

## COVID-19: The power of community

What a difference a few weeks can make! In this edition of the Times we have photos of our community enjoying food together and now we are in the new 'normal' of isolation to avoid spreading COVID-19 to our nearest and dearest.

While we all need to avoid close contact with others, we can still reach out to make sure our neighbours are okay. The government's [COVID-19 website](#) has some ideas on how we can build a resilient community through kindness such as:

- ◆ checking up on the elderly and vulnerable
- ◆ looking after anyone who needs help
- ◆ dropping off groceries or medicine to those who are sick.

We'd love to hear your stories of how you are doing. Please email [ntimes@hotmail.com](mailto:ntimes@hotmail.com) if you have something to share such as:

- ◆ the kindness of a neighbour
- ◆ an innovative way to pass the time
- ◆ photos of the bears in people's windows
- ◆ a poem you have written about isolation or COVID-19.

**We'd love to hear from you!**

Enjoy the little things!

Hi everyone, our thoughts are with you all in these crazy times! We hope you are all well and safe at home, if you are an essential worker – THANK YOU!

While our day to day life has changed drastically we are still working (from home) and finding that we are still listing and selling houses. So if we can help with anything Real Estate oriented or if you just want to have a chat I'm only a phone call away.

In the meantime we hope you can stop and enjoy the little things in life that we normally miss in our busy day to day lives – going for walks, talking with the birds, spending time with our families and pets. Stay safe



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### Word of the month:

**Potable**

- A. Able to be carried
- B. Small side table
- C. Safe to drink
- D. Large tuber

### Last month's word:

**Cozen**

- D. To trick or deceive

### Experienced female

### Painter

Interior, exterior, roof

### Gardener

Section tidying, vegetation control—large and small

Catharina 589 0556

Or text 021 0271 7751 and

I will phone you

# NORMANDALE TIMES

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## Community BBQ

April 2020

About 40 people turned out last month for a sausage sizzle, cake and good conversation at the Normandale community barbecue. Drawing residents of all ages - from babies to tertiary students to retirees - the annual event is organised by the Normandale Residents' Association to create a forum to get to know your neighbours.

It was the second time the event has been held, and one of the key organisers, Robyn Caygill from the Association, describes this year's event as "even better than last year's successful barbecue".

Long-term Normandale residents Sharon and Gary of Poto Road were part of the crowd at Poto Reserve. It was the first time they attended the annual barbecue, and Sharon says it was "a great collaboration" and she "really enjoyed interesting conversations with interesting people".



*The barbecue in full swing*

*More photos inside*

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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this paper do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Note: Copy deadline 25th of preceding month.

The next NRA meeting will be held via Skype on Thursday 23rd of April. All association members welcome.

## Community BBQ photos



Kerry Logan provides tunes on the acoustic guitar



The Normandale community barbecue is a great place to get to know your neighbours

### Want to hear more from Kerry?

Kerry has some of his music on [Spotify](#) and on [bandcamp](#). He suggests to hear his best stuff you head to [therocklords.bandcamp.com/album/decimation](http://therocklords.bandcamp.com/album/decimation) for his hits album.

Or you can watch and listen to him on YouTube. Here is a selection:

Billy Joel's [Scenes from an Italian Restaurant](#)

Level 42's [Something About You](#)

Sting's [Seven Days](#)

## Community Library goes into hibernation

The books in the two bus shelters on Poto Road have been flying off the shelves over the last month. Unfortunately we have had to close the Normandale Community Library. The Ministry of Health advises book swapping is not allowed during lockdown, in part because books can be a vector for spreading coronavirus. We will look to resurrect the Library in the summer months once Coronavirus is no longer a risk.

For those still wanting good reads throughout the lockdown period, the [Hutt City Libraries website has a link to ePukapuka](#) where there are more than 6,000 eBooks and eAudiobooks to download for free.

### Thanks to our deliverers

Our wonderful association runs only because of your neighbours who volunteer. Once a month our faithful deliverers head out with their pack of newsletters clutched tightly against any little flurries of wind. I was startled to learn last year just how faithful some of these stalwarts have been. Many have been delivering since last century—some for more than 30 years.

We'd like to extend special thanks to two of our most faithful deliverers who will no longer be delivering the Times: Judy Cameron and Beverley Walter. Beverley has shifted out of Normandale and we think she has been delivering since the 90s. Judy has been delivering the Times for over 30 years.

*Thank you so much for your dedication*

Thanks also to our new deliverers who have agreed to step into their shoes.

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