



Fun and learning at Otamatea Day Camp

Otamatea Day Camp returned this April holidays as a vibrant and faith-filled highlight for local kids aged 6 to 12. Held over three days in a beautiful rural setting, the camp brought together more than 130 children for a time of outdoor fun, friendship, trying new things, and learning about the gospel of Jesus.

A key strength of the camp was the incredible team behind it. Co-ordinated by Good News Church Maungaturoto, Ararua Church, and Paparoa Community Church, the camp runs with the support of many dedicated adult volunteers, as well as 39 enthusiastic teen leaders stepping up to guide younger campers, creating an atmosphere that was both energetic and caring.

Adding a special flavour to the camp this year was a visiting group of adults and teens from Hong Kong, here in New Zealand in connection with Otamatea Christian School, and keen to get stuck in and help at the camp anyway they could despite the language barrier. It was a meaningful reminder of the global nature of the Christian faith, and much appreciated by the regular volunteers!



Ps Paul and Natalie Chambers prepare for another day volunteering at Day Camp.

Each day was packed with activities - one highlight was bush hut building, in small groups led by a teen leader, bringing together team work, creativity, and engineering. The judges were very impressed when they came to inspect them on Friday, and suitable prizes were given out for effort.

Otamatea Day Camp continues to be a powerful example of community, service, and mission in

action, and is a treasured event that impacts not only the children who attend, but everyone involved.

Natalie



Teen leader Paige working on the team bush hut.



A group of teen leaders, adult helpers and campers excited for Day

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ADVERTISING

Rate Card available by email
Booking & Copy deadline:
15th of month
Publication date 1st Wed of month

At the market

The Paparoa Farmers' Market has become something of an institution after serving our community for twenty years now.

For a small village we punch above our weight by holding a weekly market, but our stallholders need all of our support to make it worth their while to attend each week. As we head into the winter months we would really like to encourage everyone to come down to the market at least once a month and enjoy the atmosphere, catch up

with friends and neighbours, and maybe buy something from a local stallholder, and by so doing, help the local economy thrive.

As an incentive Progressive Paparoa has agreed to put up a \$50 market voucher for every Saturday in May. Simply turn up at the market and put your name into the draw and at the close of the market one lucky person will be drawn to receive that week's voucher, to be spent at the market the following week.

In recent months community groups have taken over running the weekly barbeque to produce bacon and egg butties. If any other community group would like to join the roster for this fundraising opportunity please

contact

Stephen on 022 480 1066.

At times parking right outside the market can be at a premium, but there is usually plenty of parking available at the medical centre/library as well as at the Landing or Franklin Rd, and from either way it is only a short stroll along to the market.

We have a great group of stallholders with a range of locally produced products and we hope you'll come along and support them this month.

Pete



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Paparoa Community Dinner

The Paparoa Sports and Recreation Association has our next community dinner planned for 20 June at the Paparoa Sports Pavilion. All are welcome to come and enjoy good food, good company and no dishes!

If you are new to the district this is a great way to meet up with others and have an enjoyable evening. We organise these dinners to get the community together as well as to raise funds for the ongoing maintenance and running costs of the building.

Bookings are essential, so get in early to reserve your place. Also please let us know when booking if you have any dietary requirements.

Bookings contact Jane 09 4316 148 or lillian.jane.bailey@gmail.com

See back page for more information



A praying mantis snacking on a wasp

Rural Youth and Adult Literacy Trust

You're probably not actively thinking about how great it is to be able to read this right now. Unfortunately, approximately one in ten Kiwis struggle with literacy on a daily basis.



In Paparoa and other rural areas, it is sadly all too common for those with low literacy to employ work-around tactics, trying to avoid the regrettable stigma. This depresses self-worth, reduces social mobility and can prevent independence. RYALT's super team

to <https://adultliteracy.ac.nz/>, email me (rory@kaiparafarmvets.co.nz) or call 0800 891 339.

Rory

Rory Dean is a local vet with Kaipara Farm Vets and author. His book "Adventures of a Country Vet" earns money for the RYALT cause.



Rural Youth & Adult Literacy Trust
Literacy Tutors for Rural/Isolated Adults & Teenagers

Rural Youth and Adult Literacy Trust (RYALT) works hard to make this shameful statistic a thing of the past by providing online coaching and support.

Despite receiving no government funding, RYALT provides teaching specifically tailored to those who find writing and reading difficult in isolated areas. Amazing volunteer coaches around the country regularly connect with students to provide skilled assistance to those in need.

of volunteers receive training to aid in supporting students with a diverse set of needs. Many students have dyslexia, or had to leave school at a young age to care for family members.

I'm really passionate about RYALT's cause, and love spreading the word as a volunteer community ambassador. If you think you could be a coach (no teaching experience necessary), volunteer or want to donate to the Rural Youth and Adult Literacy Trust, please head

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Local rider flying high

Congratulations to Stevie-Raye Te Atawhai Ball who has been selected for the team representing the NZPCA China Exchange May 27 to June 8, 2026.

The New Zealand Pony Club Association is set to send a team of four riders and one Team Coach/Manager to China as part of the Pony Club International Exchange Programme. The exchange will be hosted across multiple locations, including Fuzhou and Zhangzhou. Riders will participate in riding activities, cultural exchange, and sightseeing. The experience will also include a cultural tour through historic regions such as Zhangzhou, featuring UNESCO World Heritage Tulou sites, mountain landscapes, and ancient cities. Riders will compete in Show Jumping from cross poles up to 1 metre.

PP

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 editor or Progressive Papaora Inc.

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Letters from The Old Post Office...

Sense to scents

“Perfume is the invisible, unforgettable, ultimate accessory.” - Coco Chanel

As you no doubt know Dear Reader, and if you don't then no doubt you will shortly, our sense of smell can instantly bring back memories and re-awaken emotions associated with those.

For me, the scent of a specific cleaner transports me back to the work-away days on a container ship. With the sense of claustrophobia, mal de mer, and the constant anxiety, I would prove less nimble on the feet than German sailors who had

been away from home for far too long.

And with that slight deviation I come to body sprays and the naming thereof. Who would have thought? However, the naming of body sprays had not previously come to my attention until the plumber (who may as well live here to save on travel costs) shared that his spray du jour was fittingly called “The scent of wisdom.” Much mirth ensued, mainly on my part. I think he was slightly hurt - I just hope that that is not reflected in his bill. We did wonder if the wisdom part of the name indicated that only men of a certain age and maturity should wear it or did the “scent” part indicate that there was only a slight whiff in passing. Thus inspired I decided to see what other interesting titles those advertising gurus had come up with.

Try this “Cowboy Cologne” nice alliteration but tends to bring to mind baked beans and flatulence. Then there is “Macho Mint,” well words fail me (thankfully), although I did pop into the garden and tried to evaluate which mint appeared to be the most manly. Perhaps

the Vietnamese mint? Quite hairy and pretty strong taste wise. If you don't fancy that “Funky Pineapple” may be more your thing. Well, Dear Reader, I hesitate to imagine how and where that is used. How about “Salsa Sensation,” hot and spicy I assume. Not for the faint hearted.

After all this excitement it is sad to note that there are quite a few health risks associated with these sprays. Many contain synthetic fragrances, made up of hundreds of chemicals, which affect the health of not only the person who is ‘wearing’ them, but any person breathing the air in the vicinity. Think toxins that may disrupt hormones (phthalates) and the synthetic musks which have even been linked to heart disease. Not to mention asthma, dermatitis etc.

On that cheerful note I am looking forward to an uprise in scents of Beer Drenched Sweat, Rum and Sheep Drench, Old Sock and Compost Cologne. Vive la difference. Ka kite ano, Deb

<https://thevessel.io/raising-a->



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Your ideas wanted for Depot space

With the new Fire Station in Paparooa approaching opening day the old station in Depot Rd will become vacant. The owners of the building, Paparooa County Depot Trust, are looking for public feedback on the best use of the premises.

The former station comprises a high-stud double garage, office space, staff room and ablution facilities. Power, water and fibre included. It offers potential for a wide range of purposes. The Depot trustees are keen to hear from community members and organisations who might have ideas, projects and community developments that would bring the most benefit to the area.

All ideas are welcome. The trustees want to get the most use from the facility.

Please contact us by emailing stella.clyde@gmail.com



Paparoa School news

It has been a busy and productive time at our school with a number of important property upgrades and maintenance projects taking shape. These are both enhancing our learning environment and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our students.

One of the more visible changes around the grounds has been the removal of several aging trees. This included a large gum tree, a heritage apple tree, and a chestnut tree located in the Ngahere. While it is always sad to see long-standing trees go, this work was necessary to maintain safety for our tamariki.

Our school buildings have also had a refresh, with a full exterior and interior wash completed, along with a comprehensive spider spray treatment. This has made a noticeable difference, leaving our spaces cleaner, brighter, and more welcoming for both students and staff.

The playground continues to see steady improvements. Recently, the platforms have begun to be replaced, making the area safer and more enjoyable for children. We were also fortunate to receive a delivery from Akarana Timbers, which will be used to begin replacing the edging around the playground - another step toward upgrading this well-loved space.

Inside the school, a significant milestone has

been reached in our kitchen project. Acoustic panels have now been installed on the ceiling, marking the final stage of this upgrade. We are currently awaiting council sign-off, but it is exciting to see this project, which has been ongoing since mid 2024, finally coming to completion.

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new families who have joined us this term, both in our school and preschool classes. It has been wonderful to see new faces becoming part of our learning community.

Looking ahead, Term two is shaping up to be an exciting one. Our Year five and six students will be heading off to camp - an experience they always look forward to - and we are preparing for a whole-school Wearable Arts Show, which promises to be a highlight of the term.

A big thank you also goes to Downer for sending a team to repair the potholes in our carpark. We greatly appreciate your support in helping us manage this ongoing challenge.

With Mother's Day coming up soon, we would also like to acknowledge and

celebrate all the wonderful mothers and caregivers in our community. Thank you for the care, support, and encouragement you give our tamariki every day - we hope you have a very special day.

Karyn Taylor
Principal
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Church Service on Sunday at 10 30am
6pm for fellowship, prayer and sharing.
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Local Crop Swaps

Crop Swap Ruawai

Ruawai Wharf Reserve

First Sunday of the month, 1pm

Park up and swap out your home grown fruit, vegetables, bread, herbs, flowers, eggs, baking, honey, preserves etc.

No money required. Everyone welcome.

Crop Swap Tinopai

Tinopai Hall carpark

Third Sunday of the month, 11am

Bring fruit, veggies, herbs, seeds or seedlings. Homemade goodies welcome.

Bring your surplus produce and swap with your community.

No money, just sharing & swapping.



Paparoa Connecting Track

Several years ago when Paparoa Connections were a group of enthusiastic people we had the idea to connect the showgrounds with Paparoa School and the new lifestyle village subdivision without having to walk down our busy and dangerous SH12 footpaths.

Finally this is a reality. The walking track leads from the concrete path around the showgrounds down through the "Cliff block" and joins on to the track from Manaaki Circle Lifestyle village to the bridge near the Paparoa hotel. From Manaaki Circle it is just short walk down Franklin road footpath to the school and down to the shops.

To be able to complete the track we are grateful for funding from KDC and Paparoa County Depot Trust, generous support from Huband Contractors, Peter Hawkes from Hukatere Quarries, Mike Plunkett and the extensive volunteer work of local community members.

Go check it out,

if you haven't already, and enjoy a lovely countryside walk. Look out for the old brick lined well and the site of the old Cliff family sawmill, both of which we plan to signpost in the near future.

PS&RA



Fight The Tip Music Festival

**Warkworth Town Hall
Saturday 23 May, 4:00pm.**

Enjoy performances from local bands, plus special guests from Auckland, The Bobby Holidays.

Brian Jones (The Exponents), Andrew McLennan, and Harry Lyon (Hello Sailor) will also be performing.

Local performers are: B&D, Felicity, Little Creatures, Yeah Nah, Fred Renata & The Garden Party, Melina Mieneke, and Trinity Croul.

There'll be food trucks on site to keep you fueled, so come hungry and settle in for a full night of music and connection.

When you buy a ticket, you're not just attending a festival - you're backing a community effort.

Search for "Fight the Tip Music Festival" on www.eventbrite.co.nz

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My two cents worth – can we do democracy better?

I know I have quoted Winston Churchill at least once in a previous column that: “democracy is the worst form of government- apart from all the rest”. Our current representative democracy requires us to decide who to vote for, even though we don’t agree with all the policies of a particular party.

A different approach can be taken for dealing with local complex, long-term issues like infrastructure investment, or fluoridation.

I have been hearing about citizens assemblies, where deliberative processes can produce decisions which are better aligned with community values than traditional submissions-based consultation. It is sometimes described as deliberative democracy; look it up.

I have been involved in formal consultation processes both as staff and Elected member of the local council. I can sympathise with those who feel frustrated with that system, as it is a very limited way for engagement and exchange of views. If people (say in a citizens assembly) are given time, and are presented with balanced information supported by skilled facilitation, it helps

them to move beyond positional arguments and can lead to shared priorities based on objective evidence. The process should be designed to ensure that the makeup of such an assembly is thoroughly representative of the whole community, and all views are respected so that even shy people are heard.

Such an approach would take resourcing, so it is not something for your council to contemplate for everyday decisions, but it would be a way to help unify our district if an issue with district-wide significance were to be dealt with this way. The council would need to be courageous enough to, in effect, delegate some of its power directly to some of its citizens. I think, however, a safe middle ground would be a commitment for the council to publicly justify its reasons where it does not accept the



recommended decision of an appointed panel.

I encourage you to investigate this approach yourself; it may help us navigate our way out of identity politics and onto enduring decisions which are more widely supported in our community.

Mark V

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Flagging an issue

As most locals know, Paparoa has a flagpole centrally placed at The Landing opposite the Paparoa Store. Donated to the community by the Paparoa RSA it is a symbol of national pride and often lowered to commemorate the passing of a local resident.

As the RSA has dwindled in strength, Progressive Paparoa Inc have taken over responsibility, and a new flag has been purchased.

A couple of guidelines pertain to the use of the flag to signal a bereavement. It is primarily for use by a local family, or family of a former resident, to acknowledge their loved one. A family member can lower it but only drop it by slightly more than the length of the flag itself- not to half the pole length. Please replace it at full mast after three days and tie the halyard securely.



As the staff at The Store often get asked who the flag is lowered for, please let them know. They might even be able to lower or raise it again for you after the three days.

Progressive Paparoa hopes the flag signifies an opportunity for remembrance of a local community member who has passed away, as well as sense of civic pride and community well-being.

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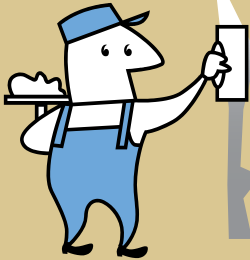
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Do you need funds for your organisation?

Paparoa is very fortunate to have a source of funding available to local organisations. The Depot Trust distributes over \$70,000 annually by way of grants, donations, sponsorships and scholarships. The beneficiaries range from sporting groups, youth activities, welfare groups, community facilities and occasionally individuals pursuing a specific activity. From small grants for school sporting activities to larger amounts such as providing water tanks for a local group, the Depot Trust has been able to help.

The funds accrue from the activities of the Paparoa County Depot Trust in renting and leasing the facilities in Depot Rd, Paparoa. As the trust is run by volunteers the vast majority of the income is available for distribution. Set up originally to house the former Paparoa Fire Party, now Fire and Emergency NZ (FENZ) the trust has expanded its activities and provides a valuable service in the community.

While maintaining it's charitable status with the distribution of profits the Depot Trust is a go to place for groups needing that funding boost. Applications are called for in May and November. The trustees invite applications this month with the closing date 31 May. For an application form contact stella.clyde@gmail.com

PCDT



Blast from the past

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Lions Club of Paparoa



Our April dinner meeting was a great evening. Our Vice District Governor Mandy Hebben joined us to induct our two new members Lisa & Brett, and give out some service recognition to some of our members.

We celebrated with a wonderful 25 years service award to Hubert Poot, and 10 years service awards to Ruth and Mark Mason.



Mandy then shared with us some thoughts on the benefits of our club using social media and a website.

Congratulations to Lisa, Brett, Hubert, Mark and Ruth, and thank you Mandy

for visiting our club and sharing your experience and thoughts with us.

Paparoa Lions



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OCS May News

Greetings everyone, I trust everyone is well and keeping safe and dry. Our region was fortunate to have missed the worst of the cyclone in April, but we do feel for those in the Coromandel and east coast who suffered more damage. They have endured so much.

Our calendar for May is as follows:

Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 27 - Free shopping trip to Whangarei. Come along for the ride, get your groceries and perhaps a little lunch, enjoy the freedom of no traffic or parking worries. Our van leaves the parking area at the Retirement Village, Riverview Place, Maungaturoto - at 9am, returning after lunch. Phone us on 09 4319080 to book your seat.

Wednesday 20 - The OCS free Community Lunch will be held at The Good News Church, Hurndall Street from 11am morning tea, then 12 lunch, and raffle draw at 1pm. Everybody welcome.

Don't forget that in The Community House on **Tuesdays**, Victoria provides meals from 12 to 4pm. All welcome for a meal, a cuppa and a chat.

Then on **Wednesdays**, Mike's Dancing Dollars also meets at the Community House, from 11 to 1pm. Join in to plan, shop, prepare and share your tasty, nutritious low-cost meals.

In Brooks House on **Mondays**, AA meeting 7-8pm, and **Thursdays**, 6-9pm, the Board Games Club meets.

For information about any of the above, call us on 09 431 9080.

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BOOKS AND BOOKCLUBS

“The Dressmaker’s Dowry,” by Meredith Jaeger is not to be confused with the two dressmaker novels by Rosalie Ham, which were set in 1950s Australia and made into TV movies. This one is set on the Barbary Coast in 1876 and present day San Francisco. It follows a common theme of a young woman delving into events of the past and is written alternatively between the two ages. There is a common theme of the divide between the “haves” and the “have-nots” and villains and romance in both eras. I wouldn’t say it is brilliantly written, but it is an interesting and thought-provoking read never-the-less.

I spend an exorbitant amount of time doing crossword puzzles, jigsaws and code crackers, so was instantly grabbed by the title of “The Fellowship of Puzzle Makers” by Samuel Burr. This book certainly delivered. There is actually a crossword puzzle with clues heading each chapter, that you may or may not want to do along the way. Answers in the story and again at the back. The Fellowship was started by a maker of crossword puzzles

and includes an assortment of artists, maze creators, cryptologists and other intellectuals who eventually live together in a community and become quite wealthy by manufacturing and selling their work. Early in their communal life someone left a baby boy on their doorstep and they adopted him. The original leader, who was the main mother figure, has died and the 25yr-old young man, too respectful to ask while she was living, is keen to find out his origins. Helpfully, she has left him a series of clues to finding this out as an inheritance. His own personal puzzle is the theme of the story, with the unique characters and events of the Fellowship as the setting. Intriguing, puzzling, quirky characters, very well-written and thoroughly enjoyable. As an extra bonus I discovered a little clip by the author on his fb page where he visits some of the London locations that feature in his character’s search.

Put aside your opinions on politics and religion and approach this next read with an open heart and mind. “A Different Kind of Power,” by Jacinda Ardern. The rest of the world loves her even if some in her own country go so far as to express hatred. She is an amazing woman with incredible strength of character whether you agree with her or not, and her story is also our story. We went through those years too. Her memoir starts with her childhood growing up in the small town of Murupara as the daughter of the Chief of Police, (there only being two policemen in their police-force). She is an excellent story writer and it is pleasant reading and distinctly Kiwi. But then the excitement begins and we re-live the dramatic events that took place under her leadership. We can walk that mile in her shoes as she balances that role alongside motherhood. Extraordinary! Sadly, “A prophet is not easily recognized in their own household.” She is now mentoring would be politicians at Harvard University in America. Maybe they need her compassion and determination more than we do. If you can, watch the movie too. “Prime Minister,” a documentary filmed by her supportive, future-thinking and talented husband. Seeing our beautiful country, mountains, beaches, peoples, makes her story even more sadly poignant, noble and challenging for those with eyes to see.

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20

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Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary

While the start of the year has been relatively quiet for us as far as Club meetings go, we have been involved in a number of Rotary activities.

It is great to note that there is a group of young people at Otamatea High, who have met to carry on with Interact this year. They have elected an Executive and are in the process of planning the activity they want to be involved in, so watch this space. We have also been informed that there will be a District 9920 Interact Conference on the 16 May at Macleans College in Auckland so we are hoping that at least some of the youngsters can attend this. Like most activities that are District wide, these meetings provide a fantastic venue to bounce ideas off each other.



Talking of that, between the 20th and 22nd March, I was able to attend the Rotary Oceania Summit at the Napier War Memorial Hall. Attendees at this represented the Combined Districts of NZ and the Pacific Islands. From the opening on the Friday night by past Governor General Sir Anand Satyanand to the conclusion on Sunday afternoon, we were treated to some very good presentations. Some of these were an acknowledgement of what we do and some of the speakers challenged us. There were a number of inspirational stories of people I had heard of, and others not so well known. We even had an excellent presentation on AI. There were a number of stalls open during the weekend, some of them Rotary related and others of a community nature. On the Saturday afternoon we were given the opportunity to attend one of three workshops. The one I went to showed us how to make up a "Grab Bag" and gave us ideas of where to source items for it. (250 of these are being given away in the Bay area.) There were five inbound students were also present, including Alina (the young lass we are sponsoring) who were given a chance to speak about their experiences in a foreign country.

At the moment, we are meeting fortnightly, but not always at the hall, so if you are interested in joining us, please get in touch with Eileen on 021 142 0357.

Eileen

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From farming with KMR to award winners

The environmental efforts of some Kaipara Moana Remediation farmers have resulted in accolades at the recent Ballance Farm Environment Awards in Auckland and Northland.



K M R ' s
 Acting
 Pou Tātaki
 Emma Doré said, "We see how much these landowners care for their land and the environment and we love working alongside them to put fencing and planting plans in place that will help reduce sedimentation washing into the Kaipara

Moana over time. That journey starts with people acting now."

Among the winners in the Northland Ballance Farm Environment Awards were Dargaville kumara, sheep and beef operators James and Krista Franklin from Ā Mua Ltd.



Johnny and Jordan Hildreth

They were winners of the Bayleys People in Primary Sector Award, FMG Risk Management Award and Rabobank Agri-Business Management Award.

The judges said the couple's farming philosophy aligns with national efforts to enhance food safety, meet evolving market expectations, and protect New Zealand's natural resources.

The Franklin's were praised for their outstanding leadership and unwavering growth mindset. Judges added that James and Krista's ability to continuously improve, invest in their staff, and rebuild with vision after a major crisis (the devastation of Cyclone Gabrielle) sets a strong benchmark for the wider farming community.

The property's diversification has included retiring wetland areas which is bolstering native habitat for species including the nationally endangered Bittern, safeguarding soil and water quality, while promoting biodiversity within the growing systems. The couple is participating in the Lighter Touch programme and embracing agro-ecological crop protection strategies.

West Auckland sheep and beef farmers Johnny and Michelle Hildreth, who run their 205 hectare Woodhill sheep and beef unit with son Jordan, were finalists in the Auckland Ballance Farm Environment Awards - taking out Auckland Council Water Quality Enhancement Award.

Judges praised the KMR champions for their low-input philosophy, paired with an extensive environmental commitment. Almost 100,000 native plants have been planted, transforming about a quarter of the block into protected habitat- some under permanent covenant.

The Hildreth's are guided by a farming philosophy that prioritises family life and maintaining a healthy work-life balance. Combining this with a sound succession plan is setting the farm up to be a profitable legacy for generations to come.

"We are incredibly grateful to receive this award. As a family we have been working for some years now to set the scene for what is to come. Nibbling away at fencing and planting gets the ball rolling and we would love to see all our river planted to protect our waterways to help the Kaipara Harbour," say the Hildreth's.


Maungakaramea duo Murray Child and Dean Child received the Beef + Lamb New Zealand Livestock Farm Award for maintaining a sustainable balance between production and preservation.

Judges also noted the family is guided by a philosophy of being steady, grounded, and deeply connected to the land, praising the approach which has resulted in traditional livestock farming being done exceptionally well - with consistently high results.

Their dedication to the land means they are admirable

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ambassadors for sustainable farming and look set to ensure the farm continues to thrive into the future, added the judges.

The Childs were pleasantly surprised to be on the winning podium. The trio are passionate about farming environmentally because they believe it is in the interests of farm landowners to look after the land. "This is our business, our livelihood and our home, so it is in our interests to leave it in a better state than when we took it on," say Murray and Dean.



86ha of the family's 400 hectare Maungakaramea sheep and beef unit - which sits at the foot of the mighty Tangihua Ranges - is fenced off to protect waterways and mature native forest and Murray doesn't rule out doing more.

KMR's impact across the

Kaipara catchment over the past few years has been substantial, with 2.97 million native plants in the ground or contracted to plant in the winter of 2026, more than 1,800 hectares of land planted or planned, over 1,100km of fencing completed or underway and 1,51,000ha of land managed under KMR plans.

More than 1,500 landowners have engaged with KMR and 975 sediment reduction plans have been completed with 168 more plans currently being developed. More than half of the catchment's pastoral landowners are now involved in the KMR programme.

The efforts and support from KMR's Field Advisors, funders, partners and landowners is key to the success of the KMR kaupapa.

KMR



Hospice Awareness Week – please join us for an information session about becoming a Home Support Volunteer for Hospice Kaipara in the Paparoa (and surrounds) area. We are looking for people who are willing to provide support for Hospice patients in their own homes. This may involve any of the following:

- Sitting with someone to give their carer a break
- Providing transport to and from appointments (travel costs covered)
- Writing a biography with a patient
- Other support as appropriate
- No clinical care is required

Thursday 14th May 2026

11.00am – 12.00noon

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New Zealand bats

Bats (pekapeka) are New Zealand's only native land mammal. We have two species of pekapeka and both are endemic to Aotearoa (found nowhere else on earth)- the long-tailed bat (pekapeka-tou-roa) and the short-tailed bat (pekapeka-tou-poto). In Te Taitokerau Northland we have both the long-tailed bat and a subspecies of the short-tailed bat, known as the Northern lesser short-tailed bat. The latter is found at only two sites in Northland as well as on Hauturu Little Barrier Island.

The Northern lesser short-tailed bat is classified as Threatened - Nationally Vulnerable, and long-tailed pekapeka have the highest threat classification available of Threatened - Nationally Critical. This means they face an immediate high risk of extinction and require urgent

conservation action.

Many residents of Taitokerau are surprised to learn that there are long-tailed bats living in forests in Whangārei and across the Northland region. In Whangārei these bats have been detected on acoustic devices in Pukenui, Ōtaika, Glenbervie, the Tutukākā Coast, Tāika, Parua Bay, the Tangihua ranges, and most recently in Pukekauri forest in Ruakākā. It is unknown if the bats in these locations are isolated populations or form part of a larger colony that calls Whangārei home.

Pekapeka-tou-roa are a cryptic species, and often go unnoticed as they are nocturnal and leave little sign of their presence. They are insectivores that hunt flying insects such as mayflies, moths and beetles- catching



them mid-flight. These intriguing creatures use echo location to navigate in the dark and find their food, are highly mobile, and capable of flying up to 60km/h. Due to their preference for roosting in tree cavities, they are increasingly vulnerable to predation from rats, stoats, possums and cats.

Long-tailed bat facts

- Dark brown/black furry torso with membranous wings
- Wingspan around 25cm
- Weigh 8 to 11g (about the weight of a single AAA battery)
- Roost in any cavity that can fit a chicken nugget in it, but prefer large, old trees (native or exotic). They have also been known to roost in the odd shed or garage.
- Have a home range of over 100km, with over 100 roost trees they frequently change between.
- Highly social animals, with breeding females forming maternity roosts
- Breeding females are thought to give birth to only one pup per year
- Emit high-frequency sounds that are largely inaudible to the human ear but can be picked up by a bat detector.

How you can help

Protect native forest on your property, or in your area, by undertaking effective predator control. Backyard

trapping will also help provide a safer habitat for bats. By trapping outside a core forest area, a wider buffer zone is created to protect the areas where bats are vulnerable.

- Start small with one or two rat traps (use a trap box to minimise harm to pets and children)
- Form a trapping group with neighbours and friends
- Find inspiration from within our community by connecting with local groups like Tiakina Whangārei. Go to: tiakinawhangarei.co.nz to find out more and get involved.
- Find further information on effective pest control, visit the NRC Pest Control Hub

Check before you chop

One colony of bats can use up to 100 roost trees within their home range, and cycle through their preferred roosts. Protecting standing dead trees and old or large trees helps pekapeka by maintaining their natural habitat. Please ask for advice before removing large old trees, including exotic species, by contacting the NRC biodiversity team at: biodiversity@nrc.govt.nz or the Department of Conservation: www.doc.govt.nz

If you see a bat

Complete the encounter form on the NRC website or phone: 0800 002 004.

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From our family to yours May be... maybe?

War. I have gone to war. I am not making a grand global statement, its a personal war... against ants. The man of the house thinks I've just gone loco, which may also be true, but in times of war the lines between madness and sanity are blurred.

There have been so many ants, that I think our house is actually perched on an anthill, and each day they send out a new ten thousand ant-illary to try some new angle, to build a new nest in a new room, in a new hole or gap. Apparently the ants have always been here - we've been here 16 years this winter, so I know that's true- but I've never seen them as ferocious and dedicated to moving in, as in these past few months. Almost like they are at war with me.

Maybe in times of war the loving response is to be at peace, to call a ceasefire, and just accept that ants live in every room in the house. But no.

I refuse to surrender to ants. This morning, the shower and bathroom sink plughole were their two new spots, foolish as it was, and they were washed away to oblivion. Yesterday it was the lounge floor and wall. Yes, I have laid bait. Toxic poisonous bait. Everywhere!

Yes, I squash them one by one and leave their carcasses as a warning to their friends!

Maybe I should let the chickens into the house. I read an article about people who farm ants to feed to their chickens, and we sure seem to be farming ants. Is the terror of chicken poop throughout the house worth it? I'm nearly at the point of thinking it is, or just moving out and letting the chickens and ants live here.

Maybe I will wake up one morning to find they have gotten the memo, their presence is not welcome here, and they are all gone. Oh, what a day that will be. And that's why I stay in the trenches of this war. I have dug in my heels and I will accept nothing but glorious victory and the madness that comes with it!!

Jenny



and bathroom sink plughole were their two new spots, foolish as it was, and they were washed away to oblivion. Yesterday it was the lounge floor and wall. Yes, I have laid bait. Toxic poisonous bait. Everywhere!

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Grow Paparoa

We would like to say a very large thank you to those that answered our plea for help last month. We are grateful to each of you for showing up for us and the community we live in. It is always refreshing to have different people to chat to, learn from and share knowledge with. If you would also like to share a couple of hours, even once a month, with us we would love to meet you. This would give our regular volunteers a bit of a break at times. Gardens are currently open Thursdays and Fridays 9am to 1pm. Contact Jan for further information on 021431724.

Another person Paparoa Community Gardens could not thrive without is Rowie from Salt River Nurseries. Her unwavering support throughout the years has been invaluable.

In Aladdin's Cave the volunteers have been busy changing clothes over from the summer season to autumn/winter. There are lots of beautiful winter jackets and trousers available as well as new bric a brac and children's toys and books. All proceeds from the shop go to keeping the garden's running and is open Saturdays 9am until 1pm.

Katie Fullerton

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Boaties urged to provide contact details

Boat owners in Northland are being reminded of a requirement to post contact details on their vessels at moorings to ensure they can be reached if their unattended vessel breaks free, starts taking on water or has other problems.

Northland Regional Council Deputy Harbourmaster Peter Thomas says the Harbourmaster's office regularly receives reports from the public or boating community of issues with unattended vessels.

"Some have broken free from moorings or are already aground while others are

still on their mooring but are slowly taking on water or are sinking." Other issues include damaged headlines or unfurled sails.

Mr Thomas says problems often occur during, or immediately after, bouts of bad weather.

Under the council's navigation safety bylaws every vessel occupying a swing or pile mooring is required to display contact phone number(s) and/or email addresses for the owner or owner's representative that can be used in case of emergency.

"Basically, we're asking for a mobile phone number or email address displayed on the boat somewhere it can be easily seen from outside without anyone having to enter the vessel."

Mr Thomas says there is currently a \$50 fine for non-compliance.

He says despite the long-standing requirement to post contact details (first introduced in 2017) too many boat owners are not doing so.

All too often council maritime staff struggle to

find a vessel's owner to alert them to problems so the owner can take the steps to remedy the situation.

"We probably encounter an issue like this a few times a month."

If they can't get hold of an owner, maritime staff are forced to deal with the issue themselves, which is effectively a cost then borne by ratepayers.

Mr Thomas says boats are not a small investment and it makes sense for boaties to follow the bylaw and ensure they could be reached and their often-expensive assets protected.

Maritime officers are currently undertaking a survey of Northland mooring fields, and part of this work is to determine compliance with the bylaw. Letters reminding boaties of their obligations will also be sent to mooring owners on the council's database.

Mr Thomas says in general, the council prefers education over enforcement but plans to step up enforcement of the applicable section of its bylaws over the next several months.

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Pets in the Valley



Volatile weather is the way of the future and we have definitely seen that this summer. Its not all bad I have never seen a summer with so much quality grass for the whole season - more of a sub-tropical season than a temperate one. From the point of our animals we need to be adaptive to these changes.

Gastrointestinal parasites for grazing animals thrive on warm wet conditions so worm burdens in paddocks will be super high. Increased drenching is not always the answer. Cross species grazing is always important and identifying high egg producing animals is important for longer term management especially if you have breeding animals. Facial eczema resilience is more important than ever for susceptible species. I personally think we should stop breeding horses with white pigment around their eyes and large white noses that need sun protection in summer.

Shelter is more important than ever. Storms and temperature drops just after shearing can cause animals to become hypothermic.

Seed Crackers

Gluten free, keto, vegan

1/2 cup each sunflower seeds and pumpkin seeds
 1/4 cup each sesame seeds, poppy seeds, linseeds and chia seeds
 1/2 tsp salt
 1 cup water

You can also add other herbs and spices as desired.

Heat the oven to 170°C.

Place all the ingredients in a bowl and mix together.

Leave for 15 minutes to allow the chia to soften.

Tip onto a baking tray lined with baking paper and spread out as thin as possible while making sure there are no gaps.

Sprinkle with more salt.

Bake 30 minutes and remove from the oven.

Slice into crackers and return to the oven for another 20 - 30 minutes, until crisp and golden.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool.

Feta dip

With sumac, mint and lemon

150g feta cheese
 80g Greek yogurt
 Zest of 1 lemon
 1 clove garlic, crushed
 About 8 mint leaves
 1 tsp sumac
 1 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
 Pinch salt

Place all ingredients in a blender and blitz until smooth.

Adjust seasoning and add lemon juice to taste.



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Our photo is of practical management for an alpaca post-shearing who didn't cope with things. Alpacas come from dry cold high-altitude environments and Northland really doesn't suit them. So think carefully about what animals you have and how to make your environments resilient to all kind of extreme weathers to keep their quality of life high.



Shelter, shade, water storage and having genetic resistance to seasonal disease will be more important than ever as we take on our future. Don't wait until things go wrong before you find the solution.

Take care, Janine

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WHAT'S ON -MAY 2026

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

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

Hospice Support Information Session - Thurs May 14, 11am - 12pm. Haven Cafe Paparooa. Details p13.

Fight the Tip Music Festival - Sat May 23, 4pm. Warkworth Town Hall. Ticket details see p6.

Coates Memorial Church Reopening - Sun May 24, 11am - 12pm. See back page for more info.

Coming up in June:

Paparooa Sports & Recreation Association Dinner - Sat June 20. Tickets essential. See back page for more info.

OUT & ABOUT AROUND TOWN

Paparooa'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.

Grow Whakatipu Paparooa Community Garden Drop in for a chat, hands on experience, or a cuppa. Every Thursday & Friday 9am - 12pm. Op Shop open Sat 9-1. Next to the showgrounds.

Paparooa Golf Course The course is open for casual play - \$10 for 9 holes and \$20 for 18. Children under 18 free. Contact 0226781474 for all enquiries. 91 Golf Course Rd, Maungaturoto (off Golden Stairs Rd).

Ballroom Classes Over the school term on Tuesday evenings from 6.30- 7.30pm, \$12 per person, at the Paparooa War Memorial Hall. Contact Lisa (by text or leave a message) on 021 828-531.

Music Group Paparooa Sports Pavilion every second Thursday, 6pm. Ph Lynn 0274 583 691.

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

Tea & Talk Come and enjoy good food and some activities on the first Saturday of each Month at the Footprints Room behind the Anglican Church, 132 Hurndall St East, Maungaturoto, 3-4:30pm. Cost \$8. Contact Kirsten to book a place on 021 1807 321.

Anglican Parish of Paparooa

May	3rd	St Albans, Whakapirau, Eucharist with Rev Kim Parker - 10am
	10th	Holy Trinity - Café Service - 10am
	17th	St Albans, Whakapirau Morning Worship - 10am
	24th	St Marks, Paparooa Morning Worship - 10am
	31st	Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto Community Outreach - 5pm

Parish Office: at Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto
PO Box 8, Maungaturoto
Phone: (09) 431-8193
Email: maungaholytrinity@xtra.co.nz

Condolences to the Dry family on the recent passing of

Noeline Jean Dry

Passed away on April 13th at Merrivale Care Home aged 92 years, surrounded by family.

Beloved wife of the late Ralph, dearly loved mother and mother in law of Pam and Bryan Strang (Dargaville), and Lindsay Dry (Ruakaka).

Dearly loved Nana and Great Nana.

The family would like to thank the staff at Merrivale Care Home for their care and compassion.

Condolences to the family of
Margaret Mulholland
who passed away on April 12th
at Kumeu Village Rest Home.
Late of Maungaturoto.

Condolences to the family of
Edna Hoole

who passed away on April 3rd
at Whangarei Park Rest Home.
Late of Pahi.

MOTHER'S DAY - SUNDAY 10TH MAY



REGULAR EVENTS, MEETINGS AND ORGANISATIONS

- Aladdin's Cave Op Shop** At Grow Paparoa Community Garden open Sat 9am-1pm
- Anglican Church St Marks** Hook Road, ph 431 8193 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 8.30-Noon, Village Green. Stall info Stephen Findlay 022 480 1066 or 09 4316 148.
- 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 Comes 027 368 7298
- 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, Tues, Wed, Fri 10-3, Thurs 10.30-3. Alternate Sat mornings 10am-1pm. Check FB on Sat.
- 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 Exercise to Music** Every Tuesday 10:30-11:30, Stretching/Balance/Resistance/ Bands/Zumba, \$5, Paparoa Hall, Stacey Watson 09 283 9931
- Paparoa Community Gym** To join email Libby at hames.jones@xtra.co.nz
- Paparoa Hall** Functions venue. For bookings ph Robyn 431 7306
- 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 Mah Jong Group** 1st & 3rd Tues, Paparoa Hall 10-noon, Sara 021 0774947
- Paparoa Playcentre** Tuesday and Thursday 10am-1pm. Franklin Rd. Visitors welcome. paparoa@playcentre.org.nz
- Paparoa Primary School** 2025 - Term 3 - 14 July - 19 Sept, Term 4 - 6 Oct - 16 Dec Ph 431 7379
- Paparoa Toy Library** Wed 10.30-1pm, Paparoa Community Church, 4 Hook Rd
- 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, Sue 027 417 4626
- 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 Jnr 3.30 & 4.30pm, adult 5.30. Juliet 021 143 2560, Pete 021 056 7163
- Yoga For Everyone** Tues and Fri, 9.30am, Sports Pavilion. Hatha yoga & more. \$15. Equipment provided. Beginners welcome. Ph Luciana for more info 0221896496

Paparoa Press CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Storage Available

In Paparoa: Secure 20 foot Containers - contact Gary Dallas 021 431 712 Paparoa County Depot Trust



Your Ad Here!

Paparoa Press classified ads are a great way to buy, sell, or promote services. This ad \$5 + \$5 for a photo.



Buy Local Support Local
Help your community thrive and businesses survive

LOCAL TIDES for MAY 2026

TIDES - CALCULATED for PAHI-WHAKAPIRAU

DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	16.44	10.48	17th	17.05	11.03
2nd	17.19	11.23	18th	17.55	11.54
3rd	17.54	11.57	19th	06.23	12.47
4th	06.12	12.31	20th	07.17	13.43
5th	06.48	13.08	21st	08.14	14.41
6th	07.26	13.48	22nd	09.13	15.42
7th	08.10	14.33	23rd	10.15	16.44
8th	09.00	15.25	24th	11.18	17.49
9th	09.57	16.24	25th	12.20	06.21
10th	10.58	17.26	26th	13.17	07.20
11th	11.58	18.28	27th	14.09	08.12
12th	12.55	06.53	28th	14.55	08.58
13th	13.48	07.46	29th	15.38	09.40
14th	14.38	08.36	30th	16.18	10.20
15th	15.28	09.24	31st	16.56	10.58
16th	16.16	10.13			

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 Chambers 09 431 7443
- MAUNGATUROTO PHARMACY** 09 431 8045
- RIVERVIEW 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**Appointments/enquiries 0800 184 803
- PLUNKET Helpline 0800 933 922
- PAPAROA PRIMARY SCHOOL** Principal Karyn Taylor.....09 431 7379
- PHYSIOTHERAPIST**At Paparoa Medical Centre, Mondays. 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

Paparoa Sports and Recreation Association
Paparoa Community Dinner



All Welcome

Saturday 20 June 2026



From 6.30pm
BYO Drinks
At Paparoa Sports Pavilion

Bookings: Jane Bailey 09 431 6148 or lillian.jane.bailey@gmail.com

ADULTS	\$25
CHILDREN	\$10 (up to age 14)
FAMILY	\$60 (2 adults & 2 children)

An invitation...

The Coates Memorial Church Board warmly invites you to attend a special Sunday service at Coates Memorial Church, to mark its reopening following a successful restoration project.

When: Sunday, 24 May 2026 11.00am - 12.00pm

Guests are encouraged to arrive shortly beforehand. Light refreshments will follow the service at Matakoho War Memorial Hall.

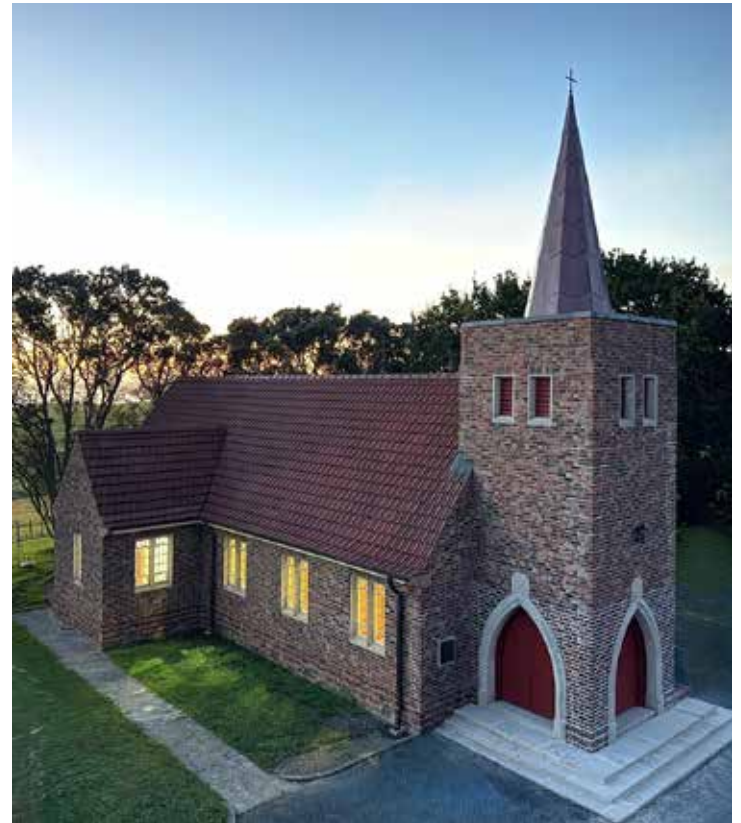
Where:

Coates Memorial Church, Church Rd, Matakoho

Please note: Parking will not be available within the cemetery grounds on the day. Guests are asked to park on Church Road.

This is a public event and all are welcome to attend. General seating is limited and will be available in order of arrival. No RSVP is required for members of the public.

CMCB



9 MONTHS TO GO UNTIL THE 150TH PAPAROA SHOW!

Is there anyone out there who has the time and skills to mow our show grounds? We have a lovely little tractor to do the job we just need someone responsible enough to care for her and keep our grounds looking loved.



Please contact secretary@paparoashow.org.nz



Professionals

574A/B
Pahi Road
Pahi

3318m²
 1860m²

Professionals Maungaturoto

David Ayling
 027 237 8919
 Licensed REAA 2008