

# Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

THE RIVER, THE LAND, THE PEOPLE

MARCH 2016

## Project De-Vine visits the valley

Is it time for Project De-Vine in the Motueka Valley? This project is helping to clear the pest vines out of Golden Bay and around Abel Tasman National Park. Next month, the project leader visits the Motueka Valley Association. Chris Rowse will speak to the Motueka Valley Association on April 13 at 8pm. Everyone is welcome to learn about how this project has been getting rid of around 170,000 pest vines by manual methods and spraying.

### Farewell to master carver Blue

Master wood carver and sculptor Graham (Blue) Pizzey passed away peacefully on February 18 surrounded by his loving family: wife Thyra and children Steve, Ross and Marisa and their families. Much loved and admired in the Motueka Valley and beyond, Graham operated the Sherwood Gallery at Motueka since 1987, exhibiting his work many times.



Graham specialized in carving New Zealand native birds and one of his best-known works is *The Tuis* at Canterbury Museum, pictured above: two wooden tuis perch on a stripped and polished natural tree branch.

### Swap fruit or grab a ride to town

The newly created Motueka Valley Community Facebook Group supports the exchange of goods, services and information within the valley. Locals can offer/ ask for: ride-sharing, fruit swaps, items for sale etc. It can also serve as a place for connection during calamities (fire, accidents, earthquakes).

Motueka Valley people are invited to join this group and invite friends and neighbours. Search for "Motueka Valley Community" on Facebook and join the group!

### Thank You to the MVA deliverers

This newsletter is now being delivered around the first of every month by our postie Margaret but the Motueka Valley Association would like to thank the following people for their dedication in delivering the news rain or shine to 500 letterboxes.

You've done a great job but now you're out of a job! Thank you to Coralie Grooby, Jocelyn Thorn, Sally Gorrill, Glen Bathgate, Rachel and Martin Gorrill, Graham Fry and Brenda, Irma Jager and family, Sarah Douglas, Fred Hickling, Paul Wielandt, Don Sutherland, Mike Graham, Lesley Hadley, Sylvie Arnold and Linda Milsom.

It is great to see such a community spirit in our valley. Special thanks to Lesley Hadley for setting this all up at a time when there didn't seem to be another option.

Project De-Vine started as a small local weed busting project, to help landowners overwhelmed by invasive vines (Banana passion vine (BPV) and Old man's beard (OMB), pictured below. These vines are capable of smothering low canopy forest, killing the canopy trees and preventing regeneration of native species. Existing strategies for controlling them have not been able to prevent their continued spread and increasing intensity of infestation.

Project De-Vine plans to kill many thousands more to stop the spread of these rampant, forest destroying vines.

Project De-Vine attempts to involve everyone in the community in managing weeds. Outside of the main project areas, Project De-Vine has started "Neighbourhood Weedbusting Groups" sponsored by many local businesses, which is providing advice, demonstrating control techniques and leading working bees. This spring, one working bee was held in East Takaka as well as the Riwaka ones.

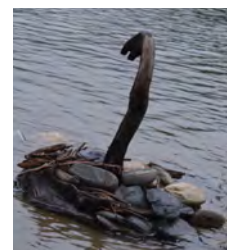


### Yoga news update from Mechthild

As planned, the Tuesday morning class is happening. So far attendance has been small, but I am optimistic that numbers will pick up. If any of you want to give it a go, come along and check it out ( 9.15 - 10.45am). See advert on page 4.

### 'Take me to the river...'

There is always something interesting happening in and around the Motueka River. On Sunday 21 February Cella Droppers (11) and her friend were jumping off the rocks when suddenly her friend shouted "a seal, a seal". Cella says she "quickly clambered up the rocks!" The "swan" pictured at right appeared by the Alexander Bluff Bridge earlier this year and was quickly washed away.



**MVA monthly meeting • 8pm Wednesday March 9 @ Ngatimoti Community Room**



**Ngatimoti School**

"Together We Excel"

# News from Ngatimoti School

**The school has had an excellent start to the year**, with many happy and settled learners. Thanks to the Festival profits last year, basic station-

ery has been supplied to all students; hats are being worn, togs are being brought and everything is running smoothly! The recent earthquake was a great check of our systems, and we are happy to report that students behaved very responsibly. The evacuation to the bottom fields went well.

**This term our theme is CHANGE**, and we will be talking lots about changes both in nature (seasons, plants growing, waterways) and on a personal level, such as thinking about our goals for the year, learning either with a different teacher or in a different way and having a 'growth mindset'.

**Our junior class enjoyed their class camp at Quinney's Bush**, with the middle two classes off to Marahau soon – exciting! Our seniors get to go to Totaranui but they will have to wait until the end of November!

We feel lucky to be able to subsidise camp costs and offer these opportunities for our students at an affordable level thanks to our amazing festival. As well as class camps we have recently enjoyed day trips to local orchards, farms and packhouses. Unfortunately, the weather prevented us from making the most of our visits, however everyone had fun, we learned a lot and

would like to especially thank Janet & Barry Heath, Nic & Don Heckler, Ross & Jo Hadley, Ian & Jocelyn Thorn and Eamon & Wendy Maclean for their open hospitality and for teaching us about what you do!

**Sign Competition:** Six years ago, we worked with the TDC to design and make large signs that could mark Ngatimoti as a place, so that as people drove through they would be aware that there could be people around, including kids on bikes or people crossing roads. Hine designed the sign near the Memorial Hall with the snail picture, Margie designed the sign near Tin Pot with the sheep picture and Bryn and Hannah designed the sign that was near Bogey Bridge.

These signs are now very faded and they look like they should be refreshed. TDC has again agreed to work with us on this project, and so we will have a competition for all students to design a sign that could mark Ngatimoti as a community, and also help alert traffic to take care when passing through. Signs can be designed on a piece of A4 paper and handed to the principal Ali Turner for judging by the TDC by Thursday 10 March.

## Ngatimoti School — Term Dates 2016

Good Friday- 25 March: Easter school holidays

Mon & Tues 28/29 March

Term 1: 2 Feb – 15 April

Term 2: 2 May – 8 July

Term 3: 25 July – 23 September

Ngatimoti Festival: Sunday 23 October

Term 4: 10 Oct – 15 Dec

## Book-a-Hall

**Ngatimoti Memorial Hall:** Paul Wielandt 526 8047

**Reserve Comm'ity Room:** Sarah Bradshaw 526 8026

**Pokororo Hall:** Brian or Giselle Storer 526 8065

**Woodstock Hall:** Kerry Hall 543 3884

## About your newsletter

- Your contributions, ideas and notices are very welcome for the Motueka Valley Association's monthly community newsletter
- Please send ads and unformatted copy by the 20th of each month for the following month's issue
- For community concerns please contact the MVA at [info@mva.org.nz](mailto:info@mva.org.nz) or contact committee members (numbers below)
- Send editorial of up to 400 words, photos and advertisements to: [emj.stuttard@gmail.com](mailto:emj.stuttard@gmail.com)
- Please include "MVA News" in the subject line
- Phone 021-749583 or 929 8509
- Advertisements cost \$2.00 a column cm
- See newsletter archives at [www.mva.co.nz](http://www.mva.co.nz)

## Vibrant newcomers' group

Just arrived in the Motueka Valley? Motueka Newcomers is a large friendly group of new (and old) arrivals to the area where you can make new friends and connections.

Motueka Newcomers has grown hugely over the last five years and now has over 80 new Motueka residents from both islands and the Northern Hemisphere. Lots of people who are not strictly 'new' anymore keep coming to welcome the new arrivals and meet the friends they have made through the group.

Coffee mornings are held every Wednesday and Friday at the Motueka RSA. There are plenty of interest groups to join such as fishing, knitting, quilting, ukelele, over 50s walking, gardening, poetry, Mahjong, ballroom and Latin dancing, badminton, art and more.

Contact: [joey.walker@xtra.co.nz](mailto:joey.walker@xtra.co.nz), Jo on 528 6214.

## Contact MVA Committee Members

Bruce Dyer.....526 8288  
 Irma Jager.....526 8080  
 Nick Hancox.....526 8869  
 Joanna Santa-Barbara ..022 459 0650  
 Greg Mason.....526 8112

## ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI



### Harvest Service

Conducted by the new vicar  
Rev. Russell Pickersgill-Brown  
Sunday 20th March at 10.30am

### Easter Sunday

27th March at 10.30am

Morning tea and social time to follow  
Children's Sunday School Programme  
All Welcome

# Pokororo Women's Club catering a success at annual fair

At our January meeting we learned of the success, once again, of putting on morning and afternoon teas/lunches at the Pokororo Fair on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

17 Members gave up their time for kitchen duties, serving and washing a mountain of dishes. Total raised, after expenses was \$1200. During the year this money will be directed to worthwhile causes throughout the district.

Last year, \$1000 was allocated to redecorating the inside of the Pokororo Hall and the installation of new lighting. Other donations were: \$200 to the Motueka Valley Defib Fund for maintenance purposes; and \$500 to the Motueka Swimming Pool Fund.

We also put on 'a bit of a do' afternoon tea to celebrate the Club's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday.....both present and many older members coming back to help us celebrate.

At our December meeting 130 small Christmas Goodie bags filled with home baking were made to distribute to Meals on Wheels recipients and other older valley residents.

Our March meeting will be an evening barbecue on

Wednesday 2 March—this is a good time to join and meet us all, call Glen 5268740/Mavis 5268796.

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Glenn Bathgate 526 8723 [blisteringtongues@yahoo.com](mailto:blisteringtongues@yahoo.com)




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# YOGA

with Mechthild Laufkotter

Ngatimoti, Community Rooms

Tuesday 9.15-10.45am, Thursday 5.30-7.00pm

Motueka, Laura Ingram Kindergarten

Friday 5.00 - 6.30pm

school terms only

03 526 8554

## Timber for Sale

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PH Mike Graham 526 8180

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