



NOVEMBER 2025

Paparoa in pink...

Paparoa Lions Club held their inaugural Bling A Bra breast cancer fundraising event in October. They invited the community to decorate and enter a bra to be displayed at the Paparoa War Memorial Hall, which was then open to the public to view from Friday until Sunday. Entered bras were decorated with a wide range of items including feathers, beads, buttons, steam punk items, fabric and shells. The public who came to view were invited to



vote for their favourite bra by putting money in the corresponding jar, the bras that raised the most money in votes were the winners. There were 46 bras entered, seven in the youth category and 39 in the adult category.

The winning entries were Youth: 1st, Wedding Faces, Billie Smith, 9 years old; 2nd, Peacock, Sofia Watson 14 years old; and Adults: 1st, Mosaic, Thea Simays; 2nd, Butterfly, Lola Carter.

This weekend of fundraising was then finished off
Continued on page 2...



Youth helpers Alex Worsell, Emily Holland, Tania Slater, Cai Cater.



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Continued from page 1...

with a High Tea at the hall. All 84 tickets were sold and the hall was dressed up in a sea of pink tablecloths, pink chair bows, fine china, balloons and banners. Most of the attendees got into the spirit of the event and dressed up in their finest pink to enjoy an afternoon of fine food, served by young waiters in pink. There was lots of chatter, lively banter, and lovely background music courtesy of Don on the piano. There were 27 great raffles and door prizes to be won, generously donated by the community.

Over all events a grand total of over \$4,300 was raised for Breast Cancer Foundation NZ. Paparooa Lions Club thank the following sponsors and supporters: Paparooa War

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Sarolta and Tania

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Council Mark says -

Congratulations and thank you

This column is being written just after the final election results (subject to any recount which may occur) have been published.

Firstly, congratulations to Mike Schmanski and Denise Rogers on successfully becoming the new representatives for Otamatea on the Kaipara District Council. I will follow their progress with interest. I am honestly disappointed the result didn't go my way, but that's what you sign up for when you step forward for election.

I also want to thank the people who have supported me on my journey, and voted for me of course! I found this note when tidying my desk at home: Democracy is not

a spectator sport. You just need to register to vote so you can play. If I made that up myself I'm proud of it.

Our results in the Otamatea Ward show just how important every single vote is. It's hard to imagine three candidates within three votes! That must be some sort of a record. Something we can all be proud of is the overall turnout being more than 57%, one of the highest in the country.

Nga mihi nui

Mark Vincent

Former Otamatea Ward
Councillor

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 Paparooa Press are the author's own and not necessarily those of the editor or Progressive Paparooa Inc.

At the market

Vive le marché

As Sweet Delights is in its eighth year at the Paparoa Farmers Market, I've been reflecting on how I got here. Baking from a very young age thanks to my Gran, being in the kitchen was always my happy place.

Friends knew it had been a hard week if I turned up at their place with baked goods- an even harder week if those baked goods were loaves of bread - kneading can be a great way to work out the frustration!

When the time came for a change, baking was the dream, but I never expected it would become reality. But, as most of you now know, I lived out my dream and went to Paris to train as a Pâtissière (pastry chef) - who doesn't love the amazing combination of art and science with a sweet result!

Everyone expected that I would return to Auckland once I had obtained my chef qualification but my experience in Europe, particularly in Paris, with markets changed all plans. The markets overseas were vibrant thanks to stallholders who were passionate about their wares and the community that was keen to view and buy them. I was lucky enough to live less than 100m from a large market in Paris and even the fact that I could hear them setting up at 4.30am every Sunday, didn't dampen my enthusiasm for a way of selling wares that has been around since commerce began. Delectable delights, handcrafted arts, fresh produce - it was all there on display made by willing purveyors and ready to be

passed on to even more willing consumers.

That's what I wanted to do. Share my passion for French patisserie with my community.



The Paparoa Farmers Market provides me and my fellow stallholders with the opportunity to share our passion for our products with you, our community. Whether it is my Sweet Delights, another's fresh produce or meticulously crafted artwork- we are your local market- selling you our wares and helping to create an atmosphere where people can congregate, purchase any requirements (or wants!), check out new offerings and catch up with others in the local area. In a world of online shopping, Zoom meetings and delivery service, the opportunity to interact in person is beginning to disappear. Markets keep that contact alive, but we need your continued support. I say, "vive le marché" - long live the market!

Vicki Kelly



It's time to check your letterbox for paper wasp nests! Your posties don't like getting stung by them any more than you do! Thanks!

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Paparooa School Delivers 'Excellent Performance' Review Office Report

High Achievement and Quality Teaching

Learners at Paparooa School are benefiting from high-quality teaching that continues to lift progress and achievement across reading, writing, and mathematics.

The school is already meeting Government achievement targets set for 2030, with a large majority of learners meeting or exceeding expectations in foundational skills. Mathematics results are equitable for all groups, while equity in reading and

writing continues to grow. Learners with complex needs are also well supported to achieve their educational goals.

ERO praised Paparooa School's inclusive and engaging environment, where the small rural setting fosters a strong sense of belonging. The curriculum offers rich, high-interest learning experiences that reflect community aspirations and values. A key strength lies in the school's focus on environmental sustainability, guardianship, and Māori values, which are woven throughout school life. Strong, positive leadership has created a safe, supportive culture and high expectations for both teaching and learning.

We are proud of this excellent report, which reflects the dedication of staff, students, board, and wider community, ensuring that every child is supported to thrive.

Our new adventure - Paparooa Preschoolers

We have created a preschool class that runs once a week on Mondays. This is a wonderful opportunity for our youngest learners to begin their school journey in a caring, play-based environment that helps them grow socially, emotionally and academically.



Our preschool programme is designed to give children the best possible start to learning. Through play-based experiences, children explore, imagine and create - building curiosity and confidence as they learn. Play helps children make sense of the world and builds important early skills in thinking, problem solving and communication.

Alongside play, children will be gently introduced to the foundations of Structured Literacy - developing early sound awareness, letter knowledge and a love of stories. They'll also begin exploring numbers through games, songs, and hands on activities.

Just as importantly, preschool is a place where children build friendships and learn how to get along with others. They develop social skills such as sharing, taking turns, listening and cooperating - all in a warm, supportive setting where



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Success in Latest Education



The lambs were as adorable as ever, with students proudly showing the results of their care and training. Congratulations to Bailey, who won Champion Lamb, and to Chloe, who received Reserve Champion Lamb. This year we had our most entries ever (21) for the calves, and what a wonderful sight they were! Congratulations to Grace for taking out Champion Calf, and to Ruby and Hazel for Reserve Champion Calf.

relationships come first. These friendships often become the first of many lasting connections they'll make as they move through school. Please contact the school (09) 431 7379 if you are interested in enrolling your 4 year old.

Pet and Show Day

Paparoa School was buzzing with excitement for our annual Pet & Show Day, held on a beautiful sunny October day that brought our community together. Families, friends, and neighbours came along to enjoy the fun and cheer on our young farmers.



Our school calves were also a real highlight, and we are so proud of the care, effort, and dedication our students have shown in raising and training their animals. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the wider farming community for generously donating calves and supporting our students to take part in this special learning journey.

It was a truly heartwarming day celebrating learning, responsibility, and community spirit.



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Ruatuna Open Day to celebrate centennial

The centennial celebration of a seismic event in New Zealand politics will take place with a community-friendly shindig at one of the Kaipara's foremost heritage gems.

Ruatuna, the boyhood home of Gordon Coates - our first elected New Zealand-born Prime Minister who won the general election a hundred years ago this November - will open its gate to people looking for a fun day out on November 22 (from 10.30am).

Ruatuna is one of the oldest buildings in the Kaipara and is cared for by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.

"We're very excited about opening Ruatuna on this day to celebrate Gordon Coates' election as Prime Minister," says Ruatuna Property Host Mary Stevens. "It's an important moment in the history of New Zealand, Northland and the Kaipara in particular, and we plan to celebrate it in style."

Bands including The North and Ngā Manu will provide live music featuring a blend of English and Māori folk song, while guided tours of the homestead, garden and farm barns - culminating in a guided walk across the farm to the boatshed - will provide visitors with a rare opportunity to explore the wider Ruatuna grounds.

A local artists' collective will also be at Ruatuna running a fun group activity - a nod to Eva and Mary Coates, both artists whose oil and watercolour paintings are hanging in the house.



Gordon Coates

"We're also looking forward to hosting a number of speakers who will be talking about their own personal connections to Ruatuna over the years," says Mary.

"We're encouraging people to bring some lunch and enjoy a picnic on the lawn. It's going to be a great day of fun and entertainment."

Event: Ruatuna Open Day to celebrate 100 years since Gordon Coates, 21st Prime Minister of New Zealand (born and raised at the property), won the General Election of 1925.

Where: Ruatuna, the Coates Family homestead, 441 Tinopai Road, Matakoho

When: 22 November from 10.30am

Entry is free but a donation would be appreciated. Children welcome.

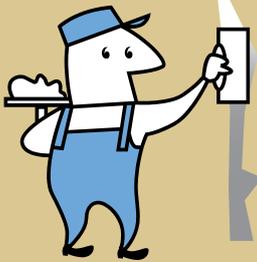
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Other sites associated with the Coates family

As well as Ruatuna we also have, a few minutes further along Tinopai Road, the simple but beautiful St Michael's on the Hill, the historic church at Hukatere.

Back in Matakoho, the Chapel in the grounds of the Cemetery will be open for viewing; nearby are the graves of Gordon Coates and his wife Marjorie, his parents, siblings, and children. (The Coates Memorial Church is closed for major renovations - but you can at least admire the scaffolding!)

One further significant

Coates site is at the Brynderwyn Junction. The large monument to Coates standing just off the road is made from a slab of granite from London's old Waterloo Bridge, erected in Gordon Coates's memory by Auckland businessmen.

The monument originally stood in the middle of the intersection!

Church works

The Coates Memorial Church at Matakoho is a national memorial to Rt Hon Joseph Gordon Coates, Prime Minister of New Zealand from 1925 to 1928.

An extensive restoration project on the 75 year old church began last month with some impressive

scaffolding. Works will include repairs to roof, windows and timberwork, replacement of cladding to the spire, a stormwater drainage system upgrade, and specialist cleaning and repairs to masonry and plaster.

Expected to take five - six months, the work will mean the Church is closed to the public until the job is done.

For more information see mch.govt.nz/news/restoring-coates-memorial-church.



St Michael's on the Hill, Hukatere



Coates Memorial, Brynderwyn



Coates Memorial Church

Beauty that lasts! KM Cosmetic Tattooing NOW in Maungaturoto

Hi, I'm Kyla, the face and the hands behind KM Cosmetic Tattooing. I am a certified cosmetic tattoo artist, specialising in ombré eyebrow tattooing right here in Maungaturoto.

I'm a small-town girl myself, so I know exactly how it feels to live rural and think, 'well... guess I'll just drive two hours, sell a kidney, and maybe THEN I can have nice brows.'

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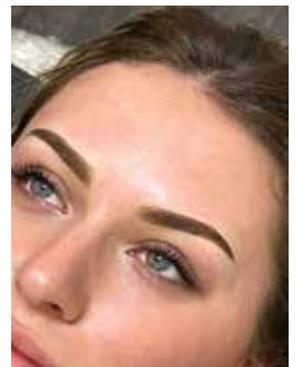
This isn't about chasing unrealistic beauty standards. It's about enhancing what you already have, keeping it natural, and giving you a low-maintenance solution that works for real life whether that's running after kids, working your butt off, or just wanting to wake up and feel put together.

At the end of the day, I believe beauty should feel empowering, not stressful, or unattainable. Women right here in our community can treat themselves without it feeling out of reach.

To all my ladies supporting me, following along, and cheering me on, thank you. It means the world. And to all my new friends I can't wait to welcome you into my clinic, share some laughs, and leave you walking out with brows you love.

Email or phone to book now! Contact details listed below.

Kyla McLellan-Slack xx
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Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary

The President's Scholarship closes on 4th November so please get your applications in before then. Haven't got a form then give me a call. 021 142 0357

We are very excited because for the first time that I am aware of, we have had a student, Amy Weber, accepted for the two week long Science and Technology forum, which will be held mid-January. This fully residential programme is conducted by Rotary and the three Tertiary Institutions in Auckland. By the end of the Forum, 168 attendees from throughout New Zealand, should have a better understanding of the tertiary courses they wish to follow and a fuller appreciation of the place of science and technology in business and the wider community. It also provides an opportunity for students to spend time with like-minded people and the experiences gained invariably results in overall personal growth and a renewed motivation to succeed. We are certainly looking forward to Amy's report back early next year.

As has been mentioned previously our Rotary club looks after Nikau Grove, in Whaka Street and we support DOC in taking care of Piroa Falls on Gorge Road. Nikau Grove is a little gem within our community and we ask you to enjoy it and if you notice anything untoward, please let a Rotarian know so we can address the matter.

We are grateful for the Mentors for our Driving Scheme, which we have been offering for the past five years. We would like to thank Patricia Hunt, who has been with us from the start, for her efforts in upskilling people wanting to get their Restricted licence. Your efforts have been very much appreciated Patricia and we wish you all the best for your future endeavours. As the school year draws to a close, so too do lessons and licences. However, we now have another Mentor on board which will mean that there will be four of us to teach those going for their Restricted licence in 2026. Just a reminder, the service is not only for school students.

Eileen



Otamatea St John – Trash and Treasure

Thank you Maungaturoto (and wider area) for the support you have given to us for this week-long fundraiser. We really appreciate the help we get from the whole community as without this, this sale would not be viable. Thank you heaps Kenny and Terri for having the hall open on a number of Sunday afternoons prior to the event to receive items, and for your support during the week. Thank you also to those who helped set up (and remove) the heavy shelving. We are very grateful for all who contributed in any way and because of this, after expenses are paid, we should have \$18,000 to be spent in the Otamatea area. All raffle winners have been advised. The proceeds will be used to offer some scholarships (which will be advertised in due course), food parcels at Christmas time and the purchase of a set of three mannequins with which we can offer free 3 steps for life programs. Watch for the advertising of these.

Eileen



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Letters from The Old Post Office...

Cats, cats and blasted cats again

Dear Reader, I have always felt akin to a cat. I think it is that urge to see what will happen when one gives a little push to something.

The fascination as it falls, to bounce, to break, or not to break. Such fun. The languid over bred feline is not for me, no, the rogue, the wicked and those faerie cats of yore. Possibly it may be explained by my mainly Scottish heritage, or just devilry?

Dear Reader I present to you the Cat Sith. The magical cat found in both Scottish and Irish folklore. (Sith and Sidhe may refer to a "hill" or "mound," and it is here that the faeries dwell.)

Cat Sith is a cat that is said to be as large as a dog yet walks on its hind legs. Except of course if a human is present. Then the Cat Sith

will walk on all fours. A fairy creature in disguise.

And naturally, they are usually black with a white patch on their chest. No surprise there. (Timothy to the life, or rather death. Side note: this may explain why still today black cats are the least favourite cat to be adopted.) Needless to say, there is usually a black cat around my abode somewhere, even if only in spirit and tends to explain my saintly offsprings objections.

Tradition has it that the witch can transform into a black cat - but only nine times. It was believed that if the witch transformed into a cat more than nine times, she would remain a cat. (Again, this may explain certain objections and the belief that cats have nine lives.)

It was thought that on Samhain, the Cat Sith would steal milk from the cows and cast a curse to make the cows unable to produce milk. In order to appease them people in Scotland would leave a saucer of milk out for the naughty Cat Sith.

The Cat Sith was also believed to steal souls. Dear Reader, picture this. Allegedly they would slink silently through

graveyards in order to grab souls before they passed from the land of the living to the land of the dead. Shrouded in darkness they would lie in wait, only their eyes glowing in the darkness. To prevent this the Scots would hold the Fèill Fhadalach (Late Wake) near the body before burial. Music was played, riddles, and games of wrestling and leaping night and day were

kept up until the burial. They even extinguished fires as the Cat sith liked the warmth. You would need to do all that leaping about to keep warm in Scotland with no fire to warm your

breeks and think of the draught up your kilt. And all to ensure that faerie cat could not slip in to steal the soul. It is not clear exactly what the faeries wanted with the souls although the Celts believed there was an association with the spiritual dimension. It was thought that the cat possessed an innate connection to the Otherworld, acting as intermediaries between the mortal realm and the realm of the divine. Apparently, they felt this because of the cat's mysterious aloofness, their seeming ability to see things not apparent to the human eye. Quite frankly, my dears I believe it is simply that they do not give a dam and we find this fascinatingly attractive. And, it is not just Celts who felt this way, just peruse the list below and be thankful we do not have to meet the Cha Kla on a wet and misty night in a nearby cemetery.

Ka kite ano, Deb

• **Bakeneko:** A monster cat from Japanese legend that starts as a regular house cat, gradually grows to human size, and walks on hind legs.

• **Bastet:** The Egyptian goddess of the home, fertility,

childbirth, and cats.

• **Cactus Cat:** A mythical cat from the American Southwest that resembles a bobcat with thorn-like fur.

• **Cath Palug:** A monster from Welsh and French mythology that makes an appearance in the King Arthur legends.

• **Cha Kla:** A monster cat from Thailand with black fur and blood-red eyes.

• **Dawon:** A fierce tigress from Hindu mythology that was used for battle.

• **Hombre Gato:** Also known as Catman, hails from South America (basically, half cat and half man).

• **Lyncus:** A human king that was turned into a lynx in Greek mythology.

• **Mafdet:** A deity from Egypt who was the Goddess of Justice, Judgment, and Execution.



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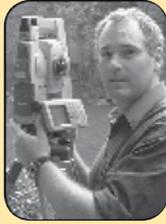
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I've been thinking... Drivers licence...

It is not nice to be bullied and disrespected even if the matter is really trivial in the greater scheme of things. It festers.

Once upon a time (possibly about 15 years ago) there was a (presumably) snotty little employee in the Road Transport Authority who was asked to design a form for aspiring drivers licence holders to complete. Positively euphoric with power this person, this aspiring Hitler, proceeded to arrange questions and

categorise possible answers to be recorded in the data base. The usual questions about name, age, gender etc. AND Place of Birth.

If you were born in Paparoa and are of a certain age (a bit over 50) you are immediately on my wave length aren't you?

Because this little megalomaniac designed a form which refuses to accept Paparoa as a POB (or Te Koporu for that matter - we Paparoa babies are not the only victims), the form insists that your POB is Maungaturoto.

Now, I have no real quarrel with Maungaturoto. It's a perfectly good place full of perfectly good people. It's a perfectly good place to live and work. But it is not my POB. Nor, ironically, would it be the POB of many Maungaturoto residents who

were born in the Nurse Cavell Memorial Hospital in Paparoa.

The very nice lady in the AA explained to me that, if I came armed with my birth certificate, she could record my POB correctly. I'm not sure whether she would be OK to accept my passport as sufficient evidence. There my POB is emphatically recorded as Paparoa.

Rather than create a fuss or make extra errands for myself, I accepted the mistake. But it has festered.

Even worse is the thought that somewhere in some government department that lazy, incompetent, unempathetic, beaurocratic, foetal Trump has probably been promoted to new levels and is complacently carrying on stuffing things up simply because (presumably) he can.



RS

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Paper wasp (and hornet) pests

Introduced pest wasp queens are now looking for places to build their nests. With the Polistes species (paper wasps), their nests are honeycomb structures like umbrellas, glued to overhangs like branches, eaves etc.

There are three species of Polistes wasp in NZ: the Asian (*P. chinensis*), the European paper wasp (*P. dominula*), and the Australian or Tasmanian paper wasp (*P. humilis*). They are now found all over the country and can be recognised by their long, dangly rear legs.

At this time of year, be vigilant for the beginnings of nest building. All of these wasps will be foraging for wood which they chew up and use as a building material. Any wasps should be eliminated as soon as you can. Any nests you see, leave them in situ until the evening. After dark the queen will be resident in the nest, and then you can go

out and destroy the nest. Fly spray works well, or you can google alternative methods.

Sadly, there have also been several yellow-legged hornets found in Auckland. It is "a highly adaptable predator with a broad diet, primarily feeding on bees, wasps and flies, but also ripe fruit and flower nectar. It may also compete with native insects and birds for food."

Report any sightings of suspected hornets or hornet nests by calling Biosecurity NZ's exotic pest and disease hotline on 0800 809 966.

Do not disturb a nest if you see one, instead photograph it and contact Biosecurity NZ.

Lorraine



Yellow-legged hornet



White Rock Gallery

Spring has arrived at White Rock Gallery!

Our Spring Exhibition, which opened on 4 October, is bursting with colour, creativity, and fresh new works from our talented local artists. With the warmer weather upon us, it's the perfect time for a day out in Matakohē - pop into White Rock Gallery, then treat yourself to something delicious at the Gumdiggers Café just across the road.



We're thrilled to showcase stunning new paintings by Lois Casey of Ruawai, along with beautiful quilts and crafts by Barbara Lee from Pahi.



And that's just the beginning! You'll also find a fantastic selection of mosaics, ceramics, woodwork, jewellery, paintings, and more - all celebrating the amazing creativity of artists from our region.

You'll find us at 5 Church Road, Matakohē, in the charming Post and Telegraph Office next to the Kauri Museum. We're open seven days a week, 10am-4pm. Come and be inspired - there's something special waiting for everyone!

Paparoa Volunteer Fire Brigade Join our team

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Contact Ken Ogilvy
021 129 4042



REMEMBER!
Either way it's 20k when you pass a school bus that's picking up or dropping off children.

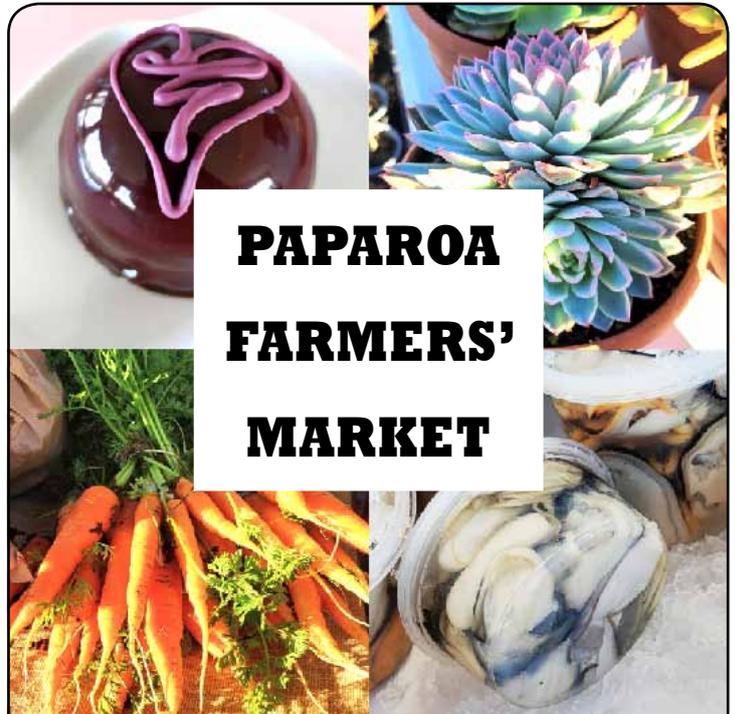
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BRIDGESTONE TYRE CENTRE



OCS November News

Greetings everyone, hope this finds you well.

If you feel like a day in the city, our van goes to Whangarei on **Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 26th**. You can do your shopping, have lunch or just enjoy the drive and a wander around the shops in town, then back again mid-afternoon. Its nice and relaxing, no driving or parking to worry about.

We are having a Community Lunch this month, our last for the year and with a Christmas theme. Everyone is welcome to come along, enjoy an 11am morning tea with fruit cake, biscuits and tea or coffee. Then at 12 o'clock, a buffet meal followed by dessert. The raffle draw is at 1pm, your free ticket might be the lucky one. Come alone, or with a friend, neighbour or your children. Catch up with old friends-meet new ones. It's always a treat to go out for lunch.

If you would like Owen to pick you up and bring you back after lunch please **PHONE US ON 431 9080**. Owen will be in the Maungaturoto Retirement Village carpark about 10.45 so look out for him.

The Community House 155 Hurndall Street:

Victoria's free meals are available on Tuesdays, as well as a huge collection of free clothing. Come and see what you can find and have a meal as well.

On Wednesday Mike's Dancing Dollars group gets together to create a tasty lunch at low cost- come and join in.

Brooks House:

The Games Club meets next to the Community House on Thursday evenings, 6- 9pm.

Remember: Shopping in Whangarei on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 26th

Take care of each other
From all at OCS

Selwyn Centre table pong

The seniors at Paparooa Selwyn Centre enjoy a variety of activities including some gentle exercises and a hearty morning tea. These are followed by some funny stories, a quiz, bingo, or a game.

A few weeks ago they enjoyed a few rounds of table pong which, as well as being very amusing, was good for their eye to hand coordination.

The Selwyn Centre takes place on Thursday mornings at St Marks, Hook Rd. If you are interested in coming along contact Sue Skelton on 027 417 4626.



Movies at Mgto Country Club

Last week I had the pleasure of going to a great movie locally - 'The Penguin Lessons'. Awesome ambience, fabulous pizza or hot dogs available to buy before the movie, and ice creams available at half-time (no jaffas). Only \$10 if you just want to go to the movie. Take your own beanbag or use chairs already there.

Next movie night: 'We were dangerous'. A NZ drama about three friends at a reform school on an isolated island. Filmed at Quail Island and the surrounding Banks Peninsular. **November 15th - 6.30pm.**

Stella

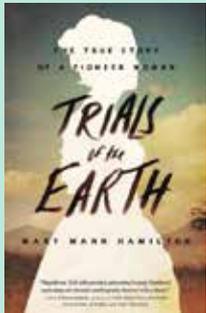
BOOKS AND BOOKCLUBS

“The Stall of Second Chances,” by Dana Bate (a great surname, no relation) is obviously a delicious read as several of the pages of the library copy were smeared in chocolate! A light read for the girls, with recipes in the back. An out-of-work and out-of-love young woman takes on a job in a market stall selling bread and cakes for a grumpy old man. She always dreamt of becoming a food journalist and finally those dreams take fruition as she is asked to write the market newsletter. You will no doubt guess how it goes, so I am not spoiling anything by saying that of course her dreams come true and she also finds her man along the way. Well written and fun to witness her ups and downs, and “tsk, tsk,” at some of her choices.



Truth can be stranger than fiction and here is a fiction novel based on such a truth. “Happy Land,” by Dolens Perkins-Valdez. The abolition of slavery in America did not abolish negative attitudes and in the aftermath a group of free slaves set up a community in the comparative safety of the North Carolina hills. They called it their kingdom and crowned their own king and queen. They worked hard and managed to buy the land. Their safety didn’t last long. Many generations later however, one descendent is still living on some of that original land, growing and selling flowers for a living. Through some loophole in the law her land was sold without her knowing and now, ill and in her nineties, she is being evicted. She engages the help of her estranged grand-daughter who knows nothing of the family history, but quickly devours the story of her roots, the beauty of the surrounding hills, and the joy of working the garden compared to her previous life as a Real Estate Agent in Washington D.C. There is some similarity to injustices over Maori land here in Aotearoa. So that is the back story, but forefront is family relationships and love. This is a truly beautiful tale well told.

Another story set in early America, mostly on the Mississippi Delta, is the true memoir of Mary Mann Hamilton. She was encouraged in her nineties to write about her pioneering days in Arkansas running a boarding house, where she met her husband, and then cooking in the logging camps, some with 200 men, and raising her family. She was a great story-teller and her family and friends loved to listen to her stories of trials and tribulations. “Trials of the Earth” is written as if she is right there, telling you herself, over a glass of homemade lemonade. And her experiences are more hair-raising than any fiction novel. I was especially aghast at her description of surviving rapidly-rising flood waters. Her husband put a kitchen chair on top of a tree stump on the hill above their house and left her there holding a baby and a toddler while he took the older children with him in their boat, to fetch help from the camp, also under water, and some hours away. He arrived back when the water was over the stump and halfway up the chair legs. The superstitions and peculiar ideas of those times, medical remedies, morals, attitudes and terms of speech are reminiscent of my own grandmothers’ stories of their childhood and early marriage, here in New Zealand. Extraordinary and exhilarating.



Anne Bate

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Grow Paparooa Inc

April 2024 – March 2025 Wrap-Up

Growing & Giving

Our mission remains simple: grow food, share knowledge, and build community. From April 2024 to March 2025, we continued to provide fresh produce to those in need through:

- Otamatea Community Services & High School Food Banks
- Pataka stands in Paparooa, Maungaturoto & Tinopai
- Paparooa School & Maungaturoto Rest Home during holidays
- Individuals and families in our local community

Nothing goes to waste. Even kids and passers-by enjoy feijoas along our fence line!

GROW
WHAKATIPU
Paparooa Inc



Growing Future Gardeners

Paparooa Primary School

Every Friday, 4-5 keen students join us for two hours of hands-on gardening. They learn everything from weeding and composting to soil prep, planting, and harvesting. These students then teach their peers back at school - true garden ambassadors!

Kaipara Kids

Every six weeks or so, our preschool visitors delight in finding snails, munching peas, and helping plant seedlings. It's a joy to see young tamariki learn where food comes from.

Garden Upgrades

- Rebuilt 2/3 of our garden beds with new hardwood timber - more durable and some higher for easier use
- Installed a new incinerator for safe waste burning
- Replaced a cracked water tank with a second-hand model and new stand

Funding & Support

We ran lean this year - managing mostly on our own with only a COGS grant and a small KDC grant. We're proud of that!

Big thanks to our supporters:

- Salt River Nurseries - thousands of free seedlings
- Bulbs Direct - seed potatoes
- PGG Wrightsons, Kaipara Lifestyle, The Warehouse, HortCentre, AgriSea - discounts and donated supplies
- Sam, our very supportive neighbour

We catered the Matakohe Garden Circle Christmas Luncheon with great feedback. We paused catering for Lions and Sports Club this year due to limited volunteer capacity. Aladdin's Cave remains our main fundraiser - thanks to Jenny and her awesome team!

Finally a massive thank you to all of our committee, volunteers, supporters and donors, those seen and unseen! You are the reason we can continue to do what we do.

We're always keen for new hands in the dirt or ideas at the table. Come down, say hi, and help us keep the garden growing strong.

Gardens are open 9-1 Thursdays and Fridays and we harvest on a Saturday 9-12.

Katie Fullerton

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Email: battensbybrothers@xtra.co.nz

The Paparooa Press is also available online, in colour, at paparooa.org.nz

Rubbish Competition

Open to children 8 to 11 years

Sponsored by Paparoa County Depot Trust

Finish date: Dec 15 2025

Completed paper copies to either the Maungaturoto Op Shop or Skelton's Drapery

Must be clearly named with age stated and contact details.

Winners will be printed in Paparoa Press and Maungaturoto Matters as well as notified in person.

Prizes will be donated by the Paparoa County Trust:

1st prize \$300.00, 2nd \$200.00, 3rd \$100.00

Extension activity: \$300.00 (This is a separate and extra prize.)

Any queries please email stella.clyde@gmail.com or paparoadeb@xtra.co.nz

The assignment:

Introduction of scope of research must be clearly outlined (parental supervision required and an absolute must for roadside survey).

Ideas could include:

- What is in your house-hold rubbish
- What types of rubbish are found on the roadside
- What types of rubbish wash up on the sea- shore
- What types of rubbish do birds scavenge (for use in nests or just hoarding)

Some form of pictorial diagram to show what types of rubbish have been found and where.

List at least four types of rubbish and how many of these can be recycled.

Explain briefly how the rubbish is recycled.

List and explain why some rubbish found can not, or is not recycled.

Explain the conclusion you have come to as to what is the most toxic or dangerous to life, birds, sea life, etc, from the rubbish that you have found, and the problems that arise for the environment.



Describe what you think you and others can do to help solve or lessen the problem of rubbish.

Extension activity (special separate prize):

Looking for innovative ideas to help solve waste problems.

Maybe explore commercial waste in the area - building waste, clothing, etc...

Or ideas on ways to reduce the rubbish thrown out on roadsides.

Introduction: what is in the commercial waste?

How is it dealt with at the moment (disposal, recycling etc)?

Are there any scientific solutions that could be found for these issues?



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Science Corner**Iberian harvest ants**

(Messor ibericus - a hairy ant) show scientists a trick!

Biologists have thought that each species of animal was separate and unable to cross breed with another species to produce fully functional young, but ants have shown this to be incorrect.

Ants form a cooperative super 'eusocial organism' made up of worker ants who are predominantly sterile females, a small number of fertile females or queens and a few males who exist solely to fertilise the queens. The queens lay three types of egg-workers, queens and males from a once only mating. The sperm is stored in a special sperm storage organ.

If the queen mates with her own species males she can only produce new queen ants.

However, if she mates with the different non-hairy Messor structor she gets workers and males.

Queen ants only mate once and they fertilise the eggs from their special sperm storage organ.

All offspring have the same mitochondrial (the DNA from the mother) but different nuclear DNA depending on their parentage.

Where do these queens get the M. structor males from? No other colonies are nearby. How does the maternal DNA get removed from the new born males?

The males exist to fertilise queens and die soon after mating.

Scientists found it hard to believe what they found and have been studying these ants for over 18 months and they have a new word to describe this type of breeding 'Xenoparity'.

These ants are showing potential in pest control. Researchers found that Iberian ants naturally prey on olive moth larvae in olive groves without disrupting the rest of the ecosystem.

New things to learn from the wonderful world of nature!

Stella

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Shingles Treatment (Antiviral tablets)*

Rosacea Consultation*

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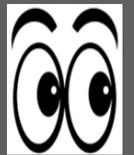
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Tuesday 10am - 1pm
Thursday 10am - 4pm
Friday 11am - 1.30pm
Saturday 10am - 12midday

Out of hours books can be returned to the returns box inside the door to the right at Skelton's Drapery. Library Manager 09 431 7555 (During library hours)



From our family to yours Testing the Limits

There's nothing like having someone come to stay for a while to test the limits of a family's ability to remain polite to the guest, or to incorporate them into the fold as one of the family. Which I would describe as still being polite, but more real and raw than if you were to entertain someone new for an hour. A few hours is long enough to remain behind a facade that your family is clean, hospitable, entirely kind, and purely wonderful. A week and the facade starts to crumble.

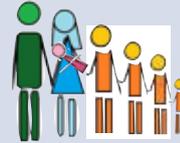
I'm never one to try and claim my family is perfect, on any level of perfection, so when we had a friend's 12 year old son join us for 10 days while his mum was away, I knew we weren't going to be trying to convince him that we were some sort of angelic base camp.

Boys at that age come with bravado, this particular boy comes with a 'reputation' of being difficult - but he was so similar to our Mr 14 at that age, that his quirks and fierce rep were an obvious smokescreen for his traumas, fears and inherent softness. He wasn't pretending to be anything to us, and we weren't pretending to be anything to him. There was laughter, there were fights.

It was a long 10 days, (don't get me wrong in saying that, we loved him being here and would have him back again) but he was very pleased to go home, even missing his sisters by the end - and it got me thinking about the 'challenging' kids in our communities. It's all so easy to peer over a fence and judge, but how often do we reach out to offer help? The wider input a child receives, the more love and compassion that can be spoken into a young one's life, could be the tether on the proverbial bungee cord when they 'jump out'.

That's my challenge for everyone this November - reach out somewhere new instead of judging, and lift up before you tear down.

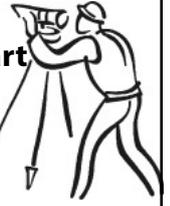
Blessings, Jenny



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Pets in the Valley



The days are warming up nicely now, the last lot of rain has been wonderful for grass growth. No doubt the flies will be loving this weather too and will be annoying us soon.

If you have any sheep you should be thinking about plans for controlling fly strike. I've seen a few woolly sheep around in my travels so I am sure those guys would appreciate being shorn before too long. There are a few different options for fly strike prevention the simplest being a pour on with a jet applicator. Watch out for daggy bottoms - flies love moist smelly places to lay eggs so crutching and drenching can help with issues at that end.

On a different, potentially smelly subject, I was delighted recently to see an older poodle come into the clinic with beautiful teeth. Poodles, like a lot of smaller dogs, are extremely susceptible to gingivitis and dental disease and virtually all older ones need dental work done. This old girl has an amazing owner who had brushed her teeth all her life and she had the healthiest mouth which makes her quality of life so good. I had an infected tooth recently and it was really painful, so I am often dismayed at how awful some dogs' mouths are and how much pain they have to endure. So prevention really is the best way to go - for humans and animals alike.

Enjoy our oncoming summer.

Janine



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- On job training will be given for all set tasks - starting immediately once applicant is available
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For any extra information and expressions of interest, please apply in writing with a copy of your CV to linkinghandsmain@gmail.com



Applications close Friday 14th November 2025 at 4pm.

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Sunday 7th Dec, 10am

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Graham Withers, Tinopai
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Derek Birt, Mareretu
4316847

Karen Weber, Matakoho
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By appointment.

**Premiere of Tom for Rose
National Day of Reflection**

Saturday 8 November, 4pm - 6pm Paparoa, Sports Pavillion
Part of the National Day of Reflection for Survivors of State Care, a time to honour lives disrupted, voices silenced, and whakapapa severed, and to stand together in gentle witness. It's for survivors, whānau, and anyone who feels connected to these stories.

Tom for Rose is an opera-hybrid composed by Sarah Macombe, performed live for the first time by talented singers from our Kaipara community.

There'll be kōrero, survivor voices, a guest speaker, shared food, and time to simply sit together in aroha.

All are welcome. Please bring a plate to share. Koha.

Anglican Parish of Paparoa

Nov 2nd	10am	Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto, Eucharist
9th	10am	Holy Trinity, Café Service
16th	10am	St Albans, Whakapirau, Eucharist
23rd	10am	St Marks, Paparoa, Morning Prayer
30th		1st Sunday of Advent, Holy Trinity

Parish Office: at Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto
PO Box 8, Maungaturoto
Phone: (09) 431-8193

Email: maungaholytrinity@xtra.co.nz
Vicar: Rev Henk LupsPh: 022 021 9673

WHAT'S ON - NOVEMBER 2025

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

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

OCS Free Lunches - For those in need. Tuesdays, 1-4pm. 155 Hurndall St, Mgto.

Rubbish Competition - For 8 - 11 year olds. Open until Dec 15. Cash prizes!
Queries to stella.clyde@gmail.com or paparoadeb@xtra.co.nz. See p15.

Maungaturoto Movies - Sat Nov 15, 6.30pm. Mgto Country Club. See p12.

Ruatuna Open Day - Sat Nov 22, from 10.30am. Ruatuna Homestead, 441 Tinopai Rd. See p6 for story.

Coming up in December

Paparoa Golf Club AGM - Sun Dec 7, 10am. At the club, Golf Course Rd (off Golden Stairs Rd) Followed at 11.30am by Christmas Cheer Golf, 9 and 18 hole. All welcome for both. Notice p18.

A Vaudeville Of Flowers - Sat Dec 6, 2.30 & 6.30pm. Paparoa War Memorial Hall. Presented by Company of Giants. Tickets through Eventfinda. See p20.

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.

Grow Whakatipu Paparoa 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.

Paparoa Golf Course Twilight Golf every Friday from October 31 - December 19 2025. 4.30- 6pm tee off. \$10 entry fee, includes food. All welcome Eftpos available. Enquiries Joe McLeod 027 246 8637. 91 Golf Course Rd, Maungaturoto (off Golden Stairs Rd).

Ballroom Classes Classes over the school term on Tuesday evenings from 6.30- 7.30pm, \$12 per person. Practice sessions on Monday evenings from 6.30 - 7.30, \$3 per person. At the Paparoa War Memorial Hall. Contact Lisa (preferably by text or leave a message) on 021 828-531.

Lynn's Ukulele Group (L.U.G.S.) Tuesdays 1.30- 2.30pm, Paparoa Sports Pavilion. \$10. New players welcome. Also beginners guitar class 1pm. Ph Lynn 0274 583 691.

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.

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. Nov 1st High Tea Theme: Goodbye Rain Hello Sun. Dec 6 Theme : Christmas

Condolences to the family of

Alex Tetzner

who passed away recently. Alex and Lyn farmed on Bull Rd for many years before 'retiring' to run a B&B in Matakoho.

He will be remembered for his dedication to the community through the Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary Club and various other organisations that he supported over many years.

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 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 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, 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 Community Gym** To join email Libby at hames.jones@xtra.co.nz
- 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 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 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, 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



Marohemo Hall (Whakapirau Rd)

Available for bookings.

Small group meetings in the dining room or 100 people in the hall. Contact: Marie 021 18 25 311



Your Ad Here!

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



LOCAL TIDES for NOVEMBER 2025

TIDES - CALCULATED for PAHI-WHAKAPIRAU

DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	13.55	08.01	17th	16.00	10.09
2nd	14.52	08.59	18th	16.40	10.48
3rd	15.43	09.51	19th	17.16	11.24
4th	16.31	10.39	20th	17.51	11.58
5th	17.18	11.25	21st	18.26	12.31
6th	18.06	12.11	22nd	06.42	13.05
7th	06.30	12.58	23rd	07.17	13.40
8th	07.18	13.46	24th	07.54	14.16
9th	08.07	14.37	25th	08.32	14.57
10th	08.59	15.32	26th	09.15	15.43
11th	09.54	16.33	27th	10.04	16.37
12th	10.57	17.42	28th	11.00	17.37
13th	12.06	06.15	29th	12.03	18.39
14th	13.18	07.25	30th	13.09	07.15
15th	14.23	08.30	Dec 1st	14.11	08.16
16th	15.16	09.24	Dec 2nd	15.13	09.19

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, 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

A Vaudeville Of Flowers

When the curtain came down on the last night of 'A Vaudeville Of Flowers' in Whangārei, the house went up! Cheering and stomping of appreciation greeted the vaudevillian performers.

So popular is this production, it has already had three seasons in Whangārei's Oneonesix Theatre and it's not stopping there. Now, 'Company Of Giants' will present 'A Vaudeville Of Flowers' in the Paparoa War Memorial Hall in early December.

Described as 'a wild and wonderful collection of acts celebrating the extraordinary and ordinary in our own backyard. Song, poetry and mime as performed by a troupe of puppets, animals, clowns and flowers.' It is a feast for the eyes and ears and full of warm hearted comedy. As one audience member commented, "I shall never look at my flower bed in the same light again".

"It is", says reviewer Austyn Mills (austynmills.substack.com), "quite unlike anything I've ever seen before... moments of stirring poetry and silhouetted love, of ensemble harmony, of glitter, stilts, and garden beds tended to. Part cabaret, part lullaby, part boutique crafts festival,

brought together by a highly skilled & generous cast."

'A Vaudeville Of Flowers' is truly a family show, not only because it is entertainment for the whole family but



also because, like the acting troupes of old, several families make up a sizable part of the cast.

Veteran actor and national treasure, Stuart Devenie,

treads the boards with his own granddaughter, while his daughter, Laurel Devenie, founder of 'Company Of Giants' directs the show. Kelly Johnson (Blondini of Goodbye Pork Pie fame) is accompanied by his partner and their two daughters on stage. Two other members of the cast have just welcomed their first baby into the world and it won't be long before he will be expected to take his place on stage after he had stopped "mewling and puking in his nurses arms" (courtesy of William Shakespeare).

So come, one and all, to see 'A Vaudeville Of Flowers' to kick off your festive season. Last year one grateful viewer wrote, "It was like therapy at the end of a work year,



funny, moving, eloquent. We loved it".

Jan Fisher

Performance Details

Vaudeville Of Flowers at Paparoa Memorial Hall on **Sat 6th of December at 2:30 and 6:30**. Tickets available through Eventfinda.



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