

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

The River, The Land, The People

November 2022

Is This Your Last Printed MVA Newsletter?

Motueka Valley Association has produced a monthly newsletter for many years. At first 500 copies were photocopied in black and white by the school. Then Fuji film in Nelson took over offering us colour printing for free as long as we put their logo in the newsletter. Now, unfortunately Fuji have cut their 'charity work' and we are having to pay for it. We asked Nelson Building Society, of whom we have been loyal customers, if they would fund the printing of it but they were not able to.

So we decided to keep local and asked Image Creators in Motueka to print it. We asked for the printing costs to be covered by our Community Grant application with TDC. However after not receiving enough money from TDC, (\$3,000) we are having to pay over \$600 per month to have the newsletter printed. The newsletter is also available online and the link to it is posted on Motueka Valley Residents Group and Motueka Valley Community Facebook pages.

Community members are also able to subscribe to receive the newsletter through our MVA.org.nz website, which is currently being upgraded. The minutes of meetings, TDC's Motueka Valley Monthly Update, the monthly Newsletter and other information will all be available here online.

However, we know that many community members like and prefer to read a printed copy of the newsletter, and don't do 'online' stuff. We are investigating other charitable organisations who may be able to cover our printing costs. But we want to know from you: **Do you want to receive a printed copy of the monthly MVA newsletter?**

If you are online here is a survey link with a few questions and a choice of two logos for our new website:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F6SWH6T>

If you are not online, please simply ring or text: Secretary Fiona Nelson – 02041601968 – and let us know

1. Do You Read MVA's monthly newsletter?

Yes or No

2. Do You Read it Online?

Yes or No

3. Do You Read the printed copy delivered by post?

Yes or No

4. Do You Want To Continue receiving a Printed Copy of MVA's monthly newsletter?

Yes or No

5. The MVA is upgrading its website to better serve the valley, Which logo do you prefer for MVA's new website?



A



B

The MVA is always available to hear issues or concerns regarding the valley, Get in touch with one of us with your comments, we value your input and response,

Nga mihi nui,

Fiona, Daniel, Faye, Kamal, Joel and Trevor
Your Motueka Valley Association Committee

Three Years of Funding for Motueka Catchment

Motueka Catchment Collective are pleased to announce they have been successful in their catchment funding application to MPI. The funding of \$870,000 will be for three years, with the first action establishing an interim steering group to oversee setting up the Collective's governance structure. Roger May and Jo Leyland as the Collective Co-convenors express a very big thank you to MPI, and to individuals and organisations who have supported the core group, either through being part of the various action plan meetings or through letters of endorsement and provision of in-kind support, particularly TDC. Special thanks go to Sky Davies and Marios Gavalas of Tasman Environmental Trust and to Annette Litherland of NZ Landcare Trust for playing a significant role in the process with the wider working group.

Jo says: "Essentially the first year phase is one of preparatory work focused on generating more community and landholder engagement, establishing the governance structure, communications platforms and developing strategies on priority themes, and then holding a review at 10 months. The second year has more funding for actions identified in the strategies and the third year is one of consolidation and future resourcing planning."

The funding allows for the recruitment of a catchment facilitator/s which will be advertised more broadly before the end of the year. Support and resources for thematic groups and sub-catchment groups is also provided for.

The thematic groups identified from the community meetings included forestry, river management, biodiversity restoration, pest control and river access and recreation. The Forestry Working Group, set up in July, will convene soon and develop a strategic plan of action.

November catchment related meetings:

Forestry: The Nelson branch of the NZ Farm Forestry Association (NZFFA) is organising a special field day on Saturday 26th November in collaboration with the Collective to two sites including Appleton's Motupiko forest in the upper catchment with a very interesting mixed establishment of redwood and Douglas Fir. Robert Appleton will describe the logic behind their experiment, the options for silviculture, final crop, and implications for the catchment. We will meet at the layby on state highway 6 directly opposite the Flat Rock cafe at Kohatu at 9am. Contact PJ Kenny on 03 541 8456.

For more information about MCC and to become involved please contact Jo or Roger motcatchment@gmail.com



Rohe Kōreporepo

The Swamp - The Sacred Place

A film by Kathleen Gallagher

MĀPUA HALL – 21 November 2022 - 7.30 pm

Repo (wetlands) are of huge environmental significance. They are hotbeds of biodiversity. The documentary *Rohe Kōreporepo* (2021) follows teams of kaitiaki (guardians) throughout Aotearoa New Zealand as they re-plant and re-flood dying wetlands and swamps.

Wetlands are like terrestrial sponges – when it rains, they soak up water. When it's dry, they slowly release moisture to nearby land and groundwater reservoirs. They also trap sediments running off the land, helping to keep our rivers and oceans clean. Wetlands provide the best natural defense against devastating floods and storm surges.

To Aotearoa's European settlers, wetlands were one of the country's most maligned geographical features. To create dry land for farming and settlements, wetlands were deprived of water – rivers were widened and diverted, willows were planted and swamps were drained, until only ten percent of the country's wetlands remained.

In *Rohe Kōreporepo – The Swamp, the Sacred Place* we are introduced to the diversity of Aotearoa's wetlands. We meet tangata whenua, landowners, government agencies and an army of volunteers who are using mātauranga Māori and scientific knowledge to restore wetlands.

Kathleen Gallagher is a filmmaker and a writer. She has authored three collections of poetry, 17 full length plays and 8 feature films. Her films *Earth Whisperers Papatuanuku*, *Water Whisperers Tangaroa* and *Seven Rivers Walking Haere Mārire* have received top ratings in both Aotearoa New Zealand and International film Festivals.

The screening will be followed by short presentations from local Iwi and wetland experts, some of whom featured in the film.

Door sales only - \$10 ticket, students with ID free. Supper included.

This is a Local Matters event, organized by the Motueka Branch of the Green Party of Aotearoa NZ.



Marahau Post Cyclone Gita Feb 2018

Urgent Review of Forest Practices Needed To Solve Sediment Issues

Plantation forestry on slip-prone land has for many years caused problems. The sediment in Tasman Bay coming from the clearfelled forests already has badly affected the scallop industry. Damage from extreme rainfall events, as seen most recently in Nelson, Tasman and Marlborough Districts, has meant that the costs of fixing slips and replacing roads are astronomical. But far greater are the costs of sedimentation from forestry further endangering our critical freshwater and marine life.

The extensive damage, particularly in Marahau and Motueka Valley, from Cyclone Gita, February 2018, is not easily forgotten. Roger May, a forestry consultant from Tomorrows Forests Ltd. Orinoco, obtained aerial photography of the 1000s of hectares affected immediately after the cyclone event, and he mapped all the slips: "It was easy to show that the highest density of slips was in plantation cutover. The damage to the streams, the river, the estuary, as well as property and communities was severe."

In 2020, Roger, with James W Griffith from Department of Conservation and Claire E. Lukens, University of Wellington, then published a paper in the NZ Journal of Forestry Science: 'Increased forest cover and limits on clear-felling could substantially reduce landslide occurrence in Tasman, New Zealand' which concluded that the National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF) are out-moded, namely the Erosion Susceptibility Classification (ESC) which classifies the risks of landslips throughout Aotearoa. The paper calls for an urgent review claiming that the ESC does not accurately assess the likelihood of slips at a local scale. It concludes: '...With increases in the size and frequency of large storm events predicted under future climate scenarios, progress on reducing landslide susceptibility is urgent.'

"By continuing to use an unreliable erosion risk tool, Councils are allowing forestry activities on highly erodible soils, and this is consequently causing serious sedimentation issues in Tasman and Marlborough waters." Roger says.

Currently, the Environmental Defence Society (EDS) is preparing to bring declaration proceedings in the Environment Court against Tasman District and Marlborough District Councils and MPI, for sediment run-off from forestry operations:

"We think that the erosion risk tool is being unlawfully used because the standards enable activities that have a more-than-minor adverse effect on the environment which is contrary to the Resource Management Act," says Gary Taylor, EDS Chief Executive.

"There is clear concern about sedimentation from forestry, and from other sources including urban development," Gary says, "Sediment is arguably the main pollutant for freshwater and of coastal marine environments in New Zealand, and we need to tighten up our practices."

In Europe, forestry uses continuous cover harvesting, so one small area, five hectares or less for example, is harvested at a time. Continuous cover harvesting could be the answer here to solve the problems of landslips and sediment run-off: "We think it's anachronistic that in 2022, forestry on steeper erosion-prone land can still be undertaken with clearfelling where you get a massive slug of sediment for four or five years during and after harvest before replanting takes off," says Gary.

Costs are involved in bringing the proceedings to the Environment Court such as the costs of expert witnesses: "We have reached out to the community and if people want to contribute to the proceedings that would be most welcome," says Gary. Donations to EDS are tax deductible and can be made on their website www.eds.org.nz.

MPI have just released their discussion paper for the review of plantation forestry standards (NES-PF): [National Direction for Plantation and exotic carbon afforestation](#). MPI have narrowed the discussion to four topics relating to afforestation and management of plantation and exotic carbon forests but there is no discussion on unreliability of the erosion susceptibility classification. It is out for public comment until 18th November. Fiona Nelson – Reporter



Marahau Post Cyclone Gita Feb 2018

PANUI COMMUNITY UPDATES

MVA AGM 11th October election results:

Secretary – Fiona Nelson; Co-Treasurers – Daniel Bulman and Joel Briffault; Committee members – Faye Debois-Knight, Trevor Knowles; Newsletter Editor – Kamal Willis-Ortiz

The next meeting is
Thursday **10 November** at 8pm

Do you have local news or a valid
community issue to raise?



Let us know!

newsletter@mva.org.nz

Sign up to receive this newsletter via email!
www.mva.org.nz



Connect:
Motueka Valley Community
Motueka Valley Residents

**Submit your community news by the
15th of each month**

ST. JAMES CHURCH NGATIMOTI

Family Service

Sunday 20th October - 10:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School

**Morning tea and social time
to follow.**

All Are Very Welcome



Motueka BinGo Skip Hire has been a local business for over 30 years. Andrew Claringbold and Anthea Garmey, Motueka Valley residents, took over the business in May 2021. Andrew is a Diesel Technician by trade and spent many years working for the local John Deere agent as well as spending time driving Aqua Taxi boats in the Abel Tasman. Anthea has been a teacher at Motueka High School for many years. Since taking over the reins of BinGo they have increased the number of skips available, have added another truck to the fleet and employed local driver Di Wood.

BinGo supply skips throughout the Nelson/Tasman region and have many customers up the Motueka Valley and in Tapawera: "Our customers vary from large commercial operators that have skips with them permanently to domestic customers having a weekend clean out," says Anthea, "We have skips to suit everyone's needs. Large 8 cubic metre skips to suit those big house renovations, moving jobs or shed clean outs. Medium sized 5 cubic metre skips are great for the weekend yard and garage clean up. Smaller skips of 2, 3 and 4 cubic metres are available for other small jobs."



Di, Anthea, and Andrew

Hiring a skip is so much easier and less time consuming for customers, all they need to do is fill the skip. For many of us in the valley who pay rates but don't get any rubbish collections BinGo Skip Hire will make your rubbish disappear.

Most things can be put in the skip although there are some exceptions. They cannot take tyres, waste oil, poisons, paint, gas cylinders or hard fill, although skips can be provided specifically for hardfill and green waste.

"If you haven't got a bright yellow skip you haven't got a BinGo Skip!" To hire a skip call Andrew on 03 5280000 or 027 5280010



NGATIMOTI PLAYGROUP

We are a friendly group of parents running play sessions for children aged 0 - 6.

We operate every Friday morning during term time between 9.15 and 12.15 at Rathgar House (Ngatimoti School Hall, Greenhill Road)

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Motueka Valley Residents Group

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- **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.




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Motueka Valley Association

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

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

Daniel Bulman	
Fiona Nelson	020 4160 1968
Joel Briffault	021 0284 7245
Faye Knight	022 320 0449

about your newsletter
Submit your stories, photos, feedback, print-ready advertisements by the 15th of the month. Contact the editor Kamal Willis on newsletter@mva.org.nz

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