Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

THE RIVER, THE LAND, THE PEOPLE

JUNE 2016

Community calls for review of Valley speed limit

Several residents have called for the speed limit on the Motueka Valley Highway to Motueka to be lowered to 80 kph from 100kph.

At the MVA's meeting on May 11, the residents were concerned that the 100 kph limit remains in front of Ngatimoti School. The MVA is researching similar type scenarios around other schools in the district where the speed limit has been lowered – for example, at Lower Moutere School the limit has been lowered to 70 kph. Speaking about the 100kph limit on Motueka Valley Highway, former MVA chairman Trevor Knowles said that the valley highway is "still a farm road. It has lots of hazards; there are holes in fences. 100 kph is just too high considering the type of things that can happen on this road, especially past the school."

The Board and Principal at Ngatimoti have been in discussion with the Council for some time, with limited resolution. The TDC acknowledge there are speed issues with regard to the school zone and Ngatimoti is considered to be one of the top 10 schools with a significant speed hazard. However, the TDC do not believe it warrants measures such as flashing slow-down signs or a speed reduction to 40km. Measures that have been taken recently include new signage at either end of the straight, and the large billboard signs e.g. 'slow down around our town' are in the process of being updated. The MVA and school

Valley newsbriefs...

Midwinter Event - Friday July 22

The Motueka Valley Association will hold a Pot Luck Midwinter Event at the Ngatimoti Hall so keep this evening free! Everyone is invited. More news about this in the next issue.

A sign for the valley

Artistic input is sought to create a welcoming sign at the entrance to the Motueka Valley."To heighten the sense of entering the valley we need to consider what sort of message the sign will portray," said MVA treasurer Bruce Dyer. The association welcomes preliminary ideas from the community and school about the type of sign that is needed. The MVA committee is looking at funding options.

Police seek suspicious vehicle

Sergeant Rob Crawford of the Motueka Crime Prevention Team says there has been "an increase in dishonesty crime in the Motueka Valley, Dovedale, Stanley Brook area over the past few weeks. This is a timely reminder to secure your property and buildings and report any incidents to the police." Suspects were reported in a shed in the Sunday Creek Road area on the weekend of May 21-22. They got into a white or silver van with back rimmed wheels. If you have information call 03 5281220 or robert.crawford@police.govt.nz or anonymously on 0800 555111.

will make a joint approach to the TDC to request a speed limit review.

Weedbusters tackle QEII property

A group of 18 people turned up at Lisa Hood's home on Saturday May 14 to attack the property's Old Man's Beard infestation. Nearly three

hectares of the property is covered by a QEII National Trust covenant. Known as Stride's Bush, it is a valuable remnant mature podocarp forest on the edge of the Motueka River. It forms the second of two 'forest tunnels' when driving between the Graham and Pearse rivers, and includes seven rare and two nationally important species. Lisa has owned the property for 18 months and is committed to controlling the weeds.

She has worked alongside



the QEII Trust's Tom Stein who has developed a detailed weed plan for the bush. Old Man's Beard has been identified as one of the most damaging weeds.

The weed-busting day started at 9.30 with a round of introductions. Many people were locals, but several had travelled from further afield to help, including Nelson. Roger Gaskell from DoC and Anne Brow from the QEII Weedbusters project provided expert advice. It was emphasised that cutting Old Man's Beard without applying a poison paste leads to the part still in the ground proliferating.

After a demonstration, the volunteers got stuck into 'cutting and pasting' the unwanted vines. We divided into pairs and ventured off to different parts of the bush to ensure we covered as much ground as possible. Some people focused on light wells on the edges of the bush, others delved into the forest depths to tackle the harder to reach plants. Several vines were extremely thick and could only be cut with a pruning saw. They may have been growing there for up to 20 years.

The plan now is for a core group of people to decide where to from here. The core group will also apply for funding to help pay for equipment and poison. A number of people have indicated their interest in being part of the group to ensure the initiative is ongoing. If you want to register interest in helping with weed-busting in the Motueka Valley, email Greg Mason on greenjag@actrix.co.nz. —Greg Mason

Ngatimoti School Music Department Quiz/Bands night

Saturday July 2, Ngatimoti hall. 7pm start.\$10 per ticket, max 8 per team. Tickets available from school office. B.Y.O. and a plate please. Three local bands playing after the quiz. An entertaining night out in support of our up and coming musicians. Enquiries: Glenn 5268723.

MVA meeting • 7:30pm Wednesday June 8 @ Ngatimoti Hall (normally at the Community Room)



"Together We Excel"

School

The latest news from Ngatimoti School

A note from the Principal

As I settle in at Ngatimoti School, I am beginning to find my way around and am getting to know the staff and children. I

must say, that I have been made extremely welcome. I have already met a number of parents and attended my first board of trustees meeting. The school and its grounds are beautiful and working in such a stimulating environment is a privilege. This is the sixth school where I have been invited to be the Relieving Principal and on each occasion I have quickly grown to love the assignment and become absorbed in the day to day happenings of the school. It is immediately clear that this school is superbly governed and managed and I will do all in my power to maintain this situation and hand it safely back to Ali at the end of the year. I am here three days a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. On Monday morning I teach the children in Room Five and after that I deal with day to day administration and the pastoral care of the staff and children. If you would like to see me, would you please drop Amanda a line in the office so that we can set aside time to meet with you and address your needs. —Tony Draaijer

Book-a-Hall

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall: Paul Wielandt 526 8047 Reserve Community 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

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

Our theme for this term

This term's theme is 'A foot in the past and a step into the future' and we are researching and connecting with our local environment and history. Our whole school has visited Te Awhina Marae in Motueka, which provided a unique cultural experience and further links to our wider community, along with many learning opportunities. We are well into Term two now and already celebrating successful sporting triumphs, with a great start for our Miniball and Netball teams. Further into the term we are looking forward to the Rippa Rugby tournament, Interschool's Gymnastics competition and our annual visit from Harold the Giraffe and the Life Education Truck as well as practising for our Rock Da House performance next term.

School Enviro Wetlands Project

Thanks heaps to Ian Thorn for allowing us access to the amazing wetlands on his property which all classes have visited recently. Our plan is to monitor and restore this special habitat. We are lucky to have this resource on our doorstep! Particular thanks also to parents Al and Marios for your input.

For yet another amazing enviro project we are looking for donations of materials so we can build a solar food dehydrator at school. Any donations of the following will be very much appreciated, thank you. We need: 13-18mm untreated ply (marked scraps are ok).

Swimming Pool

If you bought a pool key it is not too late to return it to the school office for your \$10 refund.

BOT Election - At the close of nominations, as the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, I hereby declare the following duly elected: Parent Representatives: Jennifer Beatson, Marios Gavalas, Andrea Goodman, Mike Whitaker, Staff Representative: Lauren Milnes Signed, Amanda Cole, Returning Officer

ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI



Family Service

Sunday June 19 at 10:30 a.m. Conducted by Rev. Neil Bowdler Morning tea and social time to follow.

Children's Sunday School Programme

All welcome

HOUSE SITTER AVAILABLE from August 20. Long Term House Sitting Preferred. We are very tidy, careful, honest and respectful people. We love animals and can care for gardens too. I am a practical person who isn't afraid to rummage through the toolbox if necessary. We are seeking housesitting opportunities as a way to help us save for our own home. Call Debs 021 029 38746 debbiegodsiff@hotmail.com Excellent reference available.

MOTUEKA VALLEY DEFIBRILLATOR GROUP

As a follow up from the installation of two Defibrillator machines in the Valley, there will be a demonstration/recap by RED CROSS Staff

What to do in an Emergency - CPR/Defibrillator Use Wednesday evening JUNE 8TH - 7 .30 p.m.

Ngatimoti Community Fire Station Tearooms

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

There will be a short AGM of the Defib Group.

A third Defib Machine—on the WestBank maybe?

This is an opportunity to discuss this.

FOR SALE

Tekoteko 24" rigid heddle table loom plus measuring peg board. \$95 Carnaby Crofter upright spinning wheel plus niddy noddy, carder, extra bobbins on stand and NZ Woolcraft book. \$170. Phone Anne - 5268623.



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The Motueka Valley Association

- Please note that the MVA's June meeting will be held at the **Ngatimoti Hall** (just for this month) on June 8 at 7.30pm
- The MVA Newsletter's July 2016 issue deadline has been put forward to June 16

FOR SALE — PEA STRAW

Medium Square Bales
13 Bale Equivalents \$100 each.
Call Marian on 03 543 3613 or txt 021 2400

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Nourish your writing practice



Do you love to write but sometimes feel you need a kickstart to get the flow going? This winter, I am trialling a creative writing course using meditation (still and moving) and writing exercises. I would love to hear from Motueka Valley writers at any stage who would like to try the combination of writing + qi + consciousness.

Contact Liz Mahoney on 929 8509 or 021 749583

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PH Mike Graham 526 8180

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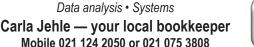
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