



MAY 2015

## Sports & games fun afternoon



Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> was a busy day in Paparoa and surrounding areas - with the Northland by-election, Pahi fishing competition, Rotary auction, and the inaugural Family Sports & Games afternoon held at the showground.

Despite all the other events, about 80 people participated in the fun activities including obstacle course, rippa rugby, softball, tennis, table tennis, tai chi, egg throwing, and sack races. A tug of war and lolly scramble finished the afternoon, and led onto a delicious bbq and hot chips provided by PPI and the Lions caravan.

This was a great example of many local groups working together - Paparoa Sports and Recreation Association, Paparoa Lions, PPI, JMB, Paparoa Motor Camp, Youth Group and NKA - to create a fun afternoon for adults and children alike.

Well done Paparoa!



## Many eyes on river bank

Representatives from KDC, NRC and NZ Transport Agency met with Progressive Paparoa Inc recently to discuss a common approach to the development of the riverbank adjacent to Paparoa village. The gathering was coordinated by Adrian Birkbeck, Parks and Reserves Officer from KDC. He said it was important that everybody with an interest in the area between The Landing and the Village Green was on the same page. As NZTA is the land owner there are certain procedures that have to be followed. However NZTA has delegated day-to-day authority to KDC.

This actually means the community will get more input from KDC in the way of weed control and provision of plants. PPI is keen to develop a landscape plan for the area which can be implemented in stages. NRC have agreed to include the possibility of a boardwalk on the riverbank as part of long term flood protection measures.

PPI deputy chair Graham Murray said that while it is disappointing our voluntary efforts won't be able to continue, it is really good to get all the parties on board. The riverbank is the one blight on a really attractive area.

Another plus is that we won't be in danger of running foul of OSH requirements. PP

## Vegetables at the Farmers' Market

If you haven't already spotted it, fresh vegetables are once again readily available at the regular two weekly Paparoa Farmers' market. Ali and Mai Ling travel down from Dargaville and all their produce is sourced from other local growers who regularly sell at the Whangarei growers' market. Fresh eggs are back too, as Chum Jones will replace Evan Murphy who is unable to continue as a stallholder.

All the other stalls are there: plants, honey, seafood, chocolate, olive oil, flowers, fruits, soaps, pickles, sauces and chutneys, meats and bbq bacon and egg sandwiches, with buskers to entertain and add to the atmosphere.

See you at our next market on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May! PP



The Eccentric Ukes entertain



Ali & Mai Ling's plentiful stall



## Paparoa Press PP

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

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## Valuable feedback received on Lifestyle Village proposal

The Steering Committee for Paparoa's Lifestyle Village has received most welcome feedback from the questionnaire it recently sent to the community.

Some of the responses were from the Pioneer Lunch attendees but a pleasing number of the wider community have also taken time to respond.

Forty-five percent of respondents answered 'yes' or 'possibly' to the question "If a Lifestyle Village existed now in Paparoa would you consider purchasing a unit?" Committee Chair, Graham Taylor said that this is an encouraging number and should be taken in the context that many senior people have already made arrangements for their later years. Interestingly a majority of people thought

the minimum age should be either 55 or 60 years indicating a preference for being able to enter the village while still relatively young.

Graham wished to thank all those who responded with their answers and valuable comments. He said there is a huge amount for the Steering Committee to consider, but all information from the community is valued. The committee hopes to have a Scheme Plan available within a few weeks so more detailed costings can be done. It is hard to imagine what the concept will look like without lines drawn on a plan. PP



## NRC works to reduce flooding

Recent work by Northland Regional Council on the bed of the Paparoa Stream should reduce the flooding problem that occasionally plagues Paparoa Village.

A considerable quantity of debris and gravel has been removed from the stretch of river approaching The Landing and also further upstream above Skelton's Bridge. NRC's Nick Gordon, River Management Engineer, met with community representatives and explained that the preventative work should help alleviate flooding.

Debris in the river slows the flow and catches other debris which could impede the water getting away. Any vertical

structure such as tree trunks will catch debris while low bushes and flaxes will bend with the flow and not cause a problem. Nick said he was keen to work with the Paparoa community to find solutions to the flooding problems and recognised the beautification efforts undertaken.

There had been concerns that the pohutukawa trees planted by Keep Paparoa Beautiful had been damaged, but the contractor has already replaced them. PP

## Cherry trees arouse passions

Last month's exposure of the village cherry trees being potentially an invasive pest species has sparked a fair degree of community interest.



An online search has revealed that the Taiwan Cherry (*Prunus Campanulata*) is also known as the Tui Tree due to the fondness tuis have for its nectar.

There are other varieties of flowering cherries that do not seed but not this one. It has been suggested that the variety we have is sterile but this has yet to be proven. The seedlings sprouting in nearby gardens would suggest otherwise.

In order to discuss the issue and sort out the facts, PPI has invited Sara Brill, Northland Regional Council Bio-Security Officer to speak at a **community gathering at 1pm on Thursday 14th May**. This will be held at the **Village Green carpark** so the trees in question can be viewed. All are welcome to voice their opinions and hopefully come up with some answers.

The community can be assured that no action will be taken until there are clear facts confirming the status of these trees. PP

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## Matakohe School fundraiser bike trail and horse trek

Matakohe School's fundraising weekend on March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> was organised by year 7 and 8 children and their families. Year 7 and 8 continue the story ...

Earlier in the week Craig Hamlin and his helpers spent a couple of days preparing a track. Starting at the back of the Paparoa Showgrounds, this track was used on the Saturday for a horse trek and a bike trail ride on Sunday.

This was the first time we have had a horse trek. We had over 20 riders from as far afield as Whangarei and all riders really enjoyed their day. Janine Hames led the horses.

On Sunday we had over a hundred bike riders who came from as far north as Kaitiaki, and as far south as Auckland. There were bikes of all shapes and sizes. We also had a kids track which was very popular.

We were very pleased with the whole weekend and a major reason we had such a good weekend was all the community help we received.

Over term 1 our whole school focus was "Being a Good Community Member". This weekend reinforced the belief that we live in a community with many helpful and kind



hearted community members. We would like to thank everyone who supported us especially the following people: Janine Hames for leading the horses, Craig Hamlin, Wenzel Wech, Andrew Hames and Taylor Blythen for preparing the track; Andrew Hames, Mr & Mrs Wintle, the Leaf Family, the A&P Showgrounds Committee and Mr Wellwood for letting us use their properties for our track.



### And, as reported by horse trek leader Janine Hames:

The Saturday horse trek saw 25 riders, ranging from age 8 to 68, set off from the A&P grounds and not return for nearly 4 hours!

Some of the younger ones did a shorter circuit, but most went the whole way. Riding through Andrew Hames' property we had some great views of the Kaipara. As a bonus there was a mown track to follow and most of the gates were open for us. There were some lovely stands of bush returning through Wintle's property.

We returned to the start with no mishaps, although some riders were a bit stiff on dismounting! What a great trek with a lovely late lunch provided by the school on our return.

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## Everybody's Reading Room

*Everybody's Reading Room* is a new play inspired by actual events in Kaipara during World War 1.

Alfred Gregory was a Dargaville draper, Quaker, and anti-militarist (as they were known in those days - nowadays we would call him a peace activist). He was imprisoned for sedition when he refused to display a military service registration poster in 1916.

I first learned of Gregory's stand through an historical article in the Kaipara Lifestyler in 2007. The experiences of wartime conscientious objectors like Archie Baxter and others who refused to fight have been well documented, but Gregory's story is practically unknown.

I have taken extensive literary license with the facts, fictionalising his story and all the characters, but the core of the plot is based around his act of civil disobedience during wartime. The play explores conscience and ideology, and is haunted throughout by the ghost of Anglo/Irish philosopher and playwright,

George Bernard Shaw, who also opposed the war, though for pragmatic, rather than pacifist, reasons.

I am in contact with one of Gregory's granddaughters, and members of the family are coming to see the play.

The play is recommended for audiences aged 13 and up, directed by Alistair Williams and produced by Platform Thirteen, a non-profit community theatre group.

Its cast of nine has been in rehearsal since February.

Cast and production team come from an area that encompasses Dargaville, Waipu, Wellsford and all points in between.

The play opens on 30 May in Dargaville, with the following weekend, 6-7 June at ORT Maungaturoto, and 13-14 June at Forum North, Whangarei.

Sheri O'Neill



## What's wrong and What's Right? Each of us must DECIDE



## EVERYBODY'S READING ROOM

A Kaipara crisis of conscience 1915-1919

Written by Sheri O'Neill

Directed by Alistair Williams

Produced by Platform Thirteen

Dargaville Little Theatre 30-31 May

Otamatea Repertory Theatre 6-7 June

Capitaine Bougainville Theatre 13-14 June

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## Coastguard Summer Report

Coastguard North Kaipara hopes you all enjoyed the great summer, Easter and Anzac Day. From the number of vessels on our harbour during Easter it appears that fishing was good. It's been a good summer for our unit with only two Police 'Ops', of which one was strangely not an on-water rescue. In addition we assisted with two Samaritan calls. This attests to the skills of boaties in our neck of the harbour.

In May Coastguard NZ holds its Mayday Appeal. All moneys collected in our district are for our use to cover training and equipment, etc.

Thanks to the generosity of Skeltons Drapery and The Kauri Museum our collection buckets will be at both venues throughout May. We welcome and thank you for your support.

Through winter, we plan to have training on a coastguard rescue boat out on the water. If you spot us, give us a wave!

Walter Smith

*Please support our Mayday appeal*

## Letters from the Old Post Office

### Cats n' roses ...

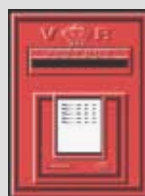
Please note the allusion to the well known rock group and, like the musical mix of nice and nasty, so too is the cat n' rose mix.

Some of you may remember a previous article that featured the cat chastising the dog in the orchard. Unfortunately for the dog, the feline's activities have taken a turn for the worse. The cat is a little like Murray Ball's Horse, in that he is large, black and takes no prisoners. He has also taken a liking to the various rose bushes that lurk in the garden. He looks particularly alluring sunning himself next to the pale pink, beautifully scented but sharply thorned Souvenir de la Malmaison. He practises his "relaxed and benevolent" pose until the dog is lulled into a false sense of safety. I am sure he even manages a little whistling snore. All is at peace.

Unfortunately, the dog has the memory of a goldfish and wanders a little too close to both rose and cat. The resulting noise has been known to bring the man in the shed out of the shed quite quickly. Aspersions are thrown at cat n' rose before "man briefly out of shed" retires grumbling into the working gloom. The dog retires to lick her wounds, the cat to nick another notch in his belt and I am left to snigger quietly to myself.

Cats n' roses rule ...

Deb C



## In Sound and Silence

Something that has never happened before in Paparoa is going to occur on Sunday, 24th May. For some, it may be a step out of the comfort zone, for others, a feeling of total trust and rightness in the timing. 'A Journey Through the Chakras In Sound and Silence' is the name given by Helen Barnes to a workshop that she is running with Jenny Gilbert-Longdon.

Helen has lived in the Whakapirau area for 3 years now, and is a popular spiritual healer both in Auckland and around the globe, with several books under her belt and even an App.

For those who are interested in Helen's work, her website is [www.keyoflifemysteries.com](http://www.keyoflifemysteries.com) which provides information about the nature of healing, and her journey to this place, as well as workshop information.

The workshop will be held at the Paparoa Sports Pavilion, between 10am and 5pm, and is designed to explore a deeper connection with your authentic self, to nourish and delight your soul. Using a mix of yoga, and Helen's healing sound techniques, this promises to be an event to be remembered.

For more information or to register, please contact either:

Helen 021 938 024  
or Jenny 021 114 3370

## Justices of the Peace

We are very well served in this area by these community-minded people. Our thanks to:

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## Sacred Soul Circle United in Love, Joy, Truth and Oneness

Sacred Soul Circle is a monthly gathering of meditation, healing, sacred teaching and co-creation.

The circle will take place on the 2nd Sunday of each month, starting on Sunday 10 May

from 10am to 12noon at Marohemo Hall.

For more details, contact Helen 021 938-024  
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## A Journey Through the Chakras In Sound and Silence

Sunday 24 May 10am to 5pm. Paparoa

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and sacred sound  
delightfully and respectfully woven together

Facilitated by Jenny and Helen  
for details of this workshop  
contact Jenny 021 114 3370 or Helen 021 938 024



## Linking Hands - Who are we, what do we do?

We are primarily a Health Shuttle Service, taking people who need transport to health related appointments in Dargaville, Whangarei, Warkworth, and to places in between. As we are getting busier all the time, it's imperative to book well in advance whenever possible.



Volunteers in their new shirts funded by Lions Paparoa, Marsden & Waipu.

Although we are a free service, we rely on your donations to keep this much needed service running. All of our drivers are volunteers, and without these great folk, there would be no Linking Hands. If you are interested in volunteering, give us a call!

We have three computers for public access (internet is \$2 per half-hour), and the 'Book Nook' where we sell second hand books, jigsaws, DVDs, CDs and so on, with money raised going towards our running costs.

Based in Maungaturoto, we have a shuttle van (with wheelchair hoist) and a Mitsi Mirage car available for transport. A third vehicle is usually available, but is off the road and needs to be replaced. There are also vehicles in both Mangawhai and Ruakaka.

Our office is at 131 Hurndall St, Maungaturoto, and we open 10am-4pm, Monday to Friday.

Our AGM will be held on Monday 6th July, 7pm at the Linking Hands office.

Do call in to the office and say hi, or phone us 431 8969 if you ever have any queries.

## From our family to yours

In 2010 our family, then consisting of two little boys, my husband and I, migrated from Auckland to Pahi, our first foray into living rurally.

This eye-opening account will be an introduction to living sustainably and economically, thereby helping other families to cut down on costs and chemicals.

Moving from 800 sq metres in Massey to 13 acres was always going to be a mental hurdle. Transforming bare land to edible wilderness was a physical one. Our ethos from day one was - and is - to live as guardians of the land, kaitiaki. To restore and enhance this environment with respect and gratitude for the abundance that the earth strives to provide. And we have a long way to go in our little block.

With the arrival of our third son in 2011, the ordinary trials and tribulations of daily life took precedence. An overwhelming sense that this project was too large put the groundwork on hold. Looking back, we realise we needed to see it piece by piece, not as a single project. A lot of basic learning was done, the best kind of experience, hard won through failure.

Watching has been the best lesson - watching the seasons, the patterns, the animals, and waiting for the right moments, waiting to plant, waiting to sow. Living urban we had lost knowledge that rural dwellers might have not, but it feels good to re-learn the old ways, simple and true.

Our best decision was to choose Paparoa as home; the support of all those we have met has been warm, and our need for genuine community has been filled - another thing to re-learn, as sadly you do not find this in Auckland's mad rush.

In light and love, from my family to yours -Jenny



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## Paparoa A&P Show President's Report North Kaipara Agricultural Association (NKA)

What a wonderful year it has been - filled with challenges and solutions, innovation and inspiration, building new relationships and rebuilding past ones. Thanks to everyone who helped host the hugely successful Paparoa A&P Show.

### OUR GREATEST ASSET - OUR PEOPLE

To our committee and our coordinators who have all risen to the challenge; to our sponsors and supporters without whom we would struggle to continue; to our volunteers who pitch in to get things done; to our leaseholders, Team Roping, Arty Farties and Ararua Pony Club who help keep the grounds in order throughout the year; and to the Paparoa Sports and Recreation Association for their continued management and maintenance of our sports pavilion - thanks to all of you! Special thanks to our secretary Elaine Christie and treasurer Gary Christie for almost single-handedly building a platform on which we can ensure we remain relevant, not only to our Show but also to our community..

### 97 A&P SHOWS IN NZ

As time, energy and commitment are limited resources, we need to work smarter to ensure we remain one of the more successful shows in NZ.

Our constitution is no longer relevant and needs to be updated into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We have started a review and will call a Special General Meeting when we have drafted a new constitution that reflects our objectives and goals more accurately.

Our NKA structure is being realigned to better suit today's constraints. A small Executive Committee comprising the President, Secretary, Treasurer and one or two invited committee members will direct the Association. We will retain general committee members to provide us with information, experience and views from our long serving members, and to be a training ground of support and advice to new serving committee members.

With a new constitution, new structure and a solid platform to work from, I believe we will be in a position not only to repeat our very successful Paparoa A&P Show, but to build onto it moving forward.

The right people, great ideas, dedication and a 'can do' attitude brought a very positive financial result this year, not just to our show but also to the community at large.

Show attendance, competitor numbers, exhibitor displays and trade sites were all up on previous shows. More activities created fun and entertainment. In turn sponsors and supporters gained excellent coverage and positive feedback.

Capital items such as signs, website, painting, gazebos and the retaining wall, offer us security of assets for the next 10 years. We can now allocate funding to other areas in need of attention. Repairs, maintenance and development are ongoing. Our aim is to manage the NKA Showground to benefit both the Paparoa A&P Show and the community.

### Our 140<sup>th</sup> Show

This journey started 139 shows ago. In this ever changing world will we still be here in another 139 shows? We are in the entertainment industry and compete with events, festivals and functions happening near and far. With a new constitution as our vehicle, a new structure as our driver and a solid platform as our map, I see no reason why we shouldn't be.

This area has many wonderful people and attracts even more wonderful people, which in turn creates a vibrant and social community. With theirs, yours and our help, the NKA and the Paparoa A&P show will continue to flourish.

Gerard Sullivan



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## White Rock Gallery

Diversity and variety are wonderful given that our tastes can differ so very much ... I mean, not everyone likes green pants with red shoes, fruit with their ice cream (a waste of perfectly good fruit and perfectly good ice cream as far as I am concerned!) or bed cushions, no matter how beautifully they are made.

We are very lucky to have almost 30 contributing artists at White Rock, with a cross section of styles and mediums represented. It's been exciting to see the range of works brought in recently in anticipation of the next gallery refresh, due at the end of April.

We have beautiful lifelike landscapes alongside bold and lively abstracts in the painting department, and the jewellery and craftwork are a wonderful mixed bag again. I think we can safely say there is something for everyone out there looking for a piece of gorgeous local art or craftwork.

Pop in and see for yourself, and remember, it is an ever changing landscape (yes, pun intended ... sorry, couldn't resist) so if you don't see something you love this time, do call again, it just might not have arrived yet.

Jillaine Murray

## Brilliant night as ORT hosts internationally-acclaimed band

The *Jews Brothers Band* recently brought some top-class entertainment to the Kaipara when it kicked off its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary NZ Tour at the Maungaturoto Country Club.

Hosted by Otamatea Repertory Theatre, in conjunction with Arts on Tour New Zealand, the band played to a lively audience in April.

Sounding better than ever with Hersh on accordion, Nigel Gavin on guitar, one-handed saxophonist Neill Duncan, Peter Scott on double bass, and chanteuse extraordinaire, Linn Lorkin providing lead vocals and melodic, they certainly gave us value for money with a full two hours of great music – and an encore.

They are a charming band with an obvious fondness for their audience; their toe-tapping, hand-clapping repertoire

transported many of the audience back to ORT's 2009 production of 'Fiddler on the Roof'.

Fortunately there were sufficient numbers attending on the night to pay for this internationally acclaimed

band. However, the question begs asking - "What do we have to do to entice people away from their cosy chairs and television sets?"

This is the third year that Otamatea Repertory Theatre has hosted an 'Arts on Tour' event, and they always deliver top-class events at an affordable price.

Maura Flower, ORT



Spotted in Paparoa ...  
notice on back of caravan  
passing through the village

### Adventure Before Dementia

*The trouble with  
the rat race is ...  
even if you win,  
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Lily Tomlin

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## Nepal - a country of contrasts very old and very modern!

Kathmandu is a crowded city with the many narrow streets filled with overloaded bicycles (many with trailers), rickshaws and more commonly, motorbikes, scooters, cars (many very nice modern ones), buses and decorated TATA trucks. Traffic moves very slowly most of the time and is controlled at bigger intersections by brave policemen standing in the middle. Speed is also kept down by the many huge potholes. *[This piece written prior to the recent earthquake, see note below]*

The air is filled with dust from the road and building sites, as well as from pollution.



Ancient temples date from the 1500s with intricate wooden carving. One of the temples incorporated both Hindu and Buddhist religion. A pity more of the world could not follow this example of the acceptance of

others' beliefs in one place.

After a 7 hour journey of 200k on interesting roads with irregular driving speeds, we were delighted to escape the city and head off trekking in the Annapurna region.

The first day began with an uphill climb on slate steps and paths to Damphus. The villages on the very steep slopes amazed me. Every bit of land is used, with stone walls around each terraced garden. As it was very early spring, many gardens had yet to be ploughed and planted but the potato, peas, bok choy and

wheat were well cared for.

My son, Ian, had a go at ploughing with two buffalo and a wooden plough but unfortunately the buffalo did not understand English and stopped to eat a tree! The local farmer laughed and then showed how it was done.

At nearly 2000 metres up, we walked through villages



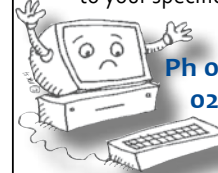
Carrying loads of rice or cement or rocks up the pathways - no roads here

and forest with flowering red rhododendrons. That day we finished our walk by 1pm and were able to spend all afternoon to chat and play games at the town of Potana.

Three more days of trekking took us through many towns, great tea house lodges with solar heated hot showers and flush toilets and occasional good views of Annapurna and Machhapuchhre (Fish tail, sacred mountain). we saw teams of 8 donkeys and ponies with elaborate headgear and bells around their necks carrying large gas

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bottles, cement and rice up steep stairs. We saw many school children all in very tidy uniforms skipping up steep stairs of stone with ease on the way to school.

There were trekkers from many different countries with Sherpas carrying huge loads, even one Sherpa carrying the young daughter of a trekking family. The heavy loads were carried using a strap around the forehead as well as the usual shoulder straps. Quite elderly people were also frequently seen carrying huge loads with ease up and down the hills.

All in all what a privilege to be able to visit a great country and meet some of their people.

Stella Clyde

*Stella reports that Annapurna area has been badly affected by the recent earthquakes and has concern for those they met. We extend our sympathy and support to the people of Nepal at this time.* PP

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## Pets in the Valley



GDV is an acronym that sends alarm bells for vets. It stands for Gastric Dilation and Volvulus - a blown up and twisted stomach - which can occur very suddenly in dogs and has a high fatality rate. If the dog is still alive by the time it reaches a vet clinic, it is immediately obvious what the problem is.

Unusually, the other day I had a GDV dog brought in very early in the process of the stomach distending. While it was apparent she was painful in her abdomen, there was still a large number of disorders that could have been causing her symptoms. While we were waiting for an xray of her stomach to be developed, I could see her abdomen increasing in size before me and realised that we have a GDV on our hands. We went straight into surgery for her stomach to be deflated and the initiating cause was removed (not sure what it was but it was furry). The stomach quickly returned to its normal position and was then "tacked" in place to prevent recurrence.

Dog recovered very well after surgery although trying to keep her quiet while she healed after the surgery was going to be a problem for the owners to deal with!

This case demonstrated how the dog's owners responded quickly to what seemed a minor issue - the dog was not barking and not her normal bouncy self and they promptly brought her to the clinic. Living close by was also an advantage for a good outcome.

So don't go for a run after a big meal!

Take care, Janine

## Paparoa Lions

### HOSTING WAIMAUKU CLUB

The Lions recently hosted the Waimauku Lions club who came to Paparoa and Matakohē for a weekend break, visiting The Kauri Museum and other places of interest. They enjoyed a great night together with our Lions sharing a delicious home cooked dinner and country hospitality.

### SCHOOLS SPEECH COMP

One of the highlights of the Lions year is the Primary School Speech competition which is coming up on Monday 18 May. Everyone is welcome to come for dinner and to listen to the speeches after dinner. Talk to your local school to come and support your students, or phone Bryan Walker 431 9077.

### FIREWOOD

Firewood deliveries are well underway and the Lions are keeping busy cutting and splitting more for the winter. Contact Stephen Findlay 431 6148 for orders.

Pete Hames

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## Arty Farties /Community Connexions

Our gardens are resting while we raise winter vegie seedlings, although we have to control the white butterflies after planting. The monarch butterflies found our swan plant after all, and their caterpillars are feeding. We are looking for topsoil for our gardens, so if you have any to spare we would appreciate a call. Congratulations to Delwyn Chambers for the biggest pumpkin at this year's A&P show. The Crafty Kids Club is still going strong with some amazing creations. Hayley Browne is teaching the creative patchwork group how to make a bag from recycled material, go Hayley. Donated goods at Arty Farties Sunday garage sales help to raise funds to buy seeds for the gardens. If you have any spare fruit please let us know as we can pick it up and pass it on to the Food Banks. Otherwise contact Rose Plunkett and Rosemary Jones, of Youth & Whanau Focus, Paparoa, or the duty officer at Otamatea Community Services, Maungaturoto.

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## Summer garden's closing hours

### WHAT A SUMMER WE HAVE HAD!

Must be the best in many years for beach goers, road repairers and not too bad even for gardeners. The long cool evenings have been great for getting out in the garden or going for a walk.

Unfortunately the diamond back caterpillars have been having a picnic in my garden while I have been busy doing other things. They have ravaged the silverbeet, made holes in my tomatoes and munched on the lettuce. So I have been out doing a squash session, killing over 50 large and small caterpillars. Now it's a daily check!

I love the way dahlias really make a show in the autumn and those that were reluctant to give their best for Paparoa Show day are now doing their best.

Usually I grow my own seeds for vegetables, but this year I have resorted to buying the first lot of cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli plants. The soil is still very dry and there are white butterfly around so I will need to keep a good eye on them when I plant them out.

Broad beans should be in and growing by now. There is still time to get peas and beetroot in as our winters are not usually very cold.

Enjoy the changing seasons and the extra daylight in the morning.

Stella Clyde



## Primary School news

During the last week of Term 1 we learned about the skills needed to participate in a triathlon. Murray Healey from SBR Kids brought bikes & helmets so everyone was able to ride, swim and run (for more on the programme - [www.sbrkids.co.nz](http://www.sbrkids.co.nz)).

Term 2 began with a powhiri to welcome our new staff. Administration Officer Hanna Stevens; part-time teachers Megan Smyth, Helen Taua & Alex Cowie; and teacher aides Rocio Serrano-Perez & Wendy Southeran. We hope they all enjoy their time with us.

All classes have been focusing on the centennial of Gallipoli and ANZAC commemorations. The senior class assembled 33 white wooden crosses to create a 'Field of Remembrance' display at school,

and a group of staff, students and their families attended the service at Matakohē Kauri Museum. We are looking forward to another busy term with lots of exciting learning planned.



## HarbourCare Group needs places to grow

After a successful start to planting at Huarau last year, the Otamatea HarbourCare Society is looking for more farm waterways to plant up this winter.



**Otamatea  
HarbourCare**

"We have a couple of sites lined up for this year so far, but we'd like a couple more. Our focus at present is the general area between Maungaturoto and Paparoa, but if your farm is a little further afield, we'd still like to hear from you", said Mark Vincent, the Society's secretary. "We could put you in the plan for next year".

"With the help we are getting from Reconnecting Northland, we can do this for a minimal cost, although of course donations are always welcomed to help cover our nursery costs."

The Otamatea HarbourCare Society is committed to reversing the adverse effects of storm water runoff by supporting landowners who are fencing and planting riparian and eroded areas.

As well as improving the quality of the water and boosting numbers of fish and shellfish, fencing and planting can result in enhanced diversity of plant, bird and insect life on the land. The extra fencing can also improve stock and pasture management and productivity. To find out more call Mark 431 7353 or 021 0829 8037.

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## Great Pahi fishing contest

The Pahi Fishing Contest held on 28 March was a great success with great weather and perfect water conditions. The competition has grown each year with 80 tickets sold last year and 120 this year.

Many fish were caught and around 110 were weighed in, a total weight of 264 kilos. There were also a couple of good sharks and a large stingray.

The kids also had a great day's fishing and caught their fair share.



Commodore Mike congratulates Jason Weber: heaviest snapper

Barry Mockett won the *Robyn Healey Trophy* for the club member hooking the heaviest snapper, while Jason Weber won the heaviest snapper as a non club member.

Other winners were: Bart Guckert for largest shark, Soux Anich for largest gurnard, Chris Johnson for largest stingray. Andrew Kenny won the largest kahawai and also took out the prize for the average weight.

Amongst the kids, Braeden Leaf won for the heaviest snapper and gurnard, Dean Sheppard won for the heaviest kahawai and Ryan Lange for the heaviest shark.

## Can you help?

The Paparoa Press Gang (those who produce the PP for you each month) are looking for a new team leader.

The role involves working with the team to decide on content and allocate tasks on a monthly basis.

If you are interested in this voluntary position, please contact us on 431 7209 or email us at [press@paparoa.org.nz](mailto:press@paparoa.org.nz)

PP

The winner of the spot prize, a Stihl chainsaw donated by MAC Maungaturoto Auto Centre, was Dave Hyndman.

It was good to see so many boats, keen fishermen and women, plus children all out on the harbour having a great day.

We look forward to another successful competition next year.

Jacqui Donald

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## Motoring Matters

Not long after I arrived in NZ, I was reminded that in less than 100 years New Zealand had established a road network that had taken the countries of Europe many centuries to build. Roman Roads were built over 2000 years ago, and, if you take England as an example, there were hundreds of small villages and hamlets, all interconnected with footpaths and wagon tracks.

Here, in the early 1800s, there was hardly anything, just a few paths through steep bush, almost all transport was by sea and river and it stayed that way until the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Slowly, from the 1850s, the paths were expanded by the new settlers, pathways became bullock tracks which, in turn, became rudimentary roads until the arrival of the motor car, when some impetus was put into making roads usable in all weather.

However, as late as 1917, the roads of Northland were still in an abominable state and a local Member of Parliament organised a tour of Northland by car for twenty five MPs to witness the state of the roads.

Today, we still seem to lag behind many other parts of rural New Zealand. To the south of Auckland, many country roads are sealed and a pleasure to drive on.

To the north, it is a different story, even close to the city, many roads around Albany were not sealed until the late 1990s and, to make matters worse, in 2009 the government decreed that no more seal extensions would be funded.

Perhaps, one day, the powers that be will realise that Northland needs good roads as well as two way bridges.

Graham Roberts

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## HEY, KIDS . . . JUST FOR YOU . . .

We all love to have fun and laugh with others. Jokes and riddles are great to share and we have found some we think you will enjoy. Be prepared though, a few may make you groan too. You can find some more on [www.kidspot.co.nz](http://www.kidspot.co.nz), [www.funology.com](http://www.funology.com) and [www.funnyjokester.com](http://www.funnyjokester.com)

Q What belongs to you but is used more by others?

A. *Your name.*

Q. What has a thumb and four fingers but is not alive?

A. *A glove.*

Q. What has to be broken before you can use it?

A. *An egg.*

Q. What has a neck but no head?

A. *A bottle.*

Q. Everyone has it and no one can lose it, what is it?

A. *A shadow.*

Q: What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?

A: *A palm.*

Q: What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?

A: *Short.*

Q: How can a pants pocket be empty and still have something in it?

A: *It can have a hole in it.*

Q: Mary's father has 5 daughters – Nana, Nene, Nini, Nono. What is the fifth daughter's name?

A: *If you answered Nunu, you are wrong. It's Mary.*

Q: In a one-storey pink house, there was a pink person, a pink cat, a pink fish, a pink computer, a pink chair, a pink table, a pink telephone, a pink shower— everything was pink! What color were the stairs?

A: *There weren't any stairs, it was a one storey house.*

Q: A man was driving his truck. His lights were not on. The moon was not out. Up ahead, a woman was crossing the street. How did he see her?

A: *It was a bright and sunny day.*

Q. What gets wetter as it dries?

A. *A towel.*



Millar's Farm in Paparoa - Day Camp location

## Children's Day Camp holiday fun

Hi everyone, what have you been up to lately? Hopefully you were a part of what we were up to in the school holidays ... spending three days with 220 kids, teenage leaders and many adult helpers at Millar's Farm, Paparoa Station Road.

Local young people from Brynderwyn, Maungaturoto, Matakohe and Paparoa were kindly transported daily by Matakohe Buses and Brooks

Motors. On arrival, they were welcomed by numerous adults, a huge marquee, more tents and a bunch of 'Noah's animals and puppets with

s o n g s  
a n d  
a c t i o n s  
to learn  
about Noah's Ark Bible story.

## Calling future All Blacks & Black Ferns!

The rugby season is about to kick off & Paparoa JMB needs YOU!! We need your help to carry on. Our rugby club has a long, proud history in and around Paparoa and we would love for it to continue.

We are desperately seeking players for our under 9 and under 11 teams. Without more players, this great club may not survive. If you're keen to see your kids:

- play the game NZ loves
- burn off some energy
- shine with pride when they hear you cheering
- develop ball handling skills (has also been known to help with their dish drying ability)
- get some exercise and
- work as a team with a good bunch of mates,

then we're keen to see you! For more details contact us NOW through our Facebook page, Paparoa JMB. Or to Claire 09 431 6151, 021 296 2290, [kvasey@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kvasey@xtra.co.nz)

Claire SouthernVasey, President

Next, it was into the bush to create and build bush huts. There were sausages to cook over camp fires, gatherings in the marquee for songs and lessons; and later on a choice of activities from horse riding, carpentry, go karts, to arts and crafts. And, guess what happened the next day? They did it all again; busy, busy, busy.

On day three some specially invited and important guests, arrived. The "Bush Hut Judges" duly inspected and judged all the huts, as each group explained special features of their construction.

Lunch was followed by all 220 kids and leaders becoming part of a 10 station activity rotation which was a sight to behold. By 3pm, when parents arrived, the huts

were inspected, the winner announced with burgers and sausages to complete the day.

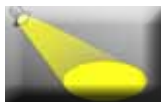
None of this could have happened without all the many volunteers from our community; the awesome bunch of teenagers who gave up holiday time, and the churches of our area who send representatives to make up the Day Camp Committee which is the driving force behind all this.

The weather was perfect, there was loads of fun, and lastly and most importantly none of this could happen without God - the reason we are all here.

If you would like to see our three days in photo form, go to [www.flickr.com/photos/itellstories](http://www.flickr.com/photos/itellstories)

Debbie Blythen





## Spotlight on ... Tatiana White

### Supreme cake & chocolate maker

In 2003 Tatiana and her daughter Maria arrived in New Zealand. Russia had seemed to offer little chance of a good life and Tatiana thought New Zealand to be a place of opportunity.

Leaving behind her parents and her sister, Tatiana braved the mountain of paperwork required and after many trials and tribulations, she managed to gain residency.

Neither Tatiana nor Maria spoke much English, yet today both have become fluent speakers. Few of us can imagine arriving in a country that required three days of travelling to get there, let alone the trials of not speaking the language.

First they based themselves in Red Beach, and set about finding schooling and work. Tatiana started out in the well-known café 'Kazin', then later in the restaurant 'Joust'. In between times Tatiana married and extended her skill base, taking a chocolate making course in Auckland.

Fortunately for us in the Kaipara, she and her husband



moved north to Pahi in 2014. Since then, neighbours and friends have been enjoying her cake and chocolate-making.

Having sampled both her cakes and her chocolate it has to be

admitted they are superb.

They not only taste lovely but look lovely. The handmade chocolate petals (pink and white) that decorated a honey cake had to be seen to appreciate all of the skill and beauty in the creation. Tatiana says that she makes all the decorations and loves to create unique masterpieces.

She also loves the art of baking and the fact that she can bring a smile to the customer's face. One of her favourites is making decorative flowers (imagine a flowered cake for Mother's Day) and animals of every description.

Tatiana remembers making a sheep cake for a farmer, it made people laugh first then appreciate the taste! The sailing ship cake she made for a neighbour's birthday will also

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be long remembered.

As for the chocolates, words cannot convey. Each is crafted beautifully; the fillings handmade (think dark chocolate with Baileys centre or even a raspberry framboise). A treat for any day or a great gift for someone special.

Pahi and Paparoa are thrilled with their new residents and Tatiana's culinary skills.

We look forward to seeing (and eating) more. Tatiana says to order go to [www.tlccreativebaking.co.nz](http://www.tlccreativebaking.co.nz)



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**OUT & ABOUT****NZ Herald recommends us:**

A recent Herald article on the Kauri Coast rated The Landing at Paparoa as the best spot on State Highway 12 to stop for a break. We knew that!

**Wearable Arts Gala not happening this year:**

Unfortunately Paparoa's Wearable Arts Gala (WAG) will not be staged this year. It has proved difficult at this time to form a committee of sufficient strength to produce the show. Perhaps next year might see a change.

**Congratulations:** If you think Keith Stutt is looking pretty sprightly you are correct. Not only has he recently had open heart surgery but he and Janet have celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary. Congratulations! Keith announces that he is now back in business as The TV Guy installing satellite dishes, Freeview, cable TV etc.

**Tai Chi discontinues:**

Shirley Warner Summers advises the demise of Tai Chi

classes. Due to falling numbers it is no longer viable and they are unable to carry on. They wish to thank all those past and present who have supported Tai Chi over the years.

**Paparoa Sports Pavillion:**

The Sports Pavilion is available for hire for meetings and family occasions. Heat pump and carpeted floor, great modern kitchen with dishwasher, and reasonable rates.

If you have **tea towels** belonging to the Sports Pavilion please return them to Vickie Owens 431 6432.



**Koi Carp:** A reminder following last month's issue; If you see koi carp or any other unusual fish in our waterways, it is imperative you contact Department of Conservation, Oliver Knox 09 439 3453 or Regional Council, 0800 002 004

**Paparoa Badminton**

Badminton has started again on Thursday evenings at the Paparoa Hall. This is a great way to have fun, and suits all levels of fitness and ability. If you have been telling yourself to get out and do something active then this is the perfect opportunity for you!

5.30–7pm for students.

7pm onwards for adults & experienced students.

All levels of experience welcome, some racquets available.

\$2/session students

\$3/session adults

Enquiries ph Pete 431 6822

Note:

Tennis has now finished for the season.





## What's Hot

Great fun provided for the kids by Paparoa Sports and Rec Society and Otamatea Day Camp volunteers.

## What's Not



The poor reseal job done on the Village Green carpark

## LOOKING FOR A FRESH APPROACH?

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**Maungaturoto Rest Home**

The rest home currently has no vacancies. In residence are:

**Elizabeth (Liz) Alsop** .....has a daughter in Matakoho  
**Clyde Chapman** ..... formerly of Maungakaramaea  
**Dora Cross** ..... formerly of Mareretu  
**Dene Louisson** ..... Tony's wife, formerly of Pahi  
**Neville (Ted) McCudden** ..... Family from Kaiwaka  
**Grace Phillips** ..... of Auckland, has son at Kaiwaka  
**Gordon & Adelaide Priebe** .. Pat George's parents  
**Helen Simpson** ..... formerly of Kaiwaka  
**Doreen Smith** ..... formerly of Auckland  
**Philip Strickett** ..... of Maungaturoto  
**Patricia Vaulkenburg** ..... has a daughter at Oneriri  
**Ailsa Wood** ..... lots of connections in M'gto

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## WHAT'S ON - MAY 2015

## SPECIAL EVENTS &amp; MEETINGS

- Cherry Trees - Community Gathering** Village Green carpark, Thur 14 May, 1pm  
**Lions' Primary School Speech Comp** Mon 18 May, dinner & speeches  
 ph Bryan Walker 431 9077 or contact your local school  
**The Kauri Museum** Anzac Exhibition 25 April-24 May  
**Platform 13 presents** 'Everybody's Reading Room' Dargaville 30-31 May,  
 ORT 6-7 June, Whangarei Forum North 13-14 June  
**In Sound & Silence - A Journey through the Chakras Workshop** Sunday 24 May  
 10am-5pm Paparoa. Ph Jenny 021 114 3370 or Helen 021 938 024

## REGULAR EVENTS, MEETINGS AND ORGANISATIONS

- Anglican Church St Marks** 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays 10am, Hook Road, Paparoa  
**Ararua Church** 10.30am every Sunday, All welcome ph 431 6622  
**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 431 6229; Crafty Kids Club alt Saturdays 10-2pm, Rm 5 Paparoa  
 Primary School; Beginners Patchwork Group, Mon 7pm, Te Pahi River Dr.  
**Badminton** Starts 23 April, kids 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 May 2, 16, 30; Jun 13, 27  
**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  
**The Kauri Museum** 'The Man from Matakohē' exhibition ongoing daily  
**Library** Mon 1.30-4.30pm, Wed 10am-12noon, Thu 1.30-4.30pm, Fri 9.30am-1pm.  
 Open Market days - alternate Saturdays 9.30-1pm  
**Line Dancing** Thurs 10am-noon Paparoa Hall ph Rose 431 7418  
**Mainly Music** Wed 9.30am Paparoa Comm Church, ph Rebecca 431 7550  
**Matakohē Music Makers** Wed 8 Apr 'St Patrick's do' 7pm BYO Sports Pav'n \$2 pp  
**Otamatea Quilters** 1st Tue/mnth 7pm & 3rd Mon 10am, Paparoa Hall 09 439 2262  
**Outdoor Bowls** Maungaturoto Green ph Tony 431 6026 or Brian 431 6884  
**Paparoa Community Church** 10.30am every Sunday, Hook Road  
**Paparoa Hall Functions venue** ph Robyn 431 7306 or a/h Loraine 431 7290  
**Paparoa Lions Dinner Meetings** 3rd Mon in month 6.30pm, Sports Pavilion  
**Paparoa Playcentre** Mon & Fri 9.30-12.30 Visitors welcome ph Tina 021 033 5128  
**Paparoa Plunket Society Coffee Group** 1st Tue/month, 10am Franklin Rd  
**Paparoa Toy Library** Wed 10.30-1pm, Paparoa Comm Church, Hilery 431 7330  
**Selwyn Centre** Thurs 10am for over 65's, St Marks, Hook Rd, ph 431 8193  
**Sports Pavilion Functions venue**, ph Vickie Owens 431 6432 for bookings  
**St Mary's Catholic Church** 10am Wed, 6pm Sat, Maungaturoto  
**Tai Chi** In recess  
**Table Tennis** Tues 7.30pm, Sports Pavilion \$2 Pete 431 6822  
**Tennis** Finished for the season  
**Ukelele Players** Beginners / experts, Thur 4pm Matakohē, ph Dennise 431 7012  
**Waka Ama** Tues & Thur evenings 5pm, Sunday 10am, Pahi Domain  
**White Rock Gallery** Open 7 days 10am-4pm, in Library building  
**Yoga** Paparoa Sports Pavilion Mon 8.30am, Thu 9am, Thu 6.00pm, ph 09 280 9694

PLEASE UPDATE US WITH YOUR DETAILS: [press@paparoa.org.nz](mailto:press@paparoa.org.nz) PP

## HOOK, LINE &amp; SINKER

Fishing is still as good as it has ever been. There are plenty of nice snapper still around;

a good 6.2kg one was caught last week. Kahawai are back- caught 25. Gurnard are still few and far between and there have also been a few trevally caught lately.

Happy fishing everyone.

Gravy



## Paparoa Press

PP

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

## Bee Swarms

If you see any bee swarms

phone Mike 431 6008  
or 021 134 3747

## Silage Bales

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## LOCAL TIDES for May 2015

## MAY TIDES - CALCULATED for PAHI-WHAKAPIRAU

DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	3.18pm	9.22am	17th	4.14pm	10.16am
2nd	3.58pm	10.03am	18th	5.03pm	11.06am
3rd	4.37pm	10.41am	19th	5.48pm	11.53am
4th	5.15pm	11.19am	20th	6.32pm	12.38pm
5th	5.53pm	11.56am	21st	7.14pm	1.21pm
6th	6.31pm	12.35pm	22nd	7.40am	2.04pm
7th	7.12pm	1.15pm	23rd	8.23am	2.46pm
8th	7.36am	1.58pm	24th	9.07am	3.30pm
9th	8.23am	2.44pm	25th	9.56am	4.20pm
10th	9.14am	3.37pm	26th	10.49am	5.17pm
11th	10.12am	4.36pm	27th	11.48am	6.20pm
12th	11.15am	5.43pm	28th	12.47pm	7.22pm
13th	12.21pm	6.53pm	29th	1.43pm	8.18pm
14th	1.26pm	8.00pm	30th	2.34pm	8.36am
15th	2.27pm	8.26am	31st	3.20pm	10.23am
16th	3.22pm	9.23am			

## Community Directory

EMERGENCY: FIRE ■ POLICE ■ AMBULANCE dial 111

## COAST TO COAST HEALTH CARE

Maungaturoto Medical Centre: 8am-5pm Mon-Fri .... 09 431 8576  
 Paparoa Clinic: Doctor Tue + Fri 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

**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 CHIROPRACTIC**..... 09 431 8019

**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  
 Mon 1.30-4.30pm, Wed 10am-12noon, Thu 1.30-4.30pm, Fri  
 9.30am-1pm. Open Market days - alternate Saturdays 9.30-1pm

**PAPAROA PLAYCENTRE** Vanessa 09 431 6731, Renee 09 431 6336

**PAPAROA PLUNKET** Cynthia Keay..... 09 431 8187

**PLUNKET** Helpline ..... 0800 933 922

**PAPAROA 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

**PODIATRIST / FOOTCARE** Jayne Short 020 4022 65998 / 09 431 7188

**PUKE ARANGA TE KOHANGA REO** ..... 09 431 7089

**YOUTH & WHANAU FOCUS** South Kaipara, Rose ..... 09 431 7418



## Photo Competition ... and the grand winner is ...



Winner:  
**Treehuggers at Bushman's Reserve** - Belinda Weber

Belinda wins a quality stretched canvas print of her winning image (or any other), from Harvey Norman Whangarei.



Runner-up:  
**Pahi Regatta Day** - Joy Bonham

Congratulations to Belinda Weber on her winning photo, *Treehuggers at Bushman's Reserve*, chosen by professional photographer James Hancox (james@jameshancox.com) from all entries submitted over the last four months. The winners were chosen for the way they captured the Kaipara - a combination of our area, our people and our humour.

Runner-up was Joy Bonham's *Pahi Regatta Day*, and 2nd runner-up was Vicky Jennings' *Secret Keeper, Moreton Bay Fig, Pahi*.



2nd Runner-up: **Secret Keeper, Pahi Moreton Bay Fig** - Vicky Jennings

Thanks to all our photo entrants over the past four months. We have had some wonderful Kaipara images submitted and have enjoyed perusing them and bringing them to you our readers.

Thanks also to our sponsors: **Pegasus Engraving** for providing the monthly prizes of chromalux boards or mugs, **Harvey Norman** for the overall prize canvas print, **Skelton's Drapery** for a photo frame to the runner-up and to **The Village Cafe** for the second runner-up. PP

## Pahi stingray fascinates



Cheyenne Ball captured this beautiful picture in March, as she was sitting with family inside their house at Pahi.

"As we looked up we saw this stingray swimming along the shoreline. We ran down to the beach where the tide was high and the water was very, very clear. We watched it sit on a flounder and eat it in seconds. It was an amazing thing to watch and the stingray seemed really friendly, as it was up really shallow and just sat there."

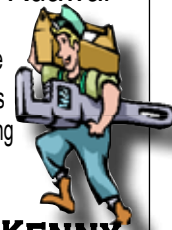
Another incredible sight that they have spotted was when her brother Keegan saw a great white shark while he was swimming off the Pahi wharf!

"Very exciting and scary for him" to say the least. PP

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