



APRIL 2013

The BIG DRY

There are not many around who remember the drought of 1945-46 but there are plenty of stories of cattle being walked daily long distances to drink from the few remaining creeks or water holes. Back then it stopped raining for 6 months from November 45 through to May 46. The current drought may not be as severe yet but it is certainly the longest dry spell that many residents can remember. Of course stock numbers are much higher now and farming practices more intensive. The land seems to dry out more quickly. Brown land is now turning to white.



It's almost impossible for animals to get a drink here

Paparoa Press spoke to a few farmers to gain an insight into the effects.

Pete Hames is fortunate to have a stream that he can draw on, so drinking water is not a problem at the moment. However feed is tight and stock condition could suffer. With everyone in the same situation, pressure for space at the freezing works is tight and the returns are decreasing. Lambs that were worth \$8/kg last season are now heading towards \$3. It is a catch-22 situation. The drought covers such a large area of the North Island that supplementary feed, if available, has to be brought long distances.

Pete's neighbour, Derek Birt, paints a similar picture but, without the benefit of a good stream, is having to cart water to one mob of cattle. Dams have dried and the quality of water is decreasing. He is feeding out hay that had been reserved for winter and trying to lighten stock numbers. Derek spoke of the ripple effect of a drought like this. If farmers stop spending, or divert their funds to essential survival spending, then the rural economy feels the effect. Fertiliser is not spread and other normal contracted work is put on hold. With rams due to go out, condition is important and will have an impact on next season's lambing percentage. Posts are loose in the ground which has cracked so badly there is danger of land slippage when the rains do come.



Dry stream bed in Arcadia Road

Local pig farmer, Graham Taylor hopes the water he has harvested and stored in dams during the winter will be sufficient to see through to some decent rainfall as his pigs drink over 13 thousand litres per day.

Another farmer on the Kaipara Harbour said that the answer might be that his farm is largely kikuyu grass which has held on through the drought. Managed properly it could be a saviour in the future.

Water delivery contractors are flat out delivering to households and it is fortunate that Maungaturoto now has a secure source of water. The KDC-Fonterra agreement to build a pipeline from a large dam in Baldrock Rd to Maungaturoto has proven to be a lifesaver. Without it there would be no household water delivery to the local area.

Whatever the individual circumstances there is no doubt the drought will affect not only the farming community but the flow on to others directly dependent and beyond will be felt for years to come. (Perhaps *ripple effect* and *flow on* are not apt descriptions in the present circumstances!)



Sheep grazing in dry stream bed



Cattle on parched ground



Paparoa Stream, just 1km above village stopped flowing in January

Pouto - lighthouse restored!

It was with a little sadness early in February that our contact with the Kaipara North Head lighthouse came to an end for this year - but as shown in this photo, the amazing old building (built in 1883-84) is looking and feeling so very much healthier. With the new roofing and repaired glass lantern, it is now weathertight again and it is hoped that the paintwork will stand up to all the sandblasting which it will surely get! We all felt grateful to the NZ Historic Places Trust for having the money to spend on this work, and know that next year will see the remainder of the foundation work completed. Over the five weeks that we worked there, travelling 7km along the beach from the rented house at Pouto, in all the adverse conditions that the south-westerly could give us, overriding all was admiration for the original builders and respect for the grand old lady. What a privilege it was to work on such a rare old building. To stand in defiance of the harsh conditions as it does, speaks to us of how our ancestors worked to achieve a life for themselves in this wonderful Kaipara area.

Loraine Rowlands



A picture says a thousand words ...
The freshly restored lighthouse at Kaipara North Head.

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Pioneer Luncheon

Friday 15 March saw the hosting of the 66th annual Pioneer Luncheon by the Paparoa Lions Club at the Paparoa War Memorial Hall. This year we had 125 guests, all of whom either live in, have lived in, or have a family connection to, Paparoa and surrounding districts. Guests were welcomed by MC for the day Ken Chambers and current Lions president Alistair Banks, and enjoyed the lunch catered by Noeline Gatehouse and her team, and served to the tables by a hard working team of Lions and their partners.

After lunch entertainment was provided by Dennise Brownlie who gave a short talk remembering Mavis Smith and some of Mavis's charming poems. She also showed us some recently donated linen, including one piece which was hand woven in 1797, and described how carefully such treasures are looked after at the museum.



Jim & Dawn Noesgaard, 63 years wed.

lovely old songs that had the audience tapping their toes and quietly singing along.

Throughout the event several spot prizes were handed out including:

Oldest (or should that be most senior?) woman present - Ailsa Tee (93)

Oldest man present - Norman Leaf (94)

Couple married the longest both present - Jim & Dawn Noesgaard (63yrs)

Who travelled furthest to attend - Hugh & Joy Hughes (Mt Maunganui)

As the afternoon drew to a close we reflected on another successful event which provided a great opportunity for the senior members of our community to catch up with each other and with those who've moved away from the area. Thanks go out to everyone who helped make it such a wonderful day.

Kevin's Shed panel beating & repairs

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Paparoa Press

PP

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Dirk Smyth - Academic Achievement

Dirk Smyth graduated from Auckland University (Whangarei Campus) on 22 March with a Master of Educational Leadership with First Class Honours. This is the highest grade possible in this course and Dirk will be the top graduate at the awards ceremony. Dirk is a well-loved teacher and member of the Senior Leadership team at Otamatea High School in Maungaturoto. Last year he was on study leave, completing his dissertation and two Masters level papers.

His dissertation was written on the National Standards policy in NZ schools for which he received an A+ grade and, as a result of the quality of his dissertation, has been asked to co-author (along with his supervisor) two academic papers based on his work.

He also received two awards from the University of Auckland for coming top in the two Masters papers he completed last year (*Educational Policy and Developing Professional Expertise*).

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New date for



Paparoa's Wearable Arts Gala (WAG) will now be held on Saturday 24th August, and not in June as previously announced. There'll be a 2pm Matinee and a 7.30pm Champagne Gala Show. Contestant Entry forms are available at www.paparoa.org.nz or from Betty Cairns 431 6515 and Carolyn Skelton 431 8636.

Received with Regret

Regrettably, we have received the resignation of our Editor Kathy McLennan, for personal reasons. Kathy has served the Paparoa community as editor of Biz Buzz for two years, and for the past year Paparoa Press.

Her attention to detail and commitment to making the Paparoa Press attractive and interesting has made the PP a very welcome feature of the Paparoa community. It has been a real pleasure working with Kathy and to see the PP grow into what it is today. Progressive Paparoa wishes to record our appreciation to Kathy for her time and dedication over the last three years and wish her well for the future.

Graham Taylor – PPI chair

Wanted :
Editor

Progressive Paparoa Inc is seeking expressions of interest for the position of Editor of Paparoa Press.

If you are interested (or know someone who might be) please contact:

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or email grnt@xtra.co.nz

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INTERNATIONAL ASIA-PACIFIC CAR RALLY

The International Asia-Pacific Car Rally returns to our area in May. Once again, some of the world's best drivers will fight it out to win Rally Whangarei and gain valuable points towards the competition. We'll see our own highly-acclaimed New Zealander, Hayden Paddon, now with a world title to his name! The Whangarei Rally is also a round of the National competition which is hotly contested by drivers throughout New Zealand and includes drivers from our own district of Northland who have proven to be very competitive in

the past. The Special Stages to be driven over include Parahi-Araru, Arcadia-Cassidy and Wairere (Station Road).

Local businesses need to be aware of some increased numbers of people in Paparoa, both on the Reconnaissance day (May 16) as well as the two days of the Rally itself (May 18 and 19). Of course, once more, local service clubs will gain financially by providing Stage Coordinators and Safety Marshalls.

For more information, go to: www.rallywhangarei.co.nz.

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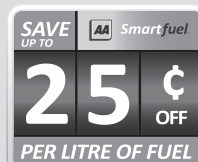
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Dirty Weekends

OTAMATEA REPERTORY THEATRE's presentation of Roger Hall & Philip Norman's comedy musical, "Dirty Weekends", showed the funny side of suburban gardening pursuits, and finished the season playing to full houses.

Performances showed commitment and enthusiasm, particularly from larger-than-life Mrs Iris Pollard (played by Suzanne Lappin), and her poor long-suffering husband Basil (Harry Phillips). Daphne Bloom (Sandra Bogart) was convincing as the desperate solo woman who eventually got her man – the lonely Dean Rex Goodfellow (Nathan Roberts). Spade-wielding trio - Nathan-the-hunk with a good strong voice led the way for lesser hunks Guy Smith & Warwick Simpson in the hilarious "Getting a Man in". Peter Flower's *The Snail* had amazing snail-skateboarding ability, but died dramatically after drinking beer-bait; and felines Hadyn Dyer and Elizabeth Harris added an energetic and comic touch. The Muse introduced the coming season with good voice and clever lyrics. The real musical highlight was a wonderful solo by saxophonist Warwick Simpson. The costumes and the set were delightful. All in all, a good family night out.

Thank you ORT. Loraine Rowlands

art ... sharing art activities with children

When parents or grandparents share activities with children it is not only fun, but builds in the children an understanding that the activity is worthwhile. Many adults share sports with their children; playing cricket on the beach, supporting a junior team, taking them along to the big match. But how many actively share children's art experiences?

It is great to give children art materials, but when children sit alone to draw, paint or 'make stuff', the adult is indicating that this is not what serious, busy, grown up people do. This holidays, why not sit down with your children or grandchildren and join them in playing with paper, paint, fimo, fabric. Even if art is not your special field, this could be somewhere you learn from them. For children, the process of making and doing is much more important than the finished piece. Young children are not judgmental (setting a good example for adults), and the shared fun is very rewarding.

Taking them to galleries is another wonderful experience as they become familiar with important artists and their work. It can be extremely interesting to discuss what you all see in each piece. Children can be fearless in their views, and quite unaffected by adult perceptions and values.

I am fortunate in having a large studio now where my grandchildren and I spend large portions of our holidays, but until recently we have always spread out over the kitchen table making art together. The rewards have far outweighed the mess.

Try it, I think you'll like it (and the children certainly will)!

Helen Budd



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Through the Looking Glass : Rudy van der Pol

Rudy van der Pol has owned his 18 acre property in Paparoa for nearly 7 years. He originally came upon Paparoa when taking the long way home from an arts event in Whangarei. The village and local area took his fancy so he revisited and bought the land on the spur of the moment. The atmosphere and old kauri buildings reminded him of Coromandel township and the western areas of Coromandel peninsula where he had lived.

Five years after he purchased the land, Rudy bought a house from the local house movers and it was moved onto the site on his property (the knoll to the right and back from Paparoa Hotel) previously occupied by the old kauri home of the Ned Fenwick family. Coming from Waipu Cove Road, the building had been removed to make way for a new \$1million house. The re-siting was complicated by the necessity to avoid damaging the landscaping and planting which Rudy had undertaken in the intervening years.



Rudy van der Pol, Towering

immersed in music and art. Not to be interested in these topics

or sometimes 'they just happen'.

The property has two workshop/studios as Rudy's wife, Ginny Tod, is also a sculptor. Ginny's works in epoxy cement are spiritually-based commemorative sculptures, designed as headstones or memorial pieces for garden or home.

These days, a lot of Rudy's time is taken up in developing the property and grounds. Lately, much effort has been expended on carrying pails of water to plants too precious to abandon to the heat, and work on the house continues too, with Rudy installing windows that came from the second floor of the Auckland City Council office building in his new workshop. There is often time, though, for a kayak down the creek under the tree canopy when the tide is full, a trip that brings much pleasure.

Rudy has never changed his opinion of Paparoa as a 'charming' place and has some interesting ideas for maintaining the atmosphere and appeal of the village in the years ahead. PP

There are two great interests in Rudy's life – art and landscape design. When he was younger he spent 3½ years working for Ted Smyth (now acknowledged as the 'godfather' of New Zealand landscape architecture) creating lush landscapes for wealthy Aucklanders. Tiring of Auckland, Rudy went to Coromandel to live and never returned.

For 25 years, Rudy has been a working artist. Art has always been a big part of his life. Both parents were trained in fine arts and the household was

was considered abnormal. Now specialising in metal sculpture, Rudy spent the first 10 years as a painter and mixed media artist with an interest in sculpture. Continuous requests to repeat previous examples of his work led him to change course and take up sculpture as his preferred medium. The sculptures are always large-scale, designed to fill large spaces - outdoors, in houses, hotel foyers, apartment blocks etc., and can be found in these spaces in various parts of the world. The works can be structurally very technical, sometimes requiring scale drawings and a lot of preparation,

Te Reo Maori and Kapahaka at Paparoa Primary School Tena koutou nga Matua me nga Whaea o te rohe o Paparoa

Kia ora my name is Geraldine Jenkins I have been the Te Reo Tutor at Paparoa Primary School for the past 4 years now and have lived most of my life in Paparoa and the surrounding districts. In 2010, through Lottery funding, we were able to purchase piupiu and a full kapahaka uniform for the tamariki (children).



The tamariki had their first full kapahaka uniform performance at the Matariki Celebrations held at the Otamatea High School last year. They also performed for the 150th Paparoa Celebrations re-enactment of the first settlers' arrival at Pahi. Tamariki of Paparoa Primary

School have a Te Reo Programme that encourages Whakawhanaungatanga (Family/Group), Whakautu (Respect), and Kotahitanga (Unity), which has been implemented and is being developed further through Kapahaka, Waiata Aringa and Haka.

There is encouragement to awhi (help/support), to build each other up, and to make positive choices in an environment that is safe and secure.

Our Tamariki are full of energy and have a desire to perform and to have fun while learning.

No reira Naku Noa Na
Whaea Geraldine

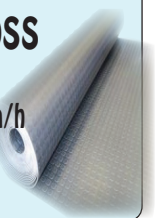
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Libby Jones on leadership course



Libby has been selected as one of 14 women from throughout New Zealand to take part in this year's AgriWomen's Development Trust - 'Escalator' Programme. The trust was set up by Lindy Nelson, a former Kellogg Rural Leadership Scholar, to provide an opportunity for rural women to improve their skills in the area of leadership and governance. Libby has just spent four days in Wellington on the first module of the 12 month programme and says it was very rewarding to meet the other participants from many different backgrounds. She says there will be many challenges as part of the programme over the next months.

We congratulate Libby on her selection and expect to hear more of her progress as the year goes by. PP

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MUSEUM MUSINGS ...

One of the most recent donations to The Kauri Museum is a linen sheet. From papers received with it, the bedsheet was hand-woven by Agnes McLagan at Queen's Ferry on the Firth of Forth in 1797. This was prior to her marriage so it was probably for her trousseau. So, it is 216 years old. Just 20 years earlier Captain James Cook had been sailing around New Zealand.

Something like this, when it is donated, is carefully opened out, lightly vacuumed to remove any dust and, if there is evidence of insects, the sheet would be wrapped in an airtight plastic bag and placed in a freezer for a week to kill any eggs. Then the sheet will be rolled onto a cardboard cylinder, wrapped in protective archival tissue and stored in the textile rooms which are temperature controlled. Any textiles or other items which are donated to The Kauri Museum are treated with utmost care and stored carefully so that our future generations will be able to enjoy them.

When something is donated to the museum, the paperwork is extensive and this is why Registrar Dennise Brownlie is kept very busy. Firstly, a Deed of Gift has to be signed by the donor and co-signed by a representative of the Museum as receiver of the donation. This is a legal document and ensures that families know that the item then becomes the property of the museum. Then the item is accessioned, given a catalogue number and all details are recorded. A donor list is filled in so that in the future when a person comes in looking for a certain item, if they know who donated it, the staff can locate the records and also show the visitors where their item is housed in the museum. Finally, a thank you letter is sent off to the donor from Bet Nelly, on behalf of the Trust Board.

Public Meeting Airs Concerns

A group of concerned residents called a public meeting in mid-March "to seek a positive airing and address concerns about an incident involving unprovoked police violence, causing injury, perpetrated against an innocent member of the Paparoa community". Many concerned residents attended, some of whom had their own stories to tell, while others were concerned as to their own rights and personal safety when police operations involve neighbouring properties.

Inspector Tracy Phillips from Whangarei Police Department also attended. She has been quoted as saying "It is regrettable this has happened"; that "a full investigation is underway"; and "anything found wanting would be dealt with". It was made clear at the meeting that the incident did not involve the local constabulary, the uniformed officers involved were from outside the Kaipara district. Some of those who attended the meeting have emphasised that it "presented a calm and balanced view of community concerns, and was run in a very professional manner".

James Lyon, who chaired the meeting stated that "Section 20 of the Search and Surveillance Act 2012 gives the police too much power, and not all officers are capable of handling such power."

A complaint concerning the incident which triggered this meeting has been lodged with the Independent Police Conduct Authority. PP

OUT & ABOUT around the District

Shane Wintle has been appointed Agribusiness Manager for Stockco in Northland. Stockco offers specialised agrifinance solutions for farmers. Lisa and Shane went looking for another place to live but Lisa says they couldn't find anywhere better than Paparoa so are staying put.

Mark Townsend from ICater Breads at the Farmers' Market quietly does his bit for those less fortunate than himself. Mark freezes leftover bread and buns from market and catering jobs. He then passes the goods on to Anne Shanks who does her bit by dropping it in to local food banks.

Otamatea Grey Power promote the welfare and wellbeing of all citizens 50yrs+. They meet on the last Wednesday of the month at the Anglican Church Hall, Hurndall Street, Maungaturoto. For more info ph 431 8141 or email h.daniel@extra.co.nz

Otamatea High School will be closed on Friday 12 April for a Staff Only Day.

Adrian Finlayson, son of Sally & Graham Taylor, is off to Ethiopia in June to help set up a new brewery for Heineken NV. He is currently Production Manager for Dominion Breweries (owned by Heineken) at Timaru.

Our condolences to Jill Mills, whose husband Stan passed away recently after a long illness. Jill is remembered as the school dental nurse who often visited at Paparoa School. Jill and Stan lived for a time in a property on SH12 at Matakoho before shifting up to Wharf Road. Latterly they have lived at Flowerdale, Maungaturoto.

Condolences go out also to Paparoa's Pukearenga Te Kohanga Reo on the loss of their

whaea, Mihi Henare-Anderson from Dargaville.

Another death during March is that of Gus Berquist, long-serving Principal at Otamatea High School whose tenure stretched from 1980 to 1990.

Our thoughts also go to family and friends of Steven Anderson of Pahi, aged 51yrs, following his sudden death by drowning at Mangawhai recently.

Long time Tinopai resident Joan Westlake also passed away in March.

Don't forget Maungaturoto's 150th celebrations in November this year. To find out more contact Albie Paton on 431 8148.

For the record, in preparation for Paparoa's 150th celebration last year Keep Paparoa Beautiful spent over \$2500 on beautification projects. This does not include the many hours of voluntary labour, and materials supplied at cost or donated by: Carters, Kauri Park Nurseries, Weber Sawmill, Powell Contracting, Florenz, Resene Paint, and Ariel Farm. Our thanks to these businesses for helping make Paparoa look great.

Congratulations to Lachlan Trembath who celebrated his 40th birthday recently with an event at his Tomarata property. Lachlan is a partner in Ovlov Marine, Westhaven. Married with two children, he is a son of Ted and Peg Trembath and was raised at "The Pines", now the home of Peter & Rowie Panhuis.

Te Rata Family Farm will hold an Open Day Saturday 13th April 10am-2pm. Register by email to info@familyfarm.co.nz, the visit is free of charge.

Congratulations to local real estate agent, Rhoda Morrison, who has been awarded the Top Sales Consultant - Rural for 2012. This is the third consecutive year Rhoda has received this award at First National's annual awards evening for Region One (Auckland/Northland).

The old National Bank (Sahara) has been sold to Paul Smith, who works as cabin crew with Air New Zealand. Paul will operate from the building as *Paul Smith Dines*, a small business he runs when he's home from flying, which will cater for private functions on the premises. Paul will hold an Open Day for locals when he gets settled.

Guest speaker at the Paparoa Lions meeting in March was

Chairman of Commissioners for Kaipara District Council, John Robertson. Lions members and their guests were grateful to hear firsthand how matters are being sorted and dealt with in such a professional manner, and came away feeling more confident that the Office of the Auditor General will conduct a very thorough investigation into how the Council got itself into such difficulties, and that problems will be resolved in good time.

Sam Hartles has been awarded the Northland Regional Council Sustainable Land Management Award at the 2013 Northland Dairy Industry Awards. Sam and wife Vanessa farm at Utopia Road and had to make a two-hour presentation to two judges to explain their management systems. These include recycling plastic waste, liquid fertilisers only, homeopathic remedies for the cows, and fencing of wetland and native bush areas. Congratulations Sam and Vanessa!

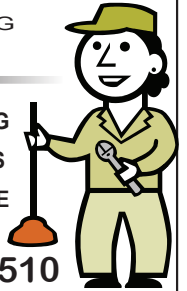
Our congratulations to Alanna Ponsonby and Ryan Wirtanen on their marriage in March. PP

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for the triumph of evil
is that good men do
nothing."*

Edmund Burke

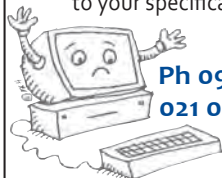
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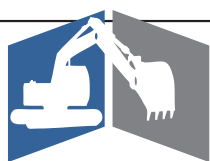
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Heritage Hotspot

In the early years of our district's settlement, post offices were set up in private homes or shops wherever it was convenient. The first Government Post Office and telegraph service in the district opened at Pahi in 1879 with the Postmaster and his family occupying the same building. Telegraph and mail services were the main means of communication until 1913 when a formal telephone service was organised.

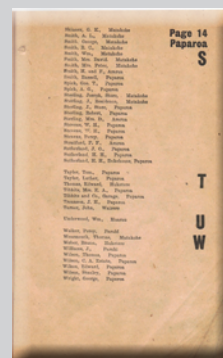
Mr E.T. Birtles was the instigator (and then secretary) of the Paparoa Settlers' Telephone Association. Fees were one pound to join, four pounds twelve shillings and sixpence as the share of constructing the lines, and 22 shillings and sixpence annual subscription. Buying and installing the telephone was an extra cost but no toll fees were charged. The telephone exchange was operated from the premises of Wilkins' tailor's shop (even though the Paparoa Post Office had been built by this time, it was used for postal services only) and was available for 13 hours a day, Monday to Saturday. W.H. Wilkins received 2 pounds 15 shillings a week in pay.

Important news was spread using the telephone system. Four long rings was the signal for all subscribers to go to their phones. The news that World War One had started and ended, and local and national election results were delivered in this way.

When the Wilkins' shop was damaged in one of the floods which went through the village in the 1920s, the exchange was moved to a room at the back of Miss Essie Cliff's house on Franklin Road. Local calls were connected here but requests for through calls were re-directed to the Post Office where another exchange for this purpose had by then been set-up in a small room off the main business area.



Pahi Post and Telegraph Office on the right of what is now the Pahi Hall c1922



Paparoa Exchange entries in 1923 Directory



Cover of 1923 Directory of Combined Telephone Associations

The hours for this service were 7.30am-9.30am, 12noon-1pm and 4pm-6pm only (as given in

The 1923 Directory of Combined Telephone Associations for Kaipara (Dargaville), Paparoa, Maungaturoto, Kaiwaka, Waikiekie and Mareretu).

This dual exchange system operated until the Post Office was extended and post and telephone services were combined in the one building.

Taken from *The Albertlanders, Paparoa-Matakohe 1862-1962* and an interview with Mrs Una Ball



Wilkins tailor shop and telephone exchange in centre of photo 1925

g.a.s. Paparoa

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Local tides for April 2013

APRIL TIDES - CALCULATED for PAHI-WHAKAPIRAU

DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	9.14am	3.40pm	17th	9.16am	3.36pm
2nd	10.11am	4.39pm	18th	10.13am	4.35pm
3rd	11.16am	5.47pm	19th	11.15am	5.39pm
4th	12.29pm	6.02pm	20th	12.19pm	6.45pm
5th	1.44pm	8.18pm	21st	1.18pm	7.46pm
6th	2.51pm	8.51am	22nd	2.10pm	8.12am
7th	2.47pm	8.50am	23rd	2.58pm	8.59am
8th	3.36pm	9.39am	24th	3.43pm	9.44am
9th	4.20pm	10.22am	25th	4.27pm	10.27am
10th	5.00pm	11.02am	26th	5.12pm	11.12am
11th	5.37pm	11.39am	27th	5.58pm	11.58am
12th	6.13pm	12.14pm	28th	6.46pm	12.47pm
13th	6.48pm	12.49pm	29th	7.35pm	1.38pm
14th	7.24pm	1.25pm	30th	8.05am	2.33pm
15th	7.45am	2.03pm			
16th	8.28am	2.46pm			

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Sun 7.30am - 5.30pm

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PAPAROA SPORT

LOCAL TRIATHLETES

Samuel Parker & Maggie Hames ...



completed the Allens Kids Triathlon in Whangarei: swimming 150m at Onerahi foreshore; biking 4km, & running 1km.

This is Maggie's 3rd and Samuel's first triathlon.

BADMINTON

Thursday evenings at the Paparoa Hall. 5.30-7pm Yr 5-Yr 11 students, 7.00pm older/experienced students & adults. All levels of experience welcome, some racquets available - sessions \$2 student/\$3 adult, ph Pete 431 6822

TENNIS

An adult-child doubles tournament will be held on Sunday 7 April from 1pm. It's a fun event with focus on participation, though there'll be a few more competitive games for those interested. We'll finish with afternoon tea and spot prizes. If we get enough interest we will run a doubles club champs before we close for the season, ph Sue 431 6224.

KAIPARA LIFE - Mother Nature

Well its official - Northland is drought stricken yet again. Hopefully by the time you read this the rain will have arrived but for now, in early March, the land is as dry as a chip.

The paddocks have gone past the threadbare sun-burnt stage and are now a dull and dusty grey. Stands of trees and bush stand out like patches of drab green embroidery stitched onto the parched and empty hillsides and farmers everywhere are wondering how much longer they can cope.

Wildlife is suffering as well - a neighbour is now having to feed his cats on top of a fish bin otherwise starving hedgehogs will eat the lot. Another was losing his golden queen peaches and only discovered the culprits when he spotted a family of hungry pukeko up the tree smashing the branches in order to get to every last peach.

At home our garden has been bedded down under a layer of mulch except for a shady corner where we have managed to keep a couple of tomato plants going however these have now stopped setting fruit and the

reason only became clear when we realised that there were no bees or bumbles about anymore.

In the hope of helping we have put out a large water dish and it

has been fascinating to observe avian etiquette around this. The birds visit by species - first the thrushes then the blackbirds. These are followed by wax-eyes

and then it's the fantails' turn. While one is having a drink and a splash the next is waiting politely on a nearby branch. They are incredibly patient.

When Mother Nature turns off the rain we have no choice but to accept how little real power we have even in this super sophisticated technological time. In spite of all the advances we have made she is still the boss and the sole decider of when our world will flourish and when it will fail. Like the birds all we can do is try to remain patient.

Christine Yardley



Ed Hinson

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Wilson Family Fishing Competition

Every March the Wilson Family from Pahi hold an annual fishing competition on Tinopai wharf. Relations from Whitianga, Auckland and even America vie for trophies - for the biggest fish, and the children for the biggest sprat.

Raymond Wilson was born to fish. He had favourite spots on the Kaipara and was often seen fishing off the old Tinopai wharf. A long bamboo pole with a short line and lure to catch the kahawai, climbing down amongst the piles harpooning trevally, and using a basket contraption to scoop mussels

from the piles. Many a happy day was had at Tinopai where our grandmother owned a bach. On the 10th Anniversary of Ray's passing, a pile was purchased for the new wharf and a plaque laid.

The fishing competition gets the family together to celebrate our father's life. Rain, hail or shine we take over the wharf for the day: a picnic on the beach, a swim, and when the tide's out maybe a few pipis. At the end of the day it's back to Pahi for the weigh-in, speeches and presentations. Long may this wonderful day continue.

Fay Wilson

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Pets in the Valley



Seasonally Loopy Horses what's the story?? I guess some people think horses are loopy all the time, and some horses are loopy all the time, but what about quiet old Dobbin who all of a sudden spits the dummy?

Believe it or not grass is not always the perfect food for horses and grass is not consistent in the components of what's inside it and what's ON it.

Mycotoxins are chemicals which are produced by fungi that live inside grass called endophytes. The substances they produce often help protect the grass against insect attack but some mycotoxins have harmful effects on stock if they consume enough. (At the moment any grass would be appreciated ... mycotoxic or not.)



It is not well understood why some horses are affected by mycotoxins and others aren't, but removing them from grass and feeding alternative foods can make a huge difference to affected horses. This is not

failsafe however as lolitrem B (a ryegrass mycotoxin) will survive in hay and silage. A blood test can show whether a horse has high lolitrem levels or not.

Mycotoxin binders are now available which contain yeast extracts which miraculously bind these toxins and work well for some horses.

Other things such as magnesium, selenium and Vitamin B12 can all be helpful with individual horses with behavioural or nervous issues.

Janine Hames

TEAM ROPING CLUB : MEMORIAL RIDE

On the weekend of 13-14 April, at Paparoa Showgrounds, the Team Roping Club will hold a **Memorial Roping Event** in remembrance of much-valued local member Warren Boyce-Bacon. Ph Jan Whitehead 027 488 1246, for details. Visiting riders and spectators are welcome.

TAI CHI :

Ancient Exercise Keeps Bodies Young

The ancient Chinese martial art of Tai Chi first became known in the 12th Century but attained widespread popularity in the 1800's. Originally developed for warfare but Western research has now recognised the tangible health benefits of this gentle exercise particularly for the promotion of balance control, flexibility, cardiovascular fitness and a reduction in the risk of falls.

In Paparoa a small but enthusiastic group meets on Tuesdays in the Paparoa Hall at 1pm. They are instructed by Andrew Young who takes classes from Snell's Beach to Paparoa. Participants range in age right up to people in their 80's but all are able to work at their own pace. Andrew suggests that people just do what they are comfortable with and there is no pressure.

Bernice Flower from Maungaturoto has been attending for a few months and says she feels no discomfort, in fact she 'feels good afterward' and is sure it's having a beneficial effect on her general health.

Classes last an hour and no special clothing is required, just something comfortable, and sensible shoes. The fee of \$9 covers hall hire and the instructor's expenses but the benefits are real and lasting. Local James Lyon says that his balance has improved remarkably and it keeps him mobile. There is room in the class for new members so if you'd like to join, come along on Tuesday 1pm. Why not give it a go? You might be very surprised to discover a new-found lease on life.

REMEMBER!



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PAPAROA LIBRARY : BOOK REVIEW APRIL

Author: David Baldacci

Books in 45 languages, in 80 countries, 110 million prints, the quintessential storyteller.

Title: INNOCENT

Will Robie is a US Government paid assassin who, after several years, is beginning to see the other side of the coin to what he does. He makes a 'fatal' mistake by not killing the target, and therefore becomes the target himself. His life is then further complicated by the teaming up with, or guardianship of, a young girl who has "street smarts" but has seen it all by the age of 14. They are on the run together and must start to trust someone, but who? Can they even trust each other, let alone someone like a cop, in their complicated situation? With Robie's killing skills (he knows how to stay alive in extreme circumstances), and with the girl's street smart ways, they're staying ahead of the killing machine, but only just. They have to bring in a third party who is now also a target, so all together they run - for their lives.

Welcome to Paparoa Playcentre

Paparoa Playcentre is a fun, friendly and safe educational centre, to support and encourage parents to be their children's first educators. Playcentre is a parent run co-operative and we have a lot of new enthusiastic families started this term. Our children range from new born to some about to start school.



Our parents decide what activities happen each session with support from the Playcentre Association promoting learning, safety, cultural awareness and most of all fun! We have a range of activities for the kids including painting and crafts, dress ups and pretend play, and lots to do outside with our jungle gym, sand pit, toy cars, and lots of water play for these warmer days.

We have enjoyed some day trips as well, with very successful trips to the Zoo and Snow Planet. Recently a very fun trip to explore Ruawai Kindergarten was a new and exciting adventure for the children. Soon we will be having a beach trip to Pahi, to enjoy the water while it is still warm enough for a splash!

Paparoa Playcentre is a fun place to be for the kids and parents! So come along Tuesday or Friday 9.30am - 12pm, next to the Plunket room in Franklin Road, no prior arrangements necessary.



MEAT at the MARKET

Quality bacon, pork, sausages & small goods now available at the Paparoa Farmers' Market every 2nd Saturday, 9am-noon Paparoa Village Green



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PAPAROA VOLUNTEER RURAL FIRE FORCE : TOTAL FIRE BAN



Autumn is here but you wouldn't know it. Just look around you to see why the Total Fire Ban is still in place. It's more important than ever to **please light NO FIRES**. Even with all the signs around the district & the hills as brown as they are, people are still lighting fires. It may only be a small incinerator or rubbish fire but these are very dangerous with things as dried out as they are. Something could easily blow away from the fire in the breeze and before you know it, an entire hillside could be ablaze. Even though we've had a bit of rain it hasn't been significant enough to lift the ban yet. Please be aware that if we, or the Fire Service, are called to your property to put out a fire that's been deliberately lit during the ban, **there is a chance you will be fined**.

The Rural Fire Authority will lift

the ban as soon as they can but, for now, people need to remain vigilant & be responsible.

If you see a fire or smell smoke please call 111. If we can get there fast we can stop it before it gets out of control and does any serious damage.

February Callouts:

- 3rd Car Accident Paparoa
- 17th Scrub Fire Whakapirau
- 21st Smoke showing Mareretu

March Callouts:

- 2nd Rescue/Medical Paparoa
- 3rd House Fire Mangawhai
- 12th Vegetation Fire Brynderwyn
- 12th Vegetation Fire Batley
- 15th Rubbish Fire Tinopai
- 23rd Medical Paparoa

If you'd like to join the Paparoa VRFF, just come in for a look and a chat, we meet 1st & 3rd Mondays each month, 6.30pm at the Depot Road station. Any questions, call Cohan or Yvonne 09 431 6668

**** HELP NEEDED **** The Rural Fire Force comes under the Forest & Rural Fires Act. This allows us to carry out Rural Fire duties & the Kaipara Council cover most of our costs. We also respond to medical call outs and offer basic assistance/medical aid until the Ambulance arrives. This is done separately from the Rural Fires Act. It's good for our community that we can do this as sometimes the Ambulance can't respond straight away. The Council doesn't cover us for medical equipment other than a good first aid kit. **We're seeking donations from the community** so that we can purchase some extra medical equipment for use during these call-outs.

If you can help in any way, please call Yvonne 09 431 6668.

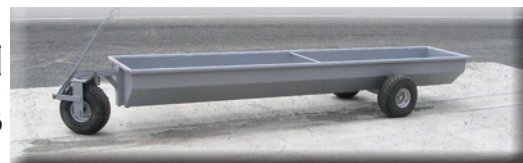
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WHAT'S ON - APRIL 2013

Ararua Church 10.30am every Sunday, All welcome ph 431 6622
Art Group Paparao 1st Sun in month, Helen Budd's Studio, ph 431 6192
Art Studio, Ruawai Mon 10-12noon; Tues 7-9pm ph Frances 439 2554
Arty Farties • Summer Markets 9am-noon, opposite the Village Green
 • Thur/Fri in the 'Tile Shed' ph Anne on 431 6229 to enquire
 • Crafty Kids Club alt Saturdays 10-2pm, Rm 5 Paparao Primary School
 • Beginners Patchwork Group, Mon 7pm, Congregational Hall, Mgtto
Badminton Thurs, years 5-11 5.30pm; older/experienced 7pm, Paparao Hall
Bahai Faith Enhancing community-building. Wed 12.30 or 7.30 ph 431 8488
Exercise to Music Tue 10.30am Paparao Hall \$5 ph Rose 431 7418
Farmers' Market Fortnightly Sat 9-noon, Village Green, Apr 6, 20; May 4, 18
Fire Force 1st & 3rd Monday in month 6.30pm Depot Rd ph Cohan 431 6668
Gardening Club 2nd Wed of month, ph Sharon 431 7159
Grey Power Last Wed in month, 2pm, Hall next to Resthome, M'gto
Indoor Bowls Wed 2pm, Paparao Hall ph Loraine 431 7290 or Robyn 431 7306
Library Mon 1.30-4.30pm, Wed 10am-12noon, Fri 9.30am-1pm
 open all Market days - alternate Saturdays 9.30-1pm
Line Dancing Recommences April ph Rose 431 7418
Lions - Junior Speech Competition Monday May 20
Mainly Music Wed 9.30am Paparao Comm Church, ph Rebecca 431 7550
Maungaturoto Res. Assn Teddy Bears Picnic 13 Apr 9.30-12.30 M'gto Primary School
Memorial Ride - Team Roping Club 13-14 Apr, Showgrounds 027 488 1246
Music Makers 2nd Tues of month 7.30pm @ Cruiser Bar & Grill
Paparao Community Church 10.30am every Sunday, Hook Road
Paparao Lions Dinner Meetings 3rd Mon in month 6.30pm, Paparao Hall
Paparao Playcentre Tue & Fri 9.30-12noon, Visitors welcome ph Renee 431 6336
Paparao Plunket Society Coffee Group First Tue/month, 10am Franklin Rd
Paparao School Term 1: 29 Jan - 19 Apr; Term 2: 6 May - 12 Jly;
 Term 3: 29 Jly - 27 Sep; Term 4: 14 Oct - 13 Dec
Paparao St Marks Anglican Church 2nd & 4th Sundays, 10am, Hook Rd
Paparao Toy Library Wed 10.30-1pm, Paparao Comm Church, Hilery 431 7330
Rally - International Asia-Pacific May 18-19, Reconnaissance 16th, see pg 3
Sports Pavilion Functions venue, ph Vickie Owens 431 6432 for bookings
St Mary's Catholic Church 10am Wed, 6pm Sat, Maungaturoto
Tai Chi Tues 1pm, Paparao Hall, ph Shirley 431 6408
Table Tennis Tues 7.30pm, Sports Pavilion \$2 Pete 431 6822
Team Roping Club - Memorial Ride 13-14 Apr Paparao Showgrounds
Tennis Adult Tue 6pm, Social Fri 10am. Children/teens coaching Sat from 9.30
 Courts open for casual play - \$2/per person
 Adult-Child Doubles Tournament Sun 7 Apr 1pm, ph Sue Skelton 431 6224
Ukelele Players Beginners / experts, Thu 5.15pm Matakoho, ph Dennise 431 7012
Waka Ama Sunday 10am, Pahi Domain
Wearable Arts Gala Saturday 24th August 2013 www.paparao.org.nz/wag
Yoga for Body & Mind Tues & Thurs 4.15-5.45, M'gto ph Gabriele 431 2099
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April 6th, 20th
May 4th 18th

ph Mary 431 7123 or Graham 431 7209

Community Directory

EMERGENCY: FIRE ■ POLICE ■ AMBULANCE dial 111

COAST TO COAST HEALTH CARE

Maungaturoto Medical Centre 8am-5pm Mon-Fri 09 431 8576
 Paparao Clinic: Doctor Tuesday 8.30am-12.30pm 09 431 7222
 Nurse-only Friday 8.30am-12.30pm 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

HOMEBUILDERS & FAMILY HELP Community House.... 09 431 9080

HOSPICE KAIPARA Dargaville Hospital 09 439 3330

KAIPARA DISTRICT COUNCIL Helpline 0800 727 059
 Kaiwaka Office 0800 100 388

LINKING HANDS Health Shuttle Service, Maungaturoto 09 431 8969

MAUNGATUROTO PHARMACY 09 431 8045

MAUNGATUROTO REST HOME 09 431 8696

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PAPARAO PLAYCENTRE Vanessa 09 431 6731
 Renee 09 431 6336

PAPARAO PLUNKET Cynthia Keay 09 431 8187
PLUNKET Helpline 0800 933 922

PAPARAO PRIMARY SCHOOL 09 431 7379

PARENT PORT Inc. free help for families Linda 09 425 9357

PHYSIOTHERAPY Lyndsay Bargh Mon/Wed/Fri from 8am...431 8576

PUKE ARANGA TE KOHANGA REO 09 431 7089

YOUTH & WHANAU FOCUS South Kaipara, Rose 09 431 7418