The Grapevine

MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY NEWS

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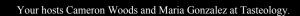
Code Red Firey
Fundraiser for our local
fire crews at Moutere
Inn 8 June 2019.

Tasteology Food Cart Night with Viva La Vaca 22 June 2019.

Thank you for reading and supporting the advertisers







The abundance of wonderful local produce was the inspiration behind Tasteology, a new food and drink experience at the Kahurangi Estate in Upper Moutere.

"A large part of Tasteology is the cellar door for Kahurangi but we also showcase local beer, cider and beautiful food sourced from the region," explains Maria Gonzalez, who launched the new venture last September together with business partner Cameron Woods.

The pair had previously worked for five years at Neudorf Vineyards—Cameron as cellar door manager and Maria as part of the cellar door team—so they knew they worked well together.

"We saw an awesome opportunity at Kahurangi Estate to go out on our own," says Maria. "There are so many fabulous artisan food producers in the area, as well as the craft beer scene, wonderful wines and ciders, and we wanted Tasteology to encompass all these facets."

Daytime visitors can taste Kahurangi Estate wines at the cellar door or enjoy a drink outside in the sunshine or by the fire in the barrel hall during the colder months. "Kahurangi Estate has an amazing portfolio of wines," says Maria. "The premium Mt. Arthur reserve range includes Riesling, Chardonnay, Fumé Blanc, Pinot Noir and let's not forget the Montepulciano."

Substantial platters of "local deliciousness" are available too, with toasted sourdough and olive oil, cheeses, crackers, olives, cured meats and the likes of cider poached pears or beer pickled onions, depending on what's in season. "We also have a seafood platter with fish paté, smoked fish and green lipped mussels," says Maria. This can be followed up with homemade chocolate brownies with peanut praline or other locally made sweet treats.

Tasteology also has monthly Foodie Food Cart Nights, with guests purchasing food from the cart and enjoying it in relaxed, casual style at the tables in the barrel hall. The next is on 22 June, when Viva La Vaca will bring a slice of Argentinian slow-cooked goodness.

"We will also be having our Kitchen Takeover events where we invite a local chef to come in and formulate a menu for around 40 diners. Michael McMeeken, Head Chef from Stonefly Lodge, has crafted a fabulous menu, which we will be showcasing on Saturday 15 June," says Maria. "Canapes and a three course menu will be matched with accompanying beverages. Past events have been chocka and for this one, bookings are essential."

Tasteology is open every day from 11am to 5pm. Keep your eye out in the Grapevine for upcoming Food Cart and Kitchen Takeover events. Bookings on 03 543 2983.

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 Tanya Doty at the Old Post Office/Moutere Gold.

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, Beverly Sellers, Sharon Beuke, Heather Eggers and Annabel Duncan.

Disclaimer

Views expressed in articles in The Grapevine are not necessarily those of The Grapevine team or its editor. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information included in this publication, The Grapevine takes no responsibility for errors or omissions or for any consequences of reliance on this information. Publication of advertising material implies no endorsement of either a product or a service.

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The Sarau Community Trust is delighted to announce that in 2019 the following Moutere organisations have applied for and received grants totalling close to \$20,000:

- Empire Dance
- Youth Group
- Country Kids
- The Empowerment Trust
- Tasman Gymnastic Club
- The Moutere Kai Collective
- The Moutere Youth Trust
- The Moutere Tennis Club
- St Pauls Community Assistance Fund
- Moutere Hills Community Centre

We wish to congratulate these groups on the fantastic community involvement and support they provide in our area. We have also congratulated the Residents and Ratepayers Group on their initiative in the footpath project and advised that we will support this project when further costings are available.

In total now the Sarau Community Trust have made \$182,000





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come and see us, we're nice

open every day 11am - 5pm

If you love local wine, food, beer & cider in a relaxed rural setting - come and join us for a tasting, stay for a local platter and a glass of Kahurangi Estate wine, craft beer or cider.

Kitchen Take Over

Saturday 15th June 5.30pm to 8.30pm

Come and join us for an intimate culinary dining experience

Canapés and a three course menu crafted by Stonef ly Lodge Head Chef Michael McMeeken with accompanying beverages

\$95 pp Bookings essential as space is strictly limited

Foodie Food Cart Night v.4.0

Saturday 22nd June 5pm to 8.30pm



Viva La Vaca Slow Cooked Goodness Barrel Hall

We fill up quickly so give us a call, or email us and we will reserve a table for your group

Tasteology ⊚ Kahurangi Estate cnr Sunrise Road & Moutere Highway, RD1, Upper Moutere 7173 p. 03 543 2983 | e. taste⊚tasteology.co.nz

Sarau Winter Sale

Second-Hand Books Pre-Loved Clothing and a Cosy Cafe



27th & 28th July

Saturday & Sunday

11am - 3pm

Moutere Hills Community Centre

The Moutere Kai Collective grateful for ongoing support

Our Moutere Kai Collective recently received a very generous grant from the **Sarau Community Trust**. Thanks goes out to the Trustees for believing in our project! The Trust were the original funders of our Kai Collective and have continued their substantial annual support. We think it's fair to say we couldn't have done it without the Trust's support, and we will be using this latest grant to buy some very useful equipment.

In the last few months our collective has been busy keeping our freezers stocked up. It was gratifying to be able to produce a couple of hundred meals for the fire efforts in early February. We worked alongside the church group and with our combined funds, expertise, quick access to volunteers (we got full teams within the hour!), recipes, shopping lists, supply connections, containers and easy access to the MHCC kitchen, we were able to help in a safe and highly effective way.

The Moutere Kai Collective is run by a core team of three, who have the support of about 30 fantastic and reliable volunteers and a Facebook group with over a

hundred members. We cook about every 4-8 weeks, in the MHCC kitchen. These cook-ups are fun and social and have offered a lot of much appreciated community connection.













How do I use the Kai Collective?

- 1. Identify a family or friend in need of love and support
- 2. Collect a meal or two from the MHCC there's a freezer in the foyer or from Country Kids (or the Mapua Kai Collective have meals at Mapua school, Delicious Store & the Mapua Hall)
- 3. Deliver the meal to your friend and make the world a little brighter...

How can I help the Kai Collective?

- By gifting our meals out into our community.
- Donate to help support our costs: NBS 03-1354-0423793-00
- Volunteer, by joining our 'The Moutere Kai Collective' Facebook page or emailing Anna haddonanna@gmail.com

Got any feedback? Please feel free to send it through to



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.



The *Wakefield Apple Fair* organising committee wishes to thank the following local businesses who generously provided sponsorship and support, and the many volunteers and community groups who gave up their time to make our 2019 event possible.

Key supporters: Tasman District Council, Network Tasman and Richards' Orchard

Hoddy's Orchard
Appleton's Tree Nursery
Mountain Valley Honey
New Zealand Apple Products
Motueka Hire
Pic's Peanut Butter
Goulter's Vinegar Products
Fruitfed Supplies
NBS Motueka
Byrne Carriers
Buildright 2010
Nelson Heritage Festival
Tall Poppy Real Estate

Small Sips Whakatu

Talleys
The Rutherford Hotel
Villa Grove Estate
Abel Tasman AquaTaxi
Richmond Lions
Motueka Cadet Unit
Bowater Motor Group
Ray White Richmond
The Cancer Society
The Car Company
G&K Event Hire
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The Breeze
Wakefield Print

Chooks for Sale

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John McFadgen 021 234 4990





A Tesla charging station is now available at $\label{eq:Newdorf} \mbox{Neudorf Vineyards}.$

138 Neudorf Road.

Available 9 to 5 pm Monday to Friday during Winter.



Turn your horse show ribbons into quilts, wall hangings, cushions or tote bags.

Call me to discuss your requirements

Sue - Tel: 0210 2510273

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1kg freeflow packs \$7.00

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What's Happening In June

Live Music 7pm Sat 8th "Code Red Fiery Fundraiser" Show your support for the ace volunteer fire men and women from the Upper Moutere fire brigade. With music from Sons of the Moutere and The Sauce, a silent auction, raffles and a \$10 entry fee. All money raised

The Darkside Showcase Mon 17th – Sun 24th

It's back and it's BLACK, the Angus Young of Tap Takeovers, it's the apocalypse of Ale, it's the inside of a cow. See our website for full details.

Cigars and Whisky 7pm Thursday 27th

goes to the Upper Moutere Fire Brigade.

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.

Don't Forget

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A Day in the life....High Places

MARKHA VALLEY & DZO JONGO

India is beautiful, rich and poor, and diverse beyond belief - a total and often overwhelming assault on the senses. Amid so much noise, heat and activity, the equanimity and dignity of its people reveals a spiritual strength often lacking in the west.

The Markha Valley is at times wide enough for a village, in other places it is little more than a rocky gorge. We have linked this colourful trek with an unusual finish, across a high and little used pass at 5349m with views as far as the Karakoram, the Pamirs and Tibet.

Nearby is Dzo Jongo, a rarely climbed yet accessible peak at 6096m overlooking the plain of Nimaling. If fitness and weather allow, those who wish can follow an easy angled ridge to its summit.

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Got too many Books?

Donate your preloved books to the SARAU WINTER SALE

27th & 28th of July 2019



Please call Sharon to arrange drop-off: 027 432 8145

Or wait until the 26th of July and bring them straight to the MHCC.

THANKS!



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COASTAL GARDEN CLUB

Meets first Thursday of the month in the Tasman Bible Hall (opp. Jesters) at 1pm

Men and women most welcome to share their love of gardening. Guest speakers, workshops and garden visits

Ph. 03 528 5405

Craft n Connect

Craft n Connect at the Old Post office in Upper Moutere at the last Wednesday of the month from 1.30 till 3.30 pm.

Bring your knitting, crochet, drawing, embroidery or any craft and enjoy the company with others and have a lovely tea or coffee with cake from the cafe.

Info: Marijke Lup 02102319489



UPPER MOUTERE PLAYGROUP are NOW HOLDING a *NEW*
PLAYGROUP SESSION JUST FOR BABIES

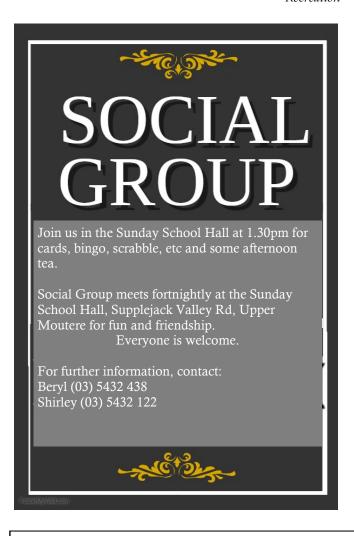
Wednesdays 9.30 - 11am

MOUTER HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tea & Coffee Provided

Just Drop in When it suits you

any queries please call renee 027 293 7326 Friday Playgroup Still on as Normal, 10 -12PM For all preschoolers



Looking for a fun way to exercise? Enjoy Dancing?

Come join us,
The Motueka Scottish Country Dance Group
meet every Wednesday,
7.30pm, in Lower Moutere Scout Den.
No partner necessary. First night free.

Enquiries
Ph Fay 0210393559 or Alison 0220363891.



MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE



Dear Community

We wish to thank everyone who contributed to our recent Community Consultation, whether it was by completing surveys, emailing feedback through or attending our consultation evening. We value your input and are currently using the information gained to put together our strategic plan for the next 3 years. Once completed it will be available to view in the MHCC office.

With the winter upon us it can sometimes be hard to motivate ourselves to get out and about and retain a healthy, active lifestyle. Why not check out some of the great classes, activities and social sports we have on offer here at the centre, visit www.mouterehills.org.nz for more information.

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

COMMUNITY BANQUET

Come along for a fun night out

A delicious hearty meal in a lovely setting, with great company!



Saturday 29th June Doors and Bar open at 6pm Dinner served at 7pm

Adults \$30 per person Children \$15 (up to 12 years old)

Meet new people by booking a seat at the "Banquet Table" or book your own table.

Phone (03) 5432516 or email enquiries@mouterhills.org.nz

SOCIAL SPORTS

Come along and have a go at one of our evening social sports, only \$3 per person per session.

BadmintonTuesdays6:45pm—8:30pmTable TennisWednesdays7:00pm—9:00pmVolleyballThursdays6:45pm—8:15pm

Or if you are looking for something during the day

INDOOR SOCIAL BOWLS



moutere hills

Wednesday's
1.00pm – 3.00pm
Balls provided or bring your own. All levels welcome!

Phone: 543 2516

Email: enquiries@mouterehills.org.nz

Website: www.mouterehills.org.nz



MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Fitness Centre News



DON'T LET WINTER GET IN THE WAY, TRY ONE OF OUR CLASSES TODAY

Marv's Morning Bootcamp

Mondays 6am-6:45am

FREE for Fitness Centre members, or just \$5 for non-members!



Start your week off with some awesome motivation, heaps of fun and a great full body workout!

Great workout to fit in before work!

Stretch and Flex with Vicki

Tuesdays 9:30am-10:15am

FREE for Fitness Centre members, or just \$5 for non-members!

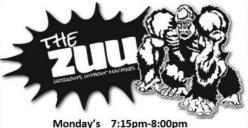


A great low impact class, designed to improve mobility, flexibility and core strength to benefit overall functionality and quality of life.

Beginners encouraged!

DON'T FORGET ABUT OUR FANTASTIC OTHER CLASSES ON OFFER AS WELL!





Monday's 7:15pm-8:00pm \$5 per person or FREE for Fitness Centre members.









Phone: 543 2516

Email: enquiries@mouterehills.org.nz

Website: www.mouterehills.org.nz





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Important news first; Queen Elizabeth II is kindly sharing her birthday weekend with pastel artists from Top of the South Island of New Zealand. So while she is in London having a boogie and blowing out 93 candles on her palace-themed birthday cake, our artists will be proudly exhibiting artwork in Mapua Community Hall. This is our annual exhibition; all paintings are for sale but are also there to be enjoyed and for you to appreciate the vibrancy of the pastel medium. Friday 31st May is Opening Night with the exhibition running on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, 1st - 3rd June, 9.30 a.m. until 4.30 p.m. daily. Opening Night will have been and gone before you read this article so sadly you will miss the legendary drinks and nibbles but we hope to see you in June to share our love of pastels and encourage you to vote for the "People's Choice" award (unless, of course, you have been invited to the Queen's birthday party).

Workshop, an interesting word but what does it mean exactly?

A shop for selling work? According to my husband, it is a grand name for a shed and having resorted to Google, this is fairly accurate definition. But there is another meaning, "a meeting at which a group of people engage in intensive discussion and activity on a particular subject or project". I'm not sure how intensive our pastel workshops are, but we do engage in them several times a year. They are always fun, often challenging and new skills are acquired. We are extremely fortunate to have tutors of international renown teaching in Mapua. Australian Karol Oakley taught colour harmony and planning a painting at the workshop on April 9 and 10 and all the painters who attended agreed that it was an excellent two days. Later in the year, another Australian artist, Tricia Taylor, will be joining us to consider first and last light. Light in a painting is crucial and I can guarantee that this workshop will be a sell-

For any information about our group please contact our Area Representative, Glenys Forbes on 03 540 3388 or by email gmforbes@ts.co.nz. You can visit our Facebook page: PANZ Pastel Artists of New Zealand to see national and international pastel artwork.



What's been happening

We were very excited to host the Tasman Mission for 2019. The Tasman Mission, organised by TDC, is a day of inspirational learning and combines the talents and enthusiasm of several local environmental educators. Activities were provided by a variety of organisations including the University of Otago, DOC, Project Janszoon, Forest and Bird, NMIT Ranger programme, TDC and more. Local year 5-8 students experienced global warming in a tent, identified poop and even managed an oil spill. We hope to host the event again next year as it is a fantastic opportunity for hands on learning.



Focus on The Duke of Edinburgh International Hilary Award Aotearoa

The Duke of Ed is an awards programme for 14-24 year olds. The Award is offered at Bronze, Silver and Gold level and participants complete four sections - Voluntary Service, Skills, Physical Recreation and an Adventurous Journey. At Gold level, participants also complete a Residential Project. WIO are now providers of the Adventurous Journey and also an Open Award Unit. This means you can register to do the Award with us if e.g. your school or youth group are not yet involved. We are currently the Hub leaders for the Top of the South and so we support other providers in delivering the Award. This is an exciting development for us as we see an awesome opportunity to

get people out into their communities and into the outdoors and recognise their achievement in these areas. Contact us if you'd like to hear more.

Outdoor Wanderings - Tasman Taste Trail

This month's outdoor wandering takes you to Kōhatu from where you can bike up the newly opened section of the Taste Trail to Spooner's Tunnel. There is a café at Kōhatu and you can park here and head straight onto the trail. It's a gentle uphill climb to the tunnel entrance through paddocks and pine forest and most of the time you are away from traffic. If you have small people you will need to help them over the few road crossings. Take a torch and explore the amazing tunnel — you can either continue on towards Wakefield or turn round and whizz back through the tunnel and down the hill to an ice cream treat!

We'll see you out there!

www.wio.org.nz info@wio.org.nz



Students from UMO school completing an activity at the Tasman Mission

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MOUTERE COMMUNITY YOUTH

Senior 7-9pm-ish Intermediate 4:30-6:30pm

Junior 3:30-5pm

7th

No youth—sorry:(

No youth—sorry:(

10th

The Normal Night: Prize for best fancy dressed, 7pm at church hall, \$2

Lets SMASH some records: like 'Worlds longest handshake - 10 hours', & pizza after, \$5

21st

Card Sharks: Playing the hand you're dealt in life, 7pm, church hall, \$5

Massive Games: Last man standing etc..., \$2

28th

Safari Supper: involving dinner and travel - but to where?, 7pm, church hall, \$5

See in the dark?: games in the dark (ish), & nachos during, \$5

5th

Sports Night: This is our traditional, first Friday of the month activity, easy to remember! Meet at MHCC, \$2

Amazing Games: At the maze, \$2

Senior Youth:

for those in year 9 and above - we meet EVERY Friday (or sometimes Saturdays or Sunday afternoons). Meet at 7pm. We will also join in with other youth groups in the community every now and then for combined events. Also check the Moutere Community Youth Facebook page for updates. Cost is \$2 or

more depending on what

we get up to.

Intermediate Youth:

for those in years 7, 8 or 9. We also meet FORTNIGHTLY on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month, also at UMO church hall. 4.30 - 6.30pm. We will doing an activity plus have a dinner/discussion time. Cost is generally \$5

Junior Youth:

for those in years 5, 6, or 7. We meet FORTNIGHTLY on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at the UMO church hall (Supplejack Valley Rd), 3.30 – 5pm but come over for afternoon tea beforehand if you like.

QUESTIONS? Tessa Werner 022 101 2276 moutereyouth@gmail.com

Playcentre \$

Wondering what activities to do with your children now the season has changed? Mapua playcentre is full of great things to do during these colder months of the year. Our centre is full of toys, games, puzzles, art supplies, musical instruments, crafts and dress ups. Outside we have a fantastic playground with slides, swings, sports equipment, obstacle courses and gigantic sandpit.

Our supervisor and parents set up different activities to engage your children in play, that use both the natural resources and centre equipment. There is always something to inspire creativity and hold the attention of pre-school children of all ages. Your child is going to love what we have to offer, and you are going to love having a place to go that can provide a morning of pleasure for you both.

Come and check us out. 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.

From the Mouth of a Playcentre babe...

Mum: "Why are you rubbing your carrots on your eyes? Don't play with your dinner." Master 4: "But carrots make your eyes good and I want to see in the dark!"



"Whanau tupu ngatahi — families growing together"









Harcourts "The Big Little Office in Mapua"



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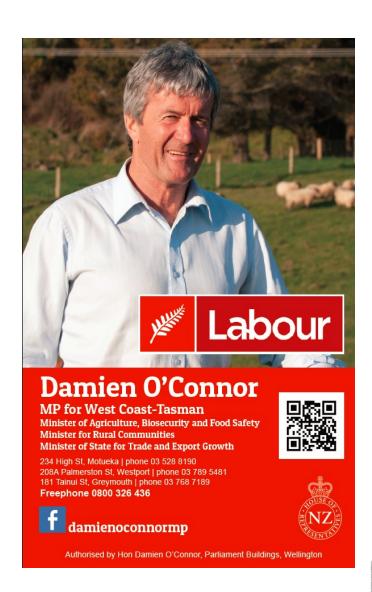
southfuels



Each fuel purchase earns rewards for our local Schools



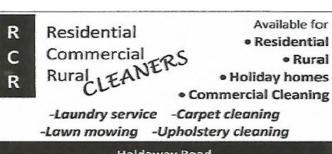
Ph 543 2707 Main Road, Upper Moutere



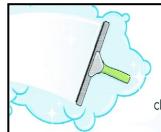








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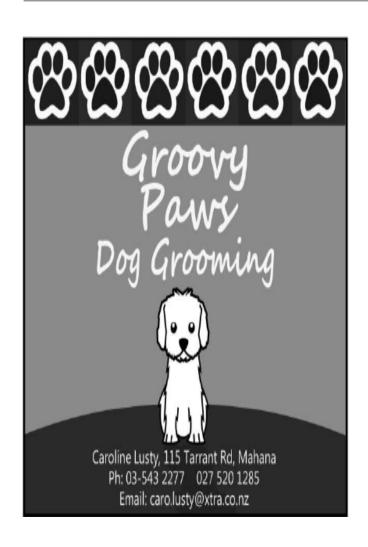
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Let's talk about Teeth

Over the last few years, the field of veterinary dentistry has expanded hugely in knowledge and also across many species. There is so much more information about animals and their teeth that it is a specialist subject.

At home with our pets there is no need to put up with stinky breath, gum disease and broken teeth – there is so much more we can do!

The most common dental health problem we see in pets is periodontal disease. This starts with inflammation of the gums around the teeth which progresses to plaque, tartar, infection and eventually loose teeth. Bacteria in the mouth easily get into the blood stream through these diseased gums and spread to other organs such as heart and kidneys. The same thing happens in humans but we brush our teeth twice a day every day to prevent it.

70% of cats and 85% of dogs over 3 years of age are affected by periodontal disease

The main symptom of periodontal disease is smelly breath. Sometimes there might be drooling or trouble eating but animals don't often show signs of pain. The other oral health issues we see include broken teeth, worn teeth, tooth decay, tumours, overbites, underbites, baby teeth that haven't fallen out, oronasal fistulas and fractures.

In the clinic we have to anaesthetise animals to do dentistry effectively. It's not possible to do a good job while a dog or cat is trying

to get away! Or bite! As in humans dental xrays are essential to see below the gums and fully assess teeth health. Damaged teeth are treated as necessary which often means extraction. But specialist veterinary dentists can do root canals, fillings, crowns, bridges and yes even braces. We always finish off with a thorough clean and polish to make those teeth sparkle!

Prevention is best. Just as with humans, it is recommended that your pet experiences the mechanical process of a good toothbrushing every day. So, get brushing! It makes a HUGE difference! And it also means you are seeing their mouth every day so see problems early.

Dental diets, dental chews, chew toys, additives in water and oral gels all help to slow down dental disease but toothbrushing is the gold standard – the same as people. Once developed, periodontal disease can be managed but not eliminated.

It is estimated good dental hygiene can add 2-4 years to your pet's life as well as ensuring they get the quality of life they deserve.

Other interesting animal teeth facts:

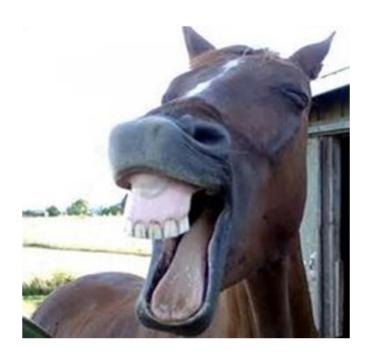
Snails have the most teeth of any animal. But they're not like regular teeth. A snail's teeth are arranged in rows on its tongue. A garden snail has about 14,000 teeth, while other species can have over 20,000!

Rabbits, squirrels and rodents have teeth that never stop growing. They have to chew on tough foods like nuts, leaves and bark to wear down their teeth and keep them from growing too long.

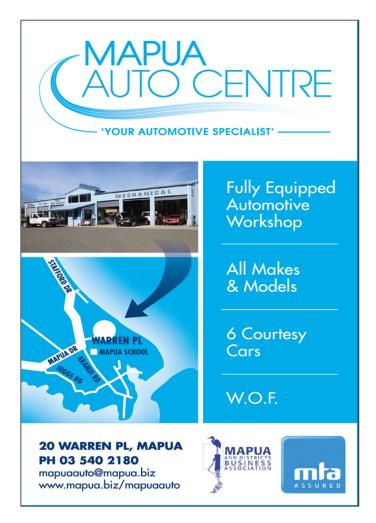
Sharks constantly lose their teeth. Sharks' teeth are positioned in rows within their mouths that simply move forward as they lose them. They usually lose at least one tooth per week—that's why you can find shark teeth on the beach.

Hippopotamuses have the longest canine teeth of any animal. At 1 meter long, the incisors of a hippo can bite right through a small boat.











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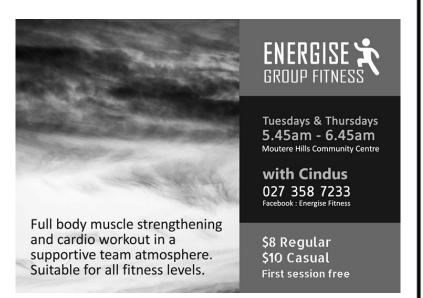


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Have you seen this cat?

When my partner and I purchased our first house together, we established some rules.

- The bathroom was not to contain the colour blue in any form.
- The kitchen was going to have a good range cooker. This was in case the relatives all turned up for Christmas. Of course, there was no 'in case', they turned up anyway. As I was wrestling with a turkey the size of small Scottish island, pushing it into the oven, I never thought 'thank god we got a range cooker'. No, I was thinking why did we ever give them the correct address.
- No dog. The garden wasn't big enough, and we both worked long days, so it was impracticable to have one.
- No cats. For the same reason as rule number 3 but also because I was scared of them.
- No other pets of any kind, including but not restricted to Boa constrictors, tarantulas, hamsters and goldfish.

I remember having goldfish as young teenager. I had won them at a fair and I carried them home in a plastic bag. I was told by everyone that they would be dead in the morning. Having fish as pets is a bit strange. Its not like you can take them out for a walk or pick them up and cuddle them. You just have to watch them swim round and round and hope they are enjoying a fulfilling life.

My two goldfish didn't die so I named them Dave and Annie, after the Eurythmics duo of Annie Lennox and Dave Stewart. They continued to live very happily (as far as I could tell) in their bowl, even after I had left home. It was at this point that my parents believed that Dave and Annie needed re-homing. God knows why. Maybe the upkeep of two fish was too much for my middle-aged parents. Dave and Annie were re-homed at my cousin's. Shortly after their move Dave and Annie decided the only way was up and they floated to the top of their bowl together, in what looked like a suicide pact. Dave and Annie plus the Eurythmics were no more. Sweet Dreams.

So, my partner and I agreed on the no pets rule. But we both knew that I really wanted a dog and my partner really wanted a cat. If I wasn't having a dog, then we were not getting a cat either.

The house we purchased was the first one in the street to be built and the first one to be burgled. The number of other people's pets in our street grew as houses were built around us. There were several cats and dogs. However, it was a pair of kittens who wandered up our street that caught my partners eye. Tortoise shell in colour, Bonnie and Clyde were very inquisitive about their new surroundings. Clyde was the braver of the two and if he saw a front door open, he would investigate, with Bonnie not too far behind him. As they got older Bonnie grew in confidence until she would walk up the road by herself. It was at this stage that my partner began to encourage the cat towards the inside of our house.

I distinctly remember one sunny evening, when Bonnie was hanging around our back door asking my partner to please not feed that cat, or we will end up with a cat. Bonnie moved in the next day.

Ok it wasn't quite as simple as that. Yes, my partner had started feeding Bonnie, and yes, the cat began to turn up every day. She had a lovely nature and I too was beginning to get attached to her (the cat, not my partner, although obviously I was attached to her too), but the reality was she belonged to the family at the bottom of our street.

The family had a reputation of not looking after their pets properly and their other cats had disappeared or had been fatally injured. So, Bonnie kept visiting us everyday and spending more and more time in our company. We then heard that the family were moving. We decided quickly that Bonnie, their cat had to stay with us. We hatched a plan.

On the day of the move for the family, we locked Bonnie in our house, placed a new collar on her, with a name tag and our phone number. On the other side of the tag it read 'please do not feed'. She was going to be our cat. We both left for work passing the removal van at the bottom of street and not daring to look to see if they were looking at an empty cat box.

Later that day I was talking to Steve one of our other neighbours. He lived 4 doors down. As we were just idly talking, I said "I see the McKay's are moving out. I wonder if they are taking all their cats especially that nice one Bonnie". Steve looked at me and replied, "do they have a cat called Bonnie too, because that's the name of our cat". I suddenly realised that Bonnie the cat, who at this very moment, was locked in our house, with our phone number on her collar belonged to him. I finished our chat very quickly and got home to find Bonnie stretched out on the bed. I removed her collar and put the old one back on before I could let her out.

My partner arrived home and I quickly filled her in that Bonnie belonged to Steve not the family that had just moved. Having averted a near neighbourly disaster, we still continued to have Bonnie visit us every day.

After a couple of weeks something strange was happening in our street. As I drove towards our house, I kept noticing bits of clothing on the road. Socks and underwear mainly. This continued for months and the underwear would sometimes be in our drive or at our front door. One morning we watched as Bonnie was walking up the drive with a sock in her mouth. She was taking clothing from Steve's house and depositing it at our door.

We gathered up all the underwear and headed to Steve's house. It was time to come clean. We explained what had been happening and how Bonnie was spending more and more time with us. He was remarkably good about it and said that Bonnie had made her choice to live with us. We ended up with the cat and vet bills from then on.

A year later we emigrated to NZ. We were going to take Bonnie with us. On the form it asked if the animal had any special qualities. We put down that Bonnie was an awesome possum hunter. But Ireland don't have any possums, was the reply. "Exactly", I said.

By L.M.

"Sweet dreams are made of this" Eurythmics

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Chandrakirti 20th Anniversary Prayer Festival



Geshes build the mandala

Chandrakirti Meditation Centre is a Tibetan Buddhist centre based at Upper Moutere. During May the prayer festival at the centre included the creation of sand mandalas. The construction of sand mandalas transmits positive energies to the environment and to the people who view them and are believed to effect purification and

healing.

You can find out more about the Chandrakirti Meditation Centre at http://www.chandrakirti.co.nz/

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Guests watch the construction of the mandala

Recipe: Roasted Fish

This month Soo Gee suggests a delicious light meal with plenty of vegetables - tasty and satisfying.

Pre-heat oven to 200c, brush a roasting dish with a tablespoon of olive oil (more if needed). Thinly slice 4 red-skinned potatoes and one leek and spread these out over the base of the pan. Drizzle with one cup of vegetable stock, bake for 20 minutes.

Chop $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of parsley, $\frac{1}{3}$ cup hazelnuts, 2 tablespoons lemon rind, 1 clove garlic and mix them together.

Take four fillets of boned, skinned fish of your choice and lightly press the parsley mixture on to one side of each fillet. Place the fillets crumbed side up on top of the potato and leeks and bake for another 8-10 minutes or until the potatoes and fish are just cooked.

Serve with the following:

Finely slice 300 grams of brussel sprouts, heat a small amount of olive oil in a large fry pan over a medium heat, add the sprouts and cook for 3-4 minutes, tossing as they cook. Add ½ cup vegetable stock and 1 cup of frozen peas. Toss over heat for a further 3-4 minutes, season to taste and serve.

Dairy free and gluten free if your stock is gluten free. You can change vegetables to suit your taste to whatever is on hand.



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