

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

the river, the land, the people

NOVEMBER 2018

Water Slide

Towards the Pearse Bridge on the Westbank is a hidden gem. On land that had been a tobacco farm prior to Heather Lindsay and David (Dood) Davies purchasing it 35 years ago is a water slide, which they are happy to share with other valley residents over the summer for a gold coin donation. Funds raised are donated to local charities. Last year these were donated to the defibrillator group.

Heather's pet project for her grandchildren has grown over the last four years and is now 65 metres long. Initially a shorter slide, Heather extended the length as she watched how people were using it. She has formed the slide's path down the hill, lined it with offcuts of carpet which are covered with tough polypropylene pool liner. The area beside the slide has been cleared of the multitude of unwelcome plants which have been replaced with natives.

Water from springs on the hillside is diverted through a tank, down some pipes, into a bath and, at the turn of a tap, flows down the slide into wetlands below before ending up in the Motueka River.

Heather provides high density foam mats for people to use on the slide as these protect the liner from wear and tear. There are a few guidelines to follow in order to make sure that everyone can enjoy this activity. Any dogs must be tied up and no inner tubes or boogie boards may be used. Heather has a board outlining these and other simple guidelines. Understandably, use of the slide is at your own risk.

The record for the number of people in a chain on the slide at one time is 17 and the speed of the descent has been timed at 36kph. This sounds like a lot of fun for all ages.

Heather and Dood welcome locals to their property to enjoy the slide and to have a picnic under the walnut trees. The slide can be accessed by vehicles across the paddock beside the house. Heather seems to be one of those people who always has a project or two underway. Currently under construction is a shade area for those watching the activities on the slide. A one kilometre track up the hill, named Mt Hardwalker by one of the grandchildren, is available for the energetic in search of views of the valley.

I've already sent the photos Heather supplied to our annual summer visitors. The reply was a resounding, "Wooooohoooooo. Looks awesome!" It looks like we'll be up there letting gravity do its thing.

If you have a group of friends or family that would like to give it a go then phone Heather on 5268736 to arrange a time.

-Chris Tait, reporter



NEXT MVA MEETING

Wednesday 14 November, 8pm
Ngatimoti Community Rooms

All welcome!

Trio Jackson

**Jazz
Latin
Gypsy
Classical
World Music**

Fleur Jackson - Violin
Miles Jackson - Guitar
Margarita Jackson - Violin

OLD ST JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI

7.30pm Friday November 23rd

\$15 unwaged and seniors \$10

tickets from Floral Affaire 166 High st Motueka or Ngatimoti school

Organised by the Motueka Valley Association www.mva.org.nz

'Music is communication in the space where we dream'



NGATIMOTI SCHOOL NEWS

TERM 4:
Mon 15 Oct – Thurs 20 Dec

office@ngatimoti.school.nz principal@ngatimoti.school.nz

Tel: 03 526 8842

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR A SPECIAL WEEKEND.

What a great community we have and what an amazing weekend we turned on! Thank you to all of those who contributed, almost every family, every staff member and many members of the community helped to make this Festival so successful.

REUNION THANK YOU Our 150th school anniversary on Saturday was also a great success, with many happy people reuniting and reminiscing! Many thanks to our wonderful organising committee of Kirsten Braniff, Jennifer Beatson, Coralie Grooby and Ed Stevens, and also to our great Student Council who did a fantastic job welcoming people back and presenting at the official ceremony.

Ned Knowles and Orianna cut the celebratory cake on Saturday. At 94 years old, Ned is our oldest student to attend the celebrations – he was a student here at Ngatimoti in 1931. 5 year old Orianna is our youngest student at present.



School Tea Towels For Sale! For our reunion and this year's festival we have had some special Ngatimoti tea towels created. They are available to buy from the school office for \$10 each, they will make great Christmas presents! We also have a limited number of reusable bags (\$3), pens (\$2) and notepads (\$1) for sale at the office. Come and shop while stocks last. Contact the office for more details or pop in within school hours office@ngatimoti.school.nz

What's coming up? This term will fly by, with class camps planned to Marahau and Totaranui, first aid training, a kapa haka fun day and interschool athletics competitions. All this alongside our usual school curriculum learning, and renovating and earthquake strengthening work will begin on our school hall. School swimming pool keys will be available to purchase in December so watch this space for more details in next month's news.

MVA Committee update

From the October MVA meeting:

- MVA received an email from TDC with the outcome that pedestrian and cycle access to the Pokororo Swing Bridge is reassured for the future, but not vehicle access.
- Wording for the Motueka Valley sign is still being finalised.
- Preparations for concert in St James Church discussed.
- After a post on the Motueka Valley Community Facebook page, a concern was raised by a local valley resident about misinformation on 1080. The role of the moderator was discussed and it was confirmed that our page is a platform for anyone's views, but that any violence is not tolerated. In the case of the 1080 post in question, other members pointed out that this was unhelpful misinformation and thus the problem was resolved.
- Tinamarie Temara was welcomed on the committee.



MVA welcomes two new committee members:



Tinamarie Temara



Peter Laufkotter

Notice from Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group

We are having a refresher CPR/AED short training course on Wednesday 28 November at 7.15pm at the Ngatimoti Community Rooms. We have 2 spaces left for people in the community who are interested in participating. You would not be required to be listed on our public volunteer list, but it would be a great opportunity for you to learn CPR and the use of the AED. Please call me on 03 526 8644 if you are interested in attending. No charge for attending the course.

-Gloria Anderson, chair, Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group

Motueka Valley Business Profile

Crafted Earth

One of the delightful aspects of my role as reporter for the newsletter is that it gives me the opportunity to meet other valley residents. On a sunny Friday before Labour weekend I had the pleasure of interviewing Joel Briffault of Crafted Earth. During our chat over a cup of Earl Grey tea in his restful garden by the river I discovered that Joel is brimming with positivity and enthusiasm for the valley and for his work.

As a 15 year old living in Hamilton, Joel became aware of the dependence that many have on supermarkets for food and dreamed of doing things in a different way. He was inspired to try his hand at providing vegetables for the family and, much to his mother's consternation, dug a patch in the lawn to begin his first garden. His passion for the earth, plants and gardening was ignited and he pursued a horticultural apprenticeship with the Hamilton Public Gardens and studied at WINTEC, the polytech in Waikato. On completion of this training, with his qualifications to back him up, Joel went off on his O.E. and experienced a wide variety of environments from WWOOFing in North Africa to undertaking garden maintenance in Bristol, England. Eventually, memories of a year spent in the Motueka area called him back to New Zealand and, four years ago, he made the move to the Motueka Valley.

Although this move initially saw him working full time as a gardener, the self-confessed plant obsessive couldn't help himself from growing seedlings and now has what he calls New Zealand's smallest plant nursery. This nursery is at the heart of his business which sees him at the Motueka Sunday market and the Nelson Market on Saturdays with an array of ornamental, bedding, perennial, and organic vegetable and herb seedlings. Tucked in amongst these garden staples are some natives and unusual plants.

Tending the plants, readying them for sale and taking them to market occupies four days a week. Three days a week Joel does garden maintenance. He is qualified and able to undertake many services in this aspect of his business from hedge trimming, pruning, and topiary to consultation about garden construction.

Joel is not a person to sit still for long and has many dreams to expand and develop. His greatest passion is to make a difference to the earth. He wants to provide nutritious organ-

ic produce, and to encourage others to feed themselves from their own gardens. To this end, Joel aims to bring fresh produce as well as his seedlings to market. He has recently leased market garden land in Riwaka and is growing organic produce. This will initially be done on a small scale, but he intends to be able to feed more families as certainty of supply is firmly established.

Look out for changes to the Crafted Earth stand at the Motueka and Nelson markets as Joel expands his repertoire and turns his dream of providing the very best of locally grown, seasonal organic food into reality.

Contact Joel on 021 0284 7245 or joel@craftedearth.co.nz.

-Chris Tait, reporter



One-day Flax Weaving Workshop

Sunday 11 November 2018

Ngatimoti Community Rooms

Email Ali at alibrownweaving@gmail.com to book

See full info at www.alibrown.co.nz/workshops.html

Farrier, calm horse manner

Text or phone Simon at 021 052 2265

FOR SALE - PEA STRAW

Conventional Bales: \$13 ea

Medium Square Bales (13 Bale Equivalents): \$110 ea

Call Marian on 03 543 3613 or txt 021 240 0416.

Pickup in Dovedale or delivery to be negotiated.

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
Peter Laufkotter	526 8554
Greg Mason	526 8112
Chris Tait	027 315 7815
Tinamarie Temara	021 0293 5338

local halls/facilities

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall • Sarah Douglas • text 027 721 3991
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 800 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

QUIZ NIGHT - Friday 16 November

@ DUNBAR ESTATES CELLAR DOOR & CAFE

Quiz Night every 3rd Friday of the month starting promptly at 7pm. Max. 6 per team @ \$2pp. Individuals can join a team on the night. Please book your table ASAP as numbers are limited. Bar & kitchen open.

Ph 03 526 8598 or dunbarestates@xtra.co.nz.

SPRING opening hours Wednesday to Sunday 9am-5pm.

Come and show your support!

ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI



Family Service

Sunday 18th November - 10.30am

Conducted by Canon David Moynan

Children's Sunday School

Morning tea and social time to follow

All Welcome

Chooks for sale

Hylines, regular batches. Heritage breeds in season.

John McFadgen - Ph 021 234 4990

WANTED Bee swarms for removal,
happy to swap for future pot of honey!
Please phone 022 312 6992, *Thanks.*

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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