

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter



the river, the land, the people

MARCH 2018



NEXT MVA MEETING

Wednesday 14 March, 8pm
Ngatimoti Community Rooms
All welcome!



Local initiative

On Sunday 25 February Motueka Valley resident James Griffiths started a petition to TDC pressing for stronger controls on forestry. Within 48 hours it got over 1000 signatures. Follow the link below to sign.

Stronger controls needed on forestry in the Tasman region

The Tasman District Council needs to ensure that forestry in our region is managed in an environmentally and socially responsible way.

Current forestry practices release large volumes of sediment that harm our rivers, estuaries, and sea. Considerable damage to private property also results from flash flooding caused by build-up of logging debris in waterways, and slips from clear-cut hillsides and poorly constructed forestry roads.

Intense storms, such as ex-tropical cyclone Gita, are likely to become more common with climate change. We want the Tasman District Council to act with urgency to prevent further damage to our region caused by poor forestry practice.

change.org www.change.org/p/stronger-controls-needed-on-forestry-in-the-tasman-region

After the storm...

Whichever way you look, there is no escaping our being confronted with the aftermath of the downpour Gita brought to our valley. Whether your property has been damaged or not... everyone in the valley has been affected in some way.

The MVA Committee is inviting people from the valley to attend the March meeting to explore where to go from here. What can we learn from this, how can we support each other and are there steps we can take collectively to voice our concerns.

Come along on Wednesday 14 March, 8pm, Ngatimoti Community Rooms.

...get-together

Motueka Valley Business Profile

Jacqui's Therapies

Tucked away in one of the many tranquil parts of our valley is a cute little cabin which Jacqui Jenkins uses as her treatment room. The whitewashed interior is tastefully decorated to create an ambience conducive to the variety of therapies she offers to the community. Displayed on one wall are the three diplomas she has been awarded after the completion of her studies in massage, beauty therapy and yoga training.



Jacqui's initial training was in massage therapy, based on Swedish methods. This type of massage is remedial, using trigger points and acupressure to relieve symptoms and support the body to heal. As this type of therapy can be taxing on the therapist, she wisely added the other types of therapy to her repertoire. She offers the full range of beauty therapies including waxing, tinting, manicures, pedicures, and facials. Her yoga tuition is usually conducted one-to-one, rather than the more familiar group class. Jacqui has lived in the Motueka Valley for most of her life. She returned to the district after her obligatory O.E., established a successful therapy business in Motueka, before returning to her valley roots to raise her daughter. With her daughter's recent admission to Ngatimoti School, she has more flexibility to accommodate those who wish to use her services.

Jacqui can be contacted for an appointment by email jacquijenkins72@gmail.com or by phone 021 158 8319.

-interview by Chris Tait, reporter

NGATIMOTI SCHOOL NEWS

2018 TERM DATES

TERM 1: WED 7 FEBRUARY – FRI 13 APRIL

Easter Holidays; Mon 2 & Tues 3 April

TERM 2: Mon 30 April – Fri 6 July

TERM 3: Mon 23 July – Fri 28 September

TERM 4: Mon 15 October – Thurs 20 Dec



With the demise of National Standards, in which teachers were compelled to assess and report student progress and achievement under very broad headings, our teachers are loving the fact that we can bring back the focus to our curriculum, which is based on five key competencies. Thinking is one of these, and one that we are bringing to the fore this year. We do need to assess students, to enable teachers, kids and parents to know where they are at and what the next learning steps could be. We just don't need to be putting our students in boxes to label them below, at or above what I saw was a fairly blunt line in the sand!

Dylan Wilian, an internationally recognised leader in education, said "The purpose of school is to prepare students for a world we cannot envisage, so when they are stuck with something they have never seen before, they choose to think, instead of remember." I like this quote because not only does it help us all to learn that when we face challenges, we have choices, but it makes me think about our purpose as educators. This brings me to our Ngatimoti School vision statement.

Our vision is for all students to become R.I.V.E.R. students, confident and able to navigate in a changing world.

This is further enhanced by our motto, **Together We Excel**. If we can keep our focus on these ideals, I think our students will develop as happy, contributing and capable members of society.

Thank you to everyone in our community who has made good use of our school grounds over the summer. I am happy to say that everything has been treated with great respect! Thanks to Ian for continuing to maintain the grounds so well. Thanks also

to all the neighbours who do their bit by helping with the pool and generally keeping an eye on things! The pool has been very popular over the school holidays and will continue to be open for community key holders outside school hours during February and March. Key holders; if you no longer need your pool key please return it to the school office for your \$10 refund at any time. School aims to provide a safe environment and we encourage people to use it. Parents, in out-of-school hours, your children are your responsibility. If anyone has a health or safety concern that is to do with our school environment, please communicate directly with our Principal, Ali Turner.



Making Connections

I grew up in a South Island town, bigger than Motueka, smaller than Nelson. I remember my mother asking my school friends' surnames. These weren't important to me, but I knew them from the daily roll call at school. Provided with the required information, the adults would make the connections that told them who their parents were, who they were related to and where they lived.

Prior to moving into the area our only known connection was through my great-grandmother's family. Huffam Street in Motueka was named after them, a distant link that is almost irrelevant.

Just over a year after we moved Martin heard some cattle on the road. His first thought was his vegetable garden. He rushed to the front of the property to shut the road gate. His second was the safety of the cattle and road users. He followed the cattle up the neighbour's drive to ensure they wouldn't get back onto the road. One of those chats at the farm gate ensued. A promise was made to return with our excess vegetable seedlings.

That afternoon saw us wandering up the drive, bags of seedlings in hand. Our neighbours were not alone, having been joined by the owners of the escapees. Preparations were being made to drive the cattle home. Martin offered to help with the task, one familiar to us. He introduced himself. After a visible double take, he was asked to repeat his surname. "Macale," he said. This is not an uncommon response. Macale seems simple enough, but it's not Scottish and no one seems to be able to work out how to spell it. This time the double take wasn't because his name had been misheard or misunderstood.

"My great grandfather was Martin Macale from Croatia," the stranger said.

If the surname had been Smith or Jones we might never have discovered that the owners of the cattle were family. These men, who were strangers until that surname was spoken, share a great-grandfather; their grandfathers were brothers.

Since that first surprising meeting there have been many chats that have debunked family myths and created understanding of past generations from another perspective. Funny little similarities and mannerisms have been noticed and laughed at. Knowledge and resources have been shared.

My mother was right. Surnames help to make connections. Runaway cattle do too.

-Chris Tait, reporter



Left to right: Karyn (nee Strachan) and Dave Young, Martin Macale, Chris Tait.

Ngatimoti Recreation Reserve Committee Update

The committee has received a building consent to improve the wastewater system. A drainage field can now be laid down behind the community rooms and fire station. We hope to complete this work in March. Disruption should be minimal as the greater part of the construction will take a day. We will inform the relevant room users when we have concrete details.

When this project is finished we will be able to concentrate on new and exciting ideas for the reserve.

It has been suggested that recycling bins in Ngatimoti would make life easier for locals. Submissions would need to be made to Council. The Long Term Plan process starts on March 1 concluding April 5.

The N.R.R. Committee would greatly appreciate new members from the community. Please ring Sarah on 526 8026 if you would like to offer your support.

-Sarah Bradshaw

Pokororo Hall

Did you know that this hall is NOT a TDC hall? The Pokororo Hall is owned by the community and run by a committee of locals operating under the Pokororo Public Hall Incorporated Society which was first registered in 1948. The present hall was built in 1952 on the site of the old school building which was demolished due to poor condition. The materials and labour were donated by locals. There was a Piano Society operating earlier. (Is it possible that is the one still in the hall?)

For many years the hall was the focus of the immediate area with functions and dances and of course the site for the Pokororo Craft Fair. Mens Club (now closed) and the Women's Club (still going) met there monthly. In recent years the use of the hall has declined but it is still a local asset in local control.

The hall is facing a dilemma. Our Secretary/Treasurer is moving and we really need a new face on the committee. The work is minimal and Giselle has set up a very efficient computer based system for keeping track of things. Giselle is happy to work with a new person to bring them up to speed. Do you want to help support a local asset? Please contact either Barry Eastwood on 526 8549, barry.eastwood@thinkdelta.co.nz or Alan Bensemann on 526 8848, alanbensemann@slingshot.co.nz.

-Bruce Geddes

MVA Committee update

From the February MVA meeting:

- Family Picnic organisation was finalised;
- Pokororo Fair's future seems in jeopardy; MVA wished they had been aware and could have assisted e.g. with financial support for advertising;
- STV vs First Past the Post ~ a petition is being organised by a Golden Bay group; if successful it will trigger a referendum on the issue ~ Facebook group was used to make valley residents aware, since it was too late to include in newsletter;
- Plans for 2018 include lighting of the Peninsula Bridge around the mid-winter pot-luck; possibly Alexander Bluff & Baton Bridges too; maybe coincide with Motueka Festival of Lights.



over 50 members added after last week's storm, now over 500 people with an interest in the valley!



Pay it forward, put something back, encourage bird life, plant a tree

We wanted to plant native trees and shrubs to increase the bird life in our area and never dreamed of the added benefits. Come along for an open day, a walk and talk through our 2.5 hectares of plantings and wetland. We are very happy to disseminate any information on how we did it, where it came from and who to talk to. It is easy to do, but... takes some hard work and the benefits are huge. Come along to learn how to do it or for a nice walk in a park. Bring plenty of questions, water bottle and gum boots if wet. We will meet in front of the St James Church so please park at the church and we will begin at 2pm Saturday March 24. For any details contact Steve on 526 8068.

-Steve Anderson



Photo taken Oct 2016 - See the difference 1½ years makes!

-photo supplied by Steve Anderson

Motueka Valley Association

Meetings every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8pm (7.30pm in winter) in the Ngatimoti Community Rooms.
Everyone welcome!

For community concerns email the MVA at info@mva.org.nz or contact any of the following **committee members**:

Bruce Dyer	526 8288
Irma Jager	526 8080
Fran Deech	021 0226 0191
Joanna Santa-Barbara	022 459 0650
Greg Mason	526 8112
Chris Tait	027 315 7815

local halls/facilities

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall • Paul Wielandt • 526 8047
Ngatimoti Community Rooms • Sarah Bradshaw • 526 8026
Pokororo Hall • Sylvia Arnold • 526 8282
Woodstock Hall • Kerry Hall • 543 3884

about your newsletter

- delivered on the 1st Thursday of the month to 500 homes in the Motueka Valley from February to December
- send stories, photos & ads by the 20th of the month to the editor; Jan-Albert Droppers: newsletter@mva.org.nz
- advertising rate: \$2.00 per column cm
- online newsletter + archives: www.mva.org.nz

Facebook: Motueka Valley Community



This is a closed group with over 500 members supporting the exchange of goods, services and information within the valley. It can also serve as a place for connection during calamities.

www.mva.org.nz

**ST. JAMES CHURCH
NGATIMOTI**



Family Service

Sunday 18th March - 10.30am

Conducted by the Vicar of

St Stephens Church, Tahunanui

Children's Sunday School

Morning tea followed by

Friends of St James Annual General Meeting

All Welcome

Ngatimoti Playgroup is your local Motueka Valley community playgroup focused on fun and friendships, for kids and parents/caregivers alike. We are a welcoming group providing play and socialisation opportunities for all preschoolers and their whanau in our community, regardless of eventual schooling choice. The sessions are free and held weekly during term time on Fridays between 9:15 and 12:15, but families are welcome to arrive anytime during the session to fit in with naps etc. We are based in the Ngatimoti School hall on Greenhill road. Bring a plate for shared morning tea and join in the fun. We love to see new faces and welcome back old friends, so come along, or call/text Phoebe Quinlivan for more information 021 211 6730.



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Anne: 021 121 3389

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Saturday 14th April, 2-5pm
www.livinglegacies.co.nz
Registrations essential
Lynda@Livinglegacies.co.nz

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Medium Square Bales (13 Bale Equivalents): \$100 ea - SOLD OUT,
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PH Mike Graham 526 8180

Local business owners



Do you want to do more business locally?
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this newsletter.

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Jacqui Jenkins
jacquijenkins72@gmail.com
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