progressive and
Achievement in Any Code

12 Trish and James McGowan
presenting a new trophy for Soccer
Achievements to Whangarei
Special Olympics

13 David Fowke
Soccer/Tenpin -
pictured with
Kris Fowke.



Alistair McIntyre (Mr Mac)
receives his Certificate
of Appreciation from
Andrew Langford and
Glyhis Collins
in recognition of his
ongoing support to the
Whangarei Special
Olympics Committee
and Athletes.



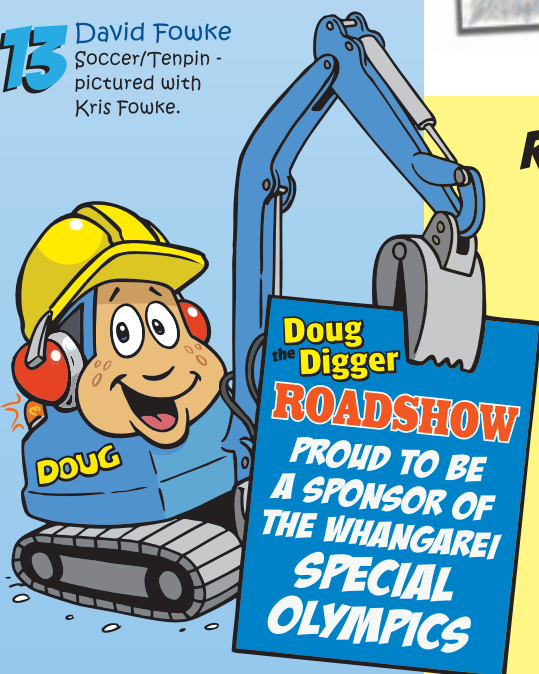
To receive an Award we must show self belief, a determination to do our best, and work hard at achieving our goals. Congratulations to all of you from the Doug the Digger Team!

[Click here](#) to visit the Whangarei Special Olympics website.

RHYS MCINTYRE MEMORIAL TROPHY WINNER Raymond Tipene

This year Raymond Tipene has progressed in his indoor bowls where he has excelled in leadership with his peers, and is now in the position of "Skip" in team events, which he takes very seriously while giving encouragement to his team.

An athlete may only receive the prestigious Rhys McIntyre Memorial Trophy once, which is awarded to "an athlete who has overcome the greatest difficulty in participating in their sport."



MR MAC BRUSHES UP ON HIS FIRST AID SKILLS



St John



Here's Mr Mac receiving his First Aid Refresher Certificate from St John Tutor Alun Evans. During the course, Mr Mac had to take part in discussions and activities, and use his **reading and writing skills** to answer questions designed to test his First Aid knowledge.

St John First Aid courses are a great way to learn the skills needed to act as an emergency first aider during medical or health emergencies.



LIONS CLUBS OF WHANGAREI FAMILY FUN DAY



The public that came to view the Super Special Stage of the Rally of Whangarei in July at Pohe Island were able to also enjoy the FAMILY FUN DAY, put on by the Lions Clubs of Whangarei.

The clubs arranged for food outlets and other entertainment such as Mr Mac with his 'Little Cutie' Digger, bouncy castles and children's games. The Whangarei Motocross club and the Four Wheel drive Club also came on board, running events in conjunction with the rally.

Funds raised by the Lions went to the KidsCan Raincoat appeal. Just another example of the fantastic work put in by the Lions to support our community! [\(Link to Lions website\)](#)



**Doug
the Digger**

COLOUR-IN PAGE

**DOUG
SAYS... TO BE SAFE,
BE PREPARED!**

