



# The Woodvillian

## Community Monthly Newsletter

Sharing information with the people of  
**Woodville, Kumeroa, Hopelands, Papatawa, Ballance, Maharahara West**

Issue 62

Email: wdvnews@hotmail.co.nz

October 2017

### **Woodville Lions Club - 2017 Speechmakers Competition**

In early September the annual Woodville Lions Speechmakers competition was held at the Woodville Racecourse. The finalists from the local speech competitions from Woodville, Balance, Papatawa and Kumeroa-Hopelands schools stood in front of a good crowd of supporters and delivered their speeches. The quality of the speeches was very high and all the speechmakers (and their families) should have been very proud of themselves for speaking so very well. The overall winners were Annabelle Longuet-Higgins from Woodville School

for the senior division and Sophie Sowry from Papatawa School for the junior division.



Pictured from L) to R) -

#### Backrow:

Asha Christie (Senior/Balance); Anabelle Longuet Higgins (Senior/Woodville); Sophie Sowry (Junior /Papatawa); Jaimee McKinlay (Junior/Kumeroa-Hopelands); Stuart Sinclair (President of Woodville Lions)

#### Front Row:

Ben Maybe (Junior/Balance); Troy Harrison (Junior/Woodville); Courtney Drake (Senior/Papatawa); Lucy Allomes (Senior/Kumeroa-Hopelands)

### **Editor's Opinion: Manawatu Gorge**

I continue to be aggrieved that the last time I went through the Manawatu Gorge is probably the last time I will ever go through the gorge as it was. What a regretful ending through such a beautiful and iconic landscape. How sad that it wasn't farewelled with great fanfare for being such a vital link between east and west for so many years, for being flat, and for being so efficient in terms of travel time and money for fuel. While I always appreciated the beauty of the gorge, I now fully appreciate the ease of travel it allowed as I commute daily. The gorge road endured the ever growing number of cars and increasingly sized trucks utilising it every day, until it could no longer.

The gorge has seemingly always been shifting with rocks falling down. I recall trips as a child when we had to avoid minor slips and rocks on the road. This was not helped by the clumsy manner in which improvements were made – there was no stepping of the rock face in those days. How disappointing that the roading associations across the years didn't have the foresight to ensure that the vital gorge link was retained. With the rail system being reduced to minimal use over the years and freight now transported by truck instead of train the link is even more critical. The gorge, and therefore those of us impacted by it, are victims of the over the top health and safety rules and legislation that now partially govern our country. What a shame that our culture is such that if something goes wrong we must point the finger and hold someone accountable for it. Consequently it seems that no-one is prepared to sign off on the gorge being safe enough to open.

So those of us directly affected by the gorge closure now wait in anticipation for lots of things to happen. There is the long awaited signage that NZTA advised they would put in place to encourage people into Woodville, which still hasn't appeared. The change in the road layout that would discourage traffic from using the by-pass route. Perhaps some further tangible assistance from our District Council would be in order (again I think signage). And of course ... the decision on the preferred route for the future. We may have been involved in what I loosely call 'consultation' but the final decision will be beyond our control. I can only hope that our politicians both local and central, along with NZTA, will do the 'right thing' and mitigate the lack of action over the years; not only for the people of Woodville but for the whole of the central North Island. We have three MP's in parliament - let's hope they will do something positive for us. And please, oh please, whatever the final decision - can it be flat!

## Market Day

I'd like to mention and pay tribute to our town's diversity, which was on show at the recent market day. With the shops open and the stalls on the street our town was a bustling little metropolis! ☺

Pictured below, top left clockwise: Anna travelled from Napier to set up her skilful work outside "Sarah Jones". There were cushions, vases, and painted wrought iron furniture which beautifully complemented Glenn's existing wares for sale (*I also understand there is new stock scheduled to arrive shortly and pre-Christmas so keep a watch*). Woodvilleans and those passing through were fortunate to have the rare opportunity to sample sheep cheese, courtesy of our local milk sheep breeders "Wild Bush Handmade Sheep Cheese", Kirsty Silvester & David Chapman. All the 2017 workshops are full, but if you would like to learn how to make cheese there will be more in 2018. Give Kirsty a call on 376 444.



"Nailed it" Erol and Jenny Ireland had many people fascinated with their inventive ideas for alternative uses for horse shoes, and Sally Engi from Mangatainoka proudly displayed her purple lavender Supreme Oil Awards certificates amongst all her other products to tempt the senses.

There were other stalls, including "Portraits in Pencils" which kept new resident to Woodville Margaret Spriggs busy. Her gift for capturing a portrait is very popular with children who patiently pose waiting for their end result. The "Woodville Pantry" were offering packs made up of pork bones, watercress and fresh Rewana bread and Sharon Brass had a range of healthy, fresh vegetable plants. Sharon's plants can also be purchased at the Oxford Rd end of McLean Street.

We look forward to our next market day when even more of our talented residents come out to showcase their own wares and also what a great little place Woodville is.



A shout out to two ex-Woodvilleans. Horse trainer Mark Oulaghan and owner Jim Speedy (formerly from Woodville and Kumeroa respectively) have continued to enjoy success with their great jumping horse 'Uppercut'. Uppercut recently won the Grand National Steeplechase in Christchurch, which made it the 6th time Mark has trained the winner and Uppercut's second win of that top class jumping race. He was then sent north to the Great Northern where he got 2nd. Great training of a very brave horse! Congratulations to all connections to the horse.

*Pictured (L) to (R) - Uppercut, jockey Shaun Phelan and trainer Mark Oulaghan*

## Woodville Districts Vision Update

The WDV AGM was held early in September, with a good attendance. There were a number of people stepping down from the committee after many years of contributions. We thank Bruce Hutton, Gerard Murray, Kevin McIntyre, Sue McLeod, Alex Devonshire and Peter Johns for their commitment, time and energy for helping to improve our town and district during their time on the committee.

Existing WDV committee are Robin Winter, Paula McCool, Maggie Oulaghan, with new committee elected at our AGM being; Turia Brackenbury (Vice Chair), Malcolm Stuart, Charlotte Evans, Rosie Karena, Debbie Speer, Sharon Brass and Chris Archer. Many thanks to you all for your commitment to the betterment of our town and district.

Amongst a wide range of work programmes, there continues to be progress on the Gottfried Lindauer Arts Trail Walkway which will connect Woodville with the Gorge walkway. The Lindauer 'Artist in Residence' is on track with our next artist from the Czech Republic arriving sometime in January 2018. The Art Exhibition is scheduled for March 2018. WDV will arrange the commemoration of Armistice Day on 11 November at Fountaine Square. We are waiting resource consent before commissioning and erecting new welcome signs to Woodville.

Councillor Johns reports from Tararua District Council:

- Council has plans to shortly (programmed for December) replace the carousel in Fountaine Square and also to remove the old seesaws and replace with a double junior and a single senior seesaw.
- Three new (holding tank type) toilets are to be installed at Ferry Reserve and the existing toilet placed in Ballance Domain.
- The alterations to the toilet/shower block at the Woodville Camping ground has been on hold while options are being considered, eg a completely new building is being considered rather than alterations to the existing structure.

## Woodville Recreation Trust

The AGM for the Woodville Recreation Trust is to take place on the 24th of October.

The plans for the redevelopment of the former rugby clubrooms have been drawn up and costed. Funding applications are about to begin. "The bulk of the funding will be sourced from national rather than local agencies," says Woodville Recreation Trust Chair Peter Johns. "The chance to redevelop the existing building is an opportunity that cannot be ignored".

The existing structure built in the 1970's served the Woodville Rugby Club until they merged with Bush Rugby. Now, 50 years later, the building is well past its use-by date. Peter Johns continues "If the building is allowed to deteriorate further it will have to be demolished. If that happens there will be little chance it would ever be replaced. Given its location it makes good sense to redevelop. The location is the reason that the Woodville Events Centre was chosen for the 2017 Elections Polling Booth - high visibility and good parking. And we remain optimistic that sports and other events will return to the recreation ground once facilities are available."

"The committee are in no doubt that the community will have an asset to be proud of, but more importantly," says Secretary Carole Wilton, "it will be fully compliant in terms of structural integrity and building fitness"

In the meantime the committee keep the building to a reasonable standard as well as providing a home for the Woodville Girl Guides.

New members who are supportive of the project would be welcome. Come along to the AGM on the 24th October. 7pm at the Events Centre

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**Trustpower Tararua District Community Awards**  
Congratulations to 'The Woodville Pantry' for their commendation

## What's On

**Win in Woodville** promotion continues. Spend \$20 or more in participating businesses to be in the weekly draw.

**Housie** - every second Saturday. Next housie is on Saturday 21st October and 4th November. At the Old Folks Hall, 1.00 pm.

**Woodville Country Spinners** meet every other Tuesday at the Anglican Church Hall, Fox Street at 10.30am. Joy Cumming 376 5409

**Woodville Districts Vision (WDV)** meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Supper Room in The Stadium, at 7 pm. All welcome

**The Junction Country Music Club** day is on the second Sunday of each month starting at 1.30 pm in the Old Folks Hall. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a great afternoon of country music.

**Papatawa Garden Club** first Monday of the month. Further enquiries to Margaret Worboys 376 4023

**Woodville Races** - Thursday 19 October

Everyone is welcome at the **Organ Museum**, 50 Tay St on the 3rd Saturday night of the month at 7pm for our monthly **Hymn Sing**.

**Bush Spin In** - Approximately 100-150 people come together to spin, knit, and do wool related craft. Saturday 18 November in the Sports Stadium, open from 10 to 3pm. \$5 entry fee, morning and afternoon tea included. Traders selling fleeces, anything to do with wool, knitting, spinning or weaving.

## Mad Hatters Day - Sunday 19 November 2017



Here's something to set your pocket watch by - Sunday November 19 is Mad Hatter's Day and there's a train coming to town.

Not just any train – this one is a special rail excursion organised by Feilding Steam Rail and it's bringing up to 500 eager train fans to Woodville for the day. Local identities Ian and Sandra Riley will be aboard as Woodville Ambassadors along with Tararua Mayor Tracey Collis rattling her mayoral chains to get everyone in the mood.

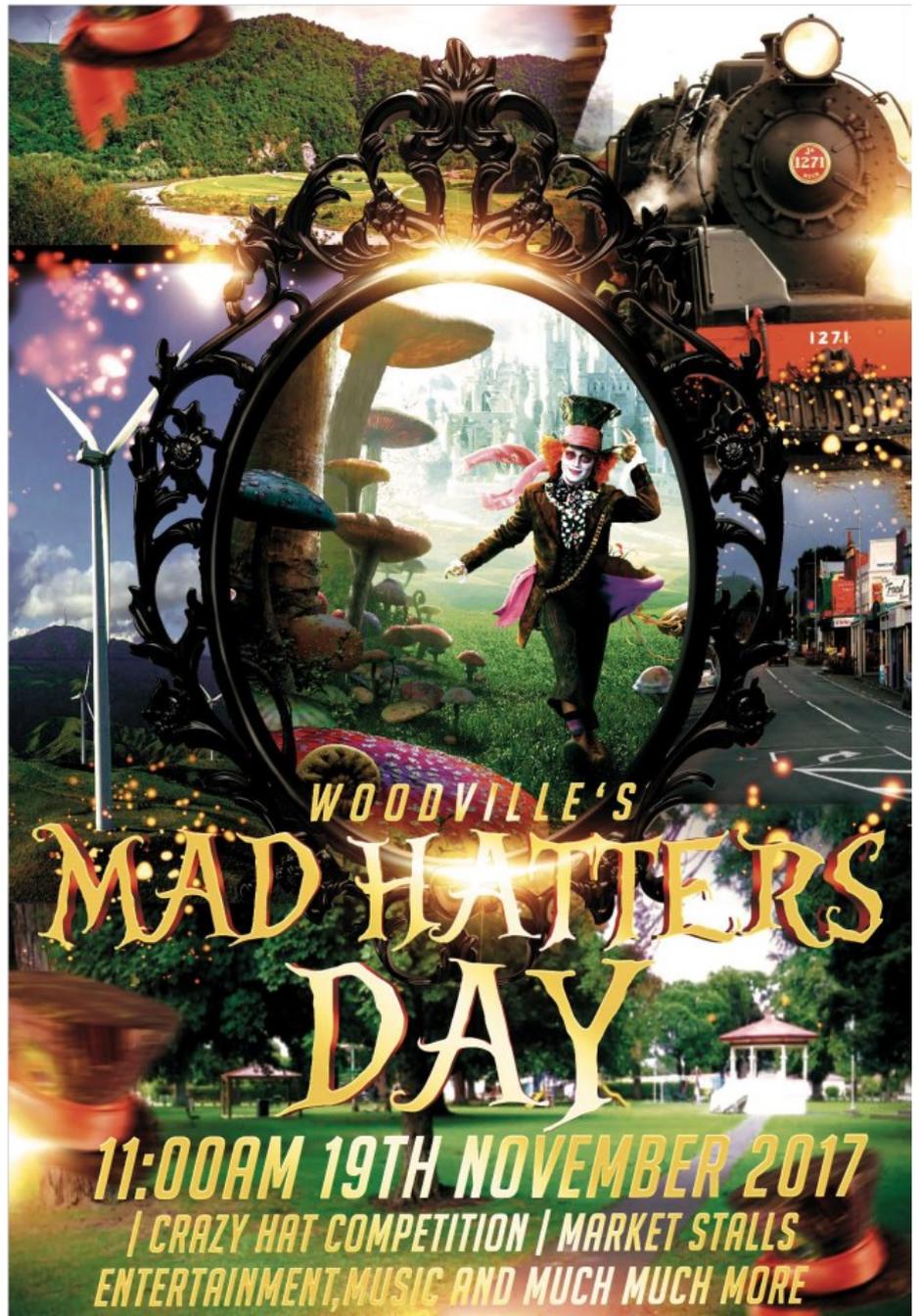
Our visitors will be welcomed at the station with a powhiri at 11 am and then whisked away by shuttles down to where the action will be, all along Vogel St and at Fountaine Square.

Already Woodvilleans are rising to the challenge of helping to create a day worth remembering. Local businesses and places of interest are opening their doors and spilling on to the footpaths, where they'll be rubbing shoulders with buskers, street performers and independent stallholders.

Hanging flower baskets and bunting will add to the festive air, and there'll be music at the park as well, along with food and drink, and activities for the kids. The aim is to create a definite buzz, showing visitors and locals alike just what Woodville's made of. As well as dressing up the town, everyone young and not so young is encouraged to dress up themselves with outlandish hats and costumes to match. You may even win a prize!

There's still time to get involved, so if you've got a skill, service or product you'd like to share, or if you're keen to help dress up the town in advance, or help out on the day, get in touch ASAP by emailing [Woodville.enterprise@gmail.com](mailto:Woodville.enterprise@gmail.com) or popping into the iSite.

This is a great chance to getting involved in putting Woodville back on the map.



### Submission Deadline

Submissions for the next edition close by **Thursday 14 September** (or thereabouts - if in doubt please get in touch). Please submit by email to [wdvnews@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:wdvnews@hotmail.co.nz), or contact the editor. Editors decision on publication of items is final.

**Newsletter Contact:** Editor: Margaret-Mary (Maggie) Oulaghan  
email: [wdvnews@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:wdvnews@hotmail.co.nz) / phone: 376 5991