

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

March 2012

MVA Meeting

15 Feb 2012

At the first meeting of the year the following topics were discussed;

- Review of the TRMP: Trevor Norriss reported that the concerns regarding Multiple Occupancy from the October public meeting at Ngatimoti hall would be aired at the TDC February Environment & Planning meeting. He would also keep us well informed on the progress and timing of the Rural Futures Project.
- Two Mortars at St. James church: the two mortars at St. James church have deteriorated and Kevin Brody of Motueka will repair these in situ.
- Peninsular Bridge 100 year Celebration: in 2013 our bridge will be 100 years old. A few ideas were thrown around of how we could celebrate this occasion. Mark Lowe agreed to be a contact person (526 8575) and on the 'Peninsular Bridge 100 year Celebration steering group.'
- Amalgamation: with the vote looming on this important issue, it was felt that the best approach was to have a Q&A evening on 21 March at Ngatimoti hall with our 3 Ward councillors, Trevor Norriss, Brian Ensor and Tim King. There's been a lot written on this issue in the last year and this is a chance for locals to try to get some clarification in an informal environment. and for those who may have missed the 'Amalgamation: Impossible Dream or Achievable Nightmare?' talk on the 15 March at Seifried Estate.

Questions and Answers on Amalgamation

at Ngatimoti Memorial Hall
8pm Wed 21 March 2012

All Welcome

Bring your questions and your opinions

A personal opinion from Trevor Norriss:

There is a lot of misinformation and misconceptions about the proposed amalgamation that I thought I would try and clarify some of the key ones.

1. It's going to happen anyway/Government will force it: This is not true. If the more than 50% of votes cast are against amalgamation, then it will not proceed – by law. John Key has also clearly stated that he will not be forcing any local government amalgamations.

2. Rates reductions: While some grand promises have been made, the Local Government Commission (LGC) has been very careful to down play potential cost savings and has said that "while net savings will occur these are unlikely to translate into rates reductions..." and that "an undue focus on fi-

ancial savings may therefore be misleading for the public." It is interesting to note that the Auckland Super City is setting rates for the first time since amalgamation and is facing large rate hikes for some areas.

3. Debt: The LGC have stated that under amalgamation TDC's current debt will be ring-fenced and be a targeted rate onto Tasman ratepayers. Further, one of the "benefits" of amalgamation was the ability to take on more debt. Considering the Local Government Minister considers Councils already have too much debt, it is interesting that he is so clearly in favour of this proposal. So while there may be enhanced capacity to take on new debt to pay for Nelson's failing infrastructure, Tasman ratepayers will still be burdened with their existing debt.

4. Increased governance costs but less representation: The reorganization proposal includes the creation of two advisory boards, a Rural Advisory Committee and a Maori Board who along with both the Motueka and Golden Bay Community Boards will each appoint a member to sit on (and vote on) every council standing committee. This creates an extra layer of governance which will add considerably to the cost of governance. The LGC has estimated an increase of nearly \$500,000 per annum in governance costs. Further, the cost of Community Boards is at present met by a targeted rate which is paid by the Communities they represent, whereas under this proposal the costs of the two Community Boards (and Advisory Boards) will be met by ratepayers throughout the district.

5. Rural Representation: I do not believe the Rural Advisory Committee truly replaces elected representation. The committee members will not be accountable to the ratepayers at all, and they will not be on Full Council who signs off all final decisions and Council plans. The simple fact is, at the moment 9 of 13 councillors are from the rural areas of Tasman, whereas under this proposal only 6 out of 16 councillors will be.

If there are any points that I have not covered or any further information that anyone would like, then please feel free to ring or e-mail me. But most importantly, vote! Not voting is a vote in favour of amalgamation.

Of note, this is my personal opinion, not necessarily that of Tasman District Council.

Trevor Norriss, Motueka Ph. 528-0090
E-mail trevor.norriss@xtra.co.nz

Eminent planning scholar Owen McShane will be speaking in Nelson, 3pm Thursday 15 March at Seifried Estate on 'Amalgamation: Impossible Dream or Achievable Nightmare?'. mva.org.nz for more details

Greenhill Rd Ngatimoti RD1 Motueka 7196
Tel: 03 526 8842 Fax: 03 526 8872
Email: office@ngatimoti.school.nz

Term 1 2012:
2 Feb – 5 Apr

We are pleased to announce that our new classroom – Room 5 – is now OPEN! As Damien O'Connor said last week at our opening ceremony, we wouldn't be without our parents! As parents we all want the best for our kids. We want them to be happy, we want them to be able to learn well and we want them to have successes. To do this, we need to be there for them. We need to help them to build on their positive attitudes. Together we can work for the best possible learning outcomes.

School Pool Thank you to all of you who have supported our school pool by using it responsibly throughout the season. The pool remains open to key holders outside of school hours for the brave; however if you feel it's time to return your key to the school office we will give you your \$10 refund.

We recently celebrated success at the **Inter Schools Swimming Sports** at Motueka High School where 23 enthusiastic Ngatimoti students competed in unseasonably cold conditions. For once, being crammed like sardines in the stands was very welcome! Our children did us proud, showing their RIVER values at all times, cheering wildly for their team mates and gaining some very good results against a very large field.

Purple Cake Day. We had a very purple Thursday last week to raise funds for 'Purple Cake Day'. This is a celebration of children around the world and this year it is a fundraiser for the children of Nepal. Students baked purple cakes to sell and wore as much purple as possible – Ngatimoti School raised an amazing \$285.90!! Great effort everyone, Thank you!

Firewood For Sale We have a limited amount of firewood for sale – some dry and some not so dry! Give us a call at school! 526 8842.

Scrap Metal If anybody has scrap metal they would like to donate to school as a fundraiser, we would love to hear from you. This includes car batteries, any types of metal – ferrous or non-ferrous and we can arrange pick-up. Phone the office: 526 8842.

Appeal and Warning

On Saturday afternoon 25 February, outside the Ngatimoti Bowling Green there were members' cars parked while the owners were playing bowls. When people returned to their cars several items were missing from 2 of the cars.

These items included a camera, a cell phone and a backpack containing personal medical items. This has been reported to the police.

We appeal to the people concerned to return the items to a Bowling Club member or leave them at the Club building. Please note that this is also a warning to local people that someone is taking things which do not belong to them.

Keep your buildings and cars locked.

Madeline Rogers (president Ngatimoti Bowling Club)

Friends of St James Church Ngatimoti



Sunday, 18th March, at 10.30a.m

Family Service

Conducted by

Rev. Wayne Thornton

Motueka Anglican Minister

Sunday School for children

Morning tea to Follow

UP COMING SERVICES

Easter Sunday Service

8th April, at 10.30a.m.

conducted by Rev. Charles Tyrell

ANZAC SERVICE

25th April, at 10.30 a.m.

Motueka District Brass in attendance

A very warm welcome to all

Pokororo Women's Club

We meet first Wednesday of each month
at the Pokororo Hall

usually at 7.30pm for fun, friendship, and
sometimes fundraising for local causes.

We welcome new members

For more information call Ann at 5268076

MVA Committee Members

Fred Hickling	528 9122
Bruce Dyer	526 8282
Lesley Hadley	526 8047
Stuart Granger	970 9004
Bernd Reiter	526 8544
Karen O'Malley	526 8211

Please have all ads and copy for the newsletter in by the end of the previous month

General Content: Your contributions, ideas and community notices are welcome

Community Concerns: You can contact the MVA on local matters info@mva.org.nz

Advertisements: All ads can be emailed to Stefan at ads@mva.org.nz \$2.00 per column centimetre. Past advertisers please let Stefan know if you wish to continue your advertising by emailing at the above address or **Phone 526 8066**

Back copies of the newsletter are available for printout from the website mva.org.nz



Many thanks to the Ngatimoti School for printing our newsletter. PLEASE have copy for next newsletter in by end of March. Email Wendy newsletter@mva.org.nz with editorial content.
For advertising email Stefan (ads@mva.org.nz) or phone 526 8066

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Greg Mason

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Newsletter Ads: Please SEND AD REQUESTS

DIRECTLY TO STEFAN **PREFERRABLY BY EMAIL:**

ADS@MVA.ORG.NZ

(OR PHONE: 526 8066)

Acceptance of an advertisement is at the
discretion of the editor. Cut off date for the
next newsletter is the 31st or when full !

MARKET DAY

@ Mountain Valley Centre

Sunday 1st April 10-1pm

BRING YOUR PRODUCE, CAR BOOT, GAMES OR
COME FOR A COFFEE

Stalls \$10, kids 4 free

Contact: MVC 5268034

y.hammond@actrix.co.nz

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Zhineng Qigong & Ren Xue classes in 2012

Ellen Urselmann and Aiyanna Leenheer will both teach Qigong and Ren Xue in the Community Rooms again this year!

There will be introductory classes starting on a regular basis and weekly on-going practise sessions.

Aiyanna teaches on Tuesday mornings: 8:30 till 10:30 am: practise sessions
Tuesday evenings: 6:30 till 8:30 pm: introductory classes

Ellen teaches on Monday evenings: 6.30 till 8.30 pm: practise sessions
Tuesday afternoons: 1 till 2.30 pm and 3.00 till 5.00 pm for introductory classes and on-going practise sessions.

Both Aiyanna and Ellen are also available for individual Ren Xue counselling and Qi healing therapy.

Qigong teaching and healing has been taught and practised for several years now, in the Community Rooms in Ngatimoti and elsewhere in the region.

Many people have experienced the benefits of their learning and healing. These benefits show in their health, improved energy levels and in their state of mind. They have gained more clarity about life and are better equipped to solve life's problems. Qigong and Ren Xue are very effective in improving life on all levels.

Introductory classes on Tuesday evenings starting in February.

New students WELCOME!

Contact us for more detailed information and any other queries:

Ellen: Ph.: 5268803 Email: EllenUrselmann@orcon.net.nz

Aiyanna: Ph.: 5268589 Email: Aiyanna@unite.co.nz

The Ngatimoti Community Art Group

meets in the Fire Brigade Rooms every Thursday 9-12
This is a social untutored group in which the participants engage in any art or craft, eg. painting, knitting, mosaics, card making etc.

Come and meet your neighbours and discover their hidden talents.

For more information, phone Anne 5268623



Missing From Greenhill Road, Ngatimoti

Percy, our young Oriental cat, has been missing since 11th February and is very sadly missed. He is not a large cat and is of slender build with big ears, a long tail and is a silvery grey colour with a hint of fawn. Percy is neutered and microchipped. We are desperate to find him and a reward is offered for any information leading to his

return home.

Please phone Denise or Neil on 526 8847 or email: mcquarrie@paradise.net.nz if you have seen Percy.