

# Singing our Way in Spring with Inakord

Motueka Valley Association's (MVA) annual spring concert is on again at St James Church, Waiwhero Road, Ngatimoti. These annual spring concerts at the church have been happening for the past five years. They were started with the first concert being held in the church as a way to bring music to the valley. It was at a time when council were considering removing "under-utilised halls" and so it showed council that the church was being used by the community and therefore didn't need to be pulled down.

St. James' Church was built by James Robinson, a Motueka carpenter, and others, with the site for the church being given by Walter Guy. The first pile was placed by Bishop Suter on 27th December 1883. Totara and Rimu were used for the building and Kauri for the pews. The church was consecrated on 28th October 1884:

"...The seats which were pronounced of an excellent shape and size, are of kauri wood, and were designed

and made by Mr. Strachan of Ngatimoti...". [Colonist Volume XXV111, Issue 3975, 30 October 1884]

Services are still held at the church monthly.

The first Spring concert in the church was given by a professional pianist from France who travelled with a piano on a trailer in order to bring music to rural communities. Since then, the Spring Concert has been an annual event and Bernd Reiter has been the main organiser in conjunction with MVA:

"We've had brass ensembles, guitarists, opera singers, string quartets, accomplished artists. For this year because of the uncertainties with Covid, we decided to invite the flexible crowd of our famous local choir - Inakord", says Bernd.

Bernd has been singing with the choir *Inakord* since it began over twenty years ago. *Inakord* is a group of 20 – 25 local residents who meet weekly for practise at Riverside Community hall. They are an acapella choir who sing world music:



"...Songs and rounds from all over the world - African, Maori, Georgian, we sing a bit of everything", says Bernd.

"Asking me why I sing is like asking me why I breathe...
I've been singing all my life...how can I not? It opens my
heart, it connects me with my local community. Singing
fills you with joy."

Barbie Cole, along with Verena Gruner, leads the choir:

"I have no qualifications for leading a choir but was asked by friends if I would start a choir and I nervously agreed – but only if Verena Gruner would be co-leader. We both lead the choir still, though Verena is out of the country for several months each year.

The choir's first coming-together was with about 10 people in 1998:

"...At the time there was a community choir impetus in New Zealand, and a lot of our initial repertoire was brought to us from other choir leaders – some well-known – Stephen Taberner, Tony Backhouse, Nicky Berry, and other singers from around the globe who were passing through our area. We were learning songs from around the world and became loosely described as a 'world choir' ", says Barbie.

"It's an ongoing journey for us all – singing together is a wonderful thing to do. There are no auditions, everyone is welcome and the social aspect of coming together is also important. Generally the songs and parts are taught by

## **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 or contact any of the following **committee members:** 

 Peter Laufkotter
 526 8554

 Fiona Nelson
 020 4160 1968

 Joel Briffault
 021 0784 7245

 Fay Knight
 022 320 0449

### local halls/facilities

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall

• Bex Douglas • 021 173 1279 • ngatimoti.hall@gmail.com 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 20th of the month to the editor, Seiji Kubo: newsletter@mva.org.nz
- · advertising rate: \$2.00 per column cm
- online newsletter + archives: www.mva.org.nz

#### www.mva.org.nz

ear — singers don't need to be able to read music and it is a personal challenge to remember tunes and words.

"We sing unaccompanied which can be tricky at times – but it also creates a lovely sound", says Barbie.

In the top of the South Island there are six community choirs, all similar in genre. Once a year about a hundred and fifty people from those choirs meet together alternately for a public concert one year and a choirs gathering and workshop the next.

While *Inakord* don't perform publicly often, they sometimes make appearances at Motueka market over the summer and at local fairs, like Steiner Spring Fair. Barbie hopes the concert at St.James Church will give a picture of the types of songs they sing and will show the enjoyment each member feels when singing together.

So come along to listen and be inspired to sing along too with *Inakord* at St.James Church, on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm. This year, tickets are only being sold at the door on the night for \$5. Come early and support your local choir.

Fiona Nelson

Reporter



### MVA is looking for new committee members

Do you have an interest in the well-being of the Motueka Valley?

Do you have a couple of hours every month to attend meetings at Ngatimoti Community Rooms?

Do you enjoy meeting new people?

If you're interested or have questions, contact one of the committee members or email info@mva.org.nz.

### 2020 TERM DATES

TERM 4: Mon 12 October - Wednesday 16 Dec



You did it again! Thank you so much to all involved in our Festival this year!

We cannot express just how grateful we are to all of you for your massive efforts.

Without your wonderful community support we would not be able to make it happen.

Your patience and understanding is appreciated as our usually peaceful valley is
transformed every Labour Weekend. You can see lots more great photos and feedback

on the Ngatimoti Festival facebook page – thanks Marian!

Payments for Festival purchases, including the Silent Auction should be made to
Ngatimoti School Parents Group O3 1354 O354943 OO (not school, thanks)







Some more photos of Ngatimoti Festival

## **Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group Fundraising Appeal**

Hello fellow valley residents. In September our group held our annual general meeting. We voted in a new Treasurer, Jeff Furrows and said goodbye to the person who started the group, Glen Davenport. During this meeting we also discussed the need to encourage members of the community to learn CPR and the use of the Defibrillator. We plan to hold another training session in early 2021.

We discussed the need to increase the size of our group as we move forward. We welcome and encourage new members to help continue the operation of our AED's. We meet, on average, twice a year therefore there isn't a huge commitment of your time. What we are looking for are people who can promote training in CPR and the use of the AED, assist with monitoring the AEDs and to help with fundraising.

At the moment our AED's are all in working order and we continue to monitor them and replace the pads and batteries as needed. However, as with any non-profit organization, we always need funds to carry on the work we do. Our 3 AED's need upkeep by replacing the pads and batteries on a scheduled basis. The pads need to be replaced every two years (or when they have been used) and the batteries every 4 years. The pads cost \$150.00 a set to replace and the batteries (depending on the machine) anywhere from \$200 to \$600.

We are asking our community residents and businesses to help us raise funds by making a donation to the fund. How about a local business sponsoring one of our AED located throughout the Valley. We are a registered charity. You can look up our information online at the Charities Services under our name and number, Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group, CC50792. If everyone made a \$10 donation it will help keep our Defibrillators in working order to be available in a medical emergency. This equipment can save a life and it is very comforting knowing we have them available when needed.

If we were to raise enough money there could be the possibility of purchasing another AED to place further down the valley on the West Bank Road.

Thank you for your consideration and if you have any questions and would be interested in coming on board the group please contact me, Gloria Anderson, Chairperson at 526 8644 / 021 179 7005 or by email at <a href="mailto:ja.ga.kiwi@gmail.com">ja.ga.kiwi@gmail.com</a>

Your donation can be made directly into our bank account at the NBS bank 03-1354-0474291-00. If you need a receipt for your charitable donation we can make that available to you.

Gloria Anderson, Chairperson

# all advertisements 8.5cm wide \$2 per cm high



### connect on Facebook:

### **Motueka Valley Community**

A closed group with over 2000 members, who are not necessarily living in the valley, but have the valley at heart.

### **Motueka Valley Residents**

A private group for people residing in the Motueka Valley area.



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# Location of AEDs in Motueka Valley

- Woodstock Automotive (Kerry Hall) 982 Dovedale Road, Woodstock Junction.
- · Ngatimoti Community Rooms/Fire Station Motueka Valley Highway next to Ngatimoti School



Pokororo Hall

West Bank Road at corner of Graham Valley

Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group is a registered charity (CC50792). Donations towards the maintenance of the AEDs can be made to: Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group, NBS acc # 03-1354-0474291-00 or contact Gloria Anderson, chairperson, on 526 8644 for more information.

# ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI

Family Service Sunday 15th November - 10:30 a.m. Conducted by Rev. Joy Bradley

Children's Sunday School Morning tea and social time to follow.

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Phil Frater Executor

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**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 contact Marian for more info on 0 3 5 4 3 3 6 1 3 / 0 2 1 2 4 0 0 4 1 6 or ngati



### **DUNBAR ESTATES CELLAR DOOR & CAFÉ**

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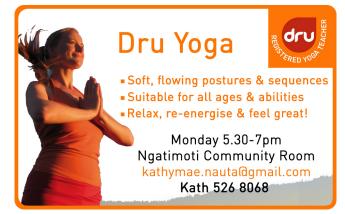
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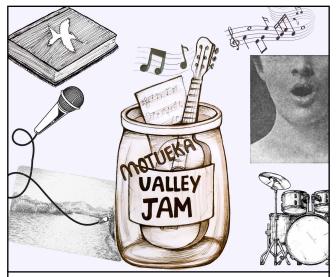
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# **Motueka Valley Open Mic**

Come and check out our awesome valley's local musicians, storytellers, comedians and diverse folk for a night of whatever goes on the mic.

All are welcome to participate or just come and enjoy.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month, 7.30pm Proudly supported by Ngatimoti Hall Committee and the MVA. Koha Appreciated



