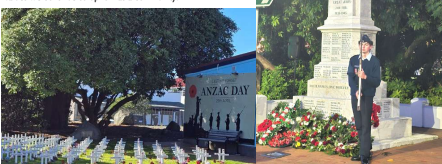


# Moa Mail

## A Dawn of Reflection

The stars were still out on a chilly four-degree morning as the community gathered to commemorate ANZAC Day on Saturday. Despite the cold, a strong crowd assembled in quiet reflection, united by the same purpose that brings New Zealanders together every April, to honour those who served and those who never returned.

RSA President Jake Dagger led the service, with contributions from Padre Rev. Kevin Dixon and Ingwood High School Head Boy Carter Luckin and Head Girl Tegan Leake. Their words offered thoughtful reminders of the courage, sacrifice, and resilience shown by generations of service personnel. Each speaker brought a different perspective, yet all echoed the same message: remembrance is not just about history, but about the values we continue to uphold as a community.



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**Editors Comments**

As we commemorate ANZAC Day, our thoughts turned once again to remembrance — not only of the great battles and the national stories we all know, but of the quieter, local voices that shaped our communities long after the guns fell silent. In this issue, we share an interview recorded in 1989 with local veteran Donald Gyle (1918-1990). His stories remind us that behind every uniform was someone's son, brother, neighbour — someone who laughed with his mates, and found moments of light even in the harshest places.

**Karen Moratti**

**Orchestra Day 2026 (Billie Boyd)**

Ingwood High School music students joined young musicians from other Tararaki secondary schools for Orchestra Day on the 27th of March at New Plymouth Boys' High School. The group practised for most of the day in their respective ensembles before performing four pieces in a concert, hoping to inspire other young people to learn an instrument.



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**ETEC Update (Kat Strang)**

The East Tararaki Environment Collective team have had a busy few months. In March our team helped out Te Runanga a Ngati Haurangi at Taramakohi with rehabilitating mustelid traps. The team put in a huge effort and managed to smash out checking the 300 traps in just two days, reliving them all with fresh rabbit mince.



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**A Web of Secrets: 'The Cottage' at Cue Theatre**

Get ready for a night of high-energy hilarity as Cue Theatre in Ingwood presents its latest production, *The Cottage*. Written by Sandy Rustin and directed by Sharon Reed, this delightfully sly British-style drawing-room farce transports audiences back to 1923 for a whirlwind of love, infidelity, and impeccable comedic timing.

**13-23 MAY 2026**



**T.E.T Election VOTE Mel Cook**

I seek your vote so I can advocate for you and support your applications from Ward A.

**Mel Cook**

## A Soldiers Story (Karen Moratti with Donald Gyle 1989)

Donald Gyle enlisted in 1939 after 'World War II' broke out. He was assigned to the 19th Infantry Battalion as a Corporal (Private). His first posting was in the desert of Egypt, where he spent one to two years. I felt privileged to have been able to interview Donald as a school project back in 1989.

Q: Did you have to be taught about hygiene?  
A: Yes. Hygiene was especially strict in the Middle East base camps. When you went to the toilets there was an armed guard—you had to wash your hands. The Nile water was particularly polluted, so if you fell in you had to get an injection.

Q: Were the people of Egypt on your side?  
A: Some Egyptians helped us, others fought against us. You had to be careful — many would have killed you if they had the chance.

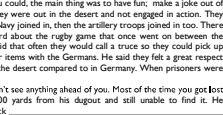
Q: What kind of artillery did you use?  
A: We used the 25-pounder and the 75mm rifle. One weapon we used was a Bren gun. We really disliked it because you had to lie flat on the ground with your shoulder hard up against it. My mate and I got so sick of carrying it that one day we threw it into a big valley. (Donald paused to laugh at this memory. This gave me a chance to ask my next question.)

Q: How did you keep your morale up?  
A: Wherever you could, the main thing was to have fun, make a joke out of anything. He laughs again and tells a story. One time they were out in the desert and not engaged in action. They got into the beer and started letting off fireworks. The Navy joined in, then the artillery troops joined in too. There were fireworks everywhere. I asked him if he had heard about the raggy game that once went on between the Allies and the enemy. He said he had heard of it. He said that often they would call a truce so they could pick up the dead. They sometimes swapped cigarettes and other items with the Germans. He said they felt a great respect for the Germans. He added that they were different in the desert compared to in Germany. When prisoners were taken in the desert, they were well cared for.

Q: Did you have a lot of sandstorms?  
A: Yes. You couldn't see anything ahead of you. Most of the time you got lost in the sandstorm. He remembers once being only 100 yards from his dugout and still unable to find it. He eventually found a pole he remembered and got back safely. He explained that in a sandstorm you spit a blanket over your head and breathed through a handkerchief. By the end of the storm the blankets would be thick with sand.

Q: How much gear did you have to carry?  
A: We had to carry rifles, a Bren gun (shoved among the platoon), and 36 rounds. The army toughened us up by making us carry the full kit every day through the desert — 23 miles. They were very strict on water: one pint a day only. Some soldiers slogged on pebbles to ease the thirst, and it worked quite well. Donald goes on to say they used the same water for cleaning, shaving and washing. They used a bucket full of sand with holes in the bottom; when the water drained through, they used it again. Every fortnight they went to the Mediterranean Sea, stripped off, and swam. He laughs, "No one's different when this happens."

Q: What was your view on war at the time?  
A: I had to try to try my kids. I had uncles in World War I and thought I had better do my bit. I don't regret it. I was lucky I came home, I suppose that has mollified my view. He finishes with a ying he hoped his children never have to experience it.



Above: Thelma and Donald Gyle (1918-1990)

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## Squash News (Pauline Stachurak)



Above: The Winning Doubles Team. Left to Right: Jonathan Pauro, Paul Shoter, Ayden Quersip, Joe Ingram, Shaun Valentine, Blair Etzson, and Lance Mitchell.

## Three Cheers to 90 Years! (Warren Dickson)

It has been a week of visitors at the Dickson household as they celebrate Noleen's ninety birthday. Noleen (nee McLennan) was born in Ingwood and in 1959 married David Dickson. David and Noleen farmed on Bristol Road, Waiau and had three children: Steven, Gaylene, and Warren. In later years, they settled in Ingwood.

On Saturday night, a gathering was held at Fern Lodge with family travelling from as far away as Australia to celebrate the special occasion. Happy 90th Birthday Noleen!

**Vote Mike Davy For T.E.T. Trust**

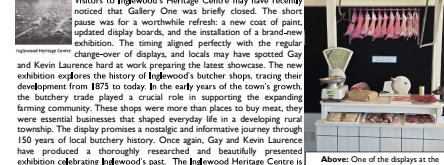
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Mike Davy Ingwood Trustee  
T.E.T. Supports the Elderly and those needing care. \$2 million dollars granted to Marinoto.

**Vote Mike Davy**

Authorized by Mike Davy, 56 Kelly Street, Ingwood

## Ingwood's Butchery History



Above: One of the displays at the exhibition

## Indoor Bowls News (Bryna Whitaker)

During the recent school holidays, Ingwood Indoor Bowls held their Triples with a school pupil tournament where seasoned bowlers are encouraged to team up with a pupil. This year saw a number of grand parent, grand children combinations compete. Twelve teams entered. This year's winners were Noel and Rose King with granddaughter Alice Williams. Runners-up were Brian Curtis, Irene Gladding with grandson Blake Gladding.

**VOTE TET ELECTION WARD A**

**MELISSA STEVENSON**

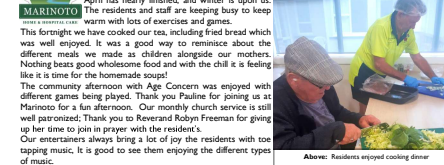
PROVEN LEADERSHIP. TRUSTED LOCALLY.

I've supported local initiatives across our communities - from the small grants that keep clubs going, to major projects in health, education, sports, facilities or housing that are making a difference locally.

**Vote Melissa Stevenson**

Authorized by Melissa Stevenson, email: melissa@tdp.org.nz

## Marinoto update (Lyn Sewell)



Above: Residents enjoyed cooling dinner

## NZPBA Championships - Thank You Ingwood (Marjorie Pedersen)

On behalf of the Stratford Pipe Band we wish to say a HUGE thank you to Ingwood for hosting such a special and spectacular event. You did yourselves proud, and Ingwood looked amazing, too!

Particularly I'd like to thank you for the planning and execution of those plans, for the months of time you put into all the details which needed to be worked out. To all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to prepare, set up and clear the grounds, those who provided security and traffic control, first aiders and those providing for the needs of the judges, officials and guest bands for those involved in the incredible array of quality merchandise available for all the sponsors, whose contributions are very much appreciated - a heartfelt thank you!

To all the bands including our own, who put in so much time and effort to come here and compete at this event. It cannot name you a "four of missing someone out, but you know who you are, so a HUGE thank you everyone!

**QUIZ TIME!**

Ingwood Club

Friday 1st May 7pm

Bar Restaurant available

**\$50 per team**

**MAX 9 people**

Register your team before April 25th

Message Ingwood Club on facebook to register

Or give team name to bar staff

**St John's Church ANZAC Commemoration Service**  
(Charlaine Spencer)

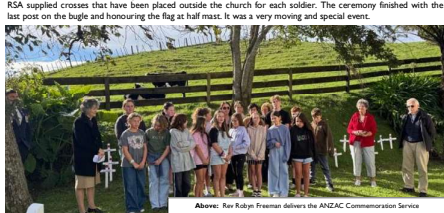
On Thursday 23 April the senior students of Kaimata School and friends of St John's Church took an ANZAC commemoration ceremony. We learnt about the history of the church, the churches special significance to ANZAC and ANZAC day itself. The students shared their learning about ANZAC and we sang "Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag" accompanied by a piano accompanist. Candles were lit to remember the 35 local Kaimata/Wairua soldiers who lost their lives in the war. The Inglewood RSA supplied crosses that have been placed outside the church for each soldier. The ceremony finished with the last post on the bugle and honouring the flag at half mast. It was a very moving and special event.

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Above: Rev Robyn Freeman delivers the ANZAC Commemoration Service

**Barbara Kurlger MP for Taranaki-King Country**  
Lest we forget.

Inglewood Office  
80 Rata St, Inglewood - 06 7566032  
kurlger@inglewood.parliament.govt.nz

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kurlger@teamamutu.parliament.govt.nz

King Country Virtual Office  
021 819 017 - kurlger@kingcountry.parliament.govt.nz

**What's on and Events**

Please advise of your event  
7567030  
moamail@funho.com

Age Concern - Every Wed 10.30am  
Steady as you go, strength and balance exercise classes.  
Inglewood United Church

**What's on Continued...**

Inglewood Lions Annual Book Fair  
Sat 23rd May 9:00-4:00pm  
Sun 24th May 10:00am-2:00pm  
Inglewood Club, Moa Street

Inglewood Croquet Club  
James St, AGM 1:00pm  
Tue 26 May 2026  
At Club Rooms.  
All Welcome

**Merv The Handyman Looks At All Jobs**  
Fencing and Decking  
New Guttering  
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Small Plumbing Jobs  
Pruning of Trees  
Concrete Jobs  
Landscaping

**Facebook - Merv The Handyman Also Available Mulcher Wood Splitter Two Ton Tip Truck, which comes with Two Awesome Guys Merv 027 481 1882**

**The Inglewood Heritage Centre**

Gallery 1:  
Inglewood's Butcher Shops

Gallery 2:  
The Fritz Reuter 150 years

**Free Entry**  
Open Hours:  
Mon - Fri 10.00am - 4.00pm,  
Sat, Sun and Public Holidays  
Sun 17 May at 12.30pm

**Inglewood and Districts RSA**

**Membership Pins Coins and Badges available At Fun Ho! Toys**  
Support your local RSA

**Inglewood High School LIBRARIAN and FOUNDATION ARCHIVIST**

Our lovely Librarian has decided to forgo full-time work in favour of being a mum. So, we are looking for someone to run our Library and also manage the BAS Foundation and Archives. They will be someone who loves working with teenagers and is:

- Passionate about books (digital and hard copy), reading and learning and is inspired and motivated to share that passion
- Creative
- Highly skilled and professional in relating to others
- Digitally literate
- Organised, flexible and outward-looking
- Committed to providing an inviting and stimulating learning environment
- Willing to embrace our school culture and values

This is a permanent position of 35 hours per week (term time only) beginning as soon as possible.  
Please send a covering letter and CV, including the names of three referees to the Principal's Assistant:  
[zoe.walton@inglewood.school.nz](mailto:zoe.walton@inglewood.school.nz)  
Applications close 4.00pm Friday 15 May.

**New Market Day**  
At St Andrews Hall 8 Brown St Inglewood  
On the 4th Saturday each month  
From 9.00am - 12 noon  
First one May 23rd  
To book a table contact Sandra  
On 027 6483217 or 7567607  
\$10 per table

**Lions Club News (Wendy Otene)**

Our Lions Club assisted the RSA in putting up the crosses in readiness for ANZAC day. It is always an honour to put these crosses up they mean so much to our Inglewood Community as well as the families of these brave Soldiers, who fought for our freedom in both World War I and World War II. Let's We Forget.

Inglewood Lions Club will be holding their Annual Book Fair on Saturday May 23rd from 9 until 4pm and Sunday 24th 10am until 2pm at Inglewood Club on Moa Street.

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Above: Lions and RSA members installing ANZAC crosses



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Above: Sunleigh Gardens photo by Donna Busby

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**Inglewood, 88 Rewa Street**  
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By Inglewood  
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• Paved 6.65km² section with stream boundary  
• 6.6 bedroom plus a garage, large earthed house

**Inglewood, 4 Standish Street**  
49km² 22 1 1 1 1 1 1 1  
Buyer Enquiry Over 1000000  
• 4 bedrooms, modern kitchen and bathroom  
• 2 toilets, hotpump & HW system  
• Fully fenced section, double garage

**Inglewood, 59 Rata Street**  
100m² 22 4 4 4 1 1 1 1  
Buyer Enquiry Over 1000000  
• 200m² home, 4 bedrooms, private patio  
• 3 heaps ramps, gas fire, double glazing  
• 800m² section, double garage, close to town

**Inglewood, 25 Koromiko Street**  
612m² 22 1 1 1 1 1 1 1  
Buyer Enquiry Over 1000000  
• 10k, spacious, serene stone home  
• 3 bedrooms, sunny conservatory, wood burner  
• Internal access double garage, 620m² section

**Inglewood, 15 Kauri Street**  
732m² 22 4 4 1 1 1 1 1  
Buyer Enquiry Over 500000  
• Charming stone like 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms  
• Kitchen with walk-in pantry, sunny lounge  
• Strip of garage with storage room, single carport

**Inglewood, 18b Estate Grove**  
722m² 22 4 4 1 1 1 1 1  
Buyer Enquiry Over 1000000  
• 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 bedrooms  
• 2 approx living areas, 2 x hotpumps  
• Spacious deck, double garage, close to schools

**8 Manatu Lane, Inglewood** 21 Tainui Terrace, Inglewood 28a Main Street, Inglewood 101 Rata Street, Inglewood

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