



Paparoa Poplars Removal opens new opportunities



The removal of four Lombardy poplar trees in early March was watched with intrigue. Not only was the actual removal a precise and technically challenging exercise, the view down the main street has dramatically changed.

For Paparoa Primary School pupils it was a valuable exercise in the use of technology to complete a dangerous task and the need for all involved to remain safe. Other spectators were amazed at the skill of the contractors and the capacity of the chipping machine to devour a log in minutes. Our bushmen of old would have looked on in wonder! The four trees removed had been assessed as dangerous by an arborist. Their roots were failing and they could have toppled onto the road with serious consequences.

stream is held in check by rocks and gabion baskets. The poplars had become a valued part of Paparoa's landscape and included in the Paparoa logo that was developed in 2000. A quick scan from the Village Green reveals at least another 20 poplars in the area but fortunately not on public land where they could cause a danger if toppled. So Lombardy poplars will remain part of the Paparoa landscape for many years to come.

A new vista has been opened up in Paparoa that brings the whole village more into focus. The valued older buildings can be seen more easily, traffic safety should be enhanced as there is a clear view of the whole village from bridge to bridge and the changing flows of the Paparoa Stream are clearly visible. Progressive Paparoa Inc. through its subcommittee Keep Paparoa Beautiful is keen to develop and fund a landscaping and planting plan for the whole riverbank from the Village Green to The Landing. This will involve a properly executed design that encourages public access. Paparoa is very fortunate to already have two excellent reserves with good public access. This untidy section of riverbank can now be landscaped to bring the vision of a welcoming, tidy and attractive village closer to fruition. PP

Fortunately KDC was able to allocate funding. PP understands the total cost to be considerably less than \$10,000 and was undertaken by competitive tender. If the job had not been done who knows what impact Cyclone Lusi might have wrought. Older residents tell us the trees were planted some 80-90 years ago in a time when the only tool for preventing stream erosion was tree planting. Now the



Getting to the Loo!

Paparoa is known for the ease of accessibility of its public toilets - plenty of parking, an attractive mural and generally clean facilities. But with only one path to the building there has been a dilemma.

Women chose to use the one concrete path and then turn right to the Women's. Men on the other hand would short cut across the grass direct to the Men's! Okay in the summer but muddy and messy in the winter.

Recently, Keep Paparoa Beautiful, funded by PPI, replaced the single path with two so there's now no excuse guys! This project is part of an enhanced planting plan in front of the toilets to disguise the old tree stump and improve the appearance of the garden.



INSIDE

- Busy start at Paparoa School 3
- Mangroves, Mud & the Kaipara 4-5
- Letters from the Old Post Office..... 6
- In Front of the Camera, part 2 6
- Spotlight On Gary McMurray 7
- Pioneer Luncheon & Kapa Haka .. 8-9
- Community Concerns - Meeting ... 10
- Aotearoa Rambles 11
- Honour Bestowed on Ian Pasley ... 12
- Out & About 13
- Pahi Fishing Comp..... 14

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Vision for Paparoa - follow up

PP would like to thank those who responded to last month's 'Vision' piece with either 'shock horror' or with positive comments. We are pleased so many read the article but sorry that at first glance it may have confused some, and could have led to the notion that the school was closing.

Nothing could be further from reality. We know the school is thriving under its current leadership and is strongly supported by the community. The school is one of the key institutions that make Paparoa

a positive community and contributes to the kind of vision the article was intended to promote.

As a 'free' press PP intends to publish from time to time contributions that may stir a reaction. We consider this to be healthy journalism and as such should be encouraged. PP does not want to publish only stories about historical or recent events. It aims to also engender a healthy debate about the future of Paparoa and the kind of community we desire.

PP is produced by a volunteer

group who all contribute to each

edition. A number of 'outside' contributors also provide regular articles. That is PP's strength and it has been recognised for its innovation and quality.

PP aims to be thought provoking, possibly challenging from time to time and definitely positive about Paparoa and its environs. If you have a point of view you wish to express please contact PP with your contribution. We can't guarantee to publish but welcome community input. PP



SCRAP METAL COLLECTION



The Paparoa Sports and Recreation Association is holding another Scrap Metal Drive to raise funds for a commercial dishwasher in the kitchen of the Sports Pavilion.

Anything with METAL in it can be recycled: bbqs, batteries, motors, appliances, pipes, wire, gates, machinery, roofing iron, sink tops, metal furniture – chairs, beds etc. We have people who will come and collect it or you can drop it behind the Sports Pavilion at the Paparoa Showgrounds. Contact Ken 431 7443, Pete 431 6822 or Vickie 431 6432.

Stop Press!



Community Meeting : Sunday 13 April : Paparoa Hall

Kaipara District Council is holding a Community Meeting for the Paparoa, Matakoho and surrounding districts at Paparoa Hall on Sunday 13 April at 2pm.

The purpose is to give people an opportunity to raise issues of concern and to look to the future needs of the community. It will be an open forum discussion. Come along, meet the commissioners and make your voice heard. PP



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Busy Start to School Year at Paparoa

Paparoa Primary School has been very busy over the last few weeks experiencing inventions. A double-decker bus and a concrete truck came to school to show students what big machines can look like. Also the Paparoa poplar tree felling caused lots of excitement as the children watched the arborist cutting down the limbs while being harnessed in the air and the chipper eating large logs and branches as if they were candy.

The children also helped make a concrete path to the adventure playground as part of Room Three's technology project. They helped mix the concrete and lay it into the dirt, adding shapes and personalised pictures to ensure that they will be immortalised in the school forever. Mr Lydiard and Bruce patiently helped the children to add their touch to the finished product which will help



visits before they turn five so they know what is expected and already know the classrooms, systems and routines before their first big day. By the beginning of term two, five new entrants will be added to Room Two's team. These students are welcomed with a Duffy book, a book bag and plenty of support to help them settle into school life. *"We are really lucky to have such wonderful support in our new entrant room with a one to seven adult/child ratio in the room"* says Mrs Kim Tavinor, Principal. *"We think it is paramount that students get the best possible start to their education and guarantee that our new entrant class will not exceed fifteen students"*.

Room One is beginning to draw up plans for their technology



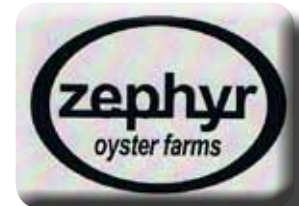
all students in the winter to get to the playground without making a muddy track. Thank you too to Jeff Bell from Mangawhai who lent all the tools. Our cement and builders mix came from Powell Contracting which our PTA is kindly paying for.

Room Two have been busy with pre-school visitors. Pre-schoolers have been visiting the school to familiarise themselves with what to do when they turn five. Children get the opportunity to have six



projects. They will be looking for any expertise and help from the community that might be available. They are building projects from goat houses through to a carpentry table and storage boxes for sandpit toys. So if anyone is keen to lend a hand the students would love to hear from you.

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Amongst the many intriguing plants of the coastal zone, mangroves hold a special position. There are over 70 species of mangroves world-wide and they are a diverse range of plants with growth forms ranging from stunted shrubs to forest trees over 30 metres high. Mangroves are woody plants that have adaptations allowing them to survive in saline and anaerobic (lacking free oxygen) environments, with mechanisms to tolerate excess salt. They have root systems that anchor in soft sediment and breathing roots projecting above-ground allowing the plant to respire while growing in saturated soils depleted of oxygen.

Mangroves are distributed from the equator to the temperate zones in both hemispheres. Mangrove diversity is highest in the wet tropics where there is a variety of habitats - particularly river deltas with broad coastal mud flats of sediment denuded from high rainfall catchments. There are dozens of mangrove species (over 20 in Queensland), but only one species in New Zealand - *Avicennia marina* var. *australasica* - a genetically distinct population similar to that in southern Australia. *Avicennia* has distinctive vertical breathing

roots called pneumatophores projecting up to 40cm above-ground allowing the plant to respire while being anchored in saturated oxygen depleted soils. A single tree can have hundreds of pneumatophores.

The regular occurrence of winter frost sets the global limits of mangroves. In New Zealand this southern limit is the Kawhia Harbour on the west coast and Ohiwa Harbour on the east coast. Pollen in sub-surface sediment in northern Hawkes Bay shows that mangroves flourished there, and probably further south, about 7,000 years ago when global temperatures and sea-level were slightly higher.

MANGROVES, MUD ...



Rhizophora & Avicennia

Mangroves occur in a range of coastal environments and an interesting question is do they need salt water - or can they survive and propagate in fresh water? There is evidence in both directions! *Avicennia*, and some other mangrove genera, produce seeds which germinate while still attached to the parent tree. These 'live young' or propagules, drop from the parent tree and may establish around the base of that tree, or, as they are buoyant and can survive for months in water, can float long distances on tidal and wave currents until they lodge on a receptive tidal flat. Mangroves grow in areas of active and often

/ continued next page ...

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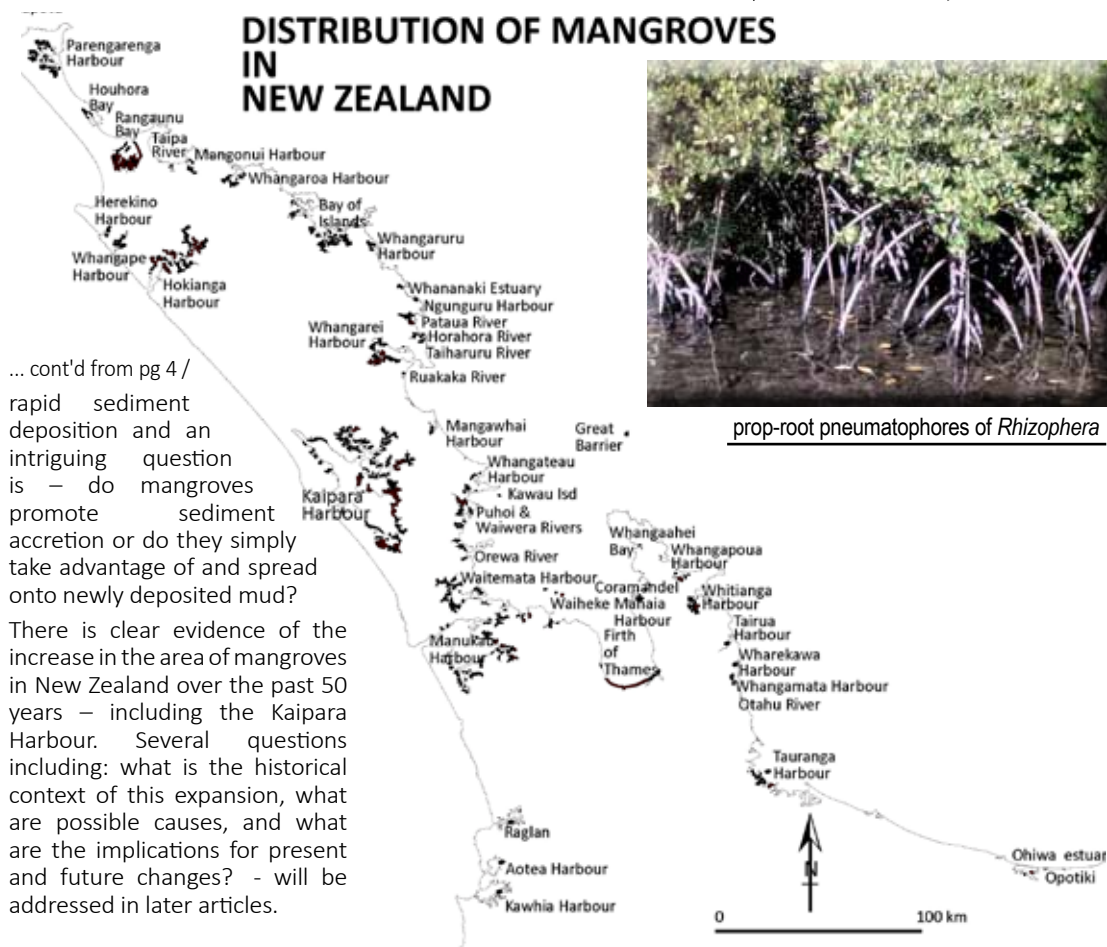


Avicennia
pneumatophores



kneel-root
pneumatophores
of *Bruguiera*

... AND THE KAIPARA (Part 1)



prop-root pneumatophores of *Rhizophora*

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KAIPARA LIFE

- Kaipara Flagship Sites Gain Traction

For those of us lucky enough to live along the shores of the Kaipara one thing that's crystal clear is that the harbour's waters are not. And while they are improving thanks to farmers fencing and planting their shoreline boundaries, tackling the big picture - and by big I mean the harbour's 954,000ha catchment area - is going to take a lot of time, effort and patience.

The old saying 'How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time' pretty much fits the bill and one group who are doing just that is the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group. They have set up a Flagship Site programme around the harbour to encourage and support those

who want to do their bit to help the environment.

Flagship Site status is gained as a result of a commitment to improve work practices and land management with the aim of helping to restore the harbour and its catchment, and to date they have achieved their goal of signing up eight Kaipara farms. Now they have the first Flagship industrial site - Avoca Lime and Fertiliser's operation at Rarewa.

Manager Bryce Manderson said Avoca is very aware of the effect of nutrient runoff and they are now in the process of setting up two wetland systems to minimize this. Bryce says that for him it's not only better for everyone it is also simply a matter of doing the right thing.

Christine Yardley

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Letters from the Old Post Office ... Out in the Garden again

Out in the garden again and wondering just where I could plant *Souvenir de Mademoiselle Leonie de Viennot*. I identified several promising spots, yet they all failed the "need to survive" criteria.

Now, *Souvenir de MLV* is a robust young thing and likes to ramble, romp in fact, for miles. And unfortunately a rose like

this is unlikely to escape the attention of him in the shed (occasionally as we know, him in the great outdoors).

I needed a spot that was not in any access areas, not immediately obvious to a cursory glance, nor within the reach of random acts of weed eating. I am still considering.



However, we live in an historic building and it follows as day follows night that the garden is in need of historic plants. To wit a rose that was brought over with the first pioneers. And *Mademoiselle de Leonie* is such a one.

Leonie de Viennot is a hardy climber, she flowers in late winter and on until the main rose season, the flowers only growing on the old wood. Her blooms are pinkish and loosely double and she is a survivor.

I can just see the pioneer women stooping over their coppers gaining a moment's cheer from the bright splashes of colour. And, no need to prune, just plant and let grow. What a relief, something to enjoy but no care involved after the initial planting.

I will continue to wander the garden plotting and planning, in between cleaning and cooking and marking, of course. I will find a good spot, it just may take some time.

Deb C

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How to look good in front of the camera ... part 2

The most important thing about looking good in front of the camera is mastering your body language. In a photo there is no verbal communication, a print can't talk for you. Everything we understand comes through from the body language of the person in the image. So, I'm going to show you how having good

or stooping - things that we do naturally in everyday life but that don't look good in a photo. If you think 'good posture' when you're being photographed, it will actually help you look taller and slimmer: for men it will broaden your shoulders, creating strength and pride; for women your waist will appear slimmer, increasing your hourglass shape and allure.



posture is the first step to looking your best in an image. In body language terms, good posture shows confidence, it says that we are comfortable where we are, who we are, that the world is our oyster and nothing can stop us.

What is good posture exactly? It's standing/sitting tall, stretching out your torso; engaging those stomach muscles and breathing deeply. These actions will stop you from slouching, hunching

But one of the best changes good posture will do is to lengthen the neck. I'm not talking looking like a giraffe, I mean getting rid of any extra wrinkles and reducing the dreaded double chin (a big plus for some of us!). So, even if you're not going to be photographed full length, think about good posture.

Next month I'll let you into the secret of moving your body weight to trick the camera.

Sarahlee Cobb

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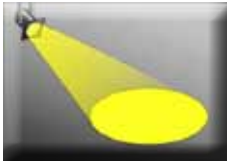
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DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	7.05pm	1.07pm	17th	6.18pm	12.19pm
2nd	7.47pm	1.48pm	18th	7.00pm	1.01pm
3rd	8.06am	2.29pm	19th	7.46pm	1.46pm
4th	8.48am	3.00pm	20th	8.13am	2.38pm
5th	9.33am	3.54pm	21st	9.10am	3.37pm
6th	9.22am	3.43pm	22nd	10.14am	4.43pm
7th	10.19am	4.40pm	23rd	11.23am	5.54pm
8th	11.24am	5.46pm	24th	12.33pm	7.06pm
9th	12.32pm	6.56pm	25th	1.38pm	8.13pm
10th	1.33pm	8.00pm	26th	2.36pm	8.36am
11th	2.24pm	8.28am	27th	3.28pm	9.29am
12th	2.58pm	9.12am	28th	4.15pm	10.16am
13th	3.47pm	9.51am	29th	4.59pm	11.01am
14th	4.24pm	10.28am	30th	5.41pm	11.43am
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Spotlight On ... Gary McMurray

It's always nice to meet a newcomer to our little village and so it was meeting Gary McMurray who has recently purchased what was the Pasley property next to the Paparoa Motor Camp.

Gary grew up as a 'Westie', living in the Henderson Valley. He was always interested in rugby and played for North Harbour Secondary School and Colts. Unfortunately at age 19, playing his very first Senior game, he suffered a serious spinal dislocation.

After six and a half months in hospital, followed by rehabilitation, Gary was left unable to walk. With courage and determination and still a love for the game of rugby, he proudly became a Wheel Black and from 1991 until 2006 took part in three Paralympic Games and four World Championships attaining a bronze medal in both the Athens and Sydney games. He has participated around the world in USA, Japan,



Canada, Sweden and Germany to name a few. Illness eventually forced Gary to retire from his

beloved sport but he has mentored and coached other Wheel Blacks and hopes to do more of this work, sharing his skills and experience with any keen young local athletes as well. In the near future he hopes to join our local Lions Club and play a part in our Paparoa community.

Gary has family in nearby Ararua to support him and he hopes that he has been an inspiration to his young niece who now plays netball for the Canterbury Tactics, along with her brother who plays for Northland ITM and the NZ Sevens team.

So if you see a pleasant young man out and about in his wheelchair, take a moment to introduce yourself and welcome him to Paparoa. PP

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What's Hot

Lions Pioneer Lunch continuing to offer the older generation a chance to keep up or renew old friendships

What's Not



a grocery bag of stinking fly-blown fish dumped at Cutter Bridge

DISASTER TURNS TO DELIGHT IN PAPAROA

This story is about Pat & Dave Hutson from Amberly Beach Christchurch who stayed for a few days at Paparoa Motor Camp.

On Thursday 6th March, while travelling in their ute and caravan from Mangawhai heads, the gearbox on their ute blew up, so they crawled into Cam's mechanical repair shop on the main road in Paparoa. Cam said it would take about a week to fix, so he kindly towed their caravan to the Paparoa Motor Camp.



Over the next few days Dave was down in the village helping Cam with the gearbox on the ute, and Pat visited the village. After a visit to Skelton's dress shop, Robyn offered Pat a ride back to the camp; then the motor camp owners lent her a car to have a look around the

village and Pahi. While at the market, Pat spoke to most of the stall holders, and bought a few of the products on sale. Dave went kayak fishing with Betty and Shion Cairns on Sunday and caught two nice snapper which they had for tea. Cam had the ute ready for the road on Monday afternoon.

Pat and Dave were overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of the people of Paparoa, and wish to extend a very large thank you to all the people involved. PP

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OHS Kapa Haka Group performs at PIONEER LUNCHEON

Tama tū, tama ora. Tama tū, tama mate. The person who is active is healthy.
The person who is inactive, languishes. Tihei mauri ora!

The Otamatea High School Kapa Haka Group is moving from strength to strength; they felt very fortunate and humbled to be invited to perform at the recent Paparoa Pioneer Luncheon by such ardent supporters as the Paparoa Lions Club.

There are 43 dedicated performers in the group who practise on weekend marae stays to learn a full bracket in preparation for the annual Tai Tokerau Festival which is to be held this year at Rodney College on April 15th and 16th. Performers hail from Tinopai, Arapaoa, Paparoa, Taipuha, Maungaturoto, Kaiwaka and Waipu. They will be giving their final rehearsal at the school on April 14th, phone the school if you'd like to attend.

It is 100 years since the beginning of WW1 so the bracket centres

OHS Kapa Haka group on stage at the Paparoa Pioneers Luncheon



around the subject of war. Kapa Haka is great as a form of education. Students have been learning about the Māori Battalion, Māori forms of warfare, and the impact of war on soldiers and their families.

The students have also been lucky enough to visit the four ancestral marae of Te Uri o Hau: Waikaretu Marae in Pouto; Waihaua Marae in Arapaoa; Otamatea Marae in Tanoa; and Oruawharo Marae near Wellsford. There they have seen memorials and heard

stories about servicemen from those marae who served for Aotearoa. The group would like to pay homage to those men who were active in their service to our country.

Ekore mātou e warewaretia.
We will remember them.

PAPAROA BADMINTON

Badminton has started again Thursdays, Paparoa Hall. Year 5-11 students 5.30-7pm; older/experienced students & adults 7pm. All levels of experience welcome. Some racquets available, student \$2/session, adult \$3/session. Another helper is needed to be able to run either session some weeks. Enquiries ph Pete 431 6822.

art

With the flick of a finger ...

Do you remember the magic pads we had as children? You could draw on the grey screen with a stick then whisk the bar across to wipe it out and start all over again. That freedom is back, for grownups, with the tablet.



A little touch-screen tablet has apps that allow you to draw boldly with the touch of a finger, making free, fluid lines and shapes. Pop in a dab of colour, a sweep of shading. Add practical notes and details, a photo for reference. Not happy? Simply 'wind back' and it is

erased. Love it? Hit 'save', and it is in your journal.

This new plaything is great for artists, it is fun to use and very effective. Many artists, even those with experience, are not confident about their drawing skills and find it scary even to start. There's something daunting about being confronted by a fresh sheet of white paper and a pencil: fears of getting it wrong, spoiling it and feeling that you're wasting paper.

Gay Neels showed me her tablet sketches for the "pavlova" she made for last year's Wearable Art Gala, and for her new range of children's costumes: a princess, a pirate? Her drawings are wonderfully lively and expressive, and give a great sense of the possibilities. Gay takes her tablet with her as she travels, and needs simply to pick it up and rapidly sketch ideas as they occur. In her words, "With the flick of a finger ...".

Helen Budd

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ONE OF THEIR FAVOURITE THINGS - the Paparoa Pioneer Luncheon

Paparoa Lions President Ken Chambers filled the position of Master of Ceremonies in his inimitable friendly way and in his welcoming speech thanked the guests for the part they have played over the years in making Paparoa such a vibrant and pleasant place to live.

Terri Donaldson echoed this sentiment when she entertained everyone with her account of volunteering over the years, and her reasons for doing so much in her community. Terri was representing The Kauri Museum where her thespian experience finds many outlets from 'dressing up' to giving lively talks to visitors and she feels that giving in this way is very rewarding indeed.

With around 100 guests, Paparoa Lions members once again ensured that a special time was had by all. Guests with present or past connections with Paparoa had come from far and near to see old friends and to make new ones. The stories told were various and hilarious! The delicious hot meal was provided by CaterKing's Wendy Sheppard and was happily devoured in light of the cooler day and approaching storm. It was very fortunate that Cyclone Lusi



Most senior lady : Ailsa Tee 94 years



stayed away until later that night.

Singled out to receive a small gift were Albert & Glen Wedge, married for 62 years; Bert Jenkins aged 92; and Ailsa Tee aged 94.

In conclusion, The Otamatea High School's Kapa Haka group performed the bracket of songs they will present at the upcoming Northland Secondary Schools competition; they enjoyed the heartfelt applause from their audience. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this successful day!

Longest married -
62 years together:
Albert & Glen Wedge,
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prior to Trevor Hayes

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Most senior gentlemen: (left) Ken Smith 91½ years, and (right) Bert Jenkins 92 years

Both Bert and Ken are Returned Servicemen. Bert is on the Roll of Honour in the Paparoa Hall, and Ken on the Matakoho Roll.

Paparoa Motor Camp



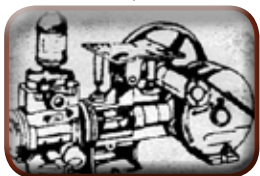
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Community Concerns : Action Plan

The Kaipara District Council recently made provision for local community concerns to be aired at a series of public meetings held throughout the Kaipara area, hosted by Commissioner John Robinson. Attendees voice issues of public interest which are then posted up and prioritised by a show of hands.

The top five issues from each community are taken back to council and incorporated into an action plan. Darlene Lang of the Dargaville office is the coordinator and anyone wishing to receive updates by email should contact Darlene on 0800 727 059.

The coastal communities of Whakapirau, Pahi, and Tinopai in our area, together with Baylys Beach have been dealt with first. A meeting in Paparoa is scheduled to be held on Sunday 13 April. Council will advise by letter.

The major points of interest across our region were remarkably similar. The poor condition of the wharves at both Tinopai and Whakapirau are a top priority, harbour erosion, roading, weed and pest control together with drainage, are common concerns across the community. Whakapirau highlighted unmarked ballast rocks and the uncertain future of the decaying historic butter factory; Tinopai want action

over the state of their public toilets; and Pahi residents want footpaths on at least one side of the road.

These meetings have highlighted to Council that better communication, possibly through the many local community news sheets would keep people better informed on maintenance activities and help to avoid unnecessary misunderstandings. Council have also discovered that their database is in urgent need of overhaul as many people have been left off the mailing lists.

Finally, a big thank you to Christine Yardley for providing detailed notes on the Whakapirau meeting which was attended by approximately 70 residents. PP

**HOOK, LINE
& SINKER**

It seems that wherever you go in the Kaipara at the moment people are still catching plenty of snapper, but Gravy



is expecting it to drop off over the next few weeks. He and Andrew Kenny the plumber went fishing last week, and Andrew caught a 27kg king fish along with a few kahawai and about 30 snapper between three people. He says that the best baits are pilchard and mullet, but the fish are eating anything at the moment. Kayak fishing has seen some reasonable catches of snapper, and some kahawai. People are even catching fish off the point around from Dem's road. So still plenty of good fishing in the Kaipara.

Gravy

Pets in the Valley

Well this month I should call this Vets in the Valley.



I was doing a little research for the recent 100 year celebrations in Ruawai on the history of vets in that area and thought most of it applies to this area as well. Vets didn't really appear in Northland until post World War 2. There were not many vets available at that time. All of them were overseas trained and many of those in NZ worked for the then Agricultural department. In order to establish veterinary services in rural areas a unique to NZ Club System was devised in conjunction with the local dairy companies. At that stage there were 17 Dairy Companies in Northland (we now have three!) and a levy was taken from butterfat production to offer salaries to bring vets into each area.

Things were pretty tough for the early vets, we think our roads are bad now but they were worse then! Communication was also difficult. Nowadays you can't escape people with cell phones but before radio telephones came along getting the message that a vet was needed was not simple. Supplies of drugs and access to laboratory services was also minimal, and no shared afterhours work. In 1963 the Otamatea Vet Club became independent from the dairy companies and provided services to Maungaturoto, Waipu and Mangawhai. Later on the Ruawai Clinic was added. In many areas private veterinary practices took over from Clubs but we still have the club although now it is known as The Vet Centre. In 1964 Massey University started a veterinary degree so finally NZ could produce its own supply of veterinarians.

Janine

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AOTEAROA RAMBLES - Jones Landing

There's no doubt that it's exciting and adventurous to travel to other parts of the world but the best part is always coming home.

On a recent caravan excursion to Bay of Plenty we were again reminded of the beauty which surrounds us in this country of ours, right on our doorstep. Here in our own little village of Paparoa we have a wonderful bush walkway, the river for kayaking, the harbour for boating and fishing, and a caring, friendly community.

Wherever we travel there are new sights and sounds, the lush green native bush

**Free camping
and kayaking on Lake Arapuni
in the Waikato**



**Eye-to-eye
with Kaka at
Sanctuary
Mountain**

and irreplaceable call of birdlife, the sparkling blue ocean waters on a sunlit day, the bountiful farmland scattered with healthy stock and good crops of fruit and veggies, the hills and mountains with wondrous rock formations and stories to tell of ages past, and best of all the freedom to wander among them all with no fear of predators, and no bombs being dropped.

In our two small islands it must be almost impossible to see it all but such fun trying. And so it was that we discovered the hidden gem of Lake Arapuni on the mighty Waikato River not far from Putararuru.

Lake Arapuni was formed by one of four dams erected as part of the power scheme. Our caravanning 'bible' informed us of several free camping areas and some new cycle trails close by. We headed to Jones Landing on a Friday afternoon, delighted to find only two other vans on site so plenty of room to park right on the riverside. There are public toilets, a jetty and a boat ramp, and by nightfall it was obvious that it is a very popular place for families, boaties with skiers in tow, and young people taking a break from the hurly burly of town. The river is delightful, wide, clean and clear, enclosed by beautiful golden cliffs topped by native trees – Australia's Murray River just doesn't compare!

On the opposing bank lay another busy free camp. We visited Sanctuary Mountain just a stone's throw away by car. This amazing wildlife venture has 48kms of predator-proof fencing around the mountain and the bush is truly remarkable and tranquil – up until one comes upon the Kaka 'arena' – a clearing with feeding stations for these wonderful colourful native parrots. They came in droves, chattering and squawking, seeking food or anything to peck. Great photos capture them almost eye to eye. There are many walking tracks and I can imagine spending a whole day there to hear the dawn chorus and evening song.

So anytime you're feeling low, take a moment to dwell on what we have – it's a wonderful country we live in! PP

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Highest Honour Bestowed



from left: Alex White, Ian & Pam Pasley, and Rosalie White

In farewelling Ian and Pam Pasley recently, the Paparoa Lions Club bestowed upon Ian the highest honour possible – a 'Melvin Jones Fellow'. This Lions Clubs International Foundation recognition is awarded for exceptional Dedicated Humanitarian Services and is very special.

Ian was the Inaugural President of the Paparoa Club when it was formed in 1978 and chartered in 1979 by Alex White, then of Petley Road, Paparoa. Now that Ian has retired and moved to Whangarei, the sole remaining Charter Member is Kerry Bonham.

The Club expressed their heartfelt thanks to Ian and Pam for all that they have contributed to our community and wished them the very best in the future.

Ian was somewhat emotional over this honour and reiterated his favourite maxim "If you don't work for your community, very soon you won't have one". PP

MUSEUM MUSINGS ...

The last time this column appeared in the Press we mentioned the significance of kauri timber to the establishment of the early Northland settlements. Crucial as it was to generating income and clearing the land for the development of an agrarian industry, it was comparatively short lived.

Of far greater significance to the continuing growth of the economy was the harvesting of kauri gum. An amazing substance, at first found on the forest floor or a few millimetres beneath, it played a far greater role in our industrial history

Intricately woven kauri gum 'hair' plait



than its mighty host. This versatile material was a vital ingredient in many manufactured products such as paint, varnish, linoleum and combined with stearin, was still being used as the basis of dental plates at least until the late

1960s. Long before European colonisation, Maori prized fresh gum for its chewing qualities.

A visit to the Kauri Museum's gum room will show that like its more ancient relative amber, the natural beauty of our gum lends itself well to the creation of exquisite jewellery and sculpture, some of which is quite surreal. One particular exhibit, a plait of 'kauri silk' is a fascinatingly delicate creation which is a perfect facsimile of blonde human hair.

Today we have somewhat justifiable reservations about the practices of the pioneers who came to Northland in their thousands struggling to survive and thrive in conditions we can no longer imagine. However, gum was their saviour; the lifeblood of a tree became the lifeblood of our society.

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OUT & ABOUT around the District ...

Our condolences to the families of the following who passed away recently.

- Ross Birt of Taipuha
- Connie Rountree (nee Dallas)
- Betty Jarvis (nee Hames)

Congratulations to Glenda and Grant Blythen who both turned 50 recently and to Glenis Walker and Tony McFarland who recently married.

Otamatea High School News - Friday 4th April 5pm is the start of the *OHS 24hour Walk for Life* at Maungaturoto Country Club. A fundraising event for cancer. Contact Nikki on 431 8230

for details. Monday 14th April there is a Kapa Haka performance for primary schools at OHS which is open to the public.

An 'Over 50's' Ladies Marching Team is looking for a few more members. They meet on Tuesdays 4-5 pm at the netball courts, Otamatea Christian School. If you'd like to join contact Cornelia Walker 431 9077

Thanks to contractors Treewise and Kaipara Council for leaving the chippings from the poplars for Keep Paparoa Beautiful to use in future planting projects. Perfect recycling!

New custodians of Pahi Camp Ground and shop Julie Dry and Andrew Kenny will take up the reins from April 1st. They tell us they're looking forward to a new challenge and we wish them well.

In case you don't know there is an excellent movie theatre operating in Dargaville - The Anzac Theatre. They show many good films and have between 2 and 4 screenings each weekday. Go to www.anzactheatre.co.nz or email vernon.woods@anzactheatre.co.nz and ask to be added to their weekly mailing list.

Kaiwaka Community Cinema also promote their screenings online at www.kaiwaka.co.nz/movies. They're showing *Beyond the Edge* and *Mary Poppins* in April, with a special Anzac Day screening of *War Horse*.

Recent visitors to Paparoa Motor Camp- 10 year old Mac Madsen and his dad stayed at the camp overnight. They were cycling from Cape Reinga to Wellington. Mac is fundraising for St. Johns. They were cycling between 60 and 100km each day, and were

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doing very well. To find out more view www.everydayhero.com/macsmission.

Community Dinner- The Sport & Recreation Assn committee will be holding the next community dinner at the pavilion in May. Watch this space.

High praise for Linking Hands - Thea Simays of Pahi Rd is singing the praises of Linking Hands shuttle service. They proved invaluable when husband Peter broke his shoulder recently. PP

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In The Kaipara Garden ...

As I write this I await Cyclone Luci and her possible results. Yes the rain is trying to fulfil the predictions of getting started by 7.30pm - but here's hoping it does actually produce something more helpful than the present windblown drops. All of us hope for a welcome filling of the tanks and rejuvenated pastures without too much wind damage.

One little bunch of creatures is safe from the storm at our house. After voicing my concerns at the lack of monarch caterpillars, a friend mentioned that they thought the caterpillars were being killed by a type of wasp. So my daughter and I have been rescuing caterpillars and feeding them swan plant leaves indoors. The first few are now in chrysalis form. A great result, but unfortunately not enough to make a huge difference to the general population of butterflies. We have been saving some of the eggs and tiny caterpillars and it is surprising how quickly they grow and how much they eat. Still none making it on the plant though.

Unfortunately the common white butterflies are still with us, so winter crops of cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower seedlings will need protection from these hungry caterpillars with nets or derris dust.

Here's hoping, after this weekend we will be able to get planting again for the winter flowers and vegetables without fear of emptying the water tank!

Stella

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Allo Allo tres bon!

Otamatea Repertory's really slick revival of the hilarious British TV comedy *Allo Allo* paid off for the audience last month. The short season deserved better audiences as the show was fast paced, had great characterisation by the cast and a never ending slew of jokes. The performers milked the humour and innuendo for all it was worth. Fake salami, a stuffed cockatoo and blow-up mannequins providing endless laughs.

Capturing and sustaining a quasi-French accent is no mean feat for the actors. Sam Hartles as the British bobby *Crabtree* succeeded brilliantly with a reverse French accent.

Peter Flower as *René* the harried café proprietor carried the show with non-stop antics that barely faltered. He was well supported by a strong group of regular ORT members.

The cast obviously enjoyed putting on this well-known show. Once again ORT have proven their ability to entertain.

News from Community Connexions - Arty Farties Inc.

The A&P Show was fantastic! Well done, children. Well done, everybody. The Show is constantly inspiring – age is no barrier. It should be put in everyone's diary as a "must go" – 1st weekend in February every year!

Water has been a real problem and Arty Farties Inc. garden has not had summer veggies because of this. Our concrete tank has developed a major leak, so if anyone has a spare tank or any ideas on fixing the leak then we would be glad to hear from them.

A big thanks to the Fire Brigade for supplying water in the emergency.

Great news – NorthTec is going into Hook Road doing horticultural courses, with our Heidelind as tutor again – WOW!

Phone Miriam on 431 7106, Hook Road Community Parish.

Cheers from all at Arty Farties



PAHI FISHING COMP SATURDAY 12th APRIL 2014

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Anyone is welcome to enter this competition. Get your tickets on the day or from Paparoa Hotel, Paparoa GAS or Maungaturoto Auto Centre.

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Motoring Matters

You may remember Morris the Labrador who was very apprehensive about a 'landcrab' which he feared he might have to share his bed with. Well, all turned out to the good. To his great relief, it actually was a Morris 1800, a nice blue one with comfortable seats that look very inviting.

One thing that puzzled him was its name, until, one day he was dozing in the sun in front of the car, and, through half closed eyes he could make out the shape of a crab's face. Now he is certain he will not have to share his bed with it, but it would be nice if he were allowed to sleep on that big wide comfy back seat!

But, that's a forlorn hope, his master will not allow Morris in the Morris 1800, just the same as the Morris ute and the Morris van. Ah well, some things never change.

Graham Roberts



PCDT grant provides new books

Paparoa Library would like to acknowledge and thank the Paparoa County Depot Trust for their grant of 2013. They have, over many years, supported the library and made it possible for us to provide new large print books for our readers. The balance of this year's selection has arrived and will be on the shelves as soon as they can be processed. The staff hope this year's selection will provide the same reading pleasure as in previous years.



Paparoa Community Library Committee



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Battered Oyster	\$1.50	6 Chicken Nuggets	\$3.50
Battered Scallop	\$1.50		

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Art Group Paparoa 1st Sun in month, Helen Budd's Studio, ph 431 6192
Art Studio, Ruawai Mon 10-12noon; Tue 7-9pm, ph Frances 439 2554
Arty Farties • Summer Markets 9am-noon, opposite Village Green
 • Thur/Fri in the 'Tile Shed' ph Anne on 431 6229 to enquire
 • Crafty Kids Club alt Saturdays 10-2pm, Rm 5 Paparoa Primary School
 • Beginners Patchwork Group, Mon 7pm, Te Pahi River Drive
Badminton Thurs, years 5-11, 5.30pm; older/experienced 7pm, Paparoa Hall
Crafternoons 1st & 3rd Wed in month, 1-4pm, Tinopai Hall ph Lyn 431 6090
Exercise to Music Tue 10.30am Paparoa Hall \$5 ph Rose 431 7418
Farmers' Market Fortnightly Sat 9-noon, Village Green Apr 5, 19, May 3, 17, 31
Fire Force 1st & 3rd Monday in month 6.30pm Depot Rd ph Cohan 431 6668
Gardening Club 2nd Wed of month, ph Lea 431 6296
Grey Power Last Wed in month, 2pm, Hall next to Resthome, M'gto
Indoor Bowls Paparoa Hall ph Loraine 431 7290 or Robyn 431 7306
Kaiwaka Movies 4 Apr *Beyond the Edge* 7.30pm; 6 Apr *Mary Poppins* 2pm, 25 Apr *War Horse* 7.30pm
Library Mon 1.30-4.30pm, Wed 10am-12noon, Thu 1.30-4.30pm, Fri 9.30am-1pm
 open all Farmer's Market days - alternate Saturdays 9.30-1pm
Line Dancing Thurs 10.30am Paparoa Hall ph Rose 431 7418
Mainly Music Wed 9.30am Paparoa Comm Church, ph Rebecca 431 7550
Music Makers 2nd Tues of month 7.30pm @ Cruiser Bar & Grill
Northtec Sustainable Rural Development Thursdays, Paparoa Community Church, Hook Rd, ph Heidelind 021 0230 6465 / Miriam 431 7106
Otamatea Quilters 1st Tues of month 7-9pm & 3rd Mon 10-12noon, Paparoa Hall ph Lyn 09 439 2262
Pahi Fishing Comp Sat 12 Apr, 7am Pahi Clubrooms (see details page 14)
Paparoa Community Church 10.30am every Sunday, Hook Road
Paparoa Lions Dinner Meetings 3rd Mon in month 6.30pm, Paparoa Hall
Paparoa Playcentre Tue & Fri 9.30-12noon Visitors welcome ph Tina 021 033 5128
Paparoa Plunket Society Coffee Group 1st Tue/month, 10am Franklin Rd
Paparoa Primary School Term 1 Jan 28-Apr 17; Term 2 May 5-July 4; Term 3 July 21-Sep 26; Term 4 Oct 13-Dec 11
Paparoa St Marks Anglican Church 2nd & 4th Sundays, 10am, Hook Rd
Paparoa Toy Library Wed 10.30-1pm, Paparoa Comm Church, Hilery 431 7330
Rugby - JMB 4-14 years, Thur 4.30pm Paparoa Showgrounds ph 431 7028
Scrap Metal Collection ph Ken 431 7443, Pete 431 6822 or Vickie 431 6432
Sports Pavilion - Functions venue, ph Vickie Owens 431 6432 for bookings
St Mary's Catholic Church 10am Wed, 6pm Sat, Maungaturoto
Tai Chi Tues 11am, Sports Pavilion, Showgrounds ph Shirley 431 6408
Table Tennis Tues 7.30pm, Sports Pavilion \$2 Pete 431 6822
Tennis Adult Sessions Fridays 1pm, Junior Saturdays 9.30 & 10.45am ph Sue Skelton for more details 431 6224
Ukelele Players Beginners / experts, Thu 5.15pm Matakoho, ph Dennise 431 7012
Waka Ama Tues & Thur evenings 5pm, Sunday 10am, Pahi Domain
Yoga for Body & Mind Paparoa Sports Pavilion Tues 12.30pm & Thur 5.30pm. Matakoho Hall Mon 11.30am & Wed 4pm; M'gto Otamatea High School Tues 4.30pm (see article back page). ph Jenny 09 280 9694 / 021 114 3370
 PLEASE UPDATE US WITH YOUR DETAILS: paparoapress@orcon.net.nz PP

Hukatere School Reunion
a huge success

Cyclone Lusi didn't prevent more than 120 past pupils of Hukatere School from gathering for their Saturday 15 March reunion. They came from as far away as the Gold Coast and when Mr. Fay – the only teacher able to attend – read out a Roll Call of names of every family which had had children attend the School, from start to finish, there were only a couple of families not represented on the day – an excellent muster. Hukatere School opened in 1897 and closed in 1977.

The oldest past pupils, Maurice Carrick and Jean Mockett (nee Hammond) cut the reunion cake. Both visitors and organisers agreed the day to have been a huge success and the spruced up hall now stands ready for more gatherings!

Following this experience we would recommend any school to have a reunion; some of the

stories were not to be repeated, but the looks on people's faces when they met up with old friends, past girl-boy friends, and community members was something else!



Past pupils at Hukatere School reunion

It was a pity that some people had left before the weather cleared enough for photos to be taken in front of the old school. The building is presently in the process of being renovated as a private home and, coincidentally, is owned by the youngest ex-pupil, Craig Hamlin.

Shona Hamlin

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Healthline - 24 hour service..... 0800 611 116**HOSPICE KAIPARA** Dargaville Hospital 09 439 3330**KAIPARA DISTRICT COUNCIL** Helpline 0800 727 059
Mangawhai Office..... 0800 100 388**LINKING HANDS** Health Shuttle Service, Maungaturoto 09 431 8969**LIONS CLUB PAPAROA** Secretary Alistair Banks 09 431 6373**MAUNGATUROTO PHARMACY** 09 431 8045**MAUNGATUROTO REST HOME** 09 431 8696**OTAMATEA COMMUNITY SERVICES** Community House 09 431 9080**PAPAROA LIBRARY** Membership free-of-charge, Wheelchair access
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Registered Drainlayers

The Arapohue Show

After collecting ribbons at the Paparoa A&P Show, Rosalie Bakker was enjoying success at Arapohue. She has a Dexter cattle stud along Paparoa Station Road and encourages youngsters to groom and lead her cattle as they compete in local shows.



Seen here are Simone Sidwell, Michelle Clark and Arjan Pedersen

with their prizewinning cattle charges. That's a lot of muscle to have under control, congratulations!

Yoga: Paparoa - and Jenny

Jenny lives in Paparoa with husband John and their three children, they moved here from Auckland four years ago. Jenny started her journey in Yoga with her grandmother at age 12 and in the past 7 years has practiced under the guidance of hubby John (who learned in Sri Lanka,) and more recently with teacher Gabrielle Shantidevi at the Ashram school.

Jenny believes Yoga is an excellent vehicle to restore wellness to the body, calm the mind, connect with the breath and deepen the experience of life as we become present with each moment and live life to the full. "I teach all who come to honour their own unique body, giving the breath first focus, and then progressing at their own pace through the easy movements".



Yoga : Paparoa is progressing well. Wednesday classes at Matakohē and Thursday at Paparoa are fully booked for this term, but there's room at Paparoa Sports Pavilion on Tuesdays 12.30-2pm.

If you've not tried Yoga before, it is gentle, very relaxing and safe for all bodies. Next term, Jenny and Gabrielle Shantidevi will run a *Yoga : Back to Basics* workshop in Paparoa on Tues 29th April and Thurs 1st May – two days of introductory yoga in a safe, welcoming environment. Limited places available, ph Jenny 09 280 9694 or 021 114 3370.

Timetable changes for Term 2 are: Monday Matakohē 11.30-1pm; Paparoa 5.30-7pm. Tuesday Maungaturoto 4.30-6pm. Wednesday Paparoa 12.30-2pm, Matakohē 4.30-6pm. Thursday Maungaturoto 11-12.30, and Paparoa 5.30-7pm.

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5 Questions for ... Graham Roberts

Graham and Freda Roberts often have a car for sale outside their Paparoa Valley Road home signalling Graham's lifelong love affair with motor vehicles. He writes *Motoring Matters* for PP.

How long have you been in Paparoa? 5 years.

Where did you come from? Most recently from Gulf Harbour but originally from the UK in 1974.

Why did you choose Paparoa as a place to live? We were disenchanted with Gulf Harbour and had owned a forestry block at Marohemo so we knew the area. Friends had moved here about 5 years before and we had visited a number of times. We like the scenery and the people. It is the prettiest village in NZ!

What were you doing before you came to Paparoa? After a 2-year stint in the RAF in Singapore I joined Rootes Group as an administrative trainee. That gave me retail experience and I ended up doing prototype testing for the Hillman Imp, driving at speed on open roads in Scotland. I had various positions as a factory rep with Hillman, Humber and Sunbeam vehicles and have the distinction of rolling a Hillman Imp. We were testing at Snetterton Circuit in Norfolk in a 48-hour trial for the Chamberline Cup. I rolled it and carried on which saw me interviewed on TV.

What are you doing now? Retired and I have really enjoyed the chance to get involved with the community through PPI and Paparoa Press.



Graham with Rosie