

# ŌTAKI TODAY

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ĀKUHATA/AUGUST 2023

Ngā Kōrero o Ōtaki



Restaurant/bar planned p5



Happy chooks p19



Alizay's golden boot p24

## 'Quiet' streets threatened

By Ian Carson

**A couple of quiet streets in Ōtaki might soon be rumbling with construction traffic after plans were recently revealed for an adjoining subdivision.**

Residents of Sue Avenue and Moy Place, off the old main highway north of the Ōtaki River, are concerned that access to the 183-lot subdivision will be only via their streets.

"The plans show no other way in or out," says Lyall Payne, who lives on Moy Place and has become a de facto spokesperson for residents. "I don't understand why vehicle access can't come directly from the highway."

The residents – and Kāpiti Coast District Council – have little say in the project. The developer, Wakefield Group Holdings, has been approved for referral under the Covid19 (Fast Track Consenting) Act, rather than the Resource Management Act. This legislation is aimed at fast-tracking housing developments.

The resource consent in this case is being lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority and assessed by an expert consenting panel, rather than the local council.

Iwi, however, do have to be consulted, and *Ōtaki Today* understands Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki has some concerns, too. One is that traffic through the two existing streets will affect the peace and quiet of the occupants of Moy Place. It says the plans should be amended so the subdivision has its own connection to the highway.

Consent is being sought for a 183-lot subdivision, incorporating 137 residential allotments ranging in size from 76sq m to 925sq m. It includes 57 semi-detached terraced two-storey blocks, 39 car parking allotments for the terraced housing, and shared open spaces.

Six residents who are closest to the planned 4ha subdivision received letters advising of the plans from Cuttriss Consultants on June 26.



Resident Lyall Payne at Moy Place. A developer plans to access a new subdivision via the end the street behind Lyall.

Photo Ōtaki Today

The letter said the residents would be invited to provide comment to the expert panel.

"That letter was the first anyone heard of it," Lyall says. "Now we're trying to provide feedback to the panel, but the fast-track process gives us very little time to prepare and reply."

"Cuttriss have been obstructive to this process and are unwillingness to share information. It's just not good enough. We seem to have no say in a development that is going to have a huge impact on our lives."

Sue Avenue and Moy Place residents are worried that heavy trucks and construction traffic will be on their narrow streets while the subdivision and houses are built. Once people move in, traffic volumes for both streets, which are currently cul-de-sacs, will increase significantly.

Plans seen by *Ōtaki Today* show several allotments that back on to the highway.

"They should put an access road right there, or even use an easement just north of the subdivision," Lyall says. "That would mean we wouldn't have to worry about the safety of children and other people here, and continue to enjoy the lifestyle we moved here for."

He says that large trucks and a big increase in traffic would also make it dangerous for children at the well-used children's playground on the corner of Sue Avenue and Moy Place.

A group of residents representing 30 properties in the area took their concerns to the August 8 meeting of the Ōtaki Community Board. Chair Cam Butler allowed a free exchange of questions to and from the board, rather than allowing three minutes only for public speakers.

He said the board saw the residents' point of view and would exert as much pressure as possible on the consenting authority to come to a solution that took current residents' concerns into account. However, he conceded that the fast-track legislation left little room for the board or the council to influence decisions.

"It looks like you're getting a raw deal but there's not much we can do," Cam said.

However the board moved a resolution that "the Ōtaki Community Board writes to the decision-making committee in regards to the Wakefield development on 33 Main Highway, Ōtaki and the current design of access for vehicles."

See also

- 'Safety considered' and 'Plan change approved', page 4.
- Editorial, page 12

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## WHAT'S ON

**REPAIR CAFÉ:** Don't dump the things that don't work any more – get them fixed, and maybe learn how to do it yourself next time. The Ōtaki Repair Café is back at the Memorial Hall, Sunday, August 27, 10-2pm. Organised by Energise Ōtaki.

**SWEENEY TODD the Demon Barber of Fleet Street:** An Ōtaki Players production, at the Civic Theatre, August 24 to September 9. See otakiplayers.nz for tickets.

**TOTE MODERN:** Ōtaki Pottery Club's guest artists in August are functional tableware potter Lyuba Zhilkina and sculptor, ceramicist and painter Liz Earth. At Ōtaki-Māori Racing Club, Te Roto Rd, Ōtaki. Open 10am-3pm Friday to Sunday.

**ŌTAKI COMMUNITY EXPO:** Saturday, September 9, 10am-2pm. An opportunity for community, sports and leisure groups to explain what they do and boost membership. To book a stall, contact Katie, otakicomunityexpo@gmail.com

**TE HORO SCHOOL COUNTRY FAIR** September 9, 11am-3pm. Sponsored by Kelly & Co Ōtaki. Pony rides, bouncy castle, live music, bric a brac, toys, books, cafe, cakes, barbeque. Crockerly smash. Gum boot throw. Fun for everyone.

**COMMUNITY BOARDS:** The **Ōtaki Community Board** meets next at 7pm, Tuesday September 19, in the Gertrude Atmore Lounge (attached to the Memorial Hall). The next **Waikanae Community Board** meeting is at 7pm, Tuesday September 12 at the Waikanae Community Centre, 28 Utauta St. The public is welcome at community board meetings. Search "meetings and agendas" at kapiticoast.govt.nz from two days before the meeting for the agenda, which is also at council libraries and service centres. To speak at a meeting, register by calling 04 296 4700 or 0800 486 486, or email democracy.services@kapiticoast.govt.nz

**COMMUNITY NETWORKING:** An opportunity for any agency providing a service to the people of Ōtaki to find out what each other is doing. First Tuesday of every month, 9.30am for an hour at the Gertrude Atmore Supper Room (by the library). Contact Marilyn 021 2255 684.

**CASUAL GET-TOGETHER:** Looking for company? A new resident of Ōtaki? Come along for a coffee and chat, 10am on the first Wednesday of every month at RiverStone Café (next to Kathmandu). All welcome. Contact Marilyn 021 2255 684.

**ŌTAKI MARKET:** Ōtaki Market is on the old SH1, opposite New World. Open autumn/winter on the first and third Sunday of the month (and fifth if there is one). Runs from 9am-2pm. Contact Georgie 027 234-1090.

**TOI MATARAU GALLERY:** Toi Matarau is a summit for multidisciplinary arts where Māori and indigenous artists gather, collaborate, are inspired and supported. Located in the Māoriland Hub in the heart of Ōtaki village. It is the front face of Māoriland, presenter of the Māoriland Film Festival and home to Māoriland Films.. See toi.maorilandfilm.co.nz

**ŌTAKI MUSEUM:** See the current exhibition about the Railway area of Ōtaki. Visitors can also play the old theatre pianola while at the museum. The Anne Thorpe Reading Room is open at the same times as the museum, 10am-2pm Thursday to Saturday, except public holidays. 49 Main St. Ōtaki. 06 364-6886.

**ŌTAKI GARAGE SALE:** Third Saturday of the month, 9am-11.30am, Presbyterian Church, 249 Mill Rd. 06 364-6449. Rev Peter Jackson 021 207 9455, owpresb@xtra.co.nz

**ŌTAKI STROKE SUPPORT GROUP & WELLNESS CENTRE:** Meets for "Sit & Be Fit" classes, 10am Friday mornings at Senior Citizen's Hall, Rangitira Street. All welcome.

**ŌTAKI LIBRARY – ALL SESSIONS FREE:** (Except public holidays)

**JP service** every Monday 10.30am-12.30pm;  
**Age Concern** every 2nd Thursday 10am-noon  
**Greypower** 1st & 3rd Thursday 10.30am-1.30pm.

**MAHARA iti**, 2 Mahara Place, Waikanae. Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm. All welcome. Free entry.

**CHOIRS** Let's Sing Ōtaki, Tuesdays 2-3pm, Hadfield Hall. Kāpiti Women's Choir, Mondays 1.30-3pm, Baptist Church, Te Moana Rd, Waikanae. New members welcome. Enquires to Ann-Marie Stapp 021 492 127.

**WAIKANA BEACH INDOOR MARKET:** ?, 10am-1pm, at the Waikanae Beach Community Hall, 22 Rauparaha St, Waikanae Beach. Enjoy a day out at our friendly market, where you can pick up a bargain or gift from one of our talented stallholders. To list an event, contact debbi@idmedia.co.nz

# Hipkins handed a poisoned chalice

**Prime minister Chris Hipkins has many reasons to believe that he inherited a poisoned chalice from his political friend, Dame Jacinda Ardern, when he was voted into the office by the Labour Party caucus.**

With just under four months to go to the scheduled election, his efforts to get his party on to a stable and forward-looking platform ready for campaigning continue to be undermined by incidents or events rooted in policies and personalities for which his predecessor carried responsibility.

The list is long. It includes Michael Wood's failure to record his shareholdings; Grant Robertson's unbridled flooding of the economy with cash ostensibly to cover-off an economic downturn brought on by Covid but too much directed at favoured social causes; Stuart Nash's questionable relationship with constituents; and the public call by Kelvin Davis for a lessening of numbers in prisons.

It is probable that Kiri Allan's fall from grace will be a final nail in the coffin of the Hipkins administration. Former Labour cabinet ministers can't now see a route for Labour to come through as a government, let alone as a senior partner in a coalition.

As a cabinet minister, Hipkins was privy to decision making of the Ardern government. But reality, and responsibility, place the prime minister as the guiding hand and keeper of political stance – what Rob Muldoon used to call the "tidiness" of the government. It is Hipkins who is suffering the downside of lax internal stewardship during the Ardern era.

When Helen Clark was prime minister, one of her first pieces of advice for ministers was to never drink liquor and then drive. Government

## POLITICS



BRUCE KOHN

cars with chauffeur would always be available to ensure ministers could socialise with constituents or family and feel safe from transportation pressures.

The low death rate New Zealand experienced during the Covid epidemic, and a stellar performance of leadership following the Christchurch mosque shootings, allowed Ardern a political licence that enabled easy forgiveness of lesser matters. Her communication qualities on show internationally added to an aura of unique quality.

Hindsight can deliver contrasting verdicts when governments have been forced to make difficult and complex decisions at times of stress. Many of these verdicts on the Ardern administration are not favourable for Hipkins. They are, however, favourable to Winston Peters. It was he who during the last election canvassed the belief that it was only the presence of NZ First around the cabinet table that prevented Labour going off in a variety of extreme directions unwanted by the electorate.

Now, just as Hipkins seeks to present a new face of Labour government and ministers at regular intervals undermine his progress, the old warrior resurfaces to seek out disaffected Labour voters who can't stomach the thought of voting for National. Unless Shane Jones can win Northland, which he is quite capable of doing, Peters needs a 5 percent vote around the country to get his party back to Parliament.

Both Peters and Jones have the nasal talent of a bloodhound for issues that resonate with voters wavering in their support of whichever party is in government. It is a quality that is likely to bring NZ First back to Parliament.

National will hammer Labour on its record of growing national indebtedness, with gross national debt now at \$790 billion, up 60 percent

from 2016. The figure equates to \$151,000 for every New Zealander.

On its own the figure provokes alarm bells. But it can be handled reasonably well if savings rates and assets grow and there is no significant worsening of New Zealand's current account deficit, now at 8.5 percent of GDP, or \$33 billion.

Peters will elevate National's criticisms to an even higher level, arguing that in taking issue with Labour he, as a former treasurer in a National coalition, has the credibility of experience in the finance role to know a questionable performance when he sees it, and how to fix it.

A NZ First rise will complicate party alignment on the right of the political spectrum. National's determination to show it is a moderate party, conservative in approach with an emphasis on management, has left scope for Act to show its more radical liberal inclinations.

Interaction between National and Act, and potentially NZ First, in an administration containing personalities from each would largely represent a coalition of the same political elements and factions that under FPP fought out their preferences for action behind the closed doors of National's caucus.

The differences today are primarily greater public transparency of their opinions and the need as separate parties, rather than internal factions, to advance their solutions in headlines. The likely outcome to the demand for administrative secrecy that a coalition would impose is agreed compromise, with each of the partners getting primacy for key parts of their election manifestos.

Change to Labour's water reforms, co-governance in other than managerial situations and a reduction in state spending would all be agreed early targets in a coalition of the right.

■ Bruce has been an economics and business editor, and a foreign correspondent in Washington, London and Hong Kong.

## Moy Place braces for construction traffic



## ŌTAKI TODAY *Ngā Kōrero o Ōtaki*

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# Reservoir residents' hopes dashed

By Ian Carson

**Residents on the Plateau who have opposed the siting of the new Ōtaki reservoir have had their hopes dashed after the Kāpiti Coast District Council announced the project would go ahead as planned.**

The announcement came less than 24 hours after the third public meeting on the issue at the Waitohu School hall on August 1. Towards the end of the meeting, a resident asked mayor Janet Holborow if the council could reconsider a previously proposed site nearer Rāhui Road.

The mayor said she would ask staff to have another look, which appeased some residents who had been angered by what they saw as council not listening to their concerns.

They told *Ōtaki Today* after the meeting that they thought the mayor's offer meant no final decision would be made until that investigation was completed.

However, by midday on August 2, *Ōtaki Today* received a council media release saying the reservoir's preferred location on the Plateau had been confirmed. It's understood the media release had been drafted and was ready for release the previous day, before the meeting.

The day after the meeting, the mayor contacted *Ōtaki Today* to explain her position.

"At the meeting, a member of the public expressed a desire for staff to look once again at a suggested site. I was clear at the meeting that the site isn't suitable, having visited it with the deputy mayor. However, in order to close the issue off, I agreed to share the suggestion with staff.

"This will not impact on the ongoing planning to progress with the existing site, nor the report coming to council. It is a site that staff are aware of and is unsuitable in terms of access and elevation, as I identified at the meeting."

At the first meeting, council officers and elected members heard that nearby residents opposed the siting of the reservoir in a new lifestyle subdivision running off the top of Te Manuao Road and to the east of Freemans Road. The council said the block on which the reservoir would sit had already been bought and was ideal for many reasons, including its elevation.

As a compromise, it resolved to look at moving it further back from nearby houses.

Those proposals came to the second meeting, at which some residents were optimistic the reservoir could be moved, and with surrounding planting, made less obtrusive on existing properties.

However, the August 1 meeting was told that any plans to move the reservoir had been stymied by the



A council image presented at the August 1 meeting showing planting around the reservoir to shield it from neighbours.

developer of the subdivision.

That developer invoked the terms of the agreement under which the section was bought by the council. It specified where the reservoir would be. Its effect on the other sections still to be developed was a consideration.

Even with an offer of financial compensation, there was no budging, project manager Peter Bollmann told the meeting.

Asked if the deal should have been a compulsory acquisition under the Public Works Act, he said that could have involved lengthy delays and appeals.

"What you're telling us is that the concerns of new residents carry more weight than those who have been

living here for years," one resident said.

The council's media release on August 2, quoting the mayor, said that "after a thorough investigation, the preferred location of the new Ōtaki reservoir has been confirmed on the site at 71 Te Manuao Road".

"A number of sites around the area were considered for the project and the Te Manuao Road location was identified as the best place due to its elevation, proximity to water services, and low earthquake risk."

The council's release said that after hearing from neighbours about the negative visual impacts of the reservoir, it had looked into whether it could be moved back on the site and any implications of doing so.

The council said factors included:

- the need to keep the reservoir and associated infrastructure within the site
- the extra earthworks required
- the impact on the rest of the development
- other environmental impacts, such as erosion control, and
- the property agreement.

"We tried to balance neighbours' desires with the need to improve the resilience of the Ōtaki drinking water network and increase its capacity to support projected growth and have come to the conclusion that the initial location remains the only option.

"We acknowledge we could have worked with residents earlier in this process and that this decision will not please everyone. We have learnt from this experience and are committed to working with the community as the project progresses. We will ensure we reduce the visual impact on the neighbours as much as we possibly can, including native planting."

Earthworks are planned to begin in October and construction of the reservoir will follow.

The new reservoir is required to improve the resilience and fire-fighting capability of Ōtaki's water supply as well as support existing and future homes in Ōtaki. It will be used in an emergency if the water supply from the town's pumping stations is disrupted.

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## 'Safety' considered in highway access

The consultants for the proposed development at 33 Old Main Highway say safety is the main consideration in not providing access from the highway.

Cuttriss Consultants told *Ōtaki Today* that the project's traffic expert had advised there was a direct relationship between more crashes and access points on to main roads.

The road layout through the development connects Moy Place to the residential land to the south-west, which has been designed to connect to the highway, Cuttriss said.

"Providing a new intersection from 33 Main Highway would increase the risk of intersection crashes, as well as increasing issues around the separation of potentially five intersections within 450 metres along this stretch of road. In addition, Waka Kotahi's position was that the access to the development should be via Sue Avenue, which has a designated intersection."

They said Sue Avenue and Moy Place were specifically designed to accommodate traffic from the proposed development, and land had been set aside at the end of Moy Place for the road connection.

"The secondary consideration was about achieving good quality urban design outcomes, noting that connectivity is a key urban design principle. The proposed layout provides for roading connections to the south-west and the north, as well as a pedestrian connection to Main Highway."

Cuttriss said it had worked with Kāpiti Coast District Council and iwi to provide a new public park within the development and a significant amount of landscaping and green space, including a stormwater treatment area along the eastern boundary.

"This feature will not only look good, but will mitigate risks of flooding and treat the stormwater runoff."

"We see this as an exciting opportunity to provide much needed quality housing in our district, in an area which has the highest housing stress on the Kāpiti Coast."

Cuttriss said the timing for work beginning depended on regulatory approvals and contractor availability.

# Council approves plan change for more housing

Kāpiti Coast District Council voted on August 11 to approve changes to its District Plan to enable more housing in the district.

Mayor Janet Holborow said the plan change was the result of central government requiring councils to enable more housing to be built to address the housing shortage, as well as encouraging more housing within walkable distances of town centres and transport hubs.

"While government had imposed this plan change requirement on council, it would have long-term benefits for housing supply and reducing emissions," Janet said. "Change is inevitable as our district grows, but it can be change for good."

She said the decision meant that over time Kāpiti could see more medium-density housing, housing variety, and denser development in and around local and town centres and some of the railway stations.

"But this could also make our district more appealing to young commuters and families looking for a better lifestyle."

Examples of intensification in Ōtaki include the proposed development at 33 Old Main Highway via Moy Place (see front page and at left), and the one at Ōtaki-Māori Racing Club.

"We have other mechanisms available to us to ensure that our future growth is appropriate and well-managed, such as district-wide rules for earthworks, infrastructure, transport, noise, financial contributions, and qualifying matters," the mayor said.

"While 'special character' can't be used to limit intensification, we have many other existing qualifying matters that can, such as flood risk, historic heritage, notable trees, and important indigenous vegetation."

Change can also be managed through the consent process,

other District Plan policies, statutory design guides, and council strategies.

Janet said there would be exciting opportunities for this through the upcoming Long-term Plan statutory process, the councillor-led work to develop a new vision for Kāpiti through to 2060, and reviews of the growth and infrastructure strategies.

"Council is confident that officers ran an extremely thorough process with numerous opportunities for our community to be heard. We took the extra step of putting out an exposure draft of PC2 [Plan Change 2] early last year."

"This step, then the formal submissions and further submissions led to good changes that will support the vibrancy and attractiveness of our various town centres."

"Councillors will have this at front of mind as we start engaging further with the community on our 10 strategic priorities for people, place and partnership as part of our Vision Kāpiti work."

As a result of the August 11 council meeting, further changes will be in the pipeline related to urban development, sites of significance to Māori, coastal environment and flood risk. The council will also be taking steps to facilitate the development of papākainga (mana whenua housing areas), reviewing the growth strategy and building the council's urban design capacity, including exploring the use of design review panels.

Rather than accepting the recommendation to allow rezoning of the land at Otaihanga, councillors agreed that there should be more work done on a coordinated structure plan. This rejected recommendation will now be referred to the Minister for the Environment for a final decision.

■ To find out more about Plan Change 2, see [kapiticoast.govt.nz/PC2](http://kapiticoast.govt.nz/PC2)





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Early-stage conceptual drawings of the proposed arcade development in Ōtaki, with the front view from Main Street at left, the back view from Rangatira Street at right.

Images supplied

# Derek 'excited' about arcade plans

## A new restaurant and bar is planned for the old arcade in Main Street.

The development is the brainchild of Derek Kelly, who bought the arcade building last year – in part to house his real estate company, Kelly & Co. Derek was keen for the company to have its own modern art office space, which adjoins the arcade itself.

The fitout for that has already been completed with Kelly & Co moving in officially on August 1, two years to the day from when the company was established.

“We’re very much in the early stages of planning for the new restaurant and bar, so even our concept drawings are just preliminary,” Derek says. “A fair bit can change in the next year or two. There’s a lot of further planning, work and expenditure required before we get it over the line.”

Derek says a 2025 opening would be great, but even that might be optimistic.

“I am excited about the possibilities though, so I’ll be working as hard and fast as I can to make it happen.”

He says it’s clear to him that Ōtaki needs a new restaurant and bar, especially in the evening. That need motivated him to buy the building in the first place.

“We don’t have many options in Ōtaki for evening dining, nor for a comfortable venue where people can go for a good wine or beer.

“Ōtaki is undergoing a period of huge growth and without doubt there is a need for an establishment like this. Many Ōtaki folks travel to Kāpiti for a meal or a night out, so this project has to be good for our town.”

Derek has always observed that the heart of

the Ōtaki community is in the township, rather than among the retail shops in the Railway area. It’s why he established his new real estate business in the township two years ago.

And it’s why he believes a new restaurant and bar will thrive.

“We already have the Māoriland Hub in Main Street, which attracts people from all over the world during the film festival. Thousands of others come here to go to the Ōtaki Kite Festival and the Festival of Pots and Garden Art. They should be able to enjoy a modern venue where they can relax and get a great meal.”

Plans are for the new restaurant to operate at the front of the premises; the bar at the back. It is anticipated that the restaurant will operate during the daytime as well as the evening and is planned to seat about 75 people indoors and

potentially the same number outdoors.

Depending on who leases the premises, the restaurant could have a separate operator from the bar.

A feature of the current plans is a raised outdoor platform at the back of the building.

“We’ve looked at what sort of view you could get from up there, and you can actually see Kāpiti Island,” Derek says. “The council has also grassed over an area near the back of the building, on Rangatira Street, so it will be a really pleasant place to be.”

The arcade was originally built in 1952. It housed the Yates furniture store for several years. In 1987 the store moved to a distinctive new building on the highway, which was designed by local architect Dennis Manz. That building now houses the Coin Save shop.

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## New water mains in Main St

Kāpiti Coast District Council is due to begin stage 2 of improvements to Ōtaki's firefighting water supply next month.

This stage involves crews installing 230 metres of new water main along Main Street from the Matene Street intersection to the Ōtaki Fire Station on Mill Road. Another 100 metres of new water pipe will also be installed along Aotaki Street, north from the roundabout to the Raukawa Street intersection.

Crews are scheduled to begin laying the pipe in a trench along the road on Monday, September 11. All going well, they'll be finished by the mid-October.

Traffic management will be used, and detours might sometimes be necessary. Sections of Main Street might also be restricted to one lane at times.

Before the main works start, contractors will be digging a few potholes in the area to check for other services in the road. This helps avoid damaging those services when digging a trench for the water main.

# Music director says Spring Sing '2020 revisited'

The Ōtaki Spring Sing is back after a hiatus of three years.

After beginning as an annual event in 2016, Covid scuppered plans in 2020 through to 2022.

"So this year is really the 2020 Spring Sing revisited," says organiser and musical director Ann-Marie Stapp. "It will be great to get local choirs together and perform in public again."

The Spring Sing is at the Memorial Hall from 2-4.30pm on Sunday, September 3.

It includes eight choirs from throughout Kāpiti and Levin, and including Ōtaki. The total of up to 80 singers will belt out a wide variety of songs – ranging from musical hits and cabaret to rock and roll.

"Everyone will recognise and enjoy the music," Ann-Marie says. "They're favourites of the performers, so they'll appeal to the audience, too."

It's hoped that reviving Spring Sing will encourage some former choir members to come back, and bring in some new ones.

"Covid was devastating for choirs," Ann-Marie says. "Everything got put on hold. Then when we could start getting together again, many people were hesitant."

"They didn't want to risk being in a group of singers because singing involves strong breathing. But singing is actually really healthy exercise."

"It's great for the lungs and gives people a good work-out, plus it lets people socialise and meet other people."

The hesitancy of singers to rejoin choirs has



Organiser and music director Ann-Marie Stapp, who's revived Spring Sing.

Photo Ōtaki Today

meant numbers are about half what they were before Covid came along. Singing group have struggled, but Ann-Marie says Spring Sing 2023 is a celebration of song that she hopes will lead to a sustained revival for choirs and audiences alike.

"If people come along and enjoy the show, they might just think about singing themselves."

No one's a bad singer – they just need a bit of training. Singing is a lot of fun. It's never too late to start."

The Ōtaki Community Board has provided funding for hall hire and promotion.

■ Ōtaki Spring Sing, 2-4.30pm Sunday September 3, Memorial Hall. Koha entry. For information, contact Ann-Marie at amstapp@xtra.co.nz

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# Joint effort for historic buildings

**Two groups that share strong links to historic Ōtaki buildings are joining forces in their fundraising efforts.**

The Ōtaki Players Society and Friends of the Ōtaki Rotunda are working together to raise money for the two historically significant buildings – the Civic Theatre and the rotunda at the old children’s health camp.

The Players Society will be donating 50 percent of the proceeds from their latest production, *Sweeney Todd*, to the rotunda restoration. The Friends of Ōtaki Rotunda will support fundraising efforts by promoting the performance, selling tickets, and assisting with front of house.

“We are delighted to be collaborating with the Friends of the Ōtaki Rotunda and to have the chance to support their fundraising campaign,” says Players musical director Graham Orchard. “It’s fantastic to see two local community organisations come together over two historically significant buildings in Ōtaki.”

Di Buchan, chair of the Ōtaki Rotunda Trust, agrees.

“The trustees can’t achieve the restoration on their own,” she says. “It is hugely encouraging to know we have the support of so many Kāpiti people. This generous offer from the Players is another example and certainly provides a good dollop of icing on the cake.”

The Civic was opened in 1938 after a fire razed the old theatre on Christmas Day 1936. Since then the Civic has been home to movie screenings, live theatre, musicals, dramas and comedy.

In 1991, the Ōtaki Players got the opportunity to call the Civic home again, 40 years after their initial appearance.



The historic Civic Theatre and the rotunda at the old Ōtaki Children’s Health Camp. Photos supplied

The rotunda at the old health camp is another iconic building in Ōtaki. It was one of two built in 1915 for the King George’s Hospital in Rotorua and transported to the new health camp in 1932.

The remaining rotunda (the other was taken to a farm in Wellington) is now the last remaining original structure of New Zealand’s first permanent children’s health camp. It is registered as Category One on the Heritage New Zealand List and is noted as a heritage building on the Kāpiti Coast Heritage Buildings Register.

Meantime, *Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, is playing at the Civic from August 24 until September 9, with a special fundraising performance on Wednesday, September 6.

Directed by Peter Carr and with musical directors Graham Orchard and Andrea King, *Sweeney Todd* is a wild ride into a dark world of revenge. It’s a centuries-old penny dreadful tale, gripping and grisly, giving audiences a thrill at every turn.

The cast includes Dominic van den Berg,



*Sweeney Todd* plays at the Civic from August 24 until September 9.

Tracy Willis-Wright, Maddi Hawley-Stone, Miles Harrington, Anthony Tautari, Frankie Vidulich, Nick Edwards, David Garwood and Tua Faavale.

■ See [otakiplayers.nz](http://otakiplayers.nz)

## IN BRIEF

### Bridge partial closure

Waka Kotahi says it will do short-term, single-lane closures from 9am-4pm on the Ōtaki River bridge later this month. It previously said it was doing full-week partial closures, to investigate installation of a shared path.

### Waitohu School 60th

Waitohu School is celebrating its 60th anniversary with an open day at the school on Friday, October 20 (before Labour Weekend). There will be a pōwhiri for former students and staff at 1.30pm, followed by a tour of the school and afternoon tea. If attending, please email [office@waitohu.school.nz](mailto:office@waitohu.school.nz) for catering.

### Copper on way out

Chorus is retiring its old copper network where fibre is available. Chorus says the old network is becoming harder to maintain. Affected residents should have had a letter about this, and Chorus is running an information session at Riverstone Café between 10.30am and noon on Wednesday, August 23. See [chorus.co.nz/copper-withdrawal](http://chorus.co.nz/copper-withdrawal)

### Greens campaign under way

The Green Party launched its Ōtaki electorate campaign with candidate Ali Muhammad speaking at Gertrude Atmore Lounge on August 10. Also attending were Rangitikei candidate Bernard Long and list MP Teanau Tuiono.

### Tickets winner

Congratulations to Michelle Blackburn, Ōtaki Today’s winner of four Fifa Women’s World Cup tickets.

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# 'Kuku kids' reclaim their stories

By Whare Akuhata

**The Waitangi Tribunal was at Tukorehe Marae, Kuku, July 31 to August 4, listening to the treaty claim of Ngāti Tukorehe.**

At the same time, Julian Batchelor was conducting a campaign protesting co-governance and maintaining that Māori, and especially a group of "Māori elites", have privileges they don't deserve. He says his supporters are "the good guys fighting for democracy". A friend of his has a Facebook page titled "New Zealand is being looted and is burning".

This being election year, various political parties are joining the crowd and "spooking" Pākehā voters, as columnist Joel Maxwell put it. Maxwell's column was titled: "As election looms, can we have a safe campaign season for Māori?"

Māori-bashing has always been part of our politics, but Maxwell concludes his article by quoting National deputy leader Nicola Willis, who said at a recent multi-cultural Matariki celebration: "We are a country forged by the Māori people, with a bicultural foundation in the Treaty of Waitangi, and a multicultural present and future. That is a wonderful thing to have."

There lies hope, and with the Waitangi Tribunal, the settlement process and a willing public, we can see that hope thrive. I'm encouraged, and as a Māori journalist, over the



**Yvonne Wehipeihana Wilson presents before the tribunal at Tukorehe Marae, supported by her daughter, Tina Wehipeihana Wilson, the New Zealand trade commissioner to Taiwan.**  
Photo Whare Akuhata

last 30 years I've covered my fair share of treaty stories. This includes Sealord's, Treelords, the \$1 billion fiscal envelope, settlements/post-settlements and the many changes brought about to Aotearoa.

Now we're seeing Matariki holidays, te reo signposts and significantly the growth of the language and our culture. Co-governance seems to have crept up on us but a few years ago I wouldn't have dreamt it would happen. So, it appears we are becoming a true bi-cultural nation, despite the likes of Julian Batchelor.

I've written somewhere that the Waitangi Tribunal process is hugely flawed in that with its findings it can make only recommendations to the

government. Numerous Māori agree, including Professor Margaret Mutu, who said the treaty settlement was anything but fair and just.

One of the main issues is that the settlements are generally significantly less in value than the land that was taken or lost due to Crown actions. It's commonly heard that the monetary settlement is worth less than 1 percent of the value of the land that was lost. It might be an over-simplification, but the example of the car thief becoming the judge and jury is relevant.

Numerous iwi choose not to go to the tribunal, instead going straight through to negotiations to settle treaty grievances. This, in my view, is a mistake.

At Tukorehe Marae I got to witness this process in action. Tukorehe is part of the Ngāti Raukawa iwi confederation in the Manawatā/Horowhenua area. It's an iwi that I'm connected to, and I was working as a media advisor and a photo/videographer.

I got to hear the usual stories about land lost and taken, language loss, and all the social and economic problems that stem from what largely is the devastating impact of colonisation.

The tribunal process enables iwi to research their history using both their own experts and more well-known historians. This is a hugely important aspect, because vast amounts of knowledge have been lost in the colonising experience.

In the hearings you feel and see the hurt, anger and frustration. Often it becomes visceral. This is the venue for that display and the court is accustomed to these exhibitions of anger. The court shows a tolerance that other courts probably wouldn't.

The interesting thing is that although there is a constant expression of anger, hurt, loss and grievance, there is also a sense of celebration, of joy, of unity and of aroha. At the conclusion of the hearing the final speakers expressed their gratitude, with mihi to all those involved – the tribunal, the judge and the Crown's solicitors. The expressions of aroha were profound.

You can see this process is cathartic, a hugely healing process in that you're able to tell your stories.

This is one of the key aspects of the Waitangi Tribunal and the reason why I advocate that iwi should have their day in court. At its foundation, one group of people recognises that wrongs need to be made right, and another group recognises that justice can be done.

No better example of this is two "Kuku Kids", Yvonne Wehipeihana Wilson and Sir Douglas Kidd.

"Aunty Yvonne", the "boss" of Tukorehe Marae, posed the question about why the iwi needed to tell their story to the tribunal. She was told: "History needs to be corrected for our Tukorehe people. The tribunal and the Crown have the ability to do that."

She appreciated Tukorehe people will not get fully compensation for their losses, but she hopes this process will enable them to reclaim their tino rangatiratanga and provide resources to invest in future generations.

The other "Kuku Kid", and former "boss" in the House of Representatives, is Sir Doug Kidd. He grew up in Kuku and when Ngāti Tukorehe first lodged its claim, Wai 1913, it was delivered in person to Sir Doug in a woven kete. He is a former member of the tribunal, and apparently watched via the live coverage.

## LETTERS

### A wet bus ticket for errant young driver not good enough

Dear editor,

It pleases me greatly to read in "On the Beat" in the July edition of Ōtaki Today that there is soon to be an almost complete complement of police officers stationed in Ōtaki. Great news for the community. However, what made my blood boil is the reference to a 17-year-old driver caught doing 161km/h (100mph) at 8am on a weekday being referred to the Levin Youth Aid team! At 17, she probably has a driver licence, presumably has a job and therefore pays tax, is eligible to join the armed forces, not sure about the police force, and God help us, one of the many who want to drop the voting age to 16! In my opinion, humble as it might be, she should have to face the full force of the law and not a "Naughty girl, we know it's difficult these days, here's a wet bus ticket, smack yourself on the wrist and don't do it again" approach.

Roger Tidman, Ōtaki

### Thanks for great night on Main Street

Dear editor,

I'd like to thank Māoriland and all the organisers of the Main Street Matariki Ramaroa event on July 8, and all the community and people who were able to come, too. The street really buzzing with people, performances and kai carts – all stars! It was a happy, joyful vibe with lots of things to do. Māoriland is to be commended for making it all happen and helping build and support the community.

Philippa Smith, Ōtaki Beach

### Photos and memories of school days

Dear editor,

I've been fascinated by the old school photos you reproduce in your paper. I didn't grow up in Ōtaki, but they're just like the ones I still have from my school days. I know how important it is to remember the friends we had when we were younger. Keep up the good work

M Smail, Waikanae



# Don's book adds to Ōtaki garden history

By Ian Carson

**To the gardeners of Ōtaki, Watson's Garden is an institution.**

It's where for decades commercial growers sourced their famous Ōtaki tomatoes, and hobbyists now get their vegies, flowers and tools for the home garden.

An institution for most of the years the garden centre has existed has also been Don Watson. He took over the Kirk Street garden business from his parents, Scottish-born William and Taihape-born Isabel Grice, and expanded it to include a large growing complex at Te Horo.

With so many memories of growing up in Ōtaki, having his own family and supplying the gardening community, it was only a matter of time before Don would put his memories on paper. He's done that with a book launched in July called *Don Watson: The Nurseryman of Ōtaki*.

It was a testament to his genial nature that a big crowd attended the launch at the garden centre. Don happily signed books while the big queue elongated as he chatted to everyone – all of whom he knew.

The book is a worthy addition to Ōtaki's historical knowledge.

It has plenty of personal history,



Don Watson launches his book at Watson's Garden.

Photo Ōtaki Today

much of it tragic with the loss of many loved ones along the way. Don is genuine about his losses, but perhaps the inheritance of Scottish stoicism has kept him still busy – and content – in the gardening he clearly loves.

His stories of growing up provide a fascinating snapshot of life in Ōtaki for a youngster in the 1940s and 1950s.

He hated wearing shoes and socks, hiding them in the hedge on the way to school and gathering them again on his way home "so Mum never knew".

He and his mates got into mischief,

but when he stole a book from Hec Wylie's bookshop, his mum found out and he had to take it straight back.

He was not always so lucky that he avoided a hiding from his dad – "six around the legs and six on the hands". They were different times, but readers get the sense that Don would not have had it any other way.

The book is undemandingly easy reading in a style that reflects Don's no-nonsense approach to gardening, and to life.

■ Don Watson: The Nurseryman of Ōtaki is available at Watson's Garden and at Book & Co, Ōtaki, for



**BRRRR!:** Manakau School students arrived for classes on the morning of Wednesday, August 9, just after a hail storm hit the area. The hail was still blanketing the school grounds with temperatures near zero. The mercury plummeted that week, with regular frosts and snow down to lower levels on the Tararua Ranges. *Photo Facebook/ Manakau School*

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# Elected to represent you

**If you had asked me a year ago what was the role of the community board, I would have said "I don't really know".**

All I did know at the time was it gave out grants to the community and elections are held every three years.

As it turns out, after 10 months on the Ōtaki Community Board I now understand that our community boards do so much more than that! Essentially, we are elected to represent YOU.

Here is a short description of the sorts of things we do:

**1. Community engagement and advocacy:** We are advocates for our communities and businesses, we communicate interests and opinions of residents and bring these to the council table. We hold public meetings and consultations to gather feedback on local issues, development projects and council policies.

**2. Decision-making:** Although community boards don't have voting rights at council meetings, we are able to convey the community's needs and influence the decisions being made.

**3. Local project development:** Community boards might be involved in the development of local projects, initiatives, and activities that benefit the

community, working in collaboration with council staff and community stakeholders.

**4. Long-term plans:** We can make submissions to council on community projects and allocation of budgets. The Ōtaki Community Board will soon be asking for your feedback on a vision for Ōtaki's future. Watch this space!

**5. Monitoring services:** Community boards play a role in monitoring the delivery of local services within the area to ensure they meet the needs and expectations of the

community. Recently, we worked with local business owners and council contractors to successfully ensure that there was minimal impact to businesses while the new water pipes were being laid in Aotaki Street.

**6. Information sharing:** We share important information and events from the council with the local community.

The Ōtaki Community Board is here to serve you. If you have any questions, ideas or concerns about our community, get in touch with us!

For contact information, scan the QR code or visit the KCDC website.



ŌTAKI COMMUNITY

SIMON BLACK



# Bridge club is 40

**The Ōtaki Bridge Club celebrated its 40th anniversary on July with an anniversary tournament, feasting and reminiscences, with some founding members attending.**

The club grew from what was known as the Ōtaki Ladies Bridge Club, which was established in 1923. The women would meet in one another's homes to play social bridge and enjoy the company.

There was a hiatus for several years, although some Ōtaki locals played bridge at Levin and Waikanae clubs.

The Ōtaki Bridge Club was established in 1983, instigated by Edith Land, who had played bridge with her sister at the Akaroa club. A committee was convened after a public meeting to gauge interest. Members of the founding committee were Nigel Campbell (president), Deidre Atmore (vice president), Edith Land (secretary), Doug Sargisson (treasurer) and committee members Olga Sowery, Shirley Marshall and Vera Simpson.

The opening night on May 31, 1983, was in the Gertrude Atmore Lounge at the Memorial Hall with 24 players. Later that year the club moved to the Senior Citizens' Hall in Rangatira Street. It was not ideal as the tables, chairs, cards and other paraphernalia had to be set up and put away each playing night. The first formal bridge lessons were taught by Pat Gray, with 21 people graduating. One of them, Moira Wylie, is still a club member.

In 1986 the badly rundown Rifle Range Club in Aotaki Street came up for sale. The bridge club bought the site, with funds raised through donations and debentures. The debentures were repaid by 1989. The efforts of club members ensured the new clubrooms were ready for opening night on August 10, 1986.

Club membership continued to grow through the 1990s to a high of 137. However, the Covid pandemic and the introduction of online bridge



**Founding member Vera Simpson cuts the 40th anniversary cake as president Pip Martin and secretary Cludia Duncan look on.** Photo supplied

has seen membership numbers decline. Current numbers are about 75.

Today, Vera Simpson, a foundation member, past president and life member is still an avid player at the club.

The club continues to run three sessions of bridge a week. Lessons are held once a year. Two tournaments are organised each year and are well attended by people throughout the Wellington region.

Current president Pip Martin says the club has faced many challenges over the years.

"Not least was the introduction of a smoke-free club," Pip says. "In the early days smoking at the bridge table was common, so it took some fortitude to become smoke-free."

■ *New club members are welcome. Contact club secretary Claudia Duncan for details: 021 885 514*

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# Crop Swap initiative coming to Ōtaki

**Kāpiti Crop Swap is coming to Ōtaki after success in Raumati and Waikanae.**

The inaugural Ōtaki Crop Swap will be in the Ōtaki Memorial Hall on September 2, with monthly meets on the first Saturday of every month. The initiative has been supported by the Ōtaki Community Board, which provided seed funding at its August 8 meeting.

Crop Swap began with the vision of one local woman, Jessica Keltie, to create a space in which locals could share excess produce or anything food-related from their gardens or pantries. She saw the need during the Covid lockdown and quickly found support from co-founders Kay Fechny and Heather Horswell.

The kaupapa is now a thriving community event in both Raumati and Waikanae, with Ōtaki now on the agenda. Locals come together once a month, bringing what they can and taking what they need.

It's a free, inclusive grassroots movement in which everyone is welcome. The focus is to promote mindful sharing of food and knowledge within neighbourhoods and communities. The Crop Swap team believes fresh produce should be available to everyone, and that making community connections is valuable.

They see their model as encouraging community resilience in the face of increasing food insecurity, and a way of giving back to the community.

The initiative works by people bringing their goods along and displaying them in the community hall. It's also an opportunity to mingle, meet new people and exchange gardening tips or ideas.

Contributions have included duck and chicken eggs, vegetables, fruit, worm wee, locally foraged and dried tea blends, lemongrass, a plethora of pumpkins and gourds, books, sour dough starters, kombucha bugs, herbs,



spices, baking, plants, seeds, seedlings, jams, preserves, containers, magazines and fresh bread.

After half an hour of connection time, the swap is opened with a brief introduction and karakia, then everyone is welcome to take a fair share of what they are interested in (the idea is to take the "equivalent" of what you offer). Everything is free to be swapped; no money changes hands.

Ōtaki residents Jo Humphries and Rosa Yates have been co-opted to help with the Ōtaki Crop Swap.

There's no need to register or RSVP, just turn up with as much or as little as you can bring to share. If you don't have any fresh produce in your garden, be creative! All things food/produce/sustainability focused are welcome. You might even like to share a skill or some gardening knowledge. It's not a jumble sale, so no clothes or bric-a-brac – the focus is on filling gardens and pantries.

• For more information about the events, look for Kāpiti Crop Swap on Facebook. If you can help to run the events, provide baking, hot soup or fresh bread on the day, or help with setting and packing up, please email Jo at [jo@humphries.nz](mailto:jo@humphries.nz)

■ Ōtaki Crop Swap, Memorial Hall, 1-2.30pm, Saturday September 2.

## A resounding yes to keep Te Horo Hall open

**The verdict is in – the Te Horo Hall must be restored.**

The hall committee recently ran a survey to see whether the community wanted to earthquake strengthen the building or see it closed. A resounding 93 percent of respondents favoured quake strengthening.

Some people noted the hall's historic value, and some wanted to retain it as a place for locals to gather, celebrate and hold functions, saying it was the only community facility in Te Horo, and is owned by the community.

"While some respondents would prefer to see the hall replaced with something more contemporary, they also provided ideas the committee will consider to improve the usability of the hall and grounds," says hall committee chair Andrew Annakin.

There was also feedback on activities the community would like to see, suggestions for funding and offers of help.

At its July meeting the hall committee voted to go ahead with the strengthening project. This will take some time, but local businesses and individuals have already offered advice and assistance.

A quake strengthening steering

committee has been established and will add specific expertise as needed. Work is under way with an engineer to firm up an initial proposal, which will go back to the builders already engaged, and further expressions of interest will be sought to obtain firmer cost estimates or quotes.

Once the hall committee has reviewed the material and agreed the next steps, a funding plan will be developed, and an overall work programme created with milestones and timeframes.

A new Friends of Te Horo Hall has also engaged with the hall committee. Andrew says its input will be a huge boost for the committee.

Meantime, the committee has:

- been granted \$15,000 by the Waikanae Community Board, with special thanks to Michael Moore for his support
  - installed heat pumps in the hall
  - obtained quotes for new curtains
  - held an emergency hub exercise, in collaboration with Wremo
  - Met with KCDC and written to the mayor about parking
  - Begun planning a Christmas social gathering for Friday, December 1.
- To join the Friends of Te Horo Hall email [tehorohall@gmail.com](mailto:tehorohall@gmail.com)

## Planning ahead for the new financial year?

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# HUATAU/Comment

**PLAIN SPEAKING: IAN CARSON**

## Four-storey blocks coming as developments fast-tracked

**Legislation aimed at boosting New Zealand's housing stock makes sense, until it starts affecting the existing community.**

In recent years, fuelled by rocketing property values, living in a house as a traditional family unit has become unaffordable for many people. Up to one in nine Kiwis is living in overcrowded accommodation (defined as a home where three or more share a bedroom). The problem has been most keenly felt by Māori and Pasifika people.

Our town has been hit hard, with many multiple generation Ōtaki whānau forced to move north where they have a better chance of being able to pay the rent, or in recent times, the mortgage. Ōtaki has been identified as a town of significant housing need.

So anything that gets houses built quickly and affordably has got to help. That's the theory.

Along came the legislation that fast-tracked housing developments. It essentially bypassed local council consent processes – which can hold up developments for months or years because the council has to consult – and allowed intensification of housing units. This meant more houses could be built in urban areas, and they could be higher.



Councils, meanwhile, were asked to amend their district plans to boost housing, which Kāpiti Coast District Council duly did on August 11 (see page 4). Its Plan Change 2 (PC2) now allows buildings of up to 15 storeys in a new "metropolitan centre" at Paraparaumu, and within a 400m to 800m perimeter, 10 and six-storey buildings. Six-storey buildings will be allowed within 800m of Paraparaumu, Paekākāriki and Waikanae train stations, as well as within the town centres at Paraparaumu Beach and Waikanae.

**It will now be permitted for Ōtaki to have four-storey buildings within 400m of the township on Main Street, and around Ōtaki train station.**

The resulting apartment buildings and town houses will certainly provide new accommodation opportunities in Ōtaki. But there are inevitable consequences for our town.

In the work to find a new identity for Ōtaki, it was clear locals valued its manaakitanga and its "small town, big heart" – a phrase that made its way into the visual identity.

Will Ōtaki still be able to make that claim if its "urban centres" comprise what would be, for our town, high-rise buildings?

What will these housing blocks overlook? It will be into the back yards and homes of our existing residents. Almost uniquely, Ōtaki also has a marae very close to its Main Street. Is it appropriate that apartment dwellers can sit on their balcony with a glass of wine while they look down on a tangi at Raukawa Marae?

Another key factor is that new housing will not necessarily solve the crisis for our own whānau. Most houses will be occupied by the newcomers who have appreciated their leisurely holidays in our peaceful town, or come to the kite festival or Māoriland Film Festival and thought: "This place is where I could live."

Don't get me wrong, I'm not opposed to people moving into Ōtaki. We or our families all arrived here at some point, and we've contributed in all sorts of ways to make Ōtaki what it is.

But I worry that when even Kāinga Ora, which is building new affordable housing at

several sites, can't guarantee that those houses will go to local people. They will be for those identified as having the greatest need, wherever they live now.

The other consequence of the fast-track housing process is the effect on existing residents. We're seeing that at Sue Avenue and Moy Place (see front page). Without the safety net of council consents, residents can effectively be ignored by developers. Residents who might oppose such a development have to work hard to get information, especially when it's being lodged for consent with an "expert panel" at light-speed. They then have to pay for their own consultants and lawyers.

The one bright note is that under the legislation, iwi have to be consulted. As iwi representatives here, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki has been keeping a close eye on where we might be headed. Its influence and forceful arguments should hold some sway when the wider community is under threat.

They might still stymie plans to have traffic for the new subdivision at 33 Old Main Highway come along Sue Avenue and Moy Place, rather than via the main road.

It might well prove to be a test case for Ōtaki.

■ Ian is editor of Ōtaki Today

**TE HORO OUTLOOK: MICHAEL MOORE**

## A \$1.2m rates grab and still no Te Horo buses

**If you own property, your latest Greater Wellington Regional Council rates bill will have just arrived, not to be confused with your Kāpiti District Council rates.**

Most of us just pay our rates and don't read the details, but I encourage you to do so, especially if you're a Te Horo or Peka Peka resident.

A little bit of history. The Metlink bus service ceased stopping at Te Horo in August 2015.

This month marks the eighth year since the 290 bus between Waikanae and Ōtaki stopped serving the Peka Peka and Te Horo communities, who pay a transport levy between \$70-\$150 in their regional council rates. So the council has collected about \$150,000 a year, or \$1.2 million over the past eight years, for transport and delivered no bus service.

Gerard Zwartjes, a Te Horo resident who values public transport, has been fiercely lobbying the regional council for months, but has become increasingly frustrated and ignored, with no meaningful action. He wonders how they would feel if we decided to pay them a public transport levy that actually reflected their commitment to us.

The regional council had a briefing about their bus service at Kāpiti Council on June 13. It took them two months to respond to questions, and they then told us nothing was going to happen. They've repeatedly blamed Waka Kotahi (or "Woka" as they spelt it in a response recently) saying they're waiting for the old SH1 road works to be done, which won't be until 2026/28.

There's a perfectly usable quiet local road that everyone uses, except the Metlink buses, which choose the expressway instead of their published bus route. No one lives on the expressway.

Regional council transport chair Thomas Nash says the council doesn't believe that "this temporary diversion currently has any negative impacts". If not providing a bus service for eight years, and for at least another four years, doesn't have negative impacts, who are they trying to fool?

The regional council also says Te Horo has "no school bus service". This is simply not true.



Our Kāpiti GW regional councillor, Penny Gaylor, has been silent on the bus issue since local elections last year. I've not had a single email response from her. This is disappointing. Te Horo resident and Kāpiti councillor Liz Koh talked on the phone with Penny while we met with locals some months ago – ironically at Te Horo Beach's Bus Stop Café. Penny said there would be a Kāpiti Metlink review in July/August. But Thomas Nash says no specific Kāpiti-wide network review is planned.

"We continue to progress enhancements as needed under our 'business as usual' activities."

It's remarkable how a simple request for a passing bus to pull over along its designated bus route and pick up locals is disregarded because bureaucracy deems it impossible. We don't require bus shelters, just a hail 'n ride, and a route that also includes the beach village.

Unlike GWRC, Horizons Regional Council transport manager Mark Read said this week: "Communities thrive when everyone has equitable access to transport options. Done well, regional public transport will help everyone in our region have independent and fulfilled lives by creating fast, safe and convenient connections."

All ratepayers deserve access to public transport for supermarkets, doctors and libraries. Metlink's own report in 2021 found 97% surveyed would use the bus service.

These changes will not cost Metlink one dollar more, but will help connect two rural communities who contribute to a service they can't use.

*Next Community Board meeting: 7pm Tuesday September 12, Waikanae Community Centre, Utauta St.*

■ Michael is deputy chair of Waikanae Community Board and a Te Horo Beach resident

**CAM'S CORNER: CAM BUTLER**

## Developer misses opportunity to do the right thing



**Tena koutou, Ōtaki whānau. Reservoir**

If only it was appropriate to swear in this column! After a large amount of work by council staff to look at moving the Ōtaki reservoir back to reduce the visual impact on nearby residents, what we feared might happen has happened.

With the location of the reservoir being stipulated as part of the contract with the developer, it required the consent of the developer to move the reservoir back as the final piece of the puzzle.

And they won't consent!

Even with it going right up to the mayor to contact the developer they have steadfastly refused. Being part of a community is looking out for everyone and a great opportunity has been lost by the developer to do the right thing by the community.

This unfortunate news was broken to the residents in person by the mayor, deputy mayor and myself. As you could imagine this was not a fun conversation, but it needed to be done.

This same message was delivered to a public meeting on August 1 and while some might have felt coming out of the meeting that there was some wiggle room for other locations, the reality is that there are no other options. Sigh.

**River bridge partial closures**

The old SH1 bridge was to be closed

during the day by now for preliminary works of the shared path, however this hasn't happened as of the date of writing.

Waka Kotahi has not been forthcoming with information about why and when the closure will actually happen. Please bear in mind that Waka Kotahi rejects community liaison groups as its communication pathways are so good... yeah, right.

**Fast track developments in Ōtaki**

These are developments where the initial yes/no bypasses the district council and are decided by a panel put together by central government. Ōtaki currently has one housing subdivision in the fast track process and the Ōtaki Māori-Racing Club development has been accepted to enter the process. It isn't all one-way traffic though and the OMRC development has been tasked with some consultation with iwi, and after a green light is possibly given then KCDC interacts with the building consents etc. The board is aware of concerns with these developments and we are keeping in contact with the right people.

**There has to be some happy news**

Along with Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, police, MSD etc we are looking at making Ōtaki a safer place, then we are looking at food supplies and resilience for Ōtaki, then we are looking at a tsunami hikoi in October and more. Oh, and we are chatting with the Ōtaki Surf Life Saving Club about putting a mural on its wall facing the car park. The Ōtaki Community Board is keeping busy!

Keep being Sunny, Ōtaki.

• Like Ōtaki Community Board on Facebook  
■ Cam is chair of the Ōtaki Community Board



# The world's therapist offers little hope for global ills

**I've imagined the world going to a therapist. You know, just like every Hollywood A-lister does during another marriage breakup or perhaps after an accidental overdose.**

The Earth (let me call him Mr World) is having a few headaches right now and is experiencing quite a bit of over-heating along with some discomfort with waste disposal.

Trips to the doctor yield little joy, besides which Mr World is a bit tired of hearing the usual advice that, "unless you changed your very bad habits, your problems will just get worse".

Mr World: "I'm being told by my doctor that my fever is mostly due to me consuming too much carbon and micro-plastics."

Therapist: "Yes, yes, maybe, maybe not. No one really knows."

Mr World: "Oh really. My doctor is an expert in health and studied these things at a university."

Therapist: "Well, you shouldn't believe everything you hear. My Twitter feed says it's just 'woke' anyway."

Mr World: "So, maybe I should get my advice from Twitter?"

Therapist: "Could do worse."

There's so much bullshit in the world that I don't trust experts, media or governments anymore. Twitter is now owned by the richest and smartest man in the world."

Mr World: "Is he the guy who called the Canadian prime minister Hitler and, in March 2020 said that people worried about the coronavirus were 'dumb'?"

Therapist: "Yeah, nah. Well, he had a point. Actually, he misspoke."

Mr World: "So, what would you advise?"

Therapist: "Who knows? One thing I do know is that there have always been natural changes in climate, so I don't believe you're causing your own fever."

Mr World: "What else?"

Therapist: "Did you know that these experts say the world is round. I look out the window and the world is definitely flat."

Mr World: "But, I'm round. Haven't you seen the photos from outer space?"

Therapist: "Nah, space doesn't exist. They're just doctored photos from that woke Nasa outfit."

There you go, that's about the truth – or is that falsehood – in the real world of "yeah, nah" crazy. But that said, it's the search for actual "truth"



"Alternative facts" are distorting the truth about the state of the world's health.

Photo: Pixabay

## MEDIA/COMMUNITY



FRASER CARSON

which is endlessly turned on its head.

An example is the relentless online feed of content that presents unexplained things, such as "the mysteries of time travel" or "are UFOs real?"

These "mysteries" are everywhere online, but while academics might suggest there are never any mysteries, just facts waiting to be discovered, there are now growing numbers of people who use mysteries to hypothesise some theory or two. This is the breeding ground of conspiracy theories and dislocation from actual facts and critical thinking.

Much of the reason for this nonsense is the relentless capture of people to social media and the search biases of Google. The search for truth is replaced by a simple answer, especially one packaged by plausible

sounding people with slick videos and a speaking tour coming to your town soon.

Noticeably, while these people offer "alternative facts", they offer no solutions. Their language is always peppered with disclaimers that ultimately absolve them of any responsibility. They can never be wrong when a good story substitutes for facts, and they will simply change their stories at the point of being proved wrong.

Speaking of never being proved wrong, in America the former president, Donald J Trump, has received a third indictment. This one is for charges including conspiracy to defraud the US and conspiracy to obstruct Congress's certification of Joe Biden's electoral victory.

Trump faces the rule of law, which

means the facts of the case are presented in a court of law where a conclusion is expected, as adjudged by 12 jurors. That's very different from the "court of public opinion" that currently has Trump surging in the polls as the front-runner for the Republican nomination to be president again, in the 2024 elections.

The contrast is stark. On the one hand we have a former president and wannabe authoritarian peddling endless falsehoods, with large chunks of the electorate buying it hook-line-and-sinker, while there is a quiet and deliberate effort by US prosecutors to bring him to justice, based on the facts.

■ Fraser is founder of the community development websites [flightdec.com](http://flightdec.com), [knowthis.nz](http://knowthis.nz) and [inhub.org.nz](http://inhub.org.nz)

## PRACTICAL PLANNING AHEAD

**Getting your affairs in order is important** for everyone.

Age Concern Kāpiti are hosting a series of workshops to help people get better prepared.

**Advance Care Planning (ACP)** The first workshop is being held in Ōtaki. ACP is a way to help you think about, talk about and share your thoughts and wishes about your future healthcare. Now is the best time to consider taking part in ACP conversations before a possible serious illness. Planning will help you and those close to you understand what is important to you, what your concerns are and what treatment and care you would like.

Age Concern Kāpiti have trained volunteers (ex-nurses/social workers/health professionals) to guide you through the process.

- Ōtaki:** Thursday, 24 August, 10–11am.  
Venue: Ōtaki RSA, Raukawa Street.
- Waikanae:** Tuesday, 12 September 12, 9.30am–10.30am.  
Venue: Baptist Church Café, Te Moana Road.
- Paraparaumu:** Monday, 6 November, 10–11am.  
Venue: Kāpiti Impact Hub, 6 Tongariro Street.

Other topics in the series include:

**Making a Will** Planning for what will happen after you die is the best way to ensure that the people and things you love are looked after.

- Paraparaumu:** Friday, 22 September, 9.30am–10.30am.  
Venue: Tui Room, Kāpiti Impact Hub, 6 Tongariro Street.

**Funeral Planning** To help you have the funeral that you want – a funeral that truly reflects and celebrates your life – then this workshop is for you. There are only two things in life you can be sure of – you'll pay taxes, and you'll die. When someone close to you dies, grief can make clear thinking difficult. If you have already planned your funeral, before you have to, it is less stressful for those remaining. Andrew will show you all the options available and will answer your questions.

- Waikanae:** Tuesday, 10 October, 10.30am–11.30am.  
Venue: Baptist Church Café, Te Moana Road.
- Paraparaumu:** Thursday, 26 October, 9.30am–10.30am.  
Venue: Grace Hall, Kāpiti Impact Hub, 6 Tongariro Street.

**BOOKINGS ARE NOT ESSENTIAL** You can just turn up on the day, but if you would like to let us know you are attending and for catering purposes, please call the office on (04) 298-8879.



## STAYING SAFE DRIVING REFRESHER COURSE

**Staying Safe** is a classroom-based refresher workshop for senior road users. It is a friendly non-critical look at driving regulations and provides helpful tips on better driving habits.

**Age Concern Kāpiti** runs these workshops in partnership with Waka Kotahi (NZTA).

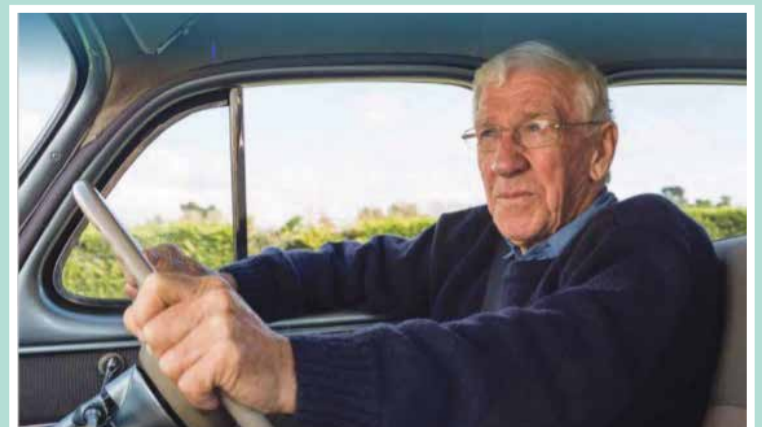
**We welcome all ages** to take this course, just phone us to book in for the next course.

**About the course:** These free four-hour courses talk about keeping ourselves safe on the road and thinking about the routes we travel in our daily lives to get to our destinations safely, thinking of all the scenarios we may encounter.

**Book for one of our upcoming sessions 10am–2pm:**

- Monday, 11 September.**  
Kāpiti Impact Hub, 6 Tongariro St, Paraparaumu.
- Thursday, 12 October.**  
Charles Fleming Retirement Village, 112 Parata St, Waikanae.
- Tuesday, 7 November.**  
Waikanae Baptist Church, Te Moana Rd, Waikanae.

**Bookings are essential** (04) 298-8879. Light refreshments provided by Age Concern Kāpiti. **Please BYO lunch.**





# Measles a sorry tale of vaccine hesitancy

**Measles is the world's leading cause of vaccine-preventable death among children, but vaccination rates in New Zealand, including Ōtaki, are below that required for herd immunity protection.**

This means that if there was an outbreak here it could spread, finding and infecting the unvaccinated.

Our measles vaccination rates are lower than they have been in years. How did we get to this?

Measles is a highly contagious viral disease that can lead to serious complications that include ear infections with hearing loss, pneumonia (the leading cause of death) and encephalitis (brain inflammation that can be fatal or cause lifelong disabilities). Even with the best care, about 1-2 out of every 1000 cases results in brain damage or death. Pregnant women who become ill with measles risk miscarriage, premature labour and having babies with low birth weight.

The measles virus also suppresses the immune system, increasing vulnerability to other serious diseases for up to three years – that's a long time in the life of an infant or young child who is exposed to a wide range of pathogens during that time.

Before the measles vaccine in the 1960s, measles infected most children, with big epidemics every 2-3 years or so (as communities lost herd immunity due to newborns with no immunity), resulting in a global average of more than 2.5 million deaths every year.

But due to a world-wide vaccination programme, by 2016 measles deaths had been reduced by more than 95%, with the World Health Organisation (WHO) estimating that during the period from

2000 to 2016 the programme had prevented more than 20 million deaths, mainly children.

The programme was so successful that the goal of global measles eradication was deemed attainable, as had been accomplished decades earlier with smallpox.

By 2017 New Zealand was officially declared to have eliminated measles, with no local transmission for more than three years. Then, globally and in New Zealand, vaccination rates started to decline. Measles was making a comeback. In part the vaccination programme had become a victim of its own success; with the elimination of measles there was complacency as people forgot, or failed to understand, how serious the disease could be.

Immunisation rates in New Zealand were also dropping with increasing inequality and poverty. When you're struggling to make ends meet day-to-day, getting your child immunised isn't going to be a high priority. And, as with any disease, measles hits hardest those with crowded housing, poor nutrition, and lack of access to good medical care.

Access to the vaccination programme for Māori and Pacifica continued to be a problem. The Covid19 pandemic is a clear example of the importance of culturally appropriate immunisation delivery; vaccination rates for the Covid19 vaccine for Māori and Pacifica went from poor to good when vaccine delivery was aligned with cultural norms.

There were also still large "immunity gaps" in the population, especially for people born from 1969 to 2005 – the legacy of a poorly implemented nationwide vaccination programme. It was

compounded by the practice between 1969-1990 of giving one dose (93% protection) instead of the now standard two doses (97% protection).

To make matters worse, before 2005 – when the National Immunisation Register (NIR) was instigated – immunisation records were incomplete. It's hard to have effective catch-up immunisation programmes when you're not sure who has been immunised and who hasn't.

A significant contributor to the decline in measles vaccination has been vaccine hesitancy due to false and misleading information.

Just such a setback to measles vaccination occurred in 1998 with the publication of a study that falsely linked the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine with autism. Andrew Wakefield's paper was withdrawn after it was established there was clear evidence of falsification of data of the 12 study participants. A *British Medical Journal* editorial reported that his paper was an "elaborate fraud", and his medical licence was revoked.

Financial conflicts of interest were that Wakefield was being paid by a lawyer seeking to sue an MMR vaccine manufacturer, and that he also stood to gain by discrediting the MMR vaccine as he was planning to develop his own vaccine.

After Wakefield's fraudulent paper, many high-quality studies have failed to find any link between the MMR vaccine and autism. It should have ended there, but the disgraced former British doctor proceeded to promote his discredited ideas, and found a new voice, and a new audience, on social media.

Growing social media misinformation and growing vaccine hesitancy, combined with decreasing rates of measles vaccination, led the WHO to declare in 2019 that vaccine hesitancy was one of the top 10 threats to global health.

That year New Zealand had a measles epidemic

with 2000 recorded cases and more than 700 hospitalisations, an event predicted by scientists because of the immunity gaps in our population and our declining vaccination rates.

The epidemic then spread to Samoa, where there were nearly 6000 cases of measles and 83 deaths, mainly babies and young children. Samoa was a perfect storm of misinformation and vaccine hesitancy. In 2018, in a tragic case of medical misadventure, two Samoan nurses administering the MMR vaccine mistakenly injected two infants with the muscle relaxant atracurium. The infants were dead within minutes.

Antivaccine activists, such as Robert F Kennedy Jr, an avid promoter of the false belief that vaccines are linked to autism, seized on the event to cast doubt on the safety of the vaccine itself. In the ensuing sea of misinformation, many Samoans lost confidence in their health system and resorted to traditional remedies, or supplements offered by alternative healers, while the Samoan government groundlessly paused their vaccination programme for nearly 10 months against the advice of their own medical experts.

As a result, vaccination levels for children under 5 dropped to 31%. At those levels an epidemic becomes inevitable. In contrast, the nearby Cook Islands, Niue, and American Samoa were protected by their vaccine herd immunity.

Measles is entirely preventable. With proper immunisation and herd immunity we don't have to have any deaths or hospitalisations, or even illness.

In my next article I will look at the impact of the Covid19 pandemic and vaccine hesitancy on our measles vaccination rates.

■ Health scientist Dr Steve Humphries is a director at Hebe Botanicals in Ōtaki. He was previously a lecturer at Massey University and director of the Health Science Programme

## SCIENCE



DR STEVE HUMPHRIES

## Diabetes and pre-diabetes support in Horowhenua & Ōtaki

### August

Focus	Programme Name	Date	Time	Location	Booking instructions
<b>Diabetes</b>	Horowhenua Diabetes Support Group	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	1.30-3.30 pm	Te Takere (Levin Library)	No registration required – just show up
<b>Type 2 Diabetes</b>	Winter Warmers (Cooking class) PN class and ZOOM	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	11.00-12.30 pm	Levin Uniting Church 87 Oxford St Levin	
	Carbohydrate Awareness ZOOM	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> August	6.30-8.30 pm	Online only via Zoom	
<b>This is for people with a new Type 2 Diabetes Diagnosis</b>	Welcome to Type 2 Diabetes ŌTAKI	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	10.30-12.30 pm	Ngā Purapura, Te Wānangao Raukawa, 145 Tasman Road, Ōtaki	MHT Diabetes Trust You can either book online at <a href="http://www.diabetestrust.org.nz">www.diabetestrust.org.nz</a> or ring 06 357 5992 to register
	Carbohydrate Awareness LEVIN	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	10.00-12.00 pm	Horowhenua Health Centre	
	Healthy Living LEVIN	Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> August, 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30-11.30 pm	Horowhenua Health Centre	

### September

Focus	Programme Name	Date	Time	Location	Booking instructions
<b>Diabetes</b>	Horowhenua Diabetes Support Group	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	1.30-3.30 pm	Te Takere (Levin Library)	No registration required – just show up
<b>Type 2 Diabetes</b>	Sweet Treats (Cooking class) PN & ZOOM	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	5.30-7.00 pm	St Davids Church PN & Online via Zoom	
	Healthy Living ZOOM	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> September	11.30-1.30 pm	Online only via Zoom	MHT Diabetes Trust You can either book online at <a href="http://www.diabetestrust.org.nz">www.diabetestrust.org.nz</a> or ring 06 357 5992 to register
	Budget Meals (Cooking Class) ŌTAKI	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	11.00-1.00 pm	Ngā Purapura, Te Wānangao Raukawa, 145 Tasman Road, Ōtaki	
<b>Prediabetes</b>	Prediabetes ZOOM	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	6.30-8.30 pm	Online only via Zoom	

## Diabetes and pre-diabetes support in Horowhenua & Ōtaki

Nau mai, haramai e te whānau

Are you keen to learn more or connect with other people with the same condition?

Do you have diabetes or pre-diabetes?

Pre-Diabetes and Type 2 Diabetes sessions for the Horowhenua & Ōtaki regions.

August & September 2023



For More Information: [www.diabetestrust.org.nz](http://www.diabetestrust.org.nz)



# Everything Ōtaki

August 2023

## Site confirmed for new Ōtaki reservoir

After a thorough investigation, the preferred location of the new Ōtaki reservoir has been confirmed on the site at 71 Te Manuao Road.

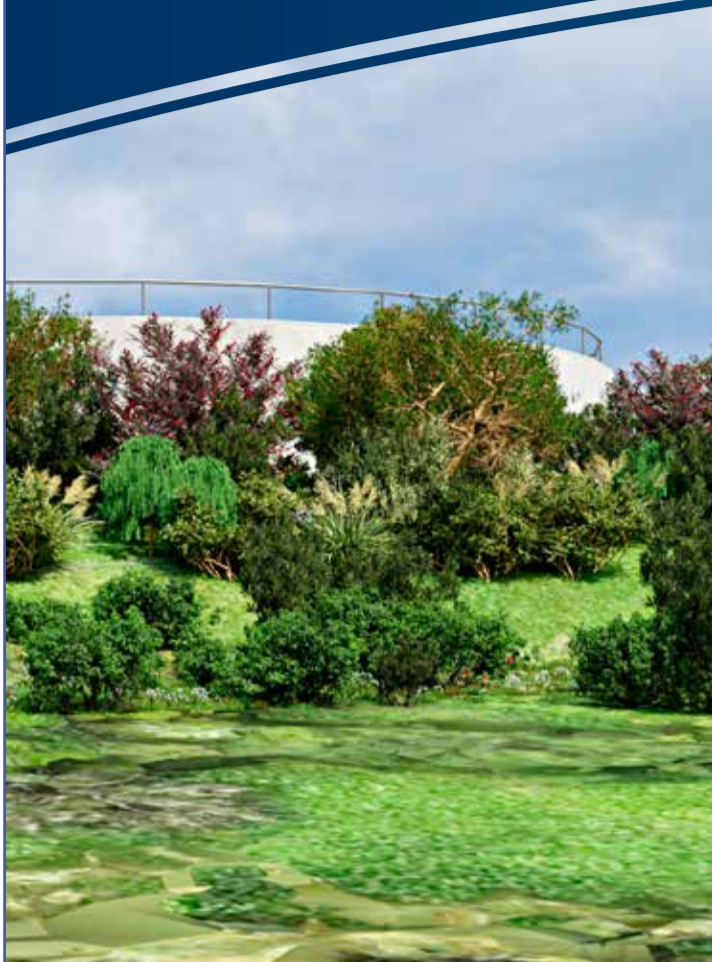
Several sites around the area were considered for the project. The Te Manuao Road location was identified as the best place due to its elevation, proximity to water services, and low earthquake risk.

The new reservoir will improve the resilience and fire-fighting capability of the water supply as well as support existing and future homes in Ōtaki. It will provide more water storage for emergency purposes.

After hearing from neighbours about the negative visual impacts of the reservoir, Council investigated whether it could be moved back on the site and any implications of doing so. This work showed the initial location remains the only option.

Earthworks are planned to begin in October and construction of the reservoir will follow.

► Visit: [kapiticoast.govt.nz/otaki-reservoir/](https://kapiticoast.govt.nz/otaki-reservoir/) for more information.



### Stay connected, sign up to Antenno

Antenno's our free mobile app; it sends you Council-related notifications about the places and things you care about – like major water outages, roadworks, closures, Council events, and more.

It's also a fast, easy way to send us info about Council-related issues, like graffiti that needs to be removed from a public place, or a tree that's fallen and is blocking a road.

It's great for when you are out and about and you spot something that needs our attention!

► Visit: [kapiticoast.govt.nz/antenno](https://kapiticoast.govt.nz/antenno) for more info



### Trash talk time

We all have a role to play in reducing waste. Whether you're a producer, consumer, or processor of waste, small actions can lead to significant change.

Buying less stuff, composting food waste, reusing things, becoming a recycling pro – your efforts count towards a sustainable region.

We're working with other councils in our region on an updated plan for waste, and on our own local action plan for Kāpiti. Help us make this a greater place with less waste.

► Have your say at: [LessWasteGreaterPlace.co.nz](https://LessWasteGreaterPlace.co.nz) by 1 September.



### Maramataka 2023 launched

The 2023/24 Maramataka is now available.

Supported by Te Whakaminenga o Kāpiti and Council, this year's Maramataka was developed in partnership by the Rongoā Collective of the ĀRT (Āti Awa, Toa, Raukawa) Confederation.

Following on from last year's edition it once again has a focus on whānau ora - family wellbeing. It highlights the importance of rongoā as the people's medicine and its role in maintaining health, wellbeing and prosperity within iwi and community.

► Copies are available for purchase at Kāpiti Coast District Council service centres for \$15 each.



# PAKIHI/Business

## What a family trust can and can't do

**A** trust is a legal relationship where the person/s who set up the trust gives an asset or assets to trustees to hold "on trust" for the benefit of another person/s – the "beneficiary".

The asset or assets (often property) are then legally owned by the trust, not the individuals.

There are several different types of trusts that can be set up, but the most common in New Zealand are family trusts.

Family trusts are set up for a variety of differing goals and purposes. Sometimes people are thinking about how to keep property in the family for future generations, or how to protect assets from legal claims against them.

However, there are some common misconceptions about what a family trust can and can't do.

### Commercial risk

A family trust can help protect assets from commercial risk. Because the assets placed in the trust are not owned by you alone anymore, but by a separate entity that you have a role in, this limits the way that creditors or others could claim against those assets.

### Inheritance goals

A family trust can help keep assets in the family and see them distributed in the way you want. A document called a "Memorandum of Wishes" (essentially a will for a trust) guides trustees in dealing with the trust's property once the person who set it up has died. This could involve keeping a family home in the trust for future generations, or providing an income for a spouse or children, or any number of other things.

### Separation

A family trust cannot guarantee assets being kept out of a messy separation. For example, say your home is owned by a family trust that was set up before you entered a relationship, and it remains owned by the trust for the five years that the relationship lasts. But during the relationship, the home is maintained by both of you and you pay for the outgoings and maintenance of the property together. Although the trust owns the house, not you and your ex-partner, the fact that the home has been treated as relationship property can make it so and the ex-partner could have a claim on that property.

### Responsibilities in having a family trust

These are just a few examples of what can and cannot be achieved with a family trust.

Another important factor to consider is the obligations that trustees are under. These include, but are not limited to: acting honestly and in good faith, acting for the benefit of the beneficiaries, and keeping records of decisions and other financial information.

Responsibly managing a family trust is essential in achieving the goals of the trust. If you have a family trust that needs some attention, or is no longer relevant and should be wound up, or you think a family trust could be worth setting up, you should contact a lawyer who specialises in trust law to have a chat.

■ Brooke recently joined Wakefields Lawyers. She works primarily in the Levin office and occasionally at the Ōtaki and Foxton offices.

### MATTERS OF LAW



BROOKE MCGOWAN



Image by Mohamed Hassan Pixabay

## Think differently, open up a new world of possibilities

### How can thinking differently lead you to achieve the success you desire?

Far too often, people find themselves trapped in a cycle of negative thinking, influenced by limiting beliefs that hinder their progress. But what if we told you that by changing your thoughts, you could open up a world of possibilities?

Let's explore the transformative effects of positive thinking and how it can shape your journey towards success.

### Starting with a thought

Everything begins with a thought. It is the seed from which our actions and achievements grow.

Unfortunately, many individuals have been conditioned to believe they are not destined for success. Whether it's due to external influences or self-doubt, these limiting beliefs hold them back without their conscious awareness.

It is truly tragic to witness talented individuals who remain unaware of their untapped potential simply because they believe success is not meant for them.

### The consequences of negative thinking

Negative thoughts have a profound impact on our long-term success.

When someone fixates on negative thoughts, they inadvertently hinder their own progress. They question their abilities, constantly wondering if they are good enough or capable of taking on new challenges. It becomes a battle between the voice urging them to try something new and the voice whispering, "It's not for you."

As a result, their leadership abilities

become limited, and they struggle to embrace creative ideas. Challenges transform into insurmountable obstacles, holding them back from reaching their full potential.

### The power of positive thinking

On the flip side, embracing positive thoughts can lead to remarkable transformations.

By focusing on the belief that you can achieve something, you open yourself up to endless possibilities. Challenges become mere stepping stones,

opportunities to be overcome rather than barriers.

Moreover, positive thoughts act as a magnet, attracting like-minded individuals and opportunities into your life. The energy you radiate will undoubtedly come back to you in the form of positive outcomes.

### Story of transformation

To illustrate the impact of changing one's mindset, let's share a real-life story.

A few years ago, we worked with a client who firmly believed they were not good with numbers. This limiting belief had a detrimental effect on their business, causing erratic profits and an inability to engage with clients effectively.

However, by challenging and busting this belief, we witnessed a remarkable shift. The client's confidence soared, their profit margins increased, and their entire business transformed.

They realised they were indeed capable of mastering numbers and achieving financial success.

### YOUR BUSINESS



CHRIS WHELAN

### Harnessing the power of thought

Thinking is a superpower we all possess. It determines our actions, shapes our behaviour, and ultimately defines who we become.

Those who reach the top of their respective fields, whether it's business, sports, or community organisations, think differently. They focus on possibilities instead of limitations, constantly seeking ways to make things happen rather than dwelling on what cannot be done.

The ability to think big, creatively, and positively empowers us to overcome obstacles and achieve greatness.

### Conclusion

In summary, thinking your way to the top is not an elusive dream but a tangible reality. By harnessing the power of changed thinking, we can break free from limiting beliefs and open ourselves up to a world of opportunities.

It all starts with a single thought, a decision to think differently and embrace change. As we align our thoughts with our goals, we attract the people and resources needed to bring those goals to fruition. So, dare to think differently, challenge your limiting beliefs, and watch as your journey towards success unfolds.

If you're seeking assistance in developing strategic thinking or overcoming limiting beliefs, don't hesitate to contact me at [chris@wcbe.co.nz](mailto:chris@wcbe.co.nz). Together, we can unlock your full potential and embark on a transformative journey towards success.

■ Focus, accountability and mentoring are the keys to building a better business. To do things better, book a free 30-minute consultation to see what in my 25+ years in business can shift the dial for you. Call 022 2332 669 or see [centreforbusinessexcellence.com](http://centreforbusinessexcellence.com)



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# A local company where Land Matters

**Land Matters has built a national reputation for environmentally, community-minded business practices – all from small beginnings in Ōtaki.**

The company offers full-service property, infrastructure, construction and building expertise for projects throughout the country. It helps asset owners, developers and private property owners with planning a resource consent, or those seeking compensation for

public works, buying or selling land, developing a new project or managing a commercial lease.

“We help unlock a property’s potential,” says director Bryce Holmes.

The company was established in Ōtaki in 2007 by Bryce and Sam Pritchard. It now works for clients throughout New Zealand, including large building companies, iwi groups, local authorities, government departments and infrastructure owners.

Including Bryce and Sam, the growing company is a team of 18 professionals based in Addington Road, with a national presence. The current reach includes projects as far north as Whangārei and south to Doctors Point just north of Dunedin. Staff include resource management consultants, surveyors, engineers and project managers.

The interconnected nature of the various professions is one of the company’s strengths.

“We’re agile, we’re innovative, we can think big,” Bryce says. “We’re approachable, and we always put our clients’ interests first. Our advice is honest, practical and robust, and a senior team covers every project.”

Experience also helps: “We know the best way to do things because we’ve done almost all of it before. We know where to compromise, where to push, and how to find the most cost-effective and efficient path through.”

The business has three key parts, although within those broad areas Land Matters offers the following services: planning, civil engineering, surveying, infrastructure planning/renewal, iwi housing and asset advisory, landscape architecture, construction management, GIS mapping, forestry management plans, property management, environmental monitoring, and quality assurance.

#### Resource management planning

The Resource Management Act has caught

out many people, but Bryce says Land Matters will guide clients through the relevant processes. Recent changes promoted by central government will repeal the RMA and Land Matters can advise clients of the impacts of those legislative amendments.

“We’ve worked successfully with local and regional plans nationwide, on projects ranging from resource consent application to full development proposals. No matter what situation or level of complexity, we’ve got the experience and know-how to cater for any client.”

Land Matters has a network of specialists it partners with to cover a broad range of issues, as diverse as geotechnical engineering and Environment Court hearings.

#### Public Works Act advice and property advisory

A big question is whether your land is affected by public works. If so, you’re entitled to receive independent advice on how this will affect the future use of your property – and the costs or compensation that must be paid by the Crown.

Land Matters offers advice, research capability and assistance with negotiations to achieve the best possible outcome for landowners.

#### Project management and property advisory

Land Matters has a bunch of property experts who ensure a project is economically feasible from a planning, engineering and surveying perspective.

The client list is impressive. It includes Wellington Water in the infrastructure space, plus several large private housing companies. Land Matters is also assisting with iwi housing and land services for Te Runanga o Ngāti Whātua in Tāmaki Makaurau/Te Tai Tokerau regions, and Toitū Tairāwhiti Housing in Tairāwhiti assisting with project delivery of 300 houses around the East Coast.

Part of Land Matters’ management and planning portfolio is property purchase and sale. Without expert advice, the process can be complex and stressful.

“It’s easy to overlook or miss opportunities,” Bryce says. “We have successfully negotiated land purchases for local investment groups and acted for several investment groups and overseas buyers purchasing land throughout New Zealand.”

“A local touch can be invaluable when purchasing or selling land in a foreign country, while our discreet and private service caters for clients who prefer anonymity.”

The company also advises on commercial property leases, maintenance and management with several commercial properties being managed in Ōtaki.

Often commercial properties are not managed in the most productive way possible. It’s key that a property remains in the best condition and provides maximum return – something on which Bryce says Land Matters can offer expert advice and management.

The issues can be as diverse as lease negotiation, valuation coordination, fit-out management and council consents.

Land Matters also has a survey team that can provide GIS and drone mapping.

“We can help clients understand visually the lay of the land, and even create a 3D model of a site,” Bryce says. “Our survey team has the experience and technology to bring your property to life.”

Services can include a topographical survey, site or construction set-out, boundary definitions, drone survey and aerial photography, land transfer survey, GPS survey, as-built survey and rental area survey.

■ Land Matters: Phone 06 364-7293 or email [info@landmatters.nz](mailto:info@landmatters.nz). Web: [landmatters.nz](http://landmatters.nz)



## CASE STUDY:

### Smart subdivision: Manu Park

W North Ltd wanted to create a premier development for the old “Kebbell Farm” in Waikanae. Land Matters helped them find the best plan for the subdivision considering the former master plan for the land did not have a sound financial basis.

Land Matters partnered with nationally renowned landscape planner Dr Frank Boffa to come up with a stellar subdivision design – and point of difference. It took the extra step to create a development plan that addressed a myriad of complex issue presented by Kāpiti Coast District Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council. The unique approach proved pivotal to achieving consent for the authorities.

With consents in place Land Matters is now managing the construction phase of the development, with sister company Pritchard Civil efficiently undertaking the physical works to complete a land development where residents are enjoying the natural environment, walkways and open spaces.





# HĪTŌRIA/History

## OLD SCHOOL PHOTOS

Compiled by Debbi Carson



### ŌTAKI COLLEGE, 1960, Form 3.

This is another intriguing school photo. It's the third form (year 9) class at Ōtaki College in 1960, the year after the college was opened (initially as Ōtaki High School). It would have been the first college year for these students, as it wasn't until 1970 that students of form 1 and 2 (years 7 and 8) attended.

If you can tell us who they all are, please get in touch by emailing [debbi@idmedia.co.nz](mailto:debbi@idmedia.co.nz)



### LAST MONTH'S PHOTO: TE HORO SCHOOL, 1958.

Back row: John Mason, Steve Bradbury, Paul Blackley, Richard Knight, Glen Burt, Robert Bothamley, Hamish Richmond, unknown, Robert Richmond.  
 Row 3: Headmaster Charlie Wilde, John Cleland, John Collis, Kay Warwick, unknown, unknown, Ruth Rainey, Brian McGaviston, Barry Page.  
 Row 2: unknown, Jenny Winiata, June Windlev, Janet Miles, unknown, Leonie Sutton, Susan Sims, Diane Winiata, Barbara Sutton, Jill Jones.  
 Row 1: Leslie Robertsob, Peggy Fogden, Patricia Murrell, unknown, Kathleen Arnold, Jane Richmond, Tui Ropata, Diedre Croad, Heather Clifton, Jean Muggeridge.  
 Front: Donald Muggeridge, Robert Dew, David Arcus, Cedric Russell.

Thanks to Kaye Carkeek (nee Warwick) for the names.

### GOT OLD PHOTOS?

If you have old school photos – or any photos of old Ōtaki – please get in touch. We're building our archive so we can keep publishing snapshots of life when the town and district were younger. Email us, or give us a call. Include names and other information if you can. Contact [debbi@idmedia.co.nz](mailto:debbi@idmedia.co.nz) especially if you have additions or corrections to captions.



For anyone missing the historical column from Ōtaki Museum this issue, rest assured David Ledson returns in September. We hope to also have a new writer who will alternate with David. Watch this space!



Taputukura Raea, Pacific virtual museum engagement manager for Digital Pasifik, at the Cook Islands movie night.

Photo supplied

## OTAKI MUSEUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 8 October, 2pm  
 at the Museum, 49 Main St, Ōtaki.

- The Otaki Museum Trust's AGM meeting will cover:
- Presentation of the Annual Report and Financial Report
  - Presentation for adoption of the name, Trust Deed and structure of the new heritage organisation formed by joining the Museum Trust with the Ōtaki Historical Society.
  - Launch of this year's Otaki Historical Journal.
  - Election of trustees to govern the new trust's activities.

You are warmly invited to attend. Please contact us for more information if you're interested in standing for the Board of Trustees or you'd like to join our group of volunteers: e: [admin@otakimuseum.co.nz](mailto:admin@otakimuseum.co.nz) or 06 364 6886.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ōtaki Today encourages letters to the editor. Please include your full name, address and contact phone number. Only letters that include these details will be published, unless there is good reason to withhold a name. Please keep the word count to a maximum of 200 words. Note your letter may be edited for grammar and accuracy. The publisher reserves the right to reject any letter. Write to Ōtaki Today, 13 Te Manuao Rd, Ōtaki or email [ian@idmedia.co.nz](mailto:ian@idmedia.co.nz)

# Inspiring Cook Islands films

By Una Cruickshank  
 Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision

**On August 2 a crowd, whose eikatu brightened up a wintery Wellington night, gathered for Po Teata o te Kuki Airani – Cook Islands movie night, at the National Library building in Wellington.**

Many of these beautiful Polynesian islands were represented by audience members who came together to celebrate their homeland. Delicious traditional kai was provided, and a local family string band and drummer supplied the musical atmosphere.

The event was hosted by the Cook Islands high commissioner to New Zealand Kairangi Samuela, in collaboration with Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision, National Library, Alexander Turnbull Library and Archives New Zealand.

Also there were New Zealand's economic development and Pacific peoples minister Barbara Edmonds, MP



Tangi Utikere, Cook Islands Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Immigration secretary Tapaeru Herrmann, as well as many members of the diplomatic community.

There was laughter and chatter from the crowd while watching archival footage of the Cook Islands from 1919 through to 1965.

The earliest film on the programme was *His Excellency's Visit to Cook Islands and Samoa*, a silent film made by cameraman Sydney Benjamin Taylor for the Department of Agriculture in 1919. The film shows a visitor's perspective on life in the Cook Islands, rather than a local one, and as the title suggests it focuses on a colonial dignitary, governor-general Lord Liverpool.

However, Taylor was an excellent filmmaker and photographer, and it remains fascinating to see views of the Cook

Islands from more than 100 years ago.

Watching historical footage can be moving, especially when it depicts a place close to the viewer's heart. Footage can show how a place has changed, and also how the ways it is represented on film have changed.

The most recent of the films, 1965's *The Cook Islands Looks Ahead*, depicts the islands at a very different moment as it prepared for self-governance. There's a strong emphasis on modernity and industry, but the film-makers find time to show the beauty and culture of the Cook Islands.

Screened together, the archival films selected for this event helped embody the theme of this year's Cook Islands Maōri Language Week, "Ātuitui'ia au ki te au peu o tōku kāinga Ipukarea - Connect me to the traditions and culture of my homeland".

■ Ngā Taonga has a huge number of recordings that capture New Zealand life. They can be explored online at [ngataonga.org.nz](http://ngataonga.org.nz). Get the Ngā Taonga newsletter using the Sign Up button at the bottom of the page.



# Happy days, happy chooks

**I**N LATE WINTER we are called to ensure our chooks have access to dry outside space and that their need for fresh ground and sunshine continues to be met. Not easy when the ground is saturated, the air cold and light is low.

## Fresh ground

Fresh ground means more than fresh greens – it means bugs and critters, too. Keep stretching out into new spaces to do best by your feathered friends.

- Create a neighbourhood chook run in the weeds between you and the park next door – so much better than the councils spraying option.
- Use them to weed, bug hunt and fertilise in your greenhouse, vegie garden or beneath fruit trees or berries.
- Corral them into the bug-laden ground under established trees out of the rain and wind. Their jungle ancestors will applaud you.



EDIBLE GARDEN

KATH IRVINE

If you can't create fresh ground, cover the bare ground in their run with organic matter on a regular basis – crop residue, weeds, sawdust, leaves, grass clippings, pond weed. Toss in whatever you have and keep topping it up. You'll get awesome compost in the process.

## Refresh the chook-house

Sprinkle fresh shavings on top of the night's doings on a regular basis. The frequency you need to do this depends on the size of your house and how many chooks you have. Your nose and conscience will guide you here. Muck the house out once every month or so for an awesome pile of poopy sawdust for the garden, and begin all over again.

## Dust bath

We shower, chooks dust-bathe! In this way they manage lice and mites and keep their feathers clean. In the dry seasons, chooks can easily find dust bathing spots, but when it's wet and they are contained, it's not so easy.

A roofed over area just off the chook-house is the way to go. Drop off a barrow-load of sawdust or chip as needed and the chooks will do the rest.

## Waning egg production

Light triggers egg production, therefore less light mean fewer eggs. There's nothing wrong with your girls! As daylight hours increase again, those eggs will come on back, unless of course your chook is getting on in years.

The option is there to force them into more eggs with artificial light, but I say go with the natural flow and give the girls a break.

I have the same attitude to protein-rich treats that are often recommended when it's cold and access to fresh ground has run out.

It's really easy to overfeed chooks – far better to provide them a wide range of different environments, such as leaf litter, trees, herbs, green crops, other organic matter, and let them source what they need themselves.

## Chicken-ness

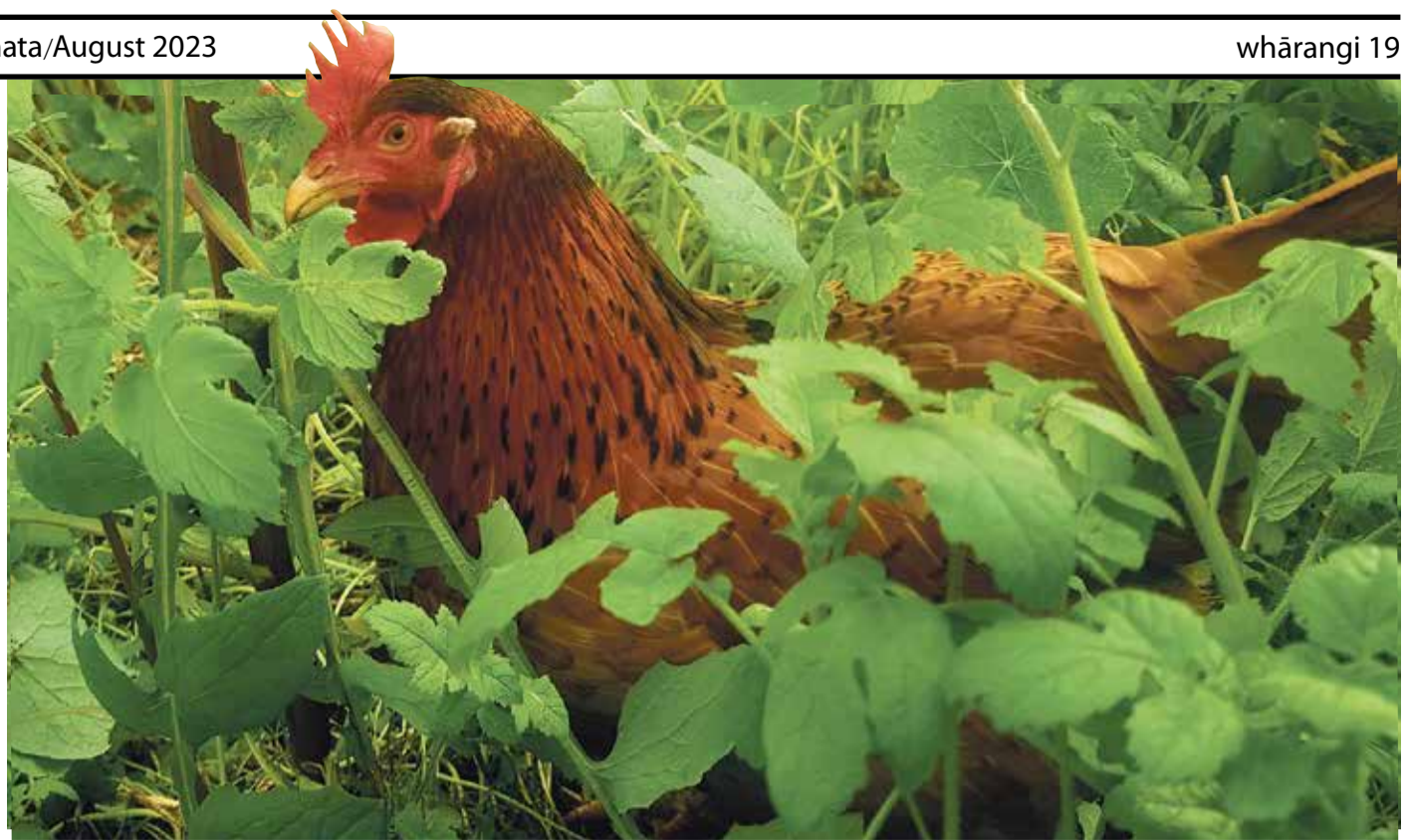
Let this question resonate at the heart of your chicken set-up.

*Can your chickens express their chicken-ness?* – Joel Salatin

Chicken-ness is bright-eyed and cheeky, curious, on the go and an enthusiasm for life. Chooks need to flap, explore and dust-bathe.

Have you got all the bases covered?

■ *Kath has been growing vegetables to feed her family for 21 years. Spray-free, natural, low-input food gardens are her thing. Kath offers organic gardening advice through her articles, books, workshops, and garden consultations.*



# Help to shape the future of Ōtaki

Be part of the kōrero and share your ideas about what future health and wellbeing services could look like in our community.

Our vision is to raise the health and wellbeing of the Ōtaki community, and we need your help to do this by participating in the short 2023 Tirohia survey.

The Tirohia project will help to guide us and tell us what the future of Ōtaki might look like, and where your needs are.

**Take part online [www.tepunaoranga-otaki.nz](http://www.tepunaoranga-otaki.nz)**



TE PUNA ORANGA O ŌTAKI



TIROHIA



# TAMARIKI FUN

Drop your coloured picture into Ōtaki Today's box at Riverstone Café by Sept 8 to win a \$20 book voucher or an *Animals in Vehicles* book.

## OT KIDS' NEWS



### EVIE WINS SNAIL RACE

The annual Snail Racing World Championship 2023 has been held in Congham, Norfolk, UK. The 2023 winner was Evie the snail with a time of seven minutes 24 seconds. Lettie and Evie are pictured left receiving the world championship trophy

from snail master Nicholas Dickinson. The event was founded in the 1960s by Tom Elwes after he attended a snail racing event in France. During the race, snails compete to cover a distance of 33cm. The snail master starts the races by shouting: "Ready, steady, SLOW!" and off dash the snails. The snail master keeps the course well-watered as snails like damp conditions. Races are held on a table covered with a white cloth. The world record is two minutes and was won in 1995 by a snail called Archie. The record can only be challenged at the world championships at Congham. The ultimate prize for the winner is a tankard of lettuce, making it a unique and entertaining competition for both participants and spectators alike.



### PATRICK'S PIES WINS FOR 8TH TIME

A mouthwatering gourmet pie with roast duck, onion, mushroom and cheese sauce has won Bakels Supreme Pie Awards for Patrick Lam of Patrick's Pies in Tauranga. The judges sampled a 5000 pies across 11 categories, submitted by bakers from throughout New Zealand. Patrick's duck pie stood out because of its perfect balance of flavours and a striking flying duck decoration adorning the pastry. It is the eighth time the bakery has won the top prize in the competition's 25-year history. Despite making pies every day, Patrick admitted to eating only two or three of his pies each week. Whenever he wins, his bakery sees an influx of customers with queues extending out the door.



### MAORI PLACE NAME MAPS UPDATED

The New Zealand Geographic Board has updated tangata whenua place name maps, the first update since 1995. These maps showcase Māori and Moriori place names as they existed before European settlement. Divided into two maps for Te Ika a Māui and Te Waipounamu, each map features about 900 names, ranging from Te Rerenga Wairua to Rakiura, encompassing mountains, pā sites, sacred places, and food-gathering areas. The names were sourced from various iwi and hapū groups, as well as the unpublished 1940s centennial atlas compiled by Sir Āpirana Ngata. The board collaborated closely with iwi groups to collect information and stories related to each name. Iwi had the final say in determining which names were included. The maps aim to represent Aotearoa as it was in 1840 before significant European migration. The release of these maps aligns with the growing efforts to pronounce Māori place names correctly and encourages the use of te reo Māori. The maps will be distributed to schools, marae, and iwi organisations, supporting the new Aotearoa History curriculum. They will also be available for purchase and download through the Land Information New Zealand website.

## COLOURING COMPETITION

Judges taste 5000 samples for best pie awards



NAME:

AGE:

PHONE:

## WORD MAKER



The Football Ferns have exited the Fifa Women's World Cup but they played a large part in stirring up fan passions around the country in the cup's first 10 days. Did you go to any games? Do you play football yourself?

How many words can you make from the word football? Answers are on page 23. Good luck, and have fun.

You can make 80 words from football! And if you don't know the meanings look them up.



### KYUSS'S AUGUST WORD SEARCH

Circle the letters as you find the word

- APPLE
- LOVE
- BERRIES
- HAPPINESS
- MOUSE
- MILKSHAKE
- CARDS
- DANGER
- SHOW

S N P R L I P D Q Q K T Y  
 U B X W M V E Y B M G R E  
 N M T H T Z P B T Z L Y Y  
 F G R J E L B B Z D S H I  
 J P E P R F L A E U O O O  
 F U K R J D Q T F I A C C  
 X U D W D U X Z W E F E C  
 T H N F B V J G F N K M H  
 R D S K O B K H F A K J W  
 X K M J K Y T O H Q W N L  
 R E E Z H F Y S O X G G G  
 S H H E T F K S H Y D Z U  
 G S H O W L P W O O K W M  
 D H F K I Y W Y U K C C H  
 E K W M A N N P U A X Q S  
 T K D Q Y W N E K X X T S  
 J P X T O P S D D N Y U A  
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## COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

AMICUS CLUB OF ŌTAKI 364 6464  
 COBBLERS SOUP LUNCH GROUP: Thursdays 11am-1.30pm  
 Gertrude Atmore Lounge. Free soup (koha appreciated).  
 FOREST & BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY Geoff Ritchie 06 927 0281  
 FRIENDS OF THE ŌTAKI RIVER Trevor Wylie 364 8918  
 FRIENDS OF THE ŌTAKI ROTUNDA Di Buchan 027 683 0213  
 KĀPITI COAST GREY POWER June Simpson 021 109 2583  
 KĀPITI HOROWHENUA VEGANS: Alastair 364 3392 Eric 367 2512  
 KEEP ŌTAKI BEAUTIFUL Margaret Bayston/Lloyd Chapman  
 MORRIS CAR CLUB Chris Torr 323 7753  
 ŌTAKI BRIDGE CLUB Tim Horner 364-5240  
 ŌTAKI COMMUNITY PATROL Martin McGrath Ōtaki@cnpz.org.nz  
 ŌTAKI & DISTRICT SENIOR CITIZENS Vaevae 027 447 7864  
 ŌTAKI FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Anne McLellan 021 159 8478  
 ŌTAKI FLORAL ART & GARDEN CLUB Macha Miller 364 6605  
 ŌTAKI FOODBANK 43 Main St, Lucy Tahere 364 0051  
 ŌTAKI HERITAGE BANK MUSEUM TRUST 364 6886  
 ŌTAKI HISTORICAL SOCIETY Sarah Maclean 364 2497  
 ŌTAKI MENZSHED 022 406 9439 ŌtakiMenzShed@outlook.com  
 ŌTAKI PLAYERS SOCIETY Roger Thorpe 364 8848 or 021 259 2683  
 ŌTAKI POTTERY CLUB Rod Graham 027 445 7545  
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 ŌTAKI AND DISTRICT RSA, 9 Raukawa St 364 6221  
 ŌTAKI SPINNERS & KNITTERS' GROUP, Barbara Austin 364 8381  
 ŌTAKI STROKE SUPPORT GROUP Marian Jones 364-5028  
 ŌTAKI WOMEN'S NETWORK GROUP Michelle McGrath  
 Ōtakiwomensnetwork@gmail.com  
 ŌTAKI WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CLUB/SUNDAY MARKETS  
 Kerrie Fox 027 340 0305  
 ŌTAKI WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Rema Clark remaclark@xtra.co.nz  
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 TIMEBANK Suzanne Fahey 021 1275 074  
 TOASTMASTERS OF WAIKANAĒ Graham 04 905 6236  
 WAITOHU STREAM CARE GROUP Lynda Angus 020 459 6321  
 ZERO WASTE ŌTAKI Jane Bell 027 232 3051

### CHILDREN

ŌTAKI TOY LIBRARY 027 621 8855 Saturday 10.30am-noon  
 Memorial Hall, Main St.  
 KIDZOWN OSCAR 0800 543 9696  
 LITTLE GIGGLERS PLAYGROUP Baptist Church Hall, Te Manuao Rd.  
 10am-12noon Friday each fortnight. Denise 027 276 0983  
 MAINLY MUSIC Hadfield Hall, Te Rauparaha St. 021 189 6510  
 ŌTAKI KINDERGARTEN 68a Waerenga Rd. 364 8553

ŌTAKI MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL Haruātai Park, Roselle 364 7500  
 ŌTAKI PLAYCENTRE Mill Rd. 364 5787. Mon, Tue, Thu 9.30am-noon  
 ŌTAKI PLAYGROUP Ōtakiplaygroup@hotmail.com  
 ŌTAKI SCOUTS, CUBS AND KEAS Brent Bythell 364 8949  
 ŌTAKI TITANS SWIMMING CLUB Carla Lingnau 021 235 9096  
 PLUNKET MANAKAU PLAYGROUP Honi Taipua St, T & Th 9.30am-noon  
 SKIDS ŌTAKI out of school care, St Peter Chanel School. Sonia 027 739 1986  
 TE KŌHANGA REO O TE KĀKANO O TE KURA Te Rauparaha St, 06 364 5599  
 TE KŌHANGA REO O RAUKAWA 5 Convent Rd, 06 364 5364

### SPORTS CLUBS

EASY-CISE/WALKING GROUP (BODY & SOUL) Joseph 364 6191  
 EQUESTRIAN HORSE CLUB 364 6181: Horse Trekking club Debbie  
 364 6571; Ōtaki Pony Club Paul Pettengell 364 5781  
 GAZBOS GOLDEN OLDIES Doug Garrity 364 5886  
 HAWAIKINUI TUA RUA KI ŌTAKI (waka ama)  
 DeNeen Baker-Underhill 027 404 4697  
 ŌTAKI ATHLETIC CLUB Kerry Bevan 027 405 6635  
 ŌTAKI BOATING CLUB Trevor Hosking 021 642 766  
 ŌTAKI BOWLING CLUB Paul Selby 927 9015  
 ŌTAKI CANOE CLUB Jane Bertelsen 364 5302  
 ŌTAKI DANCE GROUP Barbara Francis 364 7383  
 ŌTAKI GOLF CLUB 364 8260  
 ŌTAKI GYMNASTICS CLUB Nancy 027 778 6902  
 ŌTAKI INDOOR BOWLING Jane Selby-Paterson 927 9015  
 ŌTAKI MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB Sonia Coom 04 292 7676  
 ŌTAKI PETANQUE CLUB Val Clarke 027 296 5213  
 ŌTAKI RAILWAY BOWLING CLUB Maureen Beaver 364 0640  
 ŌTAKI SPORTS CLUB: TENNIS, SQUASH & SOCCER Hannah 027 327 1179  
 ŌTAKI SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB Kirsty Doyle 021 102 0058  
 RĀHUI FOOTBALL AND SPORTS CLUB Slade Sturmeay 021 191 4780.  
 Rahui Netball Kylie Gardner 0275 490 985. Junior Rugby Megan  
 Qaranivalu 022 165 7649  
 RAUKAWA BASKETBALL, raukawakitetongabasketball@gmail.com  
 Contact person Ariana Reweti  
 TAE KWON DO Jim Babbington 027 530 0443  
 TAI CHI Gillian Sutherland 04 904 8190  
 WHITI TE RA LEAGUE CLUB Kelly Anne Ngatai 027 256 7391  
 WILD GOOSE QIGONG, CHEN STYLE TAIJIQUAN (TAI CHI) & CHUN  
 YUEN (SHAOLIN) QUAN. Sifu Cynthia Shaw 021 613 081  
 ZUMBA GOLD Te Horo and Ōtaki Anna Burns 02102430430  
 To list your group, or update contact details, email debbi@idmedia.co.nz

## CHURCHES

**Rangiātea** 33 Te Rauparaha St. 06 364-6838. Sunday Eucharist  
 9am. Church viewing during school terms Monday to Friday  
 9.30am-1.30pm.  
**St Mary's Pukekaraka** 4 Convent Rd. Fr Alan Robert, 021 0822  
 8926. Sunday mass: 10am. Miha Māori, first Sunday of the  
 month. For other masses see pukekaraka1@gmail.com  
**Ōtaki Anglican** Rev Simon and Rev Jessica Falconer.  
 06 364-7099. All Saints Church, 47 Te Rauparaha St. Church  
 service every Sunday at Hadfield Hall, 10am, Family Service. For  
 Hadfield Hall bookings, email office@otakianglican.nz  
**Ōtaki Baptist** cnr State Highway 1 and Te Manuao Rd.  
 06 364-8540. Sunday service at 10am. otakibaptist.weebly.com  
**The Hub** 157 Tasman Rd, Ōtaki. Leader Richard Brons.  
 06 364-6911. Sunday service and Big Wednesday services  
 at 10.15am. www.actschurches.com/church-directory/  
 horowhenua/hub-church/  
**Ōtaki Presbyterian** 249 Mill Rd, Ōtaki. Rev Peter Jackson.  
 06 364-8759 or 021 207 9455. Sunday service at 11am. See  
 otakiwaikanaechurch.nz

## MEDICAL

**Ōtaki Medical Centre** 2 Aotaki St, Ōtaki 06 364 8555  
 Monday-Friday: 8.45am-5pm.  
**EMERGENCIES: 111**  
**AFTER HOURS: Team Medical**, Paraparaumu: 04 297 3000  
 Coastlands Shopping Mall. 8am-10pm every day.  
**Palmerston North Hospital** emergencies,  
 50 Ruahine St, Palmerston North • 06 356 9169  
**Healthline for free 24-hour health advice** 0800 611 116  
**St John Health Shuttle 0800 589 630**  
**P-pull walk-in** Drug advice and support, Birthright  
 Centre, every 2nd Thursday 6-8pm.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

**ŌTAKI POLICE** 06 364-7366, corner Iti and Matene Sts  
**CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU** 06 364-8664, 0800 367 222.  
 65a Main Street. otaki@cab.org.nz  
**AROHANUI HOSPICE SHOP** 11 Main St. 06 929-6603  
**BIRTHRIGHT ŌTAKI OPPORTUNITY SHOP** 23 Matene St,  
 Ōtaki. 06 364-5524  
**COBWEBS OPPORTUNITY SHOP TRUST** 60 Main St.  
**OCEAN VIEW RESIDENTIAL CARE** Marine Pde 06 364-7399

## DEFIBRILLATORS

Defibrillators, or AEDs (automated external defibrillators) can  
 save lives in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest (heart attack).  
 An AED is a lightweight, portable device that analyses the heart's  
 rhythm and if necessary, delivers an electric shock, known as  
 defibrillation, to help restore the heart's natural rhythm. They  
 can be used by someone with little or no training. Through visual  
 and voice prompts, AEDs guide users through an emergency  
 by diagnosing the victim's heart rhythm. The following list is  
 compiled from aedlocations.co.nz. Please let us know if any  
 locations need updating.

### ŌTAKI

**Ōtaki Medical Centre**, 2 Aotaki St, 06 364-8555. The AED might  
 not be available at certain times.  
**Ōtaki Library**, cnr Aotaki St and Main St. 04 296-4760. The AED  
 might not be available at certain times.  
**Countdown Ōtaki**, Mill Rd, 06 364 9001. Open 8am-10pm.  
**Ōtaki Fire Station**, 96 Mill Rd, phone 111. The AED might not be  
 available at certain times.  
**Ōtaki RSA**, 9 Raukawa St. Behind bar in lounge area. 06 364-6221.  
 Open Mon: 9am-7pm, Tues 9am-9pm, Wed-Fri 9am-10pm,  
 Sat 10am-9pm, Sun 11am-5pm.  
**Ōtaki Golf Club**, 2 Old Coach Rd North. Clubhouse, yellow cabinet at

downstairs office. Phone: 111 for combination to cabinet. Avail 24/7.  
**Te Wānanga o Raukawa**, 144 Tasman Rd, at main security office in  
 white Portacom. 0800 926 264 Ext 0. Available 24/7.  
**Ngā Purapura**, 145 Tasman Rd, at reception. 06 364-9018.  
 Available Mon-Fri 6am-8pm, Sat 7am-1pm, Sun 8am-1pm.  
**Ōtaki School**, 123 Mill Rd, in Administration Office. Open Mon-  
 Thur 8am-4pm, Fri 9am-5pm.  
**Mowbray Collectables**, 257 Main Highway, at front counter on  
 grey cupboard. 06 364-8270. Open Mon-Fri 8am-4.30pm.  
**Lumino The Dentists**, 31 Dunstan St, 06 364 8071. The AED might  
 not be available at certain times.  
**Ōtaki Ambulance Station**, 51 Dunstan St, phone 111. The AED  
 might not be available at certain times.  
**New World Ōtaki**, 163 Main Highway, external cabinet on highway,  
 access code from duty manager during store hours. Phone 111 for  
 cabinet combination. Available 24/7.  
**Ōtaki Surf Life Saving Club**, 43 Marine Pde, external cabinet.  
 Phone 111 for combination to cabinet. Avail 24/7.  
**Watson's Garden Centre**, 19 Bell St, in cabinet by front door.  
 Phone 111 for cabinet combination. Available 24/7.  
**Transpower**, 47 Miro St. Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

**Higgins Concrete**, 72 Riverbank Rd. In smoko room/kitchen. Drive  
 in gate, first building on left. Phone 027 925 9157 or 06 364-0088.  
 Open Mon-Fri 6am-4pm.  
**GBC Winstone Aggregates**, State Highway 1. In workshop inside  
 south entrance, below the lock boxes. Open Mon-Fri 6am-5pm.  
**TE HORO/HAUTERE**  
**Private address at 149 Old Hautere Rd**, on fence at road gateway. PIN  
 code controlled cabinet; phone 111 for combination. Available 24/7.  
**Te Horo Fire Station**, School Rd, phone 111. The AED might not be  
 available at certain times.  
**Te Horo Beach Community AED**, cnr Te Horo Beach Rd and Dixie  
 St. Secure external cabinet. Phone 111 for cabinet combination.  
 The AED might not be available at certain times.  
**WAIKAWA/MANAKAU**  
**Frank Edwards Reserve**, opposite 6 Manga Pirau St, cabinet outside  
 public toilets. The AED might not be available at certain times.  
**Manakau United Football Club**, inside pavilion, 38 Waikawa Beach  
 Rd. The AED might not be available at certain times.  
**Manakau Hall**, external cabinet, 12 Mokena Kohere St. Available  
 24/7. Phone 111 for cabinet combination. The AED might not be  
 available at certain times.  
 – Source: aedlocations.co.nz

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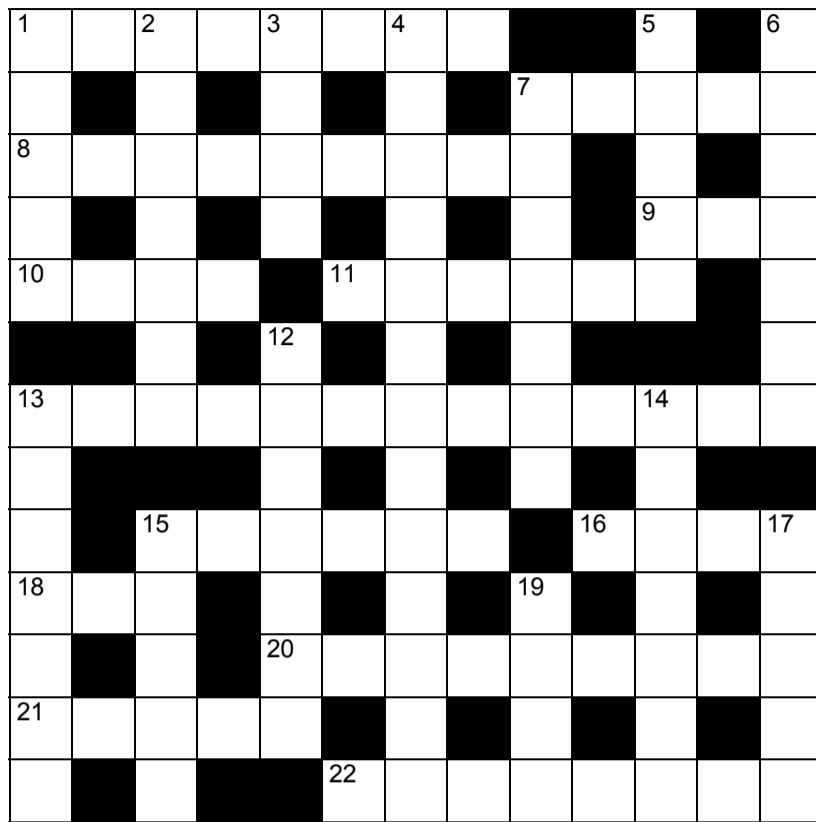
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**ŌTAKI TODAY**



THE CROSSWORD #1915J (answers below right)



ACROSS

1. Mount \_\_\_\_\_, part of Wellington's Town Belt (8)
  7. Faint (5)
  8. South Island town that is a station in the NZ version of Monopoly (9)
  9. Became seated (3)
  10. Origin (4)
  11. Pressing (6)
  13. A type of kiwi (6,7)
  15. Duck shooter's shelter (3,3)
  16. Implement for doing hair (4)
  18. Geological age (3)
  20. Prickly creatures now regarded as pests in NZ (9)
  21. Understood (5)
  22. The ponga is a variety of this (4,4)
- DOWN
1. Atmosphere, aura (5)
  2. Gather (7)
  3. Greasy (4)
  4. Cook Strait ferry service (13)
  5. Sunday meal (5)
  6. Alternatively (7)
  7. Red-skinned sausage (7)
  12. Okay (7)
  13. Set of clothes for newborn (7)
  14. Duo (7)
  15. Military walk (5)
  17. Reserve considered Wellington's home of cricket (5)
  19. Unit of heredity (4)



CLIMATE CHANGE QUIZ

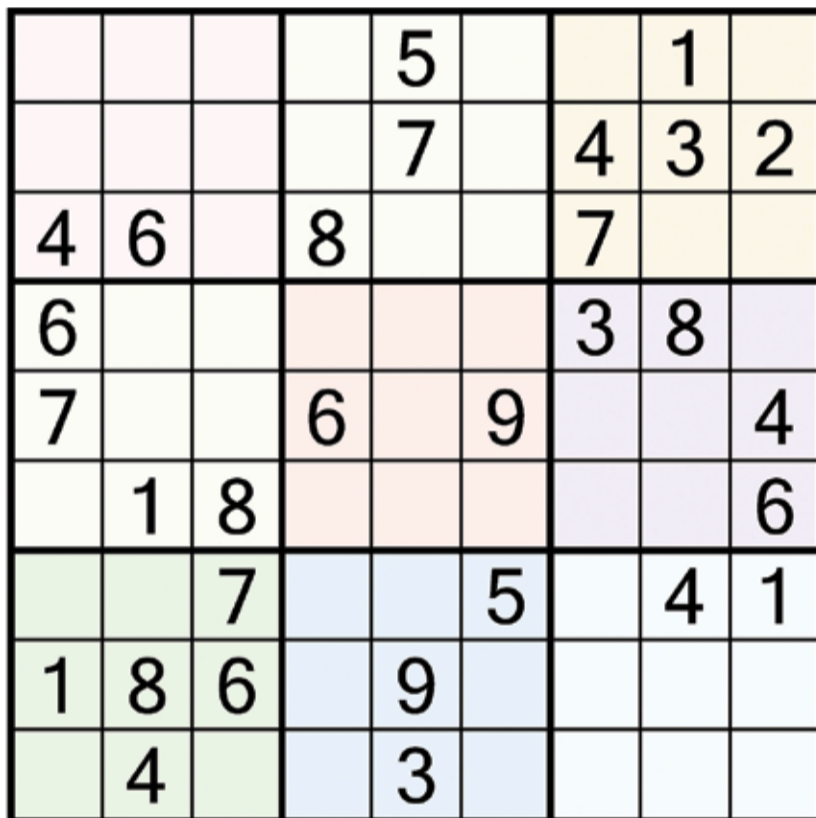
Answers below

1. True or False: Wasting less food is a way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Which of the following is a greenhouse gas? CO<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>4</sub>, water vapour, all three.
3. What is the Greenhouse effect?
  - a. The name of climate change legislation passed by the US Congress.
  - b. When you paint your house green to become an environmentalist.
  - c. When the gases in our atmosphere trap heat and block it from escaping our planet.
  - d. When you build a greenhouse.
4. Which of the following are consequences associated with climate change?
  - a. The ice sheets are declining, glaciers are in retreat globally, and our oceans are more acidic than ever.
  - b. Surface temperatures are setting new heat records about every year.
  - c. More extreme weather such as droughts, heat waves, and hurricanes.
  - d. Global sea levels are rising at an alarmingly fast rate – 17cm in the last century alone and going higher.
  - e. All of the above.
5. What can you do to help fight climate change?
  - a. Divest from fossil fuel companies
  - b. Engage yourself in the science behind climate change
  - c. Vote for political candidates who will advocate for climate-related legislation and policy improvements.
  - d. All of the above
6. True or False: The overwhelming majority of scientists agree that climate change is real and caused by humans.
7. What was agreed to in the Paris Agreement that came out of COP-21, held in Paris in 2015?
  - a. To protect biodiversity and end the deforestation of the world's rainforests
  - b. To keep global temperature rise well below 2C pre-industrial levels and to pursue a path to limit warming to 1.5C.
  - c. To limit sea level rise to 3 feet above current levels
  - d. To pursue a goal of 100% clean, renewable energy
8. Which of these countries emits the most carbon dioxide?
  - a. China b. USA c. UK d. Russia.
9. What percentage of the global greenhouse gas emissions does the transportation sector emit?
  - a. 1% b. 17% c. 33% d. 70%.
10. Globally, which of the following economic sectors emits the largest percentage of greenhouse gas emissions?
  - a. Transportation b. Buildings c. Industry d. Electric power.

[earthday.org/the-climate-change-quiz/](http://earthday.org/the-climate-change-quiz/)

SUDOKU PUZZLES [thepuzzlecompany.co.nz](http://thepuzzlecompany.co.nz)

EASY #58E Use logic and process of elimination to fill in the blank cells using the numbers 1 through 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Puzzle solution page 27.



CLIMATE CHANGE QUIZ ANSWERS 1. True. More than a third of food produced globally never makes it to the table. Some of this wasted food spoils in transit, while consumers throw some of this food out. Approximately 8-10% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions relate to food waste. 2. All three. 3. c. 4. e. 5. d. 6. Studies show that 97 percent (or more) of climate scientists who are actively publishing agree that climate change is likely due to human activity. Most of the prominent scientific organizations across the globe have issued statements that publicly endorse this view. 7. b. 8. a. 9. b. 10. d.



Ōtaki River entrance tides August 16 – September 13

<https://www.metservice.com/marine/regions/kapiti-wellington/tides/locations/otaki-river-entrance>

Please note: The actual timing of high and low tide might differ from that provided here. Times are extrapolated from the nearest primary port for this location, so please take care.

HIGH LOW HIGH LOW HIGH

WED 16 AUG -	03:23	09:28	15:37	21:45
THU 17 AUG -	03:58	10:01	16:10	22:17
FRI 18 AUG -	04:31	10:34	16:41	22:48
SAT 19 AUG -	05:04	11:05	17:12	23:19
SUN 20 AUG -	05:36	11:36	17:43	23:50
MON 21 AUG -	06:09	12:09	18:17	-
TUE 22 AUG 00:25	06:45	12:45	18:54	-
WED 23 AUG 01:03	07:24	13:26	19:38	-
THU 24 AUG 01:49	08:11	14:17	20:35	-
FRI 25 AUG 02:47	09:09	15:23	21:47	-
SAT 26 AUG 03:57	10:20	16:43	23:07	-
SUN 27 AUG 05:15	11:38	18:02	-	-
MON 28 AUG -	00:23	06:30	12:50	19:09
TUE 29 AUG -	01:26	07:35	13:50	20:04
WED 30 AUG -	02:21	08:31	14:42	20:54
THU 31 AUG -	03:11	09:21	15:30	21:40
FRI 01 SEP -	03:58	10:08	16:16	22:25
SAT 02 SEP -	04:43	10:52	17:00	23:09
SUN 03 SEP -	05:28	11:36	17:45	23:54
MON 04 SEP -	06:12	12:20	18:30	-
TUE 05 SEP 00:39	06:57	13:05	19:18	-
WED 06 SEP 01:27	07:44	13:55	20:11	-
THU 07 SEP 02:20	08:37	14:54	21:15	-
FRI 08 SEP 03:23	09:41	16:09	22:32	-
SAT 09 SEP 04:38	11:00	17:33	23:50	-
SUN 10 SEP 05:57	12:17	18:41	-	-
MON 11 SEP -	00:53	07:01	13:16	19:31
TUE 12 SEP -	01:41	07:49	14:00	20:10
WED 13 SEP -	02:21	08:28	14:37	20:45
THU 14 SEP -	02:56	09:02	15:11	21:16
FRI 15 SEP -	03:29	09:34	15:42	21:47
SAT 16 SEP -	04:01	10:04	16:12	22:16
SUN 17 SEP -	04:32	10:34	16:42	22:46

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**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

**Ōtaki Foodbank Inc Annual General Meeting**  
1pm, 22 August 2023.  
At the Foodbank,  
43 Main Street, Ōtaki.  
All welcome.

---

**The Ōtaki Promotions Group has its AGM on Tuesday, 5 September.**  
New members are welcome, so if you'd like to get involved in Ōtaki's biggest event, contact Kirsty on [skedoyle@gmail.com](mailto:skedoyle@gmail.com)



**CROSSWORD #1914I**

**ACROSS:**

1. Victoria, 7. Swoon, 8. Balclutha, 9. Sat, 10. Seed, 11. Urgent, 13. Little Spotted, 15. Mai mai, 16. Comb, 18. Era, 20. Hedgehogs, 21. Tacit, 22. Tree fern.

**DOWN:**

1. Vibes, 2. Collect, 3. Oily, 4. Interislander, 5. Roast, 6. Instead, 7. Saveloy, 12. Alright, 13. Layette, 14. Twosome, 15. March, 17. Basin, 19. Gene.

**FOOTBALL WORD MAKER**

ANSWERS from page 20:

6-letter words: 1. ballot. 5-letter words: 2. afoot 3. aloft 4. aloof 5. float 6. flota 7. loofa 8. bloat 9. taboo 10. allot 11. atoll. 4-letter words: 12. flab 13. fall 14. flat 15. foal 16. fool 17. foot 18. loaf 19. loft 20. loof 21. ball 22. blat 23. blot 24. boat 25. bola 26. boll 27. bolo 28. bolt 29. boot 30. bota 31. lobo 32. obol 33. alto 34. loot 35. lota 36. loto 37. olla 38. tall 39. tola 40. toll 41. tool. 3-letter words: 42. fab 43. fob 44. aft 45. fat 46. foo 47. oaf 48. oft 49. oof 50. alb 51. bal 52. bat 53. boa 54. boo 55. bot 56. lab 57. lob 58. oba 59. tab 60. all 61. alt 62. lat 63. loo 64. lot 65. oat 66. oot 67. tao 68. too. 2-letter words: 69. fa 70. of 71. ab 72. ba 73. bo 74. al 75. at 76. la 77. lo 78. ta 79. to.

**SUDOKU SOLUTION EASY #58E**

7	9	6	8	3	1	2	4	5
3	5	2	4	6	7	9	8	1
4	1	8	5	9	2	6	3	7
9	6	5	2	4	3	8	1	7
4	2	4	6	8	9	5	3	7
6	8	3	7	5	4	2	9	1
5	9	6	2	1	8	3	4	7
2	3	2	9	7	6	1	5	8
8	1	8	4	5	3	6	7	2



**AUGUST EXHIBITORS:** Painter Liz Earth, left, and potter Lyuba Zhilkins are the exhibiting artists at the Tote Modern Gallery through August. Liz now lives in Waikanae after several years in Hawke’s Bay, where she was a regular exhibitor at the Hastings Art Gallery. Russian-born Lyuba is well-known in the pottery world for her functional tableware. The two were photographed at the exhibition opening on August 2. Their work will be at the Ōtaki Pottery Club’s Tote Modern, Ōtaki-Maori Racing Club, until the end of the month. *Photo Ōtaki Today*

## Horowhenua scholarship revived

**A Horowhenua tertiary student will receive \$1000 towards study fees and a unique paid working experience as part of a tertiary scholarship being reintroduced at Horowhenua District Council.**

Applications for the 2024 study year are open now and close on Friday, September 22.

The scholarship will provide financial support to the recipient, and an opportunity to gain work experience at the council during the 2023-2024 summer months.

Applicants don’t need to be a Year 13 student to be considered. Anyone living in Horowhenua who is planning to study, or is currently studying subjects in council-relevant areas at a tertiary level is encouraged to apply.

It was last awarded in 2019, but Covid

lockdowns and financial constraints meant the scholarship had been unavailable for the past four years.

“Not only will the recipient receive a significant financial contribution towards some of the costs associated with tertiary study, but they will get to experience what it’s like to work in local government,” HDC chief executive Monique Davidson says. “From planning to infrastructure, consents and compliance, communications and democratic services, career opportunities available across the local government sector are vast and diverse and we are honoured to support a local person working towards this aspiration. We look forward to getting to know them and helping them progress in their career in an exciting and rewarding sector.”

■ Details at [horowhenua.govt.nz/tertiaryscholarship](http://horowhenua.govt.nz/tertiaryscholarship).

## IN BRIEF

### Grant for potters

Ōtaki Pottery Club has received \$6000 in the latest round of funding from NZ Community Trust. The funds will be for equipment, and for supply and installation of gates, a frame and pole.

### Chorus cabinet deadline

Artists have until 5pm on August 31 to submit their designs for Chorus’s Cabinet Art programme. Chorus, in partnership with KCDC, is seeking artists to paint cabinets with murals. One of the cabinets is in Ōtaki. See [chorus.co.nz/community/cabinet-art-programme](http://chorus.co.nz/community/cabinet-art-programme)

### HDC grants open

Horowhenua District Council has opened community grant applications. The grants could help with operating costs, starting up or supporting existing projects that contribute towards strengthening and enhancing the Horowhenua community’s well-being – socially, mentally, physically and spiritually. Applications can also be for a cultural, celebratory or educational event, and for creative people, there’s the Creative Communities Fund. Applications must be in before midnight on August 31. See [horowhenua.govt.nz/grants](http://horowhenua.govt.nz/grants)

### Sixteen call-outs

There were 16 call-outs for the Ōtaki Volunteer Fire Brigade in July. Four were for rubbish, grass or scrub fires, four to attend private fire alarms, two each for property fires, vehicle crashes and “good intent”, and one each for medical emergencies and “special services.”



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- Café Sixty Six
- Manakau Market
- Olive Grove Café, Waikanae
- Melt & Co, Paraparaumu Beach

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# Terisa Ngobi

## MP for Ōtaki

### I’m here to help

If you have any questions or issues, please contact my office:

[Terisa.Ngobi@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Terisa.Ngobi@parliament.govt.nz)  
0800 MP TERISA

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[/terisa\\_ngobi](https://www.instagram.com/terisa_ngobi)



Authorised by Terisa Ngobi MP,  
Parliament Buildings, Wellington



# TAKĀRO/Sport



Time was up on the clock and the scoreboard showed Rāhui two points behind when Alizay Roach kicked his long-range goal to seal the Ōtaki team's premiership.

Photo Ōtaki Today

## Alizay all-time top point scorer

By Ian Carson

**Dynamic wing Alizay Roach finished the premier rugby season on a high after achieving the most points ever in a season by a Rāhui senior player.**

Alizay ended the season in dramatic fashion by kicking a penalty in extra time to seal Rāhui's Horowhenua-Kāpiti championship win. It also added three points to his season tally, taking it to a total of 239, well clear of any previous total by a single player.

Rāhui manager Brett Karipa confirmed Alizay ended the season with 12 tries, 52 conversions and 25 penalties. He scored four tries and 42 points in Rāhui's 102-0 rout of Levin Wanderers at Ōtaki Domain on May 7.

Alizay said "it was a good season," commenting more on the team than his own achievements. "We had a good culture and good coaches."

Rāhui had to fight hard against Shannon in the final at Levin Domain on July 29. Leading for most of the game, their season's unbeaten run almost ended when Shannon scored a try between the posts to even the score

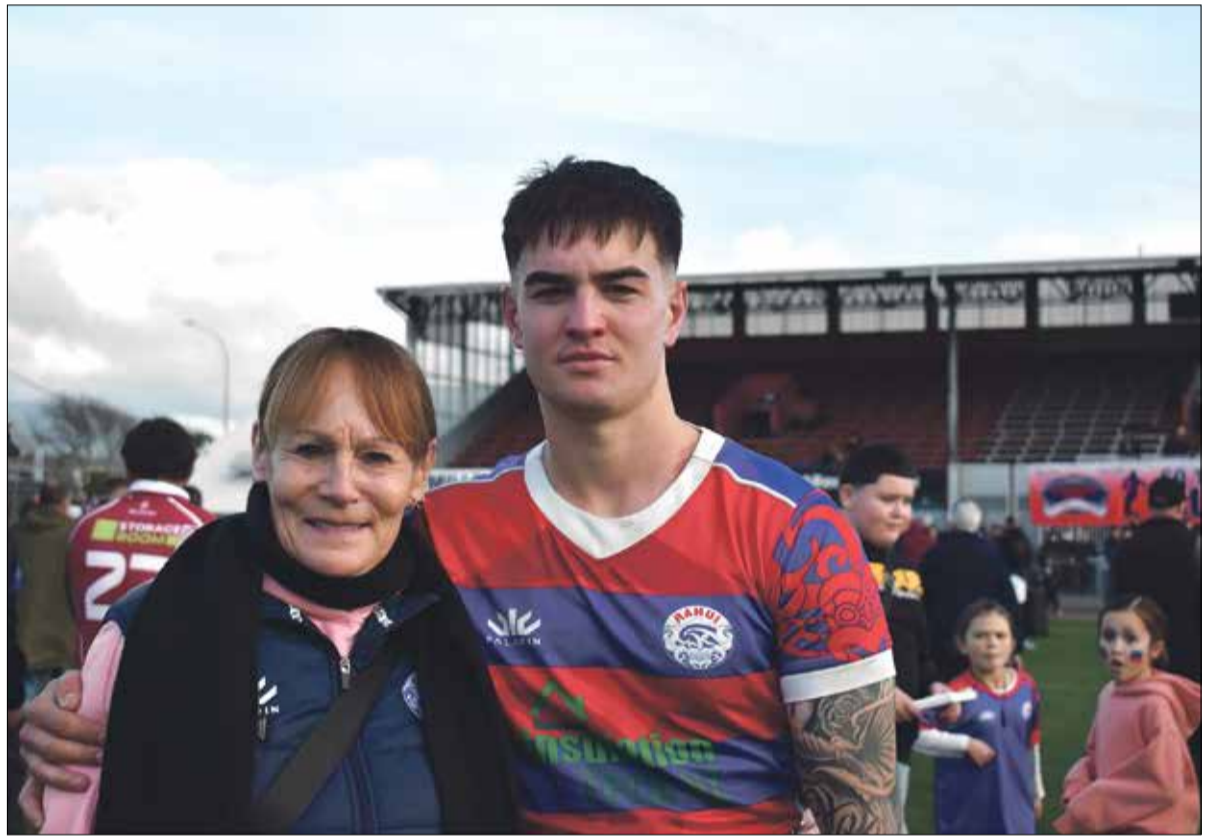
at 20-20. The conversion delighted the Shannon fans with the scoreboard clock showing less than a minute to go.

Referee Sam Taylor still had a minute and a half on his watch when Rāhui restarted, pushing Shannon into their own half and forcing a penalty. Less than 10m from the touchline and a similar distance from halfway, it wasn't going to be an easy kick.

"I was bit nervous, especially because I'd missed an earlier kick and there was a bit of banter from the Shannon supporters," Alizays said. "But I'd been practising my kicks during the week. I was pretty pleased to see it go over."

Ironically, Alizay's rugby for the year might well be finished. Although picked in the original squad, he has not played in Horowhenua-Kāpiti's representative team for the Heartland Championship.

Alizay follows in the footsteps of his grandfather, Pat Roach. Pat was a fearless hooker and considered one of Rāhui's – and Horowhenua-Kāpiti's – great players when he took the field in the late 1940s and 1950s.



Alizay Roach had time to celebrate with his mum, Fleur, after his premiership-winning kick at Levin Domain on July 29.

Photo Ōtaki Today



Chris Mark, Darrell Manville, Denis & Kathryn Mark, Maureen Mackie



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