



Māpua's fate lies with the Council now

It is Monday night. Māpua Hall is bursting at its seams. Predominantly older village residents and some of Tasman District Council's councillors squeeze into the hall to find out more about the future of Māpua - to receive an update on the work-in-progress Māpua Design Guide.

The village residents have pleaded for years with the Council to protect its character, which they feel is threatened by development. TDC has now appointed Ian Munro, an independent Auckland-based urban designer, to distil the essence of what it is that makes Māpua special.

In order to do this, Ian has asked residents to fill in an extensive questionnaire about Māpua's broader setting, its streets, its buildings, parks and any other defining features that might be the source of residents' pride - distinctive features that should be perpetuated through the Māpua Design Guide.

Show time! Jeremy Butler, TDC's Urban and Rural Policy Team Leader, is running the slide show and taking notes. Ian leads us through the responses. What will people have nominated?

As it turns out, it isn't really any specific building design feature that gets people excited about Māpua. People like the eclectic mix, the creativity, the ramshackle and cobbled-together nature of some habitations - they detest the monotonous repetition of the invariably large houses that were recently added to the village. Residents demand smaller houses, houses that are easier to maintain and houses that are more affordable, recognising that the younger population is not really represented in the sample of the village population currently present at Māpua Hall.

It's not the street design either. Yes, people like street trees and greenery - and they want more of it. People like front yards and they prefer to see trees rather than buildings. But on the whole, there wasn't any particular design element about Māpua's streetscapes that defines the village's character.

It was instinctive and with overwhelming consensus that residents pinned Māpua's village feel on two things. Ian supports their view with his professional assessment that the village scale and its connection to the surrounding landscape are of utmost importance - and both are under threat.

Māpua is scheduled to proportionately absorb more growth than any other community in Tasman.

And currently on the list for fast-tracking by central government is an extensive 320 lot subdivision and wetland development at Seaton Valley, occupying a

lovingly planted smallholding and rolling green paddocks that connect the village to its picturesque countryside.

TDC supported the project's acceptance into the fast-track process through its Nelson Tasman Future Development Strategy (FDS), a document that identifies Māpua as a growth node and includes Seaton Valley for residential greenfield development.

This strategy has been tirelessly contested by the Māpua community and other groups that challenge its heavy reliance on greenfield growth. Having been generated through a "special consultative procedure of the Local Government Act", the FDS is politically charged, and its evidence or findings have never been professionally scrutinised.

The Seaton Valley development proposal still needs to clear the expert panel. However, should the project be accepted, then there would be no recourse for the Māpua community, there would be no legal avenue and no way to revert this decision.

Māpua's residents took a liking to Ian Munro. "He's actually LISTENING!", someone exclaimed to me afterwards. "This is the difference between a design-led approach and drawing-by-numbers", I respond. "Unfortunately, we have had too much of the latter from TDC."

There is a real risk that no matter how good Ian's Design Guide will be, it may not have any tangible effect if greenfield developments at Seaton Valley go ahead. Not only would these developments undermine the character of the village, but market economics would also see most, if not all, investments funnelled into this new subdivision, with very little appetite left for any small-scale regeneration or revitalisation of the village proper.

Hearing Ian Munro's compelling expert advice, highlighting scale and connection to its landscape as the fundamental conditions that define Māpua's character, I cannot help pushing Jeremy Butler on the question whether TDC would take any action from this.

"Will someone at TDC pick up the phone and talk to the Ministry for the Environment to say, 'We've made a mistake. The development at Seaton Valley is actually not supported by the community. Please take the project off the fast-track list!'" It appears that this decision ultimately lies with TDC's governance, the Mayor and the Councillors. Let's hope they too listen.

Timo Neubauer is a Hope-based urban designer and small business owner. He is currently in the running for Mayor of Tasman.

Māpua & Districts Community Association (MDCA)

The MDCA May Public Meeting was held on Monday 12th at the Māpua Hall.

Councillor Christeen MacKenzie presented on behalf of our Ward Councillors.

- The **Freedom Camping & Alcohol in Public Places** bylaw is being updated with public consultation.
- The deadline for consultation/submissions on **Local Water Done Well** was 23rd May.
- The Tasman Region **Representation Review** has now been completed, with the only boundary change impacting Wakefield (which is now under review by the High Court).
- Community Grant applications (the primary basis of MDCA's funding) are currently open, with a deadline of end July. The Annual Plan document is now out for consultation until 25th May – copies of this document are available online, as well as hardcopies at the Māpua Library, Community Hall and Java Hut.
- Finally, **Māpua Urban Area Character Study Questionnaire** is open for feedback until the end of May, with TDC seeking residents' views on what defines and "look and feel" of our community - copies of the survey are available at the Māpua library and Community Hall. Submissions on any of these matters can also be made online via shape.tasman.govt.nz

Reporting back on the recent **Community Chair's Zoom Meeting** – MDCA Chair Paul McIntosh shared the

key points regarding proposed rate changes as put forward in Annual Plan 2025/26, including what was driving these significant increases and the ways council has tried to save money.

A recent decision by Council to remove rubbish bins has been reviewed, with the consensus being to leave bins in place at this time until a more comprehensive longer-term phase-out plan can be agreed.

Also discussed was the greater role central government will be taking in terms of the Permitting and Compliance functions currently handled by local councils.

Regarding the **Ruby Bay Bluffs**, due to slope instability on the cliff face above the road, the current single lane system is intended to minimize risk of damage from falling debris. Ensuring cliff face stability (via battering, retaining structures) to allow re-opening of two-way traffic would require major works and expense, therefore **the single lane will remain in place for the foreseeable future.**

The "**Māpua Memories**" project collection phase has now been completed, with the video records of interviews with prominent long-term residents given to interviewees or their families. Considering how to best store and share these important historical records and given the enthusiasm of members to have them accessible by the general public, it was agreed that a proposal would be prepared for member approval.

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The **Community Emergency Preparedness Plan** was shared and is currently undergoing final review. Paul McIntosh shared materials from the Draft Plan and briefly discussed the causes, likelihood and potential impacts of natural hazards within our region. Importantly, **Susie Wendelborn** has agreed to take on the role of **Civil Defence Co-ordinator** for the greater Māpua area.

Sally Hargraves provided a brief update on the **Māpua Community Wellbeing Trust (MCWT)**, with a regular weekly Drop-in Centre in the Māpua Community Hall starting from Friday 23rd May between 2.30-4.30pm - this is a 'cup of tea and a chat' and is open to anyone.

Finally, a **Pop-Up Frisbee Golf event is coming to Aranui Park**, scheduled for King's Birthday weekend Sunday 1st June, 9am – 2pm. Frisbee Golf is free and accessible to all, a sport for all ages and abilities and a great way to stay fit and active.

This event will be a beginners-friendly temporary 9-hole course laid out in the park to minimize impact on other park users, and will start with a club members event, after which the course will be open to the public. Club members will be present and offering tips and trick to new participants.

If successful, and supported by the community, a permanent Frisbee Golf course could be installed, paid for and managed by Nelson Tasman Disc Golf Club (adding to their existing courses in Isel Park, Branford Park, Saxton Field and Rabbit Island).

The **Waimea Estuary** is to be the Topic for our Guest speaker at our June meeting, our TACA neighbours will share their journey on the **Te Mamaku Drive Planting Project** at the July meeting, and TDC's Alastair Clement (Team Leader Natural Hazards and Geomorphology) will share his work on **Māpua Inlet Estuary Modelling** at the August AGM / Public Meeting.

The next Public Meeting will be held on **Monday 9th June at 7pm**. Annual membership subscription can be paid by direct credit – see www.ourMāpua.org for details.

Mt Hope Orchard

The subdivision of Mt Hope for new generations of settlers, brings to an end the five generations of Wells families who lived and farmed there for over 100 years.

Around 1915 Arnold and Mary (Lizzie) Wells built their house on a hill and began an orchard.

Orcharding was new to this district then, a bold and risky—and hopeful venture. So, Arnold called his place Mt Hope.

This period in Māpua's life was absolutely frenetic. Years later Arnold's son Bernard wrote it all down in his book "The Fruits of Labour" (in Māpua library.) Everyone had a role in this new settlement. Theirs are the names we see on our roads today.

The apples grew well.

Arnold and Lizzie Wells raised a devoutly religious family and when WWII came sons Bernard and Stan were Conscientious Objectors. Bernard was sent to detention camp and Stan was set to looking after the orchards of men who went away.

After the war Bernard started his own orchard on Higgs Road and the two brothers ran the orchards together, supporting two families.

The 10-acre farm below the orchard, later gifted by Bernard to become Aranui Park, was used for animals. Arnold milked cows, even when later blind, driving his cow along the fence lines, and he kept working horses for the orchard.

Between farm paddocks and orchard, he created an extensive fernery with shell paths; the fernery, stocked from Pakawau, of renown in NZ Fern Society circles.

Later on, Bernard kept cattle, using the drier paddocks for winter fodder pampas.

When the time came for Bernard and Stan to retire , they wanted the orchard to stay in family hands.

The new owner of Mt Hope was nephew Peter Wells. A builder and teacher, Peter then threw himself into orcharding.

It was the time of deregulation and a variety of chops and changes, but Peter hung in there with Wells tenacity.

The orchard is long gone, and Peter's surviving family are moving on.

But I think they will always remember the crimson Winesaps, perfumed Jonathans, speckled "Gravvies" and Granny Smith trees as big as houses.

We wish them well.

Helen Beere

In appreciation of a synchromesh gearbox

Or how to break a marriage – take your pick.

I've been learning to drive our 1930 Ford Model A. It has been an illuminating and instructive experience.

Lesson one: familiarisation in three parts.

Firstly, the pedals. Brake on the right, accelerator in the middle. Clutch on the left as normal – phew! “Some serious cock-up potential there” I thought.

Why didn't I notice *that* all the years I've been passengering around in this car? Nothing for it but to practise brake/accelerator on demand by the teacher in the yard with no motor going.

Secondly, the gears. All gear shifts are double de-clutched. Depress clutch and change into neutral, depress clutch again to move into the next gear. You can only change gears in order. i.e. you cannot go from third to first or first to third. Thank goodness there are only three forward gears.

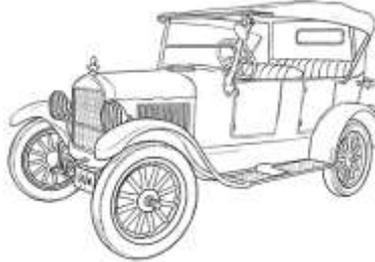
Even more luckily, the first gear from standing still (either first or reverse), *does not have to be double de-clutched*. This provides a big incentive to stop rather than change down as would be normal, at every intersection, traffic lights, dead possums, dogs on the road or road workers. It is good to stop for road workers I remind myself.

Thirdly – and remember I have not gone *anywhere* as yet – the dashboard and controls. Fuel switch, ignition retard lever, hand throttle, key, choke, starter button. What's with all this stuff then? “Modern cars”, explains the

instructor, “do all of this automatically. In this car, *you* are the computer”. I'm needing a cup of tea and a lie down by now.

Lesson two, starting the car.

Truly. An entire lesson. There are EIGHT steps to start a Model A. So many, I make a list on a large post-it for the dashboard:



Turn on master switch (under bonnet)

Fuel on (under steering column)

Ignition retard on just a little (L.H on steering column)

Hand throttle ditto (R.H. steering column)

Key on (remember *nothing happens* when you turn on the key)

Choke out and *hold it out*

Depress starter button with foot

Immediately release the choke and apply slight accelerator.

First ACTUAL driving lesson.

Down to our gate. Can start in second gear because it is downhill. However, that only gives the opportunity for one gear change up - if I am quick on the short straight bit.

We swap over at the gate so M can turn the car round on the road. Just in case. I drive back to the house, reverse – avoiding the bank – and we do it again. And again. And again. Stay in second. It is a short drive. Every now and then M yells “STOP” so I can practise stopping rather than driving into the ditch. Ditches are not good.

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Changing down. Another lesson.

In the middle of the double de-clutch down shift, you need to give the motor a little throttle before moving down the gear. The sequence from third gear:

- Depress clutch
- While clutch depressed, change from third to neutral.
- Release clutch
- At the same time whilst still in neutral (keeping up?), depress accelerator *just a little*
- Release accelerator, *at the same time* depress clutch again and move gear stick into second.

All in one fluid movement. No graunching. No bunny hopping (heaven forbid).

I have an epiphany in the night as I lie there dreaming of gear changes. I'll ask our neighbour S whose property has an entire loop of orchard roads. Can I practise driving there?

S's loop is perfect. Along the bottom straight, change up to third at the Golden Delicious tree then if quick, down to second just before the corner. Stay in second up the hill, past the pig pen until the top wood heap then along the ridge, into third then back to second before the corner and the hill. Repeat.

Go up the middle from the packing shed then go in the opposite direction. Mix things up a little. Goodness but I hope S doesn't hear the odd graunching on the gears. Multiple loops which include two straight bits - perfect for changing down. If I am quick.

Eventually the day comes. Ready for The Road. A loop up Marriages, onto Pomona and turn around at the bottom of Pine Hill. M not being confident to accompany me up the Bluffs Hill with half the drivers unaware of the rule on that one-way road. (For anyone interested, the rule is: *traffic going down GIVES WAY to traffic coming up. It is NOT on a "your turn" basis even if there are five cars coming up. Just saying.*)

Opportunity to practise some thirds back to seconds approaching Pine Hill. Only if no cars behind. If there are cars behind, just indicate right, pull in and stop. Best to get it right as there are always cars there and *everyone looks*.

Pomona Road is good for practising brake and accelerator management. Lots of corners.

I graduate to Māpua. Perfect run as I pull into the Māpua Store, proudly concentrating so hard on stopping (alternative would be hideous) that I forget the clutch. Stall the car and get spoken to as M pulls on the handbrake just to be on the safe side. Still, I am allowed to drive home. Via Pomona Road.

Next step, Bluffs Hill and whaddyouknow, am halfway way up the hill and a car at the top, fails to give way. Stop, brake on the right, clutch in but M has to put on the handbrake. Too many things to think about. Driver of car coming down waves gaily to thank me for stopping. Am too busy concentrating to give him the fingers....

I progress to my sister's place in Teapot Valley. Coming ahead now in leaps and bounds.

Then, *then*, on a Model A outing to Cable Bay. M drives to the meeting point near QEII Drive roundabout but I am allowed to drive to Cable Bay. We have a nice if rather windswept lunch, then I drive ALL the way home. Through the lights in Richmond and everything. I am very proud.

But you know what they say about pride and falls...

Because of various commitments, away time and circumstances, I don't do any more driving for several weeks during which time I become Model A brain dead. I'm relegated back to the Pomona Road circuit, and I stuff up a couple of gear changes. Bigger! But second time and I'm all good. Even manage some change downs. PROGRESS!

And, AND, last Sunday, all the way home from Kohatu.

With a textbook change down from third to second.

Mary



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The deadline is the 20th of each month with each issue coming out on the 1st.

There is no separate January issue.

E: news@coastalnews.online for more information.

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Saturday 14 June, 7 pm **THE EARLY BOBS**
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Māpua Health Centre news

Ellie, our Nurse Administrator, has been an important member of our team and taken care of a host of tasks that make the jobs of our clinical staff that much easier and time effective. However, she is retiring after nine years, and we thank her enormously for all her work and caring and wish her well in her retirement.

The evening clinics are changing to Thursdays from the start of June. This is a year-round decision, so that we won't have to change between Tuesday and Wednesday nights depending on the season! These clinics are designed with those in mind who find it difficult, or are unable, to get to the Health Centre during the day. They are for booked appointments only.

We welcome a new trainee intern (final year medical student), Hamish Skelton-Kyd, who will be with us from the end of May for three weeks. This is a great opportunity for students to get a small taste of general practice and learn more about community health services.

We have been getting great feedback from our patient portal "Well". It offers easy access to your lab test results, recent history of your consultations with your doctor, immunisation history, prescribed medications, recorded allergies, any diagnosed conditions you are managing, the ability to book appointments for you and your family, and to submit your repeat script request. Please contact Reception for details, 03 540 2211.

This month, **Men's Health Week** aims to help you get right on top of your biggest and most important asset – your health.

Why have Men's Health Week? Men are on the back foot from the start. A boy born today will live nearly four years less than a girl born in the room next door. He will be over 20% more likely to die of a heart attack than the girl, and almost 30% more likely to get diabetes.

Worse, he is three times more likely to die by suicide or in a motor car crash. Eight Kiwi families every day lose a

loved partner, father or tupuna to a **PREVENTABLE** illness, one they didn't need to die from.

Almost one Kiwi man in four will die before they reach retirement age. We can do something to change these numbers by making small changes to things we eat, drink and do.

Also, it's "Move Your Butt month" which is all about supporting awareness and helping to prevent bowel cancer. Your diet is one way to lessen the likelihood by enjoying a wide variety of nutritious foods:

- Eat plenty of vegetables, legumes (dried beans, peas or lentils), fruits & cereals (breads, rice, pasta & noodles), preferably wholegrain.
- Include lean meat, fish and poultry.
- Include milks, yoghurts and cheeses. Reduced fat varieties should be chosen where possible.
- Drink plenty of water.

Take care to:

- Limit saturated fat and moderate total fat intake.
- Limit your intake of red meat and processed meat.
- Choose foods low in salt.
- Limit your alcohol intake if you choose to drink.
- Consume only moderate amounts of sugars and foods containing added sugars.

And:

- Quit Smoking.

There are a number of important national and global health promotion events for the month, including:

- 1-30 Move Your Butt Month
<https://bowelcancernz.org.nz/move-your-butt>
- 5 World Environment Day
<http://worldenvironmentday.global>
- 6 Safe Sleep Day
<https://sudinationalcoordination.co.nz/events>
- 9-15 Coeliac Awareness Week
<https://coeliac.org.nz/coeliac-awareness-week>
- 9-15 Men's Health Week www.menshealthweek.co.nz/
- 14 World Blood Donor Day nzblood.co.nz
- 15 Elder Abuse Awareness Day ageconcern.org.nz
- 15-21 National Volunteer Week
<https://nationalvolunteerweek.nz/>
- 16-22 World Continenence Week www.continence.org.nz
- 20 Matariki (Māori New Year)
<https://matariki.co.nz/matariki-2024/>
- 20 World Refugee Day un.org/depts/dhl/refugee
- 26 International Day Against Drug Abuse
www.unodc.org



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Driving with Jimmy

Love me, love my car.

Marriage poses many difficult questions but there is one that invariably arises for every male petrol head: "Will she love my car as much as she loves me?"

Cosmetics and fashion are key elements in pre-marital partner selection and not just for the ladies, for the vehicle dressing up serves the same purpose in the male world.

It's done in part to compete in the male vehicle hierarchy and in part a belief that a cool car will win over the opposite sex. The muff catcher. Yes, men can romanticize about their cars.

In our modern world, the vehicle represents vastly more than just transport. It's all about image, about what we are trying to project, about our group, and it tells a lot about our psyche.

Such image projection is crafted differently according to the generation. Boomers project their childhood dreams in open topped sports cars and ancient European rust buckets. Millennials treasure "Jap Crap" and anything with driven rear wheels, while Gen Xers seem to believe that bigger is better when it comes to Utes, even if you can't see over the bonnet or fit it into the car parks on Aranui Road.

Then you make them pretty. Twin overhead foxtails for the Holden, a wicker basket on the MG, transparent engine cover for the 4AGE Toyota and a snorkel and bull bars for the Ranger. Each breed of vehicle has its own range of cosmetics, complete with logo, stickers and posters to declare your brand loyalty.

But times are changing, for there is a new breed of drivers who are not petrol heads. Yes, not every EV driver is the dawdling grey haired geriatric Leaf driver perpetually castigated in petrol head social media for blocking up SH60. Some actually like driving fast and not just because

Simeon Brown wants them to be more productive. After all, there ain't no productivity gain in a retiree getting earlier to a doctor's visit Simeon, particularly as they've already waited three weeks for the appointment.

They also dress up their EVs, well some of them. I have not seen any Nissan Leafs (Leaves?) or Kona Niros with wide tyres, spunky looking wheels, chrome deleted trim, boot spoilers or even fake exhausts, but there are plenty of Teslas around so dressed up. To further emphasise that EVs are not boring, a Tesla X Pliad does 0-100km/h in 2.1 seconds – that's faster than most Porsches and Ferraris.

It means Tesla can claim to being an American Muscle Car, a domain dominated by V8 gas guzzlers like Mustangs and Camaros. Unfortunately, rather than saving money by skimping on doors and seats as Ford and Chevrolet did with their two-door pony cars, Tesla's have four doors and thus don't qualify. Who said there was logic in car design?

One of the things I find most amazing is that EVs are now cheap, basically down to same prices as equivalent ICE cars and have substantially lower running costs, especially if you charge at home. My little EV chews up 85 cents of home electricity to drive 32km into Nelson while the Skoda uses \$4 in diesel.

After 5 years and 58,000 km of Tesla use, the only servicing has been changing the cabin filter and refilling the windscreen washer. By comparison, the Skoda oiler is vastly more expensive to run.

So why don't more blokes drive an EV? Why are they so tied to their gas guzzling, expensive-to-run, over-sized Utes. Is it that male "bigger is better" delusion and is that why utes are so big nowadays? Remember the Ford Courier of the 70s? It's called Autobesity.

It's even more ludicrous when you realise that being a petrol head is actually a group infatuation with the internal combustion engine, an invention that has done more to damage human life than any other device.

I admit to being a speed freak. I have indulged in the excesses of motorsport over many years, but a lot of motorsport participation is not for the speed but for a lifestyle and culture based on the internal combustion engine. That is why EVs are persona non grata in motorsport. It's not the speed, it's that electric motors aren't smelly, aren't noisy and don't require continual tinkering to keep them going.

Anyway, I'm selling the snorkel off my Tesla. Excellent condition never actually used.

Jim Vause

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Opportunities for Kids Charity

It seems to have been a very quick year since I last wrote an update for the Coastal News! During this time two very big events have happened.

Firstly, due to government changes in Vietnam we are no longer able to support children at the orphanage in northern Vietnam that we supported for more than 12 years. Overseas based charities must now either have a licence to operate in Vietnam or work through a Vietnam based charity that does have a licence to operate in a specific geographical region.

HSCV (which has supported the work of OKC since our very first 'Shoes and Coats' project) has a licence to operate, but this does not cover the area where the Lao Cai Orphanage is. This has resulted in the Orphanage no longer accepting our assistance and HSCV no longer being able to work with us in the Lao Cai region.

We have worked to update our Trust Deed to broaden our focus to 'disadvantaged children and young people' rather than specifically 'orphaned children'. This has allowed us to continue, and we are currently supporting eight students identified by HSCV who meet our new Trust criteria.

Secondly, the devastating typhoon Yagi that hit northern Vietnam in September last year caused extensive flooding, landslides, loss of life, homes and livelihoods.

Via our database we were able to gather funds specifically for the typhoon relief effort. We raised a fantastic \$3,445 in one week, thanks to our generous local community. This was forwarded to HSCV who provided much needed emergency aid to affected communities.

I travelled to the north of Vietnam three weeks after the typhoon and the widespread destruction and loss was still very apparent.

As a Trust we are planning a couple of fund-raising events so we can continue to provide funding for the students we have now committed to support throughout

their studies and transition to employment and self-reliance.

On 4 July, Trustee Sue and partner Peter will share their slides and experiences spending six months independently travelling by motor bike around Vietnam.

And on 10 August we will be having a Vietnamese cooking demonstration with an opportunity to have a go. Tickets for this will be limited so feel free to express your interest now (to: janettaylor@kinect.co.nz).

As a small Trust we are very grateful for the support we have always received from our local community, and we look forward to welcoming you to these planned fund-raising events over the next few months.

OKC - Opportunities for Kids Charity Update and fund-raising events coming soon!

With gratitude, Janet Taylor, OKC Local Charity

**Six Months in Vietnam:
Exploring the Backroads by Motorbike**

Join us for an informal evening as Sue and Peter share their slides and experiences of travel and connecting with local communities throughout Vietnam last year.

Where: **Moutere Hills Community Centre
Function Room**

When: **7.00 pm Friday 4 July 2025**

Cost: **\$20.00 per person**

RSVP: by 27 June appreciated (helpful for catering)
to: janettaylor@kinect.co.nz or 027 230 2943

Finger food provided, cash bar available, raffles and other fundraising opportunities.

**This is a fund raising event for OKC
— Opportunities for Kids Charity**

(Formerly Orphan Kids Charity) for scholarship programmes to assist disadvantaged children in Vietnam to complete schooling, undertake tertiary education and training for employment – giving options for a brighter future. Thank you for your support!



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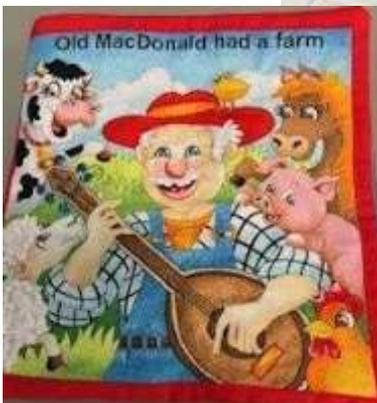
Māpua Craft Group

The knitted and crocheted ANZAC poppies made at the Māpua Library were a popular experience, with people collecting patterns and wool.

We met ladies from Richmond, Dunedin, and a mother and daughter from Tahanunui who now live here, prior to the USA.

My own poppy and pattern have been sent to Bendigo (Australia) by a lady who admired them and was so delighted to mail them to her mother.

We made a few cards for Mother's Day that were available in the Māpua Library. Val's photo shows a corner of the library where we sat in sunshine to help the knitters who joined us.



Penny made a cloth book entitled "Old McDonald's Farm" for a nephew in Tasmania.

This is a really beautiful gift made with love for her nephew.

Now is the time to think of woolly hats,

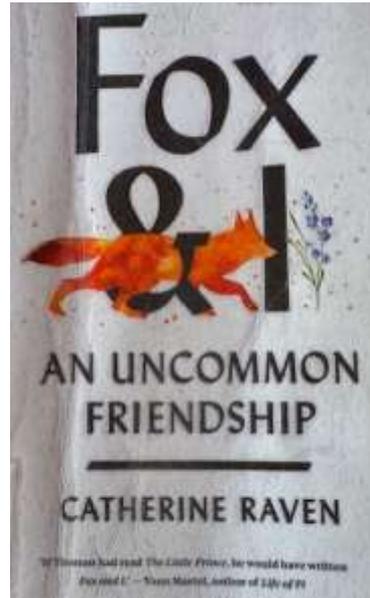
scarves and gloves, so get the knitting needles out!

Meetings for June will be on the 6th and 20th at the meeting room at Hills Community Church.

Barbara 5403901

Book Review

Fox & I - an uncommon friendship by Catherine Raven



I was first drawn to this book by the summary written on the back saying that the author had lived alone since the age of 15 years.

This sparked my curiosity about the human element - why had she lived alone from such a young age? What was her story?

But in order to find and understand her story, it was necessary for me to get to know Fox a little and how they each learned to know and respect each other.

I confess I know very little about foxes, but with the author Catherine Raven's careful observational descriptions of the isolated Montana harsh terrain where she lived, along with the plants, birds, mammals, insects, sky, weather—and Fox, her world was carefully made visible to the reader. She appeared to have a rare ability to be still and watchful for long periods - becoming one with her surroundings, and the ability to express in words what she was seeing and thinking.

Catherine has an academic scientific background in Biology but also on a practical level, was a hunter and had been a bush ranger in the past. So, when Fox started appearing on her property at almost exactly 4:15pm each afternoon, she was very aware of not anthropomorphising him by laying human attributes on him.

But by respecting his terms of engagement and seeking to understand his responses to her actions, they forged a friendship. Always aware that Fox was a wild animal and it was not appropriate for her to 'domesticate' him.

'Fox & I' is described as a story of "survival and transformation". Survival in a very harsh landscape and climate with its physical challenges for both Fox and Catherine.

But also, the transforming particularly for Catherine who lived so much alone, had never had a friend and approached life with a very logical and scientific view.

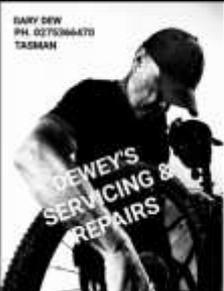
As a result of her experience of being a friend to Fox, it seems little sparks of possibility were grown to enable a friendship with fellow humans.

I found this book to be a delightful read. Along with being very informative in regard to wild plants, the geological history of the area as well as animal biology and behaviours, I enjoyed the author's writing style, wide vocabulary and quirky and very effective way of describing a scene or situation to provoke thought.

And yes, I did discover eventually why she had lived alone since the age of 15 years and also something about wild animals - especially foxes.

This book is held in the Māpua Community Library.

Rachel Boon



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Moutere Hills RSA Memorial Library

Māpua Community Library

EXHIBITION:

The Amelia Valle exhibition is on until 7th June and then there will be an exhibition from Barry Robertson from 8th June through to 19th July, so pop on down during opening hours and check out Barry's exhibition. Barry and Lesley Robertson own the Bronte Gallery on the Bronte Peninsula.

Amelia Valle was born in Portugal. She lived in Mozambique and later moved to South Africa with her husband. She has been painting for over twenty years, firstly in watercolour, before she fell in love with the glossy and rich qualities of oil paintings which she has been enjoying for the past eight years.



She likes to use a variety of tools, often painting with her fingers and hands, which is perhaps her trademark. Her paintings of flowers, old walls, still life forms and textures reflect her Mediterranean upbringing.

She gets her inspiration from looking at the world around her and finding beauty in unusual places and

designs. Celebrating the beauty of the world helps her reconnect with nature. Her work has been sold in exhibitions in South Africa as well as New Zealand. She now resides in Tasman.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Quiz night by attending the quiz, helping sell tickets or donating raffle prizes. It was very successful, lots of fun and raised \$784 for the library.

These events are important fund raising for the library, especially as we find that many of the foundations and charities that had traditionally been a source of funding for the library are now oversubscribed or have reduced funds.

A huge thanks to the Māpua/Ruby Bay Community Trust who gave us \$1,000 towards the cost of replacing our sunshade blinds.

DIARY THE DATES:

LITERARY FESTIVAL 12-14TH SEPTEMBER 2025:

On opening night we have Martine Baanvinger performing her solo act "Red Heavens".

We will also welcome Gerard Hindmarsh, Jenny Patrick, Michael Bennett and Stef Harris, Tom Rowling, Erin Palmisano, Olive Jones, Kerry Sunderland and Anna Riedel, Bruce Cole and Jennifer Hassloch and Jenny Patrick taking part in author conversations during Saturday and Sunday.

Poet's Evening on Saturday evening will be very entertaining.

There will also be two workshops run by Wendy Scott. Character Creation Lab and Tangled Hearts and Hidden Truths: A Creative Writing Journey. More information to follow in the July edition.

ARVIDA

Waimea Plains Village

455 Lower Queen St. Richmond
At the Clubhouse

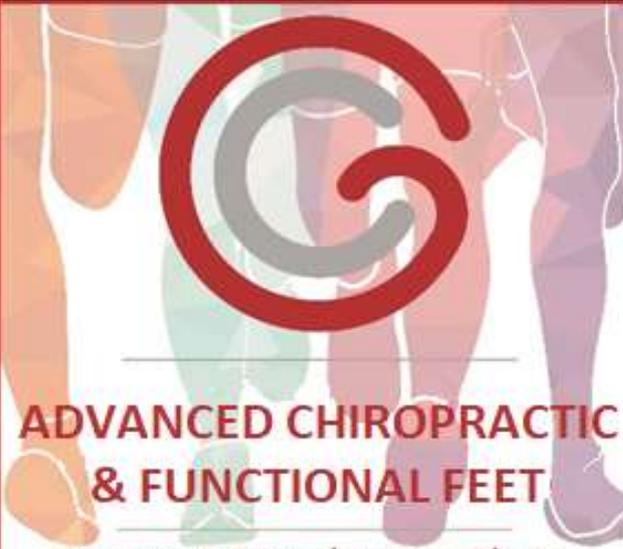



**Photography & Painting
Exhibition & Sale**

Saturday 14 June & Sunday 15 June, 10am-4pm

Over 19 resident exhibitors

Disability parking at Clubhouse. Parking & shuttle from Queen St. gate.
Refreshments available. Free entry.



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Māpua Community Hall

Weekly Classes

June 2025

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

Delias Dance Divas 10.00-11.00am	Sioux Line dancing 9-12pm	Aerobic/Pilates with Lynda 9-11am	MAG Mapua Art Group 9.30-12.30pm	Cardio weights/Pilates with Lynda 9-11am
Mindful Movement with Tilly 11.30-12.30pm	PANZ Pastel Artists of NZ 9-12.00pm	Yoga for Healthy Living with Nikki 9.15-10.30am	Yoga with Debbie 9.15-10.30am	Yoga with Martin 9.15-10.45am
SPACE HIRE	Mapua Creative Fibre 10:00 – 13:00pm Monthly on the second Tuesday	Mindful Movement with Tilly 11.30-12.30	SPACE HIRE	The Hub Community drop in support 2.30-4.30pm
	CB Dance with Courtney 3.30-4.30pm	Chair Yoga with Yvonne 1.30pm-2.30pm		
Broga with Nikki 5.30-7pm	Strength and Cardio with Lynda 6-7pm			
Delias Dance Divas 7.15 - 8.15pm	Yoga with Martin 6-7pm	Yoga with Rachel 6.30-7.30pm	African Fusion & Belly Dance with Indy 5.30-6.30pm	SPACE HIRE
MDCA executive meeting (every 4th Monday 7-9pm)	Boardgames with Ryan 7-11.30pm	Mapua Rangers Football 5.30-8pm	Mapua Community Choir 7.30-9pm	

What on in June!



MAPUA PUBLIC HALL SOCIETY FUNDRAISER

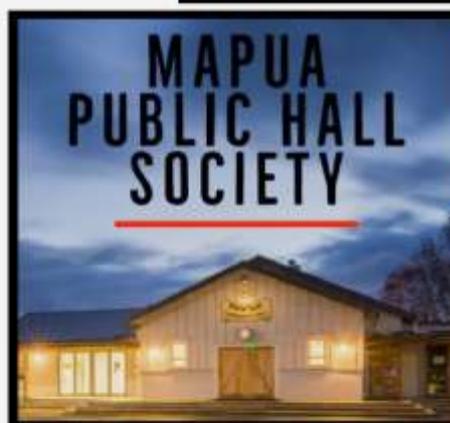
SPRIG & FERN QUIZ NIGHT

MAPUA SPRIG AND FERN

June 18th

7PM SHARP

News From the Hall



2025 AGM

Come along and celebrate our unique community owned Hall, run by a committee of volunteers.

MONDAY 23rd June | **MAPUA HALL FROM 7PM**



Drop-in centre for Māpua's community services

Fridays Mapua Hall Meeting room 2.30-4.30pm

Come along and drop in for a cup of coffee, have a friendly chat and meet new people in relaxed surroundings.

Anyone interested in volunteering at the drop-in centre can email Vicky Stocker at gvstocker@gmail.com

Office hours are Mon-Fri 9-12pm
03 540 2330



72 Aranui Road Mapua
email: mapuabookings@gmail.com

Our latest news & adventures



Set your course for 2025

Did you know we offer Trades Academy programmes where you can earn NCEA credits whilst gaining practical skills to support you in the future? This year's programmes include:

- Adventure Tourism
- Environmental Sustainability
- Manaaki Tāpoi Cultural Toursim
- Uniformed Services
- Employment & Lifeskills West Coast

These programmes are fully subsidised* and not only do they help build confidence but you make a whole lot of new friends. Delivered in partnership with Top of the South Trades Academy and West Coast Trades Academy.

- Visit our website to learn more
- Talk to your Trades Academy coordinator
- Enrol now! Spaces are limited

*Learn more: <https://www.whenuaiti.org.nz/trades-academy/>



Kaitiaki Leadership - Trades Academy Programme

Co-winners of the Community Impact Award

We were thrilled to be co-winners of the Community Impact Award at the Nelson Tasman Chamber of Commerce Business. Thank you to all our community funders and supporters who have been behind us all the way, especially Rachel Boyack, Rachel Sanson, Campbell Rollo, Damien O'Connor, Nathan Fa'avae and John Prestidge, who supported our nomination. See the video on our online blog!

Youth Outdoor Short Film Competition

AWESOME NEWS! You've got more time to enter our youth film comp! The new deadline is 16th May, so you can squeeze in more adventures, get creative with your edits, and pick the perfect soundtrack. Epic prizes up for grabs to the value of \$4000 and the chance to see your short film on the big screen at State Cinema Motueka! Free to enter for youth under the age of 24.

For more details: www.whenuaiti.org.nz/youth-film-competition/



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What's on at Hills Community Church?

Throughout the week

Sunday: Worship Service - 9:30am
followed by morning tea.

Wednesday: Senior Moments – second and last Wednesday each month. 10am to 12pm
Friendship, food, events and information.

KidsnKoffee – Community Playgroup – 10am to 12pm
A great space for all the whanau.

Thursday: Prayer and Coffee – 10:00am. *An opportunity for prayer, discussion and a chat.*

Friday: Craft and Coffee – first and third Friday each month 10am to 12pm.

If you love all things "crafty" then come along and join the group

Throughout the week: Life Groups
Drop in for coffee, chat or just a quiet space.

For more information contact Hills Community Church
Phone 03 540 3848
office@hillscommunitychurch.org.nz
www.hillscommunitychurch.org.nz

Senior Moments

Held on the **second Wednesday** and **last Wednesday** of the month at Hills Community Church, 122 Aranui Road Māpua **10.00 a.m. to 12.00**

COME ALONG AND ENJOY:

*A social get together
Morning tea
Shared lunches
Activities and games
Sharing interests and stories
Quizzes
Guest speakers and Information
Outings*



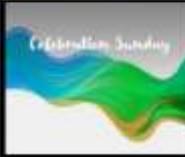
No cost involved; however, a small donation is always appreciated.

Our Elder Care Team may also be able to help support members of our community at times of need with: *Meals, Shopping, Transport*

For further details, contact: Elder Care Coordinator
Phone 03 540 3848 office@hillscommunitychurch.org.nz
www.hillscommunitychurch.org.nz

Mapua Elder Care Support is overseen by Hills Community Church with funding from the Anglican Care Charitable Trust



Sunday Services through the month at Hills Community Church.	
	Café Church An opportunity to worship, learn, and chat in an informal setting – while enjoying croissants and fresh coffee. 1st Sunday of every month 9.30 am
	Holy Communion A traditional Anglican Holy Communion service. Sharing bread and wine together as a church community. 2nd Sunday of every month 9.30 am
	Family Praise and Worship Come together to worship God through song, prayer, listening to and hearing the Word of God. 3rd Sunday of every month 9.30 am
	Holy Communion Based on the Iona tradition. Sharing bread and wine together as a church community. 4th Sunday of every month 9.30 am
	Coming together as a church community to celebrate the different themes running throughout the year. Followed by a shared morning tea. 5th Sundays in the year 9.30 am

HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH
PRESENTS

MOVIE NIGHT

SAT 14th June 7:00pm

\$10
ENTRANCE

BONHOEFFER

This powerful film tells the remarkable true story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German theologian and pastor who risked everything to oppose the Nazi regime during World War II.



CINEMA

122 Aranui Road, Mapua
E: office@hillscommunitychurch.org.nz
See website & Facebook page for details



Mapua Kids 'n' Koffee



A relaxed and fun community playgroup for 0 - 6 year olds.

Every Wednesday 10am - 12pm during the school term at the old church building



Māpua Village Bakery

Pet of the Month



This month's pet of the month is Nico the Labradoodle.

He's 12 but has the energy of a puppy and is hyperactive like his dad.

He loves everything but mostly he likes to sniff and walk.

It is very likely that he has sniffed every single person in Māpua by now.

He also has a lot of toys. Well, a lot of destroyed toys. They don't last long when he tosses them about.

He's a very social dog and that's why he likes hanging out at

the bakery with his mum and her friends. He gets all the attention.

Nico also has a best friend Monty he likes to play with, and you can't forget his other friend Chewy.

Staff Updates

Hopefully we've settled in with our staff for the winter.

We have lost a few to school and returning to England, but with two more new faces we should be ready for the cold months.



In the kitchen we have Astrid from Chile. She's bringing her South American flair to the bakery while she's finishing working on her New Zealand residency.

She's now a resident in Māpua after moving here from Tauranga.

Up front the new face is Anna. She is a local girl who has been in hospitality just a couple years but has already shown barista skills. We hope she enjoys working with us at the bakery.

Spinach and Feta Roll

We thought we'd highlight this popular vegetarian option as it has had a few ups and downs over the last year.

The big up was the price of cheese. Like butter, the cost of cheese we buy has gone up over 60% and that caused the price of our Spinach and Feta Rolls to become what we considered too high.



With a bit of effort, we did manage to track down another feta that tastes just as good at a much better price.

This has enabled us to bring the price of this popular item back down to where it should be.

So if you'd like a healthy, tasty snack you can grab one for \$7.00 next time you're at the bakery.



Holiday Updates

We like to stay open on holidays when possible as there are usually very few other options. However, it is very expensive to do so, and the staff does need a break every now and then.

We were able to stay open over the Easter holidays, but coming up is King's Birthday and Matariki.

We'll be closed for both those days.

Hopefully everyone remembers to stock up on some family sized pies the day before.

The Hidden Power of Preventative Care

When it comes to our pets, it's easy to assume that if they're eating well, playing happily, and not showing signs of illness, all must be fine. But much like us, animals can develop health conditions silently, long before symptoms appear. That's why regular veterinary check-ups and screening blood tests play a vital role in keeping our furry companions healthy for as long as possible.

Do Annual Check-Ups Matter?

A yearly vet visit isn't just about vaccines and worming tablets, it's a chance to detect small changes that could indicate something more serious. At Vetlife Tasman, our general health checks include a full physical exam, dental check, weight discussion, and tailored advice based on your pet's age and lifestyle. Early detection really does save lives. According to Massey University's Companion Animal Register, over 40% of dogs and cats over 7 will develop age-related diseases, many of which show no obvious signs early on. Regular check-ups mean we can start supportive care before things get critical.

Baseline Bloods: A Health Snapshot

Baseline blood tests, run when your pet is healthy, give us a valuable benchmark to compare against in the future. Just recently at Vetlife Māpua, we saw Molly, a gentle Staffy cross who, at nearly 8 years old, came in for a routine health check. Her owner wanted to make sure everything was on track as she entered her senior years. We ran Molly's bloods on our state-of-the-art in-clinic analysers, which meant we had her results the same day. Thankfully, everything came back normal, giving her family peace of mind and giving us a solid baseline for future reference.



For pets like Molly (aged 7+), this kind of proactive care is especially valuable. These simple tests can detect early changes in liver and kidney function, blood sugar, and thyroid levels, often before any symptoms appear.

In fact, subtle signs of diseases like early kidney trouble (which affects 1 in 3 cats over 10 in New Zealand) often go unnoticed until much later. Having baseline results on file is also incredibly helpful if your pet ever becomes unwell or needs surgery, allowing us to spot changes more easily and plan treatment with confidence.

Pre-Anaesthetic Bloods: Peace of Mind

Before a procedure, we always offer pre-anaesthetic blood tests, even for young, apparently healthy animals. These quick screens can detect hidden issues that might affect how your pet processes anaesthetic drugs.

A 2020 NZ-based vet study found that up to 15% of pets undergoing routine surgery had unexpected blood abnormalities, prompting changes to anaesthetic plans or postponement. These tests can quite literally be lifesavers.

At Vetlife Tasman, we see regular check-ups and blood tests as part of a bigger picture. Whether it's reassurance that everything's tracking well, or catching something early while it's still manageable, these simple steps can make a real difference. Because when we know more, we can do more, and that means more good years doing the things your pet loves most.

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Travel with Becks

Italy & Croatia:

A Journey Through Hidden Gems and Coastal Beauty

Imagine stepping off the plane into the warm Mediterranean breeze, surrounded by the scent of fresh basil and sea air. Italy and Croatia are two of Europe's most captivating destinations, offering unforgettable experiences that blend iconic sights with off-the-beaten-track charm.

Italy: Culture, Countryside & Culinary Delights

Italy's big names—Rome, Venice, Florence—are spectacular, but the real magic often lies in its quieter corners. A small group tour offers a rich cultural experience, particularly in regions like Tuscany, where rolling hills, medieval towns, and world-class wineries await. You might explore charming towns like San Gimignano or enjoy hands-on cooking classes that bring local traditions to life.



Prefer to go at your own pace? A self-drive trip through the south of Italy allows the freedom to explore hidden gems like the trulli houses of Alberobello or the whitewashed town of Ostuni. Stay in villa-style accommodation or agriturismo—rustic farmhouses surrounded by olive groves and vineyards—for a truly immersive stay.

Italy also offers one of Europe's best train networks. High-speed trains like the Frecciarossa connect Rome, Florence, and Milan with ease, letting you sit back and enjoy stunning countryside views as you glide from one cultural hub to the next.

For something truly unique, visit Matera, a UNESCO World Heritage site where ancient cave dwellings have been transformed into boutique hotels. It's like stepping into another time—yet with every modern comfort.

Croatia: Coastlines, Culture & Island Life

Just across the Adriatic, Croatia offers dramatic



coastlines, crystal-clear waters, and beautifully preserved historical towns. Split, with its Roman ruins and vibrant coastal charm, is a great starting point. From there, island-hop your way through the Dalmatian Islands on a small boat tour.

Hvar enchants with lavender fields and vineyards, while Vis offers quiet coves and a slower pace. Don't miss Korčula—nicknamed "Little Dubrovnik"—with its medieval streets and breathtaking views. For a more relaxed mainland experience, Zadar offers a fascinating mix of history and innovation, including the famous Sea Organ, where ocean waves play haunting music through stone steps.

Inspiration Awaits

Italy and Croatia deliver a rich mix of history, nature, and local flavour. Whether you're joining a small group tour, hitting the road for a self-drive adventure, or cruising the coastlines, these countries promise unforgettable experiences. From the vineyards of Tuscany to the island gems of the Adriatic, let these destinations inspire your next great journey.

For further inspiration, feel free to check out my fully escorted tours departing from Nelson—details are available on my website.

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WINTER 2025

**Sat 7th June
Dire Straights Tribute**

**Fri 13th June
ABBA TRIBUTE!!**

**Sat 14th June
80s Night**

**Sat 5th July
Fleetwood Mac and Billy Joel**

**Sat 12th July
King and Queens Ball**

**Sat 19th July
Hip Hop Night**

**Sat 26th July
Nelson Big Band**

**Fri 1st August
Fondue Night**

**Sat 2nd August
SUN CITY SOUL BAND!!**

**22nd and 23rd August
Return of the BOOGIE TRAIN**

Playhousecafe.co.nz for more info

Māpua Fire Brigade



Apr to May 2025 call outs

- 8 Apr 19:28 Halogen light burnt ceiling in house on Gardner Valley.
- 2 May 13:36 Alarm activation on Old Coach Rd. Agent testing. No action taken.
- 2 May 17:07 Bonfire on beach at Pine Hill Reserve, small campfire below the high water line, open fire season. No Action taken.
- 2 May 22:43 Van rolled on Dominion Rd, cut windscreen to get driver out, left with police.
- 8 May 10:46 Fire in area of rock wall, permitted burn. No action taken.

Call outs for the year: 28

For fire safety info go to - <https://fireandemergency.nz/>
For rural fire go to - <http://www.checkitsalright.nz/>

It is open fire season for most areas however there is a Fire Ban in Fire Sensitive areas:

- Outdoor burning is restricted from June to August (inclusive) in all settlements where the Fire Sensitive Area applies. During these winter months you can only burn diseased horticultural waste for biosecurity purposes or use a forge or kiln. You may also be allowed to burn non-diseased horticultural waste during these months subject to a resource consent.

This area includes all of Māpua, Ruby Bay, Dawson Rd, Seaton Valley Rd, East side of Stagecoach Rd, East end of Pomona Rd from top of ridge, Pine Hill Rd & Brabant drive.

Even if you have a fire permit within this area you cannot light rubbish or burn-off fires.



TASMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN FIRE BAN AND FIRE SENSITIVE AREAS
Operative 15 June 2019

Maps 268 - 269

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Māpua Boat Club Photo Competition

Entries open for photographic competition

Entries are now open for the popular Māpua Boat Club's Amateur Photographic Competition with prizes for each section provided by generous sponsors.

You don't have to be an accomplished photographer or have an expensive camera to enter – photos taken on cell phones often win prizes in the competition.

The competition aims to promote our beautiful region from Rabbit Island to Marahau, and to support the Māpua Maritime Museum. A 2026 calendar featuring some of the entries will also be produced.

Entry forms are available from Delicious Homewares at the Māpua Wharf or by emailing:

mapuaboatclubevents@gmail.com

There are three categories in both the adults and children's sections – Nature, Boats and People and all must have a maritime theme.

Among the sponsors providing prizes for this year's event are: CopyArt, Delicious, Jellyfish, Appleshed, Smokehouse, Kiwi Journeys (Māpua Ferry), Jared's Fruit & Veg, Māpua Pharmacy and Sprig & Fern Māpua.

Entries are limited to five photos per entry, taken in the area from Rabbit Island to Marahau inclusive.

Take your images to Copyart, at 6 McGlashen Ave, Richmond, where they will print a standard A4 glossy photograph of each image.

Or email them to: print@copyart.co.nz with 'Māpua Boat Club Photo Competition' in subject line.

CopyArt have set a special competition fee of \$3 per print. Framed photos are not accepted.

Take your photos, plus entry form and \$10 cash for the Adult section or \$5 cash for the Child section (under 15) to Delicious Homewares store at Māpua no later than Friday 11 July 2025.

The exhibition of photos will be held in the Māpua Maritime Museum from Monday July 14 to Friday July 25 with prize-giving on Sunday July 27 at the Māpua Boat Club rooms on the wharf.



Angelika Gebhard of Māpua won the People section in last year's Māpua Boat Club Amateur Photographic Competition with this delightful photo.

New Drop-In Centre

A Drop-In Centre will be open weekly on Fridays starting May 23rd, 2.30 - 4.30pm in the Māpua Hall.

An initiative of the Māpua Community Wellbeing Trust (MCWT), the Drop-In Centre is intended to be a place where people can drop in for a coffee, have a friendly chat, and meet new people in relaxed surroundings.

Fortunately, several volunteers from the community have come forward expressing an interest in helping with the Drop-In Centre, so the Friday 23rd May date has been set for the first session.

It's envisaged that people, as well as 'dropping in', will have many and varied comments, suggestions and questions. These will be collated as part of assessing the needs of such a service in the community with a view to potentially providing additional services in the future.

Initially, the Drop-In Centre will run for a trial period of six months.

New Click and Connect Service

A new service will be starting in late May, operating out of the RSA room at the back of the Māpua Library for basic tech support and assistance. We'll have a computer set up or you can bring your own device, and we'll try and help you work through whatever it is you're having trouble with.

Initially this service will run weekly on Tuesdays from 2:15 to 3:30 pm. Please just call in, no bookings necessary.

We'll put posters up around the village with all the details.

Any questions on any of the MCWT initiatives or to volunteer to help with any of the above, or fundraising, please call in to the Drop-In sessions on Fridays or send an email to mapuawellbeing@gmail.com



CLICK & CONNECT
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When:
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2:15PM - 3:30PM

Where:
RSA Room,
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60 Aranui Road, Mapua
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No Booking needed
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Are you about to purchase a vehicle for the first time or maybe you would like to replace the one you currently own?

We all buy vehicles for different reasons, yet common thoughts go through our minds: "Is this vehicle a good one?" "Has there been any serious physical damage that may have been covered up?" "Are the engine and gearbox ok?" "Has it been fixed up to flick off?" "Will it do what I want it to do?" "Can I trust the person selling it to me?"

These are all very good questions and when you hand over your hard earned money you want to be as sure as you possibly can before making a decision.

If after test driving a vehicle you like the feel of it and all or the majority of boxes on your wish list are ticked there are a few fact finding things you can do to help you with your decision:

- Have the vehicle inspected by an automotive technician you know you can trust to give you an honest inspection and appraisal of the vehicles interior, exterior, underbody, Warrant of Fitness worthiness, and engine service items (fluids, belts, hoses etc). A pre-purchase check need not be expensive and can uncover some very deceptive measures taken by a few sellers to cover up an existing problem which could result in expensive repairs.



- Purchase a Vehicle Inspection Report at www.motorweb.co.nz. This report will tell you if there is money owing on the vehicle; whether all NZTA fees are fully paid; if the vehicle has been stolen; whether it is a flood damaged import etc.

- Purchase a Red Book Vehicle Valuation Certificate at www.redbook.co.nz to receive an emailed information containing:

1. a trade-in valuation you can expect from a car dealer.
2. a private sale price if you choose to sell it yourself.

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Ruby Coast Running Club

We recently had a group of runners travel to the West Coast to take part in the South Island Ultra Marathon.

There are a number of different distances in the event with all the courses following the West Coast Wilderness Trail which runs from Greymouth to Hokitika. All our runners opted for the 24km event which followed the trail from Lake Kaniere to Hokitika.

All enjoyed the scenic event and achieved some excellent results too, with every one of our runners finishing on the podium. Eddie came first in his age group and second overall. Mark and Faye were also placed first in their respective age groups and Niki was placed second in her age group. Very well done to you all.

Next up for our runners is the Kaiteriteri Gold at King's Birthday weekend. We have a number of runners entered in the 16km and the half marathon events.

In the meantime, we have been having a good turnout to our Thursday evening 5km events despite the cooler and darker conditions. It really is impressive to see such large numbers of walkers and runners continuing to come along each week.

Something to bear in mind if you are thinking of joining us on Thursday evenings, and a reminder for our regular attendees, as it is now dark when we are running these events please wear or carry a light (a head torch is ideal). Reflective clothing is a good idea too. This is important for safety, so that we can be seen by motorists and other road users and to see where we are going as well.

We have also been continuing with our longer Saturday morning runs. This is generally a much smaller group than our Thursday event, but is still well attended.

If you would like to join us our regular Thursday 5km events are a good place to start. We meet each week in front of the playground by the Māpua Hall. We start at 5:15pm for walkers and runners that need more than 30 mins to complete 5km and anyone bringing a four-legged running buddy, and 5:30pm for everyone else. No need to register in advance – just arrive a few minutes beforehand to sign in and to listen to the course briefing.

You can also find us on Facebook: Ruby Coast Running Club.

Lynda's Exercise Classes in the Mapua Hall

Winter 2025, Classes restart Tuesday June 3rd.

Same timetable; classes now running in 3-week blocks.

Start dates: June 3rd (no classes week of June 23rd).

July 1st (no classes week of July 22nd).

July 28th (no classes week of August 18th). Etc.

Cardio/Weights Tuesday 6 pm.

Old-fashioned Aerobics Wednesday 9.05 am.

Cardio/Weights Friday 9.05 am.

Pilates Wednesday & Friday 10.05 am.

All sessions \$10.00. Payment details on request.

Please contact Lynda for details,

lyndamabin@gmail.com 027 222 1491.

Māpua Art Group (MAG)

I had been meaning to involve myself in the Māpua art group for about two years now, but procrastination always got in the way. Until I told this to a fellow golfer and MAG attendee (Ron) and he painted a picture for me with a deadline. "Don't 'brush' this off. Next Thursday I'll see you there!"

So that was two months ago now, and I have enjoyed every session! It's been a dedicated time to paint and socialize, and I have completed more paintings in this time than in the last two years!

So, the Thursday sessions start at 9.30, with a few members getting there earlier and setting up the tables, chairs and easels.

There are over 60 members in the group but usually about 25-30 people attend from ages maybe 40ish to 101 years (she's a masterpiece!). So, it's extremely social, and conversations are very entertaining.

I have enjoyed the way that members mingle and give critique on each other's work and suggest changes. It gives another perspective which you may not have seen.

The talent and variety of styles is amazing. Some artists can whip up a canvas in one session, others can take several weeks of detailed sketching and thought before completion, and the outcome can blow you away!

The cost to join is \$20 a year and a weekly \$5 for hall hire and morning tea (real plunger coffee is available too).

MAG members get to exhibit their work at the Māpua School Easter fair (luckily, it's in the hall) and our own end of year exhibition where you can see the diversity and talent in the group.

This little update article is not written to necessarily 'canvas' new members - unless it does taste your 'palette' in which case, do indeed join us.

Fred Robertson.

PANZ

Pastel Artists of New Zealand - Nelson Area

This past month has been busy for us, starting off with two out of town visitors, one from Tauranga and the second from the Northland Area of PANZ.

Our Tauranga visitor (Robyn) had never used pastels before and has happily gone home to purchase some and contact the Tauranga Art group. Di Lawson is visiting her son in Nelson and is joining our Tuesday group while she is here. We also had a new member join us. Rachel has never used pastel before, and she is progressing really well.

Michael Busby gave us an interesting talk on some artwork that had been given to him by family. Always good to discover new/old artists, hear their stories and see how they worked.

Mary Jane Steffens currently has a solo exhibition at "The Gallery" in Halifax Street (Nelson). If you are in Nelson, go and see it. You will be impressed. There was also a very good article about this in the Nelson Mail on 17th May.

We now have three of our members on the National Board, Julie Nicol, Lyse Beck and Gilly Booth. It is good to see our members giving back to PANZ as it is totally run by volunteers.

Our pastel group meets every Tuesday morning from 9am to noon at Māpua Hall and we welcome visitors and prospective pastel artists. We offer the use of pastels and paper for you to "try before you buy" so you can find out if you would enjoy using pastels as a painting medium. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided.

For further information, please contact our Nelson Area Rep, Margie Bramley on 027-257-1857

Yoga with Martin

Mapua Hall
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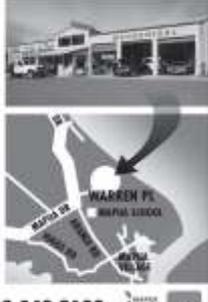
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The Coastal News is edited by Andrew Earlam, Mary Garner and Trees van Ruth. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editors. Distributed 1st of the month. Deadline for copy to news@coastalnews.online is 20th of the month.

Māpua Bowling Club

When the bowling club is closed during the winter months the committee and club members are still doing their bit. Māpua club is small compared to a lot of our local clubs but the cost of running the club and the clubrooms is costly. Membership fees do not cover running costs so organised events to raise money are essential.

Many will have noticed the increase in advertising boards around the perimeter of the bowling green and one of our members has been working hard in getting sponsorship from local businesses around the region.

Our treasurer has done a brilliant job advising the committee on club finances and keeping an eye on spending. Grants are applied for whenever possible and a big thankyou to the Māpua/Ruby Bay and District Community Trust for their recent donation.

Winter socials have now started on Friday evenings from 5pm on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month. All welcome and a good opportunity to meet new people and find out more about the club.

Julie Booth



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The last word

Calling on all writers in the community—follow up.

Our clarion call for writers drew some interest, with a small group forming to brainstorm some ideas. If you are still vacillating you had better get in touch before it is too late. In fact we have four extra pages this month because of that call. Really, it is never too late—you can contribute any time. Awaiting responses!

Bright light

I was up early the other morning before daylight for a you-know-what and was surprised to see a patch of light on the carpet coming from the window. I thought it might be the moon's last quarter, but I was surprised to see that it was actually the planet Venus, shining in the East as brightly as a plane's headlights. According to the website timeanddate.com—a trove of information about anything astronomical—Venus appears now at its farthest point from the sun from our perspective, and will be a bright morning star for another couple of months.

That website will give you dates and places for future eclipses. We went to one that crossed the US in 2017 in Oregon. There was another in 2024, and there is one crossing northern Spain in 2026. A total eclipse is well worth seeing in my opinion. Partial ones? - meh! - Ed



Melissa Russ, RN
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Noticeboard

Justice of the Peace: Mary Garner, The Bluffs, 0210469626

Grazing: Upper Moutere, 12 acres with water and yards. No horses. Tel Charlie 021 176 1051

Mapua Community Toy Library - Committee Vacancy: Chairperson. Voluntary Role. Approx 5 - 10 hrs/month (can be variable). Role begins at the next AGM in July.

Mapua Community Toy Library - Toy Librarian Vacancy. Paid position. 1½ hrs per week during term times. Training provided. Start date: asap! mapuatoylibrary@gmail.com

Yoga [hatha]: Tuesdays 7.30-8.30pm, Appleby School Hall; Fridays 7.45-8.45am, Richmond Town Hall. Contact Janey, 021 979 244

Death Café: Share thoughts about death & dying. 2nd Wednesdays, 10-11.30am. Revite Café, 265 High St, Motueka. Email: LKc1957@protonmail.com or margaret@margaretmccallum.com

Tasman Area Social Walking Group: welcomes all to our Wednesday 9.30am walks. 60-90 mins walk & then coffee. Walks vary & support local cafés. Info: Fiona 021 232 6089

Nelson Branch RNZAF meets 2nd Saturdays at Phils Restaurant, Club Waimea, Richmond. ex RAF, RNZAF or others with interest in aviation. Contact: John Bethwaite, 035476634 or Trevor Squires, 039706644. Meal \$25.

Craft Group: please check with Barbara or Val that meetings are going ahead. 03 5403901

Stamp & Coin collections in Māpua/Ruby Bay & the Moutere evaluated & purchased. Nick Ferrier 021 688243

Pastel Artists Nelson: meet Tuesdays 9am-noon, Bill Marris room, Hall. Visitors welcome. Marg: 027 257 1857

Coastal Stringers: Ukulele & guitar group meet Fridays 1-4pm at Bowling Club. All welcome, just arrive & enjoy the singing. Contacts: Colleen 5403010, Diane 5402627.

Māpua Women's Rec Group. Come and join our friendly social walking group. Meet outside Village Mall Thursdays 9.15am. Options for all fitness levels plus activities and social events. mapuarecgroup@gmail.com or just turn up.

Knit & Natter group now at Appleshed: 10am Tuesdays. Contact: Debbi 027 327 4055

Re-cycle Printer Cartridges at the library. Volunteers are happy to collect printer & photocopier cartridges and transport to recycling centre. Blue bin in our foyer.

Ruby Coast Newcomers Social Group: meet new people, make new friends. Coffee 10am last Fridays at Tasman Store and occasional social events. Just turn up. Vivien/Richard 526-6707

Tasman Dippers: A casual collection of people who enjoy connecting with the open water. Year-round dips or swims in the sea at Rabbit Island. Info: www.tasmandippers.nz

Māpua Boat Club welcomes new members. No boat required. Social nights Thursdays 5.30 - 7pm at Club rooms on Māpua Wharf. Raffles, cash bar, snacks, regular guest speakers. To join, contact Secretary, Katrina 0211393945

Tasman Area Community Association (TACA) 7.30pm last Thursdays (x Dec) Tasman Bible Church. Residents of Ruby Bluffs to Tasman & Kina welcome. Info: Facebook or www.tasmancommunity.org.nz

Spinners, Knitters, Weavers: Creative Fibre Group, Māpua Hall, second Tuesdays 10am. All welcome.

Quakers meet at Family Service Centre, Motueka 10am 2nd Sundays. All welcome. Enquiries: Linda 027 447 6435.

Nelson Trout Fishing Club: 7pm 3rd Wednesdays, Fish & Game Rooms, 66/74 Champion Rd, Stoke. Beginner or expert. Courses, field trips, speakers. Open to all ages. Info: 03 5476432, secretary@nelsontroutfishingclub.com

RSA: Anyone interested in joining Moutere Hills RSA is welcome. No service history required. Catch up & meet new members. Nic Poultney 021 220 3920 or 548-4420

Playcentre: behind the tennis courts at 84 Aranui Rd. Come & play – Mondays & Thursdays 9.30-noon during term time. mapua@playcentre.org.nz

Toy Library: extensive selection of toys, puzzles & videos for children 0-5yrs. Māpua Hall Monday afternoons 2.30-4pm. mapuatoylibrary@gmail.com

Māpua Art Group meets Bill Marris Room Māpua Hall Thursdays, 9.30am-12.30pm. Paint, draw, in a social environment. All levels, media. \$5 incl morning tea. Tables, chairs, easels provided. mapuaartgroup@gmail.com

Māpua Community Choir: 4 part harmony, no audition necessary, small koha, Māpua Hall 7.15pm Thursdays, contact: Rachel Boon, 027 358 6003, rboonnz0@gmail.com

MDCA: Māpua & Districts Community Association meets Feb-Dec, 2nd Mondays, 7pm Māpua Hall; info@ourmapua.org

Kids 'n' Koffee Playgroup: Wednesdays 10-noon during term time, at the old church building. 0-6 year olds. Morning tea provided. Gold coin donation. Info: pippie.d@gmail.com

Ruby Coast Running Club: 5k run Thursday nights 5:30pm. Also runs most mornings. Find us on Facebook or contact Debbi 027 327 4055.

Fibre Craft Sunday. Birch Hall, Richmond A&P Showgrounds. Last Sundays 1.30-3.30pm. Learn to spin, knit, felt or weave. \$5 includes tea or coffee. All ages welcome. Richmond Creative Fibre Group: Diane 547-6517 or Karyn 544-9709

Motueka Senior Net. Tech for mature adults. Monthly meetings. Help sessions 2x/month. De-mystify technology in a fun & friendly forum. Clubrooms 42 Pah St, Motueka. Seniornetmotueka.org.nz

Coastal Garden Group meets 1pm first Thursdays, Tasman Bible Hall (opp. Jesters). All most welcome to share their love of gardening. Guest Speakers, Workshops, Garden Visits. Info: coastalgarden.group@gmail.com

Sing Your Lungs Out! Free community singing group for anyone with respiratory issues. Morning tea. Singing improves your lung health! 10am Mondays, Te Awhina Marae, Pah St, Motueka. Pip 0274 282 693

Motueka Scottish Country Dance Club: Weds 7.30pm Lower Moutere Hall Scout den. No partner needed, dress casual, wear soft flat shoes, beginners welcome. Good exercise, lively music. Contact Fay 021 039 3559 or Alison 0220 363 891.

Club Notices are free. Others by gold coin donation to one of the distribution boxes. Advertising costs—see p5.

Your details: Please make sure contact details are up to date. Send us an email.