

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

the river, the land, the people

April 2021

Ian's Mobile Mechanical Services

Ian Blackburn loves motors. He has always loved fixing mechanical things, from pushbikes and motor bikes to heavy duty farm machinery, and is well-experienced in the world of motors.

Ian grew up in north-west England and when he left school he went into an apprenticeship:

"I started off with engineering then the engineering company went belly-up so I was fortunate enough to get into a car dealership leaning towards the more commercial side. Then I ended up at Volvo construction equipment for 7 or 8 years...", says Ian.

Ian did fork-truck repair and maintenance for a couple of companies for a few years. Then he worked for a subcontractor for Shell at one of their big refineries, fixing anything from pumps, cars, trucks to excavators:

"I like the heavy stuff but my body doesn't. I had a workplace accident in the early 90s which has caused me a lot of grief so have a lot of osteo-arthritis."

"I worked for a friend who had a breakdown recovery business so to earn extra income I did a lot of after-hours work and weekends with motorway break down and fatal

accident recovery stuff. Motorways in the UK are extremely busy and dangerous places.", says Ian.

After first coming to New Zealand for their honeymoon, Ian and his wife Andrea decided to return and make it their permanent home:

"I persuaded Andrea that it might be a better future for us to come out here...It was harder for Andrea as she has a big family but I finally persuaded her", says Ian.

They have been in New Zealand for 15 years now, first living outside of Wellington on a lifestyle block. They planned to move down to this area to retire but with health issues and wanting to lead a less stressful life, they decided that *"life was too short"* and moved down earlier to Motueka.

Since moving to Ngatimoti 14 months ago, Andrea and Ian and their two jack russells have been living in a caravan on their two acres. Building has begun on their new log house and they are hoping to move in by winter.

Originally Ian set up his mechanical services business as mobile but now they have resource consent to work from home. They will be building another workshop with a hoist making work easier for Ian:





“Basically I haven’t really advertised, except the newsletter, it’s just gone by word of mouth...I’m getting quite a lot of repeat business now.”

Andrea adds: *“It’s about building up that trust, quite a few local customers come back because they trust you...”*. Andrea is well-versed in car maintenance too as her father was in the car business.

It’s not just cars Ian can fix:

“I’ve had a few lawnmowers, a couple of tractors, and some quads. I haven’t any favourite, I like the variety so every day’s different”, Ian says.

“...Had a couple of people call in, touring in a ute. They’d got a warning light come on the dashboard. I plugged in my reader and basically the fuel filter had become blocked. I managed to take it apart, clean it and basically circumnavigate it to keep ‘em going until they got back home, they were from the north island. I said to them: ‘...it’ll be alright for

now but when you get back home get your local garage to fit a new one.’ It obviously hadn’t been changed in quite a while. The guy was quite miffed as it had only just been serviced.”

Ian and Andrea point out that when people are getting a service it’s just changing the oil and filter:

“... Air filters, fuel filters, transmission filters and spark plugs are all things that don’t get looked at or changed unless it’s requested. And that’s what keeps a car running smoothly.”

The Morris Minor is Ian’s favourite car. He used to have one in the UK:

“I quite like working on old cars, stuff you can get at. It’s a breath of fresh air after working on a lot of modern cars where everything’s buried and you have to fight to get at stuff”

As well as working on modern motorbikes, Ian has worked on restoring classic and vintage motorbikes. At the moment, he has a couple of vintage classic bikes- a 1972 Yamaha and a 1952 Triumph.

If you have a problem with a car, a truck, a tractor, a motorbike, a lawnmower or some other mechanical device, Ian’s your man! Phone 027 307 0803

Fiona Nelson

Reporter

Tasman BioStrategy

“Tasman is one of the most important places for natural environments in New Zealand...”, says Peter Lawless, the independent facilitator of the Tasman BioStrategy Working Group.

Many native species and ecosystems in Tasman are under threat, some already extinct, from introduced weeds and pest animals, and from the way we use land and what we discharge into waterways. To integrate the biodiversity and biosecurity priorities, and as a response to the national Biodiversity Strategy, Tasman District Council (TDC) have commissioned a BioStrategy for Te tai o Aorere (Tasman District).

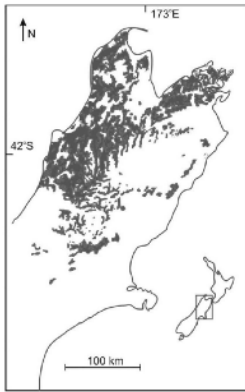
Work began on the biostrategy 18 months ago with a governance group of Councillors and Iwi representatives, co-governing a working group. The working group has broad representation from conservation, recreation and



agricultural groups of the district. Lawless describes the group as:

“...A combination of people who are knowledge holders about the subject matter of biodiversity and biosecurity and people who are well-connected in the community and understand the needs of different sectors”.

Nationally and regionally, a number of reviews and plans for looking after our environment have been completed recently, are underway or due soon – New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy; a National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity; new National Freshwater



Tasman-Honey Dew Beech Tree Capital of the World

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38%
OF MARINE SPECIES



84%
OF FRESHWATER FISH



80%
OF INVERTEBRATES



Standards; Nelson Tasman Regional Pest Management Plan; Tasman Long Term Plan.

With both the upcoming review of Tasman Environment Plan, and Central government's review of the Resource Management Act, Lawless sees that there's a lot of change on the horizon:

"All of those things together said it was time for Tasman to get alignment and integration in its thinking about what to do..."

The idea of having a BioStrategy for Tasman is to have "an umbrella" that integrates efforts to protect our environment from biosecurity threats and restore natural ecosystems:

"The strategy doesn't effect anyone's land use directly, it's not a legally binding document. And it's not a document just for Council. It's a living document for the whole of the community that can grow over time...", says Lawless.

The strategy will enable resources to help landowners with their priorities. For example, for groups like Motueka Catchment Collective, the strategy will enable landowners to achieve their objectives of caring for the whole catchment – water monitoring, fencing, riparian plantings.

Post-Covid government spending priorities have meant that \$6million has been allocated to the Top of the South between the four councils to deal with problem weeds:

" At least \$1-2 million will come to Tasman. Do you spend it on public or private land? Our Strategy will say that we know that most significant natural areas on private land are degrading under the pressure of weeds, we have all the evidence sitting there. Most landowners don't have the resources to deal with that.", Lawless says.

Putting on his ecologist hat, Lawless emphasises the importance of Tasman's natural environment:

" ...

Tasman has incredibly high diversity, and very great contrasts. Kahurangi National Park is where you have plants and animals that are not found anywhere else in the world. Tasman is the Honey Dew Beech Forest capital of the world, an unusual ecosystem found only on remnants of Gondwanaland, under pressure from introduced wasps..."

Yet, as Lawless points out:

"We've got amazing groups like Project Janzoon, and Health Post working up at Farewell Spit. There are lots and lots of community initiatives - tree plantings near Moutere at the moment, trapping groups like Friends of Flora... we've got these really good building blocks but they're not all brought together anywhere to say: 'How do we best make all these initiatives work together? and 'How do we attract the resources to our region that we need to deal with the issues that we face?'"

Early community engagement has been very important. Eight public meetings have been held around the region, mostly well-attended; a [Facebook page](#) reaching 7,000 people, and more than 70 written submissions:

"All that has been analysed and responded to...There will be further consultation when the draft comes out in the middle of the year".

The draft strategy is expected to be in place by Spring:

"Council's response will be really important but equally the response of other sectors – the fishers, farmers, and foresters - will be, at least, as important...", Lawless says.

When complete, the strategy has to be satisfactory to both Council and Iwi.

To be included in the ongoing discussion, you can join Tasman BioStrategy mailing list, by emailing tasman.biostrategy@tasman.govt.nz . For local community conservation projects see [Tasman Environmental Trust](#) website.

Fiona Nelson Reporter

NGATIMOTI SCHOOL NEWS

2021 TERM DATES

TERM 1: Tuesday 9 February - Friday 16 April
Good Friday 2 April, Easter Mon & Tues holidays 5 & 6 April.
TERM 2: Mon 3 May - Fri 9 July
TERM 3: Mon 26 July - Fri 1 October
TERM 4: Mon 18 October - Monday 20 December



NGATIMOTI FESTIVAL DAY SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER ☺

Swimming Pool Thank you for supporting our school swimming pool once again this season. Key holders; if you no longer need your pool key please return it to the school office within school hours for your \$10 refund.

We have enjoyed a busy term one at Ngatimoti School, with students making the most of the last of summer with water safety learning, our triathlon and swimming sports competitions and class trips to our adopted section of the Abel Tasman National Park at Bark Bay. We have also had classes enjoying visiting the Motueka Library and the Science Roadshow, which was held at Motueka High School. School teams have represented us particularly well at an environmental day of learning at Kaiteriteri, and at a sports leadership day at the Motueka Recreation Centre. We have welcomed visitors to school, teaching us about mapping and the uses of different maps. Many thanks to Maya for your talk about Adventure Racing using maps, and thanks Sam, whose work is based on maps and drone work.



Yellow house students make some noise for their team at our school triathlon ☺

Next term, amongst other things, we look forward to waka trips, drama lessons with Damara, a Book Week, the Life Education Truck and te reo with River.

New enrolments are welcome. For more information about Ngatimoti School please contact Alison Turner, Principal Tel: 03 526 8842. office@ngatimoti.school.nz www.ngatimoti.school.nz



ST. JAMES CHURCH

NGATIMOTI

April Services

**Sunday 4th April at 10:30
a.m.**

Easter Family Service

Children's Sunday School

Morning tea and social time to follow

Sunday 18th April at 10:30 a.m.

Family Service

Children's Sunday School

Morning tea and social time to follow

ANZAC SERVICE

Sunday 25th April at 10:30 a.m.

All Welcome



Join us [Wednesday 14th April, 8pm](#) at Ngatimoti Community Room to hear Joanna SantaBarbara from Nelson Tasman Climate Forum speak on the Regional Climate Action Plan

**all advertisements 8.5cm wide
\$2 per cm high**

Motueka Valley Association

Meetings every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8pm (7.30pm in winter) in the Ngatimoti Community Rooms.

Everyone welcome!

For community concerns email the MVA at info@mva.org.nz or contact any of the following **committee members**:

Peter Laufkotter	526 8554
Fiona Nelson	020 4160 1968
Joel Briffault	021 0784 7245
Fay Knight	022 320 0449

local halls/facilities

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall
• Bex Douglas • 021 173 1279 • ngatimoti.hall@gmail.com
Ngatimoti Community Rooms • Sarah Bradshaw • 526 8026
Pokororo Hall • Sylvia Arnold • 526 8282
Woodstock Hall • Kerry Hall • 543 3884

about your newsletter

- delivered on the 1st Thursday of the month to 500 homes in the Motueka Valley from February to December
- send stories, photos & ads by the 20th of the month to the editor, Seiji Kubo: newsletter@mva.org.nz
- advertising rate: \$2.00 per column cm
- online newsletter + archives: www.mva.org.nz

www.mva.org.nz



MVA is looking for new committee members

Do you have an interest in the well-being of the Motueka Valley?

Do you have a couple of hours every month to attend meetings at Ngatimoti Community Rooms?

Do you enjoy meeting new people?

If you're interested or have questions, contact one of the committee members or email info@mva.org.nz.



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Location of AEDs in Motueka Valley

- **Woodstock Automotive (Kerry Hall)**
982 Dovedale Road, Woodstock Junction.
- **Ngatimoti Community Rooms/Fire Station**
Motueka Valley Highway next to Ngatimoti School
- **Pokororo Hall**
West Bank Road at corner of Graham Valley Road

Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group is a registered charity (CC50792).
Donations towards the maintenance of the AEDs can be made to:
Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group, NBS acc # 03-1354-0474291-00 or
contact Gloria Anderson, chairperson, on 526 8644 for more information.



SOLD

Most recent sold success stories -

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Kanuka PI - \$52,000 over asking price

Graham Valley Rd - \$60,500 over asking price

Kina Beach Rd- \$65,000 over asking price

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Ngatimoti Playgroup is your local Motueka Valley community playgroup focused on fun and friendships, for kids and parents/caregivers alike. We are a welcoming group providing play and socialisation opportunities for all preschoolers and their whanau in our community, regardless of eventual schooling choice. The sessions are free and held weekly during term time on Fridays between 9:15 and 12:15, but families are welcome to arrive anytime during the session to fit in with naps etc. We are based in the Ngatimoti School hall on Greenhill road. Bring a plate for shared morning tea and join in the fun. We love to see new faces and welcome back old friends, so come along or contact Marian for more info on 03 543 3613 / 021 2400 416 or ngati



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Motueka Valley Residents

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Motueka Valley Open Mic

Come and check out our awesome valley's local musicians, storytellers, comedians and diverse folk for a night of whatever goes on the mic.

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