

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

The River, The Land, The People

December 2023



The Festive Edition



Welcome to our festive edition of the MVA Newsletter. Another great team effort and we welcome on board our new designer, Kerri-Ann. The year has flown by again! We hope you all have a safe and happy holiday season with family and friends. And spare a thought for those who may be on their own or doing it tough. We'll be back again in the new year and always welcome valley residents at our monthly meetings.



Road speed

The Tasman and Nelson Councils have developed a detailed, draft Speed Management Plan which is open for review and public input until the end of February 2024. The proposed changes to speed limits are extensive and likely to affect many of the regions roads and residents. To see the proposals, visit the Tasman District Council website home page and scroll down to the Speed Management Review section or go to the Shape Tasman page. The MVA has made previous submissions in support of reducing speed around Ngatimoti School and would be keen to hear feedback on the wider draft Plan.

<https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/speed-review>

Great Taste Trail

We are progressing with trail construction & hope to have it complete between Peninsula Bridge and Greenhill Road in the next couple of weeks. It is awesome to have the Elevated Boardwalk complete which was a major piece of construction.



We have started the section from the school to the River Haven cafe and this section should be reasonably quick. There will be a lane closure end November/early December, then we will be back to a shoulder closure after that.

Belinda Crisp, Trail Manager, Great Taste Trail



Dry Firewood Discount Vouchers Available

TDC have an opportunity for you to save on dry firewood for next winter with \$50 discount vouchers, available from now until 15 December, when you purchase a minimum of 3 cubic metres of wood from one of the Good Wood suppliers.

Simply ask for the discount when you purchase your wood from one of the Good Wood suppliers. There are a limited number of discounts available, so make sure you get in quick. There's a limit of one discounted load per household.

<https://bit.ly/41berFx>

Be Prepared

Unfortunately we didn't get the numbers needed to make the proposed half day Civil Defence workshop worthwhile.

We'll try again in the New Year. In the meantime: the fire season is almost on us, time to:

- Check fire fighting water supplies
- Test pumps, hoses and connections
- Check for obvious hazards, long dry grass, overgrown vegetation etc around your property
- Add new smoke alarm batteries to your shopping list
- Make sure you have an evacuation plan

Stay safe!

**NEXT MVA MEETING IS AT 7PM ON THURSDAY 14th DECEMBER
DON'T MISS IT!**



Many thanks to the wider Ngatimoti community for supporting our school again this year. We feel privileged to be a part of a diverse community that can work, play and be together in so many positive ways! Have a safe and happy summer, a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!



The Ngatimoti School swimming pool is OPEN!

Pool keys are for sale from the school office at a cost of \$100 (\$40 if you have a child currently enrolled at Ngatimoti School or Ngatimoti Playgroup), with \$10 refunded on return of your key – BE QUICK as school closes at lunchtime on Friday 15 December this year and keys will not be available after this. You may pay by cash or cheque at the office (open 8.30am – 3pm daily) or you may also pay directly online to account 03 1354 0359568 00 (please reference swim pool key). There is an agreement to sign before you purchase a key - please request one from the office. The pool is open to the public between the hours of 12 noon - 6pm during the school holidays and after school, except when swimming lessons are in progress – times and dates for these will be displayed at the poolside (not yet confirmed). Thanks to TDC for their annual subsidy for the running of the pool. Thanks also to Festival funds for enabling us to keep our pool open to the public once again.

Mayor Tim Christmas Message

As the end of 2023 rapidly approaches, the festive season offers a welcome opportunity to take a break, reflect and reconnect.

There has been much to consider during a busy first 12 months of this Council triennium and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our staff and councillors for the efforts they have put in over this time.

It has been pleasing to see the progress on a number of projects that will benefit our communities.

I also want to thank the people of Tasman for your input in multiple processes this year. Your feedback remains important in shaping the decisions which help make Tasman a great place to live, work and play.

While the cost of living continues to affect many families, we've been fortunate to have avoided any large scale weather events in our backyard this year.

Other parts of NZ were not so lucky, as demonstrated by the damage caused by Cyclone Gabrielle. Having dealt with natural disasters ourselves, we were only too happy to offer assistance to those affected.

This complements the willingness of the Tasman community to volunteer or help out in challenging circumstances, be it in another part of the country or in our own neighbourhood.

Whether you are staying local or travelling elsewhere, let's take an opportunity to enjoy the festive season with our family and friends.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



Caramel & Chocolate Christmas Crackers

100g plain salted crackers
(Salada works well)
225g butter
¾ cup brown sugar
200g dark chocolate chopped
½ cup pistachios chopped
½ cup dried cranberries

1. Preheat oven 190C
 2. Line baking tray (approx 22 x 33cm) with baking paper, put crackers in without overlapping, break to fit
 3. Melt butter & sugar, stir well until combined & bubbling, pour over crackers evenly, put in oven 8-10 minutes until bubbling all over
 4. Remove from oven & sprinkle chocolate over, return to oven for 1 min until chocolate melted enough to spread with a knife
 5. Sprinkle pistachios & cranberries over & leave until just set before cutting into pieces
- Can be stored in an airtight container for up to a week



Christmas Fruit Cake with a Twist

2 tbsp ground flaxseed (linseed)
6 tbsp water
1 ½ cups ground almond flour
½ cup coconut flour
½ cup stewed apple
¼ cup date purée
2 cups mashed banana (~ 4 bananas)
2 tsp baking powder
½ - 1 tsp cinnamon
¼ tsp salt

1. Preheat oven 170C & oil a loaf tin (12cm x 23cm) or cake tin.
2. Mix flaxseed & water in a bowl & let it thicken for 5-10 mins
3. Mix the stewed apple, date purée, mashed bananas & flaxseed mix.
Tip: if you don't have stewed apple or date purée - grate an apple, add ¼ cup dates & bit water & simmer until can mash to a paste
4. Add in rest of the ingredients & mix
5. Place batter in tin & bake for 50 mins or until skewer comes out clean. Remove & cool on wire rack.

[Adapted from The Revive Cafe Cook Book 6 - by Jeremy Dixon]



Christmas fun with friends & family on the Ngatimoti Reserve. Pin the nose on Rudolph was hilarious!



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MOTUEKA VALLEY ASSOCIATION

mva.org.au

Meetings are in the Ngatimoti Community Rooms at 7pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month and all Valley residents are very welcome to attend.

The Association is managed by an elected Committee which can be contacted on info@mva.org.nz.

Current members are:

Andrea Blackburn	Maria Ware
Pat Shortley	Joel Briffault
Daniel Bulman	Trevor Knowles
Fiona Nelson	

We publish a Newsletter (monthly where possible) and encourage residents to submit any stories, photos, feedback, and advertisements (at \$3 per column cm) to newsletter@mva.org.nz by the 15th

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Ngatimoti Community Rooms - AED
 Next to Fire Station
 Sarah Bradshaw on 526 0826

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall – no AED
 Corner of Valley Highway and Waiwhero Rd
 Bex Douglas on 021 173 1279 / ngatimoti.hall@gmail.com

Pokororo Hall – AED
 Corner of West Bank Road and Graham Valley
 Sylvia Arnold on 526 8282

Woodstock Hall - AED at 1982 Dovedale Road
 Woodstock Junction
 Kerry Hall on 543 3884