

The Grapevine

MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY NEWS

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Sarau Winter Sale needs volunteers - see page 3

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and for supporting the advertisers.

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Sarau Winter Sale

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WINTER SALE**

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July 25th & 26th
11am - 3pm

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A fundraiser for Sarau Community Trust



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Sending us articles of interest

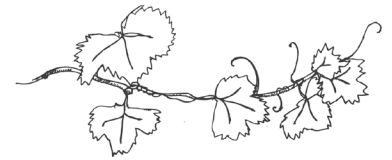
We warmly welcome contributions to The Grapevine from all residents in the Moutere and Tasman regions. You make the newsletter an interesting read! There is no cost for having your articles published if you are telling the community about a fundraising venture. However we do appreciate a donation from commercial ventures to help us cover our printing costs—see email address above to get 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.

The Grapevine circulation is approximately 1400 copies. This issue has been constructed by volunteers: Jenny Leith, Sharon Beuke, Bessie Adie, Kirsty Vanderwerff, Sue McGregor, Glenys Johnston and Fi Johnstone.

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. All adverts are required to present a name or contact details so that people can respond directly should they have any queries or concerns. Publication of advertising material implies no endorsement of either a product or a service.



Grapevine Says...

The Sarau Winter Sale, a wonderful opportunity to pick up some great books, trendy clothes and to enjoy hot soup, home-baked cooking and a cuppa. Live music provided by locals. All the proceeds go to The Sarau Community Trust which supports groups and activities in our local community. By the community for the community. We look forward to seeing you there!

As July unfolds, we continue to embrace Matariki - a time to pause, reflect, and connect with whānau and friends in celebration. The season has offered prime conditions for planting. Beuke's Bush and the Weka Walk on Moore Road are thriving with their plantings—perfect for a weekend wander and quiet moment beneath the winter sky.

Thanks again to all of you who contribute to the Grapevine and of course to our regular team of volunteers who put this all together.



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Sarau Winter Sale

How can you help to be part of this great community fundraiser event?

Friday 24 July 4pm for approximately one hour of unloading boxes of books (children welcome)

Sunday 26 July 3.30pm for approximately one hour packing away books and tables

Baking at home for our 'pop-up' café – please deliver by Saturday 25 July 11am

No experience or registration needed, just willingness to be part of the team.

If you'd like to help out during the weekend – please contact jennyleith@gmail.com or 021 231 3947

Or, just turn up, buy books and clothing, have lunch, and enjoy the community fun!



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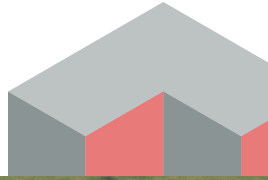
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Community Noticeboard

UPPER MOUTERE PLAYGROUP We meet every Monday and Friday 10am - 1pm, Moutere Hills Community Centre, all families welcome. Contact Anna/Kaitlin: Moutereplaygroup@gmail.com

DOVEDALE COMMUNITY MARKET Buy, sell, swap, giveaway. 10am-1pm every 2nd Sunday monthly. Enquiries: margi@redmagpie.co.nz

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THE MOUTERE KAI COLLECTIVE is linked to the Motueka Food Network. If you want information about which foodbanks are open and on which days - check out the poster on the wall in the MHCC foyer.



GIVE YOUR CLOTHES NEW LIFE

Donate your used and pre-loved clothes to be sold at the

Sarau Winter Sale!

SARAU SALE
JULY 25th & JULY 26th

Fundraiser for Sarau Community trust and Motueka High School Yr 12 Textiles Class

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PLEASE DROP OFF BY: **WEDNESDAY 15th JULY**

*** PLEASE BRING YOUR CLOTHES IN GOOD CONDITION!**



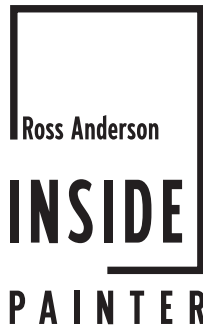
SARAU WINTER SALE 2026

GOT TOO MANY BOOKS?

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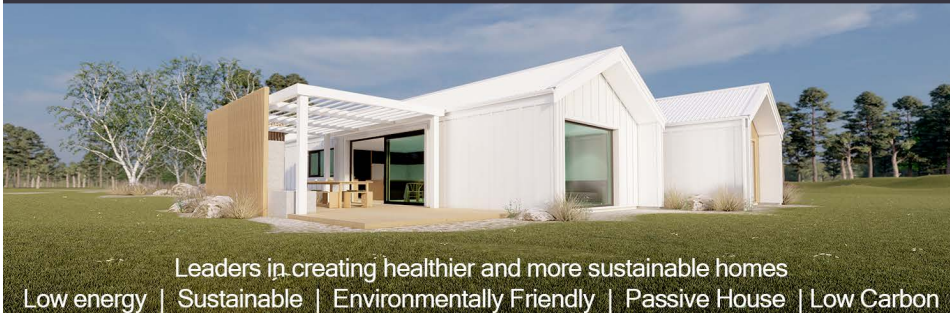
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Moutere Birdsong Venture Out...

Those who walk or bike down the new walkway that joins the Village with Moutere Hills Community Centre may have noticed that Moutere Birdsong are venturing into the community. We are hoping that these traps will catch rats, stoats, weasels, and ferrets, all of which have been spotted along this walkway. We ask that you do not tamper with these traps as they can cause injury to humans who put their hands in the wrong places. They will be checked regularly by one of our volunteers, and all catches will be recorded on TrapNZ. This is a website anyone can access to see what is being recorded.

We are keen to venture further into other community areas, but we need some more volunteer trap checkers, and in time access onto private property – to prevent incursions. We already have one volunteer doing this walkway, and some checking in Beuke Bush. If you are interested in volunteering a couple of hours a fortnight, please get in touch with Moutere Birdsong. For now we are using traps made by the Waimea Menzshed and funded by World Wildlife Fund, but we are hoping that donations and further grants may make it possible to extend our network of traps.



If you would like to become a volunteer (training & back-up provided), or assist Moutere Birdsong by making a donation please get in touch:

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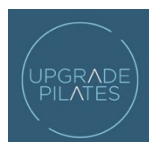
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UPPER MOUTERE VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE NEEDS YOUR HELP



THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE CONTACTED US
WE ARE CRITICALLY SHORT ON VOLUNTEERS

However we are still critically short
on volunteers

If you:

- live locally
- are available during daytime hours
- want to give back to the community

Please call Fiona on 021 147 4639

Looking After Your Seedlings...

Now is a good time to plant

Autumn to early spring is generally considered to be planting time for native seedlings. But this can depend on how prone your site is to drought and frost, and on the species being planted.

If you experience heavy frosts, young seedlings are best planted in early spring when the heaviest frosts are over. Where winter weather is milder, and summers are expected to be dry, autumn is best as seedlings have time to establish before the soil dries out.

In the Moutere district, many places have only just become moist enough for planting so now is an ideal time. If planting near a wetland, you will need to do this when the water table has fallen in late spring to early summer.

Caring for your plants once they leave the nursery

It is important to care properly for your plants when transporting and storing them, while waiting to plant. Make sure the seedlings do not get dry and water them well before they are taken to the planting site.

If you have a lot of plants, use containers to help in the packing and transport of the seedlings and try and shelter them from wind when moving them for example - use a cover on your trailer.

While waiting to plant them, keep them out of the sun and ideally cover with a shade cloth if out in open or pop them under the shade of a tree. If storing plants for a while, make sure they are watered a couple of times a week (unless it's raining).

Bare rooted plants

If you have plants that are bare-rooted, these need to be planted shortly after delivered if possible. Keep them cool and moist and carefully protect the roots from drying out in the sun. Keep them covered in their packaging (or similar) until planted.



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FITNESS CENTRE EXPANSION COMING SOON



- PROGRESS**
 Building consent has been secured so the project is going out for tender.
- FUNDRAISING**
 We still require \$177,000 to get this project over the line so please support our fundraising initiatives:
 APRIL - Raffle, Sold during April and drawn in May
 JUNE - Cabaret Evening with dancing and casino
 SEPTEMBER - Quiz Night
 PRIZE DONATIONS WELCOMED!
- SPONSORSHIP**
 Are you able to donate to the expansion of the fitness centre. We welcome cash or in-kind donations. Please get in contact if you can help.



MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE, 1539 MOUTERE HIGHWAY
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Fieldays Wins for Te Tauihu

(Nelson Marlborough)

Congratulations to the Top of the South for winning 3 of 6 national awards for the 2026 Growing Native Forests Champions Awards. Forestry Minister the Hon. Todd McClay announced the winners on the 12th June, stating “These awards, now in their second year, highlight how native planting can work alongside other productive land uses to deliver strong environmental and economic outcomes” It is heartening to see the hard work of our winning teams earning national recognition.

Trees on Farms: Philip & Jenny Leith, Tasman - resilient farming through native planting of gullies and wetlands, and opening farm to public for lasting environmental and community benefit.

Mana Whenua: Ngāti Koata Trust, Te Tauihu (Nelson and Marlborough) - iwi focused on growing native forest across Te Tauihu for future generations.

Lifestyle Block Owner: Ollie Langridge, Tasman - for organising 450 volunteers from 23 countries to ‘rewild’ a 17-hectare lifestyle property, including planting locally endemic species.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU FROM RANGERS RUGBY CLUB

- Rangers Rugby Club would like to extend our sincere and heartfelt gratitude to the **Sarau Community Trust** for their ongoing and generous support of our club. Your continued belief in what we do for our community’s young rugby players means the world to us all.

Thanks to the Trust’s previous donations, we have been able to purchase much-needed new equipment and gear for our kids, including new goal posts and ribs for our junior players. These upgrades have made a real difference to the experience of every player.

This year’s generous donation of **\$3,000** will go towards upgrading our field lights to LED — a fantastic improvement that will benefit players and spectators alike for many seasons to come.

While it is disappointing that we will not have a senior team competing this year, we encourage the community to come along and get behind our **Valley Stags Under 12** side. Home games will be held at the grounds of the **Moutere Hills Community Centre**, and we would also like to warmly thank them for the use of their wonderful facilities.

A huge thank you also goes to all the supporters who come out week after week to cheer on our budding little rugby stars. Whether you’re on the sideline for our **Under 6, Under 7, Under 8, or Under 10** teams — your enthusiasm and encouragement make all the difference to these young players. We hope to see you all out at the grounds this season!

DATES TO REMEMBER

 **SAVE THE DATE — Rangers Quiz Night** | Thursday, 31 July at 7:00pm

 **Club Day** | Friday, 8 August

Kai Collective



Amongst other community groups, The Kai Collective crew do a special cook to help those struggling in Motueka

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MOUTERE HILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE



FROM THE MHCC BOARD AND MANAGEMENT

We have just come to the end of an extremely successful financial year where the focus has been fundraising for the expansion of our Fitness Centre. With over 500 members the current facility is no longer fit for purpose. We have been extremely grateful to everyone who has provided sponsorship, donated funds or prizes and participated in the various fundraising activities. Due to this valuable support we are moving ahead with the build and plan to have it completed within the year.



We are in the process for setting our strategic direction for 2026—2028 and would like to hear from you, the community. We would appreciate if you are able to complete a short survey which will help shape our strategic direction moving forward.

Please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2026communityfeedback> or scan this QR Code which will take you directly to the survey. We value your input. Thank you.



FUNDRAISING CONTINUES FOR OUR FITNESS CENTRE EXPANSION

Thank You!
Moutere Hop

A huge thank you to Moutere Hop for their generous donation of \$10,000. We are proud to host the Moutere Hop and are extremely grateful for this donation.

If you are able to support our fitness centre expansion with fundraising or donations of funds, prizes or labour, then we would love to hear from you. We are running another month long raffle during September so if you are able to donate a prize for this please get in contact.

COMMUNITY SOCIAL NIGHT

RANGERS RUGBY QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 31 July
6:30pm

\$25 per person
Teams of 6~8

Supper included | Bar open

To book email:
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FITNESS CENTRE MEMBERSHIP

Start your fitness journey with a membership at our Community Fitness Centre.

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Saturday 3:00—4:30pm



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Moutere Hills Community Centre

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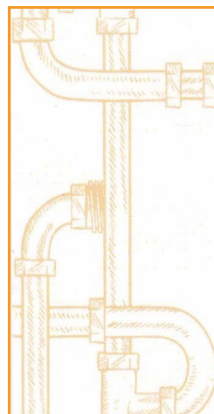
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Ngā Manu o Moutere: Birds of the Moutere...

Riroriro/Grey Warbler



credit to Satyaki Hosmane, NZ Garden Bird survey

Hats off to Moutere Birdsong for their excellent “Around the Traps” series of articles on predator control. Here we shift the emphasis from the “how” to the “why” - what it is we want to see more of - with a new series on the birds we live with in the Moutere, starting with the humble but fascinating riroriro/grey warbler.

Australia is full of fairy warblers of the genus *Gerygone* but Aotearoa has just the one with another larger cousin (the Chatham Island warbler) found only there. So, like many of our iconic birds *piwakawaka*, *kotuku*, *pukeko* - it has an Australian origin, albeit sufficiently ancient for it now to be a distinct species. The exclusively insect-eating riroriro has adapted well to massive changes in our habitats and is equally at home in rural gardens and pine forest as it is in native bush. There is a bit of controversy about which is our smallest bird -

rifleman or riroriro? Certainly the rifleman looks smaller but both weigh in at a miniscule 6g - that’s three quarters the weight of a dollar coin.

Small, grey and seldom staying still, it is easy to overlook the riroriro and this is reflected in the annual Garden Bird Survey where, despite their relative abundance, they don’t feature in the stats. The one thing that brings them to our attention is their amazing song - described variously as “falling leaf melodies in a minor key” and even more fancifully as “elfin violins as played on the moon”.

The male does all the singing and the female attends to constructing the hanging enclosed nest with a round entrance. These nests are frequently visited from late September on by the pipiwharau/ shining cuckoo flying in from the

Solomon Islands which parasitises exclusively the riroriro and Chatham Islands warbler nests.

Somehow (it’s never been observed) the female cuckoo lays a single egg. After hatching, the rapidly growing cuckoo chick boots out any warbler chicks or eggs and the poor warbler parents are left to feed their (relatively) giant interloper.

Despite the attention from pipiwharau and their sensitivity to rat and mouse predation, the adaptability of the riroriro has led it to become something of a success story among New Zealand birds.

Take part in the 20th NZ Garden Bird Survey 27th June to 5th July and keep your ears open for “falling leaf melodies” and “elfin violins”.



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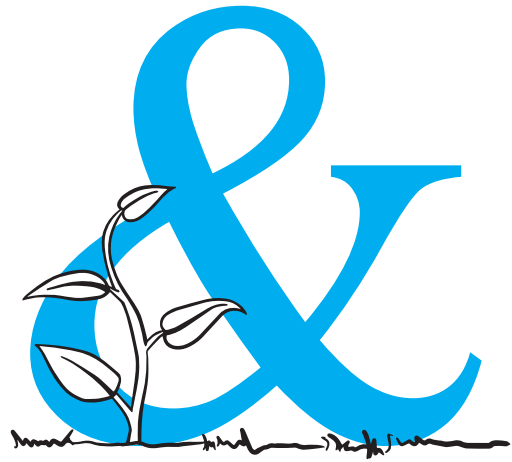
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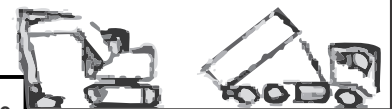
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Our latest news & adventures



WIO turns 40

This year Whenua Iti Outdoors celebrates an incredible milestone. Way back in 1986 our visionary founder, Hazel Nash, founded the WIO Trust with several community leaders which went on to develop the facilities and programmes you see today.

We're planning a whole range of activities and celebrations for later this year when things warm up. In the meantime, we're keen to hear from anyone who attended a WIO programme, especially in the 80's, 90's and early 2000's. If you'd like to share your story please get in touch - info@wio.org.nz

Finalist in Sport NZ Awards

WIO's Stump & Limb Difference camp developed in partnership with the Amputee Federation NZ and Amputee Society Top of the South was nominated as a finalist in Sport NZ awards. The national awards recognise excellence in programme design, delivery and positive impact on a local community. We were honored to be nominated in such a hotly contested category.



CEO Mark Bruce-Miller at Sport NZ's national conference.



2027 Trades Academy courses available

Limited places are available on trades academy programmes, including Adventure Tourism Leadership, Manaaki Tāpoi and Uniformed Services. Programmes are fully funded by the Ministry of Education at zero cost to students from TOTSTA and WCTA partner schools. Trades Academy programmes give students a pathway to employment or further academic study.

Talk with your trades coordinator at your school or head to our website to find out more. Be quick, the funded places are limited and these programmes often fill up quickly.

NBS provides support for local primary schools

Local primary schools are set to benefit from generous funding from NBS. The programmes are aimed at primary schools from Motueka, Moutere and the wider Tasman community. If you know of a primary school that would love to have a Whenua Iti experience in the outdoors please get in touch with the team - info@wio.org.nz

We'll see you out there!

wio.org.nz



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The Mudcastle's Oat Fudge

Actually, this is a recipe from Glossops Eaterie, the restaurant I had in Wellington way back in the early eighties. I used to send a complimentary piece of this homemade oat fudge out to clients with their bill as a more interesting alternative to lollies. It's very quick and easy – 6 ingredients!

Here's what to do if you'd like to try it:

1. Line the bottom of a low sided tin with greaseproof paper (I think it's called "baking paper" now). I've always used a rectangular tin because I was cutting into squares, but you could equally use something like a circular quiche pan and cut into wedges.
2. Melt 4 oz butter in a large saucepan. Don't let it burn.
3. Add ½ C cocoa and 1C icing sugar. Small lumps will dissolve or you can squash them with the back of the mixing spoon. Use a sieve if very lumpy.
4. When the butter, cocoa, icing sugar are combined, add 2 C rolled oats.
5. After the oats are coated, add 1pkt crushed wine biscuits. You can use a food processor but I prefer to leave it a bit chunkier by putting the biscuits in a plastic bag and roll with the rolling pin until you have the texture you want.

As far as the choice of biscuits goes, something plain is best or the subtle oat flavour is overpowered but if

you have something else, store bought or homemade, or several part packets to use up, go for it. It will just be different and unique.

6. Stir the biscuit crumbs in and add ½ C milk. This can be any kind as its purpose is just to bind. Add this slowly so you can use less, or more, as the mixture demands. You don't want it crumbly but nor do you want it sloppy.
7. Press the mixture into the lined tin. Leave to set, then cut into whatever size pieces you want.

In writing this, I can see so many ways this recipe could now go with additional ingredients or a topping but as is, it was a favourite part of the Glossops Eaterie experience for many clients. If anyone makes this, and adds something that makes it better, please feel free to write to The Grapevine and tell us what you did!





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Animals in Emergencies...

Between earthquakes, fires and floods we have all learnt that natural disasters can happen anywhere anytime!

And we are all aware we need to be prepared for emergencies but do you have plans in place for your animals?

Owners of animals are responsible for their physical health and behavioural needs even in emergency situations. If it's not safe for you, it won't be safe for your animals. But it can be difficult if people are injured, isolated or separated from their animals. Planning ahead means there's a greater chance that everyone will make it through!

Fortunately you don't have to figure it all out yourself - there are many online resources with plenty of helpful information and ideas about how to plan ahead. Here are a few main points followed by some websites below:

Pets

- Have enough food and water and medications to last at least 5 days
- Make sure your pets are microchipped and registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register (in the Christchurch earthquakes 80% of microchipped animals were returned to owners versus 20% for non-chipped animals) Ensure details are kept up to date with current address and phone numbers - you can do this yourself at www.animalregister.co.nz. Collars, ID tags with current phone number and council registration tags can also be useful
- Consider keeping your cat carrier/dog crate, lead, spare bowls and bedding with familiar smells all together

in an easy location to grab and go

- Ask a friend in advance if you and your animals could stay with them for a few days in an emergency until other options are found e.g. boarding facilities and pet-friendly motels.
- Consider organising a family member or friend who knows your pets and could care for them if you can't (if you're away or injured). Make a plan so they have a key or know where a spare one is. Keep their contact details on your phone and in your get-away bag.
- Consider having a list of important phone numbers on paper in a waterproof container, including vet clinic and pet-friendly accommodation in case internet access is down and you can't google.

Horses and farm animals

Everyone's circumstances are going to be different so check out the websites below to find information relevant to your animals. Some quick points are:

- Think about food, water and shelter for several days, safe paddocks for flood or fire
- Identification – microchip and register horses, take photos of you with your horse or valuable individual livestock, keep up to date NAIT tag details and documentation saved online and on paper so you can access it
- Keep equipment such as halters, lead ropes handy in working horse floats and trailers
- Make plans with a neighbour or friend to check on/move animals if you can't. Consider making a list of instructions e.g. where the water pump is, how to turn off power etc
- Check insurance cover is up to date and keep documents accessible



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www.animalevac.nz

www.spcan.nz/advice-and-welfare/article/animals-in-emergencies

www.mpi.govt.nz

www.nzva.org.nz/public/disaster-planning/

www.getready.govt.nz/prepared/household/tailor-your-plan/pets-and-animals

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