

The Grapevine

MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY NEWS

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MHCC

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PUMPED



A new pump track in Upper Moutere is open for action.

LOCAL LIVES

Thanks to a successful funding application to Sarau Trust and Lions foundation, a new pump and jump track opened behind the church hall in late February.

Located right next to the recently completed skate ramp, it is open during daylight hours to anyone wanting to try out their bike moves.

The Moutere Community Youth Trust is behind the new track, with local Youth Workers Tessa and Billy Werner seeing the project through to completion.

"A BMX track made by previous youth workers needed moving from what had once been church land," explains Billy. "The current owners of the land had kindly let us continue using the track, but were now planning to plant hops—so it was a good time to use the dirt to create the new pump track.

Billy came up with the design himself and the funding was used for diggers to move the dirt. "A local family lent us their digger for the day and we hired two more."

Local youngsters Jody Stow and Ryan Smith (both keen bikers) also got involved, helping with the planning, shovelling and shaping of the track to ensure it was smooth and well formed.

Billy hopes to see it getting plenty of use by young people in the area. When he's not doing his job as an outdoor instructor, he shares the Youth Worker role with wife Tessa. They have been in the role for three years now, with a seven-month break in Switzerland to be with Billy's mother.

As well as doing chaplaincy and team building work within schools, plus running holiday programmes and camps, Tessa and Billy hold junior, intermediate and senior Youth Group sessions at the church hall on Fridays.

"We do all sort of different activities suited to each age group," says Billy. "For the seniors, we recently drove the van to Rabbit Island for some orienteering and a BBQ."

The couple moved to the Moutere from the North Island to take up their current roles. For Tessa, it was familiar ground as she had grown up here and one of her forefathers was the original pastor of St Paul's Community Church.

It's a neat link for a couple now thoroughly involved in the local community—particularly in providing youngsters with some great activities like the new pump track.

To contact Youth Workers Billy and Tessa Werner, call 03 543 2079 or Billy 02102728825 or Tessa 022 101 2276

PLACING AN ADVERTISEMENT

Thank you for advertising in the Grapevine—you help us cover the cost of producing and delivering this free community newsletter each month.

The deadline for each issue is the 15th of the month.

Please email your print-ready ad to—umograpevine@hotmail.com or provide paper based, print-ready copy to Moutere Motors.

The following prices apply for advertising:

- ∞ Births, marriages, deaths and giveaway notices: free
- ∞ Business card size advertisement: \$12
- ∞ 1/4 page advertisement: \$25
- ∞ 1/2 page advertisement: \$50
- ∞ Full page advertisement: \$95 (if space available).

Please deposit payment (and identify it with your name) to our account: NBS 03 1354 0229034 16.

Sending us editorial items

We warmly welcome editorial contributions to the Grapevine from all residents in the Moutere and Tasman regions. You make the newsletter an interesting read!

There is no cost to having your articles published but if you are telling the community about a commercial or fundraising venture, we do appreciate a small donation to help us cover our costs—see above for bank details.

Archived coloured copies of the Grapevine are available at www.mouterehills.org.nz/community/the-grapevine courtesy of the Moutere Hills Community Centre Staff.

Grapevine circulation is 1300 copies. This issue has been constructed by volunteers: Miriam Lynch, Tanya Doty, Beverley Sellers, Sharon Beuke, Avril Stephens and Heather Eggers.

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the voluntary editors and no responsibility is taken!



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UPPER MOUTERE VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Call outs for February 2018:

1/2 Shade sail loose on roof, Thorpe/Orinoco
1/2 flooding, Tait St
1/2 Tree over road, Moutere Highway/Wills Rd
9/2 Controlled burns, Flaxmore Rd
9/2 Uncontrolled burn off, Parker St
10/2 Bonfire, Seaton Valley
15/2 Mva, Moutere Highway/Neudorf Rd
19/2 Car fire, Redvale Rd, Redwood Villy
20/2 House flooding, Central Rd
20/2 House flooding, Strachan Rd
20/2 House flooding, Hursthouse St
23/2 Mva, Holdaway Rd/Moutere Highway

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MAKE AN IMPACT LOCALLY

Please remember to support our advertisers. With their support, we deliver the Grapevine to 1300 households in the Moutere Hills area.

Lots of them are locals too and what better way is there to get to know your neighbours?



FREE doTERRA Essential Oil Talk & Sharing

at Mapua Community Hall.

An open and fun forum for learning effective health tips, with potent remedies for an array of ailments!

FREE Giveaways.

Thursday, 5th April and Thursday, 3rd May

6pm-8pm.

Enquiries: Ph Molly on: Molly on: [027 4540663](tel:0274540663)



ANZAC Services – 25 APRIL 2018

CHECK THE TASMAN DISTRICT COUNCIL WEBSITE OR LOCAL NEWSPAPERS FOR DETAILS OF A SERVICE NEAR YOU.

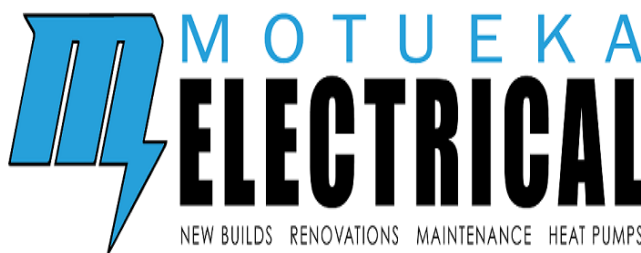
Fire Fighters Wanted

If you are interested in joining the Upper Moutere Volunteer Fire Brigade, we would like to hear from you.

If you are interested, please call Fred Ewers on 021 0316615.

Come have a look and see what we do.

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3 November 2018

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find us on Facebook 



UPPER MOUTERE SCHOOL

F **REE**
COFFEE*

House & Land Wanted
(Or possibly just land)

New family to the area

3 kids at Upper Moutere School

If you are thinking of selling, downsizing or chopping off some land, we would love to hear from you or meet to chat.

Please call



Sam & Annabel
021 532 732

**We'll buy you a coffee at the Post Office while we chat!*

Got spare? Then share

The sharing table is back!

Every Friday 9am – 4pm Moutere Hills
Community Centre from Friday 2nd February

*Bring what you have – take what
you need.*



Sarau Community Trustees invite local organisations to apply for funding assistance for the coming year. There is no application form but we require a letter of application to jenny@saraufestival.co.nz before the extended deadline of **18 April 2018**. Your letter should tell us what you want the money for, how many people and what ages are involved in your activity, and how much you would like to receive. We cannot necessarily meet all requests, but we do give priority to those organisations who help to plan and run Sarau Festival.

If you wish to make sure you are considered next year then make sure your team volunteers at the 2019 Festival.

Sarau Scholarship: the Sarau Trustees will accept an application from any person representing New Zealand in any endeavour. Please apply by telling us in a letter what you do, and what you require financial assistance for. Applications to jenny@saraufestival.co.nz by **18 April 2018**

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Dear Members and Community.

The Moutere Hills Residents Association now operates a **Facebook Page** which we will use to further distribute our news items and other information.

If you already have a Facebook account, this may be a convenient way to receive updates. Just visit <https://www.facebook.com/mouterehillsnz/> and select 'Follow' to start receiving notifications.

We will also **continue to send out email updates** and newsletters to our members and the wider community.

For this, we operate two separate mailing lists (if you read this then you are already on one of them):

- Our general community mailing list which receives selected updates of general interest actual association members who receive all email updates.
- If you want to be sure to receive all our updates - why not consider becoming an association member? Membership is currently *FREE*.

Just go to <http://www.mhra.org.nz/members/join> and use our application form.

--

Best regards,
Matthes Bender

Secretary
Moutere Hills Residents Association
<http://www.mhra.org.nz>

The Social Group

Meets at the Sunday School Hall
(Upper Moutere Lutheran Church)

**on Thursday afternoons
at 1.30pm each fortnight.**

Join in games and cards.

Enjoy our afternoon of fun and fellowship.

All welcome.

For further information, please contact
Lois or Brian on 03 5284311

Easter Church Services at St Paul's Community Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday 7pm (29th March)

Good Friday 9.30am (30th March)

Resurrection Sunday 9.30am (1st April)

A thought on Easter from Andy

This year, Resurrection Sunday, the day most Christians would point to as being the most significant celebration of their faith falls on April 1st or April Fool's Day. "How very apt!" some of you may be saying to yourselves. I imagine the women who went to tend to the body of Jesus, who came back announcing that Jesus was in fact alive again, would have been greeted or treated like many April fool's prankster whose claims were so wildly over the top that any 'fool' could see through their story. The writer to the early church in Corinth further reinforced this when he said that the message of the cross was foolishness. But for those who believe, the message of the cross is full of beauty and power, because it is at the cross that God announces to the world once and for all that he is done with the problem of sin and declares forgiveness for the God killer in all of us. Historically the church has been pretty poor at presenting this message; while doing a great job of making people feel 'bad about themselves', or even better making people who fell feel even worse. And the church wonders why people don't seem to think that their message is good news. Hearing that God loves you and has done away with the problems that sin had created should sound more like someone yelling out "The drinks are on me!" rather than "Time to pay up- and don't forget the GST."

This Easter we will be celebrating that message- that God's got the bill and it's never too late to join the party!



A donation box was stolen from the church. If you have any information regarding this, please contact Andy Marr.

Here's to Hops

You may have noticed more than just a few blurry -eyed hop workers around the Moutere district at the moment.

That's because as with most crops, when it's time to harvest, there's no time to rest. The long hard days spent harvesting and the tedious nights over -seeing the hops drying in the kilns will soon be over and our valley won't be quite as fragrant as is it at present. The end result is one that many are very happy to partake of , so a big thank you to all those hop workers who are labouring away so we and many others across the world can enjoy the end product.



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THE FORGE

They say that working from home isn't all it's cracked up to be.

Open from 9:00am - 5:00pm on weekdays you can book for a half or full day, or even reserve your own spot on monthly basis.

As a currency trader Faris Mali found working from home in Upper Moutere to be quite isolating. Though the weather is magnificent and the views spectacular he found that if you're home all the time you just don't appreciate it.

Being a regular at the Moutere Inn, Faris approached the owners, Dave Watson and Andrew Cole, and suggesting renovating a spare room to be used as 'hot desk' room for the community. Faris repainted and refurbished the room transforming it into a workplace for himself and anyone else in the community that requires a professional space to work with reliable and quick internet.

The Forge has just been opened and comfortably provides a desk space space for up to four people. All you have to is bring your own laptop.

The Forge provides
- unlimited access to ADSL internet
- access to a printer/scanner/fax
- unlimited tea and coffee.



After hours and on weekends the Forge is used as an entertainment venue where you will usually find children enjoying the large 50 inch TV as mum and dad are savouring the latest in craft beer and sumptuous meals on the Moutere Inn's menu.

Booking your space at the Forge is on a first come first served basis. Contact Faris Mali to reserve your place on mail@skybarn.nz or on 0220196863

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What's Happening In April



Live Music 7 pm Sat 14th "Andrew White"

Celebrating the worldwide release of his new album 'Beautiful Trouble', Andrew White is returning to the Moutere Inn. Andrew skilfully combines brilliant finger-style guitar work with compelling stories and delivers them both in an engaging live performance. He has toured and collaborated with artists as diverse as, Clannad, The Corrs, Michelle Shocked, Tommy Emmanuel, and John Martyn.



Cigars and Whisky 7pm Thursday 26th

A small group of whisky and cigar lovers have started a regular meeting on the last Thursday of each month. A new whisky will be introduced each month and a cigar available at cost.



Fine Dining Evening 7pm Saturday 28th

We will be offering a relaxing evening, of fine dining, over five courses. Bookings essential check our website for menu details.

Don't Forget

1 st Thurs Folk Night	This month the 5 th
2 nd Thurs Quiz Night	This month the 12 th
4 th Thurs Cigars and Whisky	This month the 26 th

PHONE 5432 759

WWW.MOUTEREINN.CO.NZ

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THE MOUTERE

Kai Collective

April 2018

Our team of willing cooks got together again in the middle of March for a very productive evening.

After summer, our freezers were completely empty, but we're happy to report they're now fully restocked and ready to be rolled on out!

Meals can be collected when the MHCC is open - just speak to staff or help yourself from the Centre's main kitchen, the freezer is behind the door. Country Kids also has a freezer full of meals. We don't deliver our meals, we prefer locals to come and collect them, and then gift them to their own neighbours, friends and family in need.



If you wish to speak with us, we're at the MHCC 10- 12pm on Fridays, ask for Anna or Melody.

If you're keen to help out in anyway, please contact Anna on; haddonanna@gmail.com or 021 2626 675 or find us on Facebook 'The Moutere Kai Collective'.

THANK YOU to Ian and to Robyn & Mike for the amazing catering pots!

FOR SALE

For Sale: Two older caravans - one large and one medium sized. We no longer require them for on-site accommodation. Will tow, but neither are registered or warranted. ph: 021 231 3945

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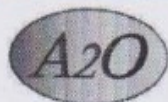
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Apple Fair Celebrates Autumn Harvest

**Wakefield Apple Fair Sunday
15 April 11.30am – 3.30pm**

Willow Bank Heritage Village – 79 Wakefield Kohatu highway.

Autumn's harvest of fresh, ripe apples is a delicious time of year in our district and once again the Wakefield Apple Fair will celebrate the harvest in both fun and practical ways.

Now in its fifth year, the Wakefield Apple Fair is a true community event; organized, supported by and benefitting our people. "As a community event we want community groups to benefit," says organizer Sylvia Huxtable. "Many of our stall holders are locals providing great food and activities for the pleasure of fair-goers and at the same time raising funds for their organisation."

All the usual food favourites will be on sale; baking stalls, toffee apples, juices, milkshakes and many more.

The entertainment too will feature a mix of familiar and new performers. Returning are the crowd-pleasing Ragged Crow Morris Dancers and Plinkers ukulele band, and they will be joined by story-tellers Sue Albrecht and Allison Croft. The children's tent will host heaps of exciting activities for kids, while the adults can join in the excitement of pressing and juicing apples.

Willow Bank historic village is both a delightful venue for the Apple Fair and a star attraction in itself. If you haven't visited Willow Bank the Apple Fair is a perfect time to discover the charms of Wakefield's own historic village. If you know Willow Bank already you will be keen to see the new attractions added

since your last visit.

But, as always, the Apple Fair's main attraction is of course, apples, and the apple presses will be working overtime to process a small mountain of fruit into fresh, delicious apple juice. Bring your own apples to be juiced, or help yourself to free apples and take home your own apple juice at the end of the day.

Bring your family and friends to the Wakefield Apple Fair, Sunday 15 April - a great local event and a fun day out.



A Free Family Event

SUNDAY 15TH APRIL 11.30 - 3.30^{PM}

**TURN YOUR HARVEST APPLES INTO JUICE!
MARKET STALLS, LIVE MUSIC
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WILLOW BANK HERITAGE VILLAGE, 79 WAKEFIELD KOHATU HIGHWAY
(JUST SOUTH OF WAKEFIELD ON THE MAIN ROAD)



Sarau Winter Sale



BOOKS WANTED

This year's sale will include a huge range of second-hand books.

Please contact Sharon on

027 432 8145.

MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE



Well Autumn is definitely upon us, with the colder mornings but lovely days! There is plenty on offer here at Moutere Hills Community Centre heading into the cooler weather. Why not join the Fitness Centre, or check out some of our great classes and social sports on offer?

Winter Sports is also gearing up for the season with Rangers Rugby, Rangers Football and Rangers Netball Clubs all currently taking registrations. You can find contact details for them on our website www.mouterehills.org.nz. A huge thank you to Neudorf Vineyard and Mike Teece who have both kindly offered to donate items for our new playground. Your support is greatly appreciated. If there are any other businesses or individuals in our Community who would be happy to support us in the development of the play space then please don't hesitate to contact us. We are hopeful to have more of the playground completed by the end of April. You could also support by coming along to our Quiz Night (Saturday 19th May) where all funds raised will be going towards the playground development.

Kind Regards Katrina, Adele, Cindy, Cindus and Joan.



YOUTH NIGHT

Come and hang out in the Moutere

We'll be kicking back, taking it easy, and chilling with our mates

Every 2nd & 4th Friday Night - 13th & 27th April

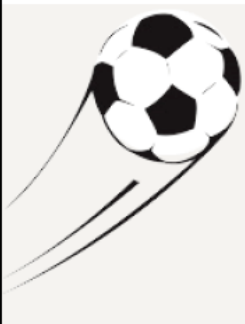
7:00pm - 9:00pm - FREE Entry

High school age and upwards welcome



BASKETBALL * TABLE TENNIS * WII * MUSIC * VOLLEYBALL * CHILL OUT ROOM * FOOD AVAILABLE * PLUS MORE!

Proudly supported by the Moutere Community Youth Trust and the Moutere Hills Community Centre



RANGERS ADULTS FUTSAL

Rangers Football Club will be offering Adult Social Futsal (indoor football)

Tuesday's at 8pm (Begins on 1st May)

Only \$3 per person per session

A fun social sport suitable for all abilities. Must be 15 years old or older.



RANGERS NETBALL CLUB

REGISTRATIONS OPEN FOR 2018 SEASON

We have teams playing in grade 1, 2 & 3 this season in the Motueka league.

So if you are a super keen netball player, or you just want to have some fun out on the court with our social team, we have a team for you!

There are spaces available in all teams so if you are interested contact Louise Horrell on 027 570 5933



Phone: 543 2516

Email: enquiries@mouterehills.org.nz

Website: www.mouterehills.org.nz



MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE



MOTHERS DAY BRUNCH

SUNDAY 13TH MAY 2018

BUFFET BRUNCH - OPEN FROM 10.00AM

MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE - FUNCTION ROOM

Celebrate Mums special day with a delicious brunch at an affordable price!

Adults: \$18:00

Children: \$10:00 (under 12 years)

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

To book your table please contact us at: functions@mouterehills.org.nz or on 03 5432516



QUIZ EVENING

Saturday 26th May

from 6:30pm



\$15 per person includes nibbles throughout the evening!

Bar open, raffles, spot prizes.

Join your friends and family and enter a table (6-8 people).

All funds raised will go towards the up-grade of the playground and picnic area.

To book a team email functions@mouterehills.org.nz or phone 5432 516

Moutere Hills Community Fitness Centre

A great place to train!

Quality equipment out of the US, access from 4am -11pm daily, free classes and affordable membership fees!

Personal Training available to help you achieve your goals, recover from injury or improve your wellbeing. Only \$20 for 30 minutes or \$40 for 60 minutes.

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damienoconnormp

Authorised by Damien O'Connor. 208A Palmerston Street, Westport



The Big Jump!

By Liana Brown

*There I was shivering at the edge of the jetty.
Beneath me was the depths of the icy, cold
water.*

1, 2, 3. Splash!

*When I had finally emerged I felt the cold
water sink into my skin.*

*Once I had clambered out of the clear, blue
lake, I yelled...*

"That was exciting I want to do that again!"

Run, run, run, Splash!



Mapua Playcentre

We're running a series of family profiles over the coming months to introduce some of our playcentre families and what they love about playcentre. This is from Aliesha who comes with her son Remy, 17 months.

We moved to Redwood Valley when Remy was a few weeks old. As a new mum, not knowing many people, I was recommended the SPACE programme held by the Richmond Playcentre. As I learned more about Playcentre I decided to take Remy to the Mapua Playcentre and immediately felt welcomed by all the friendly families and staff.

In the beginning Remy enjoyed the blocks and trains in the baby section and now he's 17 months he enjoys all the activities outside. Some of his favourites are the dolphin swing, the sandpit, the paint, which he has finally accomplished some art, (in previous months he was only interested in eating it which thankfully are nontoxic). Now Remy is becoming more interested in the woodworking area and playing next to the older children.

Mapua Playcentre has been a prominent place for families in the Mapua community for over 60 years. We have a qualified supervisor on each session and we love having visitors so please feel welcome to drop in at any time and find out what Kiwi families have been embracing for generations.

We offer a term of free sessions for first time families and all children under two are free. Session times are Mondays and Fridays 9:30am – 12 noon during school terms. You can find us at 84 Aranui Road (behind the tennis courts by the scout den). Alternatively, please contact us with any questions you have either by phone: Kathryn on 021 2534264, email: mapuaplaycentre@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.



MAPUA TOY LIBRARY

Open every first and third Tuesday in the month
10-11am & 6.30-7.30pm

We cater for kids aged 0-6

- Puzzles
- Games
- Toys (big and small)
- Outdoor toys
- Bouncy castle hire
- Casual hire for birthday parties
- Novelty cake tins

MAPUA COMMUNITY TOY LIBRARY

Mapua Community Hall

72 Aranui Rd

www.facebook.com/MapuaToyLibrary

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UPPER MOUTERE play group

WE MEET EVERY FRIDAY 10AM-12PM
MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE.

WE PROVIDE AND SHARE MORNING TEA.
POP IN FOR A CUPPA WITH LOCAL PARENTS!

ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT
ANNA 021 262 6675 OR JOSI 027 374 8223

ALL FAMILIES WELCOME!

MOUTERE COMMUNITY YOUTH

April 2018

JUNIOR YOUTH is for kids in **years 5 - 7**, we meet at the **Upper Moutere Church hall** (Supplejack Valley) on **Fridays** during the school term, time - **3:30-5pm**, but can come over earlier after school for afternoon tea snack (a gold coin donation). Generally the **cost is \$2** each week, but more if we go to Wave Rave or similar activity.

April **6th** **Lego Logistics**
 13th **Wave Rave, meet at 6.30pm, back about 9.30, cost \$10, (combined with Intermediate)**

INTERMEDIATE YOUTH is for those in **years 7-8-9**, a **fortnightly** program meeting on the 2nd and 4th Fridays at the **UMO church hall. 5:30-7pm** with some food to keep growly tummies at bay, cost is **\$5**.

April **13th** **Wave Rave, meet at 6.30pm, back about 9.30, cost \$10, (combined with Junior)**

SENIOR YOUTH is for **years 9-13**, also meeting **fortnightly** on the 1st and 3rd Fri/Sat, meeting at UMO church hall at **7.30pm**. We can drop youth off to home after activities in the youth van if required.

April **6th** **Sports Night, meet at Moutere Hills Community Centre**
 21st **FFF (Fast Food Fun) Saturday**

Any questions please ask away...

Tessa Werner 022 101 2276/Billy Werner 021 027 28825

moutereyouth@gmail.com

Facebook - Moutere Community Youth

MOUTERE COMMUNITY YOUTH

April Holiday Activities 2018

The holidays are on the horizon - how on earth are you going to fill your days? Here are five ideas of what we are going to do during the first week of the school holidays.

- 1) - the BIKE day, not technical mt biking, but trail riding, maybe a tunnel.
- 2) - the WATER day, hot/cold/warm water? The weather will decide.
- 3) - the OP SHOP day, what amazing outfit can be put together after scouring the op shops?
- 4) - the CRAFT day, this will involve a sewing machine.
- 5) - the TRAMPING day, with the hope of having our lunch somewhere scenic.

These activities will take place on the **16,17,18,19 & 20 April** and obviously the weather will help decide the order. This is for all our youth group ages: **year 5** (about 9/10yrs old) to **year 13** (about 17/18yrs old). Cost is \$15 per day, plus extra for Op shop and Craft day. You will need to provide lunch and appropriate gear (hats/rain jacket/walking shoes etc). We meet at 9am and finish at 3pm (mostly!), drop off and pick up at UMO church hall, 7 Supplejack Valley Road. Limited numbers so if you're keen let us know!

QUESTIONS?

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UPPER MOUTERE

Green Tomato Chow Chow

Recipe by Soo Gee

Ingredients:

3kg green tomatoes, cut into wedges
5 onions, sliced
500gm treacle
2tbsp curry powder
2tbsp mustard
1tbsp salt
2 lts malt vinegar
5 tbsp flour

Method:

Put tomatoes and onions in large pot. Add curry powder, mustard, salt and vinegar. Bring to boil. Cook gently for 1 hour.

Mix flour with extra vinegar and add to chow chow. Stir and cook for further 20 mins, stirring occasionally. Pour into hot jars and seal.

You can make this with a mixture of vegetables eg cauliflower, beans, cucumber, broccoli, etc.

FRIED GREEN TOMATOES

Recipe by Soo Gee

Ingredients:

Green tomatoes
Egg
Milk
Flour
Breadcrumbs (optional)

Method:

Cut tomatoes 2cm thick. Beat an egg and a little milk. Coat tomatoes in flour and dip into egg mixture. Repeat. Coat again in flour and/or breadcrumbs.

Fry in hot oil. This dish is nice with chutney or yoghurt with chopped gherkins.

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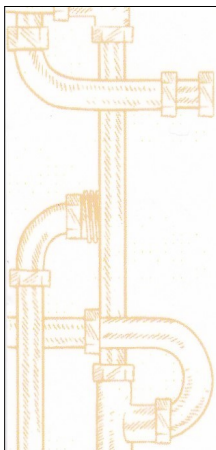
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Rabbits and the new strain of calicivirus (K5)

The Ministry of Primary Industries has approved the release of a new strain of calicivirus or Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease virus (RHD) to help manage the pest rabbit population.

It is going to be released in Canterbury, Otago and Marlborough in autumn 2018 but is expected to spread beyond these areas over time as one of the main ways RHD is spread is by flies which can travel long distances. RHD is also easily passed between infected rabbits, exposure to dead rabbits, on food bowls and bedding and through fly 'spots' (faeces). Only a tiny dose of virus is necessary to cause disease in rabbits. The virus is difficult to kill and survives in the environment for months.

Symptoms: The main symptom we see is sudden death. A normal healthy rabbit can die within hours. Rabbits can be unwell for a longer period of time but still usually die.

Treatment: There is no specific treatment for affected rabbits. Supportive treatment such as fluids and warmth may help a milder case.

Prevention: Cylap vaccine is available for vaccination against the older strain of calicivirus (v351). The manufacturers do not claim that it is effective against K5. However information from Australia indicates that Cylap will protect rabbits against K5.

For rabbits 12 weeks and older: one vaccination followed by annual boosters

For rabbits less than 12 weeks old: first vaccination at 10-12 weeks old then a booster 4 weeks later followed by annual boosters. (This protocol can also be used for rabbits living in high risk areas e.g. living rurally with wild rabbits.)

Other ways to reduce the risk of calicivirus infection:

- Control insects especially flies and fleas indoors and outdoors
- Remove uneaten food and clean out soiled bedding daily
- Consider keeping pet rabbits indoors
- Rabbit-proof your garden to keep wild rabbits out
- Regularly clean cages, hutches, bowls with 10% bleach (10 minutes contact time is required then rinse off)
- Limit contact with unfamiliar pet rabbits
- Wash hands and clothing after handling other rabbits/before handling yours
- Avoid cutting grass/weeds and feeding them to your rabbit if there is risk of contamination from wild rabbits.

NB Please be aware that Cylap vaccine comes in 10ml vials which provides 1ml doses for 10 rabbits. Once opened the vaccine must be used within 10 hours. In our clinic we vaccinate rabbits on the first Tuesday of every month. However due to increased demand at the moment, we are doing extra days – please phone the clinic on 544 1200 if you would like more information.

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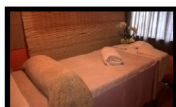
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