

Māpua & Districts Community Association (MDCA)

The MDCA August Public Meeting was held on Monday 11th August at the Māpua Hall and included the AGM.

This past year has been challenging for both our community and the broader region, with severe weather events having widespread impact – the ongoing recovery effort will be long and costly, no doubt straining already stretched council and community resources. While Māpua-Ruby Bay has avoided the worst impacts of these recent storms, slips, fallen trees, surface flooding and related road closures caused disruption and property damage. Unfortunately, such events are becoming a more regular occurrence and as a community we all need to be prepared.

The Chair thanked the Committee members **Helen Bibby** and **Fiona Bibby-Smith**, who will be stepping down and offered special thanks to **Bruno Lemke** and **Elena Meredith**, both of whom have been strong contributors to and supporters of the MDCA over many years – best wishes for a safe and happy transition to your new home in Stoke.

The Chair **Paul McIntosh** and other committee members were all re-elected unopposed, meaning that **MDCA has a vacancy for the secretary role** – please get in touch if you are interested in taking on this important role.

The Chair also thanked our Ward Councillors for regularly attending our monthly meetings and making time to take calls and/or respond to emails – we have very much appreciated your support and advocacy.

To **Councillors Christeen McKenzie** and **Dan Shallcrass** – it's been great having you represent our region and all the best for the future.

To **Councillor Mike Kininmonth**, good luck with the upcoming elections - MDCA looks forward to meeting the other candidates and hearing their positions on matters important to our community.

MDCA will continue to encourage members and residents to have their say on local matters and will provide a forum for all to share their views on such matters. Information related to MDCA meetings/matters, including community-related notices from TDC, NZTA, Metservice etc., are all shared via our webpage, Facebook page and posted on the new **Community Noticeboard at the Waterfront Park**. Residents who are unable to attend our monthly meetings can visit these online sites/noticeboard or alternatively read the regular monthly updates here.

Our members have also been active in terms of seeking clarification and providing feedback on a number of community-related issues, with some of the main ones being the **Māpua Masterplan** and related infrastructure, **Aranui Park** parking/usage and **Māpua Boat Ramp** (now with the Independent Commissioners for a decision).

MDCA encourages members and residents in general to continue actively engaging with our elected representatives and Council as it is in everyone's best interests to get the appropriate balance of growth versus infrastructure and amenities.

Over the past year the MDCA has invited several guest speakers, from organisations including Civil Defence, Battle for the Banded Rail, Motueka Youth Council and most recently TACA - I hope these were well-received and helpful.

MDCA also hosted the **Māpua Masterplan Open Forum** which was very well attended. We look forward to hearing more from people involved in issues that impact our community in 2025/26, starting with the Mayoral/Ward Councillor Forum next month.

This year we celebrated a major milestone with Dominion Flats completing its decade-long planting project - congrats to Helen Bibby and team, and big thanks to the many members and residents that contributed to establishing this wonderful community asset.

Combined with TACA's Te Mamaku Drive Project, soon we will all be able to enjoy an extended native corridor linking our two communities. I look forward to hearing from members regarding candidates for future community improvement projects.

In terms of new projects, MDCA has led the effort to establish a **Community Emergency Preparedness Plan (CEPP)**. In just six months the team has completed the CEPP and appointed a Māpua-Ruby Bay Community Emergency Preparedness Coordinator (Susie Wendelborn) supported by volunteer team members. The Team has been busy reaching out to local residents and businesses, creating a **Neighbourhood Support Group network map**, and launching an **online CEP Survey**. If you haven't yet completed the CEP Survey it will remain open through to late September. Once finalised, the CEPP and related documentation will be placed on the MDCA Website for

Continued on page 3

TDC Finances – why we should be concerned

The Balance Sheet

The Council's primary costs lie in providing and maintaining the infrastructure that supports our district. These include capital expenses (CAPEX) - one-off costs for assets like roads or underground pipes that deliver long-term benefits - and operational expenses (OPEX) for the administration and upkeep of these assets.

These costs are funded through a combination of revenue, debt, or asset sales. While it is standard and often prudent to fund CAPEX through debt - spreading costs over the asset's lifetime - OPEX should be covered by annual revenue. Consistently relying on debt to cover operational shortfalls can create compounding financial stress over time and pass unnecessary interest burdens onto future ratepayers. Debt servicing currently costs TDC \$11 million per year - that is equivalent to the cost of building one new swimming pool each year.

The Challenge

At present, it appears the Tasman District Council is facing such a financial challenge: its operational costs are outpacing its revenue. In addition to approving a nearly 9% annual rates increase to raise additional revenue, the Council recently (on 8 May 2025) voted to fund a remaining \$6.4 million operational deficit through additional borrowing, to be repaid over five years, and through the one-off sale of ETS credits (asset sales), at a time when market conditions may not be favourable.

While this may help alleviate short-term pressure and avoid steeper rate increases this year, such measures do not resolve the underlying structural issue. Deferring the problem shifts the burden to future administrations and reduces our financial flexibility down the line. As someone who may be part of that future administration, I am deeply concerned about the long-term implications of this approach and what it signals about current fiscal priorities.

Too much focus, in my view, is being placed on optics and short-term fixes, and not enough on addressing root causes.

Reset Council spending

If we are serious about improving the council's financial health and relieving pressure on ratepayers over the long term, we need a renewed focus on managing operational costs and making strategic capital investments that yield lasting value.

Reducing core services like library hours or public rubbish bins, in my view, are not the most effective way to reduce operational expenditure. Instead, opportunities should be examined in areas such as staffing levels, operational efficiency, and overall governance practices -

matters which fall under the leadership of the council's Chief Executive Officer. However, the expected savings from such operational savings pale by comparison to the incoming tidal wave of core infrastructure renewals.

More critically, we need to take a strategic view of our infrastructure. The efficiency of our assets, and the cost to maintain and renew them over time relative to rates generated, must be scrutinised. In many cases, new developments are not financially self-sustaining, with long-term OPEX costs exceeding the rates revenue they bring in. As a business owner, I would not accept any assets, even as a gift, that cost more than they bring in - TDC does. I estimate that over the last 15 years alone we spent around \$380 million more in unnecessary infrastructure costs for inefficient low-density sprawl than we needed to for servicing the same number of new homes in a more compact development pattern that focusses on well-designed urban regeneration.

Is this the right time for TDC to be building new community hubs in Wakefield and Tapawera, both funded by rates rises and yet more debt, and prime examples of Council investments that will never yield a positive return? Maybe instead we should invest in less glamorous, but more effective upgrades

to our pipes and services to enable growing stronger towns and villages - a measure that actually would yield efficiencies and a positive return to TDC's balance sheet?

Transparency

I believe in a transparent, principles-based approach to governance. I disagree with Tim King when he calls for higher fees and charges "because otherwise the rates would go up". Fees and charges should be "user pays" and not be utilised as an instrument for revenue gathering. Operational deficits should be clearly acknowledged and openly discussed. If they require difficult decisions - including potentially higher rates - then those choices must be explained clearly and justified to the public. Avoiding hard conversations through asset sales or debt only postpones the inevitable and reduces our capacity to act when future challenges arise. We need to build financial headroom to be able to respond to unforeseen hazards (e.g. like flooding).

We should expect that resolving these long-standing financial issues will take time and, at times, require difficult trade-offs. But facing these challenges honestly now offers us the best chance of building a more sustainable future for our district.

Timo Neubauer is a Hope-based urban designer and small business owner. He is a mayoral candidate for Tasman in this year's local government elections.





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Continued from page 1

reference and a formal **CEPP Launch and Fundraising Events** will be scheduled (stay tuned!).




The Māpua-Ruby Bay Emergency Preparedness Resident / Business Owner Survey is now LIVE..

To participate in the Survey
go to the following link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LRLVM6H>

Or scan this QR code:



This past year MDCA adopted a **new constitution** – the next steps are to re-register MDCA under the new Incorporated Societies Act, then submit our recently adopted constitution. Many thanks to **Aileen Connell** for all her efforts over the past year in trying to navigate this at times frustrating process!

Finally, work also continues on both the **Māpua Memories** and **MDCA Records Digitization** projects – thanks to our committee members for their time in progressing these.

MDCA's next Public Meeting will be held at the Māpua Community Hall on Monday 8th September when we will host a **Forum for Mayoral / Ward Councillor candidates**, with all residents from the greater Māpua-Ruby Bay-Tasman-Mahana area welcome to attend.

In November, TDC's Alastair Clement (Natural Hazards/Geomorphology) will share his work on **modelling the Waimea and Moutere estuaries**, including how we use modelling to help ensure development around the district is resilient to natural hazards.

MDCA \$10 membership dues can be paid by direct credit – see www.ourMāpua.org for details.

Paul McIntosh, MDCA Chairperson

Māpua Hall turning 80

Keep the date – we will be having a celebration for our lovely hall's 80th birthday. **Friday 17th October, 6pm.**


This will be an event based on story telling with a nod to the local apple industry which was reflected in many activities held at the hall over the decades.

We plan to print out some of the stories and anecdotes for people to read during the food break in the programme.

If anyone has a memory or anecdote concerning either the hall or something that happened in the hall (no matter how small), please contact:

Mary Garner ph 021 0469 626 m.garner@xtra.co.nz or

Hilary Clifton ph 021 108 3037 h.clifton@icloud.com



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“Jazz -A-Matazz” a swinging success

That was so good I'd definitely go again..." was the comment from a member of the audience who attended the "Jazz-A-Matazz" concert in the Māpua Community Hall on Thursday August 7.

“All the performances were excellent, and the concert attracted a good cross section of the Māpua community who thoroughly enjoyed the evening,” the enthusiastic attendee said, summing up the opinions of other audience members.

So popular was the concert that people had to be turned away at the door. Those who were admitted enjoyed a varied programme presented by the Māpua Community Choir, the Nelson Jazz Club Big Band and the Māpua School Choir.

Local Māpua singer Giselle Chandler, a past pupil of Māpua School, performed jazz standards with the Nelson Jazz Band conducted by the exuberant Graeme Nicholas.

The Māpua Community Choir, led by John Botting, and accompanied by pianist Sophie Sneddon, presented a programme of popular songs from Aotearoa, Scotland, Ireland and America

The Māpua School Choir performed on their own too, led by Anna Brewer and their performance of a native American chant was a real highlight.

The band, community and school choirs also performed together, and this larger ensemble brought life and frivolity to performances of “Africa” and “Swing Low Sweet Chariot” by ably demonstrating actions so the audience could join in.



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The logo for Tree Central Arborist Services features a stylized tree with a thick trunk and a full, rounded canopy on the left. To the right of the tree, the word "tree" is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font, and "Central" is written in a larger, bold, uppercase, sans-serif font. Below this, the words "ARBORIST SERVICES" are written in a smaller, bold, uppercase, sans-serif font. A list of services is provided: "• Winter Pruning", "• Removals/Dismantling", "• Planting • Mulching", and "• Tree Related Advice". On the right side of the logo, a stylized tree branch with several leaves curves upwards. To the right of the branch, the text "Fully Qualified & Insured" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below this, the website "treecentral.co.nz" is listed with a globe icon, the phone number "0272 545 664" is listed with a phone icon, and the email "admin@treecentral.co.nz" is listed with an envelope icon.

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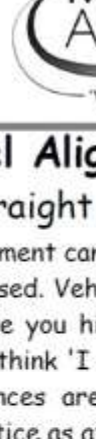
Wheel Alignment

-Keeping straight on the road-

All mechanical equipment can become worn and out of 'alignment' when used. Vehicles are no exception. How many times have you hit a pot hole, had the whole car shake and think 'I wonder if that did any damage?' Well chances are it did, however not enough for you to notice as after a few minutes the car is still driving fine and you forget about it, but your car doesn't.

Small incremental changes in your vehicle's wheel alignment will alter how the vehicle performs, affecting how long your tyres last and can cause problems driving.

Computerised wheel alignment testing equipment uses four sensors, one attached to the rim of each wheel. These sensors communicate from rear to front via an optical beam to the base computer unit.



A sensor attached to the rim of a front wheel. The base computer unit is in the background with a graphic image on the screen showing the current alignment settings for this vehicle.

The base unit screen can display a table or graphic illustration of each wheel's position. This enables a direct comparison to be made between the vehicle's current measurements and those of the manufacturer.

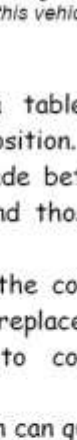
The skill is in knowing how to make the correct adjustments and may also require the replacement of worn or damaged components to correct alignment.

As adjustments are made the technician can quickly see the impact of these on the screen.



	Left	Right
Front		
Camber	-0.32°	-0.69°
Cross Camber		
Toe	-0.10°	
Steer		
Steer Angle		
Steer Rate		
Steer Time		
Steer Total		
Rear		
Camber	-0.25°	-0.50°
Cross Camber		
Toe	-0.15°	
Steer		
Steer Angle		
Steer Rate		
Steer Time		
Steer Total		


Manufacturer's settings: Camber -0.30°, Cross Camber 0.00°, Toe -0.10°, Steer Angle 0.00°, Steer Rate 0.00°, Steer Time 0.00°, Steer Total 0.00°



Graphic illustration of wheel alignment settings

We recommend the wheel alignment is checked annually.

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People, places and personalities of Māpua.

The following article is part of a series about Māpua and immediate surroundings.

Historic trees are an integral part of places immigrants first inhabited when arriving on these shores. Often the trees planted were reminiscent of their home countries. Trees were either brought in as seeds or as seedlings, surviving the perilous long journeys by sea.

If you have any suggestions for articles or interviews please write to: storytimemapua@gmail.com. Thank you. ☺

Protected trees of Māpua

Part 1 of 3 by Lou Gallagher

Twelve of the 575 Protected Trees of the Tasman District are in the Māpua area. These numbered trees were designated as Protected over 20 years ago based on their intrinsic value to the community.

The four trees described below are on private property and visible from the road.

Protected tree T580 is a single *Sequoiadendron giganteum*, or the **Giant Sequoia**, on private land near the Coastal Highway just South of Māpua. A North American West Coast native, the giant sequoia is one of the largest tree species in the world and is endangered in its native environment. Although this tree is not publicly accessible, there is a *Sequoia sempervirens*, a giant redwood, at Tasman School. This isn't one of the 12 protected trees of Māpua but it's nearby and you can get up close and personal with T671.

At 86 Higgs Road there are two protected trees, T909 and T910. These are a *Liquidambar styraciflua*, aka **Sweet Gum** because of its fragrant liquid amber resin, and a *Eucalyptus Leucoxydon* 'Rosea' or a **Yellow Gum**, which is hiding its official tree number – I have never seen the number plaque. The Sweet Gum is another North American native, an important source of hardwood for building and historically the resin was used for making chewing gum but used commonly now as an ornamental tree that leaves hard, spiked seed balls on the ground. The Yellow Gum is from Southeastern Australia where it has

adapted to fire conditions by growing a root crown called a lignotuber. This tree produces red flowers with sweet nectar, an important source of food for birds and insects.

At 120 Higgs Road lives tree T581, a *Pinus Muricata*, aka **Bishop's Pine**. I haven't been close enough to see which species it is: the needles are either dark turquoise (the Northern species) or a bright green (Southern Species). Bishops Pine only grow where they can see the sea and get a direct salt wind. The cones need fire to melt the resin and release the seed, which can survive for up to 50 years in dry cones.

The Bishops Pine was naturalised in New Zealand in the 1940s. While they are a weed here in NZ (McAlpine and Howell 2024), they are endangered in California and Mexico where they come from. The name comes from the early settlers of North America who first identified it near the Mission of San Luis Obispo in California.

Sources:

Kate G. McAlpine and Clayson J. Howell (2024) *List of environmental weeds in New Zealand*, New Zealand Department of Conservation ISSN 1177-9241 (web PDF) ISBN 978-1-7386283-7-7.

Tasman District Council, Proposed Tasman Resource Management Plan, Proposed Variation No. 42, Protected Trees Notified 29 January 2005. 16 pp.

TDC Planning : TRMP : Land - Areas : Protected Trees | TDC GeoHub



Māpua Craft Group

Last month we celebrated two birthdays by singing "Happy birthday" and enjoying a delicious morning tea brought by members. Each one was given a flowering Camilla.

We welcomed Joan from the Motueka craft group who told us about the daffodil themed items they had produced for cancer fundraising in late August. These are beautiful and a reminder that it is Spring in September.

Knitting of squares to make blankets continues with other people bringing their own choice of craft to complete.

Many of these become special gifts. A small pin cushion, found at a charity shop for 50 cents fascinated us as we tried to



estimate how long it would take us to make one! (see photo) It must have been machine made using Christmas materials, but there was no clue as to where it was made.

It could hang on a Christmas tree.

It is such a pleasure to learn together, and we aim to share stories of our special treasures and experiences at future meetings. Everyone is welcome to come and share experiences during our morning breaks.

Our next meetings will be on the 5th and 19th of September when readers and friends are most welcome to join us for morning tea/coffee between 10 o'clock and noon.

Phone Barbara on 5403901 for more information.

Māpua Community Hall- Whats on!

Māpua Hall Makers Market



Fathers Day Māpua Hall Makers Market on 7th September 2025.

The Mapua Hall Makers Market is a contemporary craft market, featuring unique, and affordable handmade art, ceramics, home and garden ware, clothing, food ingredients etc. Our makers focus on sustainability and integrity. All products must be handmade from (predominantly) locally sourced materials.

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(doors open at 7pm)

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9.30am to 4.30pm daily

Closing of exhibition

Saturday 4th October at 4.30pm.

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Māpua Health Centre news

Our recently joined GP registrar, Dr Roshana Fernando, will be working Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

What matters most to you when you think about your health changing? Advance care planning is a process of thinking and talking about what your preferences are for current and future healthcare. It helps you understand what the future might hold and express your preferences for healthcare. No referral is needed for this service. A small fee may apply. If this is something you would like to explore, contact Māpua Health Centre on (03) 540 2211.

The new patient portal “Well” is proving to be very popular. 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 requests. Please contact Reception for details, (03) 540 2211.

A reminder that we are very fortunate to have a Health Improvement Practitioner (HIP), Kamalesh, who has a background in Mental Health and is also trained as an OT. He is working with our patients to assist them in achieving their health goals by providing support and follow-up for issues related to mental health. He can see people of all ages and at all stages of their lives and help with any type of issue related to behaviour change or mental wellbeing. Appointments for Kamalesh are fully funded.

There will be a small fee increase from 1st September which is in line with other practices and our PHO requirements.

This can be a good time to check out options for health and lifestyle. A famous health advocate, Dean Ornish (<https://www.ornish.com/zine/fortune-secrets-healthy-life>), has shown that the main factors that can improve our risk for heart disease (the number 1 cause of death in our society) and help prevent dementia (*Alz Res Therapy* 16, 122 (2024) are:

- Stress management
- Exercise
- Nutrition
- Social / Spiritual interaction
- Education (including non-smoking, etc) [Ornish, D. *et al.* (1998) *JAMA*, 280(23): 2001-7]

So, what is happening in or around Māpua to help develop our common **SENSE**? You might be surprised to know that the following are some of the activities and classes available:

- Pilates
- Tennis
- Yoga
- Walking groups
- Tai chi
- Meditation
- Stop smoking
- Aqua aerobics - Richmond
- Girotonics
- Healthy lifestyles + green prescription

The practice nurses at the health centre can help you find out more about any of these. Please let us know if you are aware of other healthy lifestyle activities or groups happening in the area.

Blue September

Every year more than 4000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in New Zealand and over 700 men will die from it. Overall, the number of men diagnosed in New Zealand is increasing, largely due to increased rates of testing and the death rate is slowly dropping, largely due to better outcomes from early diagnosis and improved treatments available.

Blue September is about getting the word out about prostate cancer. If you buy a blue ribbon, paint your face blue, donate money to the Prostate Cancer Foundation or even tell people, you will be helping to lower the death rate and reduce the suffering from this disease.

Here are some of the local and world health initiatives for September:

- 1-30 Blue September, prostate cancer awareness
<https://blueseptember.org.nz>
- 1-30 Cervical Screening Awareness Month
www.nsu.govt.nz/
- 1-30 Breathe Better September (asthma)
www.breathebetterseptember.co.nz
- 1-30 World Alzheimer's month www.alzheimers.org.nz
- 1-30 Fetal Alcohol Awareness (FASD) month
<https://fasdmonth.nz/>
- 1-30 Gynaecological Cancer Awareness Month
<https://ovariancancerfoundation.org.nz>
- 1-7 Conservation Week
www.doc.govt.nz/news/events/conservation-week/
- 1-7 Gamble Harm Awareness Week
www.gamblinghb.co.nz
- 1 Random Acts of Kindness Day
www.happynation.co.nz
- 4 World Sexual Health Day
<https://worldsexualhealth.net>
- 7 Internat'l Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies
www.un.org/en/observances/clean-air-day
- 8 World Literacy Day
<http://internationalliteracyday.org>
- 8 World Physiotherapy Day
<https://world.physio/wptday>
- 9 Fetal Alcohol Awareness Day www.fan.org.nz
- 10 Suicide Prevention Day <http://wspd.org.au>
- 14-20 Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori (Māori Language)
www.reomaori.co.nz/te-wiki-o-te-reo-maori
- 15 World Lymphoma Day www.leukaemia.org.nz
- 19 Suffrage Day www.womens-health.org.nz
- 19-25 Keep NZ Beautiful Week
www.knzbcleanupweek.co.nz
- 21 International Day of Peace
www.unesco.org.nz/homepage.htm
- 21 World Alzheimer's Day www.alzheimers.org.nz
- 22 World Car-free Day www.carfreemetrod.com
- 26 World Contraception Day www.who.int/life-course

What to do with retired orange traffic cones?

by Barbara Glass

Evidently, one day Colin, the head of Rubbish and Recycling Management within the Ministry of Transport had a meeting with Trev, manager of the Upper Hutt dump.

Trev had a very cunning idea for reducing the cost of storing and recycling all the battered, tar splattered and squashed orange cones coming into his yards. The idea was to on-sell them to the public as handy items with multiple uses - such as saving parking spots, getting in early to nab parking space near a public event or farmers could use them to block public roads for easy stock movement.

Colin liked the idea and so did his bosses. So the request to go ahead with the idea climbed up the chain of managers who, as is their wont, passed the decision up the line till it hit the Minister's desk. She signed it off after a brief glance at the title 'Moving a cost to the Regions'.

'Perfect lateral thinking,' she thought.

It then reversed its meteoric climb back down to Trev with a stop off at the Resources Interface Management Team who authorised an advertisement to be placed by Colin's Team.

Bernard, a graduate in climate change from Massey University was a new recruit to the Rubbish and Recycling Management Team. So when this urgent job arrived on Colin's desk he handed it immediately to Bernard, emphasising its urgency, 'Also light on the specifics and strong on the clean, green, sustainability aspect'.

The ad went to air and social media later that week and the Upper Hutt dump braced itself for the rush of orders. The response wasn't overwhelming however. Trev was getting anxious so suggested to Bernard that 'sexing-up' the advertising would stimulate better sales.

Bernard applied for some guidance on 'sexing-up' his ad from the Public Service Commission who oversaw advertising for all Government Departments. After a two week wait he was advised:-

1. If using sexual content make sure all sexual orientations are represented.
2. No more than 50% of bare flesh must be glimpsed and strictly no sexual organs of any orientation to be seen.
3. A representative from all ethnicities must be represented.
4. Te Reo must be used predominantly for all speech followed by all other ethnicities as designated in 'Manual on Inclusion Guide for Ministerial Departments'.

The requirements went on for another two pages. Closing with – submit all ads for close scrutinisation.

Bernard decided to move on to another position, so he simply named the items for sale in large letters at the beginning of his updated ad (Colin had banned specifically naming the items for the first ad). A recent Public Service Commission employee did a brief check and back it went on air and social media.

The matter came to a head in a most unusual way.

Evidently no one noticed a spelling mistake in the word that flashed across the New Zealand viewers' screens and hand-held devices. So a number of people watching the ads thought they were being offered ORANGE RONES.

Orange Roans (spelt ROANS not RONES, but who but boring oldies worry about correct spelling these days) are evidently a very rare type of cat. They are bred from the Asiatic Roan wildcats found only in northern Kazakhstan which are crossed with flat headed cats from Sumatra that have the orange fur the breeders wanted.

Cat aficionados in New Zealand were stunned that Orange Roans were available in New Zealand and could be purchased, online, from The Ministry of Transport's storage yards in Upper Hutt. The price - \$10 plus freight!

As the purchases began to arrive the expectant new cat owners were staggered to find very battered ORANGE CONES swathed lovingly in many layers of bubble wrap on their doorsteps. These large packages were surrounded by a circle of newer orange cones supplied by the local Government roading team at the request of the Couriers - in the interest of public safety.

Through 'MEOW' - a closed Facebook site for cat lovers - a realisation dawned that a huge scam had taken place. And the Government was the perpetrator.

Irate hopeful Roan cat and now battered orange cone owners, held stressful conversations with their separate banks who couldn't identify anything scambuncious about their transactions. As many a bank manager pointed out they had a product - with 'tutted' reminders that buying off the internet was risky.

'THIS WAS A PURCHASE FROM THE GOVERNMENT,' many shrieked back. 'Ah well,' was the sad reply, 'Our Governments aren't what they used to be.'


The members of 'MEOW', whose membership had expanded rapidly, then turned, as a body, on the Ministry of Transport. Cell phones melted as angry 'scamees' blocked all available Contact points within the Ministry. Even AI Contact 'staff' started walking out citing emotional abuse as their reason.

Complainants spent hours explaining that, what they had ordered was not what they had received and demanded their Orange Roan cats be delivered as paid for. As they were passed around the Ministry no one would concede that Orange Roan cats had actually been advertised, the ads had clearly been selling orange cones spelt, they admitted, incorrectly.

One 'Orange Rone' owner was a retired policeman from Wellington, and he arranged a vehicular march of all 'MEOW' members and others who had been scammed to come to Wellington on the 10th of next month in their cars with the orange cones strapped to their roofs and placards denouncing the Government's diabolical swindle.

Negotiations were entered into between contending parties when this intended cavalcade of orange cones became known. Treasury was asked to refund all the unhappy orange cone owners... but only if the present owners would dispose of them thoughtfully and sustainably. An agreement was reached.

Evidently the Councils are now questioning the Government - as across the country decrepit orange cones are being surreptitiously left nightly at local Council dumps, along road margins and huddled together in scenic reserves.



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Lynda's Exercise Classes in the Mapua Hall
Spring 2025, Classes restart Tuesday August 26th
Same timetable; classes now running in 3-week blocks.
Start dates: Aug 26th (no classes week of Sep 16th).
Sep 23rd (no classes week of Oct 21st).
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.

Book Review

Two historical novels I found hard to stop reading. One set in Venice the other in and near London.

First to Venice, the setting for *The Instrumentalist*. This is a remarkable first novel by an award-winning film maker, Londoner Harriet Constable.

Baby Anna Maria's mother is an impoverished homeless 17 year-old who first tries to drown herself and her baby. But the attempt fails so she posts her baby through a hole in the wall of an orphanage in Venice. Ospedale takes in baby girls, and they are brought up in a charitable convent.

The babies are fed and treated with kindness and from an early age encouraged to bang on items to make a sound. Whenever instruments are played by the older girls the youngest can hear the music. In the 18th Century this convent was famous for its female orchestra which entertained heads of states.

Little Anna Maria is fascinated by the sound of the violin and when first able to hold one, reveals an outstanding ability to quickly learn the chords.

Vivaldi [the composer of the Four Seasons] is appointed the group tutor of the girls and on recognising Anna's exceptional talent gives her private lessons.

But Vivaldi becomes jealous of her talent both as a violinist and a composer and attributes her compositions to himself. Cruel assertions are made because he believed that a mere girl or woman could never achieve fame. The 18th Century was not ready to accept that women had talents.

I recall scenes from this book which I will never forget. It was gratifying to read more of the lifetime of this outstanding musician and learn that she achieved contentment in her long life. One wondered who the man was who impregnated Anna's mother in a brothel. No one will know if it was Anna's or Vivaldi's music which has survived the test of time.

A superb weaving of fact and fiction

Now to London. *By Any Other Name* by Jodi Picoult.

I hadn't enjoyed a story by this prolific author before, so I was reluctant to accept a friend's recommendation. She was right. Jodi Picoult had spent a considerable

amount of time researching this subject and again I became engrossed by the weaving of fact and fiction. This was another era when women were overlooked.

Shakespeare is regarded as possibly the greatest playwright of all time but was it He or was it She? Or was it Others? That is the question.

Emilia Bassono was a ward of English aristocrats and was forced to be a mistress of the current Lord Chamberlain. As a result, she was one of the rare women to receive an education during the 16th century.

She travelled to the courts of Denmark with the royal family, and her background reveals that she was raised in a Jewish family, amongst very able musicians. She also spoke Italian.

Did Shakespeare attend any royal courts? Did he have the in-depth knowledge to set his plays in a foreign country? It is known that he never ventured beyond England's shores. Amongst his plays there are details which Emilia was certainly conversant with.

Emilia's quality of life deteriorated and she was grateful to receive a mere 30 shillings per play that she is said to have submitted to Shakespeare.

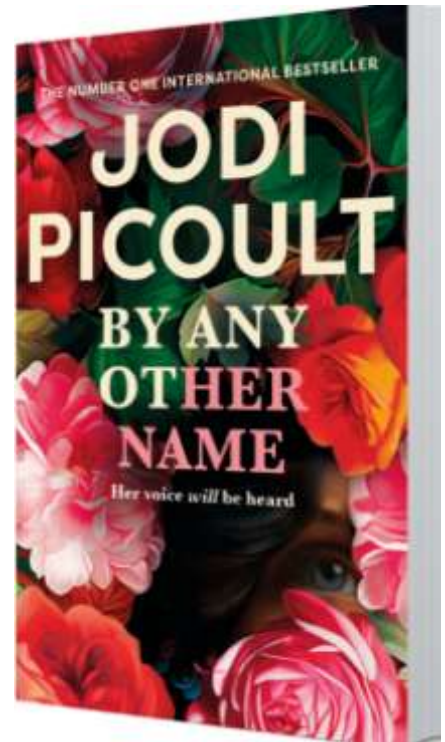
Maybe Shakespeare wrote some of his plays, maybe other playwrights submitted their plays and poems.

There are those who believe it would not have been appropriate for their names to be associated with plays and poems. Some because of their social status others because of their gender.

Remember that women weren't even allowed to act at the Globe. All roles were taken by men, except when Queen Elizabeth graced the stage!

One fact always interests me. William Shakespeare, unlike other talented writers was not buried in Westminster Abbey. Why not?

Reviewer: Joyce Bullock



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Celebrant Services



Hi I'm Lynne Cribb and I have lived locally in Mapua for nearly 12 years.

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Please contact me if you would like to inquire about any marriage/ funeral or naming services. I can offer friendly, warm, personal ceremonies written just for you.

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Upcoming Workshops: September 2025

Recycle & Create Workshop - Creative Textiles
with Maggie J
2 Days: 04 to 05 September 2025
Location: Richmond, Tasman
\$35pp

Textile Collage Workshop - Intro to Contemporary Stitch
with Sally Reynolds
1 Day: 06 September 2025
Location: Mahara, Tasman
\$50pp

Contemporary Feltmaking Workshop
with Colleen Plunk
2 Days: 06 to 07 September 2025
Location: Ahuriri, Nelson
\$40pp

Screen Printing - Create Fabulous Screen Prints on Fabric or Paper
with Judith Ritchie
2 Days: 13 to 14 September 2025
Location: Takaka, Golden Bay
\$30pp

Eco Dyeing - Dyeing Fabrics, Fibres & Paper
with Colleen Plunk
2 Days: 20 to 21 September 2025
Location: Ahuriri, Nelson
\$30pp

Screen Printing - Create Fabulous Screen Prints on Fabric or Paper
with Judith Ritchie
2 Days: 20 to 21 September 2025
Location: Takaka, Golden Bay
\$30pp

Textile Collage Workshop - Mono Printing & Stitch Fabric
with Sally Reynolds
2 Days: 27 to 28 September 2025
Location: Mahara, Tasman
\$50pp






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RUBY BAY STORE

What's On in September

THE EARLY BOBS

Saturday 6 September, 7pm, \$25

Ever-popular local musician Clayton Taylor, along with mandolin maestro Nate Torvik, revisits Dylan's 1964 album *The Times They Are A-Changin'*

TASTES OF PALESTINE: FOOD, FILM & FUNDRAISER

Saturday 13 September, 1pm, \$40

This event was so successful in August that Nelson chef Fadia al Hussein is back to cook delectable Palestinian food. Her three-course lunch will be served at 1pm. The confronting 2025 documentary *Gaza: Doctors Under Attack* screens afterwards for those who wish to stay on. Proceeds go to the Palestinian Children's Relief Fund

For bookings, new events and more:

www.rubybaystore.co.nz

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11

Don't Ignore the Itch!

Does your dog keep you awake at night scratching? Or has your cat started grooming so much you can see bald patches?

It might be more than just a nuisance - it could be an allergy, and if left untreated, can lead to serious problems.



In Tasman, we know how much our pets love the outdoors, from exploring fruit orchards, running on Tahunanui beach to roaming through Rough Island's pine trees. But with spring pollen already in the air (and more on the way), this is also the season when itchy skin and allergies can really flare up.

If your pet is constantly scratching, licking their paws, or shaking their head, it could be more than "just a bit of irritation." Allergies are common in cats and dogs, with up to 10–15% of dogs and 5–10% of cats affected by allergic skin disease.

Triggers include pollen, grasses, fleas, dust mites, mould, and certain foods. Around our area, pollen from pine trees, orchards and flowering plants can be a real culprit, and pets often show the same signs no matter the cause: redness, itching, paw chewing, hair loss, or recurring ear infections.

The tricky part is that once skin is inflamed, it can stay that way even after the allergen is gone. That makes pets more vulnerable to bacterial or yeast infections, sore ears, irritated eyes, or long-term hair loss. Allergies don't just go away, and without treatment, flare-ups keep coming back leaving your pet increasingly uncomfortable.

The good news is there are effective ways to manage allergies. At Vetlife, we can find the cause of your pet's discomfort and create a personalised plan - including allergy medications, soothing topical treatments, and special veterinary diets with long-term treatment options.

Early action means less discomfort for your pet, fewer flare-ups, and a better chance of avoiding serious complications.

If your outdoor loving, furry friend shows signs of skin trouble, don't wait, book a check-up with us today and help them get back to living their best, itch-free life.



Quick Facts About Pet Allergies

- 10–15% of dogs suffer from allergic skin conditions.
- 5–10% of cats experience allergies that affect their skin.
- Allergies are one of the top reasons for recurrent ear infections in pets.
- Untreated allergies often lead to secondary infections like yeast or bacterial skin infections.
- Early diagnosis and treatment can significantly improve your pet's quality of life.

To make an appointment at Vetlife Māpua phone 03 540 2329
We are open Monday - Friday 8.30am - 12pm + 1pm - 5.30pm

PANZ

(Pastel Artists of New Zealand) - Nelson Area

Margie, Colleen and Julie attended an Arts promotional day – My Time My Life – held at Founders Park on 16th August to help promote PANZ and Pastel as a painting medium.

They had a busy day showing how soft pastel can be used and talking to budding artists. Today, we met Neil who had been enthused by the ladies on the day and will be returning.

We have recently welcomed Nic and Anne, both of whom are new to pastels. We look forward to seeing their progress.

Congratulations to Mary-Jane, who won the "people/ portrait" award in an on-line competition in Australia with a lovely painting of a ballerina at rest.

Don't forget our display wall at the Hall where paintings are for view and/or sale.

Today we had a "garage sale" of pastels and papers that were no longer being used by the artist. It created a "buzz" in the room and a few laughs.

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" in order for you to find out if you would enjoy using pastels as a painting medium. Teas, coffee and biscuits are provided.

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

Or if you cannot attend the Tuesday morning group and would like to try painting with pastel, try a Saturday morning at Greenmeadows (Stoke) on the 3rd Saturday of every month. For further information, contact **Lyse Beck** lyse@lysebeck.com



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Māpua Community Library

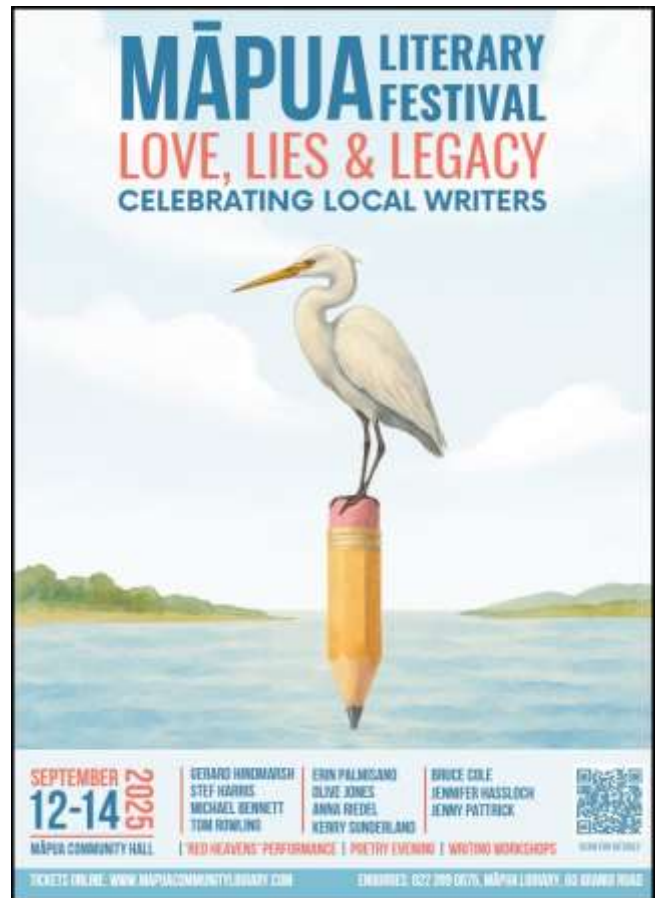
Moutere Hills RSA Memorial Library



Join us on Saturday night for the Poet's Session "Love, Lies and Lasting Legacy" \$25 includes nibbles and cash bar, commences 6.30pm

Māpua Library sends a special thanks to Heather Hode and the Motueka Community Store for their donation towards our new sun blinds.

Diary **7pm Wednesday 24th September** for our next **Quiz** evening at the Sprig & Fern. Come along and support us but you will need to book a table well in advance.



Come along and support your local community library. Tickets are on sale via the library website at www.mapuacommunitylibrary.com

We have a special deal on offer: *purchase 4 tickets to four authors sessions and get one free.*



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Our latest news & adventures



WIO Supports Enhanced Taskforce Green

The Ministry of Social Development engaged WIO to lead two clean-up teams as part of the Enhanced Taskforce Green (ETFG) programme. The ETFG is a government-funded initiative supporting communities in the wake of major emergency events. The ETFG initiative will employ eighteen job seekers split into two teams to contribute to the recovery and clean-up efforts over a 12-week period.

Flood affected Tapawera farmer Tim Leyland was grateful for the support, "A lot of human power is needed to get the farms up and operational again. Any assistance is much appreciated. The farm was essentially devastated. All the fences have been affected so there's a lot of debris on the on the wires which needs taking off. There's trees in the paddocks, there's gravel in the paddocks, there's silt. Farm buildings were flooded," he said.



ETFG participants clearing flood damaged fences, Tapawera

Holiday Programmes Filling Fast

Spaces are starting to fill up for our ever popular holiday programmes. These programmes are designed to build their confidence and nurture a passion for environmental protection. They will explore how they can not only restore nature, but also be restored by nature. If you're keen to send your tamariki into the outdoors for a range of fun activities that will see them take on new challenges in a safe and supportive setting with our awesome team, then head to our website to enrol. Don't miss out, book today!

Beach day for Employment Life Skills

WIO has been running the Employment and Life Skills (ELS) programme with rangatahi from the West Coast since 2021. Run in partnership with the West Coast Trades Academy, this programme supports young people with disabilities to build confidence and life skills for the next stages of life beyond school.



ELS Participants enjoying the sunshine at Kaiteketere

We'll see you out there!

wio.org.nz



**Fri 5th Sept
King and Queens Ball
Doc Fundraiser**

**Fri 12th + 19th Sept
All You Can Eat
Ribs Nights**

**Sat 13th Sept
Nirvana Tribute and
Gutter Love
Album release**

**Sat 20th Sept
ABBA DISCO PARTY**

**Fri 26th Sept
Paul Madsen's
Queen Tribute
Full Live 5 Piece Band**

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Classes run every **Tuesday** at Māpua Bowling Club and **Thursday** at Māpua Hall (Big Room) 9:15 to 10:30am.

Enjoy a gentle yet dynamic flow with plenty of variations and progressions to suit your individual needs.

First class free! Sessions follow school term schedule.

For more details, contact Debbie 027 689 0558 or dbsumnerwellbeing@outlook.co.nz.

Offered by Sitara Yoga—Debbie is a qualified and experienced teacher who also hosts community classes, annual retreats, and special events.

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25th September 6pm to 7pm

Venue to be advised - RSVP essential to book your seat

Email: silvana@wtmot.co.nz Call: 0800 804 737 Web: www.wtmot.co.nz

The Dawn Riders of Māpua

Wednesday 16th July, temperature at my house - 1.8deg. Am I still tough enough? Umm? No problem.

Geared up for the cold with hat to cover my ears. Very important woollen gloves, as frozen hands make it hard to control the many settings on my e-bike.

1st Golden rule: always light the fire before you leave home. It helps with defrosting on return!

Snooky, Russell, Andy, Roger and I meet at the wharf 6.45am. It is my turn to call the ride.

What about a good cold ride? So Stafford Dr, up the Bluffs, Aporo Rd, Tasman underpass, up Harley Rd, Tasman View Rd, down Flaxmore Rd, up Moutere Highway, George Harvey Rd, Dominion Rd and underpass, Māpua Drive then home.

2nd Golden rule: are your bikes fully charged? Never leave home without a fully charged battery. Riding an e-bike with a flat battery is bloody hard work.

Riding towards the Bluffs, we come across 'Road Closed', but no problem, we went for a look anyway. Further along a washout and my bike bucked in the soft clay mud up the Bluffs with a major slip down. In the darkness a quick guess whether its rideable. I had powered up to my automatic settings then down three gears and flew through the mud on the big slip.

Along Aporo Rd where the temperature dropped again, along the gravel cycleway track beside the stream and we were now surrounded by mist and temperatures dropping even lower.

Snooky complaining about the cold from the hole in his gloves again.

Tasman village, then through the underpass and up Harley Rd, my ears now numb but wasn't sure, or had they been numb long before?

Russell the youngest in the group powered ahead. I chop down three gears and power up clear of the mist thinking it might be warmer.

Not so, as Andy predicted. There was a chilly wind to cool me further.

Along the rough gravel of Tasman View Rd dodging some clay ruts down into Flaxmore Rd. Andy hard on my tail passing me. I might have been a bit too cautious going downhill.

Temperature cooling even further as we reached Moutere Valley Rd. I looked at the temperature gauge on my bike -4°, but there was a picturesque total white out of frost along the Moutere Rd.

I think we were all very pleased when we turned up George Harvey Rd with a bit of rising sun in our faces, passing the old settler's cottage was a probably the coldest spot.

By the top of the road things had warmed up a fraction and down Dominion Rd to the underpass tunnel. In the dark there was wash from the creek piled up after the recent heavy rain at the exit and I almost overshot the turn. That could have been a very cold, wet and muddy ride home. Up Māpua Drive and home.

Remember the **1st Golden Rule?** When I got home the log fire was raging, Carolyn had to unclip my helmet as my hands weren't working. My tongue was a bit frozen. I couldn't talk properly. The nice radiant heat of the log fire beats the heat pump anytime. Next time I call the ride I will factor the temperature into the thinking.

The ride was 28.3km, temperature -1.8 to -4.0, fastest speed 43kmph.



Bikes and batteries: My bike is pedal assist, no throttle. It does have five power settings + an automatic setting. It is a Giant Talon, 50nm motor. I have two 36volt batteries for it one 500w x 13.6amps, and a 400w x 11.3amps. You still have to change gear to get the most out of the pedal assist and to keep battery capacity. Most of us in our group get 80% of the manufacturer's achievable battery/distance riding the steep hills around Māpua.

The cold temperatures definitely lessen the capacity of my battery. Riding on the flat to Nelson, Carolyn and I have no problems.

Being around E-bikes for a short time, I have noticed most have Shimano brakes and a selection of good brand Japanese motors. The only variation is motor size and battery capacity.

Remember a bike battery is the 'same as a battery drill'; more amps in the battery, the longer it will last. Check the amps on the bike battery when buying.

Fred Cassin

Coastal News Advertising Costs

Ads go by the size in column centimetres.

Columns are 8.5 cm wide and costs are as follows:

\$2.50 per cm up to 6 cm	\$3 per cm up to 10 cm
\$4 per cm over 10 cm	\$48 ¼ page
\$60 ½ page	\$80 full page

With 20% discount for long-term advertising (3+ months) and prompt payment by internet banking only.

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.

HILLS Community Church

For info: 03 540 3848, office@hillscommunitychurch.org.nz
www.hillscommunitychurch.org.nz



Kids Club

It takes a village to raise a child

Many children in our community don't have grandparents locally or even in New Zealand. We have so many skilled and talented people in our community and our goal is to provide an opportunity for our tamariki to benefit from your skills and friendship. We are looking for volunteers and helpers who could share skills or hobbies such as knitting, crochet, craft, drawing, chess, ukulele, dance and cook.

Kids Club is an inter-generational opportunity where primary aged children can spend time with adults in our community, to have fun, learn new skills and interact in a safe and respectful environment.



Thank you to those who have already offered their time and skills to connect with local tamariki in our afterschool Kids Club! We are underway with our preparations and set up for beginning this program Term 4.

Open Day: October 9th!

Find us at: Hills Community Church rooms, Thursdays afterschool till 5pm during school terms.

Afternoon tea will be provided with GF & DF options. There will be no fixed cost for children to attend but as we run on grants, a koha of what you can afford would be appreciated to help offset some of our costs.

We will be making registration forms for Whānau available on our website, Facebook page, at Māpua school and at Hills Church facilities. Alternatively, you can email us (see below).

We would also love to hear from you if you have a skill and time to share with our tamariki.

Please contact:

Emily (Child Family Whanau Worker): 027 868 8752 or minister@hillscommunitychurch.org.nz

Robyn (Child Family Whanau Coordinator): 021 236 2845 or robynweller@gmail.com

To ensure our children and volunteers can enjoy Kids Club as a safe space, we will guide our volunteers through police vetting and child safe procedures as part of their preparation.

Ngā mihi Māpua!

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

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" come along & join the group

Throughout the week: Life Groups

Drop in for coffee, chat or just a quiet space.

DyingMatters Week

1-7 September 2025

"What happens to my Facebook account after I am gone?" "Can I make my own coffin?" "What is a natural funeral?" You can find answers to questions like these during DyingMatters Week in Motueka.

The Last Light Project aims to offer information and opportunities to deepen awareness and understanding around death and dying, as part of living. It is the creation of a group of people who aim to develop death-ready communities. They run the monthly Death Café in Motueka and are delighted to be able to offer a series of events during DyingMatters Week

Carried Away Coffins -

information and a demo at Renee's workshop and office.

Renee White, South Island representative for Carried Away Coffins NZ (www.carriedaway.kiwi.nz) will speak about different styles of coffins available, materials and optional finishes, legal requirements, eco-friendly options, and how she came to choose this line of work. She is very happy to answer questions. She will also demonstrate how to put together a flat-pack coffin, and you can have a go if you like!

Monday 1 September 10-11:30am 2 Courtney Street, Motueka Bookings essential (max 10) renee@carriedaway.kiwi.nz

A free event

Exploring hands-on how grief moves through us

Michelle Deva, artist and art therapist specialising in the grief process. We'll be using wet felting to explore the process of grief. No previous experience needed.

Tuesday 2 September 11:30am-2pm (with a break – BYO snack; drinks provided). Venue TBC (in Motueka) Registrations required (max 8). For questions and registration email deva.arts.therapy@gmail.com

Information Security After Death (beyond "delete my browser history")

Charlie Ablett is a red teamer at GitLab and loves finding intersections between interesting topics. Human lives are finite, but the internet remembers all. What does, will, or should happen to all the accounts, passwords and other data after a person dies or becomes unavailable?

An intersection between death, information security and other legal things. Relevant to absolutely everyone!

Tuesday 2 September 2-3pm Motueka Library Community Meeting Room, Decks Reserve, Motueka Contact: margaret@margaretmccallum.com 021 083 24224

Koha

Natural Funerals workshop

Lynda Hannah, Natural funeral facilitator at Living Legacies.

The workshop includes: How and why to plan your own funeral. How to arrange a funeral for someone you love. The environmental implications of the funeral industry and the effect on those left behind. How to save \$1000s in funeral expenses. The value of a meaningful celebration of

life. Grieving and how to support someone who is bereaved. Natural burial parks. Communicating your feelings about death with your loved ones. Grief and family dynamics. How and why to preserve your personal life legacy through photos, journaling, memoirs, autobiography, ethical wills etc.

Wednesday 3 September 1.30 -3:30pm

Motueka Community House, Decks Reserve, Motueka Bookings essential. (Minimum numbers required to go forward) Contact: lynda@livinglegacies.nz

\$50 per person or \$80 per couple

Being with Dying series – a group exploration and learning
Margaret McCallum – death doula, soul midwife and funeral celebrant.

This series is about learning together and sharing experiences in relation to being with people who are dying.

We use as a starting place the stories in the book, *Soul Midwife's Journal – stories of honouring death* by the presenter. You will need access to a copy, available from Margaret, the library or The Crystal Shop in Motueka (\$20)
Start date: Thursday 4 September, meeting weekly on Thursdays 10-11:30am for six weeks, in the home of the presenter in Motueka.

Exchange: \$100-180 (or less if this is a barrier to participation) Maximum 6 participants. Bookings essential Contact: margaret@margaretmccallum.com 021 083 24224 www.margaretmccallum.com

End-of-Life Care and Support – a wee expo

Presenters: several

A time to explore how you and/or your loved ones may be supported and cared for at end-of-life.

Meet people with experience and a natural affinity in supporting people who are dying, and their families.

Talks, information, and a relaxed space to sit and chat with different people.

Taster sessions of craniosacral therapy to try out whether this might be beneficial for you or someone you know.

Saturday 6 September, 12-3pm

Motueka Library Community Room.

Contact: margaret@margaretmccallum.com 021 083 24224

A free event

Death Café

Elevation Café 218 High Street, Motueka (parking at rear).

Sunday 7 September, 10-11:30am

At Death Café, people drink tea and coffee, eat cake and talk about death!

Death Cafés are a global initiative, aiming to increase awareness of death to help people make the most of their (finite) lives.

A Death Café is an opportunity to respectfully discuss death as a natural part of our lives. A warm and open space is held, allowing for all opinions and beliefs.

A free event Contact: Nicky Dodwell nickydodwell@protonmail.com 022 030 0428

Final and extra details will be available on the Motueka Community Noticeboard pages on Facebook nearer the time.

Māpua Fire Brigade



July to Aug call outs

- 19 July 08:16 4WD on side of Pomona Rd, assisted driver to move vehicle off the road. Short crewed.
- 23 July 16:35 Truck rolled and trapped person between truck and a log. Person managed to move truck, ambulance on scene, stood down before scene.
- 23 July 17:16 Query heart attack off Iwa St. Person sitting and talking on arrival, monitored until ambulance arrived.
- 5 Aug 18:19 Chimney fire on Higgs Rd. Nothing found on scene, possibly chimney not cleaned. Short crewed.
- 13 Aug 14:32 Car rolled SH60 near Apple Valley Rd, Richmond. Cut one person out of car, assist two others. Short crewed.
- 15 Aug 13:50 Caravan fire off Weka Rd, two in breathing gear. Caravan totally burnt out. This address is outside our normal area, but Motueka was at another call near Marahau.
- 17 Aug 11:45 Vegetation fire/rubbish on Te Aroha Pl. Advise owner of the fire sensitive area and owner put fire out.
- 19 Aug 11:52 Motor vehicle crash, SH60 near Dominion Rd. Two persons injured, assisted with road control.
- 20 Aug 15:30 House fire on Pah St, Motueka, not needed, turn back.

Call outs for the year = 60

For fire safety info go to - <https://fireandemergency.nz/>

For rural fires go to - <http://www.checkitsalright.nz/>

Short crew - a crew for a fire engine is an Officer, a qualified driver/pump operator and at least two fire fighters, total of four but up to six. At least four are BA wearers, Cylinders/ masks.

We have three vacancies at the Fire brigade.

We have been responding short crewed to some call outs.

If you are available in the daytime and have the time to help your community, we would like to hear from you.

Come and see us on any Thursday night after 7pm. 3 Iwa St. Māpua.

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www.rasaayurvedic.com

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.

Noticeboard items are a gold coin donation in the collection boxes. Club notices are free.

The Write Bias

News from Māpua Bowling Club

The end of winter is in sight, and our members are already looking forward to the re-opening of the Club at the end of September. A full programme has been drawn up with tournaments, championships and some fun events scheduled right through until April 2026. How time flies!

There was a good turnout for a midweek get-together in the first week of August. Members were asked to bring a plate to share, the bar was open and plenty of indoor games were available to keep everyone entertained. This was a first and was a success that will no doubt be repeated.

Outdoor bowling on artificial surfaces is still happening and being enjoyed by some of the Māpua members. Sadly, the artificial green at Wakefield has been severely damaged in the recent floods and it may be impossible to salvage it. Motueka, Tahunanui and Richmond all offer artificial greens.

For information about bowling, coaching or booking the clubhouse and facilities please call Secretary Di Blanchet (540 2627), email blanchet.tadmor@xtra.co.nz or check out our website or Facebook page.

Sue England

Tasman Bay Chiropractic

64 Oxford Street, Richmond

03 544 4554 Monday-Saturday



tasmanbaychiropractic.co.nz




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chelle.evanson@gmail.com



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

17th September 2025, 7.00 pm at
Māpua Boat Club rooms - Māpua Wharf
Enquiries to: Katrina Ballantyne, Secretary
mapuabcsecretary@gmail.com
0211393945

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Māpua Boat Club 2026 Calendar



Māpua Boat Club

2026 CALENDAR

Now on sale at Delicious Homewares for \$20.

Printed by CopyArt, it features stunning photos from the recent photographic competition and is an ideal size to post overseas – buy one now and there's plenty of time to get calendars to family and friends by Christmas. Proceeds to support the Māpua Maritime Museum.

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Cruising the Mediterranean offers a unique chance to uncover hidden gems, blending rich history, vibrant cultures, and breathtaking scenery with the ease and luxury of life at sea.



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Dreaming of Mediterranean cruises? Discover hidden gems and start planning

The Mediterranean conjures images of iconic cities and sun-drenched coastlines, but beyond the popular ports lie enchanting, lesser-known destinations waiting to be explored. Cruising the Mediterranean offers a unique chance to uncover these hidden gems, blending rich history, vibrant cultures, and breathtaking scenery with the ease and luxury of life at sea.

While great deals are often available, and early-bird offers are on the horizon, now is the perfect time to begin planning your Mediterranean adventure. Booking early means securing the cabin and itinerary that truly speak to your travel dreams.

Uncovering the Mediterranean's best-kept secrets

Instead of the usual bustle of Barcelona or Rome, imagine stepping ashore in the charming port of Kotor in Montenegro, nestled against fjord-like bays and medieval walls. Or wander through the fragrant orange groves of Sicily's Taormina, where ancient Greek theatre overlooks the sea.

Further east, discover the quiet allure of Croatia's Šibenik or the pristine beaches of the Albanian Riviera - destinations that offer authenticity without the crowds. The French Mediterranean also has hidden treasures like Collioure, a colourful fishing village beloved by artists.

Each of these lesser-known ports offers rich cultural experiences, delicious local cuisine, and unique landscapes - all enhanced by the relaxed pace and convenience of cruising.

Boutique and luxury lines for hidden gems

Many boutique and luxury cruise lines specialise in visiting these hidden Mediterranean gems. Azamara Cruises offers immersive voyages to ports like Kotor and

Šibenik aboard their smaller, intimate ships. Oceania Cruises combines elegant dining with authentic stops including Taormina and coastal Adriatic towns. Viking Ocean Cruises weaves classic highlights with lesser-known destinations, focusing on cultural experiences. For those seeking yacht-style cruising, Windstar Cruises accesses secluded harbours and the Albanian Riviera. Lastly, Silversea Cruises delivers personalised luxury with itineraries featuring unique, off-the-beaten-track Mediterranean ports.

Tips for choosing your Mediterranean cruise

- Look for itineraries that include off-the-beaten-path ports alongside the classics to get the best of both worlds.
- Smaller ships often have access to these hidden gems that larger vessels can't reach.
- Consider the balance between guided excursions and free time to explore independently.
- Choose the season carefully - shoulder seasons like spring and autumn often bring milder weather and fewer tourists.

Cruising the Mediterranean is about more than just ticking off famous sights; it's about immersing yourself in the unexpected and discovering stories that stay with you long after the journey ends.

If the idea of exploring these hidden Mediterranean treasures excites you, now is the time to start planning. Early booking means you won't miss out on your preferred cabin or that perfect itinerary.

For those ready to sail beyond the usual, I'm here to share insights along with more tips to help you navigate the many exciting Mediterranean cruising options.



Saranda, Albania beach

Noticeboard

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

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

RSA: Anyone interested in joining Mouere 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 Debby 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 Mouere 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 p17.

Check out www.coastalnews.online to see the issue in colour and to download a copy.

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