

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

June 2014

We've Done It!!

Two defibrillators have been purchased for our community

After the public meeting in Ngatimoti Hall on March 18th a group of 9 volunteers met again on 26th March and formed the Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group.

This group consists of: Glen Davenport (Secretary/Treasurer); Gloria (Chairperson) and John Anderson; Diana Wood; Linda Sillery and Norman Carrington; Jenny Green; Ian Thorn and Stuart Granger.

The Group has applied to become a registered charity and is awaiting approval from the Department of Internal Affairs.

Since our last update in the Motueka Valley Newsletter we have had several more very generous donations from members of the community, as well as a \$500 donation from the Motueka Valley Association, which put us in the position to be able to purchase 2 Defibrillators (AED) – one will be located at the Ngatimoti Rural Fire Station and one will be installed at the workshop of Kerry Hall near the Baton Bridge.

A group of about 20 community members have volunteered and will be trained in CPR and the use of the defibrillator (AED) and will be called upon to provide the machine in case of an emergency. These machines will be located in boxes so that if a community member or the public needed them they can access them..

Funds will still be needed to cover ongoing maintenance costs and volunteer training. If you still wish to make a donation or volunteer, please contact Gloria Anderson 5268644 or Glen Davenport 5268740.

REMEMBER – IT MIGHT BE YOUR LIFE WE ARE SAVING!

Thank you to everyone who in any way has helped with the raising of this amazing amount of money for such a worthwhile cause.

June MVA Meeting 8pm Wed 18th June @ Reserve Community Room

All welcome to discuss local issues including the following;

Bridge Realignment

You may have read the article in the local paper of the TDC's decision to re-align and rebuild the narrow bridge down river from Ngatimoti hall. This project has been in the TDC's 10 year plan. The bridge is now "well past its use-by date" and considered to be top of the list for bridge replacement especially as the work will attract a 59% subsidy (which may drop to 51% in 2 years time). The project is estimated to cost \$700,000 from the 2014 and 2015 budget (including the cost of any land purchase that may be required.)

MVA was surprised to hear of the plan via the media and was concerned that the 'driving force' for the work seemed to be the transport industry's (not residents') demands. Presently the bridge can take 44 tonnes, the new bridge would be able to carry Big Rigs up to 62 tonnes. Concerns include increased road damage and the ongoing cost of it to the ratepayers, building a bridge on an ex rubbish tip, inviting increase of speed on an icy corner and generally questioning the urgency of such a project in times when the TDC is asking us to cut projects to enable a lowering of the Council's debt.

Councillor Trevor Norriss will be at the MVA meeting to give background to the above decision and answer any queries from local residents.

Jill Knowles

As I bike up Jill is sitting basking in the sun in front of the 1912-built Knowles family home at Pangatotara with prime views of the recent heavy snowfall on Mount Arthur. She's 98 years old,



was bowling at the Ngatimoti Bowling Club until last year ("when the bowl doesn't reach the other end of the pitch it's time to give up") and is still getting used to being carless she sold her Mit-

subishi 6 months ago. But there are many rich and long memories of valley life.

Jill came to Pangatotara in 1943. She'd been working at the Hermitage at Mt Cook and was engaged to be married. But "the war bust everything up." Her fiancé never came back and travel restrictions meant no tourists so she lost her job. Hearing about tobacco work in the Motueka valley Jill and a girlfriend travelled north and became tobacco pickers for the Knowles. "The whole valley was tobacco. I loved working outside in the sunshine." She describes a life of living in a workers' bach and the variety of jobs involved in tobacco farming. There were many women workers but at harvest time male workers were brought in from Australia and the Islands. The farms would share workers so they'd all work together on harvest days on different farms. And Jill married the Grower.

Later the government subsidised the halt of tobacco production as it was deemed harmful to health and the valley farmers searched for other crops. Strawberries, peas and beans, pumpkin and corn were grown for Kirkpatrick's canning. Jill and Francis lived with their 5 children in a bach - the 3 daughters all now live in the North Island but the 2 'boys' are still local identities - Lloyd's timber machining shop and Trevor's mill. The family later moved into 'Grandad's house' which was well known for its "Big Room," the place for lots of people; workers, neighbourhood and family. "Gosh there used to be a crowd of us."

I asked Jill if she'd show me the Big Room. The laughter, games and fun still resonated. "In the dark we'd pass around things like raw meat, or pine cones or a cow's skull with horns and that'd make them shriek." The room is spacious, light (french doors and long bay windows with seats), has comfy chairs and a piano. This room also functioned as a gallery in recent years. Jill's an artist and used to sell her paintings from here. There are only a few left and she won't sell those. The landscapes - mostly oil but some watercolour - bring some of our classic scenes into the Big Room - Molesworth, Wanaka, Lindis Pass, Motueka Valley, mountain slopes and river valleys. They're beautiful. Jill doesn't paint anymore "the paints dried up."

Jill now lives alone in Grandad Knowles' house but is surrounded by other Knowles families (locally known as 'Knowlesville') so she keeps up with all the family news. Trevor drives her to Motueka to do her shopping and most days she walks down to Lloyd's machining shop to chat with them. She used to mow all the lawns. Today she sits watching the sheep grazing under the fruit trees. "I've got plenty to do but I don't always do it."



Ngatimoti School
"Together We Excel"

Ngatimoti School
Greenhill Rd Ngatimoti
RD1 Motueka

Tel: 03 526 8842 Fax: 03 526 8872
Email: office@ngatimoti.school.nz

TERM DATES 2014:

Term 1: Tues 4 Feb – Thurs 17 April
Term 2: Mon 5 May – Fri 4 July
Term 3: Mon 21 Jul – Friday 26 Sept
Term 4: Mon 13 Oct – Wed 17 Dec

Thanks to some of our lovely neighbours who came along to a morning tea hosted by Room 3 recently. All our students were proud to showcase our beautiful school (and delicious muffins!) and it was a really nice way to connect with our precious neighbours.



We would also like to particularly thank Ed Stevens for the use of his land to host our school cross country event. Our strongest runners went on to compete in the Inter-schools cross country run at Rabbit Island last week with some fantastic results, including a well-deserved first place for our Year 8 girls, 2nd place for our Year 6 boys and 3rd for our Year 5 boys. We also produced some amazing individual results including Kim winning her race for the Year 6 girls; Hannah 2nd, Peri 3rd and Jasmine 4th in the Year 8 girls' race and Archie came in 2nd for the Year 6 boys too! Go Ngatimoti!!

In other news, all our students recently visited the Earthquake exhibition at Nelson Museum; we have had the Life Education Truck here at school with the learning focus this year being social relationships and friendships and we have had St John's Ambulance here at school providing some first aid training to our Year 4-8 students. In the sports arena this term we are off to a good start

with our mini ball and netball teams. Rooms 1 & 2 are focusing on some gymnastics practice at school in readiness for the upcoming inter-schools tournament.

BOT NEWS Our school board of trustees are continuing to investigate options for solar panels, to reduce some of our electricity costs, help offset any future increased use of electricity and allow for some useful learning regarding power usage. We understand that there is a sizeable initial investment needed to go ahead with a planned 7.8 kpw photovoltaic system. This would not be at the expense of teaching resources. If you would like more information, to ask any questions, or have any ideas to contribute, please contact Marios on 526 8280 or email marios.gavalas@xtra.co.nz



Use of Fire

Scion is conducting a national survey around the use of rural fire and would like your views. The focus of the project is to better understand how fire use is perceived and the benefits and issues if landowners could or couldn't use fire. To participate in the study go to:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Rural_Fire

MVA Newsletter Deliverers Wanted:

The local (bike) delivery system worked very well last month. However a deliverer is needed for Graham Valley (29 letterboxes). If you are willing to do this monthly task please telephone Lesley 5268047

ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI



Family Service

Sunday, 15th June at 10.30 am

Conducted by Rev. Ross Heyward

*All children welcome to Sunday School
Morning tea and social time to follow*

Local Hall Bookings

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall - Paul Wielandt 5268047
Reserve Community Room - Sarah Bradshaw 5268026
Pokororo Hall - Brian or Giselle Storer 5268065
Woodstock Hall - Kerry Hall 5433884

MVA Committee Members

Fred Hickling	027 448 4430
Bruce Dyer	526 8288
Lesley Hadley	526 8047
Stuart Granger	970 9004
Bernd Reiter	526 8545

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 month. 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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Please SEND AD REQUESTS DIRECTLY TO STEFAN
PREFERABLY BY EMAIL: ADS@MVA.ORG.NZ (PH 526 8066)
Acceptance of an advertisement is at the discretion of the
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Katerina: 5280194 mobile: 021 1590263

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