



## Two Boating Regattas for Māpua

### MARCH 15TH

The Annual Community Regatta, at Port Māpua.

This regatta is based at Māpua Wharf and caters for everything that floats that you are likely to have in your back yard. The day is especially chosen as it has the lowest high tide, and therefore the highest low tide of the season.

This means minimum tide movement, and maximum slack water time at the bottom of the tide.

The feature event is the Māpua Cup, a rowing race in Sea Scout Cutters between crews from the Māpua Boat Club, and the Tamaha Sea Scouts. Current holders are the Boat Club Women's Crew.

This year the Power Boat event has been dropped from the program, leaving a bit more of a gap between the other events.

The sailing race is open to yachts of all sizes, and there are events for kayaks and paddle boards. These two classes also have under 14 sections.

At slack water, the Nelson Radio Yacht Club will race their International One Metre Class RC yachts. Then the second event for each class will be held, followed by the Māpua Cup.

Entries open at 12 noon and the briefing for all competitors will be at 1pm on the beach at the bottom of the old ramp.

First event will be the sailing at 1.20pm and the prizegiving is expected to be about 4pm.

Entry fee is \$5 per boat/kayak/paddleboard, and entries will be accepted on the wharf from 12 noon. Sea

Scouts and under 14 have free entry but must register at the entry desk.

Personal buoyancy must be worn by all entrants, and a tow rope fitted if you should want your craft rescued.

**Inquiries:** John Leydon 5402543

### MARCH 22nd

Is the annual Loyal Grossi Point Yacht Club Sailing Regatta at Grossi Point. Entry is free and is open to all small sailing craft.

The fleet usually ranges from Optimist and P class up to Hobie 16 cats and occasionally the odd Trailer Yacht. The aim is to provide one event a season to get all of the local yachts that sail on the estuary in the one place at the one time. Common boats are the various catamarans that are kept on the estuary, along with the Sunbursts, Phase Twos, and Lasers that make regular appearances. Plus, the larger monohulls, like the Welson Navigators, and the Tamaha Sea Scout Cutters.

The entries are divided into three classes, Cats, Monohulls, and Cruisers. Less experienced sailors can enter the cruising division, even if they own a faster boat.

The aim is to run two quick races before the tide begins to ebb. Briefing is under the flag at Grossi Point at 12.00pm on March 22nd, with the first start scheduled for 12.30pm.

The course is centred on the Western side of Grossi Point, and great viewing is available. Bring your gear if you don't have a boat but would like to go for a sail.

All sailors must wear a solid foam buoyancy aid, and boats need to have a painter (towline) fitted.

Get down early if you want a hand to rig your boat.

**Inquiries :** John Leydon 5402543



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For many pets, especially in their early years, vaccination appointments are often the only time we see them, but they are only one piece of long-term health care. That is why we encourage seeing pets at least once a year for a *Wellness Visit*.



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We use treats (lots of treats!), gentle handling and plenty of reassurance so pets feel safe. When they visit regularly, the sights, sounds and smells become part of their normal routine. Yearly visits also help build a relationship between your pet and our team.

Dogs learn that a trip to the vet is simply part of life. Cats become more comfortable with the carrier, the consult room and being gently examined. Even our more nervous patients benefit from calm, repeated positive experiences. Over time, that familiarity builds confidence, creates trust and can make all the difference if they ever need more involved care.

A *Wellness Visit* looks at the whole picture of your pet's health, not just one moment in time. We assess weight and body condition, check teeth and gums, examine skin and ears, joint comfort, and talk through nutrition, parasite protection and any changes you may have noticed at home. These visits give us the opportunity to look beyond the injection and focus on overall wellbeing.

Many common conditions such as dental disease, arthritis and kidney problems develop slowly. Regular health checks allow us to record and spot small changes early, establish healthy baselines and monitor subtle shifts over time.

Early detection often means simpler treatment and better long term outcomes. Those healthy looking early years are the perfect time to focus on prevention and set pets up well for the future.

At Vetlife Māpua we see ourselves as partners in your pet's lifelong health, so if it has been more than a year since your pet's last health check, a *Wellness Visit* is a positive and proactive place to start.

To make an appointment at Vetlife Māpua phone 03 540 2329  
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# Māpua & Districts Community Association (MDCA)

The first MDCA Public Meeting for 2026 was held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February at the Māpua Hall.

Our Ward Councillors **Dave Woods** and **Dean McNamarra** provided an overview of Council's challenges for 2026 and beyond with TDC's first full meeting for 2026 held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February.

Dave stated that both he and Dean are focused on core affordability, with pressure on from Central Government with regard changes to Water Done Well; Rates Capping; RMS; and changes for Unitary and Regional Councils.

Water Infrastructure is one area of concern, with money spent needing to meaningfully "shift the dial" with regard to our water delivery/quality. Regarding overall affordability, Council are discussing whether ratepayers would be happy to go back to core services, and whether the life-of-asset costs of new and existing facilities/services remain justified and value-for-money.

Regarding **Roads and Pathways**, the issue of the poor state of the entrance to Māpua Domain (road to Bowling Green) was raised, and following additional discussion at our March meeting, MDCA will be contacting TDC Reserves to discuss repair options.

The **Community Emergency Preparedness Team's (CEPT)** updated MDCA with their focus for 2026 being enrolling and training volunteers to help staff potential future support activities at the Māpua Community Hall. If successful, the CEPT with support from MDCA will be

working closely with the Māpua Hall Committee to better resource the Hall to act as a Community Emergency Centre.

MDCA's next Public Meeting will be held at the Māpua Community Hall on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm when our guest speakers from **Dawn Chorus** will provide an overview of their ongoing efforts to keep our green spaces predator-free and bird-friendly.

MDCA is looking for community-minded residents to fill vacancies on the MDCA Committee, including both **Secretary** and **Treasurer** roles (which both pay monthly honorarium)

Annual membership subscription can be paid by direct credit – see [www.ourMāpua.org](http://www.ourMāpua.org) for details.



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# Travel with Becks Perspective

March is often when travel ideas begin to take shape. A destination sparks your interest, a conversation with friends brings back memories, or you begin thinking about 'where next'.

Many Nelson and Tasman travellers I work with are looking for journeys that feel comfortable, well paced, and genuinely rewarding, combining meaningful experiences with the ease of knowing everything has been thoughtfully arranged.

## Northern Spain and Portugal with time to enjoy it

Northern Spain offers elegant cities, beautiful coastline, and a food culture that encourages you to slow down and enjoy each day. Combining a small group tour with time to explore independently allows space to settle into local cafés, coastal villages, and everyday life.

Continuing into Portugal, a river cruise along the Douro Valley provides a gentle and scenic extension. Vineyards, historic estates, and riverside villages unfold at a relaxed pace, with each day offering a balance of exploration and time to simply enjoy the journey.

## Sailing into the South Pacific from Auckland

One of the simplest and most enjoyable holidays available to New Zealanders is sailing directly from Auckland into the South Pacific. With no long-haul flights, your holiday begins the moment you step onboard.

Over the following days, destinations such as the Bay of Islands, Fiji, and Samoa offer a wonderful mix of scenery, culture, and relaxation. Having experienced this voyage myself, what stands out most is the ease. You unpack once, settle in, and enjoy each destination as it arrives.

## Norway and the Arctic Coast

Cruising the Norwegian coastline offers spectacular scenery, from fjords and fishing villages to vibrant northern cities. It is a destination that feels adventurous yet remains incredibly comfortable, allowing you to explore ashore while enjoying the ease of returning to your ship each evening.

## Thoughtful planning makes all the difference

Many travellers begin their research online, but bringing everything together in the right way makes the experience far more enjoyable. Flights, timing, accommodation, and overall flow all play an important role.

When everything is thoughtfully planned, you can simply relax and enjoy the journey.

If travel has been on your mind lately, a conversation is often the easiest place to begin.

*Yours in travel, Becks*



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A relaxed conversation is the best place to start.

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**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

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or 027 514 0652

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Delicious Homewares – Māpua Wharf  
8 Aranui Road, MĀPUA

# Māpua Community Wellbeing Trust

## Click & Connect:

Our technical support sessions in the RSA room adjoining the library continue to be popular. We have a number of volunteers helping with the various mobile phone or computer issues which come in. Sessions are on Tuesday afternoons from 3–4pm and will also be expanding to include a weekend afternoon shortly – more news to follow.

This service aims to help new and existing residents alike, helping you get the settings on your phone right, working through issues on your laptop etc.

We have developed a local services directory (listing all available clubs, services, etc) and this information will be available via the C&C sessions or the online Found Directory. A great resource for people new to the area or trying to find out if any out-of-area group exists locally.

## District Health Nurse:

Health Nurse clinics are continuing this year, with sessions twice/week on Tuesdays and Fridays by appointment. Health NZ renewed this contract late last year which the Trust are very happy about as the service continues to be well attended and it provides an essential need in our community.

## Talking Cafés:

The Trust plans to pursue a new monthly Wellbeing Discussion Group or 'Talking Café' – venue(s) to be determined. There will be a focus topic each month with a short talk/presentation and facilitated discussion. Topics will be advertised in advance, and we welcome suggestions from the wider community. We will be targeting community members of all ages, with a focus on health and wellbeing topics. Please get in touch using our email: [mapuawellbeing@gmail.com](mailto:mapuawellbeing@gmail.com) if you have any suggestions.

## Youth Initiatives:

The new community-wide Kid's Programme, begun in term 4 last year by Hills Community Church Minister Rev Emily Holmes and Governance member Robyn Weller, proved very popular with students and parents as well as volunteers willing to share their skills.

It has resumed this year, on Thursdays after school, and by all accounts is heavily subscribed already! MWCT will continue to support this initiative as it gradually leads into connecting and supporting youth of all ages.

*John Botting, Chair MCWT*

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# Ruby Coast Running Club

We have been continuing to have a high number of walkers and runners at our regular Thursday evening 5km events despite the often very warm conditions.

On one particularly warm evening we had a record turnout of 46 participants. It is great to see so many getting out walking and running.

We had a relatively small number of our runners travel to Westport for the Buller Marathon, all taking part in the half marathon distance. All of our participants did really well on this very scenic road run through the Buller Gorge. Well done!

As we do not have any other formal events to report on since our last update it is a good opportunity to provide some information about our informal and sociable walking and running group. If you are looking to improve your fitness and/or meet new people, we might be just the group for you.

Our main event is a regular 5km every Thursday evening. We have a number of different courses, each of which starts and finishes in front of the playground next to the Māpua Community Hall. They are timed events, thanks to our volunteer timekeepers, so you can track your progress each week.

If you would like to join us, come along, we would love to see you. We are an inclusive group with all ages and levels of fitness welcome. Four-legged running buddies and strollers are also welcome. We are easy to spot with our blue flag and blue running tops. There is no need to register in advance and no fee to pay. Walkers and any runners who need more than 30 minutes to complete 5km, start at 5.15pm, and all other runners start at 5.30pm. It is best to arrive a few minutes before your start time to sign in and also to listen to the course briefing.

After we have all crossed the finish line we head across the road to the Māpua Sprig & Fern for some well-earned refreshments and socialising.

There is a longer run most Saturday mornings. This is generally anywhere from about 10km up to around a half marathon distance. The route and start times vary but we nearly always enjoy a well-earned coffee together afterwards. While our Thursday runs are timed events, our Saturday long runs are more informal and at a much slower pace.

Sometimes for our Saturday runs we venture further afield to run on one of the beautiful trails in the region. Just last weekend our longer run was in the Richmond Hills. We also regularly attend organised running events as a group.

In terms of upcoming events, we have a team called RCRCRC (Ruby Coast Running Club Runs for Cancer) entered into the Relay For Life to raise funds for a very worthy cause.

Relay For Life takes place in March and is a fundraising event to support the Nelson Tasman Cancer Society. It involves a 16-hour overnight relay.

Team members take turns carrying the baton and walking or running laps of the track at the Richmond Showgrounds, ensuring there is one team member on the course at all times. You can find out more about us and this event on Facebook: Ruby Coast Running Club.



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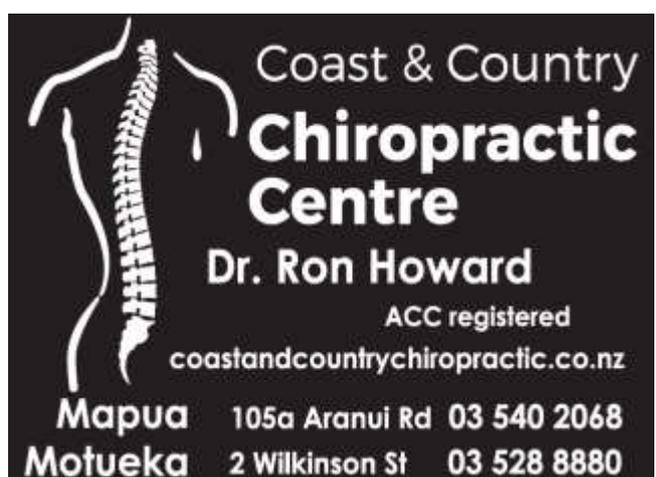
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# Book Review

**Liar's Game. Author: Jack Beaumont. Published 2025.**

Spy thrillers are a genre new to me, but after reading, *Liar's Game*, I can see how readers get hooked on the fast-paced narrative. The story in this novel is built around cyber warfare and currency manipulation on a global scale.

Inevitably the secret services of several countries become involved, and the reader is lead into the shadowy world of international intelligence.

The operatives must live in a world of secrecy even with their own families.

In the field, they live under false identities and code names. Exposure or failure can lead to imprisonment or even worse.

Those of us old enough to remember, had a little glimpse into the activities of the French Secret Service when their operatives sank the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland Harbour. After their capture they appeared to be largely abandoned by their employers. Luckily for them, New Zealand was, and still is, relatively benign in its approach to extracting confessions and administering justice.

As a newbie to the genre, I must confess that I nearly gave up early into the novel. Some of the technological content was well above my level of understanding.

I also had some difficulty in remembering, who was who, among all the code names and secret service agencies. Who were the good people and who not? The Russians, Chinese and North Koreans proved to be decidedly dodgy while the French and Americans were generally on the side of righteousness. It seems less clear cut today.

The historical setting for *Liar's Game* is very current, so it was pleasing to find the occasional likeable person, with a moral conscience, even among "the enemy." In the novel baddies are everywhere, even among contacts thought to be friends. Much of the tension in the story arose from a major villain being much closer to the French Secret Service than anyone expected.

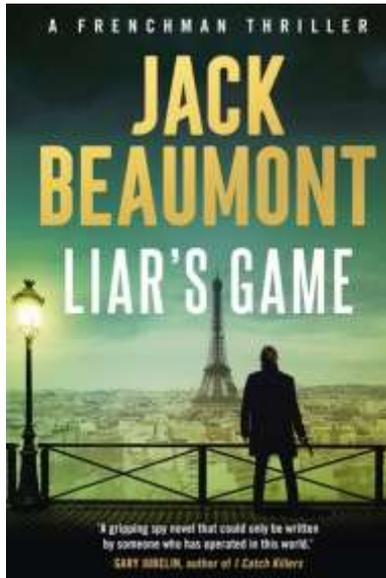
Our author has served in the French foreign secret service, and his pen name is a pseudonym. He has lived in the world of this novel and is convincing in letting us enter the life of a French agent, exposing the difficulties he and his family have in living a life of normality outside his job. On the job, nothing is ever normal.

People are expendable and collateral damage of no consequence in this murky world. Being a minor character, however well-meaning and attractive, is no protection against extermination if nasty people want you gone.

All the ingredients are there: murder, revenge, sex and intrigue. To these ingredients Beaumont adds a complex and gripping story that builds to an action packed crescendo. Once I got into this story, I found it difficult to put down. In the words of Andrew Hastie (formerly SAS) "*Liar's Game* grabs you by the throat".

*The Frenchman*, and *Dark Arena*, are two further thrillers by Jack Beaumont. All are now available in our Māpua library. If you can't find them, they may be out in my name.

Reviewer, Richard Bullock



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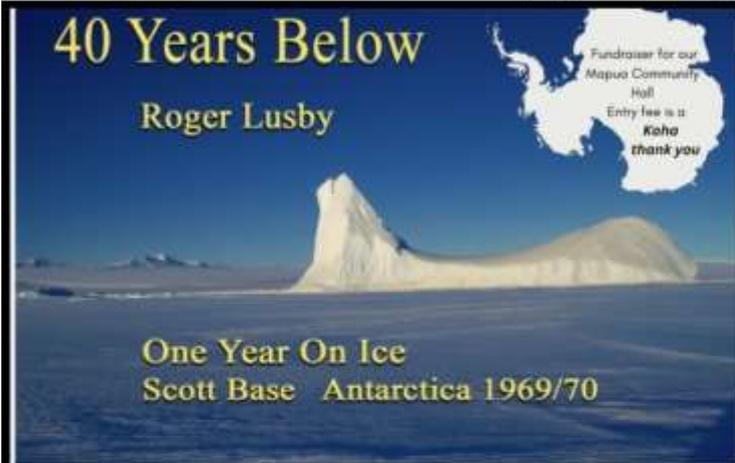
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# Māpua Community Hall- March 2026

## Upcoming events



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Feedback from earlier shows -  
Enthralling. Inspiring. Superb. Informative & enlightening  
I felt like I had been to Antarctica  
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MĀPUA HALL NEWS				
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11.30-12.30pm MINDFUL MOVEMENT with Tilly	9-12.00pm SIOUX LINE DANCING	9-10am/ 10-11am AEROBICS/PILATES with Lynda	10.00-12am YOGA/PILATES with E/ie	9-10.45am YOGA with Martin
Do you want to take a workshop or class in 2026? SPACE AVAILABLE contact me Mapuabookings@gmail.com 035402530	2.40-4.45pm Dance with Courtney	9-10-12.45am YOGA FOR HEALTHY LIVING with Nikki	9.00-12.30pm worldtravellers Mapua pop up travel helpdesk	SPACE AVAILABLE contact me
5.30-7.00pm BROGA with Nikki	6-7.00pm STRENGTH/CARDIO with Lynda	11.30-12.30pm MINDFUL MOVEMENT with Tilly	SPACE AVAILABLE	Do you want to take a workshop or class in 2026? SPACE AVAILABLE contact me
7.15pm MDCA PUBLIC MEET meetings 2nd Mondays	7.00-11.30pm Boardgame Night with Richard	1-3.00pm (over time 2026) CHAIR YOGA with Yvonne	6-7.00pm (over time 2026) African Fusion and Belly Dance with Tilly	SPACE AVAILABLE
	8-7.00pm YOGA with Martin	8.30-7.45pm YOGA with Rachel	7.30-8.00pm Mapua Community CHOIR	Mapuabookings@gmail.com 035402530

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# Motoring with Frederick

## A Motoring Adventure Re-lived

A 2015 coast to coast road trip from Savannah to L.A. gave me many observations of life in USA and their motor cars. I was asked to run it again. Obama was President. This section of the adventure was from Kansas to L.A.

The terrain on our 2015 coast-to coast road trip changed from lush green land on the east coast to a dry landscape as we drove west. It always left me wondering how anyone would make a living.

Our main purpose of going to Kansas City was for a tour of the Harley Davidson factory just east of the city.

At the sales shop near the factory, they had every model or configuration of Harley you could think of, along with all the accessories. You could buy a bike, then customise it with all the different colours and accessories to personalise your own bike.

Outside they had a stage and a bar set up and every Friday it was Harley party night surrounded by everything Harley. Great marketing.

The Harley Davidson factory was mostly an assembly production line apart from the guards and tanks we saw being pressed from steel sheets. They said they made a Harley every half hour but I'm not sure about that. Everyone who worked there was a true Harley person, including our sharp-speaking female tour guide. As soon as she found out that none of us owned a Harley, she lost interest in us.

Dodge City was the next stop after driving through arid land, but surprisingly we were passed by enormous stock trucks. We later found out Dodge City has meat processing plants that kill 11,000 head of cattle a day. Most of the meat goes east to the big cities on the Atlantic coast.

As much as Dodge City is perceived as a rough and tumble place, it wasn't. We went to Boot Hill and there are only 28 people buried there and Wyatt Earp was the sheriff for only three years. So don't believe all the cowboy movies you see. Interesting place but arid.

Leaving Dodge City, we drove west along Highway 50, the so-called loneliest road which I had imagined to be a dusty gravel road. Not so, this was America – we were doing 70mph on a smooth concrete road with light traffic.

I did find some good car parts on Highway 50 which had many car wreckers' yards.

Driving through Colorado included Highway 70, the Rocky Mountains and the Eisenhower twin tunnels at 9,500ft above sea level. Later we went through another pass at 11,000ft and the Chevy Suburban didn't like the thin air, as shown by the loss of power.

If you want to do Rocky Mountain High as per John Denver's song, this is a must do: Take Poudre Canyon Highway (Hwy 14) north of Denver to a place called Waldon, population 500 people. Cowboy hats are worn by all the locals with a ready greeting for strangers in town. The air is so clear and the coffee in the Rocky Rover Café is the best I have had in the USA.

In Salt Lake City the Mormon Church has a genealogy computer where for free they will trace your history. They managed to get back another 50 years on my Irish ancestry. Lunch in the Mormon Café was good food and everyone talking to fellow diners, including us.

We had a grand tour and a history lesson plus we were allowed into a hall to see paintings of the twelve apostles (Mormon Executives) and a grand painting of the current president. One from our group did wonder how many wives he had!

There was one grand building across from the museum which was where the church business was done. There was no shortage of money spent on any of the buildings. I must say from talking to an elderly couple at lunch, that they had security of life, i.e. business, house and finances but I'm not sure I could be that committed to a church and lose my freedom.

It was meant to be a Speed Week on the Bonneville Salt Flats, but it was rained out. We stopped to take photos, and I scooped a bit of salt to check how salty it was. Believe me, it is salty! Our hire car had a warning on the hire documents telling us we were not allowed on the salt flats. Pity, as 100mph on the salt flats in the Chevy Suburban might have been exciting.

Lake Tahoe, California, was a nice stop with America in full swing with their summer break: boats, water skiing, all the trappings. A waitress there said she was thinking of buying a house for \$40,000 with five acres but she was worried about the bears, as apparently they can knock on the front door.

At Santa Cruz I poured a bottle of Atlantic Ocean water we had carried across America into the Pacific Ocean to complete my American coast-to-coast ambition.

Our 2014 Chev Suburban had a 6.2 litre V8 petrol engine, and it did 23mpg or 12.3litre/100km. It was a good vehicle for the 8,695km journey. We spent NZ\$1,116 on fuel. The automatic kick down on the Suburban on the steep hill descents was a pain.

Best meal: Ruby Tuesdays, Georgia; best steak: Bad Habit,

Dodge City; best breakfast: Santa Cruz Diner on Ocean Street; best beer: Fat Tire in Santa Cruz with Old Pilot in Steamboat, Colorado close.

Thank you, America, for the adventure. I did like the goodbyes we received many times, "Y'all have a good day".

*Frederick Cassin*





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## PANZ—Pastel Artists

Our 2026 year of pastelling began at the Māpua Hall on the 3rd of February with a slow start. Several regulars were absent due to travel, sickness, visitors or accidents. We hope that is not a bad omen for the rest of the year.

We had “homework” over the Xmas break where we had to take a photo and make a painting from it, which didn’t replicate the photo itself, but just an idea from that photo.

It’s always fascinating seeing the results of this task on our first day back in the new year. Some great ideas came forward, and everyone seemed to have enjoyed the challenge.

We have been missing our Area Rep. Margi who having won the PANZ Scholarship last November, has been down in Ranfurly being tutored by Julie Greig – Master Pastellist. Margi will be reporting on her trip at our monthly talks on the last Tuesday of the month.

The other snippet of news is that Glenys Forbes had another painting selected into the “Modern Impressionist Salon top 40” competition. This is an International on-line competition for ALL media and attracts hundreds of entries from around the world.

Currently, we are all working on entries for our annual “Purely Pastel” National Art Awards and Convention which this year is being held in Orewa the first weekend of May.

Several of our Nelson members will be travelling north for that; a highlight of the year for us pastel painters.

Our pastel group meets every Tuesday morning (Feb-Nov) 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, we have a Saturday morning session at Greenmeadows (Stoke) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month. For further information, contact **Lyse Beck** lyse@lysebeck.com

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# The Write Bias

## News From Māpua Bowling Club

The Club has hosted two tournaments in fairly rapid succession. On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January, the first one of its kind at Māpua, an open short form singles sponsored by the Stihl Shop, Motueka.

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February saw the ever-popular Open Roast Triples sponsored by Bowater Toyota.

The Club is indebted to these sponsors for making the tournaments possible.

Although the day was overcast for the singles tournament the green was perfect after all the rain and 18 players arrived to try to win the first, but hopefully not the last, tournament of its kind at Māpua.

Entrants were divided randomly into groups of three all playing two games up to 11 points and marking one before the lunch break.

Another innovation at Māpua is the electronic scoring system. Results were entered as each game finished but the final outcome remained a secret until the end of the day.

During the lunch break bowlers were split into two sections dependent on the results of the morning.

The same format was played after lunch in the two sections with everyone playing two games and marking one. There were some very close matches but by the last round it was clear to see the winners emerging,

With play concluded and the final results being collated, players enjoyed the customary hospitality at Māpua with tea, drinks, sausage rolls, sandwiches, crackers and biscuits.

The winners were as follows:

### Top Section

- 1<sup>st</sup> Barbara McGregor, United
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Connor, Wakefield
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ian Benbow, Māpua

### Plate Section

- 1<sup>st</sup> Arthur Win, Māpua
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter Wood, Māpua
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Barbara Adcock, Māpua

### The Bowater Toyota triples.

This was a sell-out (could it be due to the roast lunch?) and was highly competitive. The winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> United – Kevin Willson, Nora Harvey & Russell Downie
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Māpua – Warren Keith, Ian Benbow & Bob Foster
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Motueka – Phil Soper, Lyn Soper & Peter Cromwell

For information about bowling, coaching or booking the clubhouse and facilities please call Secretary Di Blanchet (021 0773 445), email [blanchet.tadmor@xtra.co.nz](mailto:blanchet.tadmor@xtra.co.nz) or check out our website or Facebook page.

Sue England

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# Photographic Competition

## New rules and categories

New categories have been introduced for the 2026 Māpua Maritime Museum Amateur Photographic Competition to encourage more entries and diversity of images.

While judging for the competition isn't until July, right now is an excellent time to capture stunning images to enter.

The geographic boundaries for where photos can be taken have been expanded to encompass the area from Golden Bay to Cable Bay and include inland as well as coastal areas.

The Boats category will retain the maritime theme. However, the People category will not have any restrictions placed on it.

The other categories are Nature and Landscape/seascape. Images for these can be taken anywhere in the region and include local vineyards/farms and national parks as well as coastal/marine areas.



A new Travel category has been introduced for photos taken anywhere in New Zealand.

Once again, the major sponsor is CopyArt which provides generous prizes for the competition.

Entry is open to children under 15 and to adults. Entries close on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026.

An exhibition of the photos will be on display at the Port Māpua Maritime Museum from Monday July 20 to Sunday August 2 when prizegiving will take place.

Some of the images will feature in a special 2027 calendar. All proceeds from the competition and calendar are in support of the museum.

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



[mapuaboatclubevents@gmail.com](mailto:mapuaboatclubevents@gmail.com)

This image taken by Hilary Hirst won the People Section of last year's photographic competition and features in the 2026 Calendar.

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# Māpua Craft Group

## Report for March 2026.

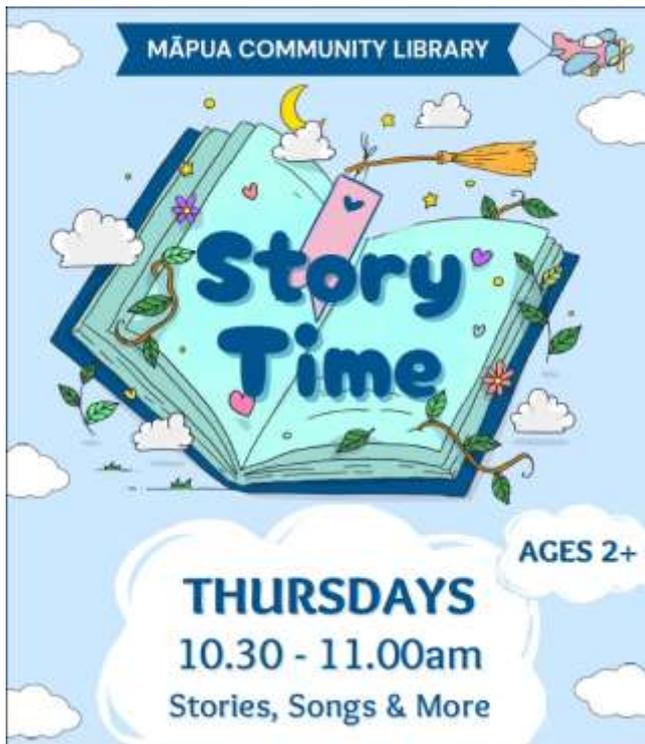
Our first meeting of the year included making plans for future meetings and projects, one of which will be making of slippers of various sizes. A delightful angel could be attached to slippers for a baby gift or kept for Christmas.

Already 93 squares have been made by many people and only 27 more are now needed to complete another blanket for Operation Cover Up. Once a year these are collected for 'Missions Without Borders'. It is a New Zealand wide organization and if anyone wishes to knit at home for it, that would be really kind. Using 39 to 41 stitches on 8mm needles with double wool, this should be knitted to form a square.

You are most welcome to come and see us at one of our meetings (details below). We can usually supply needles and wool, and there may be a finished blanket for you to admire!

Our coming meeting dates are 6th and 20th of March. There will be no meeting on the 3rd of April as it is Good Friday, so we will meet on the 17th of April at the Community Church room from 10 am until noon. We share morning tea and give a \$3 koha each to cover the use of the room.

Contact Barbara on 03 5403901.



Calling all mums, dads, grandmothers, grandfathers, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters, you can now enjoy our Story Time each week with Kim and Joyce. Spread the word and come along to the library.

## Postal delivery subscription

We can post you the *Coastal News*.

Now delivered locally by bike.

Email your address to us [see front page] and we'll give you bank details to pay \$25 per year.

# Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor.

I was surprised to see yesterday that a large shed is being built behind the Māpua Fire Station.

Why are they doing this and why is TDC letting them? Who is paying for it?

Many of the responses to the Māpua Masterplan survey wanted the fire station away from the residential zone.

In the February issue of Coastal News, the fire brigade reported 16 call-outs. Only one was in the central village. It therefore makes sense that the fire station would be better located somewhere like Warren Place, closer to risks.

I say stop the shed and move the fire station.

Colin Walker

[Fire Brigade did not reply before going to print]



**Fri 6th:  
Paul Madsen Queen  
and Beegees tribute**

**Fri 13th:  
Nirvana Tribute**

**Sat 14th and Sun 15th:  
MY BABY**

**Fri 20th:  
Buddy Holly Tribute**

**Sat 21st:  
The Underground  
Cure Show**

**Thurs 26th:  
Prima Facie  
Theatre**

# Māpua Health Centre news

We are 36 years old! And it's our birthday this month. That is, the Māpua and Districts Health Centre came into being in the middle of March 1990 after an amazing effort by the local community in collaboration with the Nelson Area Health Board, who had just bought the site of the old post office.

It has gone through various metamorphoses and changes over the intervening years, with the latest being the addition of admin rooms and a staff room added to the back of the building.

Many thanks to all the volunteer help that we have had over recent years and to the health committee who generously give their time and energy to looking after the building and equipment.

The committee that oversees the building is actively looking at how we can plan for the future and cope with the increasing population and changes in health provision (with some services likely to be devolved from the hospital to primary care).

Ideally, we would like to build a new purpose-designed centre that also incorporates other services such as physiotherapy, pharmacy, dentist and other health professionals. If you have any ideas for achieving this or wish to help the committee please contact the chairperson, Derek Craze ([info@mapuahealth.com](mailto:info@mapuahealth.com)). We have a new committee starting this month under a new constitution and we thank those who have already volunteered to join us.

We warmly welcome our new GP registrar, Dr Tom Froeling who works Monday, Tuesday and Friday and will be part of the medical team for the next six months. We are also very fortunate to have Dr Brittany Puata back with us and she is now a permanent GP working Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Sadly, our Health Coach Jessie has left her role to pursue other opportunities. While this role is currently vacant, we hope to have a new Health Coach in her place soon.

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, the government changed the prescription laws, allowing our GPs and others to prescribe up to 12 months' worth of medications. Your eligibility and the actual duration of the script depend on your individual condition, medication, and safety considerations.

Your doctor will decide if it's safe and suitable to provide you with a 12-month script. Additionally, your doctor can only provide you with a 12-month prescription during a face-to-face appointment and this will require an annual review.

Not all medications can be prescribed for 12 months as some medicines pose higher risk and require regular monitoring, including controlled drugs (opioids, stimulants, benzodiazepines), medications required "as needed," and medicines needing regular, close monitoring. At your next consultation to review your medication, discuss with your GP if a longer prescription may be a good fit for you.

We now have nurses trained to offer advice about advance care planning. This gives everyone a chance to say what's important to them. It helps people understand what the future might hold and to say what treatment they would and would not want. It helps people, their families and their healthcare teams plan for future and end-of-life

care. This makes it much easier for families and healthcare providers to know what the person would want - particularly if they can no longer speak for themselves.

If this is a something you are interested in exploring, please contact Māpua Health centre to make an appointment with one of our nurses.

Shave for a cure month is a fundraising initiative that hits close to home for many Kiwis – a chance to shave, spread the word, and stand in solidarity with leukaemia and blood cancer survivors. It's an inspiring way to help fund vital care and resources for the 2,500 people affected.

## Some of the events for the month:

- 1-31 Shave For A Cure Month [www.shaveforacure.co.nz](http://www.shaveforacure.co.nz)
- 1-31 SunSmart in March <http://wellplace.nz>
- 1-31 Hearing Awareness Month [www.deafness.org.au](http://www.deafness.org.au)
- 1-31 Kidney Awareness Month [www.kidney.health.nz](http://www.kidney.health.nz)
- 1-31 Endometriosis Awareness Month <https://nzendo.org.nz/nzendo-events>
- 1-31 Brain Awareness Month [neurological.org.nz](http://neurological.org.nz)
- 1-31 Neighbours Aotearoa [neighboursaotearoa.nz](http://neighboursaotearoa.nz)
- 1 Zero Discrimination Day [unaids.org/en/resources](http://unaids.org/en/resources)
- 1 National Children's Day [www.childrensday.org.nz](http://www.childrensday.org.nz)
- 3 World Wildlife Day [www.wildlifeday.org](http://www.wildlifeday.org)
- 3 World Hearing Day [www.who.int/campaigns](http://www.who.int/campaigns)
- 4 HPV awareness day [direct.hpv.org.nz/resources](http://direct.hpv.org.nz/resources)
- 8 International Women's Day [www.internationalwomensday.com](http://www.internationalwomensday.com)
- 12 World Kidney Day [www.worldkidneyday.org](http://www.worldkidneyday.org)
- 14 World Sleep Day [www.sleephealth.org.nz](http://www.sleephealth.org.nz)
- 14-15 Pasifika Festival [www.aucklandnz.com/pasifika](http://www.aucklandnz.com/pasifika)
- 15 Long Covid Awareness Day [longcovidsupport.co.nz/](http://longcovidsupport.co.nz/)
- 20 World Oral Health Day [www.worldoralhealthday.com](http://www.worldoralhealthday.com)
- 21 International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination [www.un.org/en/events/racialdiscriminationday](http://www.un.org/en/events/racialdiscriminationday)
- 22 World Water Day [www.un.org/en/events/waterday](http://www.un.org/en/events/waterday)
- 24 World Tuberculosis Day [www.stoptb.org](http://www.stoptb.org)

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# Māpua Fire Brigade



## Jan to Feb 26 call outs

- 18 Jan 17:15 Smoke in vicinity of Harley Rd, found un-attended drum fire, put fire out. Drum beside wood pile.
- 22 Jan 18:37 Alarm activation off Gardner Valley Rd, no sign of fire.
- 26 Jan 12:02 Alarm activation Māpua Hall, work person created dust in roof space.
- 28 Jan 01:15 Alarm activation Upper Moutere school, turn back. No fire.
- 2 Feb 16:57 Rubbish fire flare up on Tarrant Rd, owner controlled on arrival.
- 2 Feb 19:23 Beach fire at Kina beach reserve, put fire out.
- 6 Feb 11:16 Plane crash at Motueka airport, stood down before leaving station.
- 8 Feb 16:03 Medical Broadsea Av, assist ambulance.
- 10 Feb 17:10 Alarm activation Māpua Health Centre, no fire.
- 10 Feb 22:47 Smell of burning in vicinity of Catherine Rd, found in paddock, damped fire down.
- 11 Feb 18:52 Smouldering wood pile, same as last call, put fire out. Restricted fire season, no one in attendance.
- 20 Feb 13:34 Alarm activation at Busy Bees, no sign of fire.

## Call outs for the year = 18

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

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

We are in a restricted fire season, apply for a permit at <http://www.checkitsalright.nz/>

We have 2 vacancies at the Fire brigade.

We will have been responding short crewed to some call outs. If you are available day time 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. Or call the Chief Fire Office (CFO) Aaron Thawley on 0274 275 813

Are you interested in forming a group of like minded people for comradeship and to share your skills, work on your personal, or community projects, or learn new skills?



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# RUBY BAY STORE

## What's On March & April

### **RD1**

**Sunday 15 March, 7.30pm, \$25**

Mountain music from a new trio: Craig Denham, Nathan Torvik and US singer Callie Rider

### **DAISY CHAIN**

**Friday 20 March, 7.30pm, \$25**

An indie Celtic folk-flavoured musical collaboration

### **THE EARLY BOBS**

**Saturday 28 March, 7.30pm, \$25**

Clayton Taylor and Nathan Torvik present Dylan's songs of war and peace

### **THE LARKS**

**Saturday 11 April, 7pm, \$25**

Queensland's top unaccompanied harmony folk group

### **BRETT PERKINS**

**Sunday 12 April TBC 7pm, \$25**

US expat singer-songwriter Perkins has played more than 5,000 concerts in 40 countries

### **MIDNIGHT SWIM**

**Saturday 18 April, 7pm, \$25**

Five Nelson gals sing and one guy plays old folk and new folk

### **THE EARLY BOBS**

**Saturday 25 April, 7pm, \$25**

Dylan's good guys!

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[www.hillscommunitychurch.org.nz](http://www.hillscommunitychurch.org.nz)

## What's on during the week at HCC?

**Sunday: Morning Service** - 9:30am

*Worship and fellowship followed by morning tea.*

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

**Thursday: Pray and Chat** – 10:00am.

*An opportunity for prayer, discussion & a chat over coffee.*

**Senior Moments** – 10:00am to 12:00pm – second and last Thursday of the month.

*A place to connect. Friendship, food, events and relevant information.*

**Kids Club** – Every Thursday after school until 5pm.

*A multigenerational fun afternoon of learning and sharing for primary school kids. Arts & crafts, drawing, painting, knitting, music, cooking & more.*

**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.*

## Easter at Hills Community Church



**Palm Sunday Service – 9.30am**

*Followed by morning tea.*

**Maudy Thursday – 6.00pm**

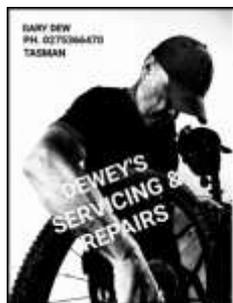
*Join us for a shared meal, conversation and fellowship.*

**Good Friday – 9.30am**

*A time of reflection, song and prayer, followed by morning tea with Hot Cross Buns*

**Easter Sunday Service – 9.30am**

*A time of celebration followed by morning tea.*



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## Kids Club all go for 2026!

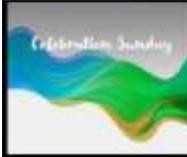
We had so much fun Thursday 12th February reconnecting with local tamariki & whanau!

**We run Thursdays 3-5pm during school terms.**

With our numbers increasing we invite local volunteers to join our wonderful team. If you have a skill to share or enjoy connecting with children, we'd love to hear from you. Emily will be taking new volunteers through training this term (police checks, references & child safety modules) to support them in joining the Kids Club team for Term 2.

*Emily Holmes - 027 8688 752*  
*minister@hillscommunitychurch.org.nz*

**Sunday Services through the month at Hills Community Church.**

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

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**Ph. 021 169 0218**  
[swchiro@gmail.com](mailto:swchiro@gmail.com) [stephaniewright.co.nz](http://stephaniewright.co.nz)

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>  
March  
2-5pm**




**Celebrating the life  
of the former  
Uniting Church**

**Community Event**  
The whole community is invited to join us to give thanks and celebrate the history and memories of the former Uniting Church.  
As a fitting send off for the building, we will share stories, some kai and neighbourhood love.  
Come, be our guests, 123 Aranui Road, Mapua.



A Hills Community Church event.

**Yoga Classes in Mapua/Ruby Bay  
Holistic Yoga Classes**  
Thursdays 5 – 6pm, \$15  
@ Ruby Retreat, 155 Stafford Drive, Ruby Bay

Yoga for fitness and more. Cultivate strength, flexibility, balanced health and peace of mind.

All levels welcome, booking preferred but drop-ins welcome.

**Deep Rest & Restorative Yoga**  
Tuesdays 5 – 6.15pm, \$20  
@ Ruby Retreat, 155 Stafford Drive, Ruby Bay  
Props provided – Booking Essential

Delicious, supported restorative yoga poses with yogic techniques for deep rest to create a powerful rest and reboot for your body and mind.  
All bodies welcome!




Classes with Rati, an experienced Yoga Teacher, Ayurvedic Practitioner and trained Naturopath  
To book: [www.rasaayurvedic.com](http://www.rasaayurvedic.com)  
or txt 021 124 1591



**From the Editors desk:**

A bit short of content this month. I think of topics I might cover in the middle of the month but when it comes to the time to fill in the space I am empty headed.

Our group bike ride today (Thursday) went across to Rabbit Island on the ferry, through Richmond and up Marsden Valley to a new café there. There is also a Sprig & Fern. Biked through Isel Park with its lovely large trees. There is a Thursday market there through summer that is worth a visit I am told.

Next month we have an ANZAC special, with a battlefield historian researching all the names on the Tasman Memorial, visiting each grave site in Europe. A plea here for more writers to come forward to keep the News going, and to make it interesting.

As you may know, funds collected from advertising and donations go towards the Māpua Community Trust which funds other volunteer organisations in the District. Next month we will be asking for applications for the twice yearly distributions. If you represent a volunteer group then make sure you don't miss out. Details will be given next month.

I was swimming at Totaranui last week and there were some strange jelly-like things in the water—it was a bit like swimming through thin tapioca. They didn't sting. Away

from the breaking waves they were in short strings of beads, but closer to shore they were all broken up by the waves. Someone said they were salps. A couple of days later they had all gone I was told.

*That's it for this month—Andrew Earlam*

This online version differs slightly from the paper version because of the omission of the Ruby Bay Store advertisement on page 17. And that is why there is some blank space on this page.

**The Coastal News** is edited by Andrew Earlam, Mary Garner and others. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editors.

*Distributed 1st of the month.*

*Deadline for copy to [news@coastalnews.online](mailto:news@coastalnews.online) is*

**20th of the month prior to publication**

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

# Noticeboard

**Book Appreciation Group [BAG]:** Māpua Library, first Wednesdays at 2:30pm. For anyone who enjoys books and talking about what they have read. Friendly and informal. Info: Rachel 027 358 6003 or just come.

**PowerTalk Tasman:** Develop speaking and communication skills in a friendly supportive environment. Club meets 6.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at St Johns rooms, Jack Inglis Hospital, Motueka. Supper provided. Info: Tristan 020 40994255 / Sue 021 533350

**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

**Vinyasa Flow Yoga Classes.** Tuesdays & Fridays 9.30-10.45am. Riverside community centre, Lower Moutere. \$15 drop-in. Contact Jo 0211709495

**Death Café** Open discussion about death and dying. 2nd Wednesdays 10-11am. Elevation Café, 218 High St, Motueka. Email nickydodwell@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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 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 021 526 6707 / 021 526 6700

**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

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

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

**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

**Quakers** meet at Family Service Centre, Motueka 10am 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

**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 p18.