



# The Woodvillian

## Community Monthly Newsletter

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

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September 2016

### Historic Event - Planting of 81 Rata Trees Commemorating 81 WW1 Deaths



What will become an historic event took place at Ferry Reserve on Friday 2nd September 2016. A partnership between the Woodville Domain Board, the RSA and Horizons saw the children of Woodville School plant 81 Rata trees to commemorate the 81 Woodville districts men killed in WW1.

Horizons staff and men from Linton Army camp made short work of digging the 81 holes the previous day in preparation for the planting. Following formalities and speeches, there was a lesson on how to plant the trees with children and members of the community then doing the honours. Woodville's very own Rata grove! The plantings are in the formation of an army company unit, and in years to come the flowering rata's will provide a significant display of red, synonymous with the poppy.

In the latter part of the 1800's the gorge was very well known for the flowering display of the Rata tree, with train trips specifically being taken to view them. With the introduction of possums to the area the trees were largely destroyed. However with the work Horizons is doing to control and reduce the population of possums the flowering Rata is once again becoming more evident.



## Councillor's Corner

I feel fortunate to be again representing Woodville and the South Ward in the Tararua District Council for another three years, but this time no pounding the streets or electioneering. I only hope that I continue to receive your support when acting on your behalf at Council, as I will be doing my very best to represent you fairly and well.

The RSA project to plant 81 Rata trees at Ferry Reserve went off very well on Friday. The Woodville School children did a superb job planting. Each tree represented one of the 81 Woodville men (out of 403 who fought) who died in World War 1. It is now the responsibility of the children to ensure the continued welfare of those trees.

A sub committee of Woodville Districts Vision recently compiled a list of significant trees in the district that are not currently listed in the Tararua District Plan. There may well be others that residents think should be on the list. If you would like one or more trees to be considered for selection please contact me. The additional trees recommended for inclusion are: Two Redwoods in Vogel street, perhaps Woodville's oldest pine at Murray's Nursery, a similarly aged Macrocarpa at Galloway's farm at Maharahara West, a unique shelter belt on Ottawa Farm, Kumeroa, Redwood and Totaras at the Woodville Catholic church, and a Kauri in Grey Street (planted 1945 in memory of two local men killed in WW2). The other trees already listed are two Hinau, a Medlar and cabbage trees at 23 Pinfold Road; three Totara, two English Oaks and two Plane trees in Fountaine Square.



Peter Johns  
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## The Woodville Pantry

Woodville's community spirit is alive and working well with the establishment of The Woodville Pantry. When a gap was identified in Woodville a group of people with a huge amount of aroha in their hearts joined forces to do something about it. I had the privilege of seeing them in action on Sunday when they opened the doors of the Te Ahu A Tauranga Marae to the community to celebrate Fathers Day. A wonderful smelling (and tasting) roast meal had been prepared for all to share. Following the karakia people of all ages enjoyed the community meal.



I spoke to several of the people in the kitchen - asking amongst other things 'why are you doing this', and the answer was easy ... why not? The Woodville Pantry motto is 'where there is a need we will feed - locals supporting locals'. These are some of their experiences and why they were driven to help:

- Recipient of food parcels when younger and influenced by their father to pay it forward whenever we can. Taught where there is a need, fill it
- Seeing kids at school not being fed properly which impacted on their learning, and then also affected the learning of other kids that surrounded them
- Never having a need ourselves and not being aware that others are not so fortunate. Now knowing there is a need, we want to help



If you need help, know of someone who needs help, or are able to donate, please get in touch with any of the following: Carlena Pratt, Peter Bilich, Turia Brackenbury, Brenda Barnes, April Snowstill, KaRley TE WaAka, Rose Karena or Missie Karena.

Or in particular Rosie on 021 156 6925, Peter on 022 350 3062 or Carlena on 027 315 5665. They can also be contacted on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>



## Daffodil Day

With the inclement weather leading up to Daffodil Day amazingly we had a great display of Daffodil bunches. Thank you to all the people who donate their blooms, allowing us into their paddocks and gardens. It makes Daffodil Day possible.

Thanks also to the Woodville-Pahiatua Racing Club for permitting us to attend and fund raise for the Cancer Society at the August meeting.

The Woodville community has once again stood behind this worthy cause with the essential manning of the stalls and your generous financial support. A huge thank you to you all.

Oscar (raffle) is now residing at the Moore's house. The lavender product basket, kindly donated by 'Graelyn Lavender' was won by Jim Worboys and Lynette won the 'refresh me' basket.



## Poetry Evening



*Harold McCarthy reads from "Unweaving the Rainbow" by Richard Dawkins*

spell bound with her emotional choice of words. She became inspired with the formation of words from the contact she has with her partner. Gayle Cresswell proudly selected a couple of poems to read from her mother's (Brenda Cunningham) self-published book which sits on the shelf at the library. Well worth popping in to read them all.

A pause to mix and mingle with a cup of tea and light refreshments enhanced an enjoyable, inspiring evening, as contributed by all participants sharing their talents and enthusiasm for the love of poetry.

How wonderful is our community to have two such caring groups - The Woodville Pantry and the Combined Churches Foodbank. Donations to both organisations are gratefully received.

### 7 Facts in this World

1. You cannot put soap in your eyes
2. You cannot count your hair
3. You cannot breathe thru your nose, with your tongue out
4. You did no. 3
5. When you did no. 3 you realised its possible, but only you look like a dog
6. You're smiling right now, because I fooled you
7. Share this so you can have revenge too

*Glynis Pryde*

*Dot Johnstone*

We were privileged to have Muriel Cowan, who judged the recent regional poetry competition, present at the poetry evening held in the Woodville Library on 24 August. Muriel informed us that judging from the wide range of subjects submitted from copious entries was not an easy task.

Karen McCarthy commenced the readings taking us on a journey about some of the points of interest round Wellington, cleverly twisting her words to meet the occasion. A grin from ear to ear appeared on everyone's face later in the evening when Karen returned to the podium to give us a rendition of old time favourite "The Owl and the Pussycat". She certainly received a loud round of applause for her talent. There was little need for first time poetry writer Marie to be nervous. Marie's poem held everyone

## What's On

**Housie** - Every second week - Saturday 10 and 24 September . 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** meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Supper Room in The Stadium, at 7 pm. Membership is \$5 per annum, and anyone interested in Woodville can attend.

**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.

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**.

**Bazaar & Flower Show** - Saturday 10 September. Held at the Woodville Sports Stadium, doors open at 12:30pm, prizegiving at 1:00pm. No entry fee.

**Salvation Army Garage Sale** - Saturday 24 September. Venue: 69 Mclean Street from 9am - 12pm. If you are looking for a bargain, then come along and have a look at the Salvation Army's Garage Sale. There is sure to be something for everybody.

## Organ Museum - our first pipe organ

*Milton Wainwright*

Our collection of reed organs keeps growing and this year it took a surprising new turn – we were given our first real pipe organ (we have 4 “pipe tops” – reed organs with imitation pipes). It is a “Positive” pipe organ made in London, England in 1909 and it was in the Johnsonville Anglican church when the “Wahine” storm struck in 1968. The church was considerably damaged so Bill Gordon arranged to move the organ to the Otaki Anglican church where David Burdan restored it in 1970. Earlier this year the church asked us if we would accept it as a gift because they hadn’t had an organist to play it for the past 2 years. We said, “YES” and after some interim work by “Organ Doctors” Roy Tankersley and Bryan Jones the organ has been made playable again. And what a lovely organ! Anyone who wants to come and play their favourite hymns is welcome. If you are like me and love the hymns, but can’t play them, my wife, Rosalie, will play for you. Or you can join us at our monthly Hymn Sing, the third Saturday night of each month at 7 pm.

Over its 108 years of life, the organ has seen several changes, some major and some minor. When it came to us the name-board – i.e. the board where the ivory name plaque is mounted, and where you put your music – was some rimu 3-ply with borer in it, and it wasn’t long enough to reach the full length, so a piece had been added onto each end, which was definitely not original on an oak organ! Incredibly, we lost this board on the way home from Otaki. Since we discovered the loss just as we were leaving Otaki, we retraced our steps to search for it. We didn’t find it but at the end of our search I explained to a man who saw us searching that we had lost the name board off the pipe organ from the Anglican church. Then we set out for home and the man I had just spoken to took his wife and drove up Hwy 1, too, and she saw a board leaning up against the fence by the road. She said, “I wonder if that’s the board he is looking for.” They stopped and checked and saw the ivory name plaque, so they picked it up and that evening they called the church and the church called me and we went back and picked it up. It was largely undamaged, but with the borer we felt that it was time to upgrade, so we showed it to Alan Perry. He had an oak double bed headboard that he had been saving and he used it to make the lovely new one. The ivory name plaque was easily removed from the old board because the 3 ply couldn’t hold the tacks very well. So now we are wondering if this is Woodville’s first resident pipe organ. Does anyone know?



*The photo on the left is from when the pipe organ was in the Otaki Anglican church. The photo on the right is current here in the Organ Museum.*

### More about the Rata Trees:

Several years ago Neil Mickleson from Horizons was offered several hundred potted Rata seedling plants, which the children from Ruahine school had eco-sourced from the ranges and grown. The little seedlings were then taken to Kaitoki prison to be cared for and given time to get bigger while remaining strong and healthy. Horizons have a good working relationship with the prison nursery, which provides some 4,000 to 6,000 trees a year for planting. When Neil was approached by the Woodville Domain Board and RSA with regard to wanting to plant some trees to commemorate the 100 years since WWI, Neil was only too happy to provide the 81 Rata’s (there are about 100 already planted through the gorge). Neil was delighted with the planting ceremony, having the Woodville School children involved made it very special as did Woodville Radio playing era appropriate music and the community support. The school children will continue to be involved with weeding around the trees and Horizons will provide the general care as the trees slowly mature.

*From the Editor* - Please remember to send me your stories, poems, quirky bits of information, anything of interest. Anyone having a birthday, celebrating something special? Our community newsletter really does need your input.

### Newsletter Contact

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### Submission Deadline

Submissions for the next edition close by **Thursday 29 September 2016**. 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.

**Keep Moving**  
If you don't use it  
you'll lose it



**Tai Chi** - Thursday  
10am at the Old Folks  
Hall

**Indoor Bowls**  
Wednesdays at  
1.30pm in the Old  
Folks Hall

Give the **gym equipment at fountain Square** a go - get together with friends/like minded people and have some fun while toning up and burning those calories!