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**Kia ora koutou, greetings everyone.** This will be the first, hard copy, MVA Newsletter to arrive in your mailbox for some months. We are hoping to resume a regular mail box drop however, please bear with us whilst we work through funding and other issues. In the meantime don't forget to check out the new MVA website [mva.org.nz](http://mva.org.nz) or look out for updates on the Motueka Valley Community Facebook page.

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**Matariki community pot luck get together from 6PM on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July at the Ngatimoti Memorial Hall. A time of peace and celebration.** Everyone welcome. Bring a plate to share and whatever you like to drink. There will be hot soup, homemade bread and mulled wine to help beat the winter chill.

Matariki: the small cluster of bright stars that come into view just above the north-eastern horizon shortly before dawn around mid-winter time. Also known as the Pleiades, Subaru, the Seven Sisters and many other names, by different cultures around the world, it's appearance was celebrated by Iwi in a number of ways; as a time of remembrance and, for some, as the beginning of the annual cycle, the new year.

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**Cycle Trail:** An update from Belinda Crisp at Heart of Biking who has taken over as Trail Manager:

No decision has been made as to where to take the Great Taste Trail off-road between Ngatimoti and Riwaka. The Great Taste Trail is currently on-road along the West Bank and connects with the arm that takes you to Kaiteriteri, and completes the full Great Taste Loop. Both East and West Bank options will be looked at, taking into consideration the technical viability of building an off-road trail, landowner consent, resource consent, iwi consultation, rider experience and funding. The Trust will be working on a final report on their preferred route over the next year. A construction date will depend on the outcome of the factors being taken into consideration.

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**Ngatimoti speed limit.**

The MVA has made a submission to the TDC seeking a reduction in the open road speed limit through the village. A 100kph is simply too fast for safety, particularly near the school. The TDC is expected to undertake a round of local consultation in September and we are hopeful that the new signs will be in place before the busy summer season.



**The MVA AGM.** 7.30PM, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August at the Community Rooms, Ngatimoti Recreation Reserve.

Trevor James, the TDC River Scientist will be the guest speaker. Please forward any agenda items to [info@mva.org.nz](mailto:info@mva.org.nz)

The MVA needs help! If you or someone that you know may be interested in joining the Committee or the Newsletter production team we'd be delighted to hear from you.

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**The Motueka Catchment Collective** has received funding from MPI for capacity and capability building. The Collective is keen to hear what your priorities are for improving current land use practices and the health of our waterways. For that reason, a survey will soon be sent to all valley residents. Once the data has been filtered, we can move forward with action plans to find the best, community driven ways to spend the budget, connecting with the awa for the benefit of all. For several months prior to the official launch of the 3-year project, the Catchment Collective have employed a paid coordinator, Laura Catalan, and a Thematic Facilitator, Richard Brown. Their combination of technical skills and passion about the environment allows them to support the community along this journey. They have already held a number of meetings and connected with key stakeholders, communities and sub-catchments. If you'd like to get involved, email: [coordinator@motuekacatchment.org.nz](mailto:coordinator@motuekacatchment.org.nz)

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**Ngatimoti Recreation Reserve.** The way is now clear for the southern half of the Ngatimoti Recreation Reserve to be gazetted under the Reserves Act 1977. Gazetting protects the land giving it legal status as a recreation reserve. The northern half (nearest the school) was gazetted some years ago

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**Community resilience:** Recent events have once again highlighted the need to think about how we, as individuals, families and communities, cope with natural disasters. Talking with the people you live with about what to do in an emergency is a good start. It's too late to plan when the flames or floods are at your doorstep. So do it now. Here are a couple of things to think about: Include all the people that you live with in discussions about what to do, what to take with you and where to go in an emergency. Know where the nearest 'safe place' is and how to get there. Where will you meet up with other family members if you are separated? Keep a written copy of your plan where everyone can see it. The Government is thinking about this stuff too, particularly about critical infrastructure – roads, power, phone/internet connections, EFTPOS & banking, etc. They are keen to hear community about views and have put out a preliminary discussion paper that can be viewed/downloaded at: [consultation.dpmc.govt.nz](http://consultation.dpmc.govt.nz)



## River Haven General Store

Some of you may not have seen River Haven's recently opened General Store. It carries a range of 'essential' grocery items, handy if you need a bottle of milk or a loaf of bread, plus a few 'indulgencies'.

We welcome items of interest for the next edition of the MVA Newsletter at: [info@mva.org.nz](mailto:info@mva.org.nz)