

# Motueka Valley Association Newsletter



the river, the land, the people

NOVEMBER 2019



## NEXT MVA MEETING

Wednesday 13 November, 8pm  
Ngatimoti Community Rooms

**All welcome!**

My idea is that there is music  
in the air, music all around  
us, the world is full of it and  
you simply take as much as  
you require.

-Edward Elgar, 1896



## Don't miss this year's St James Concert

The MVA is once again excited to present the annual concert at the historic St James Church, Ngatimoti.

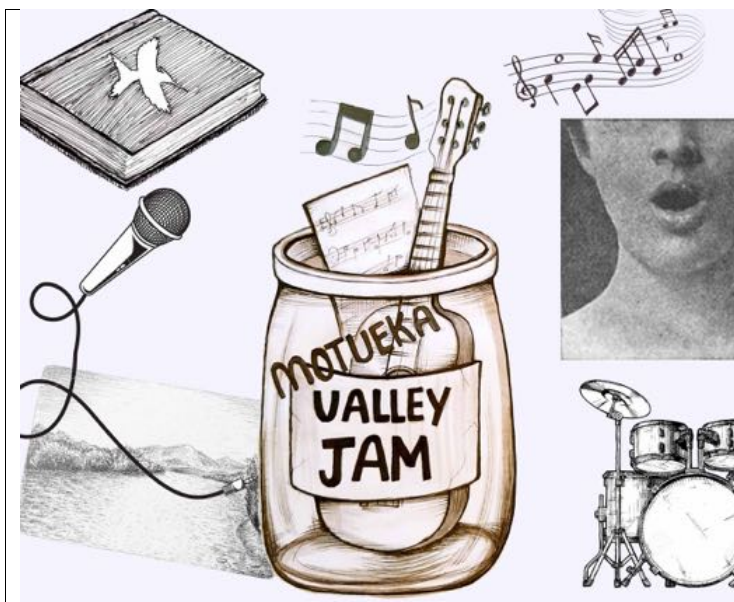
This year we are fortunate to have two groups performing: **'Men in Accord'**, a four part a capella group (pictured above) who will treat us to a mix of barbershop and other numbers, and the **'Avid Opera'** singers, a seven strong group who promise an evening of Opera's greatest hits!

**Sunday 1 December, starting at 7pm**

There will be a short interval between performances and supper will follow at the end of the evening.

Tickets cost \$10 and are available from Floral Affaire (166 High St, Motueka), Motueka High and Ngatimoti Schools. There are no door sales, so be in quick!

Our thanks to Bernd Reiter for organising the two performing groups.



## 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 date has changed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month.**

Proudly supported by Ngatimoti Hall Committee and the MVA.

Koha Appreciated



## Ngatimoti Festival 2019

Many thanks to everybody who ensured our 18<sup>th</sup> Ngatimoti Festival was another roaring success this year.

In particular, thanks to:

- Our wonderful community; landowners, past and present students, staff and the hard working and dedicated parents.
- Local businesses who contributed with services or donations.
- All the fantastic entertainers.
- Neighbours and extended families.

Your commitment, goodwill and generosity are hugely appreciated.

Thank you for your support – see you next Labour Weekend Sunday 25 October 2020!



## MOTUEKA VALLEY BUSINESS PROFILE

### The Vet Centre

#### Looking After Our Pets and Animals

Whether you have problems with your cat, dog, budgie or with cows, horses or goats, The Vet Centre have you covered. The Vet Centre has two main clinics in Richmond and Motueka and a smaller branch in Mapua. With a wide range of expertise, both clinics offer a mixed animal service with access to digital x-ray and ultrasound services, surgical and hospital facilities and dentistry. While the majority of work is companion animal based, The Vet Centre also offer an extensive range of equine and farm/large animal services. On Wednesday and Thursday afternoons the vets go out for routine farm work where they build up a number of visits so they can offer subsidised travel to areas such as the Motueka Valley. Outside of those days, the vets fit in the calls as they arise.

At the Motueka centre there's one vet on surgery in the morning with the other vets doing consultations. Two to three vets are always at Motueka centre and one of them will service the Mapua branch as well. The vets are supported by four to five reception staff and veterinary nurses.

Matt Evans, one of the vets at Motueka, has been working at Motueka for eight years:

"This time of year, Spring, brings an increased unpredictability. It's very variable what we get called out for - animals not doing well for a variety of reasons - not thriving, problems in and around giving birth, lambing and calving problems and metabolic problems as a result... Or with horses it's often colic situations with abdominal pain that can be mild to severe; or it could be cuts, external trauma wounds from one source or another that we're dealing with. There's never a comfort zone, you've got your booked day and then you've got your random "throw of the dice" element which makes it interesting."

Matt's personal favourite animal are dogs. He's worked with them all his life starting with working at boarding kennels in Christchurch when he has about 10 years old.

The Vet Centre at Motueka is associated with the Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, or



SPCA. As the SPCA was centralised into the more main centres, the nearest one now being in Nelson, the SPCA animal centre at Motueka was closed a couple of years ago. The SPCA operates an Op shop a few doors down from The Vet Centre, and The Vet Centre at Motueka acts as a drop-off point and handling point for stray cats:

"We take those strays in and do their initial check-ups, we keep them in for their quarantine periods, look after routine neutering and vaccines needed and look to place them in a new home. If we have too many the main Nelson centre will take them in.", says Matt.

Another service The Vet Centre offers is a Puppy School with socialisation and education classes for young puppies and their owners or handlers. Once the puppies have had their first vaccine, they can be enrolled and have a lesson a week for 4 weeks.

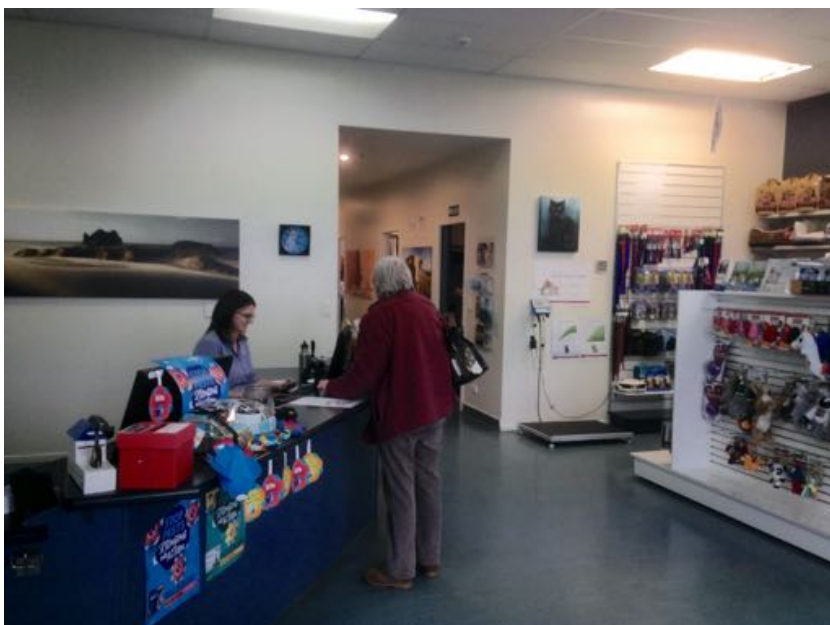
"From the owners' point of view, it's about education - what they should be doing as far as bringing up their dog, how to train them, looking at behaviour aspects, nutrition, parasite treatment and regular health.

From the dog's point of view, it's about socialisation - you've got a window of time because of vaccine requirements where it's difficult to safely socialise dogs. The Puppy School is a way that allows that gap to be bridged in what is quite an important social development time for the puppy. It builds and works on that bond between puppy and owners or handlers", says Matt.

Puppy school at the Motueka branch is held on Wednesday evenings at 6pm.

The Vet Centre covers a large area from Rai Valley past Nelson, to and beyond Tapawera, down to the Murchison area and up to the top of Takaka Hill. The Vet Centre is open Monday to Friday 8:30am - 5:30pm and Saturday mornings between 9am and 2pm. The Richmond clinic is open also on Sunday. They offer a 24 hour service, so if your animal needs help after hours it's not a problem. You can ring The Vet Centre's number - 528 8459 - and you'll be automatically put through to the vet on call and get the help you need for your animal.

-Fiona Nelson, reporter



## Controlling Old Man's Beard in the Valley

Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*) is a common weed along the Motueka Valley. Old Man's Beard (OMB) is listed as a pest species in the National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) and the Tasman District Council (TDC) have it listed for sustained control by property owners. Because of concerns about the excessive amount of this weed along parts of the Motueka Valley which aren't already partially dealt with by TDC, a voluntary group formed over three years ago to deal with it.

"It transpired that our area is not controlled because we do not pay a river maintenance levy in our rates, like those downstream do, and also a few upstream. So we decided to strike out on our own and that's the way it still is," says Bruce Stare, co-ordinator of the OMB group.

The OMB group was initially set up after a meeting with Project De Vine. Project De Vine is a non-profit group which works on eradicating or progressively controlling noxious vines throughout Golden Bay. The OMB group are able to purchase the glyphosate gel in bulk through Project De Vine to use with their work trying to eradicate Old Man's Beard. Also, through a grant from QE11 Trust Covenants, the OMB group were able to purchase most of the equipment they need for their work.

"We are currently a group of about 16 and about half that number generally turn up to any one working bee", says Bruce.

The OMB group have working bees on the last Saturday of each month (except December) weather permitting. They work from 9.30am until lunchtime when the hosts of the property they are working on kindly provide a late morning tea/early lunch.

At present, the property the OMB group are working at is Brookfields, the home of Kim and Judith Rowe. Kim and Judith have a 1200 acre farm on which they run cattle, deer and sheep. They have one area of 37 hectares which has a QE11 covenant. According to an ecological report done for the Tasman District Council in 2010:

"...the site is of exceptional importance as being the largest known alluvial beech-podocarp remnant in the Moutere Ecological District...94 native plant species, three of which are nationally listed as at risk, declining..."

Tom Stein, the QE11 National Trust Representative for Marlborough and Nelson-Tasman, says that: "...Shovel mint, one of those three is now "Threatened – nationally critical". It is found only in the Nelson Marlborough area



and then only known at about 15 sites."

Bruce Stare considers that the covenanted area and two others they are working on are in excellent condition apart from the fact that no weeding has been done for many years:

"There is a major infestation of OMB, even up to the top of the tallest kahikatea and totara trees. There is a lot to do here and our group will be one of several that work on this covenant in future years."

Judith Rowe is very grateful for the work of volunteers:

"It is a huge area of bush and a far bigger task for us to do it on our own. So we have employed a company to manage it, and we need the help of volunteers as well. In order to get funding from DOC we need to show that there's local interest in the area, engaging local schools and volunteers. Funding is dependent on how many volunteer hours are given and we are still waiting to hear" she says.

The OMB group's next working bee at Brookfields is on Saturday 2nd November due to Labour Weekend being on the last Saturday of October. This will be followed by the last working bee of the year on Saturday 30th November. If you would like to be involved please contact Bruce Stare via email [bruce.stare@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bruce.stare@xtra.co.nz).

-Fiona Nelson, reporter



### 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 Road



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.

## MVA Committee update

From the October MVA meeting:

- Organising of this year's concert at St James Church, to be held on Sunday 1 December.
- A debrief on the Meet the Candidates evening; what worked well, what could be improved for next time.
- Discussion on TDC's proposed speed changes in the valley. Decided MVA cannot put in a submission as there are different opinions in the valley about this.
- Further discussion on the need for historically accurate names on bridges and culverts in the valley, with three recent changes being identified as incorrect (based on local research).
- The Open Mic night is now on the 2nd Thursday of the month and is well attended, with an eclectic mix of performers.

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

### Lavish Gardens

Maintenance, makeovers, green waste removal.  
Grant - 03 526 8035

### FOR SALE - PEA STRAW

Conventional Bales: \$13 ea  
Medium Square Bales (13 Bale Equivalents): \$110 ea  
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### DO THE CHALLENGES YOU FACE SOMETIMES SEEM TOO BIG?

*Are you looking for a way forward?*

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### NVC practice group seeking new participants (non-violent/compassionate communication)

meeting Wednesdays, 7-9pm, West Bank Rd

Are you keen to hone your communication skills and  
practice speaking with authenticity and from your heart in  
a safe space? Do you avoid conflict, but deep down  
want more connection, yet want more tools to achieve it?  
Practice and reflection can help support this process.

If this sounds like you, get in touch with Annika:

ackorsten@gmail.com or 021 343 260

## Tasman District Council Election Results

Tim King has been elected Mayor.

Motueka Ward: David Ogilvie, Trindi Walker, Claire Hutt

Moutere-Waimea Ward: Anne Turley, Dean McNamara,  
Christeen MacKenzie

Motueka Community Board: David Armstrong, Richard  
Horrell, Brent Maru, Joni Tomsett

The 'First Past the Post (FPP) electoral system' was declared  
to be the preferred option and will be used for the next 2022  
and 2025 Tasman District Council elections.

There was a slight increase in the number of people who  
voted this election. In 2016 local election Voter return was  
49.4% being 18,161 returned votes. This 2019 local election  
Voter return was 51.68% with 19,846 returned votes.

## Local Matters Event

Dr Mike Joy is returning to speak on 'The Future of Food  
and Energy'. A recipient of many awards for his environ-  
mental advocacy, Dr Joy will speak on his scrutiny of the  
science that predicts the imminent end of fossil-fuelled  
energy and the implications for our food system. He will  
show and discuss research data that indicate a drastic  
reduction in livestock and a huge increase in plant food  
production will necessarily be the way of the future.  
These required changes will have many human and eco-  
logical health benefits, will put New Zealand in a chal-  
lenging position, and will undoubtedly test how many of  
us regard the future.

When: Thursday 7 November, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Mapua Community Hall, Aranui Rd, Mapua

Entry: \$10 includes supper. Free to students with ID.

### 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**:

Greg Mason	526 8112
Peter Laufkotter	526 8554
Fiona Nelson	020 4160 1968

### local halls/facilities

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall • Bex Douglas • 021 173 1279  
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, 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 1300 members supporting  
the exchange of goods, services and information within the  
valley. It can also serve as a place for connection during calami-  
ties.

[www.mva.org.nz](http://www.mva.org.nz)



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### Chooks for sale

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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 03 543 3613 / 021 2400 416 or [ngatimotiplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:ngatimotiplaygroup@gmail.com).



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