Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

THE RIVER, THE LAND, THE PEOPLE

APRIL 2016

Ready for Anzac Day: soldiers' memorial newly protected

Newly protected against rain and rust, the two German made field (or trench) mortars at the Ngatimoti War Memorial are ready for this year's Anzac Day memorial service being held at 10.30am on Monday April 25. The mortars were placed at either side of the obelisk in 1921. They were sent to Ngatimoti by the Defence Department in answer to a request for a war trophy from the committee of bereaved parents who were organising the memorial for the soldiers killed in World War One from this area.



Last year, a community push to get the mortars protected resulted in a grant of \$1500 from the TDC Community Rates Grant.
Last December, both mortars were taken to Stainless Solutions at Appleby where, for no cost, two stainless caps were fitted over the barrels.

Galbraiths took a proprietary interest in the project so after sand-blasting them back to bare metal, they were surprised to see that about half of the mortars were made of brass. It was felt it would be a

shame to arc spray them aluminium all over in the one colour, so they arc sprayed the brass parts in a colour similar to brass without charging any extra.

The mortars, known as Minenwerfer Trenches or "Minnes", fired a bomb packed with explosives causing damage physically and to the morale of Allied Troops.

Soldiers could see (and hear) the Minnes lobbing towards them. I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the "refreshing" of the mortars. In this article I have referred to writings by Don Whelan about the Ngatimoti War Memorial and the mortars that have been there for almost 95 years. — *Ian Davey*

Marie Palzer (21) from Marahau, has been riding around the South Island as a fundraiser for Tearfund to help break the cycle of poverty. She is pictured taking a break at Annie's Park in Pangatotara. Follow Marie's journey at hoofingaroundforchange.weebly.com and on Facebook.



Getting rid of pesky vines



Project leader of Project De-Vine Chris Rowse will speak to the Motueka Valley Association on April 13 at 8pm. You'll learn about the success of this project in getting rid of around 170,000 pest vines in Golden Bay by manual methods and spraying. (Supper afterwards.)

Wasp product is trialled

You may have noticed some yellow bait stations in the valley at properties trialling a new product called Vespex[®].

The bait in the stations is designed specifically for the control of Vespula wasp species (yellow jackets). The wasps gather the bait from Wasptek™



bait stations and carry it back to the nest. The wasps then share the bait around nest-mates, including the queen, quickly destroying the whole colony.

One of the winners of the 2015 WWF New Zealand Conservation Innovation Awards, Vespex® is not at all attractive to bees, and is of very low risk to birds, pets and people.

Approved Vexpex® user Bob Roborgh has completed one application of the product at Te Manawa Eco Village and is considering doing another. He says there appears to be a definite decrease in wasp numbers, but "it's still early days. It's good that the protein-based poison doesn't attract bees."

To purchase Vespex® you must register with Merchento as an approved user. Go to www.merchento.com to find out more.

MVA meeting • 8pm Wednesday April 13 @ Ngatimoti Community Room



News from Ngatimoti School

Te Reo Until the end of term, we have Matua Maihi and Whaia Tania coming to Ngatimoti to help us with learning te reo and waiata. They have been really

impressed with the pronunciation and the attitudes of our students.

Sports Events Many of our students are enjoying another term of touch rugby and have participated in the Weetbix Tryathlon as well as our own school triathlon event. Recently our senior students enjoyed inter-school "Swimming Sports", and also "Summer Sports" days where they played volleyball, touch and frisbee, with students from other Motueka schools. This was a day of working in a team, playing hard and playing fair, and the Ngatimoti teams rose to the occasion beautifully! It is great to see acceptance and tolerance in action, and competition and co-operation going hand in hand! All three of our teams had successes, and all students had moments when they did particularly well. A day of sports is a real day of learning, especially when it is hot and the participants have to dig deep to continue to perform, both on a skill level but also with a positive attitude.

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 or contact committee members (numbers below)
- Send editorial of up to 400 words, photos and advertisements to: 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

Contact MVA Committee Members

Ngatimoti School Parents Group At our recent AGM, important decisions were made:

- An impressive \$37,000 was donated to school funds following our 2015 Festival; thanks to all who contributed in so many ways!
- Parents Group Officers were elected: We welcome Rita as Chairperson, with Andrea and Amanda continuing as Treasurer and Secretary.
- A working bee is planned to clean the hall and make a plan for any further maintenance/upgrades.

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to Kirsten who stood down as Chairperson after three years in the role. Kirsten continues to work very hard at school, however in the last three years she has tirelessly organised, baked and volunteered so much of her time. So thank you Kirsten for your dedication, we appreciate all you have done and continue to do.

Swimming Pool Thank you for supporting our school pool this year; If you purchased a pool key please return it to the school office for your \$10 refund.

Making music

Do you enjoy singing?

The community choir Inakord has been singing for many years and a number of Motueka Valley people are part of it.

We come together every Monday evening, 7.30pm, at the Riverside Community Centre in Lower Moutere.

We sing mainly what is known as World Music, songs from around the world.

Anyone can sing, so come and try it out! At present we would especially love to hear from any men who would like to try singing the bass part.

We have a lot of fun together and enjoy singing beautiful harmonies.

For more information, ring Kris Kolff 526 8010

ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI



Family Service
Sunday 17th April at 10:30 a.m.
Conducted by Canon David Moynan
Morning tea and social time to follow
Children's Sunday School Programme
All Welcome

A.N.Z.A.C.

R.S.A. Service & Wreath Laying 25th April at 10:30 a.m. St James Church & War Memorial

Caught on camera

The owners of a roadside stall took video recordings to the police of people repeatedly stealing eggs and jam from their stall on West Bank Road. As a result, one Motueka man was convicted of theft and fined \$200.

The stall owners say the thefts are especially frustrating as their children help to make the jam.

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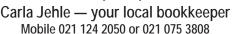
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