

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

the river, the land, the people

August 2021

Riding On

Cycling wasn't an activity Don Sutherland had done all his life. As a kid growing up in Blenheim, Don had a push bike like most kids and had ridden it around a bit. As a high school kid he remembers riding from Blenheim to Picton. It was not until he was in his 70s that cycling became a regular past time:

"I had just turned 70 and a friend from Picton who was organising bike trips around the South Island, asked me to come as a van driver for the trip. The group was known as the Geriatrix group for older riders. There were seven to eight riders and a van driver."

The Three Passes Trip in 2008, started in Picton on 29th March and ended in Christchurch on 14th April, after crossing three passes. It was Don's responsibility as driver to support the riders, carry their personal gear and food as they were stopping at Backpackers and such places:

"Everyone put into the kitty for food and had to pay their own accommodation but the van driver didn't have to pay any vehicle fees."

It was on this first trip that Don became inspired to start cycling himself:

"If I was feeling tired of driving the van I would hop on a bike and ride for a bit, and I realised I was starting to enjoy this..."

After Don's first trip, he bought a bike himself and did a few more trips in South Island as van driver/bike rider. He also did two cycling trips in Australia.

A couple of years ago, life changed for Don when he fell off his boat:

"I've always been a keen yachty but was starting to feel my age. This particular day when we were derigging I got knocked off the boat. I fell and grazed the back of my head and cracked my pelvis. I was in hospital for about a week. As I lay on the ground looking up at the boat I thought: Bloody hell! I'm going to sell you".

It didn't take Don long after the accident before he was on his bike again. Don had been riding into Motueka Sunday market for a number of years with a few of his neighbours. But after his cracked pelvis he realised he had to "bow to age", and he bought an electric bike.



"It takes just under the hour to get into town, 20 and a half kilometres. I've got a saddle bag on the bike and can get a few things in that..."

While many local cyclists are waiting eagerly for the Great Taste Cycle Trail to be completed from Tapawera to Motueka, Don says it won't make it much quicker or safer getting into town:

"A lot of people are scared by the traffic behind them but I find I'm a bit blasé about it. I keep well to the left and most traffic is courteous. Years ago you used to get stropky people yelling out "Get Off the Road" but I haven't heard that for years."

With his friend from Picton, Don has ridden a couple of longer overnight trips on his e-bike. Most recently:

"...We cycled to Tapawera then through Spooners Tunnel to Monaco, and I ran out of battery at the last stages. They are a very heavy bike to push when you've got to do all the peddling but I got there. The next day we went to Rabbit Island, across on the ferry to Mapua then to the Top10 Campground at Motueka for the night. We were going to go to Kaiteriteri but were getting a bit tired so we crossed over the river and went up the West bank to home – it was four days of cycling."

Sitting on his verandah, looking out at Crusader, Don says:

"At my stage of life, riding the bike gets me out and gets the blood flowing, it's good exercise. I'm getting a bit more lazy and it's hard to motivate myself as I'm getting older. On the e-bike you're not loading up weight on your joints, you're getting the movement and exercise without putting pressure on your structural system...I love it here and don't want to live anywhere else."

Fiona Nelson

Reporter

***Stay Tuned for an Update and discussion on the Cycle Trail with Nick Ross, Trail Manager at MVA meeting Wednesday 11th August, 7pm, Ngatimoti Community Room. All Welcome.**



Being Mindful with Your Money

Last month more than thirty people braved the cold in Mapua to hear Barry Coates, Founder and CEO of [Mindful Money](#), talk about ethical investing - *Making Money a Force for Good*. The evening was hosted by Greens Motueka branch as part of their Local Matters programme focussing on issues rather than politics.

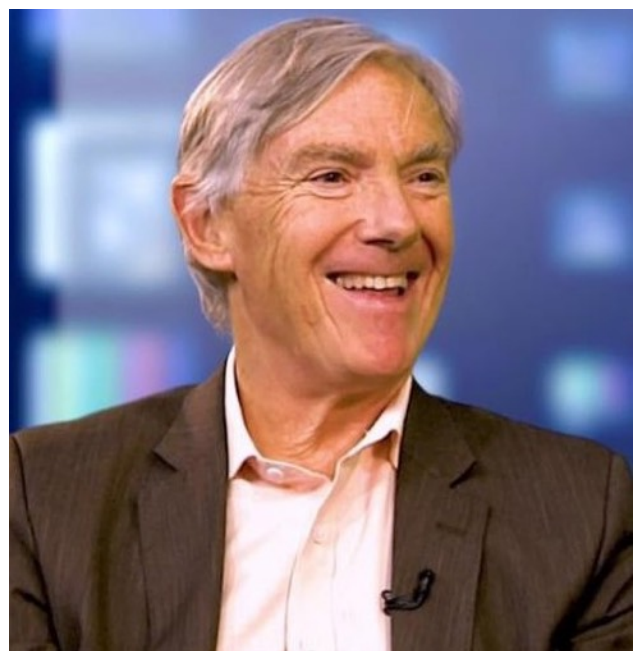
Coates has come from a background of working with World Wildlife Fund UK and being part of the British delegation as a NGO observer at the 1992 Earth Summit Conference in Rio de Janeiro. He cites this time as being really important to him:

"...it was a formative time, a period when environmental issues, development issues, human need, ecological integrity came together in a way that they hadn't before...when developing countries were saying 'we can't deal with the environment unless we have some help', and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity were signed", Coates said

Coates went onto to work for OxFam NZ for a decade, primarily in the Pacific, and worked at Auckland University Business School setting up the Sustainability program. He received the Sustainability award from Sustainability Business Network and has been active on trade policy for many years.

After his year in parliament as a Greens Party MP (2016 – 17), Coates decided to set up an initiative on ethical investing:

"There'd been an ethical investment movement for years but it had never really taken off into the mainstream, like it's time hadn't yet come...My idea on setting up Mindful Money was to say can we push this into the mainstream and make it popular here while still including a kind of repudiation of green washing and the lack of integrity that is often present." Coates said



As was pointed out in the introduction, many people may think they don't need to worry about where their savings are being invested as they may have little or no savings anyway. But in reality every individual who has a KiwiSaver account has savings, and can make an informed choice about where those funds are invested.

Mindful Money, a programme of Sustainable Initiatives Aotearoa - a registered charity, is set up to empower New Zealanders to be responsible for how they invest their savings. The website provides objective information and research about KiwiSaver funds and other investment funds so people can know where their money is being invested.

A survey conducted in 2018 showed that most New Zealanders expected that their KiwiSaver funds would be managed *responsibly and ethically*. The survey identified barriers to responsible investing – lack of objective information, not enough time to research and compare the options, and lack of credibility for ethical claims:

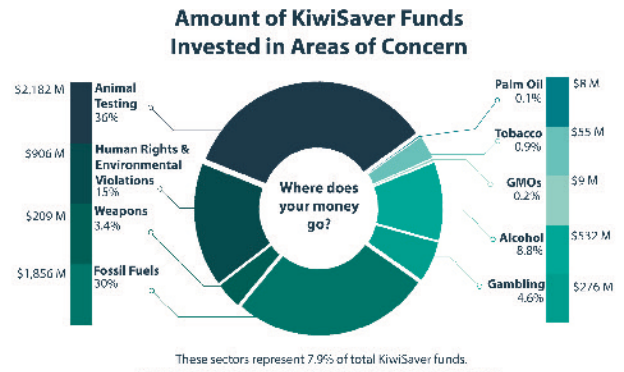
“Financial advisors will tell you about the returns you’ll get from an investment but won’t tell you about the impacts of your decisions on ecosystems or on people...” Coates said.

The Mindful Money site is user-friendly. It has a Fund Checker that shows in what your KiwiSaver or Investment Fund invest, and a Fund Finder to choose the funds that match your values. It gives an independent comparison of your options for investing. A company is considered active in an investment sector (such as gambling or weapons) if at least 10% of the company’s revenues come from that sector. Mindful Money’s approach is to find the best match for the criteria of the investor, it is not about identifying the best or worst funds. Their methodology can be seen on their site.

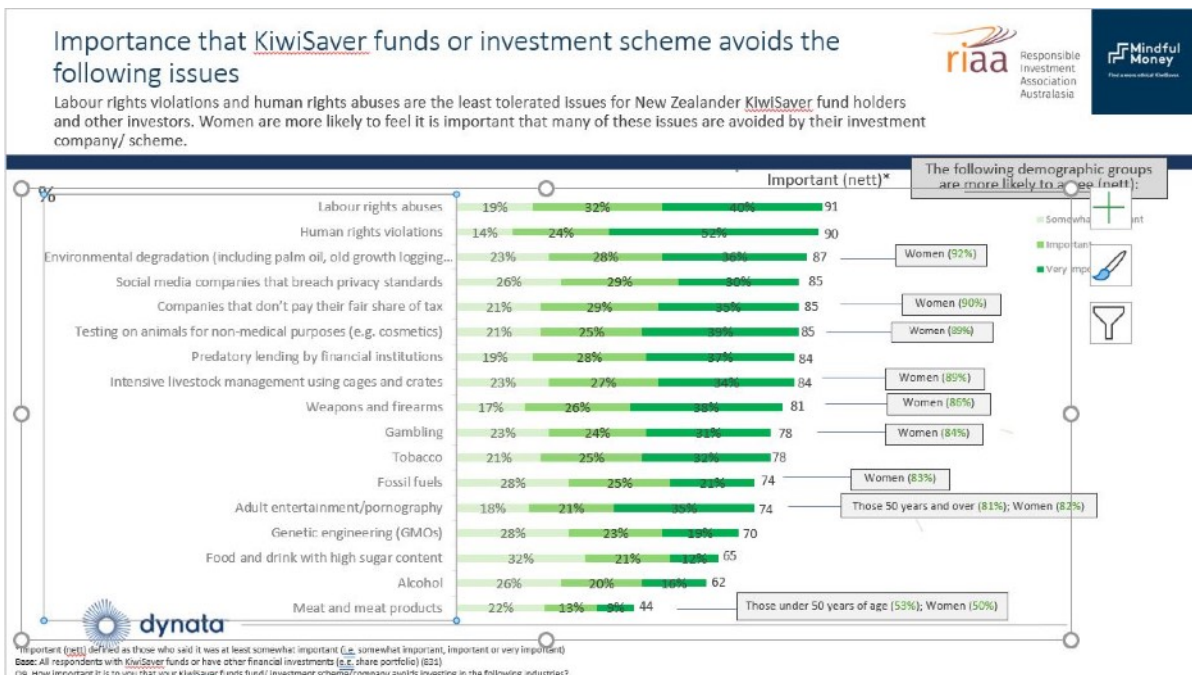
Mindful Money doesn't own or manage funds and doesn't directly invest your money. It earns fees from the funds when investors use the platform to invest in those funds. The service is free to use and as a registered charity tax- deductible donations can be made to continue the campaign for responsible investment.

As Coates stressed: *“...Of course the way you invest has consequences. We need to take notice of the impact of our financial decisions, the impacts our financial decisions have on sustainability.”*

Mindful Money is a member of [Sustainable Business Network](#) and the [Responsible Investment Association of Australasia](#)



“Yes, the planet got destroyed. But for a beautiful moment in time we created a lot of value for shareholders.”



NGATIMOTI SCHOOL NEWS

2021 TERM DATES

TERM 3: Mon 26 July - Fri 1 October

TERM 4: Mon 18 October - Monday 20 December



Welcome back to all for Term 3. Principal Ali Turner is on sabbatical leave for this term and Heather Reid is Acting Principal. Lauren Milnes returns as Deputy Principal and teacher in Room 4. Term 3 is already looking very busy; we continue special te reo lessons with River and celebrate Māori Language Week later in the term. Conservation Week also occurs this term and ties in beautifully with our environmental education and philosophy. Many of our students are involved in sports teams including volleyball and netball and we will have some tennis lessons this term too.

Thank you to everyone who supported our quiz night last term. A whopping \$870 was raised for the school music department. Huge thanks to Glenn and all who attended. Funds raised will be equalled by school to purchase instruments. Watch out for the next round!

New enrolments are welcome. For more information about Ngatimoti School call 03 526 8842.

office@ngatimoti.school.nz www.ngatimoti.school.nz



Ngatimoti Festival

Ngatimoti Parents Group are beginning to make plans for the 20th annual Ngatimoti Festival to be held on Sunday 24 October. Festival is organised by parents and we invite all members of our community to become involved! Contact Annie at ngatimotifestival@gmail.com for craftstall applications. We would also love to hear from you if you would be interested in volunteering your services on the day or if you have any services, art or crafts you would consider donating to our auction. There are very limited spaces for food stalls and these are by invite only.

Glysohate Review

[Environment Protection Authority NZ](https://www.epa.govt.nz) is currently reviewing Glysohate. They are calling for information on the use of [glysohate](https://www.epa.govt.nz) in Aotearoa New Zealand to help decide whether to change the rules around its use.

Responses must be received by 5pm **Friday 27th August** and can be made online using the secure response form, or download the word or PDF response form and email or post your response: Glysohate@epa.govt.nz or post **Glysohate Call for Information**, Environmental Protection Authority Private Bag 63002, Waterloo Quay, Wellington 6140.

POT LUCK NIGHT

What a very successful evening with close to 100 people young and old showcasing our great community spirit



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Winter Art Workshops Motueka

Across July/August 2021 **The Motueka Arts Council** brings a variety of arts workshops, sing, carve, print, stitch, weave and more!

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Motueka Valley Association Community 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 Comm. Rooms (Sarah Bradshaw 526 8026)
Pokororo Hall (Sylvia Arnold 526 8282)
Woodstock Hall (Kerry Hall 543 3884)

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Sunday 15th August at

10:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School
Morning tea and social time
to follow.

All Welcome

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Location of AEDs in Motueka Valley

- **Woodstock Automotive (Kerry Hall)**
1982 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.



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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



CONTACT



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