

# Motueka Valley Association Newsletter



the river, the land, the people

MAY 2018

MVA is hosting

## A presentation from WIN on the proposed Waimea Dam

by Lew Solomon, followed by questions

9 May • 8pm • Ngatimoti Community Rooms



### NEXT MVA MEETING

Wednesday 9 May, 7.30pm  
Ngatimoti Community Rooms

Agenda:

- Motueka Valley Sign
- Is there a future for the Ngatimoti Memorial Hall?
- 8pm, presentation WIN

**All welcome!**

Roger May, on behalf of Steve Olds (chairman of Water Information Network Inc. (WIN)), writes WIN is a group of Tasman ratepayers who are concerned about the proposed Waimea Dam. We are contacting all ratepayer associations in the region seeking their help and cooperation.

You will be aware that the Tasman District Council continues to push the proposal to build a 'community' dam. We have grave concerns about this proposal - the rationale, the costs and the risks to ratepayers as well as the TDC consultation process.

It is clear that there is already more than enough water for public urban and residential use and that commercial irrigators are creating the water shortages and impacting on river flows.

Under the current TDC proposal, the large water users get to utilise 69.9% of the dam's capacity but pay only 48.9% of the capital costs. WIN estimates that 85% of the pumped water will go to irrigators. Furthermore, the ratepayer's contribution includes the cost of dam capacity in order to maintain minimum river flows. In reality, the Council has inflated the public's need for urban/residential water in order to justify a greater portion of the dam's costs to ratepayers.

What's more, under the proposal, the ratepayers are required to take the risk of cost over-runs as well as the risk of the irrigators failing to meet their loan obligations. WIN considers this completely unacceptable.

The end result will be ratepayers subsidising irrigators. And on top of all this, the Council, in its February meetings to consider submissions on the dam proposal, effectively ignored the hundreds of public submissions.

We believe that ordinary ratepayers of the District need to be better informed of the real situation and to voice their concerns to their Council representatives before a final decision is made by the TDC in May this year. So we are prepared to give public presentations to every ratepayer association in the District.

### Motueka Valley Business Profile

#### Living Legacies

When a loved one dies it is easy to assume that funerals are done in a certain way. Yet there are choices. Lynda Hannah of Living Legacies is available to support individuals and families to understand these choices.

Seventeen years ago, while living in the Graham Valley, Lynda needed to find a way to provide for her family. She knew she wanted to make a difference to the world in a sustainable way. Her background in counselling led her to realise that there was little available to guide people who wanted a family-directed home funeral.

As a result of the research that followed, Lynda set up Living Legacies, the first natural funeral company in New Zealand, as a support and source of information to guide families to make low-cost, environmentally sustainable funeral arrangements. Her aim is to empower people to organise their own funerals. She can advise and assist with the legal requirements, which are surprisingly few, and help demystify an area that is often encountered at a stressful time.

Lynda sees herself as a funeral facilitator, and that the family directs the funeral. Her involvement may be in an advisory capacity, she can walk beside the family as they prepare to farewell their loved one, or she can act as a funeral celebrant, if required.

Prior to speaking with Lynda I was not aware that the Tasman District Council has set aside an area of the Motueka Cemetery as a Natural Burial Park. In this park, unembalmed bodies in biodegradable containers can be buried in shallower graves in a natural burial park and gradually returned to nature.

Lynda asserts that the time to talk about death is when you're young, fit and healthy. Plans can be made to prepare for the inevitable and decisions can be made so that family understand your wishes. Lynda's book, "Living Legacies: A Family Funeral Handbook for an Evergreen World", is a valuable resource for this planning. It is available through the website. Lynda is currently revising the book and preparing it for conversion into an e-book, making it more readily available.

03 528 5220 • [info@livinglegacies.co.nz](mailto:info@livinglegacies.co.nz)

[www.livinglegacies.co.nz](http://www.livinglegacies.co.nz) -interview by Chris Tait, reporter



LIVING LEGACIES

is a natural funeral company which has a sustainable, holistic and celebratory approach to life, death and funerals.

## 2018 TERM DATES

TERM 2: Mon 30 April – Fri 6 July

TERM 3: Mon 23 July – Fri 28 September

TERM 4: Mon 15 October – Thurs 20 December

## NGATIMOTI SCHOOL NEWS: May 2018

**Our school swimming pool is now closed;** many thanks to those who purchased a season key and have treated the pool and our pool safety rules with great respect. Please return your key to the school office to receive your \$10 deposit.



**Many thanks to Amber Beech** for teaching in the Indigo Room in Term 1

whilst Lauren Milnes has been recovering from her back operation. We wish Amber all the best for her new position at Riwaka School and welcome Lauren back to teaching in the Indigo Room this term.

**Term 2 learning at Ngatimoti School.** We look forward to learning about inspiring people, including NZ inventors and inventions. The Life Education truck is here this week to support our learning about how physical activity is good for our bodies. For Physical Education we have a gymnastics focus, and we will have a fortnight of dance lessons later in the term. In science and technology, we will be learning about harakeke and we will also begin our Enviro Education activities which the Enviro Leaders will be co-ordinating. Matua Maihi and Whaea Tania are also hoping to support all of this learning and incorporate some kapa haka too!

**Ngatimoti School first opened in 1868.** This year it is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A bus tour of the area is planned on Saturday 20 October, followed by refreshments and a chance for past students and others to meet and reunite back at Ngatimoti School. There will also be a photographic exhibition on display. Celebrations will continue on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October at the school together with the annual festival.

The organising committee invite all past students of Ngatimoti and other consolidated schools of the area to this celebration and reunion. The contribution of any photos or stories to share for this celebration and for the memorial booklet would be greatly appreciated. For more information please contact the organising committee via Principal Alison Turner at Ngatimoti School, tel. 03 526 8842 [office@ngatimoti.school.nz](mailto:office@ngatimoti.school.nz)



Chair of Ngatimoti School Parents Group, Yvette, presents a small but gratefully received donation to Paul for the Ngatimoti Memorial Hall from Festival funds.

## Living the Lego® Dream

I am sure that many valley residents as they near Motueka have noticed the sign for a Lego® gallery, and wondered what lay behind the trees. A recent visit revealed many a child's dream.

In one room of the shed dedicated to things Lego®, Adrian Barbour designs creations on commission. Using design software, and testing these designs with bricks from his extensive collection, he bridges the gap between the client and their vision of a Lego® model that is not commercially available. Once satisfied that the design works, he provides full instructions and a list of the bricks required for the client to complete their model.

The adjacent gallery space is available for families, or small groups to visit. Adrian offers bins of bricks for visitors to build their own creations, or they can view the intricate models he has created, some of which are commercial models, and many are those that he has designed and created himself. If you are a Game of Thrones fan, there is a Lego® Cyvasse board game. Those into Star Wars will find various models. It was wonderful to see a very Kiwi creation in the form of a cheeky little fantail kit which Adrian has for sale. For a closer look at the Lego® models that Adrian has designed, check out his BrickMonkey MOCs website [www.bm-mocs.com](http://www.bm-mocs.com). Connecting to his Flickr account through the website gives a greater understanding of the many of the models he has designed and created.

Since moving into the valley Adrian has connected with other Lego® enthusiasts in the area. The Christchurch Lego® Users Group lent several bins of bricks for use in the Motueka Brick Show in November 2017. Nelson is hosting the event in November this year and these bricks will again

be available for members of the public to construct their own Lego® creations. At the Mapua Easter Fair, Adrian and other local enthusiasts gave the public the opportunity to create models in a Lego® pit. These bricks are also used at the monthly Lego® club at the Motueka library for children 7 years and over. Adrian guides participants in challenges and free building. This club is proving to be very popular, with up to thirty in attendance.

If you are passing and the open sign is out, drop in, browse, play with the Lego® and puzzles, enjoy the photography and art on the gallery walls, and explore the surroundings. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Arrangements can be made to visit by contacting Ann Daniels 027 422 3310 or Adrian Barbour 027 599 8845.

-Chris Tait, reporter



## Letter to the editor

**Re: Impacts of Forestry on the Separation Point Granite, Roger May, April issue**

I would like to offer my congratulations to Roger May on a well thought out article. It is high time that TDC reviewed the way forestry is carried out in this district and the impacts it has on neighbouring land as well as the wider community. Over the years land use has changed, sometimes because markets change (raspberries) and sometimes because what used to be acceptable no longer is. Sheep used to graze on the Tablelands but no more, land used to be cleared and maintained by wild fire burn offs – no more. (some would argue about the disposal of orchard prunings but that is another matter!)

It is time that the way forestry is managed and harvested in this area is revised so the real impact on the local community is taken into account. It is not just the benefits of a few jobs in harvesting and transport but the cost borne by ratepayers to repair the damage to roads and bridges and the damage to our environment. Some years ago farming was blamed for the decline in the trout fishery of the Motueka River. No mention was made of the silting caused by forestry clear felling smothering the larvae of the trout food source. Why has the Tasman Bay scallop fishery declined so rapidly, is it just a co-incidence that the Motueka forests are being harvested?

So many of our forests have been sold off to off-shore owners who reap the major benefits from the sales. It is high time that New Zealand stopped being a low cost producer of commodities and focussed on value added, higher cost end products. Forestry is certainly ripe for this makeover! Higher value means higher harvesting costs can be borne so harvesting can be done in a way which does not cause the rest of us huge expense thus providing an indirect subsidy to the forestry industry.

*-Bruce Geddes, Graham Valley*



## MVA Committee update

From the April MVA meeting:

- Three committee members from the Ngatimoti Memorial Hall have stepped down after being presented with bureaucracy around their volunteer positions. MVA suggests a meeting with councillor Dean McNamara to discuss the issue and look into bringing this community asset into a trust.
- Water Information Network (WIN) has contacted MVA because they believe that ordinary ratepayers of the District need to be better informed of the real situation and to voice their concerns to their Council representatives before a final decision is made by the TDC this month about the Waimea Dam. MVA will host WIN during the next MVA meeting. Councillor Dean McNamara will be present to speak on behalf of TDC.
- The design for the “Welcome to the Motueka Valley” sign is in its final stages. MVA hopes that some community members will help with the installation (e.g. post rammer).
- MVA would like to host the recently released documentary “A Close Shave”, showing the impact of Gita to the region (esp. Marahau).

## MEMORIAL HALL NGATIMOTI

Paul Wielandt has notified the hall committee of his resignation from the role as treasurer. The hall committee is now **looking for a new treasurer asap**. The treasurer's main tasks are bookkeeping and taking bookings. For more info contact Paul on 526 8047.



### Motueka Valley Association

**Meetings** every 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month to 500 homes in the Motueka Valley from February to December
- send stories, photos & ads by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month to the editor, Jan-Albert Droppers: [newsletter@mva.org.nz](mailto:newsletter@mva.org.nz)
- advertising rate: \$2.00 per column cm
- online newsletter + archives: [www.mva.org.nz](http://www.mva.org.nz)

### Facebook: Motueka Valley Community



This is a closed group with over 600 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](http://www.mva.org.nz)



## Quiz Nights @ Dunbar Estates

Dunbar Estates Cafe monthly Quiz nights every 3rd Friday of the month. Next on Friday 18 May. Quiz starts at 7pm. Max 6 per team. Individuals will be put into teams, so just turn up. \$2 pp.  
Bar and kitchen open. Ph 526 8598 or [dunbarestates@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dunbarestates@xtra.co.nz) to book a team/table.

## FOR SALE - PEA STRAW

Conventional Bales: \$15 ea  
Medium Square Bales (13 Bale Equivalents): \$120 ea

Call Marian on 03 543 3613 or txt 021 240 0416.  
Pickup in Dovedale or delivery to be negotiated.

**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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## MUSICAL BEGINNINGS

Quality Music and Movement for Children and their Carers  
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Tuesdays 11am  
Anne: 021 121 3389

## ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI



Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 12.30pm Shared Lunch  
followed by Worship starting at 2pm  
led by Richard & Sue Cheeseman

### Family Service

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May - 10.30am  
Conducted by Rev. Charles Tyrrell  
Children's Sunday School  
Morning tea and social time to follow

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## Local business owners



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