



Maungaturoto Family Fitness opens!

A new locally owned, family friendly gym has opened its doors in Maungaturoto, giving residents a convenient place to exercise close to home.

Maungaturoto Family Fitness was created by local siblings Jesse Jensen and Emma Mak, together with their partners, Georgia Jensen and Ben Mak. As two local families, the four saw a gap in the community and wanted to create something that would benefit people throughout Maungaturoto and the surrounding areas.

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the gym has been designed to make fitness more accessible for people with busy lives. Its welcoming, family friendly environment caters to people



Maungaturoto Family Fitness is now welcoming new members, with



memberships starting from \$20 per week. The gym is also running a special promotion - Bring a friend who signs up and receive one month free added to your membership.

If you are interested in joining, arranging a visit or learning more we encourage you to get in touch or pop in to see Georgia in the office Monday - Friday 8.30am - 5pm.

Email: maungaturotofamilyfitness@gmail.com

www.maungaturotofamilyfitness.nz

Georgia & The MFF Team



of all ages and at every stage of their fitness journey, from those stepping into a gym for the first time to experienced gym goers looking for a convenient local option.

"We're proud to have created something positive for our community and are excited to offer local families a place where they can feel comfortable, supported and motivated."

St Michael on the Hill

This beautiful historic church at Hukatere is now holding services every **Sunday at 10am**.

Moved from Hakaru to Hukatere in 1939, the 160 year old church was saved from another move to Mangawhai by a local resident who purchased and now cares for it.

They have generously given the use of it back to the local community.

PP



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Dementia in Rural Northland:

Understanding, Planning and Supporting Each Other

By Rhonda Preston-Jones, Dementia Works Educator

Dementia is something many of us would rather not think about, yet it's already part of daily life for whānau across New Zealand. Around 83,000 New Zealanders live with dementia, and that number is rising. Most of us know someone affected.

For rural Northland communities, dementia brings particular challenges. Distance can make diagnosis and specialist support harder to access, and once driving becomes unsafe, staying connected gets much harder. Poor mobile coverage can also make telehealth less useful than in larger centres.

Dementia is not a normal part of ageing. It's an umbrella term for conditions affecting memory, thinking, communication and daily life. Alzheimer's disease is the most common type, alongside vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia and frontotemporal dementia. Some people develop symptoms before 65.

The early signs can be subtle, including repeating

questions, losing confidence with familiar tasks, confusion with time or place, or seeming unlike themselves. These changes don't always mean dementia, but are worth discussing with a GP. Early assessment helps people plan ahead and stay independent longer.

Rural planning often includes issues city families may not face, such as machinery, livestock, firearms, finances, succession planning and driving, which may all need handling early and sensitively. Many Northlanders value independence and "just getting on with it", but dementia isn't something families should manage alone.

Language matters. People are not "demented" or "lost"; they are people



with dementia can be rewarding, but exhausting too. Care partners in rural communities often have fewer respite options and fewer people nearby who understand what they're carrying. Checking in or simply listening without judgement can ease the load.

Dementia can feel frightening, but knowledge reduces fear. By talking openly, recognising changes early and supporting one another, rural Northland communities can help

people with dementia live with dignity and connection.

If this speaks to you or your whānau, Riverview is hosting a free community seminar on dementia, presented by Rhonda Preston-

Jones, Saturday 26 September, 11am - 3pm at Maungaturoto Country Club.

Entry is free with a gold coin donation to Dementia NZ, and food and drink are provided. Register at www.riverviewliving.nz.



living with dementia, with preferences, abilities and relationships still intact. A kind word or help with transport can make a real difference, and local clubs, churches and neighbours all have a role.

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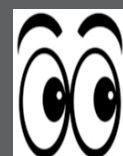
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WHEN: Sunday 18th OCTOBER

WHERE: Paparoa Memorial Hall – 1pm to 5pm



Find out what's available in your local area.

Entry is FREE to this event. It's also free to book a stall for your business.

Talk to the experts and check out their products and services. Watch demonstrations, sample tasty treats, loads of useful information and gifts to buy.

Make sure you enter the 'Business Trivia Quiz', and be in to win gift vouchers to use at the Paparoa Farmer's Market. The quiz will be available to fill in on the day, and at the Farmers Market from Saturday the 3rd of October for early-bird entries. Prizes drawn at the event, 3pm.

There's a lot to discover locally. Cottage industries, workshops, training opportunities, garden supplies, pet services, commercial businesses, farming supplies, bespoke food and beverage, construction and engineering, trades, craft and artisan products and much more.

To book a stall for your business: Scan the QR code on our poster (page 9) or email us at paparoa.ca@gmail.com.

See you 18th October for a great afternoon, and a chance to win!

PPI

ST JOHN TRASH AND TREASURE

This annual event is happening again
5th to 9th October.

This is the Otamatea Area Committee's major fundraising event for which we appreciate the support we get from the wider community.

If you have good quality items to donate to this cause, Kenny and Terri put times on Facebook when they will be at the Centennial Hall.

Or you can phone Terri 021 0222 0218, or Eileen 021 142 0357.

Please do not leave items outside the Hall.

Closer to the time we will arrange to collect items if you live in close proximity to Maungaturoto.

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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Paparoa School news

What an incredible few weeks it has been at Paparoa School! Our much-anticipated Wearable Arts Show, Page to Parade, was an epic success and certainly a highlight of our

school year.

Our students transformed the Paparoa Memorial Hall into a world of nursery rhymes, fairy tales and classic stories. The creativity displayed in their costumes was outstanding, but it was the confidence, enthusiasm and personality they brought to the runway that truly made the show so special. Every child stepped onto the stage and gave it their all - we could not have been more proud of them.

It was wonderful to see such overwhelming support from our whānau and wider community at both performances. Events of this size take an enormous amount of work, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who helped with costumes, rehearsals, transport, lighting, decorations, setting up and packing down.

A special thank you goes to Adam Stevens for providing the stage scaffolding and to our dedicated staff, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring the production together.



With the curtain now closed on Page to Parade, we are turning our attention to the next exciting opportunities on our school calendar.

Our students are preparing for the school cross-country, building their fitness, determination and resilience as they train. We are also beginning the third year of our calf-rearing programme, with calves arriving from generous farmers around our district. Our senior students will learn to feed, lead and care



for their calves while developing responsibility, patience and strong connections with our rural community.

Looking to the Future

Our Board has made the decision to begin the Recapitation application process with the Ministry of Education. This would allow Paparoa School to extend through to Years 7 and 8 from 2028, giving local whānau another choice for their children's



intermediate education.

This is only the beginning of a comprehensive process, which will include consultation with our school community, neighbouring schools, transport providers and the Ministry of Education. We look forward to hearing the views of our community as we explore whether this exciting opportunity is the right next step for Paparoa School.

There is never a dull moment at Paparoa School, and we look forward to sharing these next adventures with you.

Ngā mihi nui,
Karyn Taylor
Principal



You can see these wonderful pictures in colour at paparoa.org.nz

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A century of the Family Benefit - the Kaipara connection

What does a large, historic family estate in rural Kaipara have to do with the introduction of the Family Benefit? The common denominator is Gordon Coates - the first elected, New Zealand-born Prime Minister, and the driving force behind the introduction of the world's first fully state-funded family benefit.

August 17 marks the 100th anniversary of the introduction of the Family Allowances Bill - one of the most enlightened social security initiatives introduced by any government.

"Gordon Coates was a conservative politician whose family had farmed the Kaipara for many decades. Ruatuna - the family farm in Matakohē - was at the heart of the Coates family," says Mary Stevens, the Property Host of Ruatuna. "Today it is cared for by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, and includes artefacts associated with Gordon Coates and the wider Coates family."

The Family Allowances Act 1926 provided a means-tested allowance to help low-income households with a weekly payment of 2s (estimated to be the equivalent of roughly \$5 today) which was paid for the third and each subsequent child. Support was restricted to families earning less than £4 per week. "It was expected that men in paid work were supposed to earn enough to support themselves, a wife and two children - hence no payments were made for the first two children," says Mary. "In what was also quite a radical move for the time, payments were made

directly to mothers, which provided official recognition of their role in the household economy and which also conveniently bypassed some fathers who may have been tempted to blow the benefit at the pub."

The government wasn't keen to throw money away, however. Māori applicants for the family benefit may have been subjected to particularly close examination by authorities, as one pointed letter shows. In it, the 'Registrar' had some questions for the Māori applicant based on what appeared to be a forensic interrogation of facts - as he perceived them anyway... "It is noted that your present occupation is Dairy milker and that your monthly average wage is £3, but I would like to know whether that is derived by supplying the Hokianga Dairy Company with butterfat, and if so kindly indicate your number as a supplier to this factory. It would seem, however, that so small an income is totally inadequate for the support of your family and yourself during the past 12 months, and as you have made no mention on page 2 of having received any income from the various sources mentioned

Continued next page...



Prime Minister Gordon Coates, wife Marjorie and their five daughters at Ariki Toa, the Prime Minister's residence in Tinakori Road, Thorndon.

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Letters from The Old Post Office...

Out, out brief candle. Life's but a walking shadow.*

Dear Reader, for those of you who know me (whether you acknowledge me is another matter) you will also know that my reading reaches far and wide.

My soul forever tainted by such classics as "1984" (read it and weep in recognition) A Brave New World (ditto) Grapes of Wrath (just weep) The Pedestrian, (soon to be here) There will come soft rains, (ditto) The Handmaid's Tale (ditto) and to top all that Kurtz final words in "Heart of Darkness," "The horror! The horror."

Is it small wonder that I search for writings that imagine a peaceful, kind world. One where discussions are based on evidence, not opinion and greed does not run rampant. Foolishly in view of this (as a little light relief), I gadded down to Auckland to view that play MacBeth, suitably garbed I might add in a vintage black velvet coat. My companion was lost for words. (He did not mutter "...is this a beautiful coat I see before me", yet his face spoke volumes). In some ways there was more acting in that moment than

was being performed on stage.

However, my searchings did bring to light a beautifully written novel where goodness does prevail. "The elegance of the hedgehog" by Muriel Barbery where acts of kindness may change lives and the quietly unassuming are more heroic than the brash and the loud. And, amidst all this I was more than happy to discover the recent (spurious according to the sainted offspring) research that indicates champagne may ward of dementia and heart disease. I may have mentioned this before, but it bears repeating I feel. In case you, Dear Reader, have forgotten! It also enables one to do the splits before your body remembers how ancient it is.

Chin chin

Deb

* Title from another cheerful little number, "Hamlet".





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Continued from previous page...

therein, I would like further information regarding your sources of sustenance..."

The family's survival appears to have been grounds for bureaucratic suspicion rather than a reflection of a whanau working together and supporting each other, or proof of genuine need.

"It's fair to say that the introduction of family allowances reflected Coates' progressive approach to welfare, but not necessarily that of his Party," says Mary.

"According to historian

Michael Basset, the Reform Party's constituency was largely conservative, urban and commercial – and so the policy may not have sat particularly well with the Party faithful."

Coates' government lost the 1928 election but his reform initiative survived. Two decades after the 1926 legislation, the government of Peter Fraser instituted its non-means-tested, universal family benefit in 1946 - an important source of support for families in the post-War period.

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Community Connections Day

We want to formally invite you to our upcoming Community Connections Day, which is being held at Maungatūroto Centennial Hall on **Thursday, 1 October 2026, from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.**

The response from organisations has been incredible, and we are delighted to confirm that more than 20 agencies and community services have already committed to attending, with more confirmations still coming in.

This is shaping up to be a fantastic day for local whānau, providing a unique opportunity to meet face-to-face with organisations that offer support, advice, information and practical assistance- all in one place.

Some of the services already confirmed include:

- Work and Income (WINZ)
- Inland Revenue (IRD)
- Whare Awhina Community Law
- ACC
- Electoral Commission
- Age Concern
- Age Concern- Elder Abuse Services
- Tiakina Te Kaitiaki- Caring for Carers
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
- The Generator
- Emerge Aotearoa
- Heart Foundation New Zealand
- Otamatea Community Services (OCS)
- Literacy Aotearoa
- Tokotoko Solutions
- Family Court Navigator
- EcoBulb
- Northpower
- ...and many more.

We are also continuing conversations with organisations from the education, training and employment sector and are very hopeful we'll be able to announce those in the coming weeks.

The day isn't just about information and services- it will also be a fun, welcoming event for the whole family.

We're thrilled that Creative Northland will be bringing their popular Outdoor Play Centre, giving tamariki the chance to explore, create and play. Thanks to the generosity of one of our wonderful sponsors, we'll also have a bouncy castle on site, and we're hoping to secure face painters to add even more excitement for the children.

To make everyone feel welcome, light refreshments and kai will be available throughout the day, encouraging people to relax, connect with one another and spend time exploring the many services available.

Our goal is simple: to strengthen community connections, improve access to support services, and make it easier for people to discover the incredible resources available across our region. Whether someone is looking for health advice, financial guidance, legal support, advocacy, education and employment opportunities, or simply wants to learn more about what's available locally, there will be something for everyone.

Whānau Focus Kaipara,
in conjunction with Heartland Services Dargaville

White Rock Gallery

White Rock Gallery is pleased to welcome Wendy Gregory to the team.

Wendy is a nurse, living in Paparoa, who is passionate about pottery. She has been potting for 30 years!

Pop up to the gallery to see her skilled work and the current display from our local artists and crafters.

You'll find us at 5 Church Road, Matakohē, inside the historic Post and Telegraph Office next to the Kauri Museum.

We're open 7 days a week, 10am-4pm.

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Jock's Advice for the Election

"Voting, mate, is like picking a ram...when the best isn't available...yer just grab the one that's not the worst!"

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Shaped by the values of service and community, Ashleigh has spent more than 25 years supporting local people across Northland.

With strong connections to the **Kaipara**, including **Tinopai** and **Taipuha**, Ashleigh understands that in rural communities, relationships matter and neighbours support one another.

Community isn't just a place. It's a way of life.
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✓ **Ashleigh Latimer**
for Northland



Authorised by Rob Salmond, 2 Gilmer Terrace, Wellington.





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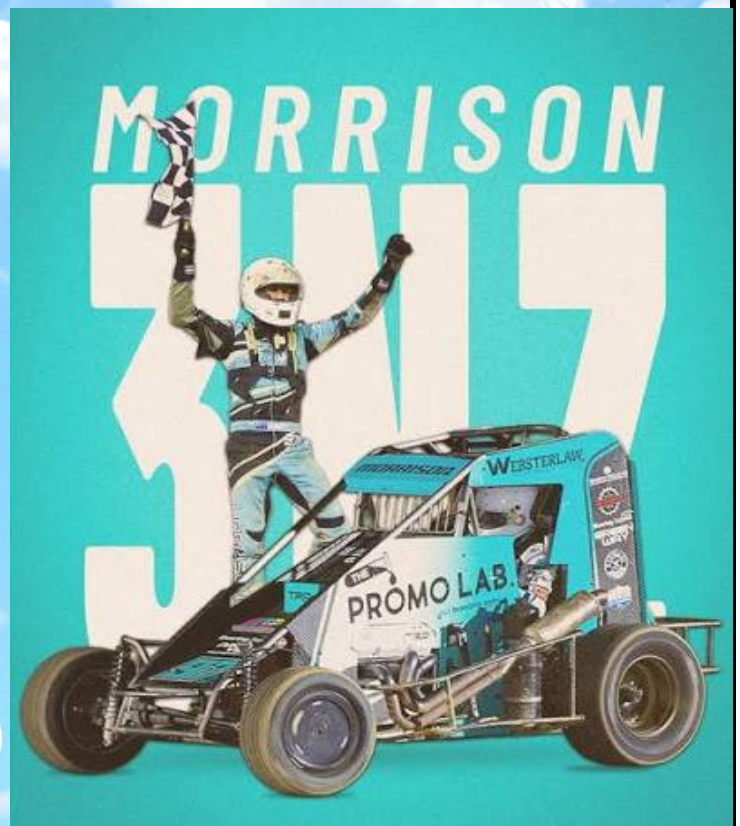
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My two cents worth

— It's a real dilemma, isn't it?



Our council was faced with the option of joining an amalgamation proposal anticipated to be costly to implement, provide no significant financial benefit to Kaipara and a probable reduction in representation for Kaipara's people; or proceed down the path of submitting a proposal which it knows does not meet the Government's criteria. That's a dilemma.

Either the Government will scrap its Head Start pathway or modify the criteria it has set out for qualifying eligible proposals, or it will decide that Kaipara must join its northern neighbours in a two-step (or possibly a one-step) dance. Of note are the Government's threshold requirements before any proposal is even assessed:

- Must be submitted by two or more territorial authorities (district or city councils). Regional councils cannot submit proposals.
- The proposing group must represent either a majority of the affected territorial authorities, or a majority of the population in the affected area.

Kaipara's proposal to make the Kaipara District a unitary council meets neither of these criteria. I'd be interested to know if our council is lobbying the Government and our local MP about changing those criteria.

So let's say the Government does alter its criteria, what next? Regional assets will be on the table; there is an office building in Dargaville of which KDC is a cornerstone tenant currently, and an awful lot of value tied up in the Port of Whangarei and Marsden Point. Will KDC get to see any of that? A regional land transport committee already exists, and Civil Defence Emergency Management is already co-ordinated on a regional basis, but we also will become responsible for the larger half of the biggest harbour in the Southern Hemisphere, as well as the Mangawhai Harbour. Where will the expertise and resources come from for managing them, along with biosecurity risks? I don't need those answers right now, but it would be nice to know that our council has been thinking about them. Don't you think?

Mark Vincent



OCS September News

Greetings. Our calendar for the month of September is as follows:

The free shopping trip to Whangarei is on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 23rd. The van leaves the Maungaturoto retirement village, Hurndall Street, at 9am and returns after lunch. This is a nice opportunity to get grocery shopping etc, and its free.

We will be holding our community lunch on Wednesday 16th at the Good News Church hall, Hurndall Street. Everyone welcome. We serve morning tea at 10am, lunch at 12, then draw the raffle at 1pm. Come along and enjoy.

Every Tuesday Victoria makes lunch for anyone who would like to pop in to the Community House, 155 Hurndall Street, from around 12 until 3pm.

Every Wednesday Mike's Dancing Dollars happens from 11 am to 1. Participants choose a menu, then buy ingredients, and prepare and share the meal. This is really great for those interested in making inexpensive but tasty and nourishing meals.

Take care of each other
From all at OCS

KDC 2026 Citizens Awards

Stella Clyde - Long Term Extraordinary Service Award

For more than 40 years, Stella has quietly and consistently supported her community through a wide range of projects and organisations.

These include as trustee and volunteer at Maungaturoto Op Shop, trustee and secretary of Paparoa County Depot Trust, member and secretary of Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary Club, volunteer at Otamatea Harbour Care Association. She is also recognised as a long serving volunteer of North Kaipara Agricultural and Pastoral Association, and for volunteering at both Albies Den Maungaturoto, and Maungaturoto Primary School. PP



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Volunteer drivers needed

Linking Hands Inc are looking for a few more volunteer drivers in the Maungaturoto/Paparoa area. If you have some free time, enjoy driving, meeting people and would like to give something back to the community, then we would love to hear from you!

All drivers are Police vetted.

Email linkinghandsmain@gmail.com or give the office a call on (09)431 8969 or 027 LINKING for more info. We look forward to hearing from you.

Death Without Debt Free workshop in Kaiwaka

Why are funerals so expensive and what can we do about it?

The average cost of a funeral is around \$13,000, almost 10 times what it costs for a dignified DIY approach.

The workshop will introduce you to:

- Funeral planning, wills, Powers of Attorney, advance care plans, probate;
- Understanding essential vs non-essential options, including the legal requirements around paperwork;
- Care and transport of the body;
- The pros and cons of cremation vs burial;
- Partnership with local providers, local and community initiatives.

**Sunday 13th September, 10am-12pm
Kaiwaka Sports Association Complex
2 Gibbons Rd, Kaiwaka**

Koha would be appreciated to cover the costs of the hall, tea and coffee.

Bring a journal to make notes, or a 65 page DIY funeral guide will be available for purchase on the day for \$25.

Register at www.deathwithoutdebt.org.nz or info@deathwithoutdebt.org.nz

Death Without Debt is a national not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers.

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BOOKS AND BOOKCLUBS

"Dearest Gentle Reader" - I have watched all that is Bridgerton on Netflix, steamy sex scenes and all. An extravaganza of Edwardian Mayfair High Society, Debutante Balls, beautifully choreographed dances (to modern popular songs played by string quartets), wit, gossip, scandal, good Queen Charlotte and mad King George. So of course I had to read the books, written by American author, Julia Quinn. "Bridgerton: The Duke and I" is the first in the series, featuring the eldest daughter of the Bridgerton family, Daphne, and the Duke of Hastings. I wondered if the books might be a bit "Mills and Boon" as it is in the genre of Historical Romance, but thankfully, no. Without all the visual dramatization of television, the passion, thoughts and feelings of the characters, family dynamics and societies quibbles (a word blended from quirks and foibles) are crystal clear. I even cried at one point. Each chapter is, of course, headed with an excerpt from the gossip column "Lady Whistledown's Society Papers. I am addicted. Next in the series: "The Viscount Who Loved Me".

"Adventures of a Country Vet" by Rory Dean. It would be very remiss of me not to review this book by our local vet and author. Published in 2024, I am sure you will all have read it already, searching to see if you recognize yourself or your neighbours, even though names have been changed for publication. I love this book for an assortment of reasons. Firstly because it supports the Rural Youth and Adult Literacy Trust and expressly forbids A.I. use of its contents. Secondly, the author is from Scotland, the home of my father's family, and has worked in my two favourite places in the world, rural South Canterbury below the magnificent, snow-covered Southern Alps, (my son-in-law manages a dairy farm in Otaio, Sth Canterbury), and the Northern Kaipara, specifically Pahi, Paparoa and Tinopai. (The cover photo has to be Tinopai looking across the water to the Pahi peninsula surely?) I haven't even owned a pet since my family grew up and know little about their medical needs and problems, let alone anything about farm animals and cows, except that I wouldn't want to be one - no sterile operating theatres, recovery rooms, just back out to the paddock having been cut open, human hands and arms groping around inside it, dead calves pulled out of it etc. Even so, I loved the medical knowledge dispersed amidst the amusing anecdotes. Enough specific detail to learn from, yet not so much as to interfere with the flow of the tale. Traumatic reticuloperitonitis for example, i.e. cows ingesting fence wire. I found such facts fascinating. I loved recognizing the land and the shared love of the land and its people. In spite of the trauma, heartbreak and humiliation contained in its pages, it is a happy book. What's not to like?

I had never heard of Belle da Costa Greene until I read "The Personal Librarian" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. She was a colored woman passing herself off as white in the very male world of New York's rich and famous in the turn of the century, 1893/1950. Personal Librarian to the financier J.P. Morgan, she became famous in her own right for her skill in amassing his collections of fine art and rare manuscripts. Particularly poignant are the authors' notes at the back of the book, one white and one African American, relating Belle's story to the present political/racial climate in America. Nothing changes it seems- we just go round in circles.

Anne Bate



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Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary

It is with sadness that we learnt of the passing of a former Rotarian, Dave Orford. Prior to moving to Tikipunga, Dave was an enthusiastic member of our club who always had good ideas and a willingness to be involved in any Club activities. Our sympathy to Yvonne and Dave's wider family.



As mentioned last month, progress continues to be made towards forming a Youth group in Paparoa. We are fortunate that there is a building that has been offered for our use and when it becomes available we will be able to encourage the Youth to learn more practical skills, like woodworking. In the meantime, this group have been offered a shed that they can refurbish and sell, so that is a project that they will work on in the immediate future. If you would like to support this group, please get in touch with President Tim via email: timmagill3@gmail.com or phone 027 271 4232.

President Tim, with the support of the Residents' Association members, has recently completed a shelter on the wharf at Bickerstaffe Road. The protection from the sun when fishing will make for a much more pleasurable experience.



We would like to congratulate Stella Clyde on her recently received, well-deserved Kaipara Citizens' Award. Stella is not only involved with Rotary but works in a voluntary capacity in many other areas of our community. Well done, Stella!

We have just received a poster and a short video from our exchange student, Penny, who is in Argentina. In the poster she is just finishing a road race and on the video clip she speaks very rapidly in very fluent Spanish. We are so glad that she has really immersed herself in this exchange which still has a little more than four months to go.

At the moment, we are meeting fortnightly, but not always at the hall, so if you are interested in joining us, please get in touch with Eileen- 021 142 0357.

Eileen



Paparoa Community Library

(Behind the Medical Centre)

Opening hours:

Monday & Wednesday 2pm - 4.30pm

Tuesday 10am - 1pm

Thursday 10am - 4pm

Friday 11am - 1.30pm

Saturday 10am - 12midday

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



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Science Corner**Octopus brains**

Incredible creatures that are unlike any others. Why?

1. The brain power of an octopus is completely different to humans and most other animals- yet it is an incredibly intelligent animal. It is more closely related to worms, snails and shellfish than to cats, dogs etc.

2. It has no spine but does have a very large nervous system and can solve problems and recognise people and trick or deceive them. But, they barely live to their second birthday. So how did they get so smart?

3. Their body is completely unprotected - like a piece of meat floating around in the sea - so did they get smart to survive? They live by their wits!

4. In fact, they are probably the closest we'll get to meeting an alien. Instead of the brain being in a central position like the head the neural cells are spread around the body of an octopus.

Octopuses originated approximately 530 million years ago during the Cambrian Explosion, evolving from small, shelled molluscs into the highly intelligent, soft-bodied cephalopods we recognize today. While the fossil record of soft-bodied creatures is sparse, genetic sequencing confirms a terrestrial lineage that predates the dinosaurs and defies traditional evolutionary mutation rates.



An engineer named Krantz decided he wanted to teach an octopus how to play the piano- with eight legs he thought it could play great chords. He called it Tako.

He bought an octopus from a seafood shop, then he built an underwater keyboard with pegs on the keys to make it easier for the octopus. He connected it to a speaker that transmitted vibrations as octopus don't have ears.

Tako did everything but play the instrument. He tasted it, tried to pull it apart and sat on it, then floated off, changing colour.

So, then Krantz decided to try and teach Tako- but we have very little in common with an octopus. Most of the other animals that can be taught are relatively long lived - as it takes a long time to grow a large brain.

Eventually after 6 months he managed to train Tako to play a few notes using food (crab) based training plus engineering tweaks and they were able to play a duet with Krantz strumming a guitar while Tako plonked away.

Interesting creatures - and I really hope no country ever agrees to the intensive farming of them by putting them in tiny cages.

Stella

Paparoa Volunteer Fire Brigade Join our team

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021 129 4042**



From our family to yours

Baby Daze: Take 6



As some of you know, we welcomed a new baby into our family in July. She's the little Em(ily) to the bigger Miss M, who is nearly 3 and taking this big sister business entirely in her stride. When you have 4 older brothers, you aren't fazed by much, I guess- but she has been a little bored by this baby and the apparent lack of interesting things she can do. Sleeping, pooping and crying wraps up the daily repeated schedule, even when Miss M brings her exciting toys to play with, she shows no interest. But Miss M is very caring, and loves to hold her hands and brush her hair as much as she can, making herself the chief chooser of outfits- how different a sister is. The novelty of daughters is still fresh for me.

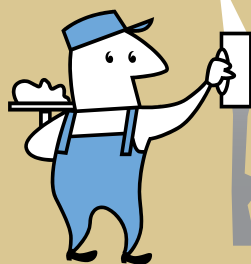
As is tradition, baby and I didn't leave the house till she was past a month old. Quite amusingly I was expecting to see a world of difference as I travelled around locally, beyond tyre skid marks in fresh places- and behold, there was a new fire station AND the promise of a Real Town Pies cafe! Plus a new playground at Pahi, this is rapid growth indeed! Wonderful developments!

Much CAN change in a small space of time, whether it be the development of a fresh human from womb to cradle, or an expansion of business from one town to the next. With the fresh Spring season upon us, what better time to watch the blossom and growth of life in its myriad of forms? With a new babe in arms, gardening takes a back seat again, as I watch rampaging chickens fertilising the deck, and bumblebees dancing from flower to flower. The slow pace suits me just fine this spring, so may you too take a moment to enjoy creation in all its glory!

Blessings, Jenny

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Wednesday 16th September 11am - 3pm

Outside Professionals Maungaturoto Office

Sausage Sizzle

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Spring Seed packet give away.

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Derek Birt, Mareretu
4316847

Karen Weber, Matakohe
431 7087 or 027 272 6676
By appointment.

Anglican Parish of Paparoa

Sept	6th	St Marks, Hook Rd, Paparoa, 10am Eucharist - Rev Kim Parker
	13th	Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto, 10am, Café
	20th	St Albans, Whakapirau, 10am Morning Worship
	27th	St Marks, Hook Rd, Paparoa, 10am Morning Worship

Parish Office: at Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto
PO Box 8, Maungaturoto

Phone: (09) 431 8778

Email: maungaturotoholyltrinity@gmail.com

WHAT'S ON - SEPTEMBER 2026

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

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

Death Without Debt - Free DIY funeral workshop, Kaiwaka. Sun Sept 13, 10am & 12pm. See p17 for more details & registration info.

Professionals Sausage Sizzle / Wig Wednesday - Wed Sept 16, 11am-3pm. Supporting the Child Cancer Foundation. Outside Professionals, Hurndall St, Maungaturoto. See p17 for more.

First National Fun Day Out - Sat Sept 19, 10am-2pm. First National carpark, Hurndall St, Maungaturoto. See poster p11.

Pahi Boat Club Seafood Festival - Sat Sept 19, 12-10pm. See poster below.

Understanding Dementia - Free seminar. Sat Sept 26, 11am-3pm. Maungaturoto Country Club, Bickerstaff Rd, Maungaturoto. For reservations and more info see poster back page.

Coming up in October:

Heartland Services Community Connections Day - Thurs Oct 1, 10am-2pm. Maungaturoto Centennial Hall. See pages 8 & 9 for more info.

St Johns Trash & Treasure - Mon Oct 5 - Fri 9. Maungaturoto Centennial Hall. See page 3 for more info.

Paparoa Business Showcase - Sun Oct 18, 1-5pm. Paparoa War Memorial Hall. Trade, services, demonstrations. See pages 3 & 10 for more info.

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- \$1 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.

Paparoa Beats 88.3fm Community radio based right here in Paparoa. A "Beautiful Resistance" to the mainstream. Also available online at paparoabeats.radio12345.com. If you would like to get involved and play your own tunes you can contact them on paparoabeats@gmail.com.

Tea & Talk Come and enjoy good food and some activities on the 4th Saturday of each Month at the Footprints Room behind the Anglican Church, 132 Hurndall St East, Maungaturoto, 3-4:30pm. Next High Tea is Sept 26, theme: Bees & Honey. Cost \$10. Contact Kirsten to book a place on 021 1807 321.

SEAFOOD Festival
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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 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIDES - CALCULATED for PAHI-WHAKAPIRAU

DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	07.10	13.32	17th	08.23	14.44
2nd	07.50	14.13	18th	09.06	15.33
3rd	08.36	15.01	19th	10.01	16.39
4th	09.29	16.01	20th	11.13	18.03
5th	10.35	17.18	21st	12.37	06.37
6th	11.55	18.47	22nd	13.47	07.50
7th	13.19	07.15	23rd	14.39	08.45
8th	14.29	08.30	24th	15.19	09.29
9th	15.25	09.30	25th	15.56	10.06
10th	16.12	10.20	26th	16.31	10.42
11th	16.54	11.04	27th	18.06	12.16
12th	17.34	11.43	28th	06.27	12.52
13th	18.11	12.20	29th	07.05	13.29
14th	06.33	12.55	30th	07.46	14.10
15th	07.09	13.29			
16th	07.45	14.05			

Community Directory

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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 PLUNKETAppointments/enquiries 0800 184 803

PLUNKET Helpline 0800 933 922

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

PHYSIOTHERAPISTAt Paparoa Medical Centre, Mondays. Book on

431 9062 or email admin@maungaturotophysio.co.nz

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

PARENT PORT Incfree help for families 425 9357 or 027 280 5093



Understanding Dementia

FREE Community Education Seminar

Saturday 26 September, 11am–3pm

- Food and drink provided (please register for catering)
- Maungaturoto Country Club, 84 Bickerstaffe Road
- Free entry with a gold coin donation to Dementia NZ



Presented by
Rhonda Preston-Jones,
Dementia Works Educator

Dementia is already touching many local families, and the numbers are rising. Join us for a free practical and helpful seminar on understanding dementia, spotting early signs, and supporting someone you love.

Register at
www.riverviewliving.nz

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