

ŌTAKI TODAY

otakitoday.com

MAEHE/MARCH 2023

Ngā Kōrero o Ōtaki

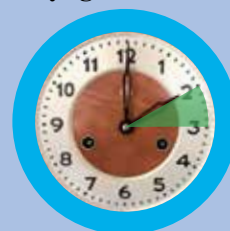


Town gears up for world's biggest indigenous film festival p3

Book at iticket.co.nz or at the Māoriland Hub
For information see maorilandfilm.co.nz

TURN CLOCKS BACK

Daylight time ends at 3am on Sunday April 2.



Remember to put your clocks back an hour before bed on Saturday April 1.

Daylight time finishes at 3am on Sunday, April 2.

'Fear' as tensions rise at Te Horo

Some Te Horo Beach residents are feeling fearful for their safety after intimidation on the beach and vandalism in the community.

Tensions have risen recently between factions for and against blocking access to the beach after Kāpiti Coast District Council installed blocks at the northern entrance to the beach. They have since been removed.

Much of the rhetoric has spilled into competing local social media sites with accusations of secret agendas and misuse of power.

During public speaking time at the Waikanae Community Board meeting on February 28, an elderly resident¹ said that as a supporter of the move to install the blocks, she now feared for her and her neighbours' safety.

"Our neighbours were surrounded by motorbike riders when [the neighbours] said they shouldn't be on the beach," she said.

She said she was "horrified" to see the vandalism of the signs on the beach, and that she and her friends had become worried about their personal safety.

"We're all quite anxious. I'm not normally anxious, but I am now," she told the community board.

continues page 3



MARKER: The sculpture at the northern entrance to Ōtaki, overlooking traffic on the new expressway. The photo was taken at dusk on Saturday, March 4. *Photo Ōtaki Today*

Gateway sculptures new beacons for Ōtaki

By Ian Carson

The new gateway sculptures at the northern and southern entrances to Ōtaki have attracted plenty of attention.

They were officially opened with a blessing by Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki on February 17 (see page 7), appropriately on the day before the huge Ōtaki Kite Festival began. Visitors at the beach venue were quick to ask questions about the sculptures – noticed as the visitors

drove into Ōtaki – indicating they are having an effect as beacons for the town.

The southern sculpture can be accessed from Old Hautere Road on the eastern side of the new expressway. At the time of writing, the northern sculpture was still getting final landscaping touches done but was expected to be open to the public soon.

Each of the sculpture sites has bench seating so people can view them at their leisure. At the

southern sculpture, a time capsule containing artefacts significant to our time has been buried near its base.

The significance of the design has created intense interest. The three strands represent Ōtaki's rivers – the Ōtaki, Waitohu and Mangaone – as well as the three local iwi (Te Āti Awa, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Ngāti Raukawa).

■ *Read more about the sculptures on page 7*

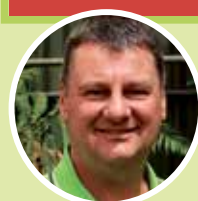
¹ Although it was a public meeting, Ōtaki Today has withheld the name of the speaker.

PAULBRANCH
AUTOMOTIVE

7 Ake Ake Place, Ōtaki
0800 OTK TOW (0800 685 869)
06 364-6111
027 337 3436
paulbranchautomotive.co.nz
OPEN: Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

HARRISONS
GARDENWORLD

23 Peka Peka Road
Peka Peka • Waikanae
04 293 5437
harrisons.co.nz



Harrison's
Gardenworld
owner
Lance Bills.

BULBS ARE BURIED TREASURE

Bury them now in your garden or pots for a stunning Spring display.

It's time to plant Anemones, Scented Hyacinths, Ranunculas, Gladioli Nanus, Anemone Blanda, Crocus, Grape Hyacinths, Freesias, Daffodils now!

To get the very best from your bulbs, take care of the basics.

They like a well-drained, sunny position. For an abundant display of blooms it helps to mix in Bulb Food before planting, and again when the first green tips appear. This really is important as it encourages maximum flowering.

If you're planting into pots, use Bulb Mix for best results.

Such a welcome sight at the end of Winter.



WHAT'S ON

REPAIR CAFÉ: 10am-2pm, Sunday March 12 at the Ōtaki Memorial Hall. Bring your broken or not working items in and let the fixing and bonding begin. Follow on Facebook (Ōtaki Repair Cafe) and email for special repairs to otaki.repaircafe@gmail.com

WAIKANAĒ BEACH INDOOR MARKET: 10am-1pm, Sunday March 12, at the Waikanae Beach Community Hall, 22 Rauparaha Street, Waikanae Beach.

MĀORILAND FILM FESTIVAL Māoriland Hub, 68 Main St, Ōtaki. March 15-19. See maorilandfilm.co.nz

TOI MATARAU GALLERY: Māoriland Hub, 68 Main St. New exhibition from March 15. See page 27.

RELIEF CONCERT: Local musicians play at the RSA in a fundraiser for victims of Cyclone Gabrielle. From 7pm, Saturday, March 25. Door sales \$5.

GARDEN PARTY 12 & 14 Te Harawira Street, Ōtaki - the gardens of Margaret Hayward and Di Buchan, from 1.30pm, April 2. Guest speakers are historian Jock Phillips, who will talk about his book *The History of New Zealand in 100 Objects*, and Ōtaki MP Terisa Ngobi, who will talk about the Labour Government's recent activities. Afternoon tea provided. Jock will be available for book sales and signing. Entry \$20 per person. RSVP essential to Marion Petley 06 364 6314.

EASTER GOLF TOURNAMENT: Ōtaki Golf Club is holding its Easter tournament on Sunday, April 9, 10am tee-off, registration from 9am. It's 18 holes with men's and women's divisions. Entries close Thursday, April 6, \$30 entry fee. Contact 06 364 8260 or office@otakigolfclub.co.nz

ŌTAKI COMMUNITY BOARD: The next meeting of the Ōtaki Community Board is on Tuesday, May 9. Board meetings are in the Gertrude Atmore Lounge (attached to the Memorial Hall). The **Waikanae Community Board** meets at 7pm, Tuesday May 2, at the Te Horo Community Hall, 54 School Road, Te Horo. 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.

TOTE MODERN: Ōtaki Pottery Club's gallery and workshops, Ōtaki race course, Te Roto Rd. Open 10am-3pm Friday to Sunday.

ŌTAKI MUSEUM: "The way we were: glimpses of days gone by" exhibition showcases a range of items from the museum and other collections. Play the old theatre pianola while you're there. The Anne Thorpe Reading Room is also open when the museum is, 10am-2pm Thursday to Saturday, except public holidays. 49 Main St. Ōtaki. 06 364-6886.

ŌTAKI MARKET: SH1, opposite New World. Open every Sunday during daylight time. Runs from 9am-2pm. Contact Georgie 027 234-1090.

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@extra.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 and 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, Te Rauparaha St, Ōtaki. Kāpiti Women's Choir, Mondays 1.30-3pm, Baptist Church, 286 Te Moana Road, Waikanae. New members for both choirs always welcome. Enquires to Ann-Marie Stapp 021 492 127.

To list an event, contact debbi@idmedia.co.nz

Electoral dangers in crisis response

A former minister of building and construction in the last National administration, Maurice Williamson, was in no doubt that the initial Christchurch earthquakes leading to the city's rebuild would not be good for his party's electoral prospects.

The reason, as he saw the political landscape, was that sufficient swing voters would be upset by actions that the government believed it must take to deal with issues arising from the disaster, that the party vote would be skewed toward its opponents. The mind changing would not, he believed, be confined to those directly affected by the earthquake and Wellington's response to the needs of Christchurch and surrounds. Voter fallout would be spread through the country because resources required to deal with Christchurch issues would inevitably mean less funding or material support for other projects around the country.

Inevitably there will be grievances in cyclone-affected areas that more resources should have been directed in a specific direction. But this dissatisfaction is likely to prove less significant by comparison with unease in other districts that government services or projects they expected are curtailed, delayed or under-resourced.

Political statements that there is only so much a prudent government can do without provoking a financial crisis rarely satisfy those aggrieved that they have not had a fair allocation of resources for their particular project or cause.

It is this factor as much as any other that will weigh on the mind of Prime Minister Chris Hipkins and his Cabinet colleagues when they



POLITICS

BRUCE KOHN

consider responses to the disasters that have struck Northland, Auckland, Coromandel, Poverty Bay and Hawke's Bay.

Nor will it be helpful to their deliberations that lobby groups of a range of sectors are increasingly active. Advocates of measures to ameliorate climate change are lining up to promote their viewpoints.

Demands for what some call a "managed retreat" of homes at risk from flooding and sea-level rise are at the forefront of lobby activity. Promoters of more rail and less roading are speaking out.

Political danger lies in the delays that consideration and implementation of their often well-made points of view force on response to immediate needs. It was a criticism of the response to the Christchurch earthquakes that too much delay in dealing with immediate needs was caused by ideological and political wrangling over the potential scale and site of new buildings and parks.

Former finance minister Steven Joyce has identified five key elements for a successful infrastructure build: The funding envelope; a delivery mechanism for spending it quickly and wisely; the people to do the work; the ability to move quickly without excessive red tape; and a method for paying for it all. Current finance minister Grant Robertson will be the man to whom the Cabinet looks to sort out numbers one and five. He's also likely to be the lead minister in identifying the delivery mechanism.

The ability to move quickly is the prime area where the government faces potential for unravelling a successful "let's get cracking" approach. It has within its ranks several MPs who are susceptible, or are already committed, to points of view on rail, climate change and environmental planning that are at least

controversial. Should some of these sense that the damage caused by the cyclone presents an opportunity for change in line with their position, the prospect of a smooth path to rebuilding would be cast in doubt.

The final element identified by Joyce is the people to do the work. The building and construction industry has been calling over the past five years for more immigrants. It seeks management personnel and skilled labour. That it is still asking for higher numbers to be approved for entry suggests that either the Immigration Department or successive ministers of the current government have not been as sympathetic as they might have been to the calls.

A change in approach by the minister and better processing skills within the department will be needed if the industry is to move as quickly as desirable in providing new housing and new or repaired roads. It will also look for a degree of forward certainty in government spending so contractors have the confidence to scale up their operations for the task ahead.

Kāpiti escaped the worst of the cyclone. But it might yet find itself caught up in the ramifications of a review of highways expenditure to cater for rebuilding in the flood-affected areas. Plans for the pending Ōtaki-north Levin expressway are likely to be among those revisited if the government, as expected, takes a view that nothing in this area of government "works" is sacrosanct.

The on-ground response to the damage wreaked by Cyclone Gabrielle will be a critical test of the Cabinet's ability to deal with infrastructure and housing adversity. Actions, not words, will be the testing ground for its electoral prospects.

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

CARTOON OF THE MONTH

By Jared Carson

Local kids expected to 'ham it up' for international film-makers



ŌTAKI TODAY Ngā Kōrero o Ōtaki

Ōtaki Today is published monthly by ID Media Ltd, 13 Te Manuao Rd, Ōtaki.

EDITOR: Ian Carson.

For editorial enquiries or news tips, please contact Ian at 027 2411 090, or 06 364-6543, or ian@idmedia.co.nz

GENERAL MANAGER: Debbi Carson.

For advertising enquiries, call Debbi on 027 285 4720 or 06 364-6543, or email debbi@idmedia.co.nz

DESIGN by ID Media Ltd.

PRINTED by Beacon Print, Whakatane.

CONTRIBUTORS TIHEMA BAKER (Taki Kupu)

• PERA BARRETT (Good Thinking) • DI BUCHAN and DAVID LEDSON (Museum) • CAAM BUTLER (Cam's Corner) • DAN CARSON (Tech Stuff) • FRASER CARSON (Media & Community) • JARED CARSON (Cartoons) • KYUSS CARSON (Kids' puzzle) •

FRANCESCA FLAWS (Law)

• JANET HOLBOROW (Janet's View) • STEVE HUMPHRIES (Science) • KATH IRVINE (Edible Backyards) • BRUCE KOHN (Politics) • TERISA NGOBI (The Electorate) • MICHAEL MOORE (Te Horo Outlook) • CHRIS WHELAN (Your Business).

Ōtaki Today online: otakitoday.com

ISSUE 57: ISSN 2624-3067

ONLINE: ISSN 2744-354X

Next copy and advertising deadline:

April 4. Publication: April 12.

Delivery: If you don't receive your copy of Ōtaki Today, please call us.

Ōtaki Today is a member of the NZ Community Newspapers Association



Ōtaki gears up for 10th Māoriland Film Festival

Ōtaki is eagerly awaiting what is now regarded as the world's biggest showcase of indigenous films – the Māoriland Film Festival 2023.

The 10th annual festival runs from March 15-19, starting with the pōwhiri at Raukawa Marae. The programme includes various locations such as Rangiātea Church, the Civic Theatre and Memorial Hall, plus the Māoriland Hub in Main Street, around which the activities revolve. It is Māoriland's biggest festival yet, with more than 140 films showing from 150 indigenous nations.

As well as the extensive film programme, MFF2023 features the 10th anniversary of the E Tū Whānau Rangatahi Film Awards; VR, XR, AR and gaming technology; screen industry events; the Native Minds lecture series hosted by Tainui Stephens; exhibitions at the Toi Matarau gallery in the Hub; and carving of the Māoriland pou (posts) by Te Matatoki carvers, the 2023 Māoriland artists in residence.

Keynote speaker at Rangiātea Church on opening night is Māoriland's founder, film-maker Libby Hakaraia. She will show excerpts from the films that the original Māoriland Films created



KEY: Two couples who from the beginning have been key to the success of the Māoriland Festival: from left, Tainui Stephens and Libby Hakaraia, Tania and Pat Hakaraia. *Photo supplied*

in Ōtaki during the 1920s, as well as some of the films that have inspired her in her 30-plus years in the industry. Libby will also share the Māoriland vision for the future, including capacity building with rangatahi.

The festival finishes with a red carpet party with the Modern Māori Quartet on Sunday, March 19, at the Māoriland Hub.

Meantime, Libby has been pitching a film made by Māoriland to the European Film Market in Berlin. Taniwha is New Zealand's first

authentic monster movie.

Libby is lead producer for the movie, alongside experienced Māori producers Tainui Stephens and Desray Armstrong. It was written by Ngāti Porou screenwriter Ricardo Giraldo, and has been developed over three years at Māoriland Productions.

Libby was selected as one of 29 feature film producers worldwide to participate at Berlin last month.

■ Māoriland tickets are available from iticket.co.nz and at the Māoriland Hub. Full programme: mff.maorilandfilm.co.nz/mff2023-programme

'Fear' at Te Horo Beach

from page 1

She said she was also concerned about overly aggressive social media posts.

She supported the move to block the beach access as she was keen to protect the "nationally significant" ecology at the estuary. However, she felt her views could result in her or her property being targeted.

Brent Jarnell, who has opposed the blocks, also spoke at the meeting and agreed with deputy chair Michael Moore when he said there was no place in Te Horo for vandalism or intimidation.

"Couldn't agree more," Brent said. He rejected the idea that any vandalism was from people who opposed the barriers.

Brent told *Ōtaki Today* that blaming those who opposed blocking the beach for vandalism "is nothing short of a smear piece to discredit detractors and fakery to promote [Michael Moore's] views".

He told the community board he wanted to stress the importance of deeper community consultation on issues such as the blocks.

"The community was consulted recently in 2020 during the 2021 beach bylaw review and thought it had been heard. If we could come together then, surely we can come together now.

"I believe that, but for a small

minority, the Te Horo Beach community seeks a similar outcome, where other beach-goers are respected and safe, the ecology is enjoyed and protected, and the fantastic beach life we all enjoy is retained for generations to come."

He said he had spoken to many residents who were keen to work together to identify and understand the issues, identify the desired outcomes and then reach practical solutions.

After the blocks were installed at the beach entrance, council signs had been smashed and graffiti scrawled over the blocks. A nearby residence also had holes drilled in a water tank.

Michael Moore, a beach resident, says police have not so far identified anyone in relation to the vandalism, but "it's not the sort of behaviour we should have to put up with".

The furore broke out just before Christmas when the blocks were installed. They have since been removed after Mayor Janet Holborow intervened.

The installation was in response to a submission by the Friends of Mangaone Lagoon to the November meeting of the board. The Friends were concerned about the threat to the ecology of the area, especially from vehicles.

Leading the change to fairer Real Estate in Ōtaki!



With **extensive local knowledge** in both sales and the building trades, you and your home are in safe hands.

Book a **free appraisal** with us today!



Brendon Heenan & Jayden Matthews

B 027 479 2772 | J 021 053 7533

brendon.heenan@tallpoppy.co.nz | jayden.matthews@tallpoppy.co.nz



Kite crowd numbers

The numbers just keep getting bigger for the Kāpiti Coast’s biggest outdoor festival.

Organisers of the Ōtaki Kite Festival estimate 28,000 people attended the two days of the festival on the weekend of February 18 and 19. That’s up on the 22,000 believed to have attended the last festival, in 2021.

Festival coordinator Kirsty Doyle was thrilled by the turnout.

“It’s certainly the biggest one yet with an estimated 28,000 people,” she says. “The festival is clearly one of ‘must do’ activities for people during the summer.”

Kirsty says survey results are still be analysed, but

anecdotally a large proportion of visitors were from outside Ōtaki and the Kāpiti District.

“That all leads to benefits for local retailers, supermarkets and petrol stations, who we heard were flat out during the weekend.”

She says the festival is a great showcase for Ōtaki, with visitors enjoying the weather and the beach. Many people brought their own kites and took the opportunity to take a swim.

Complementing the kites and adding to the carnival atmosphere were crowd favourites Gold Dust Woman, who performed Fleetwood Mac songs, and local singing





NEED HOLIDAY INSPIRATION?

Come & meet our team at Paraparaumu Beach

Whether you're searching for adventure or relaxation, we can help...











04 297 1392

YOURTravel[®]

Your Holiday - Your Way

Let us be your inspiration!

Our locally owned, family-run business has been creating hosted tours and custom holidays for over 15 years.

 <p>SAFARI HOLIDAYS</p>	 <p>OCEAN CRUISING</p>	 <p>TRAIN JOURNEYS</p>	 <p>CYCLING / WALKING</p>	 <p>ANCIENT LANDS</p>
 <p>RIVER CRUISING</p>	 <p>ADVENTURE</p>	 <p>EXOTIC DISCOVERIES</p>	 <p>BEACH BREAKS</p>	 <p>BARGE & CANALS</p>

leap to nearly 30,000

sensation Tui Soul, along with the Kāpiti-based Taeko Drummers.

Kirsty says planning by the Ōtaki Promotions Group for the 2024 festival is already under way, with the date to be announced soon.

“We’re looking forward to the next one, but we do need some help, so if anyone can spare some time to help with the organising or to volunteer during the festival, please get in touch.”

■ Kirsty can be contacted by email, phone or text: otakikitefestival@gmail.com or 021 102 0058.

RIGHT: Roohi Raahshan and her brother, Baruaiz (BK) Karamat, fly one of their own kites on Ōtaki Beach during the festival. Roohi says kite flying was huge in their home town of Lohore, Pakistan. Baruaiz came from Upper Hutt to fly the kite with Roohi, who is a doctor now living in Ōtaki.

All photos Ōtaki Today

Festival’s Big Dig ‘fun for everyone’

Hundreds of children turned up on the Saturday of the Ōtaki Kite Festival to hunt for treasures in the Big Dig.

For an hour or so from 11am, parents gathered around the arena on the beach near the surf club, where children dug for tokens that had been buried in the sand. All received a prize of at least a Paekākāriki Pops ice-block; 200 got a bespoke T-shirt, and the lucky four took away new bikes sponsored by the Big Dig organisers, real estate company Kelly & Co. New helmets went with the bikes, courtesy of another local company, Deco Bikes.

Derek Kelly of Kelly & Co says the Big Dig was fun for everyone involved.

“It was fantastic to be able to give away prizes and see so many smiling faces at the festival over the weekend,” he says. “Some people we knew and some are new friends.

“Overall the kite festival was superb. There was so much to see, eat and do. And the weather was stunning. The festival was incredibly well organised and we were really proud to be a part of the fun. We’re looking forward to next year already.”

LEFT: The Kelly & Co Big Dig at the kite festival.

RIGHT: Some of the huge crowds that enjoyed the kites, the beach and festival atmosphere.



A breath of fresh air
in Ōtaki Real Estate.



Integrity, Authenticity & Results.

P 06 364 0404 E office@kellyandco.nz A 65 Main Street, Ōtaki W www.kellyandco.nz

Kelly & Co
LICENSED REAA 2008 REALTY

IN BRIEF

Brigade call-outs dip

It was relatively quiet for the Ōtaki Volunteer Fire Brigade in February, with only 14 call-outs. Last year there were 18. In January this year there were 22 (30 in January 2022). The brigade attended seven call-outs for rubbish or vegetation fires this February; two each for medical emergencies and motor vehicle accidents; and one each for private fire alarms, “good intent” and assisting the Levin brigade.

Major Events Fund open

Kāpiti Coast District Council’s Major Events Fund is open to applications for growth and major events that will stimulate tourism and contribute to the district’s economy. Anyone planning an event between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 is urged look at the eligibility criteria on the KCDC website to determine what’s needed for their application and get it in to council by 5pm on March 31. The funding round has \$80,000 available. It is the balance of \$200,000 annually, with \$120,000 already committed in 2023/24 for events such as the Māoriland Film Festival, Ōtaki Kite Festival, Kāpiti Food Fair, Xterra Wellington, and Matariki Ramaroa that the council is supporting over consecutive years. This year’s funding is available in two categories: the Strategic Growth Fund (\$50,000 for events expecting up to 2000 attendees but can demonstrate potential to attract more); and \$30,000 for major events that will have 2000 attendees or more.

Levin expressway under cyclone spotlight

By Ian Carson

The Ōtaki to North Levin expressway might not be completed by the end of the decade if roading priorities for future governments shift in favour of infrastructure repair in the cyclone-ravaged north.

It’s a concern for some locals as they view with sympathy the recent devastation of large swathes of the northern and eastern North Island – and the resulting loss of life.

Cyclone Gabrielle brought into sharp focus the fragile state of the nation’s roading. A rebuild will be expensive. The question is being asked as to whether the money and the will remains to build the Ōtaki to North Levin (Ō2NL) expressway when other areas of the country need attention.

If stacked up against a new and more resilient highway between, say, Napier and Gisborne, Ō2NL might have the feel of a “good-to-have” project, rather than a “must-have”.

There are also indications that budget projections for Ō2NL might balloon out as a result of rising material and labour costs.

However, for years local and central government politicians on all sides of the fence have seen the need for a safer road out of Ōtaki. Its treacherous nature has seen a string of horror crashes in recent years, including several fatalities, which have resulted in a programme of targeted road improvements and lower speed limits.

But these are temporary fixes, and an expressway similar to what we now experience south of Ōtaki would bring significant safety benefits. Along with Transmission Gully and the Kāpiti expressway, it would also further reduce travel times north of the capital city.

Waka Kotahi, which administers the state highway network, told *Ōtaki Today* its current focus was on reconnecting communities by repairing the state highway network in the Gisborne and Hawke’s Bay regions.

A spokesperson said Ō2NL’s funding sat with the minister of transport and the Ō2NL team was continuing to work towards the timeline for the New Zealand Upgrade Programme (NZUP).

The programme has investment of \$6.8 billion for what Waka Kotahi says is to deliver 20 major projects “that support a shift to greater transport choice with a balanced investment in public transport, new or upgraded roads and walking and cycling. KiwiRail is delivering six rail projects.”

The spokesperson said Cyclone Gabrielle had highlighted resilience issues facing the state highway network.

“It is a key outcome of the Ō2NL new highway to improve the resilience of the fragile SH1 network that connects Wellington to the north.”

Approached for comment, National’s candidate for the Ōtaki electorate, Tim Costley, said he was still a firm believer in Ō2NL and “continually frustrated by how delayed and deferred this project is by Labour”.

“It should have been half way through construction by now and then we wouldn’t be having this conversation. Labour is clearly not committed to this project – they have an allergy to roads and haven’t started and finished any major highways in their six years in office.”

He said the government needed to be up front about the cost blowouts of the NZ Upgrade Programme and what this meant for Ō2NL.

“If Labour hadn’t cancelled the road twice it would be well into construction by now and the cost would be a lot less.

“National sees Ōtaki to North Levin as critically important to create a safer, more resilient and efficient state highway network. I drive this road every single day and I’ve been stuck behind far too many fatal accidents, and I’ve seen first-hand the terrible cost paid by a lack of investment by Labour in this road.

“There is also a significant rebuild required on the East Coast following cyclone Gabrielle, and clearly the government books are not in a great state, which complicates this.”

Ōtaki MP Terisa Ngobi said she was confident her government was committed to delivering the project along the full corridor from Ōtaki to north of Levin.

“There is \$1.5 billion allocated for delivery,” she said. “There are cost pressures, as there are with all projects at the moment, and we are simply looking at how we manage that.”



TIM COSTLEY

Your local National Party Candidate for Ōtaki

tim.costley@national.org.nz
020 438 8462

National

N

Authorised by Tim Costley, 51 Redwood Grove, Levin

Gateway sculptures opened

The sculptures signifying the gateway to Ōtaki were officially opened on Friday, February 17, at the southern sculpture on Old Hautere Road.

The sculptures represent somewhat of a coup for Ōtaki, as they were installed as part of a deal that included them in the Peka Peka to Ōtaki (PP2Ō) expressway build. When the idea was first promoted by then Ōtaki Ward councillor James Cootes, a Gateway Steering Group was formed to liaise with the PP2Ō team, Kāpiti Coast District Council and the Ōtaki community.

The sculptures have been designed to indicate that motorists on the expressway are on the outskirts of Ōtaki, with the hope that they will draw them into the town. They reflect the values of local iwi and the wider community.

The opening included a blessing led by Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki with representatives from Waka Kotahi, KCDC, mana whenua and the community.

The southern sculpture can be accessed from Old Hautere Road next to the shared pathway between Peka Peka and Ōtaki; the northern sculpture is near the overbridge by the northbound expressway on-ramp. Both sculptures are highly visible to motorists on the expressway and local roads. especially when lit up at night.

The three strands of each sculpture represent significant local waterways – the Waitohu and Mangapouri streams, and the Ōtaki River – winding together to meet in a circle at the top representing Tama-nui-te-rā, the sunny rays of Ōtaki.

Kaumātua Rupene Waaka said they also represent the iwi confederation of Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Te Ati Awa and Ngāti Raukawa, as well as a kō, a Māori cultivation tool, linking into the rich history of horticulture and gardening in Ōtaki. The kō was also used as a weapon that commemorates the settlement of this district in the time of Te Rauparaha.

Stainless steel discs with cultural narrative and pictures etched on them have been embedded in the concrete foundations underneath the sculptures.

Standing six-metres high, each strand weighs about four tonnes. The sculptures have landscaped and planted areas surrounding them, with bench seats and pathways so the public can get up close.

Waka Kotahi principal project manager Glen Prince credited the sculptures and the landscaping that surrounded them to the design and production teams involved, who worked closely with the artist Piri-Hira Tukapua, mana whenua and community groups – along with the PP2Ō Gateways Steering Group, which provided guidance and helped progress the project.

“They’re fantastic landmarks for Ōtaki and the people who worked to create them should feel incredibly proud,” he said. “It’s pleasing to see how large infrastructure projects like this can also leave behind a wonderful cultural legacy and enhance the environment within the areas and communities they touch.”

A time capsule containing artefacts that represent the history of the project as well as the history and culture of the area, has been buried near the sculpture at the southern end. The artefacts include items that were donated by the community and archaeological relics discovered on site during the earthworks phase of the expressway project (and a copy of Ōtaki Today).

RIGHT: At the official opening of the sculptures were, from left: former councillor and Gateway Steering Group member James Cootes, expressway project manager Glen Prince, architect Matt Bangs, artist Piri-Hira Tukapua (and baby), Andie Goldie of Fletcher Construction, Justin Hall, local steering group members Christine Papps and Rupene Waaka, Mayor Janet Holborow, and Fletchers senior communications advisor Sacha Haskell. The cloaked time capsule stands in front of them. Photo Mark Coote



Tall Poppy
REAL ESTATE



Reassuring & Professional

“Firstly, Sarah makes you feel at ease when you are dealing with a potentially stressful time in your life. From the start we connected and discussed every aspect of the sale. The whole process was incredibly easy, and each text, call or email was responded to quickly and with friendly responses. If you want a professional calming knowledgeable agent, Sarah is your girl.”

- Verified by RateMyAgent

Thinking of selling? Let’s talk.

Sarah Lange

Sales Consultant

022 3177 613

sarah.lange@tallpoppy.co.nz

New to Ōtaki – Backyard Kids

A new pre-school for Ōtaki has emerged on Riverbank Road.

Owned and operated by Alice Pritchard, Backyard Kids is a brand new, purpose-built school that caters for children aged from 3 months to 6.

It has a space for the under-2s, and two classes for the older pre-schoolers. However, only one of those classes is currently occupied as Alice is still seeking teachers.

“At this stage we don’t have enough teachers to open the second class,” Alice says. “We’re looking for qualified, quality teachers. When we can appoint them, I’m sure the second class will fill quickly.”

Backyard Kids currently has 33 children enrolled, but can accommodate a total of 60 – 13 in the under-2s group and 47 pre-schoolers. It opened only this year, on January 25. It has eight staff – with capacity for 11 – including a nutritionist who prepares meals for the children on site.

As a newly built facility, the pre-school is well appointed and shows an attention to detail.

“We had architects who were familiar with pre-schools, so they know what we were talking about when we asked for things that we wanted to make it a great place for children,” Alice says.

There’s a separate space for the toddlers, leading outdoors to their own playground and garden, and a built-in changing room.

The central classroom for the children aged up to 6 is partitioned from the second class by glass doors that can be slid across to create a much larger space for communal activities. The rooms lead out to a large playground with ample shade and planter boxes where the children learn how to grow their own food that is prepared in the pre-school kitchen.

A unique feature of Backyard Kids is its long opening hours, beginning at 7.30 weekday mornings and ending at 5.30pm.

“No other pre-school in Ōtaki is offering those hours. It caters for people who have to be at work early or travel

each day,” Alice says. “It works really well for the under-2 group, which is in big demand.

“We have a waiting list already for that age.”

Although owning and managing Backyard Kids, Alice is also a primary teacher. She has worked at schools in Wainuiomata, in London and most recently at Plimmerton School.

Having her own pre-school has been a dream for four years. Since then she has developed the concept, and has been clear about what it was that she wanted – to create a space where children would not only learn, but also enjoy themselves.

“I wanted a place that had been thoughtfully done and where children could feel comfortable. We’ve got play materials that are made out of recycled plastic and solid wood, and real grass in the play area.

“And creating meals on site encourages our kids to try new foods.”

She says pre-school children need plenty of play time, and Backyard Kids nurtures them to form relationships with each other and the teachers, to solve problems for themselves, and to learn basic skills such as getting dressed.

Alice was born and raised in Ōtaki, the daughter of David and Jacqui Pritchard. Though she, her husband and two children live in Waikanae, her Ōtaki connections drew her back to set up Backyard Kids.

“We thought about the location and how the expressway would allow people to drop and pick up their kids if they worked out of town. Riverbank Road is ideal, and Ōtaki is an awesome place.”

RIGHT: Alice Pritchard with son Charlie at Backyard Kids on Riverbank Road.
Photo supplied



THE SOAP BOX

BACK IN STOCK

ORGANIC WEED STRIKE

Available in 2 litre and 5 litre bottles

An organic weed killer that does not damage essential bacteria and biota in the soil.

DOWCO ASSOCIATES

for a cleaner world

62 Riverbank Rd, Ōtaki

364 5767

orders@dowco.co.nz

2L \$40

5L \$80

SOAPBOX FACTORY

Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm
Friday 9am-3pm

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

0800 MP TERISA

f /terisangobiotaki

ig /terisa_ngobi

Labour

Authorised by Terisa Ngobi, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

WAKEFIELDS LAWYERS

Wakefields Lawyers covers an extensive range of services, including Commercial, Property, Employment, Immigration, Estates and Elder Law. Additionally, our services also include home, hospital and retirement home visits.

Here to meet your needs, the team at Wakefields Lawyers understands and acknowledges the need for commercially sound, pragmatic and cost-effective solutions.

Wakefields Lawyers has offices in Wellington, Paraparaumu, Ōtaki, Levin, and Foxton.

info@wakefieldslaw.com

0800 534 251

208 Main Highway, Ōtaki

Making the Complex Simple for the Community of

ŌTAKI



LOADED UP: A van at Ōtaki loaded up and ready to head north with supplies for Porangahau Marae. From left are Grace Hoete, Paere Hunuhunu, Kelly-Anne Ngatai and Taranaki Ngatai. Kelly-Anne ensured Whiti te Rā’s clubrooms could be used as a distribution point. *Photo supplied*

Ōtaki pitches in with cyclone relief

Ōtaki has responded to the plight of a marae in the cyclone-devastated southern Hawke’s Bay with a van-load of essential supplies.

Porangahau Marae (Ngāti Kere) was badly affected by the floods that came with Cyclone Gabrielle. Ōtaki woman Grace Hoete heard about their circumstances and organised the trip to Hawke’ Bay in late February.

Armed with a koha from the New Zealand Māori Council and assistance

from local business Penray Gardens, Grace got a van loaded with goods. After asking for help she had Dulcie Kingi, Cam Butler, Peter Fraser, Laura Lavery and the packer, identified only as “Gary”, as well as Ōtaki College students helping to load.

“With all our wonderful helpers we were able to take a big load of fresh veges, fruit, meat and groceries over to Porangahau Marae,” she says. “Seeing the delightful smiles of the kuia when receiving fresh eggs

and the joyful giggle of ‘yum’ from the koro when opening the box of bananas was priceless.”

She says they send their heartfelt gratitude to Ōtaki and were deeply moved to tears by the aroha being given.


“Ngā mihi. Arohanui ki a koutou,” they said.

“Every bit has counted. We will be doing more runs of fresh froods throughout the weeks ahead to different centres.”

ŌTAKI’S music community has come together in a fundraiser for victims of Cyclone Gabrielle. Several well-known local acts will feature in a variety concert hosted by the Ōtaki RSA on Saturday, March 25. “We all have friends and whānau in the affected areas and want to help the relief effort in some way,” says RSA manager Dave Little. “I’m delighted these local musicians have agreed to collaborate with us to send a bit of support.” There will be no pre-sales, just a \$5 door charge, but guests are encouraged to contribute more if they wish. The RSA’s AbelSo restaurant will be open. All funds go to the Red Cross.

Cyclone Gabrielle Relief Concert

Ōtaki RSA
March 25
from 7pm





Caramellos • Andrew London
Black Eyed Susie • Clint Taylor
Graham Rikihana (MC)
Pip Payne & the Tempests



Did you receive or purchase any big ticket items over the holidays?

We'll help make sure you've got the right insurance. We can insure your boat, jet ski, trailer, jewellery items, cars and much more.

The New Year is a perfect time to make sure you're covered for what you need, so talk to us today about how we can help.



**inpro group**
INSURANCE & MORTGAGE

 0800 367 467
 www.inprogroup.co.nz

FENWICK ACCOUNTING SAME TRUSTED PEOPLE

Numbers have been our speciality for over 30 years. Let us look after yours so you can focus on your business.

New clients: Book your free 30 minute consultation by visiting us at www.fenwickca.co.nz

| SERVICES |

ADVISORY | TRUSTS | COMPLIANCE
PAYROLL | FARM ACCOUNTING

 06 04 777 6069
 6/5 Arthur Street, Otaki.
 office@fenwickca.co.nz
 www.fenwickca.co.nz

FENWICK
ACCOUNTANTS

Rotary holds family fun day

Local Rotary clubs are hosting a family fun day from 10am-1pm on Sunday, March 19, at Southward Car Museum.

Entry is by gold coin koha, to be donated to Life Flight Trust to help fund a new incubator.

Free entertainment includes a bouncy castle, games and activities, face-painting, balloon artist, children's breakfast and an introduction to mindfulness for parents and kids by Lance Burdett. There will be foodtrucks where lunch can be bought, or people can bring a picnic. Informative stalls about Rotary projects and the work of associated service organisations will be on site.

The event is part of the District 9940 Rotary conference and is designed to give local families a great day out and inform people about the many projects Rotarians are involved in, not only in this district but also throughout the Pacific region.

The fun day will be held on the back lawn, or if the weather is bad, inside the Southwards complex.

MenzShed restores Harry's

By Ian Carson

The carts Harry Hall used to hitch to his donkey, Pepe, at the children's health camp have been lovingly restored by the Ōtaki MenzShed.

Harry kept the carts – called “traps” in the days of horse transport – after the health camp closed in 2018, but he died just over a year later. The carts fell into disrepair until Di Buchan stepped in to get them working restored.

Di is chair of the Friends of Ōtaki Rotunda, which is raising funds to refurbish and rebuild the historic rotunda at the health camp.

The carts went to the MenzShed, providing a challenge for the many members involved. Boards had rotted, a mudguard had to be replaced entirely, paint had peeled and rust had taken its toll.

“There was probably 100 hours of labour all-up over the past year for both carts,” says MenzShed chair Les Frost. “Our members saw it as quite a challenge, but it became a labour of love. They enjoyed seeing it all come together.”

It required a range of skills, from carpentry to metalwork, most of which was available within the Menzshed ranks. There was also some scratching of heads.

On one occasion a metal rod, which had been removed from a cart when it



BACK IN ACTION: Harry Hall's carts after restoration by Ōtaki's MenzShed. In the centre are Friends of the Ōtaki Rotunda chair Di Buchan, and Harry's wife Gail Hall (holding the book). MenzShed members are, from left, James Singleton, Wal Bowra, Les Frost, Helena Faust, (Di, Gail and Friends member Len Nicholls), Barry Dwane, Tony King, Mike Grant, Brian Winterburn, Russell Holden, Eric Edwards and Bruce Heather.

Photo Ōtaki Today

was dismantled, was left over after the reconstruction had been completed.

“We just couldn't work out where it went,” Les says. “Eventually we discovered two holes either side of the card, inserted the rod and got a perfect fit. Problem solved.”

The larger of the carts, a black one used most by Harry, has been completely restored and is ready for

use again. The smaller wooden cart created some problems for the team – its axle was beyond repair so it's likely to be more a piece of memorabilia than a working cart.

Pepe's worn-out saddle (seen in the container above) was also beyond the scope of MenzShed skills, so a leather repair company or expert is being sought.

“We'd love to hear from anyone who can help,” Di says.

A donkey to pull the cart on special occasions is also being sought.

Di says the project would not have been possible without \$1000 from Ōtaki Community Board funds. The money paid for materials and things like sandblasting – MenzShed donated the labour.

dice
Ōtaki

06 364 5472

fairtrade organic coffee

- Fresh salads • Hot pork sandwiches on Wednesdays
- Paninis, sandwiches, toasted wraps /sandwiches
- Gourmet savouries • Smoothies, milkshakes
- Emporio coffee • Variety of vegetarian and keto options
- REAL FRUIT ICE CREAMS

200 State Highway 1, Ōtaki

freshly baked pies daily • filled rolls, sandwiches • cream doughnuts • great variety of cakes • bread and pizza bread

OZ'S BAKERY
06 364 5468

HAMMER
HARDWARE
It's your local

OPEN 7 DAYS
FREE local delivery
06 364 8389
Titoki Street, Ōtaki 5512
www.hammerhardware.co.nz

'THE TELE'
High calorie locality

The old Telegraph Hotel (built 1872) has two bars, a lounge/ dining room and refurbished backpacker-style accommodation.

The perfect venue for a family get-together, birthday function or a drink with friends.

cnr Rangiuuru Rd/Tasman Rd, Ōtaki Township
Contact Duane 06 364-0634, 021 0220 3105, or duane@thetele.co.nz

Ōtaki
SHUTTLE SERVICE
06 364-6001 • 027 439 0131

7 DAYS A WEEK SERVICE • WEEKENDS BY APPT

- Ōtaki to Waikanae \$40 • Ōtaki to Paraparaumu \$55
- \$10 + \$5 per passenger between beach and plateau
- Further afield trips negotiable
- Airports and bus connections

Book online at:
otakishuttle.co.nz

Please confirm by phone for weekend web bookings.

Evening jobs need to be booked.

EFTPOS
available in vehicle

Hebe
Botanicals
Science based natural products

MADE HERE IN ŌTAKI.
Phyto-cannabinoid serum for arthritis and neuropathic pain.
See our website for the amazing customer feedback on this product.
Come and visit our outlet shop to see our range of beauty and health products, made right here in Ōtaki.

34 Riverbank Road, Ōtaki • 06 364 6690
fb.com/hebebotanicals www.hebebotanicals.co.nz

Order your Ōtaki T now!

\$30 plus p+p
ADULTS sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL, 3XL, 5XL
white or black Ts
Children's sizes: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12

kids only \$25/tee

ŌTAKI
ŌTAKI TODAY

ORDER your Ts at
e: tshirts@idmedia.co.nz
or text 027 285 4720

Ōtaki street names - every street included

old donkey carts

Project leader Dick Boyd revelled in the challenge and only just got to see the work completed. He died on February 24 only a week before the handover of the restored carts.

"Dick had spent a lot of time around horses and drays, so he knew what work was needed," Les says. "He was a hard-working, well organised member of the MenzShed."



CARTED: Project team leader Dick Boyd with one of the donkey carts not long after the MenzShed received them for restoration.

Photo supplied

"It was sad that he missed the handover, but he would have been proud of the work everyone put in. He'll certainly be missed."

Harry Hall was a well loved caretaker at the Ōtaki Children's Health Camp from 1983 through until he retired in 2009. He was known for not only looking after the grounds and facilities, but also for creating activities and interacting with the children.

He installed a flying fox and other playground equipment, and developed what almost became an animal farm, but most of all he is remembered for his donkey, Pepe.

Pepe came to the health camp from Manaia in south Taranaki in 1988 as a 3-year-old. He was originally from Ponui Island in the Hauraki Gulf.

The camp had a social club at the time that had raised some money. The committee decided to buy a donkey and a cart for the children.

Harry went to the Manaia farm of Alan Gay to fetch Pepe and a cart that Alan had built. Pepe became an institution at the health camp.

Children would love to ride in the carts, and as Harry recalled, the first thing second generation children would do when their

parents came up to the camp was to show them the donkey.

Harry took the health camp children around the camp and for excursions along a track from the camp to the beach. Locals remember seeing the excitement on the children's faces as they were transported along the beach.

Pepe would also go to the shops in Ōtaki.

On one occasion Harry decided to play a trick on the staff at the post office, which was on the west corner of Tasman Road and Te Rauparaha Street. However, the prank backfired on Harry.

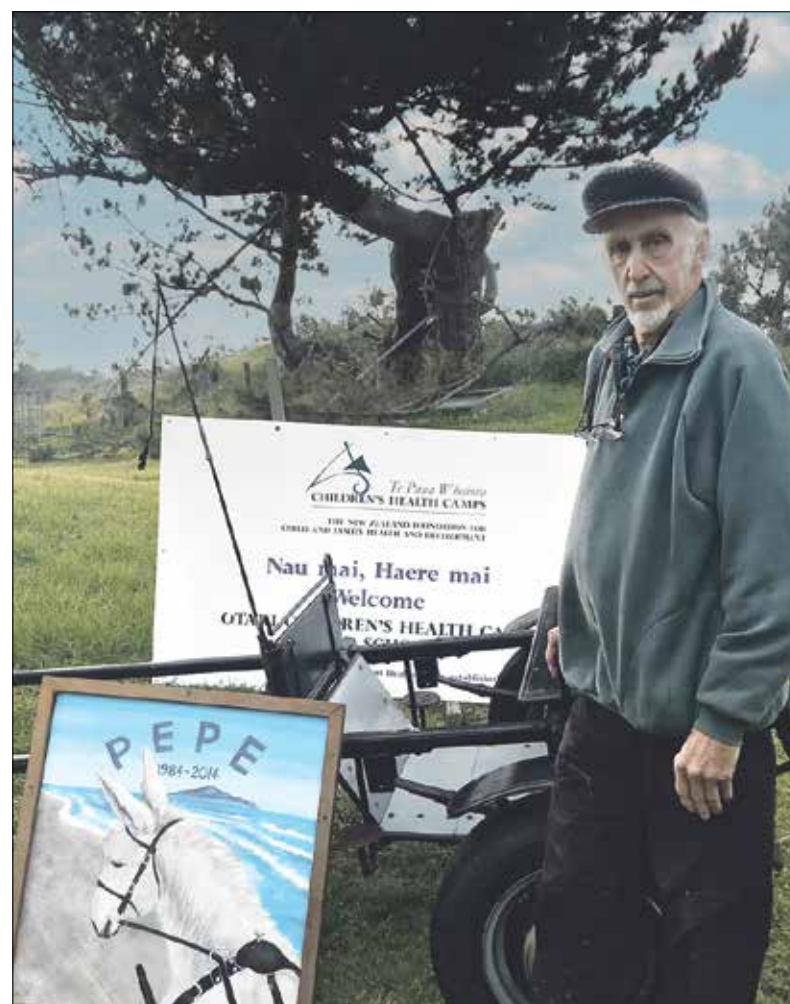
"They had a slide that you knocked on to get your parcels and I walked Pepe up and knocked, and when they opened it they found a donkey. Unfortunately he peed on the floor and I had to clean it up," he told Faye Lougher in 2009, just before he retired.

He said he always enjoyed working with the children and loved seeing their response to the animals.

"The sheer joy, they just enjoy them so much. They learn a lot about trust and interaction between them and the animals when they look after them."

He said making a small difference in a child's life was very rewarding.

Harry had an association with the health camp that began when he went to the camp aged 8 and living in



HARRY: Former health camp caretaker Harry Hall with one of the carts and a painting of his beloved donkey, Pepe, not long before Harry died in 2019.

Photo Ōtaki Today

Wellington. It was his first trip away from home.

For 23 years, Harry worked at the camp. He and wife Gail built a house on Mountain View Terrace that was ideally – and coincidentally – located

on the eastern boundary of the camp. Harry got the health camp job after the house was built.

He could literally walk out the back door and through a gate to go to work.

RiverStone Café

Ōtaki, NZ

170 OLD HIGHWAY 1 (NEXT TO KATHMANDU) 06 364-6743

**Before you explore the beach this summer
relax in our garden with delicious food and coffee**

OPEN 7 DAYS 7am-3pm



- Wheelchair access
- Parking at rear

- All-day menu till 2.30pm
- Dine in or take away



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS IN KĀPITI



The Kāpiti Coast is a seismically active area and with the coastline running the length of our district we live with the risk that a large earthquake or a tsunami could affect us at any time.

We can't predict when earthquakes and tsunami will happen, but we can help protect ourselves and our families by being prepared.



Have a plan

If you live, work or regularly spend time in one of the Kāpiti Coast's tsunami zones it's important you know the tsunami warning signs and have a plan to get to safety.

The most important tsunami warning system is a natural one: if you feel a long or strong earthquake (one that lasts longer than a minute or is strong enough to knock you off your feet), get gone – do not wait for an official warning, evacuate immediately.



**Earthquake
long or strong?
Get gone!**

Know your Zone

In Kāpiti, there are three evacuation zones. The red tsunami evacuation zone is the beach and sand dunes and is at highest risk. The orange zone is the dune adjacent to the beach and the streets closest to the beach and rivers. The yellow zone is a further 200 to 300 metres inland from the beach and includes low lying areas close to rivers.



For more information about tsunami evacuation zones visit kapiticoast.govt.nz/knowyourzone

Get prepared

There's some simple steps you can take now to better prepare your household.

Make a plan with your whole household so you know how far you need to go to get to safety and where you are going to meet up. Keep a getaway kit or grab bag within easy reach. And remember to check your emergency water supplies – you need at least 3 litres of water per person, per day for 7 days.



Check out getprepared.nz for helpful hints.

Whangārei ‘adopted’ as Kāpiti offers support

Kāpiti Coast District Council has “adopted” Whangārei District Council to help support the Northland community recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle.

Kāpiti Mayor Janet Holborow says it was an easy decision to join Local Government NZ’s Adopt a Community initiative, which has councils throughout the country supporting districts affected by the cyclone.

“Community to community support is one way we can focus our efforts in a dedicated and meaningful way,” Janet says. “For now, our focus is firmly on driving donations straight to the Whangārei Mayoral Relief Fund, which gives their council the ability to direct funds where they’re needed most.”

Whangārei District Mayor Vince Cocurullo has welcomed Kāpiti’s aroha and support.

“The full extent of our community need is still unknown, however we have no doubt there will be many reaching out for help in the weeks to come,” he says. “Any donations that come from the Kāpiti Coast community will be gratefully accepted.”

Donated relief funds will help with things such as septic tank overflows, filling water tanks, clearing debris from properties, supporting impacted businesses, repairs to assets such as fences and footpaths, and assisting people facing financial hardship.

“While we’ve been hit hard, we are rebuilding, and we’re very much open for business,” Vince says. “Local businesses are feeling the strain from reduced visitor numbers and our local economy is suffering. Full access to Northland will soon be restored, and we hope to see domestic and international visitors returning.”

Janet says local government is an important cog in the Civil Defence and Emergency Management (CDEM) machine.

“In addition to assessing and responding to their community’s well-being and ensuring infrastructure is restored as quickly as possible, Whangārei District Council and their partners continue to do incredible mahi to support people in need,” she says. “We know that getting communities back on their feet is a marathon, not a sprint. That’s especially true with a disaster of this scale where not just initial support but medium and long-term support will be important.”

She says that through the Mayoral Relief Fund, Whangārei District Council and its CDEM counterparts could ensure the right items got to the right people.

“If you’re able to, we encourage you to support their efforts by way of a donation, or plan a trip to this beautiful part of Aotearoa soon.

“I’m also looking to host a fundraising concert featuring local artists later this month.”

Janet says it’s easy to feel a kinship with Whangārei where the urban centre’s population is surrounded by small coastal towns and rural settlements.

After the Auckland floods and Cyclone Gabrielle, the Kāpiti council responded by providing staff and resources to assist with building inspections, solid waste management, and other functions such as intelligence gathering and communications support.

“We will be working directly with Whangārei District Council to ascertain other ways Kāpiti can help them,” Janet says.

If anyone wishes to donate to the Whangārei Mayoral Relief Fund, they can make a deposit in the following account: 02-0492-0358315-00. Please include the name of donor with reference “Mayoral Relief Fund”.

Horowhenua District Council recently adopted the Tararua District Council to provide support.

LETTERS

Response to article

I would like to respond to Michael Moore, deputy chair of the Waikanae Community Board, after his article in February. He has disingenuously represented a situation that he himself has created. His serious allegations state that vandalism and damage was incited by online activity. He alludes to me and other members of the community on the Te Horo Beach Facebook page being responsible for the errant behaviour, but this is incorrect and typical of Mr Moore’s rhetoric, which lacks evidence to back up this serious allegation and misrepresents the community he is elected to represent. Moore asserts that “many have lauded protection of the area” and it has “caused anger to some”. However, his action has frustrated many, but this has little to do with the ecologic merits which most at our beach hold dear. It is due to the lack of understanding the historical and cultural importance of this area of Te Horo Beach. Thankfully the council now has more information than the agenda-laden lobbying they had from Moore. The mayor and the KCDC removed the blocks and committed to consult. We can now work together with the council to find a good solution, with consultation starting around April. But if Moore wants to work with the community, I think first he owes them an apology.

Brent Jarnell, Te Horo Beach

Well served with news

When I look at the number of local papers we receive in Ōtaki it is 10 a month, plus Ōtaki Street Scene every three months. I doubt there is another district in the whole of New Zealand that has the benefit of that kind of delivery of local news, and I look forward to the middle of each month when Ōtaki Today arrives. My one criticism though, is could you please make the print size for the crossword clues considerably larger as they are difficult to read without very strong glasses . . . especially as one gets a little older! In fact, the whole crossword could do with enlarging in my opinion. It would make it more enjoyable to solve. Oh, and thank goodness we have a columnist like Bruce Kohn who does not pull punches when writing about government policy.

Jonathon Harrison, Ōtaki

Thanks for your kind words, Jonathon, and the pointer about the crossword. We’ve looked at that and agree. We hope you find it easier to read this issue, though still a challenge to solve!
– Editor

OVER THE FENCE CUPPA

HELP US BUILD A HAPPIER, STRONGER AND SAFER COMMUNITY.



24 MARCH – 2 APRIL 2023

Host an event for your neighbourhood.
Receive support, ideas, resources, and be in to win prizes.

For more information and to register your event by 12 March,
visit www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/neighbours

NEIGHBOURS
AOTEAROA



Kāpiti Coast
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Me Huri Whakamuri, Ka Titiro Whakamua

New World Ōtaki

Proud to
support our
local community

Open 7 days, 7:00am - 9:00pm
155/163 Main Highway, Ōtaki



Ōtaki

HUATAU/Comment

MAYOR'S VIEW: JANET HOLBOROW

Try a cuppa over the fence to connect with your neighbours

Recently the council launched the Over the Fence Cuppa campaign to help prepare us when we face a disaster like other parts of the country endured last month.

The idea is straightforward: communities that know each other are stronger, not just in emergencies but in general as we feel safer, less alone, and learn about each other.

To support this, Over the Fence Cuppa is helping facilitate community get-togethers. You sign up on the KCDC website and we can provide ideas, information and resources to help make it a success.



These get-togethers can be as small or big as you want them to be.

This is part of a national effort with Neighbours Aotearoa who are encouraging everyone to get to know those around them and they have suggestions on what you can do. We're happy to be doing this as it supports KCDC's efforts to build a

district that is as prepared as possible.

From our stormwater programme to improve systems, to regular drills and training, having both our physical and social infrastructure as strong and healthy as possible will benefit us all.

Sign up on the KCDC website – kapiticoast.govt.nz – by Sunday (March 12) and for more information contact: neighbours.event@kapiticoast.govt.nz

On another note, It's been a great month for Ōtaki, with the Ōtaki Kite Festival drawing record crowds, and the ongoing benefits of the new expressway, including the launch of the expressway sculptures.

The kite festival was a huge success, with people staying for the day or calling in to see the incredible spectacle. Thanks to Zeal for hosting the stage, with a fuller line-up of great local musicians and entertainers than in previous years.

Events like this bring people into the region, and bring benefits local businesses, not just on the day, but also highlighting and promoting Ōtaki as a place to visit, shop, eat and enjoy.

As they approach Ōtaki, they might spot the recently launched expressway sculptures that are a culmination of years of lobbying,

conversation and commitment by local representatives, iwi, the project team, designers and many others. Former councillor James Cootes was acknowledged at the event for his ongoing support for the project.

Coming up next is Māoriland Film Festival.

I always look forward to seeing a selection of films and talks, and always come away with a richer understanding of the diversity of people inhabiting our planet. All the best to the Māoriland team for another successful and educational festival.

■ Janet is mayor of Kāpiti Coast

THE ELECTORATE: TERISA NGOBI, MP



Focusing on electorate

As we get stuck into another busy year, I'm focused on supporting the Ōtaki electorate.

The year 2023 has kicked off with significant change as we welcomed Chris Hipkins into the role of prime minister and thanked Jacinda Ardern for her five years of leadership.

Chris's government's No 1 priority is the cost of living, and the wider team of Labour MPs and I are absolutely committed to this priority. In 2023, we want to grow a strong economy and will keep working hard to strengthen core services like health and education.

Here in the Ōtaki electorate, there's also going to be a lot to be positive about. For example, the positive impacts of the Winter Energy payment benefiting over a million people. This government has introduced new rules for rental properties to ensure everyone has a warm, dry place to live. Landlords will have to ensure their properties comply with new standards including heating and insulation.

Warmer Kiwi Homes has delivered almost 80,000 insulation and heating installs in low-income homes since 2018, ensuring more low-income families have healthy homes and reduced power bills.

We've reduced the cost of going to the doctor for around 600,000 low-income New Zealanders and we've expanded dental grants to ensure more Kiwis are eligible for support and can access much-needed dental treatment.

The challenges facing our country won't go away overnight, but the Labour team is ready to kick on.

Thank you for your trust and confidence. Bring on 2023.

■ Terisa is MP for the Ōtaki electorate

CAM'S CORNER: CAM BUTLER

Refresh of emergency response plan on agenda

And bang, just like that it is March. As you are reading this the Ōtaki Community Board will have had our first meeting for 2023.

The months since the election in October have been completely different from the last term for the community boards, with a new Kāpiti mayor, a new chief executive and a large refresh of councillors.

From fighting for our very existence to now being invited to participate in almost everything that the council is involved in has been a massive change, and few people, to be honest, have noted the increased workload for what is largely a volunteer position. However, we do this for the love of the community!

Coming up very shortly is a refresh of the emergency response procedure for Ōtaki. This is highly relevant after seeing the tragic events unfolding elsewhere in the North Island. The members of the Ōtaki Community Board are part of the Wellington Region Emergency Management Organisation, however we won't be able to do everything ourselves.

If you see yourself as a cool head in an



emergency or an organiser capable of running an emergency hub, we would love to hear from you.

The storms that caused havoc elsewhere this "summer" left Ōtaki unscathed (Sunny Ōtaki indeed), but we might not be so lucky next time. Are you prepared?

We are about to start another refresh with the board starting to look at the Vision for Ōtaki document which dates back to 2007 and is long overdue for a new set of eyes to be cast over it.

What do you want to change? What do you want to stay the same? What do we need 20 years down the track? Some big questions there and change/growth is inevitable.

The community will be involved in this rest assured, however the plan is still being worked

on so watch this space! If you want to see what the Raumati area has developed over the past 12 months have a look at ourvisionforraumati.nz. It is pretty awesome.

Speaking of change, how are you finding life with the expressway in place? While there are some annoying roadworks around the place, the feedback we have had is hugely positive.

I am loving being able to drive around on Friday and Sunday evenings and not being stuck in traffic.

Unfortunately there is some more disruption to come later in the year with the revocation of State Highway 1 to a local road. After seeing the issues that Paraparaumu and particularly Waikanae have had with their revocation projects, the board has clearly indicated to Waka Kotahi that we wish to have a community liaison group to assist the community through the revocation process and provide feedback back and forth.

Will Waka Kotahi agree to this?

That answer is yet to be had so we will keep you informed.

■ Cam is chair of the Ōtaki Community Board

TE HORO OUTLOOK: MICHAEL MOORE

Infrastructure investment benefits everyone

The old library building at Waikanae has been left for dead, it seems, for four years and four months.

Our community board has made this community asset and its rebuild a priority. We are pressing for an options report to get to council in the next couple of months so community consultation can begin.

I'm of the opinion that the existing building can be utilised, and will mean a saving of millions and facilitate the project being started much sooner.

As we continue to grow and develop, the importance of maintaining and managing infrastructure cannot be overstated. Local councils play a critical role in ensuring that infrastructure is treated as a valuable community asset.

Infrastructure includes everything from roads and bridges to water and wastewater systems, and it is essential for the smooth functioning of our communities. However, infrastructure is often overlooked and taken for granted, leading to neglect and deterioration over time. This is why it is crucial that local councils recognise the value of infrastructure and prioritise its upkeep.

Like the Paraparaumu Community Centre,



the gradual deterioration of the Waikanae Library was known about and regular preventative maintenance didn't occur.

When infrastructure is managed well, it not only benefits the community in terms of safety and convenience, but it can also attract new residents and businesses to the area. Well maintained roads and sidewalks, for example, can make it easier for people to commute to work and access local amenities. Similarly, a reliable and efficient water system can ensure that residents have access to clean drinking water, which is essential for public health.

However, managing infrastructure is not just about maintaining physical assets. It is also about creating a sense of community ownership and pride. When local councils prioritise infrastructure, they send a message to residents

that their rates are being put to good use and that their community is worth investing in. This, in turn, can create a sense of civic responsibility and encourage residents to take pride in their neighbourhood.

Our council is in the unique position to involve residents in the management of infrastructure. By seeking input from the community on how infrastructure can be improved or what needs attention, we can ensure that residents feel heard and valued. This can also lead to innovative solutions and ideas that might not have been considered otherwise.

The importance of managing infrastructure cannot be overstated – it is a valuable community asset that requires careful management and upkeep to ensure it continues to serve our communities well. By prioritising infrastructure and involving the community in its management, we can collectively create a sense of ownership and pride, which benefits the community as a whole.

The next Waikanae Community Board meeting is 7pm, Tuesday May 2, at the historic Te Horo community hall, 54 School Road, Te Horo.

■ Michael is deputy chair of Waikanae Community Board.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters must include your full name, address and contact phone number. Maximum 200 words. Note your letter may be edited for grammar and accuracy. We reserve the right to reject any letter. Write to Ōtaki Today, 13 Te Manuao Rd, Ōtaki or email ian@idmedia.co.nz

Rebuilding should draw on mātauranga

Like all kids, my life seemed like an endless series of epiphanies – the curtain is drawn open and something new is learned, often with startling effect.

I'd like to think these moments embedded themselves as a kind of street map that guided this intrepid self through life. Part of that is trying, often with struggle, to maintain that wide-eyed wonder that allowed the curtain to open at all, but then, through life, allow new ideas and the possibility that early lessons might need a touch of revision from time to time.

I was reminded of this when reading Kim Mcbreen's recent article in *E-Tangata*, titled "There's a fine line between appropriation and respect".

The article was actually about the misuse and appropriation of Māori tikanga, but a sentence struck me as an epiphany: "If the tikanga is severed from its mātauranga, it has been appropriated."

As a Pākehā Kiwi I don't ever wish to misappropriate tikanga, but I understand that tikanga means "Māori customary practices or behaviours" coming from the word "tika", which means "right" or "correct".

Given that mātauranga is about knowledge and knowing, it's reasonable to say that practices and behaviours should always be guided by some shred of understanding.

It seems to me that these notions are much better understood, and more certainly based, within the traditional Māori world view than it

After outlandish claims about lizard people, 5G and Covid-19 vaccines, conspiracy theorists are now targeting the world of urban planning, with protests against the 15-minute city/town concept springing up around the globe.



FRASER CARSON

is in the Western purview. Add to this the modern phenomenon of digital (mis)information and social media, and we now see widespread ideas that are not at all based upon knowledge and knowing, but rather on woolly conjecture, at best, and deliberate lies, at worst.

This especially comes to mind as this country struggles with the aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle, while still reorientating after

a global pandemic. How our communities rebuild, physically and emotionally, is both a challenge and an opportunity to draw on shared knowledge and knowing in such a way that clarity emerges from disruption and confusion.

Chief among that must surely be the planning (and rebuilding) of our towns and cities so they are more resilient and better able to contribute positively to the lives of all citizens in terms of liveability, well-being, connectedness and opportunity, etc.

How that might work is the subject of intense discussion, both here and around the world.



For example, many urban designers promote the concept of the 15-minute city/town. In essence it is an urban planning concept where neighbourhoods provide residents with the basic things they need – shops, schools, parks, leisure options, health care – within a 15-minute radius by foot or bike.

Urbanist and Vancouver's former chief planner, Brent Toderian, has recently observed that: "We used to have 15-minute cities as the norm. They were called good neighbourhoods, where you didn't have to get into a car for everything."

He goes on to say: "From mid-last century, cities have largely been planned around cars, at the expense of walking and biking, which has often resulted in car dependency and urban sprawl."

Does this seem to make sense, based on an understanding of the issues? Well, apparently not to the conspiracy theorists and

misinformation mills.

A recent ABC News story included the following:

"To some, it's an urban planning concept [15-minute city/town] that promotes sustainable and healthy living. To a small group of others, it's a plot by 'tyrannical bureaucrats' to take our cars and control our lives, which could lead to a real-life *Hunger Games* scenario."

After outlandish claims about lizard people, 5G and Covid-19 vaccines, conspiracy theorists are now targeting the world of urban planning, with protests against the 15-minute city/town concept springing up around the globe.

I could rest my case based on a plea for practices based on sound knowledge. But it seems we need to start with a plea for some plain old sanity and truth.

■ Fraser is founder of the community development websites flightdec.com, knowthis.nz and inhub.org.nz

Kōrero mai | Have your say



Kia ora Ōtaki, Te Horo and Peka Peka residents.
Tell us more about your coast!

So far you've told our Coastal Advisory Panel you "live in a caring community, that loves the coast and puts time into dune restoration". Some of you are dealing with "more groundwater that's taking longer to go away". Others felt "coastal hazards are an immediate threat to our future". Many said you "want to be involved in decision making on how we prepare for sea level rise and plan for the future of our whānau and community". Overall, it's clear you care about the coast and love living here.

If you missed meeting the panel last time, here's another chance to have your say. Your views will help us as we start looking at options for adapting to coastal erosion and inundation due to climate change for this area. We're starting on this soon and will meet with the community again for your final feedback later in the year.

Our questions

- What do you value most about living here?
- How important is the coastline to you and why?
- How concerned are you about coastal hazards like erosion and flooding and why?
- What do you want protected on our coast and how could it be done?

Takutai
Kāpiti.

Give us your feedback by Sunday 2 April

- Write us a note then drop it in the feedback box at Ōtaki Library
- Post it: Coastal Team, Kāpiti Coast District Council, 175 Rimu Road, Paraparaumu 5032
- Email it to coastal@kapiticoast.govt.nz
- Answer our quick online survey at haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz/coastal

A technology solution for grumpy pooch

Sometimes I have to pinch myself about how beautiful a day out with the dog is in Ōtaki.

The beach, the river, the air so crisp and fresh – especially now all the trucks go around our wonderful little town. How lucky we are to be in paradise.

I have a seven-month-old puppy, Kiwi. His favourite place to go by far is the dog park at the south end of Aotaki Street on the corner of Riverbank Road. I can't even say "dog park" out loud until we arrive without his energy levels hitting the roof!

Sadly my puppy does not chase balls, or even run around the park if it's empty. He just sits in the corner sad because he is there to play with other dogs. That's all.

Turning up to an empty dog park is no longer viable for us. Every time we drive past my puppy will throw a tantrum and give me a dark look for the rest of the car ride.

The only other time I have felt this kind of guilt is from my cat, Meow Meow, the day I brought home a puppy.

I recorded for one week the success rate of "empty vs a doggy playdate". For my 16 visits, the dog park was empty 10 times. That's 64 percent of my car rides when I've had to turn around and go home.

If only there was a way for me to know when



TECH STUFF

DAN CARSON



IN LUCK: Kiwi is in luck – another pooch to play with is at the dog park. Photo Dan Carson

there are other dogs there. I could be saving a lot of gas and the grumpy glares of an unhappy puppy.

This is where I get to the point – technology could solve the problem.

Surfers Paradise has already resolved this kind of issue for surfers who don't want to turn up on the famous beaches when the waves are small. The city has several live surf webcams that surfers can check before deciding whether it's worth making a visit.

I got thinking about the idea of a low-resolution camera overlooking the car park. So there's no invasion of privacy, the camera could have just enough focus to see if anyone is in the car park – or not.

Then, if Kāpiti Coast District Council could

live stream the camera's footage on its dog park page, I could just check before I leave.

Happy Dan, even happier Kiwi!

Off the technology topic, the other issue I see every week is small dogs versus big dogs. The second gate should be fenced off so big, high-energy dogs have a separate area from small, low-energy dogs. Then everyone can feel safe, just like at the Plimmerton dog park. Easy, right?

I have contacted the council for comment and hope to hear the plans for our wonderful dog park for the future.

■ Dan has been in the IT industry for the past 20 years, previously with Fujitsu and Noel Leeming Group. He currently leads IT teams for Cigna Life Insurance NZ. He recently moved back to his hometown Ōtaki after work from home became the norm.

TikTok sets time limit

TikTok is to set a 60-minute daily screen time limit for users aged under 18 in an effort to curb screen time for younger people.

If they reach the daily limit, they will have to enter a passcode to continue to use the service that day. But they can also opt out. TikTok says the new limit will be rolled out "in the coming weeks".

The video app is owned by Chinese firm ByteDance. It says it is introducing the feature to help people "stay in control" of their use.

TikTok said the new limit comes after it brought in a prompt last year to encourage teens to manage their screen time. It said this helped "increase the use of our screen time tools by 234%".

Users of the platform have to be at least 13, and, as part of the new feature, anyone under the age of 18 will receive a weekly notification with a "recap of their screen time".

Users affected will receive their new time limit passcode on a screen in their app as the changes take effect.

Anyone who opts out of the new 60-minute restriction, but goes on to use the app for 100 minutes a day, will receive a prompt from TikTok to set their own screen time controls.

Parents of children using the Family Pairing option on the app will also be able to set screen time limits, as well as access a dashboard which would give a breakdown of app usage. – Source: BBC



Café SIXTY SIX
Your Livingroom

66 Main Street
Ōtaki
06-364 8150
cafe66.otaki@gmail.com

**Sofi, Fabrice and the team
are proud to support the**

Māoriland Film Festival 2023

Cafe 66 and AbelSo Restaurant



Ōtaki RSA
Raukawa Street Ōtaki
06 364 0093
027 257 2776
abelsocuisine@gmail.com



**OPEN FOR
DINNER**
during the festival
March 15-19
5-8pm



**EVERY
TUESDAY** | **GOLD CARD HOLDERS
YOUR COFFEE 1/2 PRICE**

Te Tiriti weighs heavily on one side of the agreement

Waitangi Day and the “critical” kōrero about Te Tiriti remind us how unevenly the weight of that agreement is held.

For now, politicians scramble and react to demanded positions on climate change (the need for that position has been here a long time), but as soon as the critical mass of voters forgets what happens when we choose business over climate leadership, the kōrero about Te Tiriti and co-governance will start again. Politicians will try to isolate the conversation to the sharpest points pricking the ears of the voters they want today, instead of acknowledging the system-level context and thinking about tomorrow. You can’t address system issues by skipping past the root cause. That’s why Te Tiriti gets pulled into these kōrero:

“They’re stealing the water!” (In our care we let 60 percent of waterways be polluted to the point they’re unswimmable. The current system doesn’t do well.)

“They get preferential treatment in the health system!” (Where we let them die seven years earlier from things we can mostly prevent, the current system doesn’t keep Māori well.)

“More treaty handouts! More pandering to Māori!” (The Crown has returned a fraction of the land and homes it confiscated from Māori. It’s hard to be well when your home has been pulled out from under you.)

“They’re ramming Māori language down our throats!” (After the governing system tried to cut out the voicebox and identity of Māori entirely, people need a sense of self to be well.)

Most of those kōrero lack the bracketed context of the system-level outcomes and legacies of colonisation. They lack it because the people driving the conversation haven’t had to live within or underneath those outcomes, and they weren’t taught them at school. So they can ignore them without impact.



And I’m not just talking about Pākehā. Not all Māori have experienced those outcomes first-hand or can see them occurring to others. That’s the reality of system-level impacts – they can be hard to see from an individual’s whare.

Most Māori grew up dependent, in some shape or form, on the system and governance Te Tiriti was written to guide. It’s the same system that non-Māori depend on, but there’s a big difference in the outcomes.

A system is what a system does – not what we hope it achieves. Our health care system, our political system, our education system, and our justice system, all deliver very different outcomes for Māori and non-Māori.

We all knock on the same doors but we get treated differently when they open. Those are the systems Te Tiriti was meant to help guide.

I’ve held wānanga and watched people’s backs straighten at the words “systemic racism”. Let’s make it easy and talk about how the system favours Pākehā instead.

In nearly all health indicators, Māori experience the worst outcomes. In the same system, we’re often twice as likely to die. Our tamariki are 1.5 times more likely to die. Māori have on average seven years less life.

Those health system inequities are hard for

people to view objectively because across the world, health systems are stuffed. The Western model of medicine just can’t keep up with the increasing rates of preventable disease. There are too few doctors for how quickly we are making ourselves sick with unhealthy kai, lifestyles, etc. Again, population level inequities can be hard to see from an individual’s whare. But when delivering the basic expectation of staying alive and well, the health system favours Pākehā over Māori.

What about education? Aotearoa is 33rd out of 38 in the OECD for educational inequality. In 2021, 58 percent of Māori students achieved NCEA, but 74 percent of Pākehā did. Today, our schooling system favours Pākehā over Māori. Even while educational achievement lifts in all groups, the inequities remain the same.

Māori earn significantly less than the average for Aotearoa at all ages. The income gap for Māori is \$2.6 billion a year. That’s how much less than the average income of Aotearoa the Māori population earns each year.

Māori are 15 percent of the population, but are 52 percent of the people in jail. When they have the same backgrounds, across all crime types, Māori are less likely to be allowed to apply for home detention, less likely to be granted home detention, and more likely to receive a prison term.

The frames of those systems were designed and hammered into place at the same time survey pegs were used to slice up the homes and food-gathering spaces of the people who lived here.

The leaders who designed and embedded them were also telling my great-great grandfather “the Treaty is a simple nullity” and refusing to return the land gifted by my iwi for the building of a school (no school was ever built so my iwi wanted it back). Conveniently for the colony, attempts

from Māori to stop their land being confiscated were classified as “rebellion”. They were telling Māori boys and girls they would make good labourers and mothers, then beating them for speaking the only language they knew. In their words, they were “smoothing the pillow of a dying race”.

That’s the system-level context.

Over the next 50 years of Aotearoa being governed, we’ll have 16 elections; 16 variations of a political party leading the country. They’ll spend about two years trying to deliver something they promised during elections, and a year figuring out what they should promise to get elected again. When I talk about Te Tiriti, I’m talking about the only over-arching assurance I have that each of those 16 parties-of-the-moment will address the inequities we endure. The past 50 years or 16-ish election cycles haven’t given me any reason to believe they’ll do so without the Treaty. I’m an optimist, but I’m not an idiot.

Without Te Tiriti, what reason do I have to believe that those 16 variations of government won’t make systems even worse for my descendants? Te Tiriti is the only promise from the government for a tomorrow where my children live as long as their neighbours, regardless of who gets voted in. To let them enjoy a life where they can be themselves. Where they have the same chance of being well. Where the damage done in my grandparents’ generation is actively addressed and reversed, yeah, skipping past the root cause because it’s uncomfortable never, ever works.

That’s the weight Te Tiriti holds for me. Maybe we could try carrying it together?

■ Pera is a rapper, storyteller, business coach and mentor. He received the Local Hero award at the New Zealander of the Year awards in 2019.



BUSINESS NEWS



RETAIL & INVESTMENT STRATEGY UPDATE: FEEDBACK SOUGHT FROM LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS

In September last year, Elevate Ōtaki engaged First Retail Group (FRG) to develop a Retail and Investment Strategy for the current SH1 corridor. The intent was the delivery of a strategy, co-designed with stakeholders, that determined solutions to maintain and grow market share, and leverage the area’s unique destination benefits, brand and position - along with successfully navigating changes in audience, competition and recognised challenges in the economic climate.

The committee are in the process of engaging an organisation to facilitate workshops during which participants will have the opportunity to provide their input into the recommendations in the Strategy they feel would be the most beneficial to the area, and how the actions might be delivered. This is a fantastic opportunity to actively contribute to the forward vision for Ōtaki.

We will be inviting key organisations and business owners across Ōtaki to attend

these sessions in a follow-up email, however, you can register your interest for the workshops now at: www.elevateotaki.nz

PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY PROJECT UNDERWAY

Delayed in 2022, the project to secure new photos for Small Town Big Heart promotional activity is once again underway.

Elevate Ōtaki marketer Jaime Bigwood has reached out to a number of local businesses to arrange a date for the shoot, during which realistic but welcoming promo photos will be taken in-store by Kāpiti-based professional photographer Joanna Piatek of Captured By Friday.

ELEVATE ŌTAKI MISSION:
TO ENABLE A THRIVING, BUSTLING, ENHANCED COMMUNITY BY PROMOTING ŌTAKI, BUILDING BUSINESS CONFIDENCE AND ADVOCATING FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

CTPH

CIVIL TRIM PLANT HIRE



**Get Steve and
his team to
tackle those
tough jobs.
GET IT DONE!**



STEVE FORSYTH is a proud local with 35 years of experience specialising in lifestyle blocks.

RANGE OF WORK

■ Project management ■ Lifestyle block and section clearing ■ Landscaping ■ New house site preparation ■ Drilling & fencing ■ Horse arenas & yards ■ Water tanks, pumps, irrigation, drainage & soak holes ■ Concrete works ■ Chip sealing and asphalt ■ Driveway maintenance ■ Quarry deliveries, riverstone, chip, base course, builders mix & topsoil ■ Rock walls & ponds

EQUIPMENT HIRE WITH OPERATOR

■ Diggers ■ Track bobcats ■ Rollers ■ Compactors
■ Trucks ■ Concrete breakers



**NO JOB TOO BIG
OR TOO SMALL**

Contact Steve Forsyth
027 555 2288 or
civiltrimplanthire@gmail.com
for a FREE QUOTE



Business names and intellectual property

Imagine this: You own a small business – let’s say you mow lawns. You name your business The Lawn People.

It’s been a year or two since you set up your business, and it is thriving. You’ve got brand awareness in the area in which you trade, and you have a good reputation in the community. Suddenly, a competitor opens up calling themselves The Lawn Team.

MATTERS OF LAW



FRANCESCA FLAWS

and/or enforce your rights?
Registering your name under the Companies Act 1993

There are a few ways to protect your business name. One is registering your name under the Companies Act. However, this alone offers very little protection. While the companies registrar will not grant names that are identical, if there is a reasonable difference they will allow it. In the above example, the Lawn People and the Lawn Team might be different enough for both to be registered.

The Fair Trading Act

While a company’s registered name must be different from any others registered, this process alone does not stop someone else from using a trading name similar to yours. The Fair Trading Act 1986 (FTA) does offer some protection if the use of a trading name is “... misleading or deceptive or likely to mislead or deceive”. For example, if customers are likely to be misled into thinking that the Lawn Team is that great

You’re outraged! You’ve spent all this time establishing your business and then this rogue rides off your good name.

Well, what can you do/should you have done to protect yourself



After all the effort of getting your business name right, it’s frustrating for someone else to use a similar name.
Image by Mihai Surdu, Pixabay

company their friend uses (when in fact it was the Lawn People), then there is an argument that the use of their business name is misleading.

Trademarking

One of the best ways to protect a business name is by applying to register a trademark with the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (Iponz).

There are three types of trademarks you can apply for – word trademarks, image trademarks and combined trademarks (which are a combination of words and an image, or words in a stylised form). The application will also need to specify all goods and/or services for which you want to use the trademark.

If someone then breaches your trademarked name, you can take steps against them. The courts have a range of remedies available to compensate you for any wrong done. For example, they can order an injunction (stopping someone from continuing to breach the trademark), and damages (payment for the loss you suffered because of their breach of the Act).

The world wide web

To prevent anyone from setting up a website with a similar name, you should also buy the right to similar domain names, for example, thelawnteam.com and thelawnteam.co.nz. Make sure you have naming rights on social media, too.

Going global

It’s important to remember that trademarks granted through Iponz are only applicable in New Zealand. So, to protect your trademark overseas, you will need to either apply for a trademark in each country you trade in, or you can apply for an international trademark under a system called the Madrid Protocol.

Trademarking and protecting your business name is an important step that many small business owners overlook. Trademarking the name now prevents a future hassle when a competitor trades under a similar name, leaving you with little recourse.

As they say, a stitch in time saves nine.
■ Francesca is a general practice solicitor based at the Ōtaki office of Wakefields Lawyers.



A kiwi at Ngā Manu Nature Reserve.
Photo supplied

Ngā Manu gets silver award

Ngā Manu Nature Reserve at Waikanae has recieved a Silver Sustainable Tourism Business Award from Qualmark – New Zealand tourism’s official quality-assurance organisation.

The award recognises Ngā Manu for its focus on protecting what makes New Zealand unique and special, and its commitment to protecting the natural environment and enhancing connections with local communities, while delivering a quality, safe experience for visitors.

Ngā Manu general manager Anna McKenzie Hawea says the award is a testament to the work of the operator’s volunteers and staff, and shows the passion that the wider community has for the work it does for conservation, education and the community, including providing locals and visitors with a special place to connect with nature.

Ngā Manu Nature Reserve is a wildlife sanctuary with walk-through bird aviaries, reptile enclosures and original native lowland swamp forest. It is a non-profit charitable trust, with visitors directly supporting wildlife and conservation programmes.

Successful teams are built on the players’ character

Throughout 2022, business owners said hiring staff was nearly impossible.

Not enough people, not the right skills, too fickle... all of these reasons were given as proof that there simply wasn’t much choice when it came to getting good people. Respectfully, I disagreed then, and I disagree now.

If you want to build a winning team, there are things you can do right now to get started.

First, recognise that winning teams are built on the players’ character. Sir Brian Lochore got it right when he said: “Better people make better All Blacks”!

Too often, I’ve seen business owners and managers review CVs to find people with the skills that most closely match the job description. And here’s the thing – they do find them!

Once they’ve narrowed down that list, they select the one they like the best.

Recently, I asked a local business owner whether he used any tested and proven behavioural tests in his hiring process, and he replied: “No, I pretty much know what I like,

YOUR BUSINESS



CHRIS WHELAN



Image by Luvmybry, Pixabay.com

and I go with that”.

He had a small blind spot, though – he kept churning through CVs, which took a lot of his time and energy.

In my experience, there are Four Cs to hiring great people.

The first of those is **Character**. Why? Because poor character can seep into and destroy an entire business. We are known by the company we keep, so Tip #1 is to ensure you fill your team with people of good character.

“Competence is important, but your final decision should be based on the level of character you find after background checks,

interviews, and integrity testing.” (Rick Boxx’s words, not mine, although I fully agree.)

The second thing I look for when hiring staff is **Calling**. I want people in my team who *want* to be in my team. It’s as simple as that. If someone wants to be part of your business, they will do the mahi needed to serve your customers, treat the business as if it’s their own (in a good way!), and their enthusiasm will be infectious.

The way to check for calling in the hiring process is to be very clear on your mission for the business so prospective employees can identify with it. Aligning their passion and your mission is a winning combination.

Thirdly, **Competence** matters. Once you’ve determined their character and that they want to be part of the mission you are on, you absolutely want the most competent people on the journey. It is third on my list because I know you can teach skills, but you can’t teach the first two.

Running an organisation is about serving others, and you want the most competent people working with you to drive customer satisfaction.

Life is too short to spend with people who drain your energy, which is why **Chemistry** comes in as the fourth C. When hiring, ask yourself which of the candidates you’ve shortlisted, based on the first three Cs, you’d want to spend time with, who is like-minded and whether the rest of your team will likely enjoy them also.

Remember, business is about the Game of Profit. Building better businesses means you need great systems, processes, and teams to run them. There are people out there (in December, I hired a new general manager for a client and had more than 15 good applicants...), so make it your mission to use the Four Cs to find the best ones for your business.

You’ve got this!

■ Focus, accountability and mentoring are the keys to unlocking your future and building a better business. If you want to do things differently and 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

Strange claims as Therapeutic Products Bill progresses

Public submissions for the new Therapeutics Products Bill closed on March 5 and it's now going on to its second reading in Parliament.

The Bill replaces the outdated Medicines Act 1981 and Dietary Supplements Regulations 1985, and will control how therapeutic products are manufactured, prescribed, advertised, imported, and exported.

It's a comprehensive and significant piece of legislation as a "therapeutic product" is broadly defined as anything intended to have a beneficial health effect, including both medicines and natural health products (NHPs) – for example, supplements and herbal remedies.

The Bill is the result of years of consultation with key stakeholders, and formally recognises NHPs as therapeutic, and opens the way to make (substantiated) health benefit claims for them – a major advance for New Zealand's natural products industry, an industry that brings more than \$2.3 billion to the New Zealand economy every year.

Natural Health Products NZ, a national industry organisation representing more than 80 percent of New Zealand companies involved in natural products (dietary supplements, herbal medicines, nutraceuticals, cosmeceuticals, and complementary medicines), welcomes the Government's move to introduce a



DR STEVE HUMPHRIES

modern regulatory regime.

"The current regulatory system is badly broken and in urgent need of change" and "... we are calling on all parties to support this Bill's passage into law", says Samantha Gray, the government affairs director of Natural Health Products NZ.

As a couple running a small natural products company, Sandie and I at Hebe Botanicals support the Bill, and believe its principles and objectives are commendable. The Bill seeks to ensure that all therapeutic products are safe and effective, and that any health claims made are verifiable and accurate.

Unfortunately, you don't have to go far on the internet to find misinformation and disinformation about the Bill, much of it couched in the conspiratorial emotive rhetoric of government overreach and "fighting for our freedoms".

Websites that falsely link the Bill

"The current regulatory system is badly broken and in urgent need of change."

– Samantha Gray, government affairs director of Natural Health Products NZ

to the regulation and control of food, with claims that "... 'they' plan to further prevent access to many healthy foods. ... " and that "... the government wants to restrict your access to common foods. ... "

One website, providing a submission form to oppose the Bill (and getting more than 15,000 signatures) is headlined "Hands Off our Food, Herbs and Natural Remedies", complete with a photo of organic vegetables being sold at a market.

But the Therapeutics Product Bill is not for regulating food. The manufacture and sale of all food in New Zealand is regulated by the Food Act 2014. Any food you currently buy, including kitchen herbs and spices, will not be affected by the Therapeutics Products Bill. To link the Bill to the control of food is disinformation and fear-mongering.

A common argument on websites opposed to the Bill is that natural health products don't need to be regulated, and that the "draconian" Bill is government overreach.

In fact, all commercial activities are regulated, if for no other reason

than where there is money there is the potential for greed and unethical behaviour. Natural health products are no exception. Of course, individuals are free to grow their own herbs and make their own balms to their heart's content.

Currently, natural health products must comply with the Medicines Act 1981, Food Act 2014, Dietary Supplements Regulations 1985, Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996, Cosmetic Group Standard 2017, Fair Trading Act 1986, and the Consumer Guarantees Act 1993. So there is already a whole lot of regulation; the Therapeutic Products Bill simply seeks to supersede existing regulations with a more coherent, comprehensive, and up-to-date regulatory framework.

The main argument given not to regulate NHPs is that they are not harming anyone. But NHPs *can* harm people. They can be contaminated (e.g., lead, pesticides, or bacteria), they can be adulterated, they might contain the wrong dose, or they might be used inappropriately. And you can be harmed by an ineffective product falsely promoted as useful – it can prevent you finding an effective treatment, and it wastes your money.

Some form of regulation and control is needed for the safety and health of people.

The Bill introduces a more robust progressive penalties scheme,

prompting one website opposing the Bill to say that "New Zealanders need access to natural health practitioners. It is wrong to threaten them with civil and criminal penalties". In fact, if health practitioners, or companies, cause harm there does need to be commensurate penalties. Legislation requires effective sanctions to work.

If your natural health practitioner is concerned about penalties for unsafe or ineffective products falsely promoted, I would be looking for another practitioner.

Many of the websites opposing the Bill talk in terms of erosion of rights and taking away free choice to make your own health decisions.

The only choice or freedom the legislation would remove is the ability to buy unsafe or ineffective products. And the legislation will not "kill small businesses and prevent Kiwi startups". It will ensure safe, effective products get to market, and that is good for customers, and it is good for reputable businesses large or small.

Submissions to Parliament are an important part of a properly functioning democracy, but with the privilege of being able to have your say goes the responsibility of basing your submissions on accurate information.

■ 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

Pollution impairs brain function

A new study by researchers at the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria has shown that common levels of traffic pollution can impair human brain function in only a matter of hours.

The peer-reviewed findings, published in *Environmental Health*, show that just two hours of exposure to diesel exhaust causes a decrease in the brain's functional connectivity.

"For many decades, scientists thought the brain may be protected from the harmful effects of air pollution," said senior study author Dr Chris Carlsten. "This study ... provides fresh evidence supporting a connection between air pollution and cognition."

Notably, the changes in the brain were temporary and participants' connectivity returned to normal after exposure. Dr Carlsten said the effects could be long lasting where exposure was continuous. People should be mindful of the air they're breathing and take steps to minimise their exposure to potentially harmful air pollutants like car exhaust.

"People may want to think twice the next time they're stuck in traffic with the windows rolled down," he says. "It's important to ensure that your car's air filter is in good working order, and if you're walking or biking down a busy street, consider diverting to a less busy route."

– Sciencedaily.com

HELPLINES AND LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

It's OK to seek help. Never hesitate if you're worried about you or someone else.

If someone has attempted suicide or you're worried about their immediate safety:

- call your local mental health crisis assessment team 0800 745 477 or take them to the emergency department of your nearest hospital
- if they are in immediate physical danger to themselves or others, call 111
- stay with them until support arrives
- remove any obvious means of suicide they might use (eg ropes, pills, guns, car keys, knives)
- stay calm, take deep breaths
- let them know you care
- keep them talking – listen and ask questions without judging
- make sure you're safe.

For more information, talk to your local doctor, medical centre, hauora, community mental health team, school counsellor or counselling service. If you don't get the help you need, keep trying.

Services for support & information:

- Lifeline 0800 543 354
- Samaritans 0800 726 666 – confidential support if lonely or in emotional distress
- Depression Helpline 0800 111 757 or text 4202 – talk to a counsellor about how you're feeling or to ask questions
- Healthline 0800 611 116 – advice from trained registered nurses
- www.depression.org.nz
- Local counselling: Bill Logan, Te Horo Beach. 027 243 1098. bl.co.nz

For children and young people

- Youthline 0800 376 633, free text 234, email talk@youthline.co.nz or webchat at youthline.co.nz (webchat avail 7-11pm) – for young people, whānau and friends.
- What's Up 0800 942 8787 (0800 WHATSUP) or webchat at www.whatsup.co.nz from 5-10pm for ages 5-18.
- Kidsline 0800 543 754 (0800 KIDSLINE) – up to 18 years.



Antenno
Be informed. Get involved.

Receive community alerts
and notifications and report issues
quickly and easily through Antenno.



www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/antenno

Make the most of March to get crops planted

Clear starry nights, cool dewy mornings and that special golden hue in the evening sky are all signs that autumn is moving in.

The cooler mornings and nights slowly begin to cool the soil, which in turn slows soil life and eventually plant life.

Make the most of the warmer days to get autumn/winter crops planted. Though you can still plant during the colder months, it's the stuff you plant now that will keep the flow of good food coming into your kitchen.

- If you haven't sown carrots and parsnips, get them in. If they can be up and germinated in three weeks, you should get a crop to enjoy for winter. Leeks need to go in now as well.
- Plant a mixture of brassicas. Broccoli's the best bang for your buck – all the shoots that come after the main head is cut make it so.
- Plant loads of leafy greens – kale, perpetual spinach, parsley, chard, cavalo nero, mizuna. So healthy and easy! They'll plug the gaps in the brassica harvest.
- Get peas and beetroot going in plug trays. That way they get a head start on the slugs. Fresh peas are the best! I jam them in on every vertical surface!
- Get garlic growing strongly now to avoid rust in spring.



EDIBLE GARDEN

• And don't forget companion flowers – calendula, cosmos, cornflower, bishops flower, honesty and poppy to keep the nectar flowing.

Finding space to sow and plant winter crops takes lateral thinking when all the beds are full. With a bit of creativity you'll be amazed at what you can fit in. Plant the new among the nearly finished, or at the very least right after harvest.

My favourite way to get brassicas going is among existing greencrops. Make pockets at 30-40cm spacings, a spade of compost per pocket and plant seedlings out. They perform so well in this team environment, protected from the elements. As the new crop grows, make way for it by breaking off excess greencrop and laying it down as mulch around the young seedlings.

Prune older crops back as much as you can get away with to let enough

light in, and create usable space. Underneath or around finishing crops like tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes and squash is really useful for leafy greens, flowers and direct sowing root crops, rocket and coriander.

In the greenhouse

Every autumn I sow a cleansing mustard greencrop in the greenhouse beneath the still growing tomatoes and peppers. The potential for problems when growing under plastic is high, so even if the season has been trouble-free I still clean up with mustard. This combined with crop rotation, weekly biological feeds and a fresh layer of compost after the chickens leave late in winter will keep the soil hearty and well.

As things start to cool off, be mindful of not overwatering – cooler days means there's less evaporation. Water in the morning so soil dries by nightfall to prevent fungal disease. Milk and molasses poured on foliage and soil will slow any fungal problems if caught early enough. Dilute milk 1:10 into your watering can and add a tablespoon of molasses (dissolved beforehand in a bit of hot water). Keep up with pruning for airflow.

■ *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.*



Carrots and calendulas make great planting companions.

RATE INSTALMENT THREE - 2022/23

Reminder of due date – 9 March 2023

Kāpiti Coast District ratepayers are reminded that rate instalment three is due on 9 March 2023. Any portion of the current instalment unpaid after 9 March 2023 will incur a 10% penalty, which will be shown on your next rate invoice.

Direct Debit payments

Can be arranged on a weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly basis. To minimise the risk of future penalties, we recommend payment of rate instalments by direct debit. Forms are available at the front Counters at the Civic Building Paraparaumu, the Waikanae Service Centre, the Ōtaki Service Centre and at www.kapiticoast.govt.nz.

Rate Payment at Council Agencies

You can also make rate payments at a New Zealand Post agency or any branch of the Westpac Bank. Simply present the bar coded rate invoice with your payment.

Credit Card Payment

This service is provided by our bank, Westpac New Zealand Limited, through www.kapiticoast.govt.nz. You don't have to be a Westpac customer to use this service. The current convenience fee is displayed on the credit card payment screen before any payment information is requested.

Rates Rebates 2022/23

If you had a low income as at 31 March 2022 you might qualify for a rates rebate for the 2022/23 rates under a scheme run by the Department of Internal Affairs. Get your application form from a Council service centre or www.kapiticoast.govt.nz. Applications close 30 June 2023.

Darren Edwards
Chief Executive

HĪTŌRIA/History

Carnivals, concerts and a circus

Growing up in the 1950s

My request a few months ago for memories of teenage life in the 1950s was rewarded with a variety of interesting stories from several Ōtaki-ites, one of whom was Heather Watson.

It won't be news to anyone who knows Heather that she has a wonderful memory and a colourful way of telling them. I used some of her information in last month's article, but I don't want to deprive you of the rest of her material, which was more about Ōtaki life when she was young.

So this month I am devoting my page largely to the rest of Heather's memories, supplemented by those from a few others. I hope you enjoy reading Heather's rich descriptions of her life as a kid in 1950s Ōtaki.

After school and all her jobs done, and after going through the day's spelling lesson with her mum, Heather was out on Kirk Street, where she lived (and still lives), playing ball with the other kids in the neighbourhood and practising her roller skating. She had a pair of

roller skates with wheels like concrete, of which she was very proud.

The grass verges were very wide in those days, the roads hardly wide enough for two cars to pass. That was fine because not many people had cars, so playing on the street wasn't dangerous.

All the kids had jobs to do after school and usually they didn't get pocket money. Their free time was precious, so their recreational activities needed to be cheap and easy to get to.

Heather loved Sundays. Off she would go with her neighbours to the Methodist Church in Aotaki Street, then on to Sunday school, which Heather thought was "real cool" because she got to dress up, and at Sunday school they told stories using a felt board with stick-on figures for illustration.

She remembered Reverend Grice and

Reverend Burton in particular. At Christmas the church organised carol singing on the back of a truck.

"There were no sides to the truck. We sat on hay bales with the piano thumping away as we wove our way around the town."

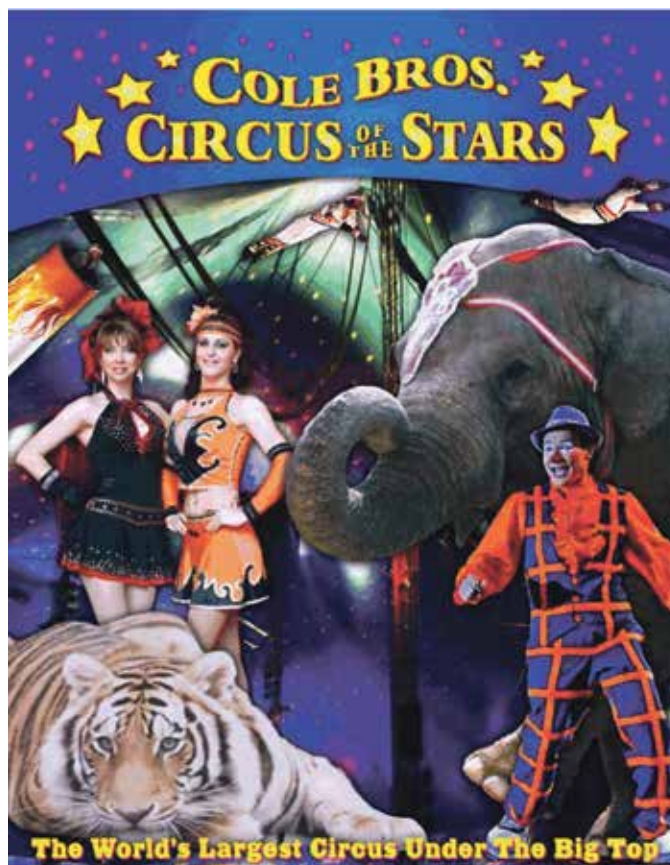
On Christmas Eve she would attend the midnight service at Rangiatea Church after she had been to the double-feature film at the Civic Theatre.

In the school holidays much of



DI BUCHAN

Otaki Museum



The arrival of the touring American circus, Cole Bros, at Ōtaki always generated plenty of excitement for local children. As the poster shows, it was advertised in the United States as "the largest circus under the big top".

the time was spent swimming at the river. All the kids in Ōtaki had their favourite swimming hole and there was not a parent in sight.

Most weekends families went to the beach to collect wood for their fires. That was considered a day out.

Heather recalls that there was always something going on at the Domain – marching girl competitions, school sports days, football matches, the harrier club and Scout meetings etc.

But nothing at the Domain compared with the Ōtaki and Districts Horse Sports and Axeman's Carnival at Hautere each Easter. The carnival was on land originally owned by Taylor Brothers. The Mansells bought the property later, but continued hosting the carnival for another 10 years.

Barry Mansell described the carnival as a huge community event. Everyone got involved. There was no TV and with limited transport, people looked for their entertainment locally – so different from life today.

Heather remembers there being horse jumping, axe chopping, highland dancing, tossing the hay bale, 3-legged races, apple bobbing, raffles, and a big copper filled with hot water for the cups of tea. She particularly remembers being interested in the portable loos, which she described as being "scrim walls with rows of long drops – some for adults and some for kids. We all sat there with our knickers around our ankles, looking up at the sky, trying not to stare at each other".

A highlight for all the kids that happened every few years was the arrival of Cole Bros circus. Don Ludlam remembers that the animals arrived by train. The tents and merry-go-rounds and other fun-of-the-fair activities were set up on an empty section opposite where the Ōtaki Medical Centre is now in Raukawa Street.

Don remembers there were two adult elephants and sometimes a baby elephant, as well as ponies that did tricks, and tigers, too.

Heather's family couldn't afford the tickets to the circus but they could still go and look at the animals in their cages. She longed to go for a ride on a merry-go-round.

One evening, on their way home from pulling in their fishing net at the beach, the family went

One evening, on their way home from pulling in their fishing net at the beach, the family went to look at the circus performers getting ready for the next show. Heather stood looking with longing at the merry-go-round and someone came up to her father and offered to pay for her to have a ride. If that person is still alive, they should know that the magical experience they gave that little girl that night has stayed lodged in her memory to this day.

to look at the circus performers getting ready for the next show. Heather stood looking with longing at the merry-go-round and someone came up to her father and offered to pay for her to have a ride. If that person is still alive, they should know that the magical experience they gave that little girl that night has stayed lodged in her memory to this day.

Another magical experience that both Heather and Don remember clearly was the Māori concerts that were held each year in the Civic Theatre. The performers had wonderful voices and dances that enchanted the town.

"Some of those older Māori ladies could really sing," Don says.

But the voice he remembered most clearly was that of Bobby Hakaraia, who was one of the stars of the show. Don recalls that Bobby worked at the Rāhui Milk Station, and when Don, who lived near the factory in Rāhui Road, was walking home he would hear Bobby singing.

"He had a wonderful voice, just like an opera singer, and the milk station had great acoustics." What a wonderful memory for a child to carry through life – and it was free!

My thanks to Heather Watson, Don Ludlam and Barry Mansell for their contributions.

■ Sadly, this is the last of Di's regular historical contributions. Her columns have been appreciated by Ōtaki Today and our readers. We wish her all the best for her new endeavours.

ŌTAKI YESTERDAY

ISSUE 3 | December 2022

Memories of 1930s Ōtaki

Patricia van der Velden p30

For the 2022 issue of Ōtaki Yesterday, contact Debbi: 027 285 4720 or debbi@idmedia.co.nz \$25/copy

ALSO AVAILABLE AT:
 RiverStone Café, Books & Co,
 Māoriland Hub and Ōtaki Museum

OLD SCHOOL PHOTOS: ŌTAKI CONVENT SCHOOL 1948-49

Compiled by Debbi Carson



LAST ISSUE’S PHOTO: ŌTAKI SCHOOL 1949 (5-6 year olds).
Row 5 (back): Rodney Radcliffe, Robert Henderson, John Dinnison, Kupa Logan, Frank or Jack Rikihana?, Robert Kyle or John Rekon?, Paul Smith, Craig Taylor, Barry Booth, Clive Kendrick.
Row 4: unknown, unknown, Graeme Moss, Peter Climie, Frank Wilton, Michael Raika, Peter Horsborough?, Peter Whiteman, David Yung Dong, Lindsay Edwards, Raka (Dubby) Wehipeihana, Murray Moy.
Row 3: unknown, unknown, Judy Bird, Pauline Hull, Yvonne Jarman, Helen Hunt, Rangi Ropata, Rita McGregor, Joy Logan, Faye Taylor, Barbara Harris, Joy Jensen, Louise Ryder, Elaine Boswell?, Susanne (Susie) Bevan.
Row 2: Rita Jepson, Barbara McKenzie, Maureen McDonald, Barbara Raika?, Rosalie Wall?, Ruvee Blanche, unknown, Pauline Jensen, Wendy Kyle, Sylvia Fulford, Beryl Robinson, Sally Kirk, unknown, Ri Tahiwi, Gayle Pickering?
Front row: George Neate, unknown, David Bennet, Robin Neate, Mihaka Hawea, Bob Symonds, Raymond Moy, unknown.
Miss Lahore was the teacher, (not pictured) and the photo was taken in front of the large macrocarpa trees at the Waerenga Road end of the school playground. Surely, this was two classes - what woman would be able to manage 60x students!
Thanks to Beryl Bevan (nee Robinson), Heather Watson and Yvonne Jarman for supplying names.



ŌTAKI CONVENT SCHOOL 1948-49:
Back row: Kevin Larsen, Tommy Pickett, Kevin Housiaux, David Raika, Mikey Winterburn, Sibi Morehu, Ernie Gray, Joey Te Wiata. Middle row: Francey Nicholls, Keith Gray, Matilda and Kay Henry, Ann Hudson, Ruve Blanche, Peter Larsen, John Nicholls. Front: Kathleen Garrett, Mary MacLeod, Janet Mortiboy, Eileen McCormick, Marina B, Alice and Paddy Enoke, Theresa Larsen, Mary Nicholls, Patsy Te Wiata. *Photo and names: Adelaide Nicholls Phillips.*
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 as you can. Contact debbi@idmedia.co.nz especially if you have additions or corrections to captions.

Shorter work week for staff well-being

By Daniel White, Ngā Taonga

In February, Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision, New Zealand’s audiovisual archive, permanently moved to an innovative, highly flexible way of working to improve staff well-being and foster an inclusive and whānau-friendly workplace.

It’s part of a wider trend toward shorter work weeks that organisations around the world have been experimenting with in the past few years, with positive results for employers and staff.

The Archive’s new working model has three key elements: a reduced working week for all staff of 32.5 hours with no reduction in pay, more flexible working arrangements, and more working from home options.

Ngā Taonga had been trialling new ways of working since June 2022 after an employee-centred design process that prioritised collaboration, trust and collective mahi.

“This new way of working embodies our values as an organisation to help improve well-being and cultivate a sense of belonging,” says Ngā Taonga chief executive Honiana Love. “Key considerations were the well-being of staff, a commitment to being an inclusive organisation, and the integration of Te Whare Tapa Whā model of health.

“Staff surveys from the six-month trial have already shown us that the reduced work week has improved health and well-being.”

Drawing on data across four staff surveys conducted during the trial, feedback showed strong improvements in all four wellness dimensions under Te Whare Tapa Whā: physical health (taha tinana), spiritual health (taha wairua), family health (taha whānau), and mental health (taha hinengaro).

On average, Ngā Taonga had a 30 percent increase in key areas of staff well-being.



“Improving well-being was a key driver,” says Ngā Taonga manager people practice Nell Fitzjohn. “It was also very important to us to identify and create working patterns that are more accessible for people with a range of cultural commitments, neurodivergences, and whānau obligations.”

Another focus during the trial period was on boosting the professional capability of staff. Business skills workshops were made available, with staff spending a combined total of 560 hours on professional development activities.

Overall, Ngā Taonga staff reported that, by applying those new skills, they were able to meet and sustain their normal workloads and business requirements during the reduced hours.

“It was encouraging to see the broad and positive impacts achieved over the course of the trial,” Honiana says. “I was also pleased to hear about the positive ways that our staff reported using their extra time, such as spending more time with whānau, doing charitable work and participating in and supporting cultural and arts activities.”

■ Ngā Taonga has a huge number of recordings that capture New Zealand life. They can be explored online at ngataonga.org.nz. Get the Ngā Taonga newsletter using the Sign Up button at the top of the page.



Ngā Taonga chief executive Honiana Love.

Order Ōtaki Yesterday 2022
The 2022 issue of *Ōtaki Yesterday* features an Ōtaki resident who recalls life here in the 1930s. Read also about Rikiville, and the old house on the highway, Kaingaraki. These stories, and more, are in *Ōtaki Yesterday*. To order, email debbi@idmedia.co.nz

Kāpiti Coast Art Trail

Te Ara Toi o te Takutai Kāpiti

4/5 + 11/12 November

Apply today!

Find out more and apply KapitiCoastArtTrail.co.nz

Artist applications are now open!

If you are a Kāpiti Coast artist working in a visual medium you are warmly invited to apply to be part of the Kāpiti Coast Art Trail 2023.

Applications close Friday 31 March

KāpitiCoastNZ

Kāpiti Coast DISTRICT COUNCIL

TAMARIKI FUN

Drop your coloured picture into Ōtaki Today's box at Riverstone Café by March 27 to win a \$20 book voucher or an *Animals in Vehicles* book.

OT KIDS' NEWS

MEET THE WORLD'S OLDEST MOUSE!

A mouse living at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park has been recognised by the Guinness World Records as the world's oldest. Pat, a Pacific pocket mouse on the endangered species list, was born at the park nine years and 241 days ago (as of March 13) and is part of a breeding programme that has introduced mice back into the wild.

"There may be older mice, but they don't have birth certificates, so what we needed was documentation," said Guinness World Records adjudicator Michael Empric.

Pat is not on public display. He is named after actor Patrick Stewart, best known for playing Captain Jean-Luc Picard on *Star Trek*. He's not the only mouse with a celebrity name, as his mother was named Betty White. While the recognition is a novelty, it helps bring attention to the endangered Pacific pocket mouse and a conservation programme that is repopulating the species in Southern California.



AWARUA WIN TE MATATINI 2023

The 50th anniversary of Te Matatini Herenga Waka Herenga Tangata was held between February 22-25 this year in Auckland. Te Kapa Haka o Te Whānau a Apanui were the overall winners. Head judge Paraone Gloyne said it was a tight race, but Apanui had a distinctive style that shone through.

"Apanui have what we call a wairua Māori, a Māoriness about them in their performance, and they've got a style. That is one thing a lot of groups grapple with, establishing a style or identity, because you're looking at things that are going to define you and going to give you a point of difference," Paraone said."

Te Matatini is one of the most highly anticipated bi-annual cultural events on our calendar. This year, 45 teams, including a team travelling from Australia, showed the results of thousands of hours of gruelling training in 30-minute performances.

Kapa haka celebrates the traditions and stories of hapū, iwi and waka, and is also a platform to raise awareness of the issues that directly affect Māori.

FLYING CARS COMING SOON?

If electric car manufacturer Xpeng AeroHT has its way, we might soon have flying cars. The Chinese car company recently unveiled two flying vehicle models and conducted a successful test flight in Dubai. The unmanned two-seater X2 is fitted with an electric engine and produces no carbon emissions. It is programmed to fly by itself and can go up to 129km/h. X2's eight propellers – two at each corner of the vehicle – allow for vertical take-off and landing. A second flying car prototype, the Xpeng X3, is essentially a sports car with wings. It drives like a regular car in ground mode. When the driver needs to fly, all they have to do is shift to flight mode and it takes off vertically.



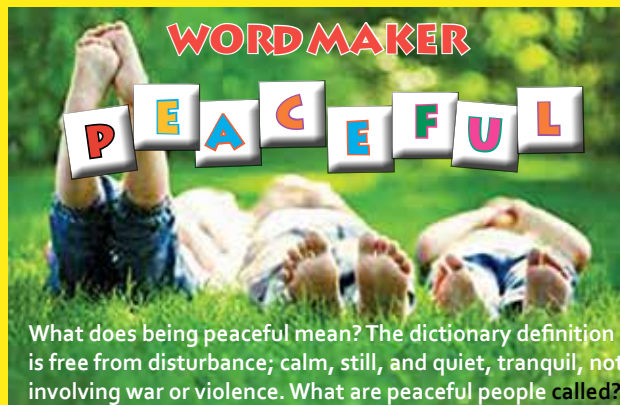
COLOURING COMPETITION



NAME:

AGE:

PHONE:



What does being peaceful mean? The dictionary definition is free from disturbance; calm, still, and quiet, tranquil, not involving war or violence. What are peaceful people called?

Did you know the number of words that can be made out of the word LEARNER is

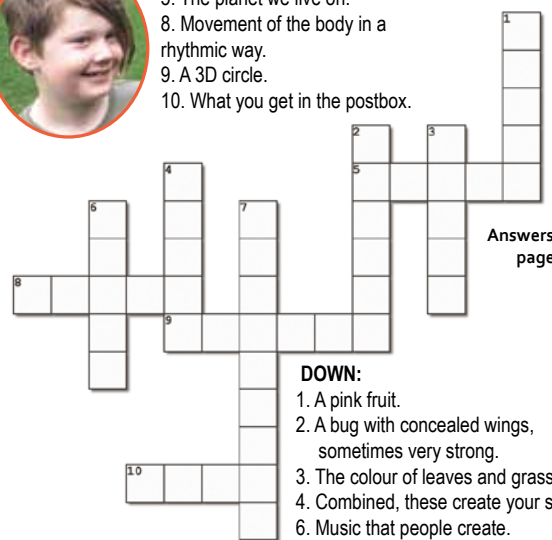
They are Pacifists, who are opposed to violence as a means of settling disputes.
How many words can you make from the word PEACEFUL? Answers are on page 26.
Good luck, and have fun.

KYUSS'S MARCH CROSSWORD



ACROSS:

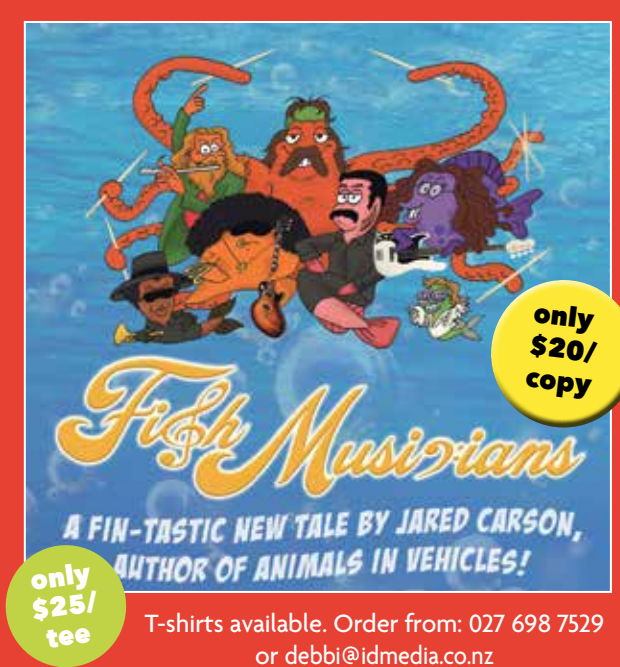
- The planet we live on.
- Movement of the body in a rhythmic way.
- A 3D circle.
- What you get in the postbox.



Answers on page 26

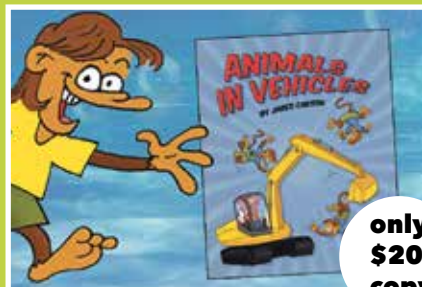
DOWN:

- A pink fruit.
- A bug with concealed wings, sometimes very strong.
- The colour of leaves and grass.
- Combined, these create your skeleton.
- Music that people create.
- A glass sphere that produces light.



only \$25/tee

T-shirts available. Order from: 027 698 7529 or debbi@idmedia.co.nz



Do you have a digger-loving kid?

only \$20/copy

Then *Animals in Vehicles* is the perfect gift.

T-shirts available.

Order from: 027 698 7529

or

debby@idmedia.co.nz



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
GENEALOGY SOCIETY Len Nicholls 364 7638
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@cpnz.org.nz
ŌTAKI & DISTRICT SENIOR CITIZENS Vaevae 027 447 7864
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
ŌTAKI PROMOTIONS GROUP Cam Butler 021 703095
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
RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE Jamie 027 444 9995/Drew 021 288 7021
ROTARY CLUB OF ŌTAKI Michael Fagg 021 294 3039
ROTARY HALL HIRE Pete Heald 027 536 5616
TIMEBANK Suzanne Fahey 021 1275 074
TOASTMASTERS OF WAIKANAE 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 364 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 Sturmey 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, 06 364-7386. The AED might not be available at certain times.
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

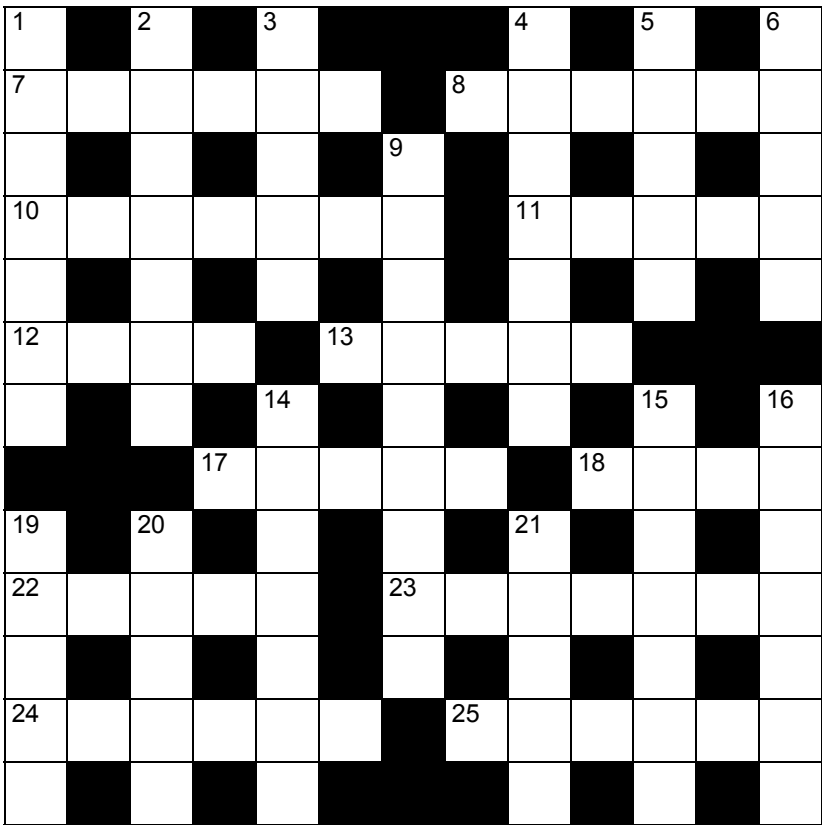
Our quality journalism attracts more readers.
Your advertising attracts more business.

The smarter ad spend.

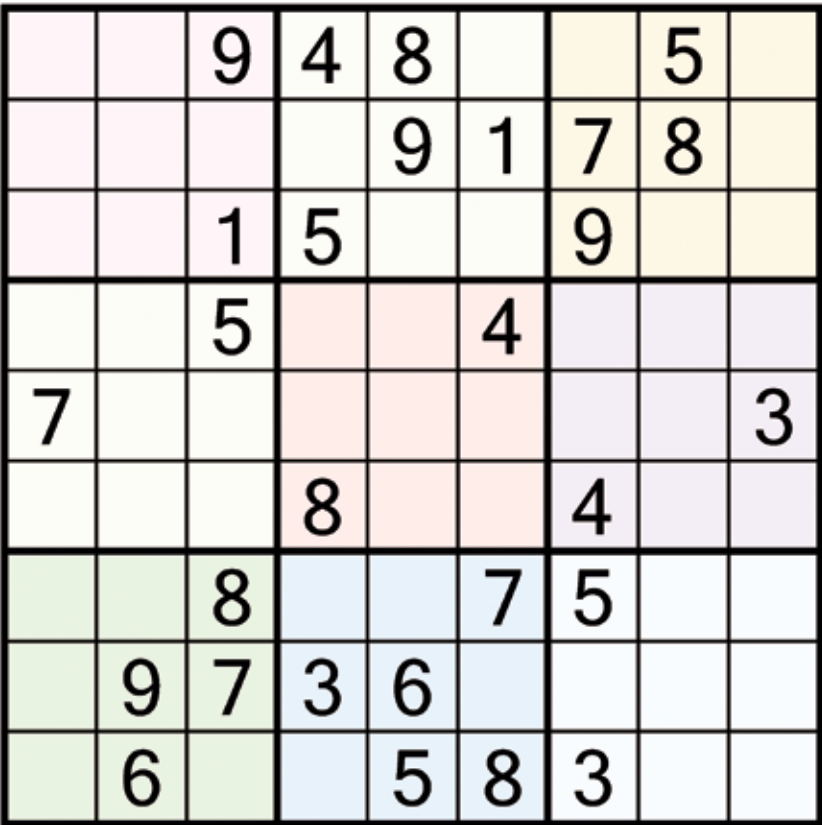
Go to: otakitoday.com/Advertise

ŌTAKI TODAY

THE CROSSWORD #1786D



SUDOKU PUZZLES thepuzzlecompany.co.nz
HARD #39H 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 below.



ACROSS

7. Soldiers (6)
8. Product New Zealand has exported since the 1850s (6)
10. Ear (Maori) (7)
11. Superlative of bad (5)
12. Māori term for a sinkhole (4)
13. Contempt (5)
17. Terrible (5)
18. Run away (4)
22. Jandal, if you're an Aussie (5)
23. Work enthusiastically (colloq) (3,4)
24. Biscuit, often topped with chocolate icing and a half walnut (6)
25. Harmony (6)

DOWN

1. Law (7)
2. One of the bids in the card game 500 (2-5)
3. Tip over (5)
4. Exterior (7)
5. Rear of a ship (5)
6. Penned (5)
9. Place of safety (9)
14. Self-inflicted setback (3,4)
15. Ailment (7)
16. Echo (7)
19. Predator introduced in 1884 to control rabbits (5)
20. Cyathea dealbata, or the silver tree-fern (5)
21. Backbone (5)

PEACEFUL WORD MAKER ANSWERS from page 24:
7 letters: 1. feculae. **6 letters:** 2. capful 3. faceup 4. fecula
5. culpa. 5 letters: 6. fecal 7. clepe 8. culpa 9. cupel
10. peace 11. place 12. place. 4 letters: 13. cafe 14. calf
15. clef 16. face 17. flap 18. pelf 19. cape 20. cepe 21. clap 22. pace 23. puce 24. alef 25. feal 26. feel 27. flea 28. flee 29. flue 30. fuel 31. leaf 32. alec 33. caul 34. clue 35. lace 36. leap 37. luce 38. pale 39. peal 40. peel 41. pele 42. plea 43. pula 44. pule 45. alee. 3 letters:
46. caf 47. cap 48. cep 49. cup 50. pac 51. pec 52. elf
53. fee 54. feu 55. flu 56. ace 57. alp 58. ape 59. cee 60. cel
61. cue 62. ecu 63. lac 64. lap 65. pal 66. pea 67. pee
68. pul 69. ale 70. eau 71. eel 72. lea 73. lee 74. leu.
2 letters: 75. ef 76. fa 77. fe 78. pa 79. pe 80. up 81. ae 82. al 83. el 84. la.

KYUSS'S MARCH CROSSWORD ANSWERS from page 24.

- Across:**
5. Earth
8. Dance
9. Sphere
10. Mail.
- Down:**
1. Peach
2. Beetle
3. Green
4. Bones
6. Songs
7. Lightbulb



SUDOKU SOLUTION EASY #40E



MĀORILAND QUIZ

Answers below.

1. What year was the Māoriland Film Festival (MFF) founded?
2. What is Toi Matarau?
3. Why was MFF formed?
4. Where is the Māoriland Hub?
5. What department store was previously on the site of the Māoriland Hub?
6. What year did the Māoriland Filmmakers' residence open?
7. Who was the first artist in residence?
8. MFF is the largest presenter of indigenous screen content in the world. True or false?
9. What is the name of New Zealand's first authentic monster movie produced by Māoriland Productions?
10. Who has led the successful growth of the MFF over the past 10 years, and in 2022 was awarded an MNZM for her services to media and film in the Queen's Platinum Birthday honours?

8. True. 9. Taniwha. 10. Libby Hakarala.
4. Main Street, Ōtaki. 5. Edhouse's. 6. 2022. 7. Leah Purcell.
3. To celebrate indigenous voices and storytelling in film.
1. 2014. 2. Māoriland's contemporary Māori art gallery.

MĀORILAND ANSWERS



Ōtaki River entrance tides

March 8 – April 14

<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 8 MAR	-	05:00	11:06	17:20	23:24
THU 9 MAR	-	05:30	11:36	17:52	23:54
FRI 10 MAR	-	06:01	12:07	18:24	-
SAT 11 MAR	00:25	06:34	12:39	18:58	-
SUN 12 MAR	00:59	07:09	13:15	19:36	-
MON 13 MAR	01:36	07:50	13:56	20:18	-
TUE 14 MAR	02:21	08:39	14:48	21:10	-
WED 15 MAR	03:18	09:43	15:53	22:15	-
THU 16 MAR	04:34	11:03	17:13	23:35	-
FRI 17 MAR	06:02	12:28	18:39	-	-
SAT 18 MAR	-	00:59	07:22	13:43	19:55
SUN 19 MAR	-	02:09	08:26	14:43	20:56
MON 20 MAR	-	03:06	09:18	15:34	21:47
TUE 21 MAR	-	03:54	10:04	16:21	22:32
WED 22 MAR	-	04:39	10:48	17:05	23:15
THU 23 MAR	-	05:22	11:30	17:47	23:56
FRI 24 MAR	-	06:03	12:10	18:27	-
SAT 25 MAR	00:35	06:44	12:50	19:07	-
SUN 26 MAR	01:14	07:25	13:30	19:47	-
MON 27 MAR	01:54	08:09	14:13	20:29	-
TUE 28 MAR	02:39	08:59	15:02	21:18	-
WED 29 MAR	03:35	10:00	16:03	22:20	-
THU 30 MAR	04:48	11:15	17:19	23:40	-
FRI 31 MAR	06:13	12:34	18:39	-	-
SAT 1 APR	-	01:01	07:23	13:37	19:45
SUN 2 APR	-	02:01	07:14	13:26	19:34
MON 3 APR	-	01:46	07:54	14:05	20:14
TUE 4 APR	-	02:23	08:29	14:41	20:49
WED 5 APR	-	02:56	09:01	15:15	21:21
THU 6 APR	-	03:28	09:33	15:47	21:53
FRI 7 APR	-	04:01	10:04	16:21	22:25
SAT 8 APR	-	04:34	10:38	16:56	22:59
SUN 9 APR	-	05:10	11:14	17:33	23:36
MON 10 APR	-	05:50	11:54	18:15	-
TUE 11 APR	00:18	06:36	12:42	19:01	-
WED 12 APR	01:08	07:32	13:39	19:57	-
THU 13 APR	02:11	08:40	14:50	21:06	-
FRI 14 APR	03:29	09:58	16:10	22:26	-

CLASSIFIEDS

ANTI ANTS

UNWANTED ANTS ARE OUR SPECIALTY!

Our treatments are guaranteed odourless and stain free. We also have solutions to control wasps, flies, spiders, cockroaches, mosquitoes, silverfish, moths, plus rats and mice

PROTEKT PEST CONTROL

phone PAUL 06 364 5759 or 027 448 3910
or Wellington 04 472 9948

WALKERS WANTED!

- Reliable distributors wanted for part-time work delivering catalogues/newspapers into household letterboxes
- No experience necessary - really!
- We would prefer if you had a smartphone
- Materials to be distributed are delivered right to your door
- Regular work - twice weekly

EARN EXTRA CASH, GET YOUR DAILY EXERCISE & EXPLORE THE NEIGHBOURHOOD!

APPLY NOW! Please visit: reach.nz/walker-signup or contact 0800 REACH US (0800 73224 87)

“The trees are about to show us how beautiful it is to let go.”

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control; against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

Ngā Tūmanako exhibition at Toi Matarau Gallery

The Ngā Tūmanako exhibition opens at Māoriland's Toi Matarau Gallery on March 15, coinciding with the first day of the Māoriland Film Festival 2023.

Ngā Tūmanako is a dynamic correlation of traditional and contemporary toi by senior artists of the ART Confederation (Te Āti Awa, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Ngāti Raukawa), iwi of Aotearoa, Te Moana Nui ā Kiwa, and whenua taketake.

The exhibition includes:

Whakairo – Te Matatoki carver's residency unite kaiwhakairo of Aotearoa to showcase their carving art. These masters of the chisel are forever hewn into the story of Māoriland, and the fashioning of the Toi Matarau Gallery.

Raranga – Honouring Te Wharepora and kairaranga with live demonstrations and exhibits. Exquisite taonga, sculpted and finely woven works, reveal the expertise and excellence of this region's best weavers.



The art of weaving is on show at the Toi Matarau Gallery. Photo supplied

Toi Moko – Toi Moko returns to Māoriland, with Hine Waitai-Dye (Ngāti Kuri, Te Rarawa, Tainui), Vianney Parata (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Toarangatira, Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai) and others celebrating a new generation of dedicated wāhine Māori tattoo practitioners.

The exhibition is on until May 20.

Endres in Mulled Wine concert

Highly regarded German pianist Michael Endres is giving a Mulled Wine Concert recital in Paekākāriki's seafront Memorial Hall at 2.30pm on Sunday, April 2.

International critics have described Endres (at right) as "one of the most interesting pianists recording today".

He has appeared at major festivals and concert-halls all over the world. A prominent academic musician, Endres had a distinguished teaching career in Germany, Norway and New Zealand, before concentrating on performance and recording.

His programme will include Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*, a selection from Schubert's *Impromptus* (Op.142), Chopin's *Barcarolle* and music from the great American composer George Gershwin.

The programme has a unifying element: *Impromptu* and *Sonata quasi una Fantasia* are connected ideas: both "Impromptu" and Beethoven's new title of a *Sonata quasi una Fantasia* (a sonata like a fantasy) are focused on the surprising, improvisatory element. Chopin fits well into this as he never played any piece twice in the same way (an idea that has been slightly lost in today's more homogenous and standardised interpretations).

Mulled Wine Concerts organiser Mary Gow says she is excited to be presenting a series of new concerts in Kāpiti this year.

"As before, our objective is to present the best music while keeping admission prices at



an affordable level," she says. "The Memorial Hall on The Parade in Paekākāriki has excellent acoustics, easy parking and a wonderful outlook. What a pleasure it will be to hear exquisite music in such a pleasant setting."

The Mulled Wine Concert series is now in its 15th year.

■ Michael Endres, piano recital, Memorial Hall, 96 The Parade, Paekākāriki. 2.30pm Sunday, April 2. Tickets: Adults \$35, students (under 16) \$15. Online sales: marygow@gmail.com Info: 021 101 9609 See mulledwineconcerts.com and look for Mulled Wine Concerts on Facebook

Specialists in remedial and decorative concrete

specialist roofing · safety surfaces · epoxy works · joint repairs and sealant
pressure grouting · floor toppings & preparation · remedial concrete
waterstopping · tanking · FRP application



10 Rimu Street, Otaki 5512
New Zealand
Ph +64 (06)3648634

Email: contact@concretedoctor.co.nz
Website: www.concretedoctor.co.nz

Creative Communities Scheme – applications now open

Kāpiti Coast District Council has funding available through its Creative Communities Scheme to assist artists and community organisations establish and implement local art initiatives. The Scheme has \$25,000 available for this funding round.

Applications close at 6pm, Tuesday 28 March

Projects or initiatives with the following elements may qualify for funding:

- creative projects/initiatives for our local community
- diverse arts and cultural traditions initiatives of our local community
- projects/initiatives encouraging tamariki to participate in the arts.

More information about the Creative Communities Scheme, eligibility criteria and application forms are available at kapiticoast.govt.nz/CreativeCommunities or by contacting the team at creativecs@kapiticoast.govt.nz



ŌTAKI TODAY AT STANDS THROUGHOUT DISTRICT

RiverStone Café

New World Ōtaki

Ōtaki Library

Café SixtySix

Ōtaki Beach dairy

Manakau Market

The Sponge Kitchen, Levin

Olive Grove Café, Waikanae

Melt & Co, Paraparaumu Beach

Also online at otakitoday.com

HOBSON MILLS LAW

INCORPORATING SUSIE MILLS LAW

ŌTAKI

282 Mill Road

06 364 7190

WAIKANAЕ

5 Aputa Place

04 293 3735

hobsonmills.com • office@hobsonmills.com

Free lessons for college swimmers

Expert instructors have provided free lessons for 150 students at Ōtaki College courtesy of the Kāpiti Trust and Ōtaki Surf Life Saving Club.

The year 7 and 8 students received intensive, small-group swimming lessons at the college pool from the instructors, who were from Kāpiti Coast District Council's aquatics team.

They taught the students basic swimming skills in groups over a two-week period, according to ability.

Lessons were funded by the Kāpiti Trust, which is administered by the Ōtaki Surf Life Saving Club.

"It was awesome to see so many students in the pool enjoying the course," says college director of sport Kirsty Doyle. "The Kāpiti aquatic instructors were impressed with how enthusiastic and engaged the students were learning this essential life skill."

Meantime, school sport is back in full swing with the school athletics competition being held on Thursday, March 2. The swimming sports day was scheduled for Thursday (March 9).

It's been a busy term so far, with 75 year 7 and 8 students attending the Kāpiti Super Schools event in Waikanae; senior teams attending tennis and canoe polo tournaments; and several students playing in weekly futsal and volleyball leagues.

Netball trials are well under way with a big number of students keen to play. Sign-ups for players to participate in college basketball, rugby and football are also open.



INSTRUCTION: Kāpiti Coast District Council swim instructors working with year 7 and 8 students at the Ōtaki College pool.

Photo supplied



Juniors shine in tennis comp

It was an historic night for junior tennis in Ōtaki when on February 26 the Ōtaki Sports Club began its first junior club championships this century.

The boys' singles and the girl's singles are now through to the semi-finals following preliminary round-robin evenings on February 26 and March 4.

Boys semi-finalists are Sam Leason, David Leason, Xavier Nikora and Francisco McKenzie. Girls semi-finalists are Pearl Glanville Hall, Daya Bramley, Elsie O'Sullivan and Rona Arahanga Ruri.

Jess Wilkinson came very close to progressing and Charlie Henderson, Max Beauchamp, Isabella McKenzie, Stanley Butler, Milly Stuart and Angus Mecoy played well during a competitive and enjoyable event, the club said.

The singles semi-finals will be held later this month, and innovatively the winner of the boys' event will then meet the winner of the girls' events in a grand final.

The doubles preliminary round-robins are currently under way.

LEFT: Ōtaki junior tennis players, from left, Milly Stuart, Francisco McKenzie, Isabella McKenzie, Stanley Butler, David Leason, Angus Mecoy, Pearl Glanville Hall, Rona Arahanga Ruri.

Photo supplied



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



I.C. MARK LTD

WE OFFER:

- Personalised friendly service
 - Expert advice
 - Honesty and commitment
 - Competitive pricing
- Extensive knowledge in the industry
 - Professional Service
 - Free quotes

0800 426275 ~ (06) 368-8108

545 - 547 Queen Street East, Levin
The Avenue Crematorium, Levin

We are currently between premises in Ōtaki but we are happy to visit you at your home to discuss any funeral or memorial services.