

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

The River, The Land, The People

March 2024

Welcome to our latest newsletter. Hope you all enjoyed the summer holidays & your water is holding out.

Over the break the MVA has been busy liaising with TDC on upcoming programmes of work including the Long Term Plan (see later for invite to our April meeting where TDC will attend to discuss this with our community) and Regional Land Transport & Public Transport consultation (if you have views on these check out Shape Tasman & if you think we should make a community submission please get in contact). We also lodged our submission on the Speed Management Review, taking account of the feedback we've received from the community (thank you). We've added recent MVA minutes & Newsletters to the website (mva.org.nz), as well as updating our contact & meeting details on the TDC website.

Please come along to any of our meetings to share and thoughts, concerns or ideas, or just hear what's going on.



Baton Bikers' Banquet

A cycling adventure fundraiser gave riders a chance to discover the Baton Valley via the Great Taste Cycle Trail in February, including checking out the newest bridge on the route known as 'Lubblows Leap', and also a chance to reflect on those who are unable to do such things, due to chronic illness.

The 'Baton Bikers' Banquet' involved cyclists pedalling to the Baton House, a Victorian villa which is a replica of the Baton Hotel which stood on the site from the 1860s to the early 1900s servicing a relatively short gold rush.

Organiser Ange Palmer was thrilled that about 80 cyclists took part and around \$8,000 was raised. "It was a great spectacle seeing this stream of bikes coming across the paddock on a gorgeous summer day." The Zest for Life Trust was started in recognition of Zascha Mann after his death following struggles with ME/CFS (formerly known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome). The event was supported by the Nelson Tasman Cycle Trails Trust and the Baton Valley Trust. A bonus to the day was the launch of a newly published book, 'Belonging in the Baton', by local writer Kerry Sunderland. The book shares both the history and insights into contemporary life of the Baton Valley community with photos by award winning photographer Neil Silverwood. For enquiries about the Baton House, the book or if you'd like to donate to the Zest for Life Trust email kiaora@thebatonhouse.nz



TDC Shape Tasman

The TDC is reviewing the Regional Pest Management Plan and would like your input by 28 March: <https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/pest-plan>

The Streets for People programme aims to make it easier and faster to create safer, healthier, and more people-friendly street - and the TDC want your involvement: <https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/streets-people>

A significant injection of Government funding will give residents of Richmond and Motueka greater and improved options for the way they travel every day: <https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/transport-choices-2023>



Great Taste Trail Construction Update

We have been waiting on the production of additional balusters for the two smaller bridges between Peninsula Bridge and the School. Work to finish these bridges to get them open can commence next week. Once these are complete, it means the section between Peninsula Bridge and River Haven Cafe will be complete and we will organise a small opening for it.

Work will also commence in the next week on a fence between the Elevated Boardwalk and Peninsula Bridge.

Work has commenced on a fence around the Esplanade Reserve near the end of the Hadleys place. This fence was removed for construction and several members of the community have asked for it to be re-instated.

The trail has been completed around Margaret Brereton's property. Work will proceed along the road edge before heading down towards the Thorn Hop Farm. The final bridge in this section will commence next week.

The section through the Bulmans will commence in March.

We have been working with Ngati Tama and Ngati Rarua and hope to install an interpretation panel on iwi involvement and connection with the Motueka Awa near on the east bank of the Pokororo swing-bridge. Fingers crossed this can be done before the official trail opening which will hopefully be in early April.

We propose to install rubber / concrete barriers along the length of the section opposite River Haven, so there will be a delineated bike path. We are also working on delineation markers for the corner outside 1370 Motueka Valley Highway, and the approach to Peninsula Bridge.

Spraying of the trail by Ross Maley has commenced and regular maintenance will continue.

Belinda Crisp, Trail Manager, Great Taste Trail

**MVA MEETINGS ARE AT 7PM ON THE 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
COME ALONG - MARCH 14 AND APRIL 11 (TDC presenting Long Term Plan)**

NEW AED (HEART DEFIBRILLATOR)

It gives me great pleasure to inform our community that we now have a 4th AED in the Valley. It is located at Four Foot Lodge, 1216 Motueka River West Bank Road in the shelter just inside their driveway.

The Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group was awarded a grant from the Network Tasman Charitable Trust Group. We requested a grant for the defibrillator and the cabinet and we received the entire amount. Thank you to Network Tasman and to Four Foot Lodge for allowing us to locate it on their premises. The location is also listed on the AED locator App. There is a list of all AED locations in the Motueka Valley on page 4 of this newsletter.

Gloria Anderson, Chairperson, Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group

It Takes a Village to Raise a Family

As a social worker in the Ngatimoti area I have a proposal to set up a 'Grandfriends' connection group. These groups exist all over the world (most happen naturally!). Unfortunately parents are often away from their extended family when they themselves start a family and at this time they need moral support and positive ideas. They often feel isolated and lonely. On the other side there are often older people (they do not have to be a grandparent or even too old!) whose young families live some distance away. If they have time, are caring and have the desire to lend a hand to a young parent in the community, this can have a rewarding result for everyone.

Someone would need to interview the people and pair up like-minded people to ensure that there is a good chance of the match working. There would be a trial period at the start so that each party could air any concerns. The family would need to have a child under the age of 4 and the older person would need to complete a police check to keep it safe. More guidelines could be put in place if your group felt it would be useful. It is easy to look at this and think of all the pitfalls but as they say "Ma te pa te tamaiti e whakatipu" "It takes a village to raise a family."

Years ago I had three children under 3 and would not have survived without my Betty who read to the children while I washed my hair and tidied the house etc for about an hour each week. She was part of a "Good Neighbour" group (England) and we established a 'rent a Granny' sub-group many years ago. I am writing this as I have a client in Ngatimoti who dreams of a Betty!! I am happy to help with any establishment of a group if you decide it could be a goer.

Ali Comins can be contacted on alisoncomins@gmail.com or 0210 236 0959



Ngatimoti School News

03 526 8842

office@ngatimoti.school.nz

It's great to see all our students and families back again after the summer holidays!

Our school roll this term is 81 (Last year's starting roll was 78).
37 girls and 44 boys, 13 Māori (8 families) students.



Our student leaders have been selected for 2024 - Congratulations to our Student Councillors Loke, Marius, Maggie, Manu, Ella Q, Connor R, Connor F, Freddie, Aniah and Ria. Our Enviroleaders for the year are Stella, Sahara, Leah, Nico, Jordan, Grace, Pedro, Alex, Makaira, River, Poppy and Leia. Well done all of you! Our Abel Tasman Youth Ambassadors are Nico, Sahara, Grace, and Leah.

At the end of 2023, we celebrated 21 years of being an enviroschool, and it was wonderful to see many community members here at school to help us celebrate.

Thanks to Louie Burger of Kahurangi Media for this drone photo.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024

Term 1: Wed 31 Jan – Fri 12 April

Good Friday 29 March, Easter Mon 1 April. Tuesday 2 April is also a school holiday.

Thursday 25 April is ANZAC Day (in holidays)

Term 2: Monday 29 April – Friday 5 July. King's Birthday Holiday Monday 3 June, Teacher only day Tues 4 June.

Matariki holiday Friday 28 June

Term 3: Monday 22 July – Friday 27 Sept

Term 4: Monday 14 October - Wednesday 18 Dec Ngatimoti Festival Day is Sunday 27 October 2024

Swimming Pool Keys - If you purchased a school pool key, *please return it to the school office for your \$10 refund.* There are a few keys out there from previous years also. We would appreciate their return too. Thank you for treating our school pool and grounds with respect once again this season. There are plans afoot to build new changing rooms and toilets at the pool this year, and we look forward to being able to offer upgraded facilities to our students and families next summer.

New Petanque Terrain at Ngatimoti

The Ngatimoti Reserve has a new, purpose built, 'pétanque terrain' (playing area) for public use. Pétanque is growing in popularity around the world and has even been proposed as an Olympic sport. If you've never played, it's a simple game to learn and can be enjoyed by people of all ages. So, dig out the pétanque set that's been gathering dust in the garage and come on down to the reserve for a game.



Easy Zucchini Slice

When you have a surplus of zucchinis, this simple recipe will serve 6 to 8

- 500g grated zucchini
- 1 onion, chopped
- 4 eggs
- 1 and half cups grated cheese
- Half tsp salt
- 3/4 cup self raising flour (or buckwheat flour and 2 tsp baking powder for gf option)
- Pepper
- Tomato slices (optional)
- Chopped bacon (optional)

Place zucchini and onion in bowl.
Add eggs, cheese and salt. Mix.
Add flour and pepper.
Add chopped bacon if liked.
Pour into greased tin.
Top with sliced tomato or capsicum.
Bake 200c for 30 mins until feels firm and slightly browned. Leave to stand for 5 minutes.

Enjoy!
(Bake in 23 x 25 tin or 23cm cake/flan tin)

[Recipe kindly submitted by Linda Carrington]

**Are you missing out on the newsletter?
Spare copies can be found in the book exchange fridge at Ngatimoti Hall**

LOCAL COMMUNITY HALLS AND AEDs

Ngatimoti Community Rooms - AED

Next to Fire Station
Sarah Bradshaw 526 0826

Pokororo Hall – AED

Corner of West Bank Road and Graham Valley
Sylvia Arnold 526 8282

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall – no AED

Corner of Valley Highway and Waiwhero Rd
Bex Douglas 021 173 1279 / ngatimoti.hall@gmail.com

Woodstock Hall - AED

982 Dovedale Road Woodstock Junction
Kerry Hall 543 3884

New AED located at Four Foot Lodge 1216 Motueka River Westbank Road

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MOTUEKA VALLEY ASSOCIATION

mva.org.nz

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