

Motueka Valley Association Newsletter

The River, The Land, The People

May 2024

Haratua 2024

Welcome to our latest edition of the newsletter and we hope you are enjoying having them a little more regularly again. Please let us know if there is anything more you would like to hear about and forward any stories you have to info@mva.org.nz.

Westpac got in touch with the MVA to offer help re the stolen AED and we were delighted that they offered to replace it - a big thanks to Westpac.

At our April MVA meeting we were pleased to have Renee Thomas & Kim Drummond from the TDC Executive team, joining regular representative Councillor Mike Kininmonth, to take us through the draft 10 year plan that was out for public consultation. It was a very informative session with some good questions from the audience. I hope you got your submissions in and voted on the options presented.

At our 13 June meeting we will have Civil Defense joining us to discuss Emergency Preparedness so we hope to see you there.

Motueka Catchment Collective



The Motueka Catchment Collective (MCC) aims to connect, support and empower people and communities in the Motueka catchment to take action to collectively improve the health and wellbeing of the Motueka River and connected streams and whenua. The collective is made up of people like you! Residents, land owners, workers, and families who care about the beautiful Motueka valley. Here are some examples of action MCC has taken towards its goal:

- **The Biodiversity and Restoration Thematic Group** has run many workshops on growing native plants, along with running and supporting community nurseries. They have also sourced funded native trees for the community.
- **The Water Quality Monitoring Thematic Group** have trained some locals to use freshwater monitoring kits so they can monitor the streams in their sub-catchments.

How could you join in?

There is a planting workshop on 11th May. Look out for this and other events on our MCC facebook page or sign up to our monthly newsletter. Please contact Shannon Parker on coordinator@motuekacatchment.org.nz if you:

- Are involved in looking after your local waterway or whenua and need support
- Are interested in connecting with others to look after your sub-catchment
- Would like to be involved in one of our thematic groups.

'The Great White Whale' World Premiere at the Gecko

Fiona Nelson

"We're ready to rock our World Premiere documentary at our Gecko Theatre," says John Crick, well-known and loved Ngatimoti resident, "Sixty years after a mighty sturdy schooner, Patanela, with crew of ten, travels big seas down south, to an island of fire and ice, not yet climbed."

Some may have already seen a preview of 'The Great White Whale', but finally after 10 years in the making, the film of the 1964 expedition to Heard Island to climb Big Ben is about to be publicly released. John was there as the youngest crew member, and his "creations" feature in the film.

John, a song and storyman, has lived with his wife Margo in Greenhill Road for the last 25 years. Australian born, when John was 17 years old his father paid for him to attend the Outward Bound school in New South Wales, for which John is ever-grateful.

It was there John formed a lasting friendship with the founder and director of the school, Warrick Deacock: "Warrick was a man of action...he told mighty tales of adventure," John says, "Warrick had been on major expeditions to Nepal, and Alaska, and on Heard Island in 1963 with two scientists, they were caught in a mighty storm. Dealing with that took everything they had."

Most of Heard Island is an ice-covered active volcano named Big Ben and is approximately 1650 km north of Antarctica. As John reflects: "Warrick and some old hands would say, 'you need to sail beyond half-way to South Africa, then turn and head south. When the butter freezes, you're there'..."

Warrick and Graeme Budd chose to return, and John was asked to join: "So in 1964 came 10 men in the charted crayfish boat-now-schooner, Patanela. With Skipper, Bill Tillman, too - a mighty climber, now as an older man, an adventurer at sea," John says.

Most of the crew were not sailors, but they learned. For John, it was rough at the start. He looked upon Patanela as mother ship, looking after herself and covering crew errors too. At night he sang to her.

"The galley was great for yarns and songs. Oh, and Warrick, (Greasy Deke), his tucker was mighty. We were like a family," John says. After two months of sailing, they reached the island, only to have the laden landing-boat capsize in the surf: "Some of us were pinned. Scary, but we survived." It took two weeks to climb to the summit.

"Ever-present crevasses, hugely heavy packs and rapidly changing conditions," John says, "She was a long, heavy tread." The other four crew members would laugh that John fell down the same crevasse twice but John would say the main thing is, you get out of the same crevasse twice.

"The climb was great. Back to the shore, magical. The area had been hammered for many years by seal-hunters seeking the oil and skins...We were blessed to see

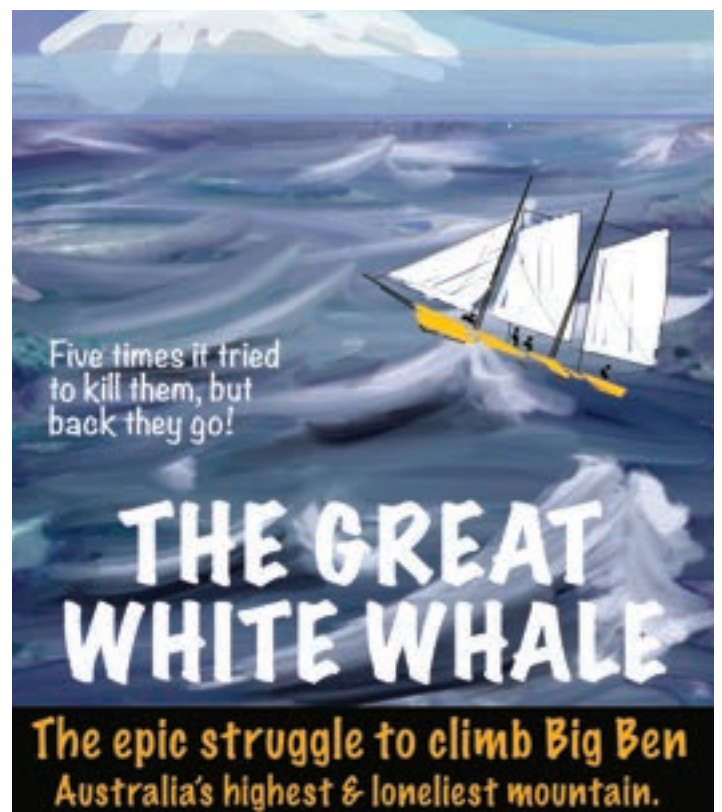


John Crick holding the book of the expedition written by fellow crew member, Philip Temple, 'The Sea and the Snow', with his wife Margo.
Photo credit Guardian Motueka

mother nature in her loving recovery and regeneration."

In 2014, at their 50 year reunion at Adventure Book Shop in Oamaru, the film maker Michael Dillon came over from Australia to record the remaining seven crew members yarns. Michael Dillon AM is one of Australia's leading film makers of adventure and expedition documentaries.

Now John is one of the four remaining crew - Graeme Budd in Sydney, Tony Hill in USA, and Philip Temple in New Zealand - and he is "hugely excited that the film has come to pass." 'The Great White Whale' will have its world premiere at Gecko Theatre in Motueka on 16th May, 6.30pm and John will be there to introduce it.



Great Taste Trail Construction Update

The good news is that the trail has already had an unofficial soft opening as the gates seem to have been removed from the bridges, and the work is almost complete! The bridges have received PS4 sign off (which means the engineer is happy with them). We are just waiting on TDC inspections, but are happy for the public to use them in the meantime.

We are still aiming for 30 June for our final completion date.

To do:

- The last but not least section is just north of the Bulman property on the road edge. We have landed on a quick solution rather than a major engineering solution to get the trail open and hope that this will commence in the next week or two.
- The land where the iwi interpretation board is going by Pokororo Bridge has been blessed, and installation should be in the next two - three weeks, followed by an unveiling.
- A final grade/roll is required on the trail outside Bulmans and the Pear Orchard.
- Final signage to be installed, including school crossing signage
- Edge marker posts to be installed by Downers near sections close to the road.



Belinda Crisp, Trail Manager, Great Taste Trail



Ngatimoti School News

03 526 8842

office@ngatimoti.school.nz

Learning this term will centre on our school value of **Excellence** - being your best, not necessarily the best.

We also have a learning focus on fire this term, using the story of Māui and the Secret of Fire as one theme. We will be learning about the science of fire, fire safety, how fire is lit and maintained and has been used for thousands of years to cook and tell stories around. If you have any campfire skills, or knowledge of connections with fire safety, (e.g. the local fire brigade) we would love to have you come in to share! We are also looking for donations of firewood for our school supplies to keep our tamariki warm this winter. If anyone out there is willing to donate some, we would love to hear from you. Thank you!



We are the proud recipients of two NZ flags donated from the De Castro family who visited for ANZAC commemorations

Board News Parent By-election results declaration.

At the close of nominations, as the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, the following are duly elected:

Rebecca Douglas

Andy Gaul

Chops Prouting

Andy McFarland continues as elected Presiding Member.

Rochelle Roberts continues as Staff Representative.

Alison Turner continues as Principal.

Swimming Pool Keys. If you purchased a school pool key, please return it to the school office. We really do need you to return your keys at the end of each swimming season to help us keep the pool open to the public for future years. Many thanks.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024

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

Ngatimoti Festival Day is Sunday 27 October.

**MVA MEETINGS ARE AT 7PM ON THE 2nd THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
COME ALONG - MAY 9th, JUNE 13th, JULY 11th**

LOCAL COMMUNITY HALLS AND AEDs

Ngatimoti Community Rooms - AED

Next to Fire Station

Sarah Bradshaw 526 0826

Ngatimoti Memorial Hall – no AED

Corner of Valley Highway and Waiwhero Rd

Bex Douglas 021 173 1279 / ngatimoti.hall@gmail.com

Pokororo Hall – AED

Corner of West Bank Road and Graham Valley

Sylvia Arnold 526 8282

Woodstock Hall - AED

982 Dovedale Road Woodstock Junction

Kerry Hall 543 3884

AED located at Four Foot Lodge 1216 Motueka River Westbank Road

Defibrillator (AED) Update



Recently, over the Easter weekend, one of our defibrillators (AED) was stolen from its cabinet outside the Four Foot Lodge. The police are still investigating the theft and would appreciate hearing from anyone who may have any information. I struggle to believe that someone could stoop so low as to steal a lifesaving piece of equipment ... however it did happen. This particular AED was donated to us by the Network Tasman Trust after I put in a grant request and it was just put into place in November.

After publicising the loss of the AED and through word of mouth we have been gifted another one from Westpac Bank. We are extremely grateful for their donation. Also, we have had several very generous donations into our account to cover the costs to replace it. The additional funds will help to maintain the existing AEDs and may help to purchase an additional one further down the line.

There are substantial costs involved in maintaining the AEDs such as, replacement pads, batteries, maintenance when needed. These machines are maintained by volunteers and donations primarily come from our community.

We have several community members who donate annually who choose to remain anonymous but we have also received donations from Ngatimoti Parent Group, Heather Lindsay and David Davies from donations you made using their water slide, Pokororo Women's Club, etc. We are a registered charity and are run by volunteers.

Donations to the funds in place for the upkeep of the AEDs can be made to: Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group, 03-1354-0474291-00

Gloria Anderson, Chairperson, Motueka Valley Defibrillator Group



Chocolate Mint Mud Cake

Very simple and cheap to make, suitable for vegetarians and vegans and tastes yummy.

Ingredients

1 1/2 cups self raising flour (sifted)

1/3 cup of cocoa powder (sifted)

1/2 tsp baking soda

1/2 tsp salt

1 cup sugar

1/2 cup vegetable oil

1 cup cold water

3 tsp peppermint essence

2 tsp vinegar

Preheat oven to 190c

Mix all dry ingredients together in bowl.

In a separate bowl mix oil, water and essence.

Add to dry ingredients.

Add vinegar, stir to blend.

Pour into lined 20cm square tin, or 24cm x 17cm loaf tin. Bake 45 minutes.

Optional, ice with chocolate icing, or drizzle with melted dark chocolate.

Do you have a recipe to share?

Email us at newsletter@mva.org.nz



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!

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 (bi-monthly) and encourage residents to submit any stories, photos, recipes, feedback, and advertisements (at \$3 per column cm) to newsletter@mva.org.nz

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