

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

February 2015

Community Profile

“The Slow Life . . .

by Lesley

is quite busy – physically”.....

is the realisation that Kazuyo has come to after the transition in pace and style of life that she and her husband, Seiji, have made since leaving Japan 24 years ago. Wanting to leave their hectic lifestyle in Japan, they arrived in NZ in 1991 with their 2 sons (5 & 10yrs) and established 2 businesses; “Tokyo Express,” retailing Japanese food products and “Rice Box,” Christchurch’s second sushi bar. “We were the boosters of the sushi boom.” They loved the quiet and friendliness of NZ, “the dark of the night, nobody on the streets, people saying hello, supermarkets closed on holidays . . .”

After 11 years they moved to Oamaru for a health college project which didn’t develop as planned and in the meantime Kazuyo and Seiji offered Bed & Breakfast to get people from Japan to NZ and introduce them to the “slow life” concept. Seiji even wrote and published a book for the Japanese market, “The Country of Flightless Birds.” However, Oamaru didn’t offer the slow life they wanted so they went looking for another quality of richness and found 5 hectares in Waiwhero road which was previously part of John Gordian’s organic orchard and had been subdivided into 5 lots by Brendon Hoyle.

In Waiwhero they bought a change of attitude and lifestyle. They’ve built a beautiful house (plastered wood-framed because strawbale as desired was too expensive) and continue the B&B (“Im Home”) for the Japanese market. “This is a very special area, even for NZ” they say, “We’ve met interesting and down-to-earth people and also many international people. It makes us feel comfortable.” They also learn a lot from the locals and their philosophy is a sharing of skills and knowledge; “we take and we give back.”

Kazuyo’s experience is in Japanese cooking which in itself has a long history of being healthy, true food. She makes and teaches others how to make traditional tofu and nato and grows herbs and vegetables that haven’t reached many of our gardens yet. Her food is fantastic to eat and to look at . . . and it’s “easy to do” so she’s passionate about passing on her skills. During the Oamaru health project, Seiji became very interested in bamboo charcoal and went to Japan to learn the process from a charcoal healer there. He’s built a kiln and harvests bamboo in Golden Bay. After preparation the whole process of firing takes about 1 week (starting



with a special ceremony). The end product is not only bamboo charcoal but also bamboo vinegar – the smoke travels along a long tube, cools and returns as a liquid which is later distilled using solar energy. This is their medicine for “anything.” Bamboo is special for Japanese and the health qualities are numer-

ous, not only for humans but also for deodorising, gardening, softening water and for stock. Seiji’s interest in all aspects of bamboo led to the NZ Bamboo Society having a site visit during their Feb. AGM to their property. Seiji is happy to share his knowledge and if interested locals want to make their own wood charcoal, they’re welcome to use the kiln.

And their solution to a physically busy slow life is “get a good sleep and you’ll be alright.”



MVA Meeting

8pm Wed 18 Feb 2015

Ngatimoti Reserve Community Room

This year’s meeting will start by brainstorming the issues and events that the MVA would be involved in for 2015.

One of the first will be the continuation of the Rural Land Use and Subdivision Policy 2013 review. TDC has been preparing changes in rural land use and subdivisions for the Tasman Resource Management Plan. The council is now seeking public input into the draft Plan Change until the end of March 2015.

Remember all residents are welcome to come along to the monthly MVA meetings. We keep them informal and relevant to valley life.

Motueka Valley Business Directory 2015 ~ Updates

Now that the 2015 Business Directory has been distributed to about 500 letterboxes, you may wish you had published your business or community group in there!

You can still send your details to irmajager@woosh.co.nz or give Irma a ring on 526 8080 and a regular update for the directory will be made available on-line.

POKORORO WOMEN’S CLUB NEWS

On the morning of our December meeting several of our older past members were taken out to a special Christmas Morning Tea at “Up the Garden Path”.

That evening we had an excellent turnout for our December meeting and all brought masses of cookies for our Christmas Parcel Gifting. A total of 136 specially wrapped goodies were distributed the next day to rest homes, past members, and those living on their own.

Pokororo Fair: Again members donated food and their time in the kitchen to keep the public supplied with scrumptious refreshments all day, total amount raised for our funds \$1200.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday February 4th. Please make contact if you would like details. New members are most welcome – just give us a ring for details.

Ann Dickson 5266266 Glen Davenport 5268740

Jocelyn Thorn 5268802

Ngatimoti Playgroup

Come and Play!

Free local playgroup for 0-5 year olds. Shared morning tea. 10-12 Friday mornings (during school term only) at Ngatimoti School Hall. Please contact Canada for further details 021994442 or 035268287.



Ngatimoti School
Greenhill Rd Ngatimoti
RD1 Motueka

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

TERM DATES 2015

Term 1 : Tues 4 Feb – Thurs 2 April
Term 2: 20 April – 3 July
Term 3: 20 July – 25 September
Term 4: 12 October – 16 December

Welcome back! In particular we would like to welcome new students Hannah and Ollie, Arabella, Rachel, Phoebe, Henry, Tayla and Chico to our school and hope you enjoy your time here with us. This year we have 4 classes again, with a slight juggle of rooms as follows:

Room 5: Senior students; Years 7 & 8 with Steve Dunn & Kathy Stephens.

Indigo Room: Years 5 & 6 with teacher Lauren Milnes.

Room 3: Years 3 & 4 students with teachers Debs Godsiff & Jo Hadley.

Room 4: Junior students; Years 1 & 2 with Heather Reid

Our main theme for Term 1 is Survival: Comfort Zone or Danger Zone? This will incorporate learning about resiliency (coping when things get tough), road safety, ANZAC history and a science unit based on sea life. Our senior students will be participating in the Exploring Marine Reserves programme and will have an opportunity to go snorkeling. All other classes have beach visits planned.

Thanks to our great Festival last year, we are funding dance lessons for every student, once a week this term. Dance styles will include hip hop and salsa! This could tie in well to our Survival theme!

Once a week for the entire year all students will also have specialist teaching in fundamental sports skills, delivered by Kelly Sports and Sport Tasman. We will continue with class music lessons once a week, and have a stronger focus on visual arts this year. We appreciate the support from the wider community and welcome anybody who would like to contribute to our learning at school!

Swimming Pool: The school pool will remain open to the public for key holders and visitors throughout February outside of school hours as long as the weather remains settled. Thank you for your donations towards the maintenance of this fantastic community resource. Thanks also to the Tasman District Council for their subsidy this year.



THANK YOU

The Commemoration Service was well received and greatly appreciated by all who attended. This was largely due to the many people of the community and Ngatimoti School who supported it through their generous help and assistance. A very BIG THANK YOU to you all.

Nova Davey

World War I Mortars

The question of how to protect and save the two W.W.1 mortars on the War Memorial at Ngatimoti which has arisen and talked about by several people including some R.S. A. members needs to be discussed at the next Motueka Valley Meeting (advertised in this Newsletter.)

Suggestions to think on –

- By sand blasting and powder coating or galvanizing they could be well protected from the weather.
- Mounted and fixed as at present on the Monument.
- Mounted on separate concreted plinth in front.
- Retain one and have the other mortar on long term loan for the Nelson Museum to display. Bring your thoughts and suggestions to the MVA Meeting.

ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI

Family Church Service

Sunday 15th February at 10:30 am

Includes Christening Service

Conducted by Rev. Neil Bowdler



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

MVA Committee Members

Fred Hickling	528 6794
Bruce Dyer	526 8288
Lesley Hadley	526 8047
Stuart Granger	021 277 2704
Bernd Reiter	526 8545
Irma Jager	5268080
Nick Hancox	5268869

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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PH Mike Graham 526 8180

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Rustlers still active

Please be aware that sheep rustling is still occurring in our area:

Late December early January 50 or so breeding ewes were stolen from a paddock in the Stanley Brook. The ewes had red paint between their ears. This brings the total to 150 ewes stolen from the area in the last 4 months.

These people would likely to have dogs and a large trailer/truck. If you see this sort of activity and are unsure of the circumstances takes the registrations or dial 111.

If you have any information please contact me or you local station.

Many thanks

Rob Crawford
Sergeant Nelson Bays
Rural
Motueka
Ph 03 5281220
Phb 039705280



Carolin's Riding School

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PH 526 8066



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Glenn Bathgate 526 8723 blisteringtongues@yahoo.com



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