

Maungaraki Views

OUR NEWS & VIEWS | MAUNGARAKI.CO.NZ | AUG 2021
Developer moves in on Barberrry Grove



Four new townhouses have been granted resource consent to be built at 11 Barberrry Grove. Resource consent has been approved for four new dwellings and associated subdivision in located at 11 Barberrry Grove.

The developer, Faisandier Group, had a proven track record of successful developments in Lower Hutt including developments in Epuni, Wainuiomata, Boulcott and Stokes Valley. The Faisandier Group website's main headline is 'More

Affordable Homes for Everyday NZ'. With Maungaraki's median house price now tipping just over \$1 million, it will be interesting to see what the asking prices are for these new townhouses. It is most-likely they will be out-of-reach of first home buyers. HCC's website states the property at 11 Barberrry Grove is 1305sqm, which is well short of the 1600sqm required for a

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Wine Society Club

Wineries from Otago, Marlborough and the Hawke's Bay will round out the year's tastings at the Western Hills Wine Society which meets in the Maungaraki Community Centre supper room.

On Wednesday, September 1, wines will be presented by Mt Rosa from Queenstown's Gibbston Valley. Almost 20 years ago they swapped sheep for grape vines and discovered the dry, stony soil that made their pasture so poor grows good grapes, especially pinot noir.

Mount Riley Wines from Blenheim will present on Wednesday, October 6. They aim to capture the essence of their land in every vintage. They specialise in white wines including Albarino, Rosé and Pinot Gris.

Moana Park Estate from Napier will present on Wednesday, November 3. They take a hands-off winemaking approach, crafting both white and red wines naturally.

The wine society aims to give locals an introduction to New Zealand and overseas wines in a friendly and fun

environment. The format makes it easy for visitors to attend alone or with friends.

The meetings, 7.30pm for 8pm, are covered by a liquor licence. Visitors 18 and over always welcome. Admission is \$15 per person.

www.westernhillswinesociety.nz
Call Jim Woodland on 021 957 441.

Resident feedback on rates hike

I read with dismay the Councils agreed rate increase for the next decade.

Applying those percentage increases, our rates for the year ended 30 June 2021 will increase from \$3,145.66, (GST inclusive) to \$7,285.80, GST inclusive. Regional rates are not included nor is the high cost of rubbish collection of \$249.

That rate increase will only be indicative and will blow out further with the impact of inflation, other increasing costs as well as the Council continuing to spend.

No one will be getting a 7% income increase each and every year over the next decade. It is totally irresponsible for Council to



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agree to such increases that will severely impact families, businesses and those on fixed incomes such as National Superannuation.

It is time Hutt Council got realistic and allowed it's ratepayers 'to catch their breath' while still recovering from Covid and drop all non-essential expenditure.

Every dollar taken in rates is a dollar less for a household and a business which impacts our whole community.

\$90 million for the repair of the Petone Wharf and Naenae Pool are hardly necessary expenditure at this time with the wharf being used by a few fishermen and Huia pool being relatively close for those who may have used the Naenae Pool.

The Council needs to have a serious rethink.

Rates increases:-

YE June 2017 3.85%

YE June 2018 12.19%

YE June 2019 3.00%

By Neville W. Thank you for your views on this hot topic Neville. *Ed.*

Cont'd from front cover

multi-dwelling development. One upside is each townhouse will have it's own garage or parking space so there should be minimal effect on available parking spaces, which will be a welcome reprieve for parents picking up children after school.



It is disappointing to learn the resource consent was approved without notification to neighbours.

If any resident wants to appeal the consent to the Environment Court, they can only do so on the decision not to notify the application.

Do you support multi-townhouse developments like this in Maungaraki given the limited building space available? We'd like to get your feedback. If you have a view on this development or any future developments in Maungaraki, please email views@maungaraki.co.nz - Thank you, *Ed.*

The logo for MAS (Maungaraki Auto Services Ltd) features a stylized 'M' and 'A' in a circle, with the text "MAS" in large bold letters and "Maungaraki Auto Services Ltd" below it. There is also a small "info" icon.

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The logo for Waglands features the word "Waglands" in a cursive font, with "DOGS' HOLIDAY RETREAT AND GROOMING SERVICES" below it. The background shows a dog and a cat in a field.

Waglands
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Become a volunteer

Want to give back to your community is a unique way?

Why not join one of the many local volunteer groups to help beautify our area.

Many volunteers in Lower Hutt tirelessly donate their time and skills to help keep our local parks and reserves beautiful.

Some groups have regular working bees that are open to everyone, others contribute their time towards one off events.

The main activities these volunteer groups work on are:

- Pest control
- Trail building
- Rubbish collection
- Restoration
- Planting & maintenance.

Two local groups are Korokoro Environmental Group and Friends of Petone Beach. Most groups get together once a fortnight to work on their projects.

For more information visit <http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/>

If you've got a project you'd like Council to support, please contact the Reserves Community Ranger on 027 647 9571.

App of the month



Windy is a great app for weather forecast visualisation. It is fast, intuitive, detailed and accurate.

If you're a visual person you'll love this app because the graphics are excellent. No more trying to predict the weather using isobars. Simply activate Windy and you can quickly see the strength and direction of the wind and rain at a glance. Windy provides you with the most up-to-date weather forecast around, sorry MetService. Windy is free and is ad free.

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