

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

March 2015

Community Profile

by Lesley

Flora Kiwi

Sitting at sunset amidst the glowing and flowing karst forms on the ridge just above Mt. Arthur hut, you can hear the high shrill call of the male Great Spotted Kiwi or the lower chirr of the female. It's an exciting experience. Especially if you're lucky enough to catch a duet.

In all it's been a very exciting time on the kiwi front. Since Spring there have been so many starts to incubation and some subsequent abandonments that it's been hard to keep track. The season started early (August) and will finish very late (April). Some stats:

- We now have 11 known pairs with established home ranges, 2 of which have not attempted to breed.
- 14 incubation attempts by 9 pairs
- 4 chicks with one more possibility
- 11 nests monitored with cameras
- 2600 video clips analysed so far
- 1 pair are now on their 3rd incubation attempt – the first time we have heard of this in GSK
- 3 other pairs have had 2 attempts
- Most likely reasons for failure. Infertile egg – 4. Egg predation/ weka harassment - 2. Unknown cause -3.
- Maximum number of times that the male kiwi has chased a weka out of the nest during the day – 5.
- All 3 wandering females that were brought back to the Flora have bred this year.
- Last year's chick was seen on video nearly a year after hatch.

The nest cams are providing amazing footage. You can see for yourself - just go to the FOF web site www.fof.org.nz and click on the Facebook link. Some of the kiwi videos are: kiwi in the snow; kiwi house keeping; 'Wallie the Weka' pestering a kiwi and most recently 'chicky' – this year's first kiwi chick looking very cute and some very touching footage of a female kiwi grooming her partner! We've never seen anything like this before.

And it's very satisfying to know that this particular community is growing.



Rural Land Review Local Meeting

Wednesday 18 March 2015

@ Ngatimoti Reserve Community Room

COME, LISTEN, LEARN, CONTRIBUTE,
DISCUSS . . .

The MVA committee does not feel it is able to 'represent' our community views in order to make a submission on behalf of the valley to the Draft Plan Change to the TDC Resource Management Plan. However, owing to the considerable local interest in the long-standing issue of rural land use including multiple dwellings and subdivision, the committee would like to encourage as many residents as possible to have their own voice / opinion heard. Written feedback is accepted until the end of March.

Therefore, the next MVA meeting date will be allocated to this matter.

Attending the meeting will be Sonya Leusink-Sladen, a consultant to Council who has been involved in the drafting of the Draft Plan Change and Steve Markham, TDC Policy Manager.

The format of the evening will be;

7.00 – 8.00pm an opportunity to talk informally to Sonya or Steve, including questions, answers and opinions

8.00 – 8.20pm their presentation (the same presentation as given at the recent public meetings around the district)

8.30 – 9.30pm a chaired group discussion.

Hoping to see you there

MVA Committee

Has anyone seen a scruffy Rag doll cat? He looks like a shaggy Siamese, has a snaggle tooth and is very timid. If so please ring Leeson and Sarah on 5268026

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

Ngatimoti School is shortly to undergo some changes in its infrastructure, mostly relating to improvements in how the bus bay and parking is organised, a new rebound wall and a modernisation of the older classrooms. We would like you to know about these proposed changes.

1. The car park and bus area

We know we need to make this area safer for students, and have been working with the Ministry of Education and the Tasman District Council to come up with solutions, which are largely based around separating the car park from the bus area. We envisage the input from TDC could mostly be around road markings. We are looking forward to seeing some plans drawn up by TDC in the near future, which will be displayed on the noticeboard on the school hall, for you to comment on.

2. A concrete rebound wall

We plan to have a concrete rebound wall built along the back fence of the tennis court, to enable balls to be thrown, hit, bounced or kicked against. This will be paid for using some of the profits from previous Festivals.

3. The classrooms

The buildings of Ngatimoti School are owned by the Crown and administered on their behalf by Ngatimoti School BoT. The Ministry of Education provide clear and inflexible guidelines on how funds provided for their maintenance and upgrade must be spent. This money is disbursed in packages at 5 year intervals. Each allowance must be used as close as possible within each 5 year period, but individual school plans must be submitted for a 10 year period. This is known as the 10 Year Property Plan. Upgrading buildings to modern standards of thermal efficiency, insulation, double glazing, interior linings, lighting, heating and furnishing is a priority for this funding. Another MOE priority is known as Modern (or Flexible) Learning Environments. Since our buildings were constructed in the 1940s and earlier, teaching and learning practices have changed. Many of us may have been taught in an environment where we sat in rows in silence, without collaboration or individualised learning opportunities. Our methods of teaching have since refocused to the learner, partnered with our School Charter, Strategic Goals and RIVER values. Quite simply, our classroom spaces do not reflect the style of teaching/learning that happens at Ngatimoti School.

For our children to learn most effectively today, they require spaces which have flexibility. Sometimes they may need to work in groups, at others make a presentation or even find a quiet space for private individual learning - all the while monitored by the teacher. They still need a space where a teacher can present material to the whole class, or even several classes in a team-teaching environment. We provide extension programmes and intervention programmes, which require small separate spaces. We encourage art, music, design and use of computers and other digital devices.

Given these requirements, the BoT have spent many hours in consultation with outside advisors and we have drawn on the experiences of other local schools that have undergone changes to their classrooms. Our architect, Andrew Stephenson, has been briefed on our requirements and used his extensive experience in school design to produce some draft plans. You are welcome to pop in to chat to Ali about what this could mean for the look of our school and we will keep you updated in future newsletters.

Other school news... Did you know we have 94 students at Ngatimoti School at present and that 50 of these lovely students are girls and 44 of these delightful children are boys?

Our swimming pool remains open to key holders for swimming out of school hours. However, if you are ready to relinquish your key for this year please bring it into the office for your \$10 deposit to be refunded. Thanks for all your support to keep our pool open to the public throughout another fantastic summer.

Congratulations to Marios who takes over from Sue as Chairperson of our Board of Trustees this year; huge thanks to Sue for all her hard work as board chair for the last 5 years. Sue remains a valuable member of the board of trustees and elections will take place in 2016.

WANTED

Hen house with nest box for 4 chickens.

Old paddling pool. Please leave a message at school. Thank you.

ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI



Family Church Service

Sunday 15th March at 10:30 am
Conducted by Rev. Matt Beech

EASTER SERVICE.

Sunday 5th April at 10:30 am Conducted by Rev. Pamela Soutl
Family Church Service

19th April at 10:30 am Conducted by Rev. Joy Bradley

*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

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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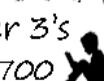
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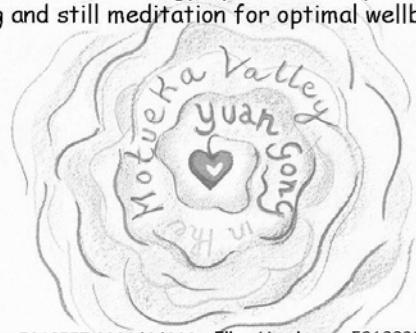
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Location : Ngatimoti communityroom (just past the school)

Contact: Ellen Urselmann 03 526 8803 / 027 2425823

Email: joyfulqiflow@gmail.com

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