



Paparoa School - potholes and pets.

Thank you Downer!!

In my last article I discussed the big potholes in our school carpark and I want to send a huge thank you to Downer for filling them in for us. I have to say, this was by sheer luck more than anything. The day after I wrote the article, I had Downer come in and see me as they were going to begin works on Franklin Road. The poor man was a little confused about the grin on my face!! Obviously, our problem was solved in this instance but keeping up the maintenance of the carpark is still a problem that will need to be dealt with going forward. For now, I am adding it to my 2025 list of things to do!!



In the last month, we had our Pet and Show Day which was extremely successful. It was amazing to see the number of students participating in the Pet Show, with 32 of our 40 students showing animals. It was a beautiful day, and I think that our school calves were quite relieved that it was all over. I can't thank our parents and whanau enough for supporting this event and putting in a huge amount of mahi to get behind it, with the number of hours and patience needed.

We are coming up to the end of our school year and I will go back to writing reports after finishing this article! We will have performed at the Kapa Haka Festival on Saturday 30th November at Otamatea High School when you read this. All our students were involved in this day and sound amazing! We'll have had our athletics day, and our year one and two students are going to the district's Tabloid Sports. The whole school are going on a trip to the Auckland Zoo, we have the year six trip, and our Pipi Lunch for four lucky students. We finish the year with our annual prizegiving. We'll be back for the beginning of the 2025 year and so on behalf of the Board of Trustees, staff and students, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Please stay safe travelling around the countryside and enjoy spending time with family and friends.

Ka Kite Anō for another year
Karyn Taylor
Principal



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The next Press will be published
on January 8th 2025.



Paparoa Press

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
Progressive Paparoa Inc. (PPI),
for Paparoa, Pahi, Matakohē,
Whakapirau and Tinopai.

CIRCULATION 1,050

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Pahi Regatta - Jan 25 & 26

The Pahi Regatta is now 135 years old and is the biggest Regatta on the Kaipara Harbour. We have the perfect racing arena between the two wharves, and an inherited instinct to put on a great weekend and be great hosts to a special crowd.

History shows the willingness of local harbour folk to break from their arduous work on the land or the water, and go racing for fun and test their water skills.

In the past, other clubs would attend each other's regattas in Pahi, Helensville, Point Curtis, Port Albert, Tinopai, Ruawai and Dargaville. Pahi, Helensville and Dargaville have kept up this tradition.

Over 135 years events have changed to suit the times. Working boats and sailing craft are no longer racing. The greasy boom event was deemed to be a gonad hazard so, sadly, was removed from the agenda.

Saturday has a range of entertainment, both on and off the water (follow Pahi Boat Club on Facebook for more information as it comes to hand).

On the Sundays, the Raft Race became a Bathtub Race and has been a real crowd pleaser, as has the newer Massive Bomb Comp.

This year the Raft Race is going back to the past with flour bombs and rollicking, good, clean, fun, and entry will be easier - you can just knock up a floating apparatus and show up on the day.

For this years Raft Race:

Entry Fee: To be advised.

Start time: 10.00am on Sunday 26th.

Minimum 4 people per raft 12 yrs and over.

No motors allowed.

The 1km course will be explained on the day

There is a prize for 1st raft to finish

There is another equal prize for the "Most Entertaining Raft", judged on design and/or skulduggery on the water. All rafts will have to pass a safety check including lifejackets and seaworthiness....

Foam, polystyrene, or materials which leave artificial debris in the water can not be used.

Flour bombs can be purchased, or must be made using non contaminating materials.

The main reason to race should be for fun.

Pahi Boat Club



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A reminder to our contributors!

We need all advertising material by the 15th of the previous month and all editorial copy by the 20th. We cannot guarantee the publication of any material received after these dates.

While we always welcome editorial content we reserve the right to decline or hold over any articles outside our regular columns.

Opinions expressed in Paparoa Press are the author's own and not necessarily those of the editorial team or PPI.



New physio in town

There is great news of a physiotherapy service in Paparoa.

Caitlyn Bloxham of Maungaturoto Physiotherapy has extended her services to Paparoa with Monday, Tuesday and now Wednesday clinics at Paparoa Medical Centre.

Caitlyn is an experienced Physiotherapist of 10 years, setting up the Maungaturoto Clinic just over 3 years ago.

Caitlyn has had another physio come on board this year which has allowed her to recently expand their services providing to Paparoa residents.

Physiotherapy was previously provided in the Paparoa

clinic but not for some years. There is plenty of parking and easy access to the clinic. Opening hours for 2024 will be 9am-3pm.

Caitlyn can treat any injury from head to toe with physiotherapy treatment techniques as well as Western acupuncture.

She says she is excited to service Paparoa, it has been

long requested but was previously too difficult on her own with how busy our Maungaturoto clinic is.

To make a booking for either Paparoa or Maungaturoto please call 094319062 or email admin@maungaturotophysio.co.nz

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News from the library

Wow – what a month!

We have reviewed our collection and culled about 400 titles that were older and gathering dust on the shelves to make room for new ones.

We have a lot of these books still available in the library to be taken for free until the beginning of December and then we will move them on. We like to give our local readership first dibs on them.

We have had a number of new to us titles added to the collection from Dargaville and this will be an ongoing swap situation from now on. Not forgetting that you can still order titles from other libraries in the Kaipara and they are moved around once a week to the library of your choice, so you really have 5 locations to choose from. Talk to any of our wonderful librarians if you are not sure how.

We are also hoping for a delivery of new titles before Christmas so make sure to check in regularly. We display these in our New Books section opposite the door

Christmas is looming and we will be closed from midday on 24th December and re-



opening again on Monday 6th January so make sure you stock up on your holiday reading by then. Interloans will also take a break from 6th December until 10th January.

Don't forget the Tutu items if you have visitors for Christmas too. Board games and craft items make for great group activities.

Lynne Warbrooke
Library Manager

I would like to express a huge thank you to all the truck drivers driving on Ford Rd Marohemo for their kindness and consideration in not covering this daily walker in dust. Without exception they slow down. Truly professional drivers.

Thank you.

A Walker

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OCS December

Our last day at the agency is **Wednesday 18th** and the staff are all looking forward to relaxing with family and friends after what has been a really busy and interesting year.

We open again on Monday 13th January 2025.

As the end of 2024 draws near, we all at OCS wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

We look forward to 2025 and hopefully it will bring good health and good times for us all.

Our community van will be doing just one shopping trip to Whangarei this month, that is **Tuesday 10th**. Meet the van at the parking area, Maungaturoto Retirement Village, Hurndall Street, at 9am. Return after lunch.

Our Christmas Community Lunch is set for **Wednesday 11th**, and as usual everyone is welcome to come and enjoy. Morning tea at 11 o'clock, lunch at 12. The Good News Church, 98 Hurndall Street, Maungaturoto.

We thank all who have visited us with donations of produce, groceries, eggs, knitting, baking, money and your precious time - all of which has been so much appreciated, words just cannot express how valuable this generosity is to us and all those we help.

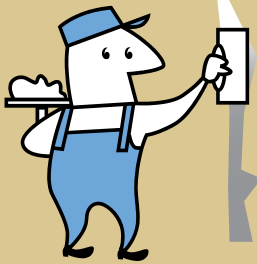
Shopping trip to Whangarei - Tuesday 10th

Community lunch - Wednesday 11th

Best wishes from all at OCS

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Wishing you all a
creative Christmas
and an inspirational
New Year

A huge Thank You to all you local folk who've supported us by visiting and 'buying local' throughout 2024. We appreciate your patronage and hope you continue to enjoy our gallery in the year to come.

CHRISTMAS GOODIES IN NOW!

At the Gallery you'll find: tree decorations, quilted Advent Calendars, miniature Christmas stockings, table runners, nut bowls... and many more festive offerings. Come and check out what our artisans and craftspeople have created to cater for your festive needs, and find that unique, locally made

gift for someone special.

NEW MEMBERS = NEW ART & CRAFT

Work from our newest members Sue Dunn - steam punk artist, and Brigit Rahm - quilter, is gracing the gallery space now, and complementing the work of all our local exhibitors.



NEXT EXHIBITION OPENING 1st JANUARY

As always, we will present a new exhibition every two months throughout 2025. The first will open on New Year's Day - do come see.

It took me four years to paint like Raphael,
but a lifetime to paint like a child (Pablo Picasso)



Council Mark says – I'm sorry...

At the October Council meeting I referred to what I thought was an error in a Kaipara Lifestyler news item. The article was correct and I was wrong. The subject was the proposal for council to shift from Land Value-based rating to Capital Value-based rating. The quote referred to the effect of next year's scheduled 9% rates rise being to increase the size of the rates pie, regardless of however it is divided.

I wrongly took this to be suggesting that if we were to change from Land Value to Capital Value rating it would mean that the council would collect more rates. Changing from LV to CV will not change the total rates collected by council, but the 9% increase next year will. Three key messages here: we are looking at a further 9% rate rise next year, we are considering changing from LV to CV rating, and I got the preceding two issues mixed up. The 9% will affect different properties differently if we go with CV rating. I recommend you check out how you will be affected and put in a submission if you want, by the 15th of December.

I apologised to the Lifestyler staff personally and confirmed with them that if I see something in their paper that doesn't look quite right, I would raise it with

them first before making any public comment about it. I might be old but I'm not too old to learn.

The ethic of recycling is important, especially at Christmas time; I wrote the next bit a couple of years ago, but I think it's worth another airing:

I get quite depressed as we enter the 'festive' season again, so I thought I would write down what a great Christmas would be for me. Here's my shopping list:

- Things are so quiet at the police station that the duty officers get to go home early and spend time with their families
- The on-call doctors and nurses also get to have more time off because there is nothing to do in the hospital Emergency Department
- Mothers and children feel safe in their own home, not bruised and battered in emergency housing

• Parents don't feel angry, frustrated and ashamed because they are not able to provide treats for their family, and don't lash out in a drunken rage (refer back to the preceding items)

• Warm hugs and hearing "thank you" are valued more than trashy, flashy gifts which are just three days away from occupying the nearest landfill

• Everyone has some nice food to share with their nearest and dearest.

I wish. Song for the day - So this is Christmas by John Lennon: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erdsxHpYHk>

Merry Christmas everyone!

Mark Vincent
Otamatea Ward Councillor
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MOONRISE OVER THE PAHI RIVER

I look up and I see two moons
one in the sky and one on the water
a night owl calls for more pork
to a chorus of croaking frogs

Pearl white, silver bright dinner plates
squeaky clean, fresh from the dishwasher
stare back, greedily filling the meant-to-be darkness
sliding over the Whakapirau hills

One orb slowly rises and pulls apart, turning to gold
as it climbs higher and higher
Its twin changes colour in empathy and both begin to shrink
hills, fields and trees, estuary and mangroves
surrender to the night

Moonlight softens, shadows re-appear
they will be back again on morrow's eve - peek-a-boo!
Moonrise over the Pahi river.

look out, see two moons
one in sky and one on sea
I'm home in Pahi

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Letters from The Old Post Office...

To depilate or not to depilate, that is the question:

Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The stings and arrows of outraged comments,
Or to take arms against the sea of troublesome hairs.....
And by waxing, shaving, plucking, end them
And endure the bodily aches and the thousand unnatural shocks...
Is this a consummation devoutly to be wish'd?

Hair, beautiful hair but only where we want it, or where it is fashionable. And, oh what angst not to mention pain and money is caused from trouble-some back hair, to hairy ankles. Instead of embracing the potential extra warmth or protection

from midges and other nasties what do we do? We fret that we may be confused with the cookie monster or some other hairy beastie. Instead of smoothing our pelts with a gentle hand or running our fingers lovingly through the forests adorning

our legs we endure painful, if not life - threatening depilation procedures.

Who knows what the cave men or woman did but it probably featured sharp shells. However, in Elizabethan times hairless foreheads were de rigueur, apparently signifying greater intelligence (not the peasants, naturally they were the ones applying the utensils. An opportunity lost if you ask me) they used tweezers made from seashells, pumice stone, beeswax or a sugar mix.

Just FYI the sugaring "wax" was made with sugar, water, and lemon juice and mixed into a paste, then spread onto the skin. Finally, being ripped off with a cotton cloth strip. Such fun and possibly organic too. Why not try this at home? Maybe not the forehead, although the Court of Queen Elizabeth did not remove body hair, only facial. If historical accuracy is your thing, then go for it. (By the bye, I suspect that the lower brow look was a result of too much intermarriage. I wonder what the royal family does in that regard today?)

Another motherly task to keep hair from growing on their children's foreheads was to rub them with walnut oil. Ammonia (how did they make that??) or vinegar-soaked bandages were also used as was the ever-popular feline faeces. Just pop out and squeeze a cat, darling, then bring it to mummy. Toxoplasmosis anyone!

Thankfully, Jean Jacques Perret invented the first straight razor in 1760. (For men only.) Then Dr. Gouraud created a depilatory cream, Poudre Subtile in 1844. Depilatory creams chemically dissolve hair and this is the system brands such as Nair and Veet use. And it is Veet (allegedly) that caused a

neighbour's distress, and myself much merriment. One wet and windy day I received a plaintive phone call from the neighbour's child. It was couched in such awkward and quiet language that I assumed there was a matter of some delicacy that required attention. And, of course their first thought was that I was the most suitable candidate. In fact, I was the only one available which she still has cause to regret. Nevertheless Dear Reader, I donned my gumboots and galumphed down the drive to her aid. Escorted into the bathroom by trembling child with the words "Mummy can not get up, she is stuck to the floor." Well, I have no idea what instructions she read, or not, but she was firmly attached from the buttocks down. Dear Reader, I was weak with laughter, however, regaining control of my wits I suggested hot towels etc to soften the "sticky" stuff. Nothing worked and my suggestion of paint stripper did not go down well. Finally, after hours of chipping away with the fish slice she was free. And, luckily too traumatised to beat me and my sense of humour to a pulp.

On that note I will simply leave you with the thought that perhaps hirsuteness may be the better option.

*Let it fly in the breeze
And get caught in the trees
Give a home to the fleas in my hair*

A home for fleas

A hive for bees

A nest for birds

There ain't no words

*For the beauty, the splendour,
the wonder*

Of my...

*Hair, hair, hair, hair, hair, hair,
hair*²

Deb

1. Apologies to Shakespeare
2. Excerpt from the musical Hair.



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At the market

One of the newer additions to the Paparoa Farmers' Market is Estuary Olives. Pauline and Wayne Young started looking toward their retirement years in the early 2000s and this led them to a 10-acre block near Whakapirau.

At the time they were living and working in Auckland, and they wanted their new block to be productive but also relatively low maintenance, so that they didn't have to visit every weekend. After doing their research they decided to plant 2 acres of olive trees, and the rest, as they say, is history!

Initially they built a garage as their base, but by 2018 they had built a house and made the final move north, by which time they were producing award winning olive oil. They chose the name Estuary Olives as their olive grove overlooks an arm of the beautiful Kaipara Harbour, and as the old myth goes, olives grow better when they have a good view. Being a small grove means that the olives are grown spray free, are all hand-picked and the oil is cold pressed. To keep the quality high, they only sell the current season's product, and once that has gone, that's it until the next harvest.

Pauline has taken on the role of secretary of Oliveti, the Northland olive growers association and as part of that role she is the convenor of the annual awards. These are usually held in September, and experienced judges come together to taste the oils and make the awards. The main purpose is to raise the awareness of Northland olive oils, but it

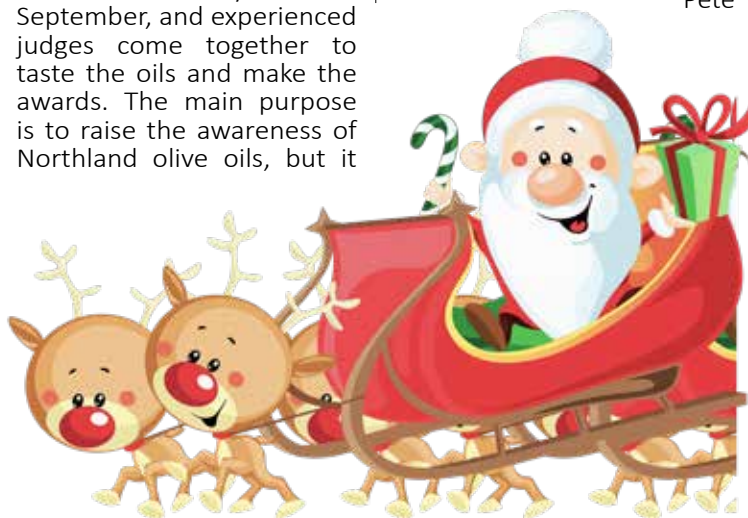
is also a great opportunity for the growers to compare notes and exchange ideas.

At the market Pauline and Wayne sell their range of oils, marinated olives, and a small range of skincare products made using their own olive oil. They come to the market on the first and third Saturdays of the month and are enjoying the friendliness of the market



and getting to know the locals. In many ways they wish they could have made the move north some years earlier, as they are really enjoying living in and being part of the community. Wayne is an active member of the Otamatea Weed Control Group and enjoys helping with native tree plantings, while Pauline is a keen participant in the local Yoga group. Do say hello to them next time you see them at the market, and try their tasty oils and delicious marinated olives.

Pete



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Poo hoo, we have nothing to go on!

Way back in 2020 Kaipara Council conducted some dye testing of septic tanks in Paparoa. KDC confirmed that some properties had wastewater issues. This alerted the community and Progressive Paparoa formed a Wastewater Action Group to liaise with KDC over developments.

The group was concerned that if the problem was serious enough the Regional Council would force landowners to undertake expensive remedies or shut the property down. Action Group spokesman, Graham Taylor said 'That would not be good on an individual property basis but would also severely restrict the future of the whole community. Some properties might just not be able to comply. We want the future of Paparoa to be secured'.

In the four years since formation of the Action Group, Kaipara Council has achieved almost nothing in regard to this problem. The Action Group succeeded in obtaining \$25,000 from Foundation North to undertake a community survey. The survey results highlighted the community awareness of the problem

and the strong opinion that Kaipara Council not only had a responsibility to resolve the issue but to also look at a long term solution for the wider Paparoa community.

Following the presentation of the survey to KDC in December 2022 a sum of \$60,000 was allocated to Paparoa wastewater in the Long Term Plan. This has resulted in a consultant company producing three further technical reports on possible solutions and these have been made available to the community.

The Action Group submitted to the Annual Plan in May of this year that solutions were sought and that progress needed to be made, and it was advised that staff would report in September.

And then we hear on the grapevine that KDC has recently conducted further

dye testing and Council has confirmed it is working with individual landowners.

This looks like a lot of smoke and frosted glass. Has a four year interval miraculously resolved the problem? Is Paparoa Stream no longer receiving pollution from septic tanks? How extensive is the problem, and will only a few properties need to upgrade? Has all the effort and money so far been wasted? What is being done to further plans for a broader solution as outlined in the reports Council commissioned?

If the problem was serious in 2020 why has the community been kept in the dark for so long? How many property investment decisions have been put on hold pending some future direction from KDC? Why is subdivision restricted only to sites that can accommodate

onsite waste water treatment rendering large parts of those properties off limits to gardening, playing, building, etc. What if properties now having minimal wastewater disposal but compliant, become occupied by larger families? It seems like Paparoa is the smallest room in the Kaipara house and is being overlooked. It would be good to flush out some answers. Progress in Paparoa is being held back by Council's reluctance to be open with the community.

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BOOKS AND BOOKCLUBS

It's that time of year again, and in case you haven't quite grasped that fact yet, here are some reminders, though I hope that your Christmas will go better than some of these. "The Railway Detectives Christmas Case," by Edward Marston. This is one of a series of twenty three, none of which I have come across before. Scotland Yard, the English Railways of 1864, mystery, murder and mayhem, what more can you ask for? Eloquent writing style, almost has an historic feel about it. Certainly it has the splendid characters of the past, the Colonel, the Lady of the Manor, the factory workers, and of course, the trains. The Murder of the Factory Manager on a holiday train excursion for the workers brings the Big Boys up from London, to the industrial villages of the midlands, (those dark satanic mills?) and the big question is . . . not whodunnit, but will they be home for Christmas?

A much less genteel detective story is James Patterson's "Merry Christmas Alex Cross," which is also one of a series, featuring D.I. Alex Cross for those of you out there who may be fans. Set in Washington DC in the worst snowstorm they have had for years, D.I. Cross is called away from his family on Christmas Eve to deal with a psychopathic hostage situation. And wait, there is more! First crisis over he is just sitting down to the festive meal on Christmas Day when he is called out again to sort a terrorist bomb situation in a subway station. I will insert a little message of gratitude here for all who have to work over Christmas, especially on the 25th.

Now a little novella that you can read in one sitting, because you will be too busy for anything longer. I found it in the e-library on my phone so you can sneak-read it between cooking the turkey and the pavlova. "The Christmas Guest," by Peter Swanson. It is written in two parts, the first in diary form by an American studying in London who is invited to spend Christmas in a country manor with her English friend and dysfunctional family. Part two gives a completely different perspective on part one, and the joy of this story is that you never know where it is leading to, even up to the very last sentence! Wondrously clever and refreshing. Quite brilliant. I am going to read more from this author.

Last but not least, and a lot more of that Peace and Goodwill that we expect to happen this time of year, is "Christmas at Strand House," by Linda Mitchell. Four acquaintances, a middle-aged model, a divorcee, an abused young wife and a widower, all expecting to spend Christmas alone, are invited to spend time together instead, at Strand House, a grand home on the English coast, recently inherited from the divorcee's grandmother. Although each are coming from unhappy situations there is nothing but good times and happiness here. Food, (amazing food! Some delicious ideas) wine, laughter, and a deepening of friendship pervade throughout their time together. And there is a little "one-year-later" catchup at the end to leave us replete and contented. Merry Christmas everyone!!!!

Anne Bate



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I would like to wish a very merry Christmas to our readers, regular (and irregular) contributors, advertisers, proofreaders, all those in PPI, and Robyn Skelton, who collectively make Paparoa Press the great little paper it is. Thank you! Margie, Editor

THE KAURI MUSEUM

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We are very excited to have opened a spectacular new attraction at the Museum - the Forest Walkway.

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Good News Vanuatu mission

Late July to early August this year a group of seven youths and six adults from Good News Church Maungaturoto went to Efate in Vanuatu for a mission trip. We spent 14 days ministering to the community, the village, hospital and prison.

It was a really awesome opportunity to go into the prison where we sang songs and preached our testimonies.

We ended up baptizing two prisoners and one of our team mates in the first four days there! We spent a few hours in a hospital and prayed for every single patient. This was an eye opening experience. They have operating theatres that are state of the art but patients go into bacteria and mould filled recovery and surgical wards.

we were invited to perform at an Independence Day celebration where our group were the first few people to



perform on that stage as it had just been opened days before.

This trip was not easy to go on as the devil was pushing us left and right. We lost all our money for flights because Air Vanuatu went into liquidation - but churches from all around the Kaipara came together and gave us funding to not only pay for all 12 airfares but extra for resources like bibles.

Almost all of the team members got really sick. We pushed through and made the trip happen and we are extremely happy about what we had managed to achieve. It was an honor and a privilege to go with this group of people and serve the Lord in this way and I hope I can go next year.

Thanks
Jacob Lord



We spent four days in a village called Erakor where we gave out about 500 pairs of reading and sunglasses. We also held a youth event at Erakor where people shared messages, danced to Day Camp songs and played games. On July 30th



**The Paparoa Press is
also available online at
paparoa.org.nz**



Community Picnic at the Paparoa Village Green

Save the date! Sunday 19th January 2025, from 4.30pm.

Summer is here and the end of the year is in sight. To celebrate a new year, and in anticipation of the Playground Expansion getting underway, we've decided to get together for a bit of social fun. Everyone is invited to a Community Picnic at the Village Green, directly behind the village carpark.

Bring your friends, whanau, picnic, rugs and chairs as required.

Progressive Paparoa will provide gazebos for shade and a little music too.

Dogs on a leash welcome.

We also want to thank our amazing volunteers for all the time and energy they have given over the year.

Join us at the picnic to meet new friends and get to know the folk who have worked for many years to make this a fantastic place to live.

For more info contact: progressive.paparoa@gmail.com



PPI

Sports update

It's been a great start to the tennis season in Paparoa with up to 40 youngsters taking part in coaching lessons every Tuesday evening.

Lessons will finish soon until Term 1 next year, but we are very happy to have people coming along and having a hit anytime, as the courts are there to be used. If you're an adult and keen to play tennis, please contact Juliette 021 143 2560 or Pete 021 056 7163.

Badminton continues to be held in the Paparoa Hall on Thursday evenings at 7pm. Some racquets available and adults and high school students are welcome to come and have a go. Only \$2 per session for students and \$3 for adults.

Table tennis is the other racquet sport played in Paparoa at the Sports Pavilion every Tuesday evening from 7pm. We are always keen to meet new players whether you've played much or not, and we have spare bats. Only \$2 per person.

A new addition to the sports scene is the basketball hoop



recently installed at the Tennis courts. The Sport and Rec Association has collaborated with Basketball Northland to get this done, and we know there's lots of keen players in the district. Please remember that it is a shared space with tennis.

A reminder to everyone using the tennis courts, please do not lean on or climb over the nets as they are easily stretched out of shape.

Enjoy the Summer being active.

Pete



PAPAROA ARTISAN & COLLECTABLES MARKET

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JOIN US AT THE VILLAGE GREEN

You are invited to the Paparoa
Community picnic.

Please bring your own picnic
Gazebos provided
All welcome



See You There!

For more details contact progressive.paparoa@gmail.com



Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary

Senior's afternoon tea - Friday 6 December. Once again we will be treated by the singers trained by Maura Flower. We should have been in touch with you by now, but if not, please call Eileen (021 142 0357), Stella (021 149 0877). Numbers are needed for catering purposes. This has always been an enjoyable social occasion.

Driver Mentoring - We have been doing this for four years now (under the umbrella of People Potential and Roadsafte North) and recently we have had sign-writing put on our car. I would like to emphasize that the service we provide is not only for school students, but for adults as well. We now have four mentors who each state a day on which they prefer to be available. We offer approx. 12 free lessons (depending on the ability of the trainee) and also make our car available for the purpose of sitting the Restricted license.) It was great to see the commitment of a number of Otamatea High School students to obtain their Learner's during the recent holidays. Please don't hesitate to call me if you would like to progress your license from Learner to Restricted.

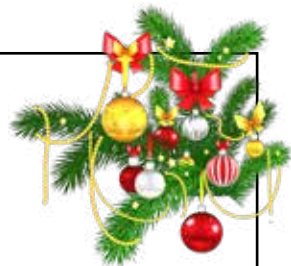
Meetings - we meet on alternate Tuesday nights at the Centennial Hall at 6pm and as part of an international organization we are often privileged to have visiting Rotarians from within NZ and from other countries. Just recently we had Carol Cullen, who lives in Bundaberg, Australia (who was back for Maungaturoto Primary's 150th) join us. Her club has a morning meeting and is a similar size to our own. Last year they raised \$45k, so it will be interesting to see if we can implement any of their fundraising ventures.

Nikau Grove - we are continuing work on the upkeep of this gem in Whaka Road. When this is finished we will be looking at other areas in our community where we can work. We have decided that the Tuesdays we don't meet will be an ideal time to do this, especially now that the evenings are longer.

Exchange Student - Jaime is now getting close to the end of her sojourn in Belgium. During this time she has been able to participate in a number of activities that have been organized for her by her host families and her Rotary Club. She spends four months with each host family and in the present one, her learning and use of French has come to the fore as the family are predominately French speaking. Jaime has also had the chance to visit other European countries, and has just returned from five days in Spain. We are looking forward to hearing of her adventures on her return in mid-January. 2025 will see her back at Otamatea in Year 13.

Compliments of the Season to you all. May you have a meaningful holiday period.

Eileen



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I've been thinking... Season of goodwill...

How divisive the world has become. So much hatred. So much intemperance.

The American election. Not so much a surprise that that horrible Trump man won, but that he won so convincingly. Well, believing the old adage that, "It's all about the economy," I suggest that Americans are tired of spending so much money on foreign wars etc. That is not entirely a bad thing.

The USA has certainly poured dollars into the Ukrainian war. Enough to keep it going, but not enough to win it. Perhaps horrible Trump may understand the psyche of ghastly Putin.

We can only hope for a good outcome.

When Hamas invaded Israel and took hostages, I felt Israel had every right to retaliate. But I fear they have overdone it. Ironically their campaign uses many of the techniques and justifications used by the Nazis. (Ends justifying means. If you're not with us you're against us. Punishing the many for the wrongs of a few.) Netanyahu is yet another deplorable

leader.

Our Parliament has also demonstrated appalling lack of respect for the law and procedures needed to make considered decisions in an orderly way.


Accusations such as 'deliberate systematic genocide' by and aimed at responsible lawmakers do nothing to solve problems and can only encourage more hate speech. I have increasing respect for our other leaders who have had the good grace not to make much of this ill considered outburst.

Not to mention the divisiveness of the tiriti legislation and the hikoi.

What has happened to the peace loving middle-of-the-roads? I think of Yeats, "the best lack all conviction whilst the worst are filled with passionate intensity."

So the year is ending. The season of goodwill is upon us. Let's all have a Happy Christmas.

RS

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Hospice news

Hospice Kaipara Volunteers from the Paparoa (and surrounds) area gathered recently at The Gumdiggers Cafe with Counsellor and Family Support Coordinator Josie Scott.

Planning is afoot for raising awareness about our local Hospice group and the services it offers, so watch this space for news of a Garden party in early 2025!

Volunteers are also going to be at the Paparoa Market on Saturday 14th December with the Hospice Memory Tree. We invite visitors to

place a card of remembrance on the tree and volunteers will be present to answer any questions people may have about Hospice.

An exciting new resource from Hospice NZ, "A Hospice Guide for Carers", will be available to view. We look forward to seeing you there.

Karen Weber



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GROW WHAKATIPU Paparoa Inc

Summer is fast approaching and hasn't everything been Sgrowing! Here in the gardens we are certainly being kept busy. We have been busy getting our tomatoes in over the past couple of months to ensure we have a good supply for our upcoming Passata Day (Tomato Harvest Festival). Next year we will be holding this on March 2nd 2025 to give us all a little break after the Christmas and New Year busy period.

Passata is tomato puree that has been strained of both seeds and skins and Passata day is an annual Italian tradition that is celebrated at tomato harvest time. It involves families and neighbours coming together and processing their harvests for bottling to be used throughout the year. Of course, at the end of a hard day's work, Passata Day also calls for a classic Italian lunch, with home-made wine and lots of laughter. We unfortunately can't supply the home-made wine, but we will have a meal post bottling. We started this tradition at Grow Paparoa two years ago and it was a huge success. Every year we have made improvements to our system so the day continues to improve. We have two passata

machines that are available for you to use on the day so not only will you have help and company in processing your harvest- it is made much easier with the help of our job specific equipment. You can book in to put your own tomatoes through closer to the time but for now keep the date free and keep an eye on Facebook and here next month for more details!

Aladdin's cave

We are really happy to see our second hand shop, Aladdin's Cave, flourishing since it has reopened. We now have a wonderful team of dedicated volunteers making it happen every week. We appear to be getting more customers from further afield - the surrounding areas are visiting too. We are grateful for every customer who comes in as every cent made in this shop goes straight into supporting the community garden and feeding our local food banks. We do presently have one request, the mainstay of our lovely volunteers are of a certain age, and we are looking for some fit and able community members who would be willing to help with our set up and breakdown. This would involve some lifting of boxes of clothing and helping to put up the tables used in front of the store. Ideally we would like a few people so that we can share the load out and one or two people are not relied upon on a weekly basis. Set up begins at 8.45am and breakdown at 12.45pm. We do not expect someone to hang around to breakdown so two different people would be great. If either (or both) of these times would suit you once a month or even once every couple of months please get in touch at palmhousepahi@xtra.co.nz or contact Jenny at 0276888296.

Summer clothing would be very much appreciated as donations at the moment, especially children's. Donations welcome during opening hours of 9am to 1pm every Saturday.

Katie Fullerton

Kaiwaka Athletic Club

After several years in recess, Kaiwaka Athletic Club has started up again.

We are fortunate to have the use of the grounds at Otamatea High School on Wednesday for an hour and a half from 4.30pm, as well as some enthusiastic parents.

We cater for school students and pre-schoolers and endeavor to have a run (or two) a throw and a jump each evening.

We will operate until 11th

December, commencing again on the 5th February, concluding on 3rd April (the last week of daylight saving.)

If you come along, remember to bring a drink bottle and warm clothing as the area can be cool.

If you have any queries, please phone 021 142 0357 and I will get back to you.

Eileen

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From our family to yours

December.....

And here we are, once again, at the end of another year. Another cascade of events I couldn't have seen coming, but we made it through.

2024 was a year of ups and downs. What a cliché statement, but yes, every year brings ups and downs. This year, I said final goodbyes to friends who departed from earth long before their time. We didn't know it was our final goodbye at the time, because usually, we don't know its over until it is. Gone but never forgotten.

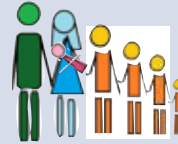
I saw more time inside a hospital than ever before, as Master 13 spent a very long time in Starship ICU over August and September, arriving home after 58 days away in October. The details are too long for this blip of an update, but he is now fine, and it gave me such an appreciation for the nurses and doctors who lovingly tended to him. We were blessed to bring him home in one piece, many families we saw didn't get that privilege. The community

support we received during this time was also amazing, anything we needed was provided and thank you if you were one of those who made an intense situation a little more bearable.

Miss Mary turned one in October, bringing her own unique energy to the family – think, tornado meets mashed blueberries. She is truly a delight. And all her brothers are growing up too, into wonderful young men who want to borrow my car to play golf, or play drums at 7am. (Sorry neighbours.)

And then 2024 was over, never to be repeated, long to be remembered, done and dusted. May each family in this community have a wonderful end to the end of the year, and safe and joy-filled holidays.

Many blessings,
Jenny



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Seasons Greetings from Paparoa Lions Club Members

Many of you will know of someone who is a Lion, some of you may ask yourselves, who are they and what do they do?



Paparoa Lions Club are part of the Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) and our aim is to meet the needs of our local community and surrounding areas.

Here is a little insight into Paparoa Lions Club, a small network of volunteers working together to serve our community as best we can.

Firstly, there are two major fundraising activities that keep us busy, cutting and delivery of firewood and our Lions Food Caravan seen regularly at special events around the Kaipara over the summer months. You may have seen us at the Maungaturoto Primary School 150th celebrations recently.

We support local children and schools through scholarships, mentoring and recreation.

We support communities following natural disasters by supplying basic needs such as food, clothing, water and much more.

Our regular monthly meetings are on the 1st Monday of the month followed by dinner. Meetings including guest speakers are held every 3rd Monday of the month.

Our motto is "Where there's a Lion there's a need".

If you are keen to find out more about your local Paparoa Lions Club, make a connection today, follow us on Facebook, or when you see us out and about, come say hello.

We are always looking for new volunteers.

Paparoa Lions

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Church Service on Sunday at 10 30am
6pm for fellowship, prayer and sharing.
Everyone Welcome

Pets in the Valley



December, and it's definitely feeling summery. The showers we have been having are great for grass and garden growth, but they also make it perfect weather for flies. So make sure your sheep have been shorn and treated to prevent fly strike. Getting eaten alive by flies is a terrible way to die and it is a preventable problem so don't put it off.

Shade and water - make sure every animal has access to both all the time - keep planting trees in strategic places to ensure livestock have an optimal quality of life.

Now I know you all think your dogs are clever, but they can't read! Just because the chocolate wrapped up under the tree is for Aunt Mary doesn't mean the dog won't eat it! I've had dogs who have slid open wardrobe doors, jumped onto benches, stolen out of gift baskets and of course just nabbed it off the coffee table. Chocolate is poisonous to dogs and the smaller the dog and the darker the chocolate the easier it is to get to toxic levels. It is a shame it is not sold in old-fashioned biscuit tins but I'm sure there are dogs out there who can open those too! Eat it or lock it up!



Happy Christmas to you all - hope you have an enjoyable time with your human and fur families.

Janine

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Science Corner



Wonderful Wombats!

These cute solid Australian creatures have a couple of unusual features.

1. They poop cubes - not round marbles like sheep or plops like cows.

2. They have extremely hard backsides made of dense tissue and cartilage.

Nobody knew why they pooped in square blocks as no other animal does this.

Patricia Yang a researcher at Georgia University of Technology was keen to find out how and why they did this. She imported two road kill wombats and compared the intestines with pig intestines, using balloons to inflate them both. The pig intestines showed elasticity was even all around whereas the wombat had two deep grooves where the intestines were more elastic. Cube poop!

It is thought that by doing this the wombat could squeeze more water out of the food waste before ejecting it, thus helping it survive in a very arid climate.

The hard backsides seem to be a body modification that also works very well when predators attack. The wombat retreats to its burrow, blocking it with a very tough backside. It is thought, by some, that if the predator follows the wombat into the burrow then the wombat uses its backside to crush the enemys' skull!

Stella





December in the Garden

It's a fab time in the garden this month with everything in full-on growth mode, including the weeds and lawn. My advice would be to only plant what you can look after as newly planted seeds and seedlings need care and attention in their early weeks. Keep sowing lettuce, beetroot, coriander, basil, rocket, beans, chilli and tomatoes. It's also not too late for cucumbers, corn and zucchini.

I have had an amazing crop of sweetpeas this year - planted in winter they have constantly flowered - so I have had perfumed sweetpeas every few days. Now the vines have finished I can harvest to seeds for next year and I have amazing pea straw to put on the garden. This will help promote worm activity and keep the birds away from them!

The garden is a great place to gather and make Christmas gifts - maybe Christmas cards from foliage and pressed flowers, packs of home grown seeds, or a beautiful potted cutting of your favourite plant. Make elderberry or berry cordial, beetroot relish, chutney, pesto or jam. Enjoy your beautiful garden and, from my family to yours, have a wonderful Christmas.

Happy Gardening
Smiles, C

Boysenberry conserve. This is a jam full of flavour without being over sweet. Blackberries, raspberries or a combo can be used.

1kg boysenberries
2/3 cup sugar
1 lemon

Wash berries and put in a wide base pan. Cook on low/med for 15-20min until pulpy. Turn heat to high and add sugar and juice. Keep a steady boil 15-20min until it thickens. Put in hot sterilised jars (makes 3 jars).



Paparoa Community Library

(Behind the Medical Centre)

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Tuesday 10am - 1pm
Thursday 10am - 4pm
Friday 11am - 1.30pm
Saturday 10am - 12midday

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WHAT'S ON - DECEMBER 2024

The Kauri Museum - open 7 days, 9am-5pm.

White Rock Gallery - 5 Church Rd Matakoho (Kauri Museum) Open 7 days 10 - 4

Hospice Memory Tree - Paparoa Farmers Market, Sat Dec 14.

Ballroom Classes - Saturday evenings at the Paparoa Memorial Hall : 6.15 - 7.45pm.
An hour of tuition (social foxtrot, waltz, cha cha, rumba, slow jive etc) followed by a half hour of free time to practice, laugh and socialise. . \$15pp. For more info contact Lisa on 021 828-531."

Coming up in January:

Paparoa Community Picnic - Sun Jan 19, from 4.30pm, The Village Green. See p11.

Pahi Regatta - Sat Jan 25 - Sun 26. See p2 for more info.



OUT & ABOUT AROUND TOWN

Paparoa's Farmers Market Happens every Saturday morning, 9am-12 at the Village Green. Fresh fruit & veges, sweet treats, plants, fish, eggs, assorted crafts, live music and so much more. A great place to catch up with friends or make new ones.

Artisan & Collectibles Market Quarterly. Paparoa Memorial Hall 10am-2pm. Next market 8th December. Email artisanmarket.paparoa@gmail.com or ph Steph 027 452 7124 or Ruth 021 433 969.

Grow Whakatipu Paparoa Drop in for a chat, hands on experience, or a cuppa. Every Thursday & Friday 9am - 12pm. Next to the showgrounds.

Paparoa Golf Course Winter Sunday golfing. 18 holes (\$20) tee off 10am, 9 holes (\$10) 1pm. Includes food afterwards. Enquiries to club secretary on 022 678 1474.

Paparoa Beats 88.3fm Community radio based right here in Paparoa. A "Beautiful Resistance" to the mainstream. Also available online at paparoabeats.radio12345.com. If you would like to get involved and play your own tunes you can contact them on paparoabeats@gmail.com.

*Condolences to Diane and family on
the recent passing of
Ross Macdonald of Matakoho.*

*We are also sorry to hear of the passing of
Matthew Smith, artist and jeweller, of Ararua.
Condolences to his family and friends.*

Paparoa Mission District Anglican Services coming up

December 1st - Advent Sunday - we will join St Pauls, Kaiwaka, at 11am

8th - St Albans, Whakapirau - 11.30am

15th - Holy Trinity - Café - 10am

22nd - Holy Trinity - Eucharist - 11.30am

24th - St Marks, Paparoa - Evening service - TBC

Please note, there will be an update on the above on our Facebook page.

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TWILIGHT GOLF

Paparoa Golf Club, Golf Course Road, Maungaturoto

Tees off on Friday 15th December from 5pm.

Everyone is welcome to come and play a fun and friendly 9 hole round of golf. Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just wanting to give it a go, this is a great way to hone your skills, meet new people and start the weekend off.

Cost is \$5. Food available.

Any queries ring 0226781474



REGULAR EVENTS, MEETINGS AND ORGANISATIONS

Anglican Church St Marks Hook Road, ph 431 8193 or 431 6224 for services info

Ararua Church 10.30am every Sunday. All welcome Ph 431 6622

Art Studio, Ruawai Wed 10-12noon ph Frances 439 2554

Badminton Thursdays 7pm Paparoa Hall \$2 students, \$3 adults, Pete 021 056 7163

Farmers' Market Every Saturday 9-Noon, Village Green, Alistair, 027 525 4782

Grey Power Last Wed in month, 1pm, Anglican Church Hall, Maungaturoto

Grow Paparoa Thur/Fri 9am to 12pm at the Community Gardens

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Maungaturoto, All welcome. Ph 431 8193 for services information.

Kaipara Marching Team Weds 4-5.30pm, M'gto, Ph Lyn Hutchings 022 070 8674

Line Dancing Thurs 10am-noon Paparoa Hall Ph Jackie Cornes 027 368 7298

Paparoa Mah Jong Group 1st & 3rd Tues, Paparoa Hall 1.30-4pm, Sara 021 0774947

Mainly Music Wed 9.30am Paparoa Comm Church, Lynaire Porteous 431 7520

Matakohe Garden Circle 1st Weds each month, 1pm, J Mackinnon 431 6689.

Maungaturoto Opportunity Shop Open Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 10am-3pm.

Alternate Sat mornings 10am-1pm.

Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary Club Maungaturoto Centennial Hall,

Tuesday evenings 6pm, Ph Stella 021 149 0877

Otamatea Quilters 1st and 3rd Mon month 10am, Paparoa Hall 09 439 2262

Outdoor Bowls Maungaturoto Green Ph Tony 431 6026 or Brian 431 6884

Pahi Hall available for hire Ph Tina 0210335128

Paparoa Community Church Sundays 10.30am, 4 Hook Road, 431 6795 or Dave Porteous 0274 180 676

Paparoa Box Fit Every Wednesday 6-7pm, Stretching/Cardio/Boxing \$10, Paparoa Hall, Stacey Watson 09 283 9931

Paparoa Dance to Music Every Tuesday 10:30-11:30, Stretching/Balance/Resistance/Bands/Zumba, \$5, Paparoa Hall, Stacey Watson 09 283 9931

Paparoa Garden Circle 2nd Wed of month. Contact Raylee Over 021 2565 893

Paparoa Hall Functions venue Ph Robyn 431 7306 or a/h Loraine 431 7290

Paparoa Library Mon, Wed 2-4.30, Tues 10-1, Thurs 10-4, Fri 11-1.30, Sat 10-12.

Library Manager 09 431 7555 during library hours. Returns Box at Skeltons

Paparoa Lions Dinner Meetings 3rd Mon in month 6.30pm, Sports Pavilion

Paparoa Playcentre Tuesday and Thursday 10am-1pm. Franklin Rd. Visitors welcome. paparoa@playcentre.org.nz

Paparoa Primary School 2024 - term 4 ends Friday 13 Dec. 2025 - term 1 starts Thursday 30 Jan, ends 11 April. Ph 431 7379

Paparoa Toy Library Wed 10.30-1pm, Paparoa Comm Church, Hilery 431 7330

Paparoa Volunteer Rural Fire Force (VRFF) 1st and 3rd Monday of the month 6.30pm Depot Rd ph Ken Ogilvie 021 129 4042

Plunket Ready Steady Wriggle Mon 10am. At playcentre. Tina Ball 021 033 5128

Selwyn Centre Thurs 9.45am for over 65's, St Marks, Hook Rd, Ph Sue 431 6224

Sports Pavilion Functions Venue Bookings ph Jane Bailey 431 6148

St Mary's Catholic Church Maungaturoto 10am Wed, 4pm Saturday

Table Tennis Tues 7.30pm, Sports Pavilion \$2 Pete 021 056 7163

Tennis Tues Junior from 4pm, Adult 5.30pm, Ph Sue 431-6224, Pete 0210567163

Yoga For Everyone Tues and Fri, 9.30am, Sports Pavilion. Hatha yoga & more. \$15.

Equipment provided. Beginners welcome. Ph Luciana for more info 0221896496

PLEASE UPDATE US WITH YOUR DETAILS: press@paparoa.org.nz

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LOCAL TIDES for December 2024

TIDES - CALCULATED for PAHI-WHAKAPIRAU

DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	17.53	12.01	17th	6.50	13.20
2nd	18.31	12.36	18th	7.35	14.04
3rd	6.49	13.13	19th	8.18	14.47
4th	7.28	13.52	20th	9.00	15.31
5th	8.09	14.34	21st	9.44	16.16
6th	8.54	15.21	22nd	10.30	17.05
7th	9.43	16.14	23rd	11.21	17.58
8th	10.39	17.13	24th	12.20	18.54
9th	11.41	18.17	25th	13.24	7.26
10th	12.48	6.54	26th	14.26	8.28
11th	13.55	8.00	27th	15.22	9.27
12th	14.58	9.04	28th	16.11	10.18
13th	15.57	10.03	29th	16.55	11.03
14th	16.50	10.57	30th	17.37	11.44
15th	17.41	11.47	31st	18.18	12.23
16th	18.30	12.35			

Community Directory

EMERGENCY: FIRE ■ POLICE ■ AMBULANCE dial 111

COAST TO COAST HEALTH CARE

Maungaturoto Medical Centre: 8am-5pm Mon-Fri 09 431 8576

Paparoa Clinic: Open Tues and Thurs 8am-5pm..... 09 431 7222

For urgent after hours medical service (Wellsford)..... 09 423 8086

DISTRICT NURSE Dargaville Hospital 09 439 3330

Healthline - 24 hour service..... 0800 611 116

HOSPICE KAIPARA Dargaville Hospital 09 439 3330

KAIPARA DISTRICT COUNCIL Helpline 0800 727 059

LINKING HANDS Health Shuttle Service, Maungaturoto.09 431 8969

LIONS CLUB PAPAROA President Ken Chambers09 4317443

MAUNGATUROTO PHARMACY 09 431 8045

MAUNGATUROTO REST HOME 09 431 8696

OTAMATEA COMMUNITY SERVICES Community House 09 431 9080

PAPAROA LIBRARY Free Membership. Ph 09 431 7555 (Bus hours)

Mon, Wed 2-4.30, Tues 10-1, Thurs 10-4 Fri 11-1.30, Sat 10-12

PAPAROA PLAYCENTRE paparoa@playcentre.org.nz

PAPAROA PLUNKET Plunket Nurse Louise 027 2823987 or 09 438 2508

PLUNKET Helpline 0800 933 922

PAPAROA PRIMARY SCHOOL Principal Karyn Taylor.....09 431 7379

PHYSIOTHERAPIST At Paparoa Medical Centre, Mon, Tues, Wed.

Book on 431 9062 or email admin@maungaturotophysio.co.nz

PROGRESSIVE PAPAROA INC (PPI).....Pete Hames 021 0567163

PARENT PORT Inc. free help for families.. 425 9357 or 027 280 5093



Horsepower comes to the A&P Show

Fans of vintage and classic cars are in for a treat at the Paparoa A&P Show in February. A Heritage Vehicle Display is expected to attract over 50 cars, trucks and other vehicles, all able to be checked out by visitors.

Local car fan Geoff Thorpe is one of the organisers. He's been in touch with car clubs and people with heritage vehicles from all around the area, and says there is huge interest in coming to the Show. Any vehicles pre-1980 are invited. It's a great chance to get your vehicle in perfect shape, and to catch up with other collectors and restorers. There should be a good mix of early vintage through to classic cars from the 1960s and 70s, as well as trucks, and maybe even bikes, tractors or a haybailer or two!

Bill Quelch of Paparoa and Darcy Sterling of Matakoho are looking forward to the opportunity to show off their Fords. Bill has a 1928 Model A Roadster Pickup that he has driven all around the country. He's not sure how many miles the Roadster has done. "I've taken it to the South Island three times- once all the way to Te Anau."

Darcy is just finishing restoration of his 1926 Ford Model T- a car he has owned since he was 16. "It was my first car, and I used it to go to rugby practice in Ruawai", he says. Part of the restoration involved new hickory spokes for the wheels. "They were made by Vern Jensen in Feilding- he's one of the few wheelwrights who can make wooden wheels for vintage cars. I needed new ones as the old ones had borer." Darcy also has a 1930 Model A Roadster. "I'm only the second owner- it was first bought new by Gordon Smith, so it's lived in Matakoho for nearly 95 years."

Grant O'Neill

A&P Show Heritage Vehicle Display: Show Entry \$10 per person.

For more information contact Geoff Thorpe, 022 328 3097.

Paparoa A&P Show 2025, Saturday February 1, from 9am.



Darcy Sterling and Bill Quirch, with their Fords.



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