



A New Chapter for Paparoa Volunteer Fire Brigade

Our volunteer firefighters are beginning the exciting transition from their old station into their new home, Te Whare Kererū. Once they've settled in, they'll be holding an Open Day and inviting the Paparoa community to come along, have a look around, meet the crew.

Paparoa Volunteer Fire Brigade are incredibly proud to begin this new chapter and they can't wait to share it with the community. Keep an eye on their FB page for the open day details!

The name Te Whare Kererū is in honour of the three kererū that swooped through while the first sod was being turned. Kererū also did a fly-through as the station was being blessed, so the name seems perfect.

During the excavation and construction of the new station, kauri gum was uncovered from the whenua beneath the site. This

special taonga was blessed by Matua Albert Shelford of Te Uri O Hau, before being presented by Bron Hames to Chief Fire Officer Ken Ogilvy, who proudly received it on behalf of the Paparoa Volunteer Fire Brigade.

Something that has rested within this whenua for so long will now have a place within Te Whare Kererū, connecting the history of this land with the generations of firefighters and community who will pass through its doors. The brigade are incredibly honoured to have received it and will be proud kaitiaki of this taonga for

generations to come.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou mō tēnei taonga whakahirahira.



L to R CFO Ken Ogilvy, FENZ Property Manager Mel Tipton, Mayor Jonathan Larsen, Te Uri o Hau kaumatua Albert Shelford, DCFO Bryce Frewin, District Commander Wipari Henwood



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ADVERTISING

Rate Card available by email
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15th of month
Publication date 1st Wed of month

Taking on invasive weeds, one site at a time

Once a month, at 9am on a Saturday morning, a hardy group of volunteers gathers to take on some of the most persistent weeds in our community.

Clad in protective gear, heavy-duty work boots, gloves, hats and hi-vis vests, and armed with everything from chainsaws and secateurs to loppers, they meet at a nominated site on public or private land and plan their attack.

The chainsaws are put to work on taller privets and larger, more vigorous

elaegnus, while secateurs and loppers tackle smaller plants and areas of regrowth.

These two invasive species are the group's key targets. Found in regenerating bush, along land margins, beside streams and around pathways, privet and elaeagnus pose a particular threat to our native bush.

Both species can survive in the shade beneath the canopy and grow rapidly, eventually outcompeting native trees. Left unchecked, they can transform a diverse bush remnant into a stand of privet or a dense, prickly thicket of elaeagnus.

If you have keen eyes, you may occasionally catch a glimpse of this determined crew as they work their way through dense foliage - a flash of bright orange hi-vis appearing here and there among the greenery.

These are members of the Waraki Kaipara Otamatea Weed Control Group, established in 2017 to tackle invasive weed species around Matakoho, Paparoa and Maungaturoto and funded in part by the Northland Regional Council.

The group focuses particularly on invasive tree species that are beginning to displace native vegetation. In some areas, weeds already make up as much as 80% of the vegetation.

While reducing invasive weeds is the ultimate goal, volunteering is at the heart of the project. Members have

their own properties and pieces of land to manage, yet every month they make the time to turn up and spend a morning helping clear another site where invasive species have taken hold.

There has been great progress at many of the sites, although some will need to be revisited as new growth emerges.

The work can be demanding, but there is a strong sense of community and connection among the volunteers. It's a cheerful group that turns up in all kinds of weather and tackles all sorts of terrain. Working together, keeping an eye out for one another and making sure everyone stays safe in the field all add to the satisfaction of seeing another area cleared.

And when the morning's work is done, there is always time to relax, share a drink and enjoy some well-earned scones and sausage rolls while discussing the morning's progress, along with local history and events and a large dose of humour.

For these volunteers, every cleared patch is more than just a job completed. It is another step towards protecting and restoring the native bush that makes our community special.

Email jacqueline@rahui.co.nz to join in or to register your interest in coming along or in receiving support to tackle privet or elaeagnus on your property.

Ros Sullivan



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At the market

Have you been down to the Paparoa Farmers' Market recently? Stallholder numbers have been near capacity most weeks and it really is 'the place to be' on a Saturday morning.

We have a massive variety of stalls, always good music and a great atmosphere. It's also a great opportunity to catch up with others from around the village and indeed the wider district. Try a delicious bacon and egg sandwich made by one of our community groups and enjoy a wander around the stalls.

For our Labour weekend market on Saturday 24 October we are excited to be holding another Youth Market running alongside our normal Saturday market. The idea is for young people to book a free table which we will supply, and they can bring along whatever they would like to sell. We will set up the tables on the grassy area beside the market and we are expecting that things like home baking, toys that are no longer needed, pinecones, books etc may be

up for sale. Please note that if you are planning to sell home baking then it should be hygienically produced and covered for the sale, and it wouldn't be a good idea to sell home baking on the same stall as horse manure!! See the flyer for more details and contact Stephen to book a table. (See back page.)

As always parking at the market will be at a premium, so we ask parents who are supporting their children, to drop them and their products for sale at the market, and then park their cars at the medical centre, so that parking right outside the market is available for customers.

In the meantime we hope to see you at the weekly market, and don't forget to make sure you are enrolled to vote in the upcoming elections.

Pete for PPI

ST JOHN TRASH AND TREASURE

Well, it is that time of the year again - running from 5th to 9th October - 9am to 5pm daily with a late night on Wednesday night; Thank you to all who have already donated good quality items. We will continue to accept donations during the first part of the week of the sale. If you are unsure if an item might be acceptable, please send me a photo. If we have people available we will endeavour to collect items locally. I can be contacted on 0211420357 or eileen.parsons16@gmail.com

Please support this fundraiser as the proceeds will be used in the community for a variety of purposes including Scholarships, Food parcels and upkeep of AEDs (batteries and pads.)

A reminder to our contributors!

We need all advertising material by the 15th of the previous month and all editorial copy by the 20th. We cannot guarantee the publication of any material received after these dates.

While we always welcome editorial content we reserve the right to decline or hold over any articles outside our regular columns.

Opinions expressed in Paparoa Press are the author's own and not necessarily those of the editor or Progressive Papaora Inc.



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**Paparooa School news**

As we approach the end of another busy term, our school has experienced a significant amount of sickness over the past few weeks.

This has placed considerable pressure on our staff as they have worked hard to keep classes and programmes running. We sincerely appreciate everyone's understanding and support during this challenging time. We hope the upcoming term break gives our students, staff and whānau an opportunity to rest, recover and recharge.

Despite the challenges, there has still been plenty of excitement around the school. Ten calves have arrived to begin our 2026 calf-rearing programme. The support we receive from our local farmers is phenomenal, and we are incredibly grateful for the calves, knowledge and encouragement they generously provide.

Our students have already begun developing relationships with their calves, and some are now successfully leading them. Several students are participating in the programme for their third year, and it is marvellous to see them confidently sharing their tips and tricks with those who are taking part for the first time. The programme provides wonderful opportunities for students to develop responsibility, patience, confidence and practical animal-care skills.

Last week, the whole school travelled to Matakohē to participate in an Alternative Sports Day. Students enjoyed learning and trying a wide range of games and activities. Circus Kumarani provided some exciting circus-based activities, while students also had the opportunity to try pétanque, T-ball and several other sports. It was a fantastic day of participation, teamwork and fun, with students enthusiastically giving new activities a go. Thank you to Sport Northland and Matakohē School for the invitation.

At the end of Term Two, some of our Year five and six students sat University of Canterbury examinations in Literacy, Mathematics and Science. The results have now arrived, and we are extremely proud to share that our Year five and six students achieved above the national average in all three subject areas. Several students also received Merit and Achieving awards for their individual results. This is an amazing achievement and reflects the hard work, effort and determination of our students. Congratulations to everyone who participated!

**Ngā mihi nui,
Karyn Taylor
Principal**

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Government General Elections

This year's General Election is on Saturday 7 November, 2026. To vote, you need to be enrolled. There is a change this year regarding enrolment, so you need to be enrolled by midnight, Sunday 25 October. You won't be able to enrol once voting starts and you won't be able to enrol at a voting place. If you are not enrolled, you won't be able to vote.

You can search for your enrolment details online at vote.nz/enrol. For privacy reasons the details you enter need to be an exact match for the details they have on file. If they're not, the search may not find your enrolment. If you have any problems, call freephone 0800 36 76 56 and the team can check for you. If your address is not kept up to date and they receive returned mail from your old address, you may be placed on the dormant roll. If you live in this area you vote in the Northland electorate, or the Te Tai Tokerau Māori electorate (if you are on the Māori roll). If you haven't received anything by mail recently, check your details at vote.nz or give them a call. Everyone gets two votes - for the candidate and the party. As they say if you don't vote you can't complain - and with MMP Every Vote Does Count.

Paparoa Lions Bushwalk

Volunteers from the Paparoa community recently completed the planting of native stems on the Paparoa Lions Bushwalk.

In collaboration with the land owner, Kaipara Moana Remediation, QEII Trust, Progressive Paparoa Inc and the Paparoa Lions Club, the area along the walkway has been fenced off and, some pockets of land inside the new fencing, planted. The planting, along with existing vegetation, plays a major role in mitigating erosion and filtering silt from entering the harbour.

Otamatea Harbour Care (a local community Trust) grew 1500 of the trees and flaxes planted. They also discounted those that were purchased by KMR, who also paid for the ground preparation. Members of OHC also gave their time to help with planting. Another 600 stems were gifted to the project and all 2100 plus were planted over a two week period. This is in addition to 5000 stems planted by the community in August 2021 that are now well established.

Members of the Paparoa Lions Club, who coordinated

the project, would like to thank all those community members who participated in the planting and donated plants to the cause.

This work has made a further contribution to the ecology and ambiance of the walkway which is enjoyed by many.

A large portion of the area has been under covenant of the QEII Trust since 1989, hence their involvement in the fencing off of the area. The Trust gives the bush permanent protection.

On-going pest control and track maintenance keeps Lions members busy, so it is always good to have volunteers help with work on this much used and appreciated project.

It is hoped that with help from QEII Trust there will soon be a major assault on some of the invasive weeds along the track/esplanade reserve. Funding is also going to play a major part in this next project if it is to be successful.

Jim Rowlands



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Paparoa Gym update

Paparoa community gym at the sports pavilion is going strong with over 60 members. Members have access by a pincode for entry 24/7 to be able to work out when it suits. The Sports and Rec committee have kept membership fees low to encourage wide access. A personal programme can be arranged at an extra cost.

Registration forms can be picked up at Skeltons Drapery in Paparoa, on the Paparoa website or email Libby at hames.jones@xtra.co.nz

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My two cents worth

— decision time ahead



It seems that recently parties on both sides of the parliamentary aisle are giving consideration to gaming the MMP voting system to distort the number of electorate seats compared to list seats. I think that is cynical and not in the best interests of democracy.

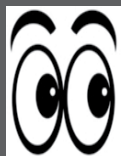
With MMP we get two votes; one for our preferred local Member, and one for our preferred party. I think for the electorate vote, two factors should be taken into account; firstly who is the candidate you could most readily relate to if you had an issue as a constituent, and secondly who is going to do the best job of supporting and advocating for your electorate? For the party vote, I think the question to ask yourself is: which party do I think would

act in the best interests of our country?

We may yet get the opportunity to vote on replacing MMP in a referendum as part of these upcoming elections, but in the meantime the most important thing is making sure you are enrolled to vote. If you don't get on the roll you won't be able to vote, and if you don't vote you can hardly complain about the outcome.

Mark Vincent

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Letters from The Old Post Office...

"No man is an island, entire of itself.."*



Dear Reader, once again I thought to write about our common humanity, our desire for a peaceful, productive life for our family and friends, the ways of living that most agree with, not the incidental divisive petty behaviours that are designed to shift our focus from those universal commonalities. (Charles Dickens take that for a run-on sentence).

Then, I became sidetracked and disappeared down a rabbit hole of my own making. Pottles of marmalade were replaced by images of Jesus in a designer toga and gilded chariots flashing before my eyes as I hurtled past humming a tune that seemed to include reference to "it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God" until finally my whirling thoughts settled and then scuttled off to whimper in a dimly lit less socialist corner of my mind where no doubt they will continue to fester for some time. One should never gather mushrooms at night if not absolutely certain of their provenance.

Needless to say, all this preamble brings me to another far more important if still divisive topic. Should one add milk before the tea is poured into the cup or after? Did you realise Dear Reader, that there have been university studies conducted on this crucial matter? I kid you not.

Reasonings include:

Scientific (Royal Society of Chemistry to be exact): Hot tea poured onto cold milk denatures milk proteins more uniformly than the reverse. Theoretically produces a slightly smoother cup.

Aristocratic: Tea first into fine porcelain. The fine china could withstand the heat; pouring tea first showed off the cup's quality.

The George Orwell position unusually supporting the very ruling class he despised: In his 1946 essay, "A Nice Cup of Tea", Orwell firmly argued tea first. His reasoning: it lets you regulate milk strength visually. (Please note it was probably his wife's writing, it has come to light that quite

a lot of his 1984 novel was in fact written with/ by his wife.)

I favour the milk first school of thought, unless of course one has lowered one's standards to such a degree that a tatty tea bag of less than flavoursome disposition is employed. And, then of course you may do whatever you like to that invention of commercially profitable floor-sweepings tasteless bag.

For those of you who wish to follow the British colonial way then the technique is as follows:

Water temperature: boiling for black tea; lower for green/white.

Brewing time: four minutes for British black tea.

Tea quality: premium loose leaf vs bag tea.(erk).

Tea to water ratio: one bag per 200ml.

Fresh water: don't re-boil.

On a more personal level Dear Reader, the sainted offspring have often discussed installing some sort of visual device (a bit like the water tank level indicators with the large orange globe) on some part of my anatomy to warn them of plunging tannin levels. They have noted that when tannin levels become dangerously low my mood grows bitter and irritable and immediate recourse to the teapot must be made or maternal love and kindness is distinctly lacking.

They too have come to believe that: "Tea does our fancy aid,

Repress those vapours which the head invade, And keeps that palace of the soul serene" (Edmund Waller, "Of Tea"), or at least a good cup of tea calms the old girl down.

*No man is an island, from Meditations by John Donne.

Deb



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Wow! What a great day we had on September 19th for our Fun day! The weather held out and over 180 Mr Whippy Icecreams were given away.

Ben's Midget car was an absolute hit with kids and adults alike, with some even managing to squeeze their way in to get a real feel of the car. While the classic cars parked along-side grabbed everyone's attention.

BBQ's, face painting and competitions ensured everyone was well catered for. Thank you to everyone that came down and supported us!



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Kauri Museum

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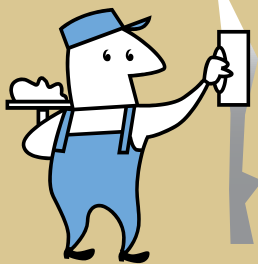
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Racquet Sports update

Summer is coming and that means tennis is too!

Hopefully by the start of the last term of school, all this wind we've been getting will have settled down and we will have some great weather for tennis. On Tuesday 13th October from 3-5pm we will be holding a junior muster for any school aged children and young people who would like to try tennis this season. Coaching will only cost \$10 per term on top of the annual subs, which are very reasonable at \$15 per child, \$30 per adult and \$70 for a family membership. Players will be graded into groups depending on ability and will then be given a time to attend on Tuesday afternoons for the following weeks. It is important that they come along to the muster as coaching group numbers are limited and we don't want anyone to miss out.

On the same afternoon we will hold our AGM at 5pm and we hope parents and adult players will come to that and give us some ideas of what they would like to happen for tennis this summer. While the AGM is on, we will have a free sausage sizzle for the kids to enjoy.

Any enquiries please contact Juliette on 021143 2560.

Also on Tuesdays, but starting at 7pm at the Sports Pavilion, is table tennis. Most evenings we play a mixture of singles and doubles, and we welcome new players of all abilities to come and have a go. We have bats available, and the charge is only \$2 per night to play.

Badminton continues in the War Memorial Hall every Thursday evening from 7pm. We mostly play doubles, have some racquets available, and the cost is only \$3 per adult and \$2 per high school aged student per night.

Pete, 021 0567163

Be prepared for fire

If there was a fire at your property, where would the water come from?

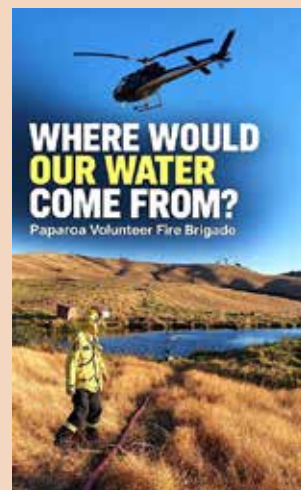
Paparoa has no reticulated water supply, so accessible rural water sources can make a real difference during an emergency.

Take five minutes to check:

- Is your tank, pond, dam or pool easy to locate?
- Is access clear for firefighters and equipment?
- Is the surrounding ground firm and safe?
- Can you clearly describe the water source when calling 111?
- Make sure your property is clearly numbered.

Get everyone to safety, call 111 early, and tell the operator what water is available.

Paparoa Volunteer Fire Brigade - helping protect our rural community.



White Rock Gallery

White Rock Gallery's reason for being is to foster creativity in the community and offer a venue for local artists and crafters to display their work.

In September the gallery sponsored, at half price, another workshop with renowned artist and tutor Elena Nikoeava. She led a course on abstract art, composition and colour at the Ruawai Art Studio.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable, instructive, and fun day. Perhaps some of the works will end up on the wall at the gallery at our upcoming exhibition opening first of October.

Come and have a look at the gallery at 5 Church RD Matakohē in the old Post Office building beside the Kauri Museum, and have a coffee at Gumdiggers Cafe.

We are open from 10am til 4 pm daily.



Otamatea Quilters

The recent display of quilts from Otamatea Quilters held in Dargaville was exceptionally well received. Visitors travelling from far and wide to enjoy the stunning works and celebrate the diverse talents of the quilters.

The following are the raffle winners:

Quilt: Joy Martin. Joy volunteers at the Citizens Advice Bureau in Dargaville and is delighted to have won this wonderful quilt.

Baskets: Kerinda Robb and Lorraine.



A total of \$585 was raised for St Johns.

A special thanks to Marion and the staff of the Dargaville Sewing Centre for making this quilt show possible.

OQ

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Recurrent Herpes Treatment (Cold sores/ Genital herpes)*

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Shingles Treatment (Antiviral tablets)*

Rosacea Consultation*

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Oral contraceptive pill*

Treatment (Antibiotics) for Urinary Tract Infection (for women 16 to 65 years)*

Passport Photos*

Smoking Cessation Consultations*

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Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary

Our Rotary club is very grateful for the support they have received from the Paparooa Depot Trust. The shed we have been offered has been vacated and last Sunday the youngsters had their first woodworking session, measuring, cutting and constructing a sawhorse. While there is no power on site at the moment, there are a number of items that can be made in the meantime. These will be on sale at the Saturday Paparooa market and it is planned to have a logo that can be imprinted on them. We are very grateful to Otamatea High School who have donated a large number of hand tools to the group. This means that as numbers build up, there will not be a shortage of tools to use. Ultimately the aim is to have electric tools as well.

At a recent meeting of our Rotary club it was agreed that our Trust would be the umbrella so they can get set up. While construction in wood is the initial aim, some of the youngster have suggested that the purchase of a 3D printer would enable them to make a variety of items. Obviously this is something that can be aimed for in the future. We hope to have the shed donated by one of our members, refurbished and sold before Christmas. If you can help with this group in any way, please contact President Tim. Text him on 0272714232 or email timmagill3@gmail.com.

In the past month we have had another Driving Mentor stepping up and once the Police Checks have been completed, she will be available to join us. If you know of anyone who might be willing to do this, please get in touch as we have a number of students waiting for lessons. At this stage I am not sure how the new regulations will affect our young people, but by the time you receive this I will have met with Te Awhi from People Potential who will be able to let me know exactly what is happening and how it will impact on our work. I can be contacted on- 0211420357 (please leave a message) or eileen.parsons16@gmail.com.

Eileen

Grow Paparooa



Spring has arrived and, albeit a tad windy and still a little cool, it is great to see everything getting going again. Our peach tree has some amazing looking blossoms on it, so fingers crossed for a successful growing season all around.

In August we had our AGM- thank you to all who attended. It's always good to have a look at the year previous and what has been good in comparison to years before. We started recording what goes out in 2021 and in this last financial year we gave out 154 cabbages, 110 courgettes, 230 lettuce, 91 cucumbers and 162 tomatoes which doesn't include those used in our annual passata day. With the exception of beans every other vegetable was a little down on years previous. This is partly due to the new beds that are only now getting fully established and the fact that, like every other charity organisation around, we are short of volunteers.

Aladdin's Cave also had a very successful year last year, As the garden's main source of funding, we are incredibly grateful to the volunteers who give up their Saturday mornings to help out there. Aladdin's will be changing over their winter stock for summer items on the 8th of October and until then there is a sale on all winter clothing. Currently they are not able to take any more winter wear but would love any children's toys or puzzles.

continued...

BOOKS AND BOOKCLUBS

A horror story but not as we know them. Early on it portrays an horrific event that the reader can see coming before the book character does. I couldn't believe what was happening and I wanted to yell at him, to somehow stop him, even though it was just a novel. "The River is Waiting" by Wally Lamb. From then on it is a tale of surviving post traumatic stress, also in horrible circumstances. To give you more detail would ruin the experience for you. Very, very sad because it shows us what happens in real life, and unless you have suffered similar circumstances to the tragic main character, then you will, like me, be so, so grateful. (I am aware that I have written you a little mystery and you will have to read this book now in order to solve it.)

When I am in the mood for a good suspense novel I rather like Shari Lapena. She introduces the most anti-social, selfish characters and then ends with an unexpected twist. So it is with "She didn't See it Coming". You won't either. When a woman in an apartment building just disappears off the face of the earth, the police are left with several avenues to explore. Did she run away? Her phone, purse and keys are still in the flat. Nothing has been disturbed. Was she kidnapped? CCTV shows no unusual activity and no-one saw anything out of the ordinary. Has she been murdered? Then where is the body? If so, was it the husband, the neighbour, or someone in her dysfunctional family? Read it and see!

My Best Read of the month is "The Glass Maker" by Tracy Chevalier. She writes of the glassmaking families living on the island of Murano off the coast of Venice, beginning Orsola's story in 1486, where time literally slows down. As the family lives through all that life brings, wealth, poverty, love, loss, marriages, deaths and births in Orsola's lifetime, the rest of the world is racing ahead through all the events of the past 12 centuries that we are familiar with, plagues, wars, trains, planes, governments, reigns and politics. As if that wasn't fascinating enough, we learn the ins and outs of glassmaking, the changes that "progress" makes on this industry, and the impact of social preferences and fashions over time. We follow the city of Venice with its canals and gondoliers and there are many Italian words and phrases throughout that draw you into living within the pages. There is a glossary at the back of the book, but I just let the sounds of the words impact me without having to know the meaning. It is a beautiful and descriptive book to immerse oneself in. I have been fortunate enough to visit a glassblowing tourist attraction in Whangarei some years back, but that was nothing compared to the roar of the furnace, the clang of the instruments, the hiss of the glass cooling down, and the activity of the men involved as described by this very skilled author. The dynamics of an extended family living together gives us a very real glimpse into that time and place. It is a very popular read for Bookclubs and I am sure you will love it too.

Anne Bate

...continued from previous page

We would truly love to keep up the work at the gardens for the year ahead so if you have thought about maybe volunteering even for an hour once a month then please do pop in. Demand unfortunately is higher than ever and volunteers are harder than ever to come by so think about joining this little community of gardeners and help out the larger community that surrounds us. We are open Thursdays and Fridays 9-12 and usually harvest on a Saturday morning from around 9-10.30. No gardening experience necessary and all equipment is supplied.

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Sounds of Silence

Silence is a spectrum of not just the absence of sound, but all manner of emotions.

There is a sleeping baby in your arms, a wonderful well earned silence of snuffly snores, usually brought about by 40 minutes of rocking, wailing, and screaming (mostly me), to enjoy ten minutes of peace.

There is a toddlers silence- an eerie sensation of it suddenly being "too" quiet, a sure sign that mischief is afoot, usually featuring scissors or a permanent marker.

There is a modern silence that I found in a city suburb one Saturday - where have all the children gone? Led by this generations Pied Piper, Lord Youtube, into a dismal sedentary zone, where they can sit for hours watching other children on the internet play, or open toys. This silence seems to extend well into teenage years, where the addition of 'thumb movement' is considered an adequate way to spend a day. (referring to game stations, like Xbox, for those I lost in that statement.)

There is the silence of a morning coffee enjoyed alone - as a parent, a situation often earned by sheer bribery or locks on doors.

There is a silence of emptiness, the silence of someone missing - the children gone and moved out, a partner lost, a grief and sad silence that no radio or TV blare can fill. This is hard silence.

I ruminate on this spectrum of sounds mostly when I think about our neighbours - how they probably long for silence from our house in the day when "those kids are outside screaming again..." and how stark the contrast is when night falls and the little people are in bed, and suddenly - joy. Silence!

Have a peaceful October, friends!

Blessings, Jenny



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Science Corner



Interesting Question!

Why does Africa have so many really large animals?

NZ once had lots of large animals- like giant birds, bats, parrots and even crocodiles- but they have all become extinct. Why?

Bones from these NZ large animals have been found in Central Otago from the bed of the ancient super-sized Lake Manuherikia (10 times bigger than Lake Taupo) that existed millions of years ago when the world was about three or four degrees warmer than now. Like Australian lakes, it was ephemeral, and dried out at times. The sediment in the lake captured the bodies of many creatures. As a result, fossils can be found over a wide area of Otago. So why did all these creatures disappear?

Unlike Africa, which is a huge land mass, NZ was made up of lots of islands. Islands are a bit like laboratories because animals get stuck on them and may get bigger or smaller as time passes.



Cyprus had dwarf hippos and elephants- Flores, an island in Indonesia, had dwarf elephants and still has the Komodo Dragon. So, the theory goes that animals living on islands get weirder than animals on large continents. Geese arrived in NZ seven million years ago and evolved into a one metre 18kg bird that was still around when humans first arrived.

Many birds gave up flying, (this uses a lot of energy) as there were no mammalian predators, and so developed other ways to beat off enemies. They got heavier and developed powerful legs etc, like the cassowary claws.

There is a theory that on islands, large species get smaller and small creatures get larger over time. There are other factors thought to influence changes in living creatures over time, like temperature. If it gets colder the animals with larger stockier bodies and limbs survive to breed better, so the colder it is the bigger the animal.

Interesting!

Stella



OCS October News

Greetings to everyone.

Hopefully not many succumbed to the horrible winter bug that managed to knock me off my feet. Fortunately we are now into the fine warm days of spring so things are looking up.

Our calendar for this month is as follows: **Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 28. shopping trip to Whangarei.**

The van takes up to 11 passengers to Whangarei, leaving the Maungaturoto Retirement Village parking area at 9am and returning mid-afternoon. Free trip, all welcome. Phone us to book a seat 09 431 9080.

These two trips happen every month, on the second Tuesday and fourth Wednesday.

Other things are happening at the Community House, which may change, so give us a call on 09 431 9080 to find out about **Tuesday lunch day** and **free clothing**, or **Dancing Dollars Day**.

Take care of each other and stay safe.

Best wishes from us all at OCS

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2809552 or 02102545799**Derek Birt, Mareretu**
4316847**Karen Weber, Matakoho**
431 7087 or 027 272 6676
By appointment.**WHAT'S ON - OCTOBER 2026****The Kauri Museum** - open 7 days, 9am-5pm.**White Rock Gallery** - 5 Church Rd Matakoho (Kauri Museum) Open 7 days 10 - 4.**St Johns Trash & Treasure** - Mon Oct 5 - Fri 9, 9am-5pm, late night Wed.
Maungaturoto Centennial Hall.**School Holidays** - Sept 28 - Oct 9. Watch out, there will be kids about.**Paparoa Raquet Sports AGM** - Tues Oct 13, 5pm. Sports Pavilion.**Paparoa Business Showcase** - Sun Oct 18, 1-5pm. Paparoa War Memorial Hall.
Trade, services, demonstrations. See page 7 for more info.**Paparoa Lions Halloween Community Dinner** - Sat Oct 31. Bookings
essential. See p9 for details.**OUT & ABOUT AROUND TOWN****Paparoa's Farmers Market** Happens every Saturday morning, 8.30am - 12 at the Village Green. Fresh fruit & veges, sweet treats, plants, fish, eggs, assorted crafts, live music and so much more.
A great place to catch up with friends or make new ones.**Grow Whakatipu Paparoa Community Garden** Drop in for a chat, hands on experience, or a cuppa. Every Thursday & Friday 9am - 12pm. Op Shop open Sat 9-1. Next to the showgrounds.**Paparoa Golf Course** 91 Golf Course Rd, off Golden Stairs, Maungaturoto. Winter Golf every Sunday 10 am tee off for 18 hole, 12:30 for 9 holes. Special events check our Facebook page - Paparoa Golf or contact us on 022 678 1474. Will also be advertised on local FB pages. Everyone welcome, no matter your skill level. The course is open for casual play - \$15 for 9 holes and \$20 for 18. Children under 18 free.**Ballroom Classes** Over the school term on Tuesday evenings from 6.30- 7.30pm, \$12 per person, at the Paparoa War Memorial Hall. Contact Lisa (by text or leave a message) on 021 828-531.**Musical Mayhem** Acoustic Open Mic session. Welcome musicians, singers, poets. Gold coin contribution. 6- 7.30pm Thursdays.

Fortnightly from 4.6.26. Paparoa Sports Pavilion. Lynn 0274583691

Bridge with a Twist A bit of brainwork & a bit of bodywork. Wednesdays 10am - 1pm, at the Paparoa War Memorial Hall. Contact Lisa (by text or leave a message) on 021 828-531.**Latin Beat Dance Classes** Tuesdays at 5.30pm at Paparoa War Memorial Hall. Beginners Welcome. \$10 Cash Only**Paparoa Beats 88.3fm** Community radio based right here in Paparoa. A "Beautiful Resistance" to the mainstream. Also available online at paparoabeats.radio12345.com. If you would like to get involved and play your own tunes you can contact them on paparoabeats@gmail.com.**Tea & Talk** An afternoon of good food, great company and a dash of fun. 4th Saturday of each month at the Footprints Room behind Holy Trinity Church, 132 Hurdall St East, Maungaturoto, 3-4:30pm. Next High Tea is Oct 24, theme: Spring is Blooming. Cost \$10. Contact Kirsten to book a place on 021 1807 321.**Anglican Parish of Paparoa**

For the next three months it has been decided that all services will be held in Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto at 10am. All are welcome to these services.

Oct	4 -	Holy Trinity - 10am Eucharist - Rev'd Kim
	11	Holy Trinity - 10am - Cafe
	18	Holy Trinity - 10am - Morning Prayer
	25	Holy Trinity - 10am - Morning Prayer

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REGULAR EVENTS, MEETINGS AND ORGANISATIONS

Aladdin's Cave Op Shop At Grow Paparoa Community Garden open Sat 9am-1pm

Anglican Church St Marks Hook Road, ph 431 8193 for services info

Ararua Church 10.30am every Sunday. All welcome Ph 431 6622

Coates Memorial Church, Matakahe Phone 020 446 1645 for services information

Badminton Thursdays 7pm Paparoa Hall \$2 students, \$3 adults, Pete 021 056 7163

Art Studio, Ruawai Wed 10-12noon ph Frances 439 2554

Farmers' Market Every Saturday 8.30-Noon, Village Green. Stall info Stephen Findlay 022 480 1066 or 09 4316 148.

Grey Power Last Wed in month, 1pm, Anglican Church Hall, Maungaturoto

Grow Paparoa Thur/Fri 9am to 12pm at the Community Gardens

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Maungaturoto, All welcome. Ph 431 8193 for services information.

Kaipara Marching Team Weds 4-5.30pm, M'gto, Ph Lyn Hutchings 022 070 8674

Line Dancing Thurs 10am-noon Paparoa Hall Ph Jackie Cornes 027 368 7298

Mainly Music Wed 9.30am Paparoa Comm Church, Lynaire Porteous 431 7520

Matakahe Garden Circle 1st Weds each month, 1pm, J Mackinnon 431 6689.

Maungaturoto Opportunity Shop Open Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 10-3, Thurs 10.30-3. Alternate Sat mornings 10am-1pm. Check FB on Sat.

Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary Club Maungaturoto Centennial Hall, Tuesday evenings 6pm, Ph Stella 021 149 0877

Otamatea Quilters 1st and 3rd Mon month 10am, Paparoa Hall 09 439 2262

Outdoor Bowls Maungaturoto Green Ph Tony 431 6026 or Brian 431 6884

Pahi Hall available for hire Ph Tina 0210335128

Paparoa Community Church Sundays 10.30am, 4 Hook Road, 431 6795 or Dave Porteous 0274 180 676

Paparoa Box Fit Every Wednesday 6-7pm, Stretching/Cardio/Boxing \$10, Paparoa Hall, Stacey Watson 09 283 9931

Paparoa Exercise to Music Every Tuesday 10:30-11:30, Stretching/Balance/Resistance/ Bands/Zumba, \$5, Paparoa Hall, Stacey Watson 09 283 9931

Paparoa Community Gym To join email Libby at hames.jones@xtra.co.nz

Paparoa Hall Functions venue. For bookings ph Robyn 431 7306

Paparoa Library Mon, Wed 2-4.30, Tues 10-1, Thurs 10-4, Fri 11-1.30, Sat 10-12.

Library Manager 09 431 7555 during library hours. Returns Box at Skeltons

Paparoa Lions Dinner Meetings 3rd Mon in month 6.30pm, Sports Pavilion

Paparoa Mah Jong Group 1st & 3rd Tues, Paparoa Hall 10-noon, Sara 021 0774947

Paparoa Playcentre Tuesday and Thursday 10am-1pm. Franklin Rd. Visitors welcome. paparoa@playcentre.org.nz

Paparoa Primary School 2025 - Term 3 - 14 July - 19 Sept, Term 4 - 6 Oct - 16 Dec Ph 431 7379

Paparoa Toy Library Wed 10-11.30am, Paparoa Community Church, 4 Hook Rd

Paparoa Volunteer Rural Fire Force (VRFF) 1st and 3rd Monday of the month 6.30pm Depot Rd ph Ken Ogilvie 021 129 4042

Plunket Ready Steady Wriggle Mon 10am. At playcentre. Tina Ball 021 033 5128

Selwyn Centre Thurs 9.45am for over 65's, St Marks, Hook Rd, Sue 027 417 4626

Sports Pavilion Functions Venue Bookings ph Jane Bailey 431 6148

St Mary's Catholic Church Maungaturoto 10am Wed, 4pm Saturday

Table Tennis Tues 7.30pm, Sports Pavilion. \$2 Pete 021 056 7163

Tennis Tues Jnr 3.30 & 4.30pm, adult 5.30. Juliet 021 143 2560, Pete 021 056 7163

Yoga For Everyone Tues and Fri, 9.30am, Sports Pavilion. Hatha yoga & more. \$15. Equipment provided. Beginners welcome. Ph Luciana for more info 0221896496

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LOCAL TIDES for OCTOBER 2026

TIDES - CALCULATED for PAHI-WHAKAPIRAU

DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	08.30	14.54	17th	09.32	15.59
2nd	09.19	15.47	18th	10.25	17.01
3rd	10.16	16.52	19th	11.30	18.16
4th	11.26	18.14	20th	12.45	06.53
5th	12.48	06.50	21st	13.55	08.02
6th	14.09	08.11	22nd	14.52	08.59
7th	15.14	09.20	23rd	15.37	09.47
8th	16.06	10.14	24th	16.19	10.28
9th	16.50	11.00	25th	16.59	11.08
10th	17.31	11.40	26th	17.39	11.47
11th	18.08	12.17	27th	18.21	12.28
12th	06.27	12.51	28th	06.44	13.10
13th	07.02	13.24	29th	07.29	13.56
14th	07.37	13.57	30th	08.17	14.45
15th	08.12	14.32	31st	09.10	15.42
16th	08.49	15.11			

Community Directory

EMERGENCY: FIRE ■ POLICE ■ AMBULANCE dial 111

COAST TO COAST HEALTH CARE

Maungaturoto Medical Centre: 8am-5pm Mon-Fri..... 09 431 8576

Paparoa Clinic: Open Tues and Thurs 8am-5pm..... 09 431 7222

For urgent after hours medical service (Wellsford)..... 09 423 8086

DISTRICT NURSE Dargaville Hospital 09 439 3330

Healthline - 24 hour service..... 0800 611 116

HOSPICE KAIPARA Dargaville Hospital..... 09 439 3330

KAIPARA DISTRICT COUNCIL Helpline 0800 727 059

LINKING HANDS Health Shuttle Service, Maungaturoto....09 431 8969

LIONS CLUB PAPAROA President Sarolta Bernhardt.... sarolta@bernhardts.co.nz

MAUNGATUROTO PHARMACY 09 431 8045

RIVERVIEW REST HOME 09 431 8696

OTAMATEA COMMUNITY SERVICES Community House 09 431 9080

PAPAROA LIBRARY Free Membership. Ph 09 431 7555 (Bus hours)
Mon, Wed 2-4.30, Tues 10-1, Thurs 10-4 Fri 11-1.30, Sat 10-12

PAPAROA PLAYCENTRE paparoa@playcentre.org.nz

PAPAROA PLUNKET Appointments/enquiries 0800 184 803

PLUNKET Helpline 0800 933 922

PAPAROA PRIMARY SCHOOL Principal Karyn Taylor.....09 431 7379

PHYSIOTHERAPIST At Paparoa Medical Centre, Mondays. Book on
431 9062 or email admin@maungaturotophysio.co.nz

PROGRESSIVE PAPAROA INC (PPI).....Pete Hames 021 0567163

PARENT PORT Inc free help for families 425 9357 or 027 280 5093

World famous in Paparoa

Frans Jansen rose to fame as a model on a photographic print which was judged "Gold with Distinction".

Sarahlee Cobb, his daughter in law, from Sarahlee Studio in Whangarei, went to extraordinary lengths to create this photo. It shows Frans doing what he loves best, forging arty crafty stuff using old horse shoes and a lot of fire.

This image was awarded 95/100, a Gold with Distinction, in the Portrait Category at the New Zealand Institute of Professional Photography's Annual Iris Awards in August (in Christchurch).

It was the highest scoring image in Sarahlee's portfolio this year, which helped her gain her Masters with Distinction.



Photo credit: Sarahlee Cobb at Sarahlee Studio

PP



Paparoa and Surrounding Areas

BUSINESS SHOWCASE 2026

Sunday 18th OCTOBER



Calling all business owners! Register now for this amazing opportunity to showcase your business, products and services.

GIFTS - TASTINGS - FOOD - ARTS - WELLBEING

It's free to register and free public admission on the day.
Network with other local business owners.
Sell your products and meet new customers.
27 Indoor Stalls

Remember to book your two minutes on stage, to tell us about your business.
Can't make it? Send us a poster for the noticeboard.

TRADES - SERVICES - DEMONSTRATIONS

Paparoa Memorial Hall - 1pm to 5pm.

Email us for your registration link: paparoa.ca@gmail.com

scan to register your business today.




From Taipuha to Wellington: The Northland story I carry with me

My strongest childhood memories are of arriving at my grandparents' farm at Taipuha for the school holidays and discovering that being a grandchild did not exempt you from work. Sir Graham and Lady Emily Latimer were simply Nana and Grandpa to us and there were cows to milk, fences to fix and hay to bale.

We caused our share of havoc. I buckled the cowshed fencing, released stock into the wrong paddock and drove a tractor into a ditch. Now that we own a farm, I understand those mishaps rather differently with my own grandchildren. Perhaps the irony is how life comes full circle farming, family and politics

My grandparents moved from Tinopai to Taipuha in 1979. They later mortgaged the farm to help enable the landmark 1987 legal challenge concerning the Crown's

Treaty obligations. As a child, I knew none of this. It was simply Nana and Grandpa's farm.

Along the campaign trail, Northlanders have shared pieces of their story with me. In Ruawai, one woman recalled fresh flounder and kumara being gathered and delivered to my grandfather at Tinopai, while another spoke of Lady Emily's tennis days. Such encounters remind me that history lives not only in books, but in the memories people carry.

That legacy of service is why I am standing for Parliament: to listen, bring people together and advocate strongly for Northland. Whatever happens on 7 November, I will keep working for Northland and our families. Service is not about holding a title; **it is about what you are prepared to do for the people and place you love.**

✓ **Ashleigh Latimer**
for Northland



Labour



Authorised by Rob Salmond, 2 Gilmer Terrace, Wellington.