



DECEMBER 2017 -
JANUARY 2018

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NEWTOWN COMMUNITY AND
CULTURAL CENTRE



Welcome to the last issue for 2017 and the first issue for 2018! I am digging the summer vibes, everyone I'm bumping into seems to be in a chipper mood with the change of season (and for many the change of government). I certainly feel pretty light and carefree - excited for the holidays! I'll be piling my van with a few friends, hitting the road and checking out a bit of live music this summer. Woohoo!

It's a season where we often lavish those we love with gifts, so if you are planning to spoil your friends and family - why not spoil your local community too? Learn about the benefits of buying local on page six. We all have that person in our life that has everything they need or want, or is just impossible to buy for! If you're stuck for a gift idea why not hook up a local charity or not for profit (wink, wink!) with a donation - you and your gift receiver will feel all warm and fuzzy knowing that you spent their gift money towards something they're passionate about!

We're hoping you've heard that the Newtown Community Centre will be

closed for an extended period over the summer to allow for major building repairs to take place. We're on holiday from Thursday 21st December until the 15th of January. When we return, our offices will be temporarily relocated to SMART Newtown, our free community computer suite. You can find it (and us) next to the library at 11 Constable street. Pop on in!

As always there's heaps happening in Newtown over the next few months. Get all the goss by reading "what's the happens?". This month's awesome cover artist (and sometimes Newtown News contributor) Guy Moskon presents "Bud Rot" an exhibition at Black Coffee (133 Riddiford Street), so flip to the back page to get all the deets!

From us all at the centre, we are wishing you a safe summer break, a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Festivus - whatever it is you choose to celebrate!

Ngā mihi,

Eryn Gribble
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Cover art by Guy Moskon (www.moskonreview.com), Design by Trung Le
Thanks to the support of our amazing local businesses! Please support them back!



THE
RAMEN
SHOP



Baobab Cafe

Notorious

NEWZowner

Eryn gribble has a yarn with Madeline Stanley at her fav Newtown spot - Baobab!

Maddie first came to New Zealand when she was only five. Her father, a General Practitioner swapped his job with another Doctor and packed the whole family up, moving from Bristol to Whakatane for six months. "We had a great time, I have really strong memories of it, even though I was little. Walking to school in barefeet. It was such an outdoorsy lifestyle" she says.

The years back home in England were filled with swimming, completing a BA in Spanish and Portuguese, working as a qualified Youth Worker and being creative in the kitchen! Maddie is a total foodie and having tasted her famous 'Chocolate Orange Almond' pie I can attest to her talents. In her home in Bristol she hosted 'supper clubs'. People would pay for a delicious 3 course meal and sit around the table with strangers connecting over some good grub.

Her family often reflected back on their cherished time spent in New Zealand so to make them all jealous Maddie came back! After a brief stint in Nelson chasing the "Great White" butterfly as ranger for the Department of Conservation, she settled in Wellington where she met her now husband Michael, and father of their daughter Indie (Indigo). Madeline and Michael married in Waikawau Bay in the Coromandel area, with Maddie wearing a dress that she sewed herself thanks to the 'Newtown Tool Library'. She hand-dyed the cotton garment with tea leaves until it was a gorgeous soft caramel colour.

Maddie now is one of the coordinators of the Wellington Timebank, based in

Newtown. Wellington Timebank is a community of people that share their skills and knowledge for time credits instead of money.



"When I first came across it, I didn't have much money and it struck me as a good way to lead an abundant life without spending money I didn't have. But it's really about connections and reciprocity which life is much richer for. It's about being able to help people and share with people the things you love, and get support with the things you don't feel confident in. Everyone's hour is worth the same so all skills are valued equally. You don't need a degree to be valuable! You end up getting involved in things you never thought you would!" she passionately explains.

Maddie is on the 'we the village' team, an exciting new project in the works through Timebank. It acknowledges the age old proverb that it takes a village to raise a child. She shares that her first year of being a mum was tough and rather lonely, in a town where she didn't know many people. "It made me realize how essential it is that parents have as much support as possible" she says. Our tea and time has run out, so if you want to hear more about Timebank or 'we the village' then Maddie urges you to get in touch with her through the Timebank.

info@wellingtontimebank.org.nz

www.wellingtontimebank.org.nz

CHALLENGING EXPLORING 2017'S

Tumultuous and salubrious events rocked Wellington, New Zealand and the world in 2017. Natural disasters devastated global populations as climate change continues affecting our ecosystems and societal environments. Hurricanes Maria, Irma, and Harvey claimed hundreds of lives in Central and South America, and flooding in Sierra Leone and Bangladesh, a mudslide in Colombia, and earthquakes in Mexico, Iran and Iraq, claimed and displaced thousands more. Internationally, we also saw the inauguration of the 45th American President, a so-called business man with no political experience and a passion for his people - I mean - golf courses. Along with North Korea's missile launches and the rise of global xenophobia, the state of our world brings us many concerning issues. In Aotearoa, we might place some hope in our new Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, pledging to bring kindness back into politics. Despite the year's misgivings, let's explore some successes that shaped this moment in time, locally, nationally, and globally, encouraging us to strive for the best when facing any adversity in the coming year.

On January 21st - the day of Donald Trump's inauguration - 5 million people gathered around the world in protest through the global Women's March. The official march mission, continuing through various platforms, strives to 'harness the political power of diverse women and their communities to create transformative social change.'¹ The Aotearoa New Zealand chapter developed into a collective concerned with women's rights and issues of social justice, including health, economics, representation, and safety. Women's March Aotearoa encouraged electoral participation of young women in

the #WhyIVote campaign during our September general election.

April's historical pay equity settlement marked a great achievement for Kristine Bartlett, whose winning case led to \$2billion in wage increases for 55,000 aged care workers. The field consists largely of women, who have long sought recognition for the skills and experience their work involves, and the gendered inequality of receiving low wages. The settlement means each worker receives on average \$5000 extra annually, allowing them to make ends meet and feel appreciated in their profession.

We almost said goodbye to one of Wellington's great icons this year, Radio Active. However, the station received outstanding community support and due to popular demand, the government decided to let them stick around. This meant raising some funds to keep the ship sailing, establishing the Radio Active Charitable Trust on May 1st. The Trust started the Reactivate pledge drive through givealittle to raise \$88,600. The station held a concert at the Hunter Lounge on July 15, where Trinity Roots, Jon Toogood, the Nudge, Yoko Zuna, among others, performed to raise some sweet survival cash. Wellingtonians superseded expectations, outshining Reactivate's goal, raising over \$91,000 by the 20th of August.

On Friday May 19th, the National Library of New Zealand welcomed He Whakaputanga (The Declaration of Independence, 1835), Te Tiriti o Waitangi (The Treaty of Waitangi, 1840) and Te Petihana Whakamana Pōti Wahine (the Women's Suffrage Petition, 1893) at its opening of He Tohu.

ADVERSITY?

SILVER LINING

By Sian Smith



The permanent exhibition, free of charge, displays these constitutional documents in an interactive space, promoting understanding and education of our nation's history.

On September 23, Aotearoa's general election took place. Although the final vote count took place on October 7th, the result still left New Zealanders wondering about an outcome, with New Zealand First Leader Winston Peters at the decision's helm. For a third time, Peters found himself in the position of 'kingmaker', as in both the 1996 and 2005 general elections. After much deliberation, New Zealand First formed a government with Labour, led by Jacinda Ardern, forming a confidence and supply



agreement with the Green Party, led by Wellington's own James Shaw. Despite some discontent from National voters who formed 44.4.% of the vote, our current government demonstrates a great example of MMP providing mixed representation in our country's diverse population.

The first annual commemoration for the New Zealand Wars took place on October 28th. Raa Maumahara National Day of Commemoration, marks the date in 1835 when the United Tribes signed He Whakaputanga, the Declaration of Independence. The wars followed, fought in the North Island between the 1840s and the 1870s, the commemoration of which signifies an important step in developing understanding of our history. The government has allocated \$4million over the next four years. The documentary *The Stories of Ruapekapeka*, received part of the funding and explores Northland's conflict and the development of trench warfare. Hosted by Mihingarangi Forbes, audiences can access the documentary on Radio NZ's website.

A final piece of potentially good news comes from a study challenging the terminal status given to the Great Barrier Reef in April. Marine biologists, such as David Bourne from James Cook University, argue the bleaching of the coral reef, caused by increased carbon dioxide levels and global warming, will not destroy the reef. Rather, changes in biodiversity are likely to occur due to microbes helping particular coral species to survive. Hopefully in 2018 we will learn more about how the reef's microbiology may also produce positive outcomes through adverse circumstances.

Sian Smith (Ngai Tahu, Pākehā) is a political science graduate and postgraduate history student at Victoria University of Wellington.

1 <https://www.womensmarch.com/mission>

2 <http://www.radionz.co.nz/programmes/nz-wars/story/2018619186/nz-wars-the-stories-of-ruapekapeka>

3 <https://cosmosmagazine.com/biology/barrier-reef-not-dying-but-changing-says-leading-scientist>

Image Credit: Electoral Commission "Yes I voted"

Image Credit : National Library collection "Panakareao signing Te Tiriti, April 1840"

presence

BY DEEPA-ROSE SEALY

Not even December, yet I feel the (Capitalist) Christmas tingle (and jingle?). I was the kid who counted down days (oblivious to my parents stress) to the season of presents and food. I am still all about the food, but instead of presents it is *presence* I am after this Summer.

The presence of people and the *presence* of our ever vigilant and patient environment. What better time of the year to enjoy presence than Summer? Our Spring months have already given early morning bird choruses, dazzling calm blue waters, and trees of life coming into form after their skeletons of winter. Already the mighty Pohutakawa is out staining the drain-ways with red stamens, lightening up urban grey with carmen red.

Our Summer's golden light and warmth unbeatable when it benevolently trips over spreads of multi-cultural foods, and velvety wines while in friends' *presence*. Ever present too on those Summer Saturday brunches with a friend when the sharp (but addictive) sun's rays tinge the neck (as you eye up your friend's French Toast at Baobab).

The best of Summer's presents tho is that colour palette of greens and yellows on our walks and tramps through native bush. The Gorse bush scratch is even forgiven when in the *presence* of their yellow flowers. The *presence* of friends on such days the brightest present!

So go on, there is a Paradise of warmth and colour to be in the presence of. Let it not be presents you celebrate this Summer, but *presence*.

5 REASONS

TO SHOP LOCAL THESE HOLIDAYS!

If you are in the market to buy gifts these holidays, there are plenty of reasons why it is worth going local. Here's our top five:



1. Discover Hidden Gems

Forget about those mass produced items at mainstream retailers. Local shops are ideal for finding that unique, one-of-a-kind gift for your loved ones. Buy a dress by a fledgling designer and there is little chance of turning up to the office Christmas party wearing the same as someone else!

2. Keep Our Community Unique

Local businesses help give our community its distinct personality!

3. Nonprofits receive greater support

Local businesses are more likely to support local Nonprofits. A great example is the three local businesses that sponsor this humble wee newsletter. (Thanks guys!)

4. Increase the economy

Local businesses often purchase from other local businesses and services. Buying locally helps grow other businesses. Local businesses also employ local people!

5. Build community

Bookshops, record stores and cafes often host events that bring people with common interests together. Marketplaces are a great place to bump into neighbourhood friends!



THIS IS NOT A DRILL....!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY....



THE HEX (ALLEN) KEY

Sparky O'Toole

The Hex key, like the band, has a cool name. It sounds like some magical instrument used to summon up fantastical powers of transformation. In some ways it is. If you're cycling to work and your bike seat just won't sit still, having a handy Hex key will see you sitting pretty all the way into town.

Also going by the low-key name of Allen and the slightly cooler name Brugola in Italy (no offense to all the Allens out there but Hex and Brugola are far more badass names). The Hex key is one of those little beauties that will never turn you down or screw you over. Whether it's your trusty bike, favourite musical instrument or the kit-set bed-base you scored from the Sallies, Hex screws can be found in all the hard to get to places. And where there are Hex screws there will need to be Hex keys.



Although humble fixtures, the Hex screw, and it's key, hold a special place in engineering history by making 19th century machinery safer to operate replacing the bolts that stuck out from fast moving parts. This little invention's other key to success was the low cost of production meaning it was easily replicated across the world post WWII.

So if you come across an "internal-wrenching hexagon drive" (official name) that just won't budge, jump on your broomstick, fly down to the Newtown Tool Library and pick up the keys with the magic touch.

NEWTOWN HISTORY FILES MACALISTER PARK By Chris Rabey

Macalister Park was for a number of years in the early 20th century, a tip site, where the city's refuse was dumped. When it was filled, the refuse went to one of the three Houghton Bay tip sites. When the Americans departed Wellington in the closing stages of World War Two, they dumped most of their surplus equipment in the tip at (what was to become) Macalister Park. Shortly after the war, the local residents found out the Americans had dumped all their stuff, so they set about fossicking to see what was there. They were amazed at the number of good quality items had been discarded, so children and adults spent many weeks foraging then taking lots of very good items home. Some local boys from Vogeltown discovered very large glass jars full of lollies. One day two boys from Farnham Street got on their trolley and rode down to the tip site, and filled their trolley with half a dozen of these huge jars, leaving many more. At home, once they opened the jars, they found all the sweets were perfectly good to munch! The children in the Vogeltown, Berhampore and Newtown areas were in second heaven for months!

What's the Happs?

Events at the Newtown Community Centre - Cnr Rintoul & Colombo Streets, Newtown

No Sh*t Gift Shop

A feast of creativity and generosity from the Wellington Timebank community. A unique pop-up gift store where people can buy locally made gifts as well as vouchers for fun stuff and useful services. Come on down to the No Sh*t Gift shop and support local artists or buy a family member an experience or a service this year for the festive season. Time credits and cash accepted. This pop-up shop is teaming up with the regular Vintage Market, so you'll have lots of great vintage goodies to choose from too! Saturday 2nd December, 10am-2.30pm.

Hula Hoop - Beginner Class

Come and discover the magical art of hula hooping at this 4-week series of beginner classes at the Newtown Community and Cultural Centre. The class is an inclusive and fun-orientated environment, open to all ages and all abilities - although it is probably best suited to absolute beginners. We will be working towards a hoop dance routine involving easy and achievable on-body and off-body moves, that will be taught in sections. Come to one, some or all of the classes! A hoop is not required - I have some you can use for the class. Saturdays 10-11am, until 16th Dec.

Laughter Yoga

Come get your laugh on with Elza and Klaus every Monday from 6-7pm at the Newtown Hall on Daniell Street. Laughter "Yoga" is a deceptively simple yet very powerful form of exercise, combining laughter exercises with yogic breathing (quite different from traditional yoga with postures). Ultimately, Laughter "Yoga" is about the cultivation of joyfulness and playfulness. It teaches you to make happiness a choice and not a consequence. So much fun! Mondays, 6-7pm at the Newtown Hall on Daniell Street. By donation.

Newtown Mentors looking for Mentors and Mentees

Newtown Mentors matches up local young people with a local mentor. Mentoring pairs meet up weekly to have fun and build a safe friendship. They learn from each other, try new challenges and experiences, grow their confidence and skills, and find ways to be generous and make a difference. And it's free! We're looking for local volunteer mentors (18yrs+) and young people (8-16yrs) with keen families to get involved in our 2018 intake. Applicants need to be looking to commit for at least one year. If you're interested please contact our youth worker, Chris, on 027 325 4382 or youthworker.nccc@gmail.com.

Happening Around Newtown

Carrara Park Christmas Sing Along

The Newtown Festival and the The Mighty Ukes are hosting a Christmas Sing Along in Carrara Park. All Welcome! A fun family event so bring your families, children, whanau, friends, neighbours, colleagues and spread the word! Come on over and support this Wellington City Council end of year event. We're busy practising our Christmas Songs and Carols that everyone knows - Santa Claus is Coming to Town ... etc Bring your ukuleles, guitars, mandolins, violins, kazoos, percussion instruments etc and help us to ring in the Yuletide Season. The more the merrier. Free For All! Saturday 9 December @ 6.30pm, Carrara Park, Newtown.

Bud Rot - A showcase

Art works by and inspired by the band BUD ROT will be on display at Black Coffee over

December and January. Opening night is Thursday 7th December. Show runs 1st December - 30th Jan. Bud Rot did not submit a bio. Rampant anti-success, purposeful anonymity and poor professional choices have rendered the band reluctant to seriously promote this event. There's reasonable art at reasonably low prices for reasonless people. Continued quest to take the sanctity out of art and keep it out of the hands of the rich, yet still we need food and shoes so pay more if you can. There will also be a selection of merchandise and art prints by The Moskon Review www.moskonreview.com on display and for sale so bring your pocket money. Discounts on art and merch for community services card holders. Sob story haggling and interesting trades welcomed. At Black Coffee, 133 Riddiford St, Newtown.