



VALLEY VOICE

TE REO HAPORI O WAIMAPIHI

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM AROUND THE ARO VALLEY

NOV-DEC 2014

Change to electricity buyback rates for solar panel owners

Recent changes by power companies to the buyback rates for power generated from solar panels “will not affect existing customers,” says Cillian Walker of the Righthouse Project, the solar panel provider for the Aro Valley Community Centre. However, Walker admits that the rate “may be changed for existing customers with 30 days notice when the pricing is reviewed.”

The Community Centre’s electricity provider Contact Energy recently reduced its buyback rate for excess power generated from solar panels, from 17.28 cents to 8 cents per kilowatt hour, excluding GST. Contact’s buyback rates had remained the same for five years.

Competitor Meridian Energy immediately followed by reducing its own buyback rate from 25 cents a kilowatt hour for the first five per day and 10 cents thereafter, to 7 cents per kilowatt hour in the summer and 10 cents in the winter, from 1 December.

Righthouse recently joined with other solar providers to discuss the implications of the buyback rate changes.

“I think it’s important to highlight that there are measures that can be taken to ensure the system continues to provide the maximum benefit to the community if the feed in tariff were to change in the future,” Walker says.

Battery technology is expected to allow future users to forego the grid power for longer periods, storing and reusing power, rather than buying it back from companies at a higher rate than they can sell it to them for.

The Aro Valley Community Centre currently has no plans to have such batteries installed. For information about the power that the Community Centre’s solar panels are generating, see:

<http://www.splashmonitoring.com/system/arovalleycommunitycentre>

Ping-pong pandemonium



By Andrew Armitage

The Aro Valley hall came alive on Saturday, November 1st with Ping-Pong fever at the 2nd annual Aro Valley Table Tennis open, the brainchild of Aro ‘Fun Lab’ organizers, Kelvin Aris and Stephen Templar, who were inspired by a similar event in Bristol, UK.

The mandatory fancy dress code was heartily embraced by the 33 participants, with a rabble of onlookers providing keen support and a palpable party atmosphere, presided over by MC’s Stevey T and Craig David.

DJ Kelvinator took advantage of the updated sound system and his amped-up, retro vinyl grooves never sounded better, while tastebuds were aroused by the neighbourly nectars of the Garage Project.

It was a pair of conspicuous

teetotallers, though, who faced off in a climactic 3-set showdown, with defending champ Liam Johnson narrowly snatching victory from the clutches of plucky and skilful challenger Timon Maxey to win the Ben Raikes Trophy. One spectator described the finale as like being at a “Ping-Pong rave”.

While the event did the organizers and Aro Valley proud, the organizers hope to entice a larger female contingent and promise that “costumes and style” will count towards points at next year’s event, which will make it tougher for the champion in a fetching but all-too-serious red tracksuit to make it three in a row.

Community kindred spirits Aro Video, Aro Café, Patels Superette, Aro Hair Clinic, Skin Focus, Dirt Merchants, Tom Table Tennis, Pete Sanchez & Pepper Pie and Pie in the Sky contributed to the general awesomeness with spot prizes and nibbles. Thanks also to Karen Mac.



Aro Valley Christmas Tree Community Fundraiser

Beautiful, bushy, fresh trees available from Friday

5 December until Tuesday 23rd December.

Monday to Friday sales between 3.30 and 6pm, and Saturday and Sunday 10am to 6pm.

48 Aro St (Aro Park), behind the Community Hall

All proceeds shared within the community - between Aro Valley Preschool, Te Aro School and the Aro Valley Community Council.

Special orders by email: arovalleyxmastrees@gmail.com



AVCC news

School holiday programme

The next school holiday programme classes will run for 12 days from Monday 19 January until Tuesday 3 February 2015. The most recent programme was well attended, so get your (children's) names down now. Contact:

Community@arovalley.org.nz

Aro Solar

The AVCC has talked to the Aro Solar group about an agreement on the maintenance of and responsibility for the solar panels now installed on the Hall roof. The panels are generating electricity and a Memorandum of Understanding between AVCC and the Wellington City Council (WCC) is being drafted.

Graffiti and community art



Kelvin Aris is looking at a strategy to reclaim the walls near the community centre as community art spaces. This would complement the WCC work with landowners on tagging. The green-painted wall by the basketball court has proved popular with children doing chalk drawings but the AVCC needs to coordinate with WCC contractors so they don't wash drawings off.

Sit and Be Fit

Funding for this programme has been halved relative to 2013, which means that the last term becomes slightly tenuous in terms of covering costs. The programme has a steady attendance and provides a valuable service to this group.

The people who organise it will be talking to the WCC about obtaining an extra \$500. Councillor Iona Pannett has said she will support this application.

Tuesdays (term-time only) 12-12.45pm
\$3 per class.

Films for Change

There is a group making films about three community centres around Wellington. They are keen to capture a variety of projects, and are interested in why the Aro Valley Community Centre works so well, as well as the history of the AVCC. Their provisional title is 'A Slice of Eco Valley'. See: www.filmforchange.org.nz

Aro Fair

This will be on the third weekend in March (21 March 2015), with the relaunched Cuba Festival the following weekend. Kelvin Aris is looking at opportunities for linking the two events.

Mental Health workshop

The Capital and Coast DHB's plan to close drop-in centres, means the AVCC could seek funding to offer some kind of programme for people with mental health issues. There are, however, significant concerns around the implications that such a programme could have for other community centre users, in particular children and young people. Further discussion will be required.

Aro gardening on air

Lynn Freeman interviewed Charles Barrie and others involved in the Kai o Te Aro community gardens for a programme on Radio New Zealand going to air on Dec 27th @ 10am.

The Bunker

Concerns have been expressed for some time about

the safety risk posed by the Bunker behind the Aro Valley hall. WCC have powers under the Building Act to deal with dangerous buildings, and will be looking at options for making the Bunker safe. So maybe it can be saved after all.



Above: The bunker, back in the 1990s

WWI Centenary project

A small group of locals are planning a weekend conference in May next year that will focus on the social history of the Valley before and during World War I. Six speakers have confirmed interest, including Stephen Eldred-Grigg (author of *The Great Wrong War*). Local historian and *Valley Voice* contributor Elizabeth Plumridge is researching conscientious objectors.



VILDERS
CONTEMPORARY JEWELLERY GALLERY



Goldsmith artist Dorthe Kristensen of Vilders Gallery in Aro street, makes contemporary jewellery with individuality and flair. Vilders also recycles gold jewellery inspired by making it sustainable.

Bring in your old gold and Vilders will work with you to give it new life.

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andy@greencomputers.co.nz

Local E-Waste Recycle at Aro Park

Sunday 30 Nov, 1-3pm

Take the opportunity to recycle your unwanted electronic gear (anything with a circuit board). Standard charges apply, see:

sustaintrust.org.nz/e-cycle
or www.rcn.co.nz/ewaste for examples of prices.

Brought to you by Aro Creative

Climate Change – a presentation

Aro Valley Community Centre

Sunday 30 Nov, 3pm

Guy McPherson is Professor Emeritus of Natural Resources and Ecology at the University of Arizona. He recently visited Wellington, and the slides from his presentation will be shown and discussed.

McPherson theorizes that runaway climate change constitutes a near-term human extinction (NTHE) event within two decades. With a 40-year lag between CO₂ being emitted and the resultant temperature rise, the current 400ppm carbon levels guarantee a significant temperature increase. Not all agree it will happen that quickly; but the salient point is that it will happen.

“Not only are the lights about to go out on industrial civilization; the lights are about to go out on our species.”

McPherson describes himself as realistic. However, as a localised community we can choose to come together and work towards more sustainability, resilience and self-reliance as a durable organism. Will we take these steps? Are we facing a NTHE? Come and see his slides, and share your ideas.

Brought to you by Aro Creative

Groove is in the Heart

Hello, I'd like to start a regular “free dance” space at the Hall. For all those people who love to dance and don't get enough opportunity to do it. Kind of like Morning Glory or no lights no lycra but not so early or so late and with more of the Aro Valley flavour. Any aspiring or inspiring dj's, dancers and all round enthusiasts please get in touch with me, Hilary Unwin at heebeu@gmail.com

Polhill history brought to the masses

The history and flora of the Polhill Reserve area will be set out in new interpretation signage around the Aro Street entrance to the reserve.

City Council project manager David Halliday said the text would appear on boards by the entrance, with a weblink to a fuller account. The research for the text was carried out by a number of locals, especially Jill Brasell.

The five illustrated panels of text begin with an account of the earliest occupying iwi, Ngāti Mutunga and Ngāti Ruanui,

the dense forests of rata and tall stands of kahiketea, miro and rimu felled by Baker Polhill for spars and rafters in the 1840s, followed by the rise of the working class suburb of Mitchelltown in the late 19th century. They describe how Polhill Gully was used as a rifle range from the 1890s through two world wars, and ends with the rise of Victoria University as the key landholder in the area in the 1960s and the influence of present day mountain



biker and efforts to restore the original vegetation.

Pictured: Artist's impression of the new Polhill Gully signs

***** Invitation *****

On the occasion of my 40th birthday You, your family, friends, colleagues, neighbours, acquaintances; and all their friends are invited to attend a big pot-luck dinner at the Aro Valley Community Centre

Sunday 30th of November from 5pm, eating at 6. Looking forward to your company. Richard McIntosh
wairoastream@yahoo.co.nz

48 Aro St, ANZAC DAY 1976, Alexander Turnbull Library EP/1976/1453/13-F

Community Feed Back Forum

Saturday December 6th @ the Aro Valley Community Centre

3pm - 4.30 pm

Reveal your suggestions and concerns about how the Republic (just joking) of Aro Valley is run, and share your thoughts about the operation of your Aro Valley Community Council.

(Xmas trees will be on sale at this time.)

AVCC Constitution: Final call for feedback

A discussion document about the Aro Valley Community Council's Constitution, proposals for change and the implications of the Law Commission Report on Incorporated Societies (released in June 2013) is available at arovalley.org.nz/avcc-policies.html.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please email them to community@arovalley.org.nz

Living Space wanted

Mature quiet-living woman seeking self-contained or semi self contained home.

Ideally somewhere that is:

- Sunny
- Has beauty and colour
- Quiet and private
- Largish lounge area
- A garden to tend

Please call Cheska on 021 253 5445

After School and Holiday Care

Creative, mature and kind ex Primary teacher available for afterschool care and recreation during holidays, can do weekends. Have own car and references. If interested please call: 021 253 5445

Road agency claims to help Aro pedestrians

The New Zealand Transport Agency says it has made “improvements” to the traffic light phasing at the Willis Street / Karo Drive intersection.

In a newsletter, the communications team for the Memorial Park project told Aro pedestrians: “You will have time to cross both Abel Smith St and SH1 if you walk briskly. The light sequences now operate in a different order than before to improve the flow of traffic and provide the pedestrian improvements.”

However, the new light phasing now prevents pedestrians crossing both Karo Drive and Willis Street diagonally in a single crossing. Cars exiting Palmer Street into Willis Street are now also further impeded by the separate light phase for the two lanes of motorway on-ramp traffic, which block local cars from navigating to the single south-bound lane at the far side of the four lane road. Residents requests for a clearway have been ignored by both NZTA and WCC.

Concerns over Devon St development

Iona Pannett, Lambton Ward councillor

I’m well aware that there are strong concerns within the community about the application of planning rules in the Valley by the Wellington City Council, rules which I in part led as a commissioner on the plan change to protect suburban heritage areas.

With the AVCC, I will be helping to facilitate some meetings between the community and council to possibly work towards an agreement of how the community and council can work together on these issues.

I have been concerned about the proposal to extend the landfill to give us extra capacity there for 100 years when there is so much potential to think about new ways of dealing with our waste. Fortunately, there is now some thinking emerging that we need to scale back the project: a good news story. Not only will this save ratepayers millions, it means that we can better protect the local environment and at the same time press on with better ways to reduce our waste. More detail coming soon.

On another environmental issue, the council is consulting on a draft Suburban Reserves Management Plan. Feedback is due on the 5th December. Each suburb is considered to a greater or lesser extent in the document. There are no real specific actions for Aro Valley, so tell us if we have missed anything in terms of play areas, dog exercise areas and ecological protection in our reserves around the Valley. The document can be found at <http://wellington.govt.nz/~media/have-your-say/public-input/files/consultations/2014/10-suburban-reserves/chapter3-sector5.pdf>. Happy reading: this section is only 10 pages, so won’t take long.

Iona 384-3382 / 021-227-8509

2014 Election: Greens, National profit at Labour’s expense in Aro

Max Rashbrooke

Analysis of voting in the two polling booths closest to the Aro Valley – the community centre and Te Aro school – show support for both the Greens and National rose in October’s election, with Labour’s vote falling further.

As the graph demonstrates, (at right, bottom of page 5) since 1999, support for the Greens on the party vote has risen from 20% to just under 45%, while Labour’s support has had a corresponding decline, falling from a high of 47% in 2005 to just 26% this year.

Meanwhile, National’s support has rebounded from its 2002 nadir of just 9% to hit 21% this year. Both National and the Greens increased their support a little between 2011 and 2014, although not as much as the latter would have hoped.

Analysis of the community centre booth only would probably show an even stronger result for the Greens, given that the Te Aro school booth

attracts some voters from wealthier Kelburn. However, the school booth has far lower numbers than the community centre booth (150 votes to 1200 approx.), so is unlikely to skew the results significantly.

The table below shows the votes cast for parties this year at just the community centre booth. Surprisingly, the Aotearoa Legalise Cannabis Party only just attracted more support than the ACT Party (four votes to three), while one hardy faithful voted for Democrats for Social Credit. Despite Aro’s student contingent, Internet Mana attracted just 34 votes or 3% of the total.

The table below shows the votes at Aro community centre polling booth on 20 September 2014, by political party:

ACT	3
ALCP	4
Conservatives	9
Democrats for Social Credit	1
Greens	538
Internet Mana	34
Labour	320
Maori Party	5
National	228
New Zealand First	39
Civilian Party	2
United Future	2
Total (incl others)	1186

The graph to the right shows party vote percentages. from Aro booths over successive elections (see next page):

Aro Valley Community

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Phone 384 5156

Email: arovalley@clear.net.nz

Website: aorovalleypreschool.blogspot.co.nz

Also a community playgroup for under 3 year olds, operates on Tuesday afternoons from 3.30 to 5.00 pm.

Contact Sacha Green for details at:

whanaukariki@gmail.com

Councillor Young is an old Wellington hand

Max Rashbrooke



She may be one of Wellington's newest city councillors, but Nicola Young, who won the Lambton Ward berth left vacant last year by the retiring Ian Mckinnon, is from a long-standing (and much-storied) Wellington family.

Young told *Valley Voice* she is a sixth generation Wellingtonian, and spent part of her childhood "at the Alexander Turnbull Library, looking at family history". Her great-uncle was the journalist, writer and man of letters Pat Lawlor, famous to an older generation of Wellingtonians thanks to his memoirs of life growing up here in the late 19th and early 20th century.

Lawlor's stories evoked what now seems like an impossibly distant age, in which College and Lorne streets were real slums and children were frightened to run through the Chinatown streets of Frederick and Haining lest they be captured and (in the prejudicial belief of the time) sold into the white slave trade.

Young also has strong political credentials. Her father Bill was the National MP for the marginal Miramar electorate from 1966 to 1981, and her sister Annabel was a National list MP

between 1997 and 2002. Young herself stood for National in Rongotai in 2005, but says she is no longer a member of the party.

Born in Wellington Hospital (although she says she was "nearly born in James Smiths"), she trained as a journalist and worked on the *Evening Post*, but left New Zealand and lived in the UK from age 21 to 41. There she worked in the Lloyd's of London insurance market and in financial PR, before returning home in 1996.

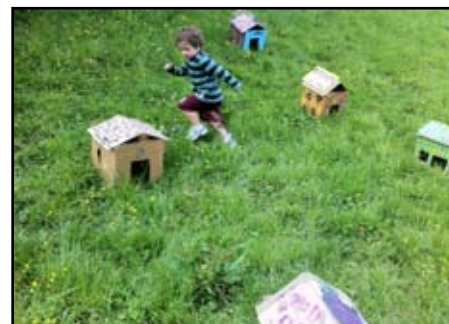
She now lives on the very central Ebor Street, but has also renovated an Edwardian cottage in Mt Cook and converted an Arts and Crafts church in Northland. She says she is "a big fan" of the Aro Valley, and still gets her DVDs from Aro Video and treats from Arobake.

On council, she says she has seen "instant results" in her campaign to ensure that there are street numbers on all buildings. She is also very enthusiastic about plans to upgrade some of the smaller lanes around town, some of which she describes as "among the scuzziest lanes possible for a developed country".

Last year she also campaigned on term limits for councillors. "I haven't finished with that campaign," she says. "Twelve years is long enough. If you haven't achieved something in 12 years, you're not going to achieve it. We need fresh talent."

Young voted against paying a Living Wage of \$18.40 an hour for council staff, but says that things like stopping bus fare increases – one of her passions – will make a big difference to people on low incomes. Social housing is also important, she says. "I don't want a Wellington which is only good for rich people."

Arguing that, under Celia Wade-Brown, Wellington has been "becalmed" for four years, Young says she will run for the Mayoralty in 2016, as she did last



Above: Sonny Brown runs around the pigeon boxes that popped up in Aro Park. These pigeon boxes were made by the Te Aro School children at the Aro Valley fair last March, an inspiration of artist, Bent. They reappeared unannounced one sunny day in November and the wonderfully adaptable WCC mowing team postponed their scheduled mowing for the day. (photo: Dan Brown)

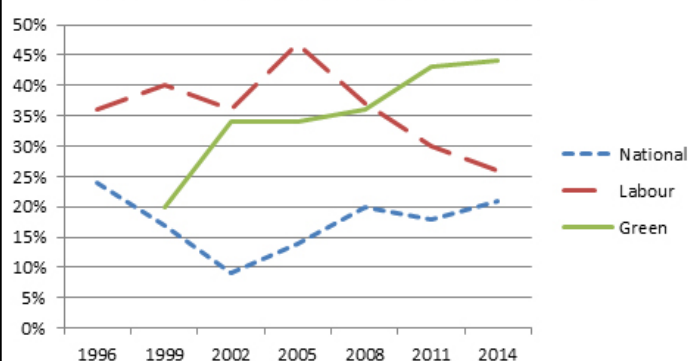
year: "Absolutely, I will have a go." She didn't do a second preference vote for Mayor last time, ticking only herself as first choice (as, apparently, did many of her supporters) – but "by the end of the campaign, if I was going to vote anyone second, it would have been Celia."

Describing herself as an iconoclast, she says she makes every political decision "on a case-by-case basis", but is "against government intervening too much" and would be open to things like reducing the amount of rates paid by central Wellington businesses. "We've got to make sure businesses do well in Wellington."

Young says she's open to the idea that communities such as the Aro Valley could get more control (including spending power) over things that happen locally. "Why not? Aro Valley is an amazingly strong community." She would have concerns about other, less strong communities, which could be subject to "take over" by factional interests. But she has faith in Aro: "It's a wonderful part of Wellington."

Nicola Young T: 801 5100; M: 021 654 844; E: nicola.young@wcc.govt.nz

Party vote percentages, Aro booths



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Kai o Te Aro



A Kai o te Aro convert

Tara Forde

Kai o te Aro has been an enigma to me for years. I have passed through Aro as a curious bystander, keen to get involved, but detached from actually getting involved. But this year I properly moved back to Wellington, setting up in a flat in Northland. I started turning up at Saturday morning working bees and joined the Facebook group. Community gardens are a great way of connecting with others, growing food, experimenting with different growing techniques, and working one's way into new networks.

Their three gardening locations are scattered through Aro Valley, and I liked finally figuring out where 'the secret garden' is. I've been mainly focusing my efforts at 'the orchard' garden near Polhill Reserve. There are composts where people are always dropping off their food scraps. This compost goes to feed the garden. Lots of houses don't have the outdoor space for a compost, so I like this community solution.

Comparing different social structures across community gardens, I am struck by how similar many community gardens are. We don't emphasise public participation enough, personalities clash, the earth (and gardens) suffer. I like that the Kai o te Aro gardens have so far veered away from allotments, and that it is in public ownership. The over-individualisation in our society is damaging. We learn more when we work together. But this is difficult. Clashing schedules, differing priorities and ideologies put us off this challenging work.

Turn up. Get involved. Spring (and summer) are great times of the year to get involved in gardens, certainly the most lucrative in terms of productivity. You get vegetables. For free. How great is that?

I have planted some sunflowers along the wall. If you are passing, please empty a drink bottle and feed the flowers.

Hopefully this will brighten the walk home for passers-by over the summer. Flowers are my favourite things to plant. I like to think of them spreading happiness.

Contact arogardener@gmail.com to find out more.

A Shaggy Story

By Denis Asher

The Karori Sanctuary is a significant refuge – for shags, among other things. The number of them in the Sanctuary is increasing, seemingly exponentially. All obvious roost and nest sites look to be taken, including those within several metres of the pathways taken daily by large numbers of visitors.

As numbers grow (they used to be shot, when the Sanctuary was a source of Wellington's water), we get to see them more often: they're the Pterostylus form we see overhead, a daily to-ing and fro-ing from the Aro Valley. Making their way in the morning to fishing locations, they return during the day – presumably with fuller stomachs – to the Sanctuary. That's when we sometimes get to see them even closer, in our valley streets and gardens! Because when they come with their full stomachs, they have to battle into and against Wellington's furious norwesterlies.

And sometimes they don't make it! Sometimes they simply have to take a breather – pause, rest and recover, before moving on. Like the shags that fell off from the flimsy roost in our back garden the other week, and then peered at me with great suspicion, from the undergrowth. What to do? Leave them alone unless they're still there an hour or two later, as typically they move on.

If they don't, then call the Department of Conservation for advice: sometimes the bird needs an indirect helping hand to get away from overhanging bush or a structure. DoC could also assist catching the bird, if it needs to be taken to Wellington Zoo. But, beware: "The Beak" is to be avoided! They'll deal to the resident cats, dogs and keep us at bay: give them a break, and most of the time they'll leave when ready.

Denis Asher is convener of the Aro Valley Restoration Group, which aims to restore the Valley's biodiversity to levels approaching its pre-European state. Interested in volunteering? contact: denis.asher3@yahoo.co.nz or 022 353 6078

Transport, mahinga kai and community empowerment

Paul Bruce, Greater Wellington Regional councillor

I enjoy cycling through the Aro community. There is always so much activity, with patrons spilling out of a diverse range of shops and cafes onto the streets, clusters of people engaged in conversation...

This vibrancy reflects the best of Wellington, and no wonder that so many community activists come from here!

Wellington City Ward Regional Councillors Sue Kedgley, Chris Laidlaw, Paul Bruce and Transport portfolio leader Paul Swain meet with seven transport focussed groups Friday 24th October to discuss at grade and integrated transport solutions for the city. There was a clear consensus for the Basin Bridge BOI conclusion that the flyover made things worse, and that smarter transport solutions prioritising public transport, walking and cycling would bring clear benefits. Brent Toderian, a leading urban planner, was also in town talking to both city and regional councillors on smart liable cities, emphasising public place design and street activation strategies.

A (regional) Natural Resource Plan has just been completed, and contains objectives that aim to restore aquatic ecosystem health and "mahinga kai". Mahinga kai is the customary gathering of food and natural materials. Greater Wellington Regional Council has developed partnerships to protect and manage our water ways and natural resources with mana whenua and stockholders in the wider community. "Whaitua" (catchment) committees have been set up to allow communities to set their own water quality and quantity limits, the first of these in the Wairarapa.

At a LGNZ workshop in September, Keith Johnson of Whangamata described the leap in "local" projects under a first year of their "Community Empowerment" programme! Decentralisation did not raise their costs! Portland, a progressive city in USA, has been working on their community governance project over 40 years, to the point where Paul Leistner says there is "Nothing about me, without me!". Peter McKinley reported on the role of Australia's community banking

Day	Time	Activity & Cost	Contact
Monday	7.15am – 8.15am	Tai Chi Class (Koha)	Yi Ching Mao 384 3588
	6.00pm – 8.00pm	Capoeira (\$10 casual /\$40 - 8 classes)	Bobby Semau 027 6961708 bobbysemau@gmail.com
Tuesday	12.00pm – 12.45pm	Sit and Be Fit (\$3 per class)	Kathy McConville Contact AVCC 384 8499 community@arovalley.org.nz
	1.45pm – 2.45pm	Wellington Community Yoga with Rebekah Rasmussen \$5 - some mats provided	Rebekah 027 306 7180
	3.30pm -5.00pm	Wellington Community Children's Choir Ages 4 - 6: \$40, Ages 7 - 12: \$50	Julian Raphael 802 5398 communitymusic@xtra.co.nz
	6.00pm – 7.00pm	Peace Planetary Meditation FREE	Purnima Mishra 022 124 2192 ypvpurnima@gmail.com
Wednesday	7.00pm – 8.00pm	Pilates with Erica Casual \$15, Unwaged \$13 10 class concessions	Erica 292 7909 or 022 646 3994 elattughi@hotmail.com
	7.15am – 8.15am	Tai Chi Class (Koha)	Lynsey 384 5520
	1.15pm– 2.45pm	'Sing for your Life' (daytime singing for all) No need to book! \$5 a time	Julian Raphael 802 5398 communitymusic@xtra.co.nz
	6.30pm– 8.00pm	Starjam	Genevieve@starjam.org 212 4971 • 021 782 866
	Thursday	3.30pm– 4.30pm	Kids Jazz Dance Classes \$12 per class / \$100 per term
Friday	4.30pm – 5.10pm	Group Singing Lessons with Geoff \$23 per lesson	Geoff 021565750
	6.00pm – 7.00pm	Samba from Brazil Hillary Mitchell & Fabiola Stevenson	Hillary Mitchell Hillary.Reid@vuw.ac.nz 021 230 8732
	7.30pm – 9.00pm	Yoshukai Karate (\$10 a week – pay what you can afford. Includes 2 nd weekly class Northland Community Centre)	Colin Berry 027 249 5342 • 475 9985
	7.15am – 8.15am	Tai Chi Class (Koha)	Lynsey 384 5520
Saturday	9.00am – 10.00am	Yoga \$5 per class	Maggie Kelly maggiek52@gmail.com
	11.30am – 1.00pm	Beginners Samba Class Drop in \$15 Student \$12 Six classes \$65	Arawhetu 027 465 1511 arawhetu@gmail.com
	1.00 – 3.00pm (last Saturday of the month)	Capoeira Free	Bobby Semau 027 696 1708 bobbysemau@gmail.com

network Bendigo in strengthened local communities. Links to all these papers and more can be found at <http://www.lgnz.co.nz/home/equip-and-knowhow/community-governance/>

The Local Government Commission is expected to report back this November on its preferred option for local government structures in the Wellington Region. Local government must devolve decision making wherever possible with less compliance culture, and more engagement! Keep an eye out for our campaign!

Paul.Bruce@gw.govt.nz
0271 9370 | 04 972 8699

Should you walk up the valley floor, recrossing the Waimapihi Stream, past the loop track turn off, past the last bridge, you will come across an eye catching installation. You can even open the door...



For other installations around Wellington this summer see:
www.Keminiko.com/miniature_hikes



VALLEY VOICE

Editors: Max Rashbrooke & Tim Bollinger

All contributions and feedback to:

aro.voice@gmail.com

or 022 694 0871

Valley Voice is published on behalf of

Aro Valley Community Council
48 Aro St
Wellington

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the writers and not of the Aro Valley Community Council (AVCC) unless adopted at a general meeting.

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Roland Sapsford

Charles Barrie

Secretary: Sarah Jane Parton

Treasurer: Rachel Griffiths

Committee members:

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Aro Valley Community Centre
Coordinator:

Kelvin Aris

Community@arovalley.org.nz

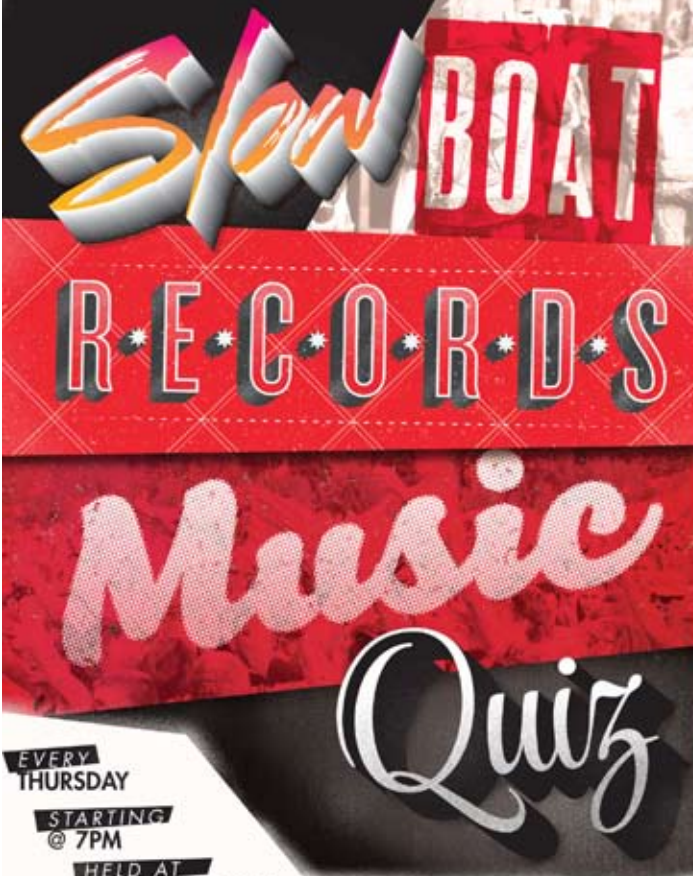
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Short stories - Sweet As!




Aro resident and AVCC member Bridget Stocker is among the contributors to a new short story anthology, with all proceeds going to the IHC. The anthology, entitled *Sweet As*, was the brain child of Wendy Moore and Blair Polly who canvassed authors in New Zealand for submissions and twenty nine stories were chosen for the anthology. The book can be purchased as an e-book on line (Amazon) or by e-mailing: SweetAsShortStories@gmail.com



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