

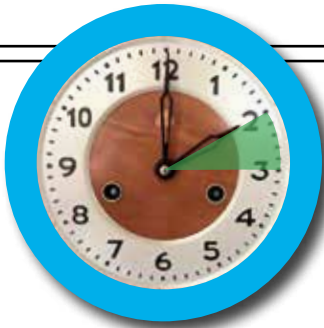
# ŌTAKI TODAY

otakitoday.com

HEPETEMA/SEPTEMBER 2024

*Ngā Kōrero o Ōtaki*

Put your clocks forward by an hour before 2am on Sunday September 29 because that's when Daylight Time begins. We're back to Standard Time on Sunday, April 7 next year.



**Clocks go forward Sept 29**



**Terama's charity ride p6**

SUPPLEMENT INSIDE

**ŌTAKI  
STREET SCENE**

## Dumping threat to estuary

By Ian Carson

**Continued dumping of rubbish along Ōtaki's waterways and estuaries is threatening the biodiversity of the area's fragile ecosystem, just as whitebait season starts.**

The rubbish includes industrial waste, concrete and construction rubble, tyres, clothing and green waste – grass clippings among them.

In Ōtaki, Greater Wellington has issued formal warning letters to individuals suspected of dumping rubbish in the KNE, for which fines of up to \$20,000 can be imposed. Two warning letters have been issued in Ōtaki so far in 2024.

A commercial lawn-mowing operator allegedly dumping green waste was also charged with assault by police earlier this year after he was confronted by a member of the public.

The Ōtaki River estuary is a particular target due to its accessibility. Officially it is the Ōtaki Coast Key Native Ecosystem (KNE), a dynamic and rare grouping of coastal and wetland habitats under the care of Greater Wellington Regional Council and volunteer groups.

Greater Wellington acknowledges the problem, although the extent of "fly tipping" in the estuary is not as serious as that on Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River – only by virtue of Ōtaki's lower population.

However, the frequent and illegal dumping of rubbish in the estuary threatens the significant indigenous biodiversity of a fragile ecosystem,



**Trevor Howell checks his whitebait net at the Ōtaki River estuary on day one of the 2024 whitebait season. The estuary is part of the Ōtaki Coast Key Native Ecosystem, vulnerable to illegal dumping of waste.** Photo Ōtaki Today

including the whitebait that arrive at this time of the year.

"Green waste is often dumped in this KNE, hidden among large flaxes by locals without respect for this precious taonga on their doorstep, or those working to protect it," a council spokesperson told Ōtaki Today.

"Dumping green waste can lead to the introduction of harmful weed species to the KNE."

When green waste is found, it's retrieved and taken to the landfill at the council's (ratepayer) expense.

Dumping of green waste can harm the KNE because of its potential to introduce noxious weeds, such as tradescantia and montbretia.

If they're part of grass clippings, they spread quickly, impeding the seedlings of native species from establishing. Tradescantia mats on riverbanks can break away and contribute to flooding. The weed also causes severe dermatitis in dogs and other animals.

Tyres recently dumped by the estuary were a particularly galling discovery for regional council staff, who were able to identify and officially warn the alleged perpetrator.

"Tyre dumping is a region-wide problem. The council bears significant costs to safely recycle retrieved tyres," the spokesperson said.

"Sadly, fly-tipping occurs regularly

throughout Kāpiti. We were recently disappointed to find four car doors dumped on the margins of the Waikanae River by the carpark off State Highway 59, a popular recreation area regularly targeted for illegal dumping."

The public is urged not to confront or antagonise people dumping rubbish, but to discreetly take photos and note licence plates if it can be done safely. Greater Wellington says it will always protect privacy with any information supplied.

• See cartoon page 2

■ Anyone seeing rubbish being dumped in the KNE can call Greater Wellington's environmental hotline: 0800 496 734.

### Whitebait season under way

**Ōtaki whitebaiters are hoping for good catches as the season gets under way.**

The season began on Sunday (September 1), after a storm overnight had swept through the region, leaving frothy seas and murky waters at Ōtaki Beach. Whitebaiters said they had little luck but that a good run reported before the season opened was a good sign. The season will run until Wednesday, October 30 inclusive.

It was a mixed season last year, with overall catches well down on the glory days of 20-plus years ago.

The Department of Conservation reduced the season in 2022 as part of efforts to reduce fishing pressure on the most threatened species during their peak migration period. The season was previously from August 15 to November 30.

Four of the six whitebait species were classified as threatened or at risk of extinction.

Whitebaiting is allowed from 5am to 8pm, and when Daylight Time comes in on September 29, 6am to 9pm.

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## WHAT'S ON

See also the **Ōtaki Street Scene supplement** in this issue.

**ŌTAKI COMMUNITY EXPO** Memorial Hall, Main St, Ōtaki. Saturday September 21, 10am-2pm. Come and see the variety of local clubs and activities on offer in Ōtaki, and join a new group. Groups looking for new members and who would like to book a stall can contact event co-ordinator Katie Miles, 027 451 5044 or email otakicomunityexpo@gmail.com for information and a stall registration form.

**TE HORO SCHOOL PADDY'S MART COUNTRY FAIR** Saturday, September 14, from 11am, School Rd, Te Horo. A great family day out with games, bouncy castles, lots of stalls including bric a brac, books, plants, cakes, crafts, kai, entertainment and much more. And don't forget Cow Pat Bingo!

**TE HORO GARDEN TRAIL** Back after a five-year hiatus. The trail is on Saturday and Sunday November 16 and 17. Co-ordinated by and in support of the Te Horo Hall fundraising for earthquake strengthening of the hall.

**OPEN HOME** Ōtaki Baptist Church hall, 4-8pm every Tuesday and Friday. A drop-in space for anyone to cook or share a meal, socialise and even take a shower. Everyone welcome, including volunteers.

**COMMUNITY BOARDS** The Ōtaki Community Board next meets at 7pm, Tuesday, October 15, in the Gertrude Atmore Lounge (attached to the Memorial Hall). The Waikanae Community Board meets next on Tuesday, September 24, at the Waikanae Community Hall, 28 Te Atautu St. The public is welcome at 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

**OLD COURTHOUSE GALLERY** 239 Main Highway, Ōtaki. Open Thurs-Sunday: 10am-4pm. Closed Public Holidays. 027 435 0408.

**POETRY IN ŌTAKI** Ōtaki Library Supper Room, 3rd Friday of each month, 10.30-12pm. All welcome. Contact Philip 021 977 834.

**ŌTAKI MUSEUM:** The exhibition "From pā and kāinga to baches and seaside villas" tells the stories of the people and changing character of Ōtaki Beach. Visitors can also play the old theatre pianola while at the museum. The Anne Thorpe Reading Room is open at the same times as the museum. Museum open 10am-2pm Thursday to Saturday, except public holidays. 49 Main St. 06 364-6886.

**TOI MATARAU GALLERY:** Toi Matarau is a summit for multidisciplinary arts where Māori and indigenous artists gather, collaborate, are inspired and supported. See [toi.maorilandfilm.co.nz](http://toi.maorilandfilm.co.nz)

**TOTE MODERN:** Ōtaki Pottery Club's gallery and workshop at Ōtaki-Māori Racing Club, Te Roto Rd. Open 10am-3pm Friday to Sunday.

**TOI MAHARA,** Mahara Place, Waikanae. The Kāpiti Coast's district gallery has reopened bigger and better than ever. See [toimahara.nz](http://toimahara.nz)

**ŌTAKI MARKET:** on every second Sunday 9am-2pm during winter, on old SH1, opposite New World. Contact 027 234-1090.

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

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

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

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

**ŌTAKI LIBRARY – ALL SESSIONS FREE:** JP service every Monday 10.30am-12.30pm; Age Concern every 2nd Thursday 10am-noon; Greypower 1st & 3rd Thursday 10.30am-1.30pm.

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

**PROBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAĒ CENTRAL.** Meet at 10 am on the fourth Thursday of every month at the Waikanae Community Centre, on Utauta Street behind the Waikanae Memorial Hall. New members are always welcome. If you would like to join us please contact Roger Faithfull: [probuswaikanaecentral@gmail.com](mailto:probuswaikanaecentral@gmail.com).

**WAIKANAĒ BEACH INDOOR MARKET:** Second Sunday of the month, 10am-1pm, at the Waikanae Beach Community Hall, 22 Rauparaha St, Waikanae Beach.

To list an event, contact [debbi@idmedia.co.nz](mailto:debbi@idmedia.co.nz)

# Frustrating the flow of information

**There are few examples as clear as use of the Official Information request system that illustrate means by which the public service seeks to frustrate the flow of government information to the public.**

A recent example involved newspaper conglomerate Stuff, which sought to learn from the Department of Conservation what progress the department had made in identifying huts on mountains and wilderness areas that might be dispensed with.

The department reportedly advised that it would treat the question from Stuff as an official request and by doing so gained itself about a month before an answer had to be made. The question seems simple enough – what can we do away with and what must we keep and maintain?

It seemed then, and still does, an example of what former Ombudsman Peter Boshier termed "fobbing off" of a straightforward media request.

A straightforward answer might well have fitted three categories: xxx number to be maintained; xxx number to be dispensed; xxx number future uncertain.

Clarity in answering the question and naming those to be abandoned or which have an uncertain future, is essential because knowledge of structurally sound huts in wilderness areas can be the difference between life and death for trampers and mountaineers.

Neither DoC nor other agencies of government or local government must give a specific reason they are treating a question as an official request. Reasons for delaying might be: Administrative – we're awaiting a decision from the minister/cabinet; financial – we

don't know whether we'll have the money to maintain more than a certain number so let's wait for more clarity; protection – the numbers we are abandoning are so high that we don't want to tell the tramping community now and have an uproar; ministerial protection – the minister wants to announce these figures when

the government budget process is complete; or plain obstruction – they're always asking questions, let's just make them wait.

Appeals by media outlets to the Ombudsman for help in getting answers to questions in reasonable time are frequently successful. But the process of appeal also takes time and in an industry with multiple deadlines it is both frustrating and unhelpful to readers, viewers and listeners who depend on media for their information.

DoC has a nationwide hut network of more than 900 structures of various ages and condition. Maintaining them in reasonable condition is becoming a strain on its financial resources. Closing those huts in poor structural condition might save operating expenditure but leave venturesome trampers and mountaineers in remote and extreme wilderness sites with significantly fewer refuges should shelter be an urgent need.

The department is aware of strong interest in its decision-making on which huts stay and which go. There is a wealth of mountaineering and training organisations who contribute to maintenance and who want the network at least maintained at current levels even if it cannot be expanded. Members of these organisations contribute time and money to help with the preservation of what the country has.

With a degree of innovation, DoC might consider getting an OK from Conservation Minister Tama Potaka to seek cross-party approval for general policy on the hut management issue. This seems a better candidate than the cross-party approvals process sparked by the government on infrastructure projects. Initial reaction from the left of the political spectrum has been strongly negative.

As a test of the development environment within the country, the government's move is timely. Over the past 10 years industry has repeatedly called for "certainty" in the infrastructure planning space. The millions of dollars involved in major projects require commercial firms to plan and prepare well ahead for the investments in plant, machinery and expertise that will be needed.

The Greens and Labour might think there's political traps in what the coalition government proposes. No doubt there is – cycleways in Wellington versus a six-lane motorway in Auckland; a tunnel under the Kaimai Ranges connecting Auckland and Tauranga versus a Lake Onslow power storage facility for electricity in years of hydro shortage?

But the demand from regional groups across the country is so strong for fresh infrastructure projects in their areas – roads, rail, sewage or bridging – that broad agreement on major projects, leaving 30 percent open for political wrangling, would seem a necessity in today's economic climate.

There seems scope in both conservation and infrastructure for better co-operation between political parties. Prospects of getting it are, however, three on a scale of one to 10.

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

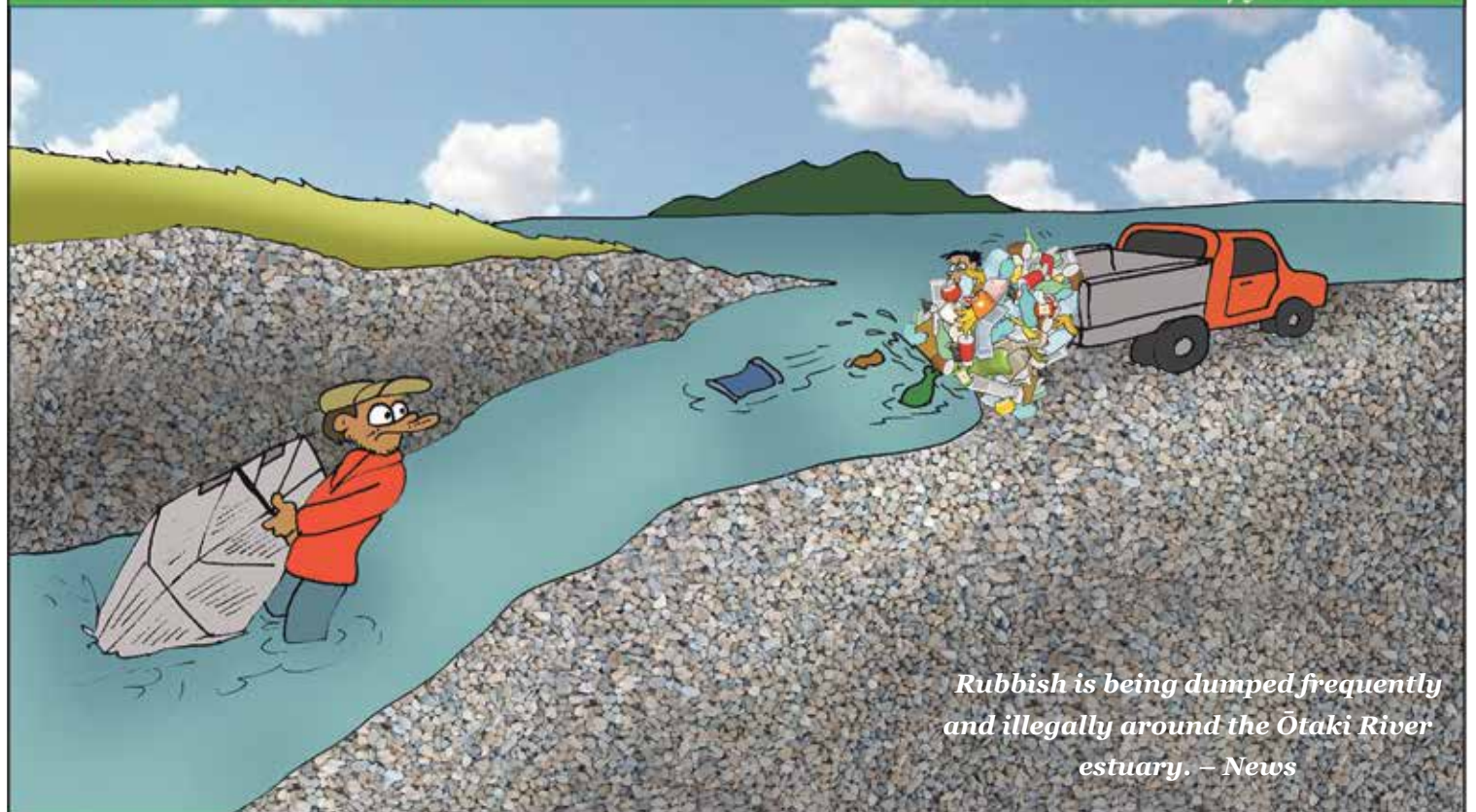
## POLITICS



BRUCE KOHN

## CARTOON OF THE MONTH

By Jared Carson



*Rubbish is being dumped frequently and illegally around the Ōtaki River estuary. – News*

## ŌTAKI TODAY *Ngā Kōrero o Ōtaki*

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# Principals dispute MP's claims

School principals in Ōtaki have joined others in Kāpiti to voice concerns in response to a recent column by Ōtaki MP Tim Costley about maths achievement.

The column in *Ōtaki Today* and *Kāpiti News* led to educators saying his depiction of a "total system failure" in education was misleading and risked eroding trust between schools, families and the community.

"Mr Costley's article paints an unnecessarily bleak picture of our education system," a statement from the group of principals said. "He cites data suggesting that only 22 percent of Year 8 students are meeting expected standards in maths, but this interpretation lacks both international and national context."

The principals – who include Ōtaki's Andy Fraser (Ōtaki College), Maine Curtis (Waitohu School), Rauru Walker (Ōtaki School) and Allie McHugo (Te Horo School) – pointed to the latest OECD PISA report from 2022, which shows that 71 percent of New Zealand students achieved at least level 2 proficiency in mathematics.

"New Zealand placed in the top third of 81 countries, well above the OECD average," the statement said. "This is a significant achievement, especially considering that our education system is funded in the bottom third of OECD countries."

The principals also criticised the MP for using preliminary data from an unfinished and unimplemented mathematics curriculum.

"Using this data in the way Mr Costley has is disingenuous and deliberately misleading."

Tim, however, told *Ōtaki Today* children in school were facing huge challenges.

"It's not just maths where they struggle to

**Ōtaki electorate MP Tim Costley – local principals have pushed back on his claims about maths achievement in schools.**



meet the standard, it's reading and writing, too," he said. "As I said in that column: 'This is not the fault of teachers or students. And much as the last government didn't help things, this issue is bigger than politics. This is the product of years of drift and decay by a system that has become utterly distracted from the values we all care about: achievement, opportunity and success.'"

"It doesn't matter if you accept the most recent study showing four out of five 12 year-olds are falling behind, or if you accept the previous one (which I haven't seen disputed) which shows three out of five are falling behind; either way we face an uphill battle."

He said the point of his column was not the exact number, but how his government was addressing this.

"I outlined three key points: accelerating a new curriculum; targeted professional development; taking assessment and support for our children seriously. We can disagree on the numbers, but the focus should be on improving performance and that's what my column was all about."

The principals say the real issue facing New

Zealand's education system is the widening gap between the highest and lowest achievers, which affects both literacy and maths. They argue that addressing this equity gap requires further investment in the education system, including the provision of learning support coordinators, teacher aides, smaller class sizes, and ongoing professional development for teachers.

"There is an urgent need for a comprehensive plan to provide and train specialist staff in areas such as trauma, anxiety behaviour management, dyslexia, dyspraxia and autism," the principals said. "If we are ever to lift the achievement of struggling students, these supports are crucial."

The group also highlighted the pressing shortage of qualified teachers, noting that the lack of relievers poses a significant risk to maintaining quality education.

"We need more teachers, and making teaching an attractive career option for school leavers is essential. This requires a positive campaign endorsed by community and political leaders."

While acknowledging that there is room for improvement, the principals say the situation in schools is far more positive than Tim's column suggested. They called for any changes to the curriculum or assessment processes to be made in partnership with educators who know the students best.

"We are ready to work collaboratively with the government to ensure that every child in Aotearoa New Zealand receives the best possible education," the statement said. "But this must be based on accurate information, trust, and a shared commitment to the well-being and success of all our tamariki."

Tim said he had invited all principals from the electorate to meet with him and Education Minister Erica Stanford on September 4.

## IN BRIEF

### Community expo returns

The Ōtaki Community Expo returns to the Memorial Hall on Saturday, September 21. From 10am-2pm, visitors can chat to Ōtaki community organisations and sports clubs about what they do and how they can help. If not already booked, groups can still contact Katie Miles for a stall – email [otakicomunityexpo@gmail.com](mailto:otakicomunityexpo@gmail.com)

### Highway upgrade ends

Safety improvement work on SH1 between Ōtaki and Ōhau has finished. The project has seen more than 8km of median and side barriers installed, three turnaround facilities and painted wide centrelines, and improvements to the SH1/Waikawa Beach Road and Atkins Road intersections. The road was one of the most dangerous sections of highway in New Zealand.

### Twenty fire calls

Ōtaki Volunteer Fire Brigade attended 20 call-outs in August: Five for medical emergencies; four motor vehicle crashes; three property fires; two each for "good intent" calls, special service rescues, and for rubbish, grass or scrub fires; one private fire alarm and one call to help with a house fire in Levin.

### Funds for cliff protection

Work is to begin this summer on flood protection at the Ōtaki cliffs on the south side Ōtaki Gorge. It is one of 16 flood protection projects in the region announced recently by Greater Wellington Regional Council. Regional and unitary councils are funding 40 percent of the costs and the government 60 percent.

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# Eric's innings short of century

■ Eric Robert King  
■ 24.08.1924 - 13.08.2024

By Ian Carson

**Eric King was keen to celebrate his 100th birthday on August 24, but he missed the opportunity by just 11 days.**

He died peacefully on August 13 after a brief illness. It might have been just shy of his milestone, but he would have had reason to be content with a long life filled with family, creativity and military service.

His birthday was to have been celebrated with him as guest of honour at a special King family planting on the banks of the Ōtaki River. The planting went ahead with his three sons present – local fire chief Ian King, Bryan who flew in from Queensland, and Andrew of Levin – plus many extended family members.

Later in the day the Presbyterian church at Ōtaki was packed with people who attended his funeral service.

Eric was born in Ōtaki's Moutere Hospital (about where the Farmlands yard and Mowbrays Collectibles is now) in 1924. As Ian pointed out in his eulogy, his dad came into the world during the 1924 Paris Olympics, and went out during the next Paris Olympics.

He was the second of four children to Dorothy (later Devonshire) and George King. George (junior) was the eldest, then Eric, Audrey and the youngest, Maurice, who is the sole survivor, now aged 87.

Eric grew up in Ōtaki, attending Ōtaki School and leaving after Standard 6.

His first job was as an electrician. With his first pay he bought a camera, promptly going down to the railway station to photograph the



**Eric King stands on the newly built bridge over the railway line and pending expressway in June 2019. The old bridge – known locally as The Ramp – is behind and due to be demolished. Eric saw the old bridge being built in 1937 and took photos of some of the first cars to drive across.**

Photo Ōtaki Today

next steam train that arrived. The camera was the beginning of a passion he had throughout his life for photography.

Eric married Nancy Kirby in 1953 (she died in 2016).

Towards the end of the Second World War, Eric did his military training and was posted to Japan after it surrendered. He was in New Zealand's J-Force, part of a Commonwealth contingent to help rebuild the country.

When he returned trained as a carpenter and worked in the building trade. Eric was a creative man, able to build or fix just about anything. His brother George used to install radios in police cars, so Eric made George a

scale model police car. Eric rode motorbikes in his younger days, including a BSA Bantam and Matchless 500, and loved classic cars.

He was also an accomplished artist. After taking some painting lessons, he produced stunning art pieces, including one of a Wellington harbour tug that was his first sale.

If anything, Eric is remembered for his humility. He was a humble and thoroughly likeable man of remarkable versatility and talent, but was embarrassed by praise, even though well deserved. As someone who lived almost all his life in Ōtaki, he will be missed.

■ A full obituary will appear in the 2024 edition of Ōtaki Yesterday

## LETTERS

### School lunch about-face

In your July edition you included a report of the views of Ōtaki College principal Andy Fraser on the government's proposed changes to the free school lunch scheme. I had intended to write in support of the principal for your August issue, but assumed there would be many responses, some more eloquent than anything I could offer. You can imagine my disappointment (to put it mildly) when I found nothing in the August edition. It was not so long ago that our energetic local MP was beaming adoringly at the PM here in Ōtaki as the latter was praising Te Puna Oranga o Ōtaki, lauding it as a wonderful example of the localism that the National Party apparently believes in so ardently. Presumably neither the PM nor his local acolyte passed on the message to Mr Seymour, who is under the illusion (or delusion) that a central supplier can do a better and cheaper job. I urge you not to let this issue disappear from your paper. Our college principal, our tamariki and their whānau deserve better. May I suggest that a public meeting is called at which Mr Costley is asked to explain this about-face. While he is at it, perhaps he could explain his deliberate misuse of data relating to the level of achievement of Year 8 maths students.

**Roger Barker, Ōtaki**

### Jared a mathematical genius

An article on Jared Baillie (Ōtaki Today, May 2024) should have included his mathematical genius for building the disuniform perimeter of the table in the library. Well done, Jared!

**Daryl McLaren, Ōtaki**





*From Your Front Door & Back Again*

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# Te Horo Beach work 'highly commended'

Work at Te Horo Beach was "highly commended" in the Enhancing Communities category at the 2024 Local Government New Zealand conference awards in Wellington on August 23.



Waikanae Community Board deputy chair Michael Moore with the Enhancing Communities category award at the Local Government NZ conference in Wellington.

Photo supplied

The beach had suffered from years of rubbish being dumped, and vehicles damaging the dunes, beach, Mangaone Lagoon and stream. However, Waikanae Community Board member Michael Moore, who lives at the beach, led a community project last year to enhance the environment and reverse the neglect.

Kāpiti Coast District Council biodiversity staff and Greater Wellington's environmental team provided expert guidance and support. The project began last summer with two large wrap-around murals on the 1960s beachside toilets and changerooms. The Te Horo community contributed ideas for artists Sean Duffell and SwiftMantis. Featured in the artwork were the endangered tūturiwhatu dotterel, native beach crab, pukeko and kingfisher, along with a Te Horo view of Kāpiti and nearby islands.

The murals were complemented with improvements that included a macrocarpa picnic table, outside beach shower, all-weather access path and surrounding rope boundary fence to protect the area from further vehicle damage. The council parks team, the community board, Friends of Te Horo Beach Residents' Association, Friends of Mangaone Lagoon and the council's Public Arts Fund were key to the project's success.

The environmental work was followed by the establishment of Predator Free Te Horo Beach. It is supported by Friends of Te Horo Beach, who have also organised community plantings on the banks of the Mangaone Stream.

The Local Government NZ awards acknowledge environmental work that enhances communities and creates a better understanding of the fragile coastal environment.



The elusive bittern, photographed above by Gavin Klee.

## Bittern backed

The cryptic and coy matuku-hūrepo, or Australasian bittern, has Greater Wellington's support for Bird of the Year 2024.

The bittern's conservation status is "threatened", with less than 1000 birds living in New Zealand. There have been sightings in wetlands throughout the Kāpiti Coast, including around Te Horo.

Greater Wellington director of delivery Jack Mace says in backing the bittern he hopes to raise awareness of the conservation plight of the secretive bird.

"While the population is thriving around Wairarapa Moana, bittern are not doing nearly as well across the rest of the country," Jack says. "Bittern are an indicator of wetland health, and a symbol of the delicate ecosystems we work so hard to protect with our planting, trapping and restoration projects.

"Matuku-hūrepo are one of our lesser-known native birds that are incredibly rare and difficult to monitor. Sometimes people will spot a bittern once, but never twice – it's a case of once bittern, twice shy."

Bittern are rarely seen, but often heard with the boom of the male's call sound during their breeding season from now until February, peaking in October and November.

Greater Wellington will be participating in the first nationwide "Great Matuku Muster" on Saturday, October 19, at the Wairarapa Moana wetlands, where people will have the opportunity to hear the birds first-hand.

■ To vote for your favourite bird, see [birdoftheyear.org.nz](http://birdoftheyear.org.nz)

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Terama Winterburn (sunglasses centre front), pictured at Ōtaki joining other Riders Against Cancer members on a recent Sunday ride to Pauatahanui. Photo Ōtaki Today

# Terama rides for charity

Ōtaki biker Terama Winterburn is looking forward to a charity ride in November that will take him and 13 others on a 4700km trek the length of New Zealand.

The Post to Post ride will begin in Palmerston North, go through the South Island to Bluff in the deep south, then back up through both islands to Cape Reinga in the Far North before returning to Palmerston North.

Terama will be taking his big Harley-Davidson motorcycle on the trek that will take a total of 16 days to complete.

It's a promotional tour and fundraiser by Riders Against Cancer (RAC). The charitable organisation

is a group of riders and pillions who raise money and cancer awareness through weekly rides, and three big fundraising events throughout the year.

It began in late 2021 with a small group in the lower North Island. Since then it has expanded with Canterbury and Southland branches.

The Post to Post ride will raise funds for the newly opened Canterbury Cancer Centre. Along the way, the riders – some of whom have had cancer themselves or have family

members with the disease – promote cancer awareness and advise on what communities can do to help.

“We will be stopping along the way, where possible, at Cancer Society offices just to say hi – and make a little bit of noise with the motorbikes,” says RAC National Vice-President Rick Carter.

The group this year donated \$12,000 to the Cancer Society in the first quarter alone.

■ For more information or to donate, see [racnz.co.nz](http://racnz.co.nz)



Aiden Tautari draws a raffle prize for Di Buchan during halftime at Ōtaki Players' *The Wedding Singer*. Photo Neil Gordon

## Prize Players performance

By Di Buchan

The power of joining forces for public good came to the fore at the charity performance of *The Wedding Singer* on August 15 at Southwards Theatre.

That evening, for the second year in a row, Ōtaki Players staged a performance of their latest musical in aid of the Ōtaki Rotunda restoration project.

The outstanding talent and incredible energy we have come to expect from the Players was on full display. The musical this year had great music, lots of laughs and just the right amount of poignancy to satisfy the audience, and the prevailing goodwill among players and audience created a great atmosphere.

As Rotunda Trust chair I addressed the audience just before the second half, providing a brief update on the rotunda restoration project. At the end of the performance we had a premier viewing of a film Steve LaHood put together about the rotunda for the trust. The film was received with acclaim and led to requests about how to sign up to membership of the Friends of the Ōtaki Rotunda.

Relishes Café donated a \$100 voucher as a raffle prize.

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• Saturday morning cafe • Cafe Rendezvous – free Tuesday lunch Waikanae.



# New Te Horo wetland taking shape

**Former dairy farmers Eileen and Shane Walker are in the fifth year of a Te Horo wetland project they hope will be a recreational space for the whole community to enjoy.**

The project is called Parahamuti, so named after advice from Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki that the stream bordering the wetland site originally had that name. The project is based around the Te Horo farm Eileen and Shane lease to local dairy farmers Andrew and Stacey Faith. The goal is to improve water quality and increase biodiversity.

During stage 1 in 2023, a 1.5ha area was planted, with stage 2 now under way which involves building fish ladders and restoring a Sha-plus area containing native species.

DairyNZ is lending its scientific expertise to the project, which is also supported by Fonterra, the Greater Wellington and Kāpiti Coast councils, and Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki. DairyNZ will help with water quality monitoring during wetland construction in stage 3.

“We work alongside farmers to improve waterway health, and this project has similar goals,” DairyNZ senior science manager Aslan Wright-Stow says. “We encourage farmers to invest in restoring and protecting wetlands and, where appropriate, constructing new ones because of their environmental benefits.

“Wetlands can boost biodiversity, provide habitat for birds and fish and



**Eileen and Shane Walker, who are driving the Parahamuti wetland project.**

*Photo supplied*

reduce contaminants such as nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment – and they look great. We look forward to continuing to work with Eileen and Shane, councils and iwi to help accelerate positive change.”

Eileen and Shane’s interest in wetlands was sparked after attending a 2014 Rabobank seminar, where the presenter spoke about how effective wetlands could be in removing sediment and improving water quality.

That led to a collaboration with Christine Finnigan of the Nguturoa Catchment Group to create a wetland near Gore on land the three co-owned. Eileen says they wanted to improve water quality and create a nice space for recreational activities such as kayaking, picnics etc.

After the Gore project, Eileen and Shane realised a wetland could also suit the low-lying fields of Te Horo, which flood regularly.

“A big part of this Te Horo work for us is showing you can do good things alongside operating a dairy farm,” Eileen says.

The couple now live in Arrowtown and say managing the project remotely is no easy feat. However the Faiths support the project by allowing access, and Eileen and Shane work closely with Greater Wellington’s Jamie Peryer, who they say has been great at organising things.

“Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki has also been excited about the project and very encouraging.”

Shane grew up in Te Horo and his siblings still live in the community. His brother, Kerry, who lives opposite the original home farm, has worked with GW on his own planting projects. The opportunity to help improve the environment he grew up in is another motivation of the work for Shane.

“The home farm next to where we’re doing the wetland has been in our family for 100 years,” he says. “It’s been a great little dairy farm and it seems like the time is right to restore the land, to return it to how it was before it was drained.”

The planned planting aims to reflect the native species that would have been on the land originally.

“Largely kahikatea,” Eileen says. “There would have been big forests there. Kerry has noticed with his planting there is a lot more natural spread of other native species. The more natives that go in, the more birds are attracted, and they spread seedlings. Once you’re on the right side of it, it becomes a very positive cycle.

“We hope the wetland will become home to endangered birds such as the spotless crane [pūweto] and the bittern [matuku-hūrepo].”

In keeping with their long-term vision, Eileen says she and Shane hope the wetland area will eventually include cycle, walking and bridle trails.

– Source: DairyNZ

## Tim Costley MP for Ōtaki

Our offices in Levin and Paraparaumu are up and running. Details below.

### Levin Office

Corner of Bath and Oxford Street

Phone: 020 438 8462

horowhenua@parliament.govt.nz

Opening Hours:

Mon: 10am – 3pm

Tues: 10am – 3pm

Wed: Closed

Thurs: 10am – 4pm

Fri: 10am – 3pm

### Paraparaumu Office

Corner of Te Roto Drive and Kapiti Road

Phone: 021 851 206

kapiti@parliament.govt.nz

Opening Hours:

Mon: 12pm – 5pm

Tues: Closed

Wed: 10am – 3pm

Thurs: 10am – 3pm

Fri: 10am – 3pm



✉ [Tim.CostleyMP@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Tim.CostleyMP@parliament.govt.nz)

*I look forward to meeting with you soon.*





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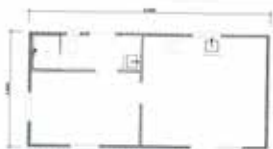
- Applying for council site consent
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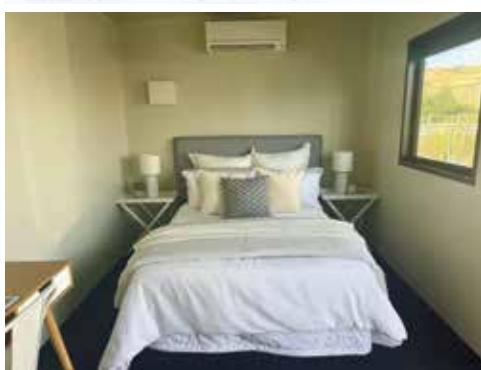
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# Local dancers have a ball

By Ron Gibbard

**Elegant ladies sighted wearing 1920s flapper dresses along with their suited partners, vintage cars parked outside the Memorial Hall, a speakeasy door to check entry for the guests.**

This was how the Ōtaki Dance Group (ODG) enjoyed their 24th annual ball.

Each year the local sequence dancing group chooses a ball theme. This year, on July 27, it was The Great Gatsby Ball. Outside the hall local vintage car enthusiasts Gerald Harvey and Brendon Fox showcased their immaculate 1930 Model A Ford roadster pickup and 1927 Oakland.

ODG committee members Sue and Phillip Sue, Max and Anne Forrest and Andy Walker, along with John Harvey, Janice Young and others, spent all Friday and Saturday morning decorating the hall. Props included frosted cloth drapes, ostrich feathers, the speakeasy door (courtesy of Paddy Ludlam).

There were 116 guests who “dressed to impress”. A live band was led by Carylann, who matched lots of 1920s music to the various waltzes, foxtrots, tangos, cha-chas and rhumbas.

ODG is a sequence dance group. This means that all pairs dance identical steps together, but it is genuine ballroom dancing. Sequence dancing had its Ōtaki beginnings in 1988 with Chrissy Anderson starting a children’s class at the Senior Citizens’ Hall. Then it moved to evenings for adults at Hadfield Hall, Waitohu School then the Memorial Hall in 2000.

That year Chrissy and husband Brian organised the first ball, aptly called The Millennium. They still help teach new dances at



Dressed to impress, the ladies line pose for a photo at the annual Ōtaki Dance Group ball.

Photo supplied

the regular Tuesday night sequence dancing at 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

Leading up to the ball they annually run beginner classes on Monday nights. From 2011 locals Barbara and Mike Francis led the ODG dances and balls. One memorable theme was And the Band Plays On, which featured a scale model of the Titanic and the making of lifejackets for the 100 guests to locate and wear when the alarm sounded.

This year’s Great Gatsby ball was the first

organised by the new committee, and featured not only the speakeasy entrance, but also a mock police raid, lots of women in flapper dresses, gentlemen who bore little resemblance to their Tuesday night persona, Charleston dancing, lots of ostrich feathers, boas and fur coats and a locally catered supper.

With both the hall and regular dancers “dressed to impress” and a live band, it was an occasion reminiscent of the balls held in Ōtaki through the 1950s, 60s and 70s.

After a well-earned rest the working group is now turning its attention to the 2025 theme, which will be announced next May.

At least since 2005, for the months of February to December, sequence dancers have enjoyed themselves in the company of others in the Memorial Hall every Tuesday night, and once a month each Saturday.

■ If you are interested in putting on your dancing shoes, contact Sue on 021 888 486 or email [dancingotaki@gmail.com](mailto:dancingotaki@gmail.com)

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**Ōtaki Yesterday**

Ōtaki's historical magazine is available now, featuring interesting stories about the people and places of old Ōtaki. Read about the remarkable gymnastics club Mari Housiaux created and took to the top of the New Zealand gymnastics scene; the outdoorsmen of the Chaney family; Peter McBeth, whose butcher family were a big part of Ōtaki life through the middle part of last century; and the irrepressible Elsie Morgan. Also the early life of Colin Bird, who grew up in Ōtaki, married a local, lived in Australia for more than 30 years, and returned to where it all began.

Available for \$25 a copy. 2022, 2021 and 2020 editions also available for \$25 each + p&p.

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Have  
your say

# Me pēwhea te whakakanohi i a koe anō? How would you like to be represented?

We're running a representation review. This means determining the number of councillors and community board members, and types of wards and their boundaries the district will have for the 2025 local government elections.

It's about ensuring communities of interest are kept together and making it easy for people to participate in local democracy.

Collectively, councillors determine the district's overall strategic direction, approve budgets, set rates, and make bylaws, policies and plans aimed at meeting community needs. So, it's important to let us know how you'd like to be represented.

## Current Council structure

In Kāpiti, we currently have one mayor, four general wards represented by seven elected councillors, three districtwide councillors, and five community boards with four elected members each. A specified number of ward councillors are appointed to the community boards. In total this equates to ten councillors, one mayor and twenty community board members.

## Our proposed Council structure

As a result of feedback we received from the community earlier this year, we're proposing the following Council structure for the 2025 local government elections:

- One mayor
- Four general wards represented by seven elected councillors
- Two districtwide councillors
- One Māori ward councillor
- Five community boards with four elected members each and a specified number of ward councillors appointed to the boards.

In total this equates to ten councillors, one mayor and twenty community board members, with one districtwide councillor replaced at the Council table by the new Māori ward councillor.

## Will Council hold a poll for the new Māori ward?

The decision to establish a Māori ward has been re-affirmed and is not part of this review. Under new legislation, Council will need to hold a poll at the 2025 local government elections to determine if the Māori ward remains in place for the 2028 and 2031 local government elections.

## Who will I vote for?

In the 2025 elections, people on the general electoral roll will vote in their general ward and people on the Māori electoral roll will vote in the new Māori ward. Both Māori and general electoral roll voters will still vote for the mayor, two districtwide councillors, and community board representatives for the area they live in.

## Proposed boundary changes

We're also proposing to change:

- the Ōtaki and Waikanae ward and community board boundaries at Te Horo moving it further south past Te Hapua Road
- the Paekākāriki-Raumati and Paraparaumu ward boundaries at Emerald Glen and Valley Road, and
- the Paekākāriki and Paraparaumu community board boundaries.

## Community boards

We are not proposing any changes to our community board arrangements, apart from the proposed boundary alterations.



## Have your say

Have we got the number of councillors and community board members, and ward and community board boundaries right? To provide your feedback, please fill out our survey online, on paper, or in person at one of our libraries or service centres or at our drop-in session.

**Submissions close Thursday 12 September 2024, 5pm.**



For more information visit:  
[haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz/RepresentationReview](https://haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz/RepresentationReview)

## Information sessions

If you would like to chat to an elected member about our proposed Council structure, please join us for our:

**Online webinar**

**Thursday 29 August, 6pm.**

**Drop-in session**

**Saturday 31 August, 10am–12 noon,**  
 Paraparaumu Library.



## Our proposed Council structure for the 2025 elections

○ **Mayor: 1**

○ **Districtwide Councillors: 2**

○ **Kāpiti Coast Māori Ward Councillor**

Ward Councillor: 1  
 Population: 4,930  
 Avg. per Councillor: 4,930  
 + or – variance: Does not apply

● **Proposed Ōtaki General Ward**

Ward Councillor: 1  
 Population: 8,510  
 Avg. per Councillor: 8,510  
 + or – variance: 11.32%  
 (underrepresented)

● **Proposed Waikanae General Ward**

Ward Councillors: 2  
 Population: 13,800  
 Avg. per Councillor: 6,900  
 + or – variance: -9.74%  
 (overrepresented)

● **Proposed Paraparaumu General Ward**

Ward Councillors: 3  
 Population: 22,900  
 Avg. per Councillor: 7,633  
 + or – variance: -0.14%  
 (overrepresented)

● **Proposed Paekākāriki-Raumati General Ward**

Ward Councillor: 1  
 Population: 8,300  
 Avg. per Councillor: 8,300  
 + or – variance: 8.58%  
 (underrepresented)

○ **Current Ward and Community Board boundaries**

○ **Proposed Ward and Community Board boundaries**

NB: We're not proposing a change to the number or membership of community boards or number of councillors appointed to community boards.



**NB:** more detailed maps can be found on our website and at our service centres and libraries.



# Everything Ōtaki

September 2024

## Making a step change in Ōtaki

Ōtaki is set to reap the benefits from a \$24.5 million investment in infrastructure improvements.

Designed to improve resilience and support for current and future housing in Ōtaki, the new reservoir, wastewater upgrade, and fire-loop main projects are making steady progress.

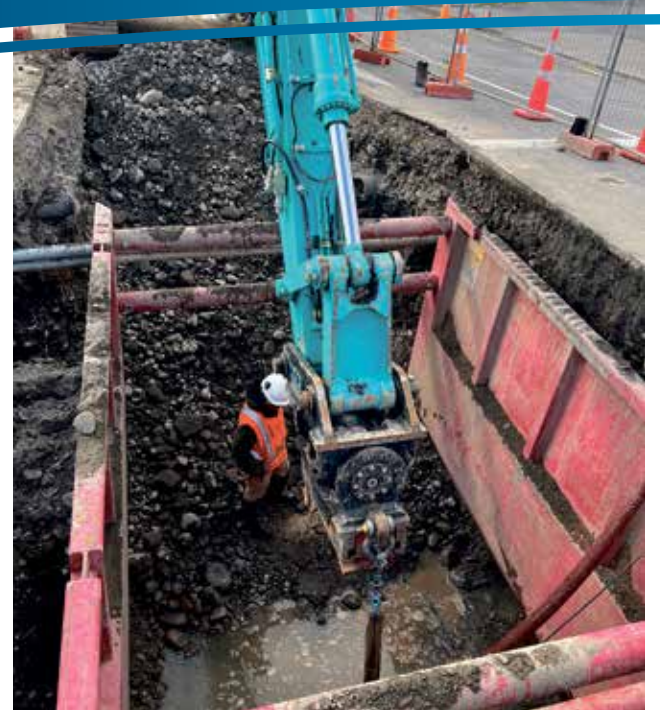
Construction of the new reservoir on Te Manuao Road reached a milestone recently with the pouring of the 35m diameter concrete-base slab. The slab was poured in one day with 40 concrete trucks and two pumps on the job.

Our crew is in the early stages of getting the 12 month wastewater upgrade going at three sites along its Aotaki Street/Mill Road route. This project involves installing 2.7km of new wastewater pipe and 42 new manholes, and re-routing a section of water main along Mill Road.

The fire-loop main is a pipe providing water specifically for firefighting. Our crew has completed laying the new pipe along the Riverbank Road section and are now making their way along Dunstan Road. This project is on track to be finished in November.

The reservoir and wastewater upgrade are co-funded by Government's Infrastructure Acceleration Fund (IAF).

► [Find out more: kapiticoast.govt.nz/OtakiProjects](https://kapiticoast.govt.nz/OtakiProjects)



Keep up-to-date with all of Council's activities, upcoming events and opportunities to get involved and give feedback.



Sign-up for Everything Kāpiti, our weekly update for Kāpiti residents:

[kapiticoast.govt.nz/SignUp](https://kapiticoast.govt.nz/SignUp)



### Grants available for museum and heritage projects

Our district has many precious stories and artifacts. These can be considered taonga that we need to protect for future generations. We have grants available to support museums and heritage facilities to preserve and celebrate this taonga. Applications are open now.

We've previously supported projects such as films documenting the history and relocation of The Kilns at Te Horo, and restoration of the Ōtaki Rotunda. The grants have also helped fund IT upgrades for interactive displays for Ōtaki Museum.

If you've got a project in mind, talk to us before you apply. Applications close 7 October.

► [Find out more: kapiticoast.govt.nz/MuseumHeritage](https://kapiticoast.govt.nz/MuseumHeritage)



### What do dog registration fees pay for?

The law makes owners responsible for controlling their dogs, but, like people, dogs have different temperaments, and varying levels of training! It takes a skilled and experienced team operating 24/7 – who sometimes do dangerous work in all kinds of conditions – to make sure our communities are safe.

Our staff need specialised equipment from vehicles to protective gear, vet services, an animal shelter, pet food, administration, and legal services in order to do this work and be able to provide advice to our community on responsible dog ownership.

It costs our district about a million dollars a year to provide this important service. Thank you to everyone who contributes by paying their dog registration fees.



### Whitebaiting coincides with nesting birds – please take care

Whitebait season starts 1 September and coincides with breeding time for our nationally vulnerable dotterels/tūturiwhatu, who are well camouflaged when they're nesting amongst sand and driftwood on the beach. They're at risk from vehicles, dogs, and human feet, so please take care and refresh yourself on the rules for driving and dogs on the beach.

As part of Waikanae Ki Uta Ki Tai, we're working alongside Ātiawa Ki Whakarongotai, Greater Wellington and the Department of Conservation to enhance fish spawning habitat by planting native plants along the Waikanae River and tributaries. Better spawning habitat ultimately means more whitebait.

► [Read about the rules for whitebaiting: kapiticoast.govt.nz/whitebaiting](https://kapiticoast.govt.nz/whitebaiting)



# ŌTAKI STREET SCENE



Carvings by Greg Moffatt.

Photos supplied

ŌTAKI DISTRICT ARTS, ATTRACTIONS AND EVENTS

Spring 2024



Greg and Pauline Moffatt in their "museum" at Kuku.

Photo Ōtaki Today

## The Moffatts creative at Kuku

By Ian Carson

**Visiting Greg and Pauline Moffatt at Kuku shows how creative passion can blur the lines between home and workshop.**

A knock at the door of the old homestead north of Ōtaki – built originally by Pauline's grandparents early last century – goes unanswered. A phone call draws Pauline out of what can only be described as a huge shed near the house. She's as welcoming as a grandmother looking to treat her mokopuna with home-baked scones.

Greg is inside, casually dressed as one would expect from a retired farmer and police officer.

"Welcome to our other home," he says with a smile.

In explanation, he says it's where the couple spend most of their time. Even mid-morning, with the chill of late winter still hovering, it's cosy inside, aided by the blaze of a woodburner near a cloth-covered snooker table that doubles as a dining table.

Perhaps expecting to see a look of wonder at the sheer scale of their work space, Pauline suggests this is Greg's kind of man cave.

"Man cavern, more like," he says.

*continues next page*



Kāpiti  
Coast  
Art Trail

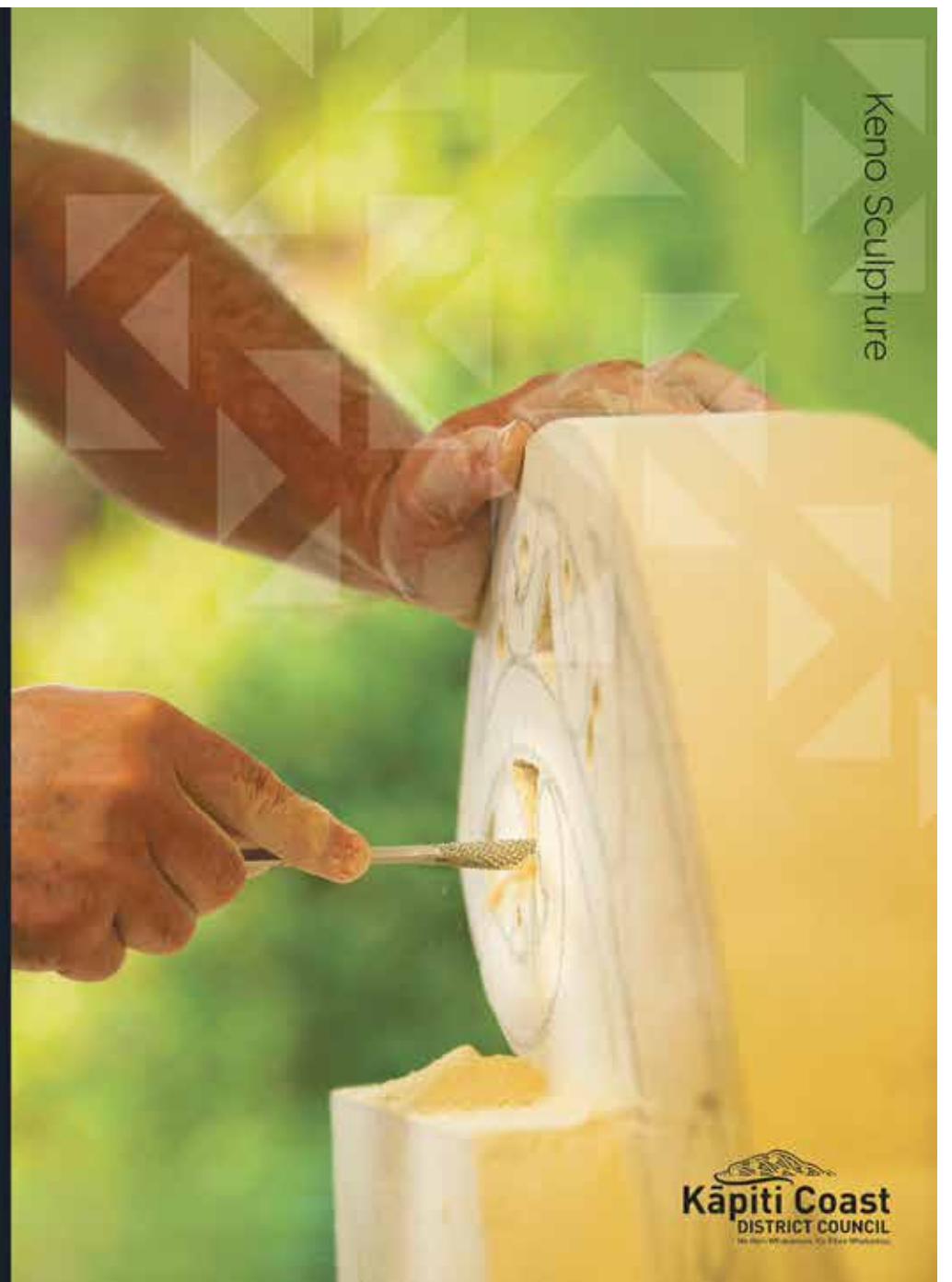


Te Ara Toi o te Takutai o Kāpiti

2/3 + 9/10  
November

10am-4pm, Sat + Sun, FREE entry

Plan your trail... [KapitiCoastArtTrail.co.nz](http://KapitiCoastArtTrail.co.nz)  



Kāpiti Coast  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri o te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri





## Kuku's creative couple

from front page

They also call it their museum, and it's clear how it could be described that way.

It's packed full of old – and useful – stuff, from old gramophones, typewriters and cameras to chainsaws and agricultural implements.

Some might call it cluttered, but it's their space and that's just the way they like it. It's homely and personal, and conducive to the creative energy that has led to KukuCreative, the couple's art business.

It's based around the work Greg has been doing for many years while he was also working for the police. That 50-year career included as a beat cop, a jailer, a firearms vetter and mountain safety training officer.

Now retired, he can concentrate full-time on an eclectic range of art forms. He's best known for his bone carvings, but there's plenty else besides that comes from many skills and inspirations.

A 3-metre-high, dual-wheeled windmill along the Moffatt fenceline testifies to his aptitude in metalwork. A dragon in the workshop, made for a mokopuna's birthday, is made of plywood.

Inspiration for Greg is spontaneous, never forced.

"When I'm starting to work on a bone carving, I don't usually have any particular design in mind," he says. "I'll just hold it, and let that touch get me going. It all flows from there."

Greg is deeply aware of his heritage, including whakapapa to Ngāti Huia, Ngāti Kikopiri and Scotland. Hence his designs have



Greg Moffatt with some of his carvings at the Ōtaki Market.

– Photo supplied

strong Indigenous and Celtic influences.

They feature in his sculptures, healing stones, pendants, earrings, walking staffs, hanging stones and conceptual objects. They reflect Taiao, the natural world – a space within which he is at ease.

It's also a concept Pauline embraces. As Ngāti Tūkorehe, Pauline (nee Rowland) is strongly rooted in the whenua on which the Moffatts have their 10-acre block. Living in her grandparents' house reminds her every day of those who came before her. It has also inspired her to delve deeper into the

healing power of rongoā – traditional Māori medicine.

She's in the last stages of a diploma in Māori medicine with Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, and enjoying being part of a revival of Indigenous healing.

"For probably two generations, the art of rongoā was lost," Pauline says. "It was legislated out of people's lives with the Tohunga Suppression Act, so there were very few people who kept using it."

The 1907 act was intended to stop people using traditional Māori healing practices

because it was considered to have a supernatural or spiritual element that didn't align with the time's Christian ideology.

Greg's link to Scottish ancestry goes back five generations to when Henry Moffatt landed unexpectedly on New Zealand shores.

Henry and his family were on the *City of Auckland* when it was blown off course and wrecked on Ōtaki Beach in 1878. Whether they went on to Napier, their intended destination, is not clear, but they soon settled in Ōtaki and began a long line of Moffatts, a family well known in the district.

Greg's parents, Ray and Joan, raised their family in Ōtaki and up Ōtaki Gorge, where Greg retains a large block of land he has happily allowed to regenerate into a native bush paradise.

A piece of marketing material Pauline provides sums up Greg's art:

"Greg draws his inspiration and creativity from his life experiences – a farming background, inventive genius, engineering, social services and whānau relationships. His awareness of perspective, balance and insight into hauora/well-being for the whenua, animals, tangata/humans and the natural world is reflected within his artwork, which he sensitively encapsulates into aesthetic designs.

"Greg's artworks are 'genuine'. He intuitively develops authentic taonga that is indicative of the 'number 8 wire phenomena', provoking tantalising observations of our bygone era."

■ To contact Greg or Pauline, phone 021 209 5912 or email [kukumogs@gmail.com](mailto:kukumogs@gmail.com)



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[fb.com/hebebotanicals](https://www.facebook.com/hebebotanicals)

**PAULA ARCHIBALD STUDIO**

**CERAMICS**  
**027 247 7488**

[Paula.archibald.3](https://www.facebook.com/Paula.archibald.3) [Paulclayart](https://www.instagram.com/Paulclayart)

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## Plenty on Trail in Ōtaki

Ōtaki is showcasing nearly 30 artists, galleries and studios during the 2024 Kāpiti Coast Art Trail on the weekends of November 2-3 and 9-10. Throughout Kāpiti, there are more than 140 artists to visit in their studios and shared spaces. With additional artists represented in 13 galleries, there will be more than 300 artists in total, showing a wide variety of art forms, from painting and sculpture to jewellery and ceramics. Use our guide on the next three pages to visit Ōtaki district artists, starting at Ōtaki Beach and ending in Te Horo.



**BRENDA GROEN**

Hand building is what Brenda loves most about pottery. Come along and find your special one-off piece for the garden or inside.

153A Tasman Road, Ōtaki  
021 313 291 • [brenda.groen@actrix.co.nz](mailto:brenda.groen@actrix.co.nz)

**SHONA SHERRIFF | BLUE DUCK CERAMICS**

Shona is an Ōtaki-based potter who enjoys creating functional and colourful pieces using both the pottery wheel and hand building techniques. Shona works with a variety of clays and techniques. These include wheel, handbuilding, raku and more recently, pit firing. She enjoys creating both ornamental and functional work as well as exploring different glazes and their combinations, which can lead to some interesting discoveries. Shona is a new participant to the Kāpiti Coast Art Trail this year.

153A Tasman Road, Ōtaki  
021 251 3724

**GRANT STEVENSON | SEAGRASS GALLERY**

Grant Stevenson qualified in industrial design, but began a lifelong hands-on commitment to the arts as a full-time woodturner. He has always believed he would be a full-time artist, and in 2021 he created his own painting studio and gallery space at Ōtaki Beach. There, his full time connection with painting began. Self taught, he is exploring a variety of painting styles, working mainly in acrylics. He welcomes the opportunity to show his work in 2024.

38 Moana Street, Ōtaki Beach  
027 231 4643 • [seagrassgallery.co.nz](http://seagrassgallery.co.nz)

**KENO SCULPTURES**

Brett Keno has been stone carving since 2005, and full-time since 2013, working from his home studio. Brett's whakapapa is linked to Ngāi Te Rangi, Ngāti Ranginui and Ngāi Tahu. Traditional or stylised Māori design is often incorporated into his sculptures and stone carvings. Christine Keno not only runs the business, but also creates her own sculptures. Clients sometimes want something they have already created, or get the Kenos to design it.

7 Byron Brown Place, Ōtaki  
021 855 088 • [kenosculpture.co.nz](http://kenosculpture.co.nz)

**NEIL HAY | CERAMICS POTTERY**

Neil has been making pottery for more than 30 years. Most of his work is gas-fired in reduction, producing vibrant results from his glazes. Neil also works with raku firing, salt glazing and pit firing and has been a tutor, and run demonstrations and workshops. Much of his current work features multiple overlapping glazes and in the intense colours produced are images of birds and fish and forms from nature. Neil is a member of the Ōtaki Pottery Club.

38 Moana Street, Ōtaki Beach  
027 231 4643 • [seagrassgallery.co.nz](http://seagrassgallery.co.nz)

**POU | MRS POTS**

New artist to the Art Trail is Pou, a creative genius, always a dreamer flowing with ideas and then waking up in all hours of the night to paint up a storm. Her fun, free and happy vibe is reflected in her paintings. Working as a professional with young women, Pou is inspired to capture both the warmth and strength of wāhine toa. Pou uses a mix of different media and concepts in all her creations. She also dabbles in street art, photography and clay work.

39 Moana Street, Ōtaki Beach  
027 593 2301 • [coloumelife.co.nz](http://coloumelife.co.nz)

**ROD GRAHAM | CLAYWORKS ŌTAKI**

Rod is one of the Kāpiti Coast's most outstanding potters. During his 56-year career, he has not only created astounding garden art and domestic ware, but also he is a key figure in the district and neighbouring regions with the ceramic artist community. Working in a variety of clays and techniques, including hand-built, wheel-thrown, and raku, Rod takes his inspiration from the environment around him, from water collecting in rockpools to volcanic plateaux.

93 Norfolk Crescent, Ōtaki Beach  
027 445 7545 • e: [rodgraham1948@gmail.com](mailto:rodgraham1948@gmail.com)

**SARAH LANGE | RATA STREET STUDIO**

Sarah is well established in the Ōtaki art community, creating abstract and abstract realism works of wonder. Her art is a captivating fusion of resin, paints, inks, and mixed media using bold and bright colours.

7 Rata Street, Ōtaki Beach  
022 317 7613 • [ratastudio.nz](http://ratastudio.nz)

**ŌTAKI HERITAGE** | **ŌTAKI MUSEUM**  
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**ŌTAKI HISTORICAL JOURNAL 2023 AVAILABLE**  
Access local historical archives & photos for your own research in our Reading Room.

[www.otakiheritage.org.nz](http://www.otakiheritage.org.nz)

**TOTE MODERN GALLERY**

Open Fri - Sun: 10 AM - 3 PM  
**Ōtaki Pottery Club**  
47 Te Roto Road, Ōtaki

**ŌTAKI POTTERY CLUB INC.**



# ŌTAKI STREET SCENE



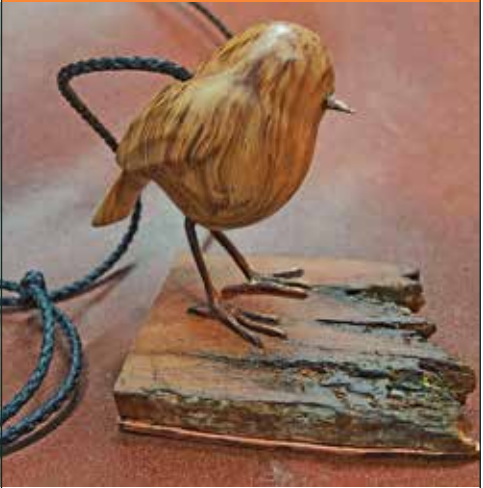
## SONYA SAVAGE | SAVAGE ART



Award winning artist Sonya Savage exhibits a combination of rich textural paintings and individually designed ceramics reflecting a distinctive style comprised of collective icons and her own experiences.

35 Ngaio Street, Ōtaki Beach  
027 244 7322 • [soniasavageart.com](http://soniasavageart.com)

## VAUNE MASON | WORKSPACE STUDIOS



Explore the inner workings of jeweller Vaune Mason's workshop and creative practice! Her focus is on natural and foraged materials, making jewellery and small objects.

6 Hewson Crescent, Ōtaki Beach  
021 982 863 • [workspacestudios.co.nz](http://workspacestudios.co.nz)

## TOI MATARAU | MĀORILAND HUB



Stunning traditional and contemporary Toi Māori, Toi Pasifika and Toi Taketake from emerging and established local artists of Kāpiti alongside the most treasured Māori artists of Aotearoa.

68 Main St, Ōtaki • 021 295 7473  
[toi.maorilandfilm.co.nz](http://toi.maorilandfilm.co.nz)

## JENNIFER TURNBULL | JAILHOUSE POTTERY



Jennifer has been a ceramic artist for more than 30 years. She has a diploma of fine arts (ceramics), and tutors for Otago Polytechnic School of Fine Arts. She also runs specialised workshops around the country. Jennifer's work is mainly vessel based, and high-fired domestic ware. She makes one-off pieces for display and gardens. Her work has won many awards and is in collections here and overseas. She draws inspiration from the landscape, her garden and New Zealand flora.

3 Iiti St, Ōtaki • 021 295 7473  
[jenniferturnbull.co.nz/](http://jenniferturnbull.co.nz/)

## ANNA BRADBURY | ANNABEE ARTS



New to the Art Trail, Anna creates her art from a technique she has learnt, called the Sheleart Bloom, where she uses a specific recipe to turn her paints and pigment powders into a fluid form so she can create her beautiful paintings. Anna paints onto ceramic coasters which are then resined for durability, and also creates jewellery pieces from acrylic skins. Where intention meets coincidence is how Anna describes her colorful art pieces.

85 Lupin Road, Ōtaki  
022 643 9794 • [annabradbury@outlook.co.nz](mailto:annabradbury@outlook.co.nz)

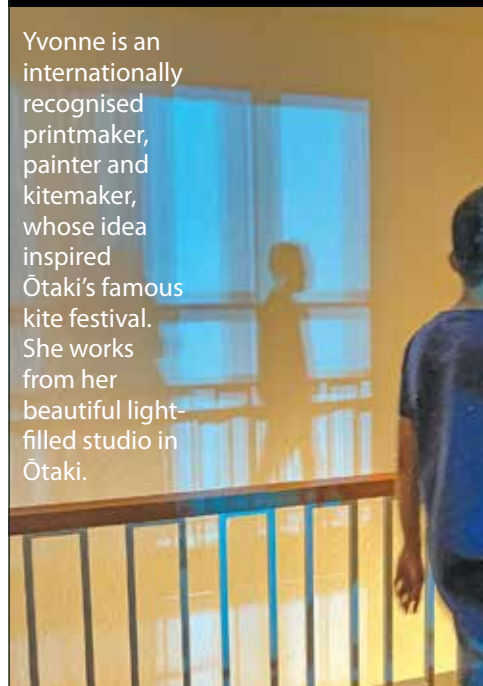
## JOS SMITH ART STUDIO



Semi-abstract watercolours and mixed-media artworks in vivid colours and textures strike the visitor's eye in Jos's home gallery. A love of painting began at an early age when Jos was introduced to New Zealand artist Para Matchitt in his early days of teaching abstract art. Her passion has continued to grow and her style constantly evolves as she experiments with abstraction of realistic scenes and objects using colours and a variety of unusual techniques.

7A Lemon Street, Ōtaki  
027 614 4145 • e: [josjato@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:josjato@yahoo.co.nz)

## YVONNE DE MILLE



Yvonne is an internationally recognised printmaker, painter and kitemaker, whose idea inspired Ōtaki's famous kite festival. She works from her beautiful light-filled studio in Ōtaki.

50 Kirk Street, Ōtaki  
027 442 3106 • [yvonedemille.co.nz](http://yvonedemille.co.nz)

## PAULA ARCHIBALD STUDIO



Paula has a home studio where she is surrounded by clay works, wet and drying, glazed, or waiting for firing. Paula experiments with different subjects, clays and glazes to achieve a variety of effects, from domestic ware and whimsical ornaments to large water features. To broaden her craft skills and to be with like-minded people, Paula enjoys learning and attending workshops. Her studio is just down the road from the famous Watson's Garden.

3 Bell St, Ōtaki • 027 247 7488  
e: [paula.clayartceramics@gmail.com](mailto:paula.clayartceramics@gmail.com)

## BEE DOUGHTY PRATT | THE SHED ON TITOKI



Previously in Ōtaki Gorge, Bee Doughty Pratt now lives in Peka Peka and exhibiting this year in Ōtaki from her temporary studio, The Shed On Titoki, for the Art Trail. Bee is recognised for her evocative, atmospheric, semi-abstract seascapes and landscapes. She paints in oils and says: "Water in some form or other features in virtually every canvas I paint. I love colour and try to use it to capture atmosphere or evoke feelings rather than portray actual detail."

4 Titoki Street, Ōtaki (opp Hammer Hardware)  
027 664 3911 • [doughtyart.co.nz](http://doughtyart.co.nz)

## KAREN MCCALL | ORGANIC DESIGN STUDIO



Karen creates individual artworks to wear or display, giving new life to discarded, unwanted jewellery and watches. She has been creating original mosaics and jewellery for 10 years. She frequently creates pieces for clients from jewellery and mementos they supply, which reflect the stories the family tell Karen about their loved one. It is important to Karen that pieces from the past, no longer fashionable or wearable, can be re-purposed for future generations to enjoy.

40 Miro Street, Ōtaki • 027 226 2094  
[odskapiti.com/artists](http://odskapiti.com/artists)

## ORGANIC DESIGN STUDIO



Discover an original and eclectic mix of local handcrafted metalwork, sculpture, garden art, jewellery, assemblage pieces, and paintings in Organic Design Studio's Ōtaki gallery and art garden in the heart of the Riverbank Estate. The gallery is open weekends and public holidays from 10am-4pm, or by appointment.

40 Miro Street, Ōtaki  
021 452 465 • [odskapiti.com](http://odskapiti.com)

## THE OLD COURTHOUSE GALLERY



The Old Courthouse Gallery is in Ōtaki's original courthouse, a historic building that now houses an eclectic collection of artworks and handcrafts. Formerly known as Artscape, the gallery was set up nine years ago as an art and craft collective to foster local talent in Ōtaki. Everything is made by local artists and craftspeople, from experienced and established to those developing their own unique skills.

239-245 Main Highway, Ōtaki  
[facebook.com/MainHighwayOtaki/](https://facebook.com/MainHighwayOtaki/)



# ŌTAKI STREET SCENE



## TOTE MODERN GALLERY ŌTAKI POTTERY CLUB



The Ōtaki Pottery Club is thriving in its premises at the Ōtaki-Māori Racing Club, a short drive east of old SH1 on Rāhui Road. The club was formed 30 years ago and moved to the racecourse in 2020. The Tote Modern Gallery was opened for the public to see and buy quality pottery made by some of New Zealand's finest potters and ceramicists who also live on the Kāpiti Coast. The Tote has easy parking and toilets. Food available during the Art Trail.

47 Te Roto Road, Ōtaki  
otakipotteryclub.org

## STACEY YOUNG | THE TAILOR'S WIFE



Bring some magic into your life with beautifully hand carved, tactile table ware, candle sticks and figurines for your altar.



8 Freemans Road, Ōtaki  
021 125 1760 • thetailorswifemaker@gmail.com

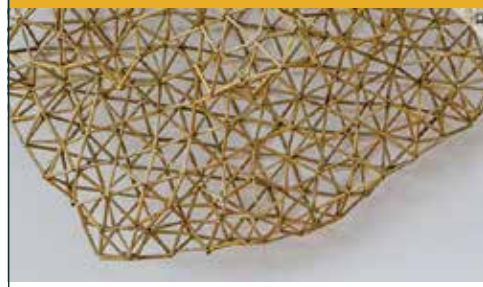
## RICHARD WELLS ART STUDIO



Richard emigrated to New Zealand with Kiwi wife Anne in 2021 during Covid. In managed isolation he documented the experience with his watercolours. Richard has concentrated on landscape painting in a realistic style in oils, and loves the New Zealand scenery as inspiration. Spending time in his garden cabin has allowed him to broaden the spectrum into native birds and flowers, as well as abstract pieces.

26 Waitohu Valley Road, Ōtaki  
020 4083 7301 • e: richwells@gmail.com

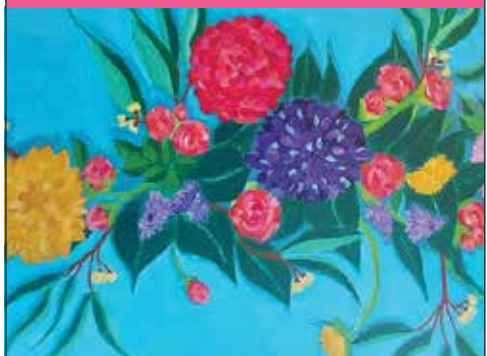
## BIRGIT MOFFATT ART STUDIO



Walks in the bush at the feet of the Tararua Ranges often see Birgit come home with bark, leaves, sticks, vines and seed pods, which she transforms into artworks. She highlights their rich textures and organic forms by stitching, weaving, manipulating and natural dyeing. This nurtures her creativity and connects her deeper with the ngahere (bush). Her intention is to create work using those materials without diminishing their mauri (life force).

32 Parenga Rd, Hautere  
022 460 2695 • birgitmoffatt.com

## CLAIRE CROCKER



Claire is a self-taught artist. Moving from oil to modern acrylics, Claire is presenting a recent focus on flowers and floral scenes from rural and urban New Zealand. She has a wide variety of art styles, big and small paintings. Claire also creates jewellery. The jewellery media includes porcelain, tin, rubber, driftwood and more. It's fun, creative and pretty.

54 Old Hautere Road, Hautere  
021 171 3369 • e: c.g.crocker@gmail.com

## JAMES CARTER POTTERY



James was inspired to start his career in potting in 2019 after meeting Frank Light on the Kāpiti Coast Art Trail, who became his mentor. Working out of his studio in Te Horo, James is becoming well known for his high-fired, functional pottery. He regularly attends the Paraparumu Beach market and other large markets around the North Island. He has also exhibited at the New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts in Wellington.

12 Waitaheke Road, Te Horo  
022 672 7036 • jamescarterpottery.co.nz

## STUDIO RESET | ORGANIC DESIGN STUDIO



At Studio Reset works are created from "Beehive to Artwork". Working through the time-consuming process of harvesting wax from beehives, to making encaustic medium and then painting it on up-cycled or re-purposed substrates – the process is organic. The artworks smell heavenly of beeswax. They are multi-sensory, contemporary and with a nostalgic quality like no other. See the studio's full-time, award winning artist at work in the rural Hautere studio.

Hautere Cross Rd, Hautere  
021 179 3201 • studioreset.art

## TRACEY PURKIS

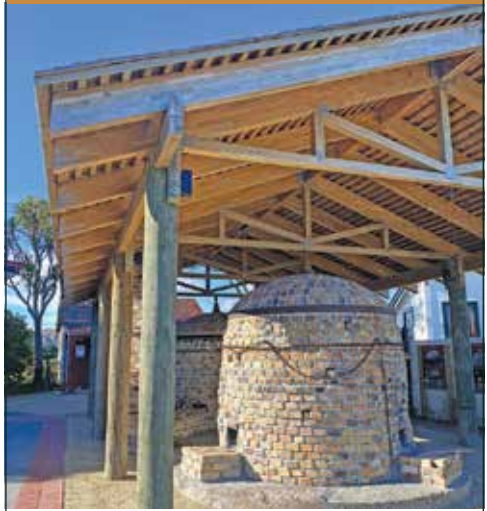


Bright tropical images, inspired from her life in South-east Asia, come together with Tracey's joyful reconnection to the natural beauty of home.



42 School Road, Te Horo  
021 0276 8880 • arttraceypurkis@gmail.com

## THE KILNS AT TE HORO



Featuring artist in residence Thomas Baker of Nelson, plus Kilns project potters. Located alongside Mirek Smíšek's unique beehive kilns. Open year round, Thursday-Sunday 10am-4pm.

Smisek Kilns Jim Winiata Way, (off School Road) Te Horo

**RIVERSTONE WELCOMES ALL ART TRAIL VISITORS**  
**When you need a break from all that fabulous art, Riverstone Cafe is here to refresh you for the next leg of your journey!**  
**Open 7am-3pm daily.**





## Huhana casts light on struggle for memory

**Thirteen Months of Memories, an exhibition at Toi Mahara by artist and academic Huhana Smith, sheds artistic light on the experience of memory loss during a period of her life sharing her partner's struggle with Alzheimer's disease.**

In keeping with the title, there are 13 works, a combination of oil paintings and stitched fabric works on reclaimed plywood.

The exhibition is also a collaborative project with artist and woodworker Ciaran Banks, who has his own experience of memory loss, and has enclosed each work in sculptural wooden frames.

"The works are largely about the experiences of my partner Richard Anderson's memory loss due to Alzheimer's and the challenges this disease poses for him, myself and those closest to him," Huhana says.

She describes her partner as an ardent environmentalist/conservationist who worked both in Aotearoa and the Pacific (Te Moana nui a Kiwa). With his colleagues in the Wildlife Service – the precursor to the Department of Conservation – he worked tirelessly to save some of Aotearoa's rare birds from extinction, especially the kākāpō and kōkako.

Huhana's work draws inspiration from pieces of sculpture Richard created around the couple's property in Kuku, and in coastal Island Bay.

"When Richard was still able to overcome his frustrations of the Alzheimer's condition, he engaged in a meditative pastime of weaving found objects together and erecting them as natural installations around our garden, in our trees, off the corner of our house or along our front fence.

"Each object represented a memory or a reinterpreted story drawn from his impressive environmental experiences. His seasonal structures triggered recollections that regenerated a dialogue, which was both surprising and delightful."

Huhana says the progression of her partner's illness last year to the point that he needed full-time dementia care began a long healing process for her.



Huhana Smith with some of her works in Ringa Toi, the Artist's Gallery, Toi Mahara.

Photo Kevin Ramshaw

"I carefully dismantled most of his installations and transformed them when I took over our front lawn to build a no-dig garden and to grow the vegetables and flowers he was so fond of."

Collaborator Ciaran Banks currently lives in Cornwall, England. He describes his work as a fusion of fine woodworking and material manipulation through painting.

"For this exhibition, I sourced wood from old barns and houses in Denmark and Norway, dating back 300-500 years," he says. "These buildings were hand-hewn from oak trees that often live for 600 years, holding lifetimes of memories within their grains."

Huhana says that in today's precarious world it's no wonder acts of kaitiakitanga and environmentalism loom large.

"So this personalised kaupapa on shared memory loss is important to our collaboration, for those closest to us, and for the futures we forge."

While Huhana was born in Australia, she is affiliated to Ngāti Tukorehe and Raukawa ki te Tonga, and has been living in Aotearoa for more than 30 years.

During that time she has been Senior Curator at Te Papa from (2000-2009), director of her own research company (2010-2016), and now Professor at Toirauwharangi College of Creative Arts, Massey University, leading major Mātauranga Māori or Māori knowledge-led environmental projects that benefit Ngāti Tukorehe and Raukawa ki te Tonga.

Thirteen Months of Memories closes at Toi Mahara, Waikanae, on September 15.



James Carter with some of his unique pottery.

Photo supplied

## James on Art Trail

**Te Horo artist James Carter creates quirky, playful wheel-thrown handmade pottery that reflects his love of movement in both form and glaze.**

James is one of the local artists on the Kāpiti Coast Art Trail, running on the weekends of November 2-3 and 9-10.

James is a familiar sight at markets around the motu with his array of unique, functional, gorgeous cups, bowls, and flower jugs and vases. James says his firing methods allow him to play with the atmosphere inside the kiln to achieve beautiful glaze colours and surfaces while ensuring the clay is watertight.

James' rural Te Horo studio, on the beach side of the highway, is well worth the visit. It's also open year-round by appointment.

James was inspired to start his artistic career in potting in 2019 after meeting senior potter Frank Light on the Art Trail, who subsequently became his mentor.

Working out of his studio in Te Horo, James is becoming well-known for his high-fired, functional pottery as a regular attendee at the Paraparaumu Beach market and other large markets around the North Island. He has also exhibited at the New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts in Wellington.

## Funding for Indigenous talent development

**The Māoriland Indigenous Co-Lab has been selected to receive funding from the New Zealand Film Commission's Industry-Led Talent Development Fund.**

The Co-Lab is an ambitious year-long programme supporting Māori filmmakers to achieve excellence in feature film production. The programme will advance select projects to become market-ready and appealing to investors.

The Co-Lab will provide funding and international mentoring for the filmmakers.

Māoriland Charitable Trust has leveraged its successful Māoriland Film Festival, and work in film training and production, into strong relationships with the Indigenous film community worldwide. Representatives of leading Indigenous screen organisations are supporting and collaborating on the leadership of the programme.

During the past 11 years, Māoriland has been an advocate of Indigenous collaboration and storytelling, supporting both emerging and established filmmakers through programmes such as MATCH creative intensifiers, the Ngā Pakiaka incubator programme and the NATIVE Slam.

Māoriland has the local and international support of the Film Commission, Sundance Indigenous Program, imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival and Ngā Aho Whakaari for this work aimed at empowering local Indigenous storytellers on the world stage.

This unique global network is accessible via Puritia – Māoriland's Indigenous storytellers portal, which underpins the Māoriland kaupapa: Maiangitia te mana ataata – Towards Māori screen success.

The Māoriland Indigenous Co-Lab is structured around four pou (pillars):

- Pou Tuatahi: Māoriland Indigenous script accelerator – a full-time paid residency for experienced Māori screenwriters
- Pou Tuarua: Producers and directors join the writers to form key creative teams.
- Pou Tuatoru: Teams prepare their projects for international markets.
- Pou Tuawhā: Participants receive market training and support as they present their work at international markets and festivals.





# ŌTAKI STREET SCENE



## New resident at The Kilns

Tinni Arora is the new resident artist at The Kilns at Te Horo. Tinni is a skilled studio potter who makes meticulously crafted tableware and miniature pottery – teapots, jugs, casseroles with lids, spouts and handles.



Tinni's ceramics journey began in 2007 in New Delhi. In 2013 she secured a coveted year-long apprenticeship at Leach Pottery in England. She has worked as a ceramics and design specialist at Pathways School, in Noida, New Delhi, working with students aged 9 and older.

Tinni will be at The Kilns until the end of September. On September 15 she will run a workshop using the Obvara firing technique – a Baltic raku, where red-hot bisqued pots are dunked into a fermented flour mixture to achieve a variety of surface texture. To book email: [TheKilnsatTeHoro@gmail.com](mailto:TheKilnsatTeHoro@gmail.com) Tinni will hold an exhibition at The Kilns on September 22.

The summer artist at The Kilns is Thomas Baker of Nelson, who will be resident for six months from October to April. Heavily influenced by Japanese and Korean ceramic traditions and styles, his work falls between traditional studio pottery and experimental sculptures, often mixing the two. Thomas spent a year in Japan, studying ceramics under master potter Seppo Iida and son Michihisa at Hokutoh Studio, Kanazawa. He is co-founder of ceramic studio Kiln, Hot Clay Gallery, and a creative director for Nelson's Clay Week.

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## ART GALLERIES & ARTISTS

**ATB TATTOO STUDIO & GALLERY:** Arthur St. [abandonthebox.co.nz](http://abandonthebox.co.nz)

**AWATEA POTTERY:** Brent Craig, 19 Hadfield Rd, Peka Peka. 027 242 7572. Brightly coloured, functional domestic stoneware.

**BIRGIT MOFFATT:** Sculpture, textiles. 32 Parenga Rd, Ōtaki Gorge. 022 460 2695. [birgitmoffatt.com](http://birgitmoffatt.com)

**HANNEKE KOOP:** Ceramics, pottery, textiles. 144 Te Waka Rd, Te Horo. [hankoop@gmail.com](mailto:hankoop@gmail.com)

**HEI TIKI TOI:** Woodwork. 24 Iiti St. Ariana Summers 021 990 566, and Ben Keene 021 205 6052.

**THE HORI GALLERY:** 84 Moana St, Ōtaki Beach. [thehori.co.nz](http://thehori.co.nz)

**JAILHOUSE POTTERY:** Jennifer Turnbull, 3 Iiti St, Ōtaki. 021 295 7473. [jenniferturnbull.co.nz](http://jenniferturnbull.co.nz)

**JAMES CARTER POTTERY:** 12 Waitaheke Rd, Te Horo. 022 672 7036. Tactile, fun and functional pottery for everyday use.

**JOS SMITH ART STUDIO:** Painting/drawing. 7a Lemon St. 027 614 4145.

**KARL ANDREWS:** Painter, [karlandrews.art](http://karlandrews.art)

**KATHRYN ENNIS-CARTER:** 55 Settlement Rd, Te Horo. 021 620 757. Ceramics and fibre/textiles.

**KENO SCULPTURES** 7 Byron Brown Place, Ōtaki Beach. 021 855 088 • [kenosculpture.co.nz](http://kenosculpture.co.nz)

**KUKU CREATIVE (GREG MOFFATT)**

**LINDSAY & NEIL HEY:** Lindsay - artist and printmaker 027 454 2374; Neil - master potter 027 443 9796, 6 Kingi te Ahoaho Pl. [artsenvogue.co.nz](http://artsenvogue.co.nz)

**LORNA TAWHITI:** [may15tattoo.com](http://may15tattoo.com)  
e: [lorna@may15tattoo.com](mailto:lorna@may15tattoo.com)

**LOUIE ZALK-NEALE** (Ngāi Te Rangī): 11 Millhaven Pl. Ti kōuka weaver & performance artist, wearable taonga, sculptures, drawings.

**MARGARET HUNT:** Ceramics, pottery. Studio at 173b Waerenga Rd. 06 364 8053 or 027 450 2726.

**OLD COURTHOUSE GALLERY:** 239-245 Old SH1. Artists collective. 027 445 7545

**ORGANIC DESIGN STUDIO:** 40 Miro St. Gavin Berry 021 051 3096, Karen McCall 027 226 2094, Sarah Shaw 021 452 465. [odskapiti.com](http://odskapiti.com)

**PAULA ARCHIBALD:** Ceramics, pottery, sculpture. 3 Bell St. 027 247 7488.

**ROD GRAHAM:** Clayworks, 35 Ngaio St, Ōtaki Beach. 027 445 7545.

**RAMILA PARBHU:** Studio, 1 Atmore Ave. Abstract expressionism. Ramila has a unique technique of creating alchemy with acrylic paints.

**ROSEMARY MORTIMER:** Printmaker. 306 Te Waka Rd, Te Horo. 027 236 7343. [rosemariamortimer.com](http://rosemariamortimer.com)

**SARAH LANGE:** Rata St Studio, Rata St, Ōtaki Beach. Resin and mixed media 022 3177 613, Open by appointment.

**SAVAGE ART:** Sonia Savage, 35 Ngaio St, Ōtaki Beach. 027 244 7322.

**SEAGRASS GALLERY:** Grant Stevenson, 38 Moana St, Ōtaki Beach. 027 231 4643. [seagrassgallery.co.nz](http://seagrassgallery.co.nz)

**SHELSHOK GALLERY:** Mixed media. Lynne O'Connor, 35 Dal Din Drive. 027 332 8649

**STACEY YOUNG:** The Tailor's Wife, 8 Freemans Rd. Beautifully hand carved, tactile tableware, candle sticks and goddess figurines.

**STUDIO RESET:** Encaustic artist. [www.studioreset.art](http://www.studioreset.art)

**SUMMERSTONE GALLERY** 89 Ringawhatai Rd, Ōtaki. 027 927 1591.

**TOI MATARAU:** Māoriland Hub, Main St. Open Mon-Sat 11-4pm, and by appt. Stunning traditional and contemporary Toi Māori.

**TOTE MODERN ART GALLERY:** Ōtaki-Māori Racing Club, Te Roto Rd. Open Fri-Sun 10am-3pm. [otakipottery.club.co.nz](http://otakipottery.club.co.nz)

**YVONNE DE MILLE** kitemaker, artist. [yvonedemille.co.nz](http://yvonedemille.co.nz)

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## A favourite from home

**Debbi asked me what recipe she should include in this issue of Ōtaki Street Scene.**

My first thought was one of my favourites, risoni. It was one my mum would make at the drop of a hat with whatever was in the fridge or fresh from the garden. It was one of her go-to dishes after we all emerged from the days of meat-and-three-veg, and summer salads that included iceberg lettuce, grated carrots, beetroot and hard-boiled eggs.

I love being active as a rugby referee, even if nowadays mostly running the touchline. I've always looked for what can provide a good balance of carbs for energy and protein for sustainability before a game that can clock up about 7km of running distance.

Mum's risoni fits the bill because the ingredients can be easily adjusted, not only for personal taste preferences, but also for how much carb or protein you want to add.

A bit more chicken or egg can lift the protein content, and fresh herbs straight from the garden provide freshness that's hard to beat.

Whatever the season, this dish is a winner with the whole family.

**Editor of Ōtaki Today**  
Ilan Carson has refereed rugby for 25 years and still manages to AR (run the touchline) when he can at 68. He's picky about his pre-game nutrition.



## Mum's lunch – inexpensive and tasty

**Lunch at lan's mums was often a risoni dish with no name. Mae Carson, who lived until she was 98, would make this for the family when there were a lot visiting.**

It was cheap, but tasty. Mae could also use many of the vegetables she and husband Bill grew in their market garden.

It's a meal with many of the ingredients lan loves – pasta, tomatoes, herbs and whatever vegetables are available. We make this dish often and mix it up for



different flavours. Risoni is a rice shaped pasta, easy to cook and in most supermarkets. It's made with durum flour, semolina and water, kneaded into a dough before being rolled flat and shaped. The result is a creamy coloured, oval-shaped pasta with distinctive pointed ends. Orzo is a smaller version of risoni and can replace it if risoni is not available.

We don't measure anything as a rule, but two cups of risoni will make a good meal



to serve about eight, or to have leftovers. Adjust ingredients as required for the number of hungry mouths..



### TOMATO AND RISONI

oil and butter 2 cups risone  
chicken stock can tomatoes  
parsley oregano, thyme  
boiled eggs peas  
optional: grated zucchini, spinach, chillies, capsicum, fresh tomatoes, broccoli, kale, asparagus . . . bacon, ham, chorizo for a spicy change, leftover chicken, lemon juice, feta, parmesan.

In a large frying pan or wok, heat oil and butter. Add risone and cook until starting to brown a little, add about 4 cups chicken stock or vegetable stock if vegetarian, tinned tomatoes and herbs. Add whatever chopped-up vegetables and or protein you are using. Add peeled, cut-up up boiled eggs at the end or poach towards the end of cooking as pictured above. Takes about 10-15 minutes to cook. Mix and match whatever you fancy. We use whatever is in the fridge and garden. Enjoy!



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# HUATAU/Comment

## The Precautionary Principle sides with Freddie the frog

**A mate asks if you want to come for a ride in his car to the shops to get some food. You can't drive. He's drunk but he swears he's not too drunk. He does it all the time, he says.**

The reward is that you get to the shops quicker. Maybe you get some food from somewhere too far to walk. The risk is, you die. Would you get into the car?

I've never been good at maths, but even I can understand this: When we're thinking about taking a risk, and the damage done if it goes wrong is unable to be fixed, you need to be really, really sure it's not going to go wrong.

Losing your life is (I think) irreversible. So if we're thinking well, we should decide that the time saved or the new, different food isn't worth that risk.

The fancy name for this is the Precautionary Principle, which is that when the potential damage is irreversible, we'd better be damn sure we've got the evidence to say that the bad thing is not going to happen.

When the stakes are that high, you don't say: "I can't prove the harm will happen, therefore let's do it." You come from the other side, and say: "I can prove the harm won't happen, therefore let's do it." Or: "I can't prove the harm won't happen, therefore let's not do it."

I'm not going to drink the bottle labelled "might be acid" because I can't prove it's not acid. It doesn't matter that nobody can prove what it is.

If the stakes aren't high, sometimes you can get away with not being able to prove the bad thing will happen, because the bad thing isn't that bad. I reckon I can throw this pen up and catch it, even though I can't prove it, because if I miss, who cares?

Damaging the environment to the extent that our children or our grandchildren can't swim in the rivers or can't drink the tap water is, I think, irreversible.

Just this week I've read about three rivers here at home being so polluted they're unsafe to touch.

Unsafe to touch.

When I was a kid, I thought that was only something that happened in the big, giant polluted countries in comic books and TV. Not Aotearoa or Clean Green New Zealand like the travel magazines called us.

Until last week, the Fast Track Bill being proposed by the government gave final decision-making on big commercial infrastructure projects like mines to three men: Chris Bishop, Shane Jones and Simeon Brown.

Chris Bishop is an ex-tobacco lobbyist. I don't want him deciding the health of the environment my children will inherit.

Shane Jones said "Gone are the days of the multicoloured

skink, the kiwi, many other species that have been weaponised to deny New Zealand communities their right to a livelihood..." and "if there is a mineral, if there is a mining opportunity and it's impeded by a blind frog, goodbye, Freddie."



GOOD THINKING

PERA BARRETT

He's trying to make it sound like the "only" risk of rushing through the approval of building mines-and-more, is a frog, a lizard, or a kiwi dying.

But that's not how ecosystems work. Species die because the ecosystem no longer works like it should to support all the species that are a part of it.

That includes us, the human animal. And as smart as we like to think we are, unless it's flying us all to Mars, no amount of AI (or minerals) can change our reliance on the planet working to support us and the children

who come after us. I'd rather be able to touch the water I need to drink, thanks.

There are 19 applications for mining developments in the fast track process so far. The amount of public feedback and concern meant the government has adjusted the process and removed the ability for that panel of three people to override the experts. It still allows those companies to bypass the usual processes and get exemptions from things like the Conservation Act, the Freshwater Fisheries regulations, the Resource Management Act etc.

Even Elon Musk doesn't (really) have a backup planet. So the risk of stuffing it up here is irreversible. Those stakes are about as high as they get.

The recent adjustments to the Fast Track Bill are a good thing. It was a change made due to the amount of people who were thinking well and turned those thoughts into action. But the fact that the process was written in the first place to allow those three non-experts the ability to override the experts, worries me. That's not how we should be thinking about precautions and risk.

We should all be worried that these are the thought processes going into decisions that affect if this ecosystem works the way it's meant to.

Sometimes you do just need to give it a go and see what happens. Sometimes doing something is better than doing nothing. But not when the cost of getting it wrong is our children's future.

If you gave feedback or made a submission in response to the Fast Track Bill, thank you for thinking about their future and knowing the stakes are high enough to voice those thoughts.

Keep going.

■ Pera is a rap singer, writer, and founder of Shoebox Christmas. He received the Local Hero award at the New Zealander of the Year awards in 2019.

### ŌTAKI COMMUNITY: SIMON BLACK

## Solutions for anti-social burnout woes

**In recent months, Ōtaki has experienced significant disruptions due to illegal driving activities, including two large burnout events.**

These events have caused damage to roads and private property, and residents have faced abuse and intimidation from participants. Unfortunately, the problem extends beyond these organised events, with frequent instances of speeding and burnouts occurring throughout the week, often using stolen vehicles.



At the root of this issue lies a shortage of police numbers in Ōtaki (even when supported by police from Levin), coupled with secluded streets ideal for such activities and no CCTV surveillance in key hotspots. This has led to an environment where anti-social driving thrives and is putting our community at risk.

There are solutions available. The Kapiti Coast District Council (KCDC) has the ability to install physical traffic calming measures, implement no-cruising bylaws, and enhance CCTV surveillance in collaboration with police, businesses and community groups. Other councils, like Rotorua DC and Horowhenua DC, have successfully reduced illegal driving through similar measures, demonstrating their effectiveness.

The cost of inaction is high - injuries, disrupted lives, and significant financial burdens on emergency services, health systems, and taxpayers.

On Thursday, 8 August, Cam Butler, Jackie Elliott, and I presented these concerns to the Strategy Operations and Finance Committee at KCDC. We asked our council to take a strong stance against dangerous driving, align with other successful initiatives, and actively support our community by developing non-cruising bylaws, a solid CCTV policy and installing necessary traffic calming measures.

Our concerns will be discussed (and we hope to some measure be addressed) at a future council meeting.

We know this issue is of great concern to many Ōtaki and Te Horo residents, and the Ōtaki Community Board is prioritising getting some permanent solutions in place. Kia kaha, Ōtaki.

■ Simon is deputy chair of the Ōtaki Community Board and a senior firefighter with the Ōtaki Volunteer Fire Brigade

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ōtaki Today welcomes letters to the editor. Write or email including your full name, address and contact phone number. Please keep the word count to a maximum of 200 words. Note the editor reserves the right to reject or edit any letter. Please write to Ōtaki Today, 13 Te Manuao Rd, Ōtaki, or email [ian@idmedia.co.nz](mailto:ian@idmedia.co.nz)

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**ŌTAKI TODAY**



# HUATAU/Comment

**MAYOR'S VIEW: JANET HOLBOROW**

## Progress on affordable housing in Ōtaki, for Ōtaki people

**Recently an open home was held to view more houses being completed in Ōtaki by Kāinga Ora.**

These homes are welcome, but local people are often missing out on accessing them.

A hui held in August, hosted by Cr Shelly Warwick and the Ōtaki Community Board, brought together representatives from the Ministry of Social Development, Kāinga Ora, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki and Kāpiti Coast District Council to have a kōrero about how to make sure that local people in need have access to any new social housing being built in Ōtaki.

It was also clear that the



representatives from Kāinga Ora and MSD were listening to the message, and there was an undertaking from everyone present that there would be more communication to make sure that local people in need have an opportunity to be considered for placement in these homes.

In a separate project, the council is progressing work to deliver some

affordable housing in Ōtaki with help from a grant from central government.

These homes will be targeted to affordable homes for people on lower incomes. They will contribute to helping people who don't qualify for social housing, but can't afford the growing rental prices in the town.

On another note, there has been a lot of council activity involving young people in Ōtaki. The Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs has been delivering learner driver courses and other programmes, and the Kāpiti Coast Youth Council has been active with a number of hui with local rangatahi.

These have included conversations

with Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki's leadership rūpū, a workshop around the Long-term Plan and engagement during Youth Week.

A number of young people and organisations led by rangatahi were recognised with ThinkBig grants run by the youth council.

Te Raukura ki Ōtaki were a stand-out on the night. It was so inspiring to hear about their work supporting young people in Ōtaki in so many ways.

Another recognition for a local project was an award for the Te Horo Beach improvements, which have been spearheaded by Waikanae Community Board

deputy chair Michael Moore. At the Local Government New Zealand Community Boards conference held recently in Wellington, the project received a "highly commended" in the enhancing spaces category.

These awards are hotly contested by community boards across the country, so congratulations to Mike, council staff and everyone who was involved in the project.

Finally, congratulations to Ōtaki Players on a wonderful production of *The Wedding Singer*, held at Sountward Theatre recently. The music, costumes and performances were outstanding.

■ Janet is Kāpiti's mayor

**THE ELECTORATE: TIM COSTLEY, MP**

## We're tackling the cost of living crisis

**Some great news for everyone in our community: interest rates and prices are coming down.**

Our number one priority has been tackling the cost of living crisis, and it's working. Fruit and vege prices are down to the lowest amount in six years, decreasing by more than 16 percent.

We're making the tough decisions required to fix our economy, and that means cutting back on the wasteful spending we had under Labour. As a result, inflation has decreased from more than 7 percent



under Labour to around 3 percent now, and the impact of this is that the Reserve Bank has cut interest rates earlier than expected. Now mortgages at the bank cost less to service, and this puts downward pressure on rents as well. Lower interest rates, and cheaper mortgages and rents, means more money left for families to spend on power, on groceries, on petrol, or on a treat for the kids.

Add to this the tax relief that we brought in from the July 31 and it all adds up. On top of this parents can get 25 percent of their childcare and ECE costs refunded as well, up to \$150 a fortnight. One parent I spoke to at an Ōtaki kindy told me their family was getting a total of \$232 extra between tax relief and child care rebates. That's huge!

There is more work to do, but we are rebuilding our economy and restoring the cost of living so our local families find it a little bit easier to get by.

Transport is another big issue. I recently met with NZTA to talk about the new expressway National and our partners are building from Ōtaki to north of Levin. I'm proud that we will be starting this in just 12 months.

I've also met with Kiwirail, and as well as confirming the new trains that will run multiple times per day, I've asked them to look at starting to increase public rail to Ōtaki and Levin earlier. This won't happen overnight, but I'm fighting for a gradual build-up towards 2029 when we should see eight passenger trains a day at our station.

Finally, as always, I've enjoyed being out and about locally over the last month. I visited families who risked seeing their house flooded in heavy rain, offering to help with sandbags. I visited the kids' market and I had one of the children start producing cards for me to send out to constituents. And I've done the usual range of business and community visits, and local pop-up meetings (next on September 5 at Hi Mate Café, 10.30am).

I will soon be celebrating our amazing food and beverage sector from around Ōtaki at a big event in Parliament. I look forward to sharing it with you next month.

■ Tim is MP for the Ōtaki electorate

**CAM'S CORNER: CAM BUTLER**

## Rain, roads and bothering burnouts

**I am very happy to be sitting inside typing this up after having to spend some time outside in the rain recently dealing with minor flooding around my place.**

I hope everyone else came through the heavy rain at the end of August with no issues.

**Boy racer meet up**

Check out deputy chair Simon Black's column (page 21) where he details what the Ōtaki Community Board has been up to in this area.

**Bridge lane closure**

How have people found the bridge lane closure? The feedback I have had so far is that it isn't too bad. There are a few impatient drivers, whether merging out of Riverbank Road or running the red light at night. I have asked Waka Kotahi if they can do some



tweaks to help deal with those. Thank you to the drivers who are letting people in and not blocking intersections. It certainly makes things smoother. That end-of-the-year lane re-open is getting closer!

**Offramp crash**

There was a car crash at the southbound offramp into Ōtaki recently and it has raised more concerns than normal about the visibility at that intersection with Old SH1. While I have asked Waka Kotahi if they are doing any work on it, in the meantime, please stop at the stop sign and keep to the

speed limit.

**Te Horo in Ōtaki or Waikanae**

If you are a Te Horo resident then have you had your say about which ward you would like to be in. There should have been info and a feedback form in your mail recently and I strongly encourage you to have your say. If the majority of the Te Horo residents wish to be in the Ōtaki ward then we are happy to put our time into making that happen.

When I first moved to Te Horo I thought I would do everything with Waikanae, but very quickly we as a family found that virtually everything we did was with Ōtaki. This might not be true for everybody, but I am going over that "single lane" bridge three times most days.

Keep being Sunny, Ōtaki.

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

**TE HORO OUTLOOK: MICHAEL MOORE**

## Building resilience on Te Horo Beach Road

**On August 26, as a severe weather front swept across Wellington region, Te Horo Beach Road was again closed due to flooding.**

This was near 95 Te Horo Beach Road and is one of three vulnerable low points along the road where the Mangaone Stream burst its banks after a heavy downpour. The others are just to the west of the Pukenu Road corner, which has previously become impassable, cutting off the entire beach village community.

In July there was dredging of the lower reaches of the Mangaone, close to the mouth, and this helped distribute the August downpour more efficiently.

For many years, locals and successive elected members of our council have been advocating for a more permanent solution.

Along with Cr Liz Koh, also a beach resident, I have been lobbying for a fix for this critical access road. Last year we brought together key stakeholders from council's transport team, along with Greater Wellington Regional Council, which has jurisdiction over the Mangaone Stream.

Our council has been seeking a contribution from Waka Kotahi's resilience



fund to support this work, which could cost up to a \$1 million. The fund is targeted for infrastructure improvements to mitigate the effects of climate change and includes installing prevention measures.

At our August Climate and Environment Committee, an extensive access and transport activity management plan for the next 10 years was tabled. It noted that Te Horo Beach Road, from Pukenu Road to the Beach village, is a critical link as there is no alternative route.

This link runs parallel with the Mangaone Stream and is prone to flooding, which regularly closes off the beach community. Flooding in December 2021 saw the road impassable for several days as water failed to recede.

The report says the Mangaone Stream overtops Te Horo Beach Road at several locations during high flow. The low section,

to the west of Pukenu Road corner, floods to a depth that causes the road to be closed. The depth of the flooding peaked at about 500mm.

Raising this section of the road by about half a metre, with a heavy metal build-up, would dramatically improve resilience.

The report notes that this would be likely to have an impact on the Mangaone Stream during high flow, with associated impacts to the paddock to the south.

Working with the regional council and modelling is a requirement to move this project forward. The adjacent landowner would also be directly affected and a resource consent might also be required.

The intention is to begin work soon on this, which includes working with the regional council to understand effects, design and other aspects.

The good news is, our council will aim for construction of this road improvement to be under way in the 2025-26 year.

• Next Waikanae Community Board meeting 7pm, Tuesday August 24, at Waikanae Community Hall, 28 Utauta St.

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



# Should we see hope in a Kamala Harris presidency?

**There is quite definitely a powerful burst of energy coming from the Kamala Harris presidential campaign in the United States.**

In the hyped-up world of American politics, it looks more like a Beyoncé gig than Washington DC, but for all that, it's prompting many true believers to think this is not just about electing a president, it's a transformational shift of seismic proportions.

Well, maybe.

Gone is the binary choice between a couple of aging yesteryear men and in its place is the possibility the Un-united States will elect the first woman as president – black and Asian, no less.

Inside the heaving arena on the last night of the Democratic National Convention, thousands of delegates showed their instant love for Harris as she formally accepted her party's presidential nomination and proclaimed, "a chance to chart a new way forward".

"With this election, our nation has a precious, fleeting opportunity to move past the bitterness, cynicism and divisive battles of the past," she shouted out to the delirious audience.

The media jumped in to make comparisons with Obama's 2008 presidential campaign, as if to say, "we've been here before".

Indeed we have. Obama was the first African American in history to be nominated on a major party ticket. On November 4, 2008, he defeated

the Republican nominee, an older and whiter Senator John McCain of Arizona, making Obama the first African American elected president.

As it happened, Obama became something of a supernova, promising a bucket-load but delivering much less. Aside from organising the death of Osama bin Laden and ushering in affordable health reforms, the tidal wave of lasting reform didn't quite eventuate.

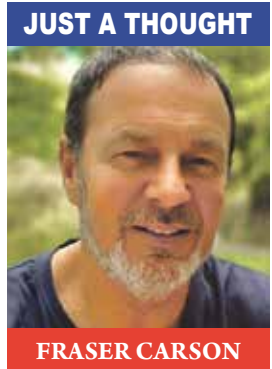
Is the rise of Kamala Harris something different?

Much like the instant adoration attached to an All Black's stella debut, we should be a little circumspect about what's happening. But the moment might be right for something promising for all humanity, not just the United States.

Firstly, Harris is a woman in her prime. Automatically she presents something different from the usual parade of older men in dark suits. Secondly, the US – and the world – has been through a wringer, with Covid, natural disasters, wars and more, resulting in widespread fear, angst and pessimism.

All this has been presided over by people called Trump, Putin, Johnson and Netanyahu, populist politicians offering authoritarian strength and a rear-vision view to those who have lost faith in leadership, governments and the media.

Thirdly, timing. Harris still has to beat Trump to become president, but a win, especially if the Democrats also win the Congress and Senate, provides a platform to make genuine progress in areas such as climate change, human rights, de-escalation of wars, more open and cheaper access to healthcare, and fair trade.



JUST A THOUGHT

FRASER CARSON



Of these, climate change is the most threatening, partly because if we can't survive on this lonely planet, nothing else matters anyway. Yet, right now, we are on the cusp of a major revolution in everything from renewable and cheap energy to clean water production and better use of land, air and water resources.

All these things are what the likes of Trump, Putin and Netanyahu don't give a toss for and will continue to enable interests that are trashing the world's oceans and air.

Like any nation or regimen, the United States is a flawed society with politics, especially on

the world stage, which is myopic and riddled with self-interest. But as the most powerful nation on earth (still) we have to hope for the best. The alternative is a dictatorship that lets the handbrake off oil, gas, coal, other despots and AI.

A Kamala Harris presidency might just help make the world a little less of a hot mess and usher in hope and a better life for more people.

After all, isn't that what we all wish for?

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

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# PŪTAIAO/Science

## A day in the life of a pyramid schemer

**With the increasing cost of living, times are tough in New Zealand. Why not run a pyramid scheme as a bit of a side hustle?**

Get 10 people to pay \$100 each to enrol in your scheme – the first level of your pyramid. You are now \$1000 richer, so you are happy. The enrolled people are also happy, because now they can do what you did: they each can get 10 people to give them \$100 to enrol in the scheme.

That's 100 more people enrolled as members, and an additional \$10,000 collected – the second level of the pyramid. The \$10,000 is divided up: half to you as the organiser, and the rest shared among the 10 members who collected the money.

And so it goes. Due to the exponential growth of the pyramid, with just four levels of enrolment you make nearly \$200,000. You're now very happy indeed. Even the 10 original enrollees have nearly made \$20,000 each.

But you run the risk of criminal prosecution because pyramid schemes are illegal. Despite offering people an "investment opportunity", the reality is that most of the people will be on the bottom level of the pyramid (90 percent in the example above) and will lose money.

Pyramid schemes simply rob Peter to pay Paul. And the bigger the pyramid gets the more

people on the bottom losing money.

Pyramid schemes are a fraudulent investment proposition. What to do? You could set up a pyramid-shaped multilevel marketing (MLM) scheme instead. Now you get people to sign up to be distributors of some product. This way you not only get a sign-up payment like before with your "naked" pyramid scheme, but you also get to sell product to the distributors – a double win for you.

You need to develop a product that can be cheap to make but that has emotional appeal - a perfume or cosmetic would be perfect. Be sure to have a unique exotic puffery

ingredient with a good backstory that makes it impossible for customers to judge its real value, or price compare. Get the product mass-produced for \$5 a bottle, retail it for \$80 (the higher the cost the more exotic it appears) and wholesale it to your distributors for \$50.

Tell your distributors they can be their own business owners – the captains of their own ship – and that this is their opportunity to get the life they deserve. Focus on the enormous earning potential by using those at the top of the pyramid as examples.

What you don't tell your distributor's is how failure is guaranteed for almost everyone else, with one independent American survey showing that less than 1 percent of MLM

### HEALTH SCIENCE



DR STEVE HUMPHRIES



Making money in pyramid schemes is more fantasy than reality. Photo Pixabay

distributors made any money. That's worse odds than being in an illegal naked pyramid scheme! It's an outcome perhaps not too surprising given all the distributor expenses that go with buying, promoting, and selling a product.

Even though your distribution network has a triangular shape, never mention the word "pyramid". Best not to call it multilevel marketing either, given so many of these schemes have been linked to thinly disguised fraudulent pyramid schemes. Call it network marketing.

Encourage your distributors to sign up other distributors to grow their down line (that is, expand the pyramid) though of course don't point out that ultimately this is just growing the

competition with more and more people at the bottom of the pyramid fighting for ever smaller pieces of the pie. The game is rigged, and only a those at the very top of the pyramid make any real money.

And, thanks to the lobbying of the multi-billion-dollar MLM industry, you are under no legal obligation to realistically inform people joining your scheme of their dismal odds of being able to make a living, or make any money at all.

With so many distributors, each wanting a cut with their commissions, MLM products are typically overpriced, consequently distributors often wind up pestering friends and family just to get a sale, or another distributor. Tell your distributors this is the art of social networking, and that it's a win-win for everyone.

Always instil the notion that with hard work will come success, even though it's inevitable most distributors will fail. Fortunately, most will not complain when they do fail; they will simply fade away too embarrassed to admit to family, friends, or you, that they have not succeeded in their business venture.

So, if selling overpriced products in a business model that works on mass failure appeals, then running a product-based pyramid scheme could be for you.

■ 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.



## Bowel screening is easy

In MidCentral (Ōtaki to Norsewood), free bowel screening is now available to Māori and Pacific people from the age of 50 to 74.

The screening age is 60 to 74 for everyone else.

Find out more [timetobowelscreen.nz](https://www.timetobowelscreen.nz) or talk to your doctor.

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa  
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Time to  
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# MAHI MĀRA/Gardening

## Perfect temperatures for perfect plants



### What a difference when we sow seeds, and transplant seedlings, into soil that's at the perfect temp for each crop.

To get it right, use your trusty soil thermometer. My chart below shows the ideal temperature range, not the entire one. Most crops will germinate outside this range – not minding soil a bit cooler or a bit warmer, but just because they will germinate doesn't mean they'll do it well.

- Beetroot, for example, will germinate at 5C, but with a patchy strike rate and not as fast as it would at 10C.
- Beans germinate best at 18-20C. They'll still germinate at 15C, but more slowly.

Fast isn't often on my agenda, but where seed raising is concerned, it's best to keep seeds cranking along to avoid rotting before germinating (typical of legumes), or fungal disease on the foliage of young seedlings.

#### Kath's ideal germination and transplanting temps:

10-15C	artichokes, broadbeans, carrots, chard, kale, parsley, parsnips, peas, radish, spinach
10-20C	beetroot, brassica, celery, chives, garlic, lettuces, leeks, onions
15-20C	beans
15-25C	corn, cucumbers, pumpkins, zucchini
18-25C	sweet peppers, tomatoes
20-30C	chillies, eggplants, kumara, melons

When germinating seed use the mid to upper end of the range.

When transplanting seedlings use the full range but don't go below the minimum.

Although soil temperature plays a huge part in

seed-raising success, it's not, of course, the only part. Old seed, not very good seed-raising mix, or pyralid residue in bought compost are all potential reasons, as is over watering, so here's a little help to get it right.

#### How to water

The perfect moisture level for seeds and seedlings, and in fact plants in general, is barely moist.

The best way to achieve this for your seedlings is with bottom watering. It ensures the tray is moist right to the bottom, encouraging the roots to stretch out. It prevents fungus and mould because foliage stays dry and it saves time – trays retain moisture for a few days. Great to do if you go away for the weekend and can bear to be parted.

I leave an old sink, in the greenhouse with water in it to keep the water ambient. Ideally the water will come about a third of the way up the seedling tray, the soil will wick the moisture the rest of the way up to the top, thereby not disturbing the seeds. As soon as the top darkens with moisture, lift the tray out and let it drain.

Don't water again until the top has completely dried out, but it's still moist underneath. About four days for me in cool spring.

Once your seedlings are pricked on and growing well, switch to light overhead watering. In an ideal world the rose on your watering can or the attachment on your hose end would be facing upward so the water makes an arc. Create this as best you can, sweeping back and forth a few times like a passing drizzle, not a downpour.

■ *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.*



KATH IRVINE

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# PAKIHI/Business

## A guide for generating and converting leads into customers

In this column, I'm delving into a topic that resonates with each of us as business owners, team leaders and entrepreneurs, especially in these challenging times: generating and converting leads into loyal customers.

The heart of the matter isn't just about attracting leads; it's about nurturing and converting them into a thriving customer base. While I could wax lyrical about the numerous strategies to boost business growth, let's zero in on the crux of the issue: increasing lead generation and taking decisive actions to propel your business forward.

In my recent discussions with fellow business owners, I've sensed the struggle. The economic landscape has been unforgiving, and the idea of "surviving to '25" has become a refrain that's all too familiar. But let's not dwell on hardships. Instead, let's embrace actionable solutions.

I'm excited to share seven potent strategies to generate and convert leads, complemented by five essential actions you, as an SME business owner, should be implementing without delay.

First and foremost, let's talk content marketing. Your content should be a treasure trove of value that addresses the specific pain points of your target audience. Whether it's blog posts, white papers or videos, the content you produce should be a generous offering to your potential customers.

Next up, social media advertising. Whether it's Facebook, Instagram or TikTok, targeted ads can work wonders for your lead generation efforts. Don't shy away from harnessing the power of these platforms to reach your audience.

But what about your existing contacts? Here's where email marketing campaigns come into play. Remember, it's not about spamming; it's about crafting personalised, engaging emails that resonate with segmented parts of your audience. Think of it as the T-O-C approach: Target, Offer, Copy.

Moving on, we can't overlook the importance of search engine optimisation (SEO). If your website isn't optimised, it's like having a billboard in the desert. Work closely with your marketing team or seek expert assistance to ensure your online presence isn't just visible, but vibrant.

Referral campaigns are another goldmine. Make it effortless



Image by Gerd Altmann, Pixabay

for your clients to refer your business. Whether you're in a B2C or B2B environment, word-of-mouth can be a game-changer when it's part of a structured campaign.

Don't forget the power of webinars and virtual events. Sharing your expertise generously can establish you as a leader in your field and build trust with your audience. And for those with a knack for online engagement, lead magnets and landing pages can be incredibly effective in capturing interest.

Now, let's pivot to the five key actions you should be taking:

1. Focus on value-driven content. It's about enriching your audience's experience, not just filling up space.
2. Leverage data and analytics. You can't manage what you don't measure, so use data to inform your decisions and refine your strategies.
3. Strengthen your online presence. Ensure your website is user-friendly, mobile-responsive, and SEO-optimised.
4. Engage with prospects on social media. Build relationships and rapport as you would face-to-face.
5. Employ a multi-channel approach. Combine online and offline strategies, and explore strategic partnerships to expand your reach.

In conclusion, while the economic climate might feel like a winter chill, remember that spring is on the horizon. The efforts you put in today are the seeds that will blossom in the seasons to come.

■ If you're looking to improve your business's performance, contact us at the Centre of Business Excellence ([chris@wcbe.co.nz](mailto:chris@wcbe.co.nz) or 022 2332 669). Let's work together to unlock your business's full potential. To speak to Chris, book a Discovery Call at <https://calendly.com/chris-5ns/complimentary-clarity-planning-session>

### YOUR BUSINESS



CHRIS WHELAN

## Many tough challenges for farming sector

The nature of farming is no two days are the same. That is definitely the case now where the rural sector is facing challenges on multiple fronts from increased debt servicing and input costs, combined with soft farm-gate prices.

Throw into the mix recent regulatory uncertainty, and there are plenty of issues for farmers to mull over a cup of tea.

There are notable recent developments those in the primary industries space should be aware of.

### Freshwater farm plans

The requirement for some farms in Waikato, Southland, the West Coast, Otago and Manawatu-Whanganui to have freshwater farm plans came into effect on April 1. Regional councils are working with landowners to develop freshwater farm plans if they have any of the below:

- 20 hectares or more in arable or pastoral use
- 5 hectares or more in horticultural use
- 20 hectares or more of combined use.

The government has made announcements about potential changes to the freshwater farm plan system to improve cost-effectiveness and practicality. However, these changes are still to be developed. Until then regional councils and farmers should continue to operate under the current legislation.

It's possible these requirements could be paused or amended later this year, so watch this space for updates.

### Intensive winter grazing

The government is proposing to remove national intensive winter grazing regulations in time for the 2025 winter grazing season. This change will happen as part of proposed amendments to the Resource Management Act.

The current winter grazing regulations will remain for this winter until the amendments to the Resource Management Act take effect. Again, watch this space to see when the intensive winter grazing regulations are repealed.

### Health & Safety at Work Act

Recently two cases of interest have brought about some interest in the ever-evolving legal space relating to workplace health and safety.

In the case of WorkSafe New Zealand v RH & Jury Trust and others, the High Court found the trustees of a farm-owning trust could be prosecuted under the Health & Safety at Work Act in a tragic case of a fatal farm accident involving a child.

The second case involves the former Ports of Auckland chief executive being charged for failing to undertake due diligence to ensure the port complied with its health and safety obligations. This case is notable because it involves an executive manager being charged after the death of a port worker. There are several previous cases involving directors of smaller companies where those directors were involved in the day-to-day operations of the business. However, here we have a senior non-executive director who has been personally charged over a workplace fatality.

Directors and executive managers of businesses in high-risk primary industries will wait with interest for this judgment to be released. It will likely provide key guidance on the due diligence duty owed by officers under the Health & Safety at Work Act.

Wakefields Lawyers have lawyers experienced in all aspects of rural law and agribusiness, including farm transactions, ownership structures, succession planning, forestry agreements, employment, and health and safety. Contact them on 04 9780 3600 or email [info@wakefieldslaw.com](mailto:info@wakefieldslaw.com)

■ Mike is a senior associate working on the Kapiti Coast and Horowhenua. He specialises in commercial, property and rural law.

### MATTERS OF LAW



MIKE MITCHELL

## THE POWER OF PRINT

If you've ever doubted the power of print media – including Ōtaki Today – think again. The latest UK analysis of almost NZ\$6 billion (£1.8 billion) of spending on advertising campaigns shows print advertising has by far the highest ROI (return on investment).

The study commissioned by Thinkbox in the UK provides compelling evidence for the profitability and sustained impact of print advertising. On average, a dollar invested in advertising across all media, returns just over \$4 in profit. But **print advertising yields an impressive \$6.36 in profit for every dollar spent**, compared with only \$3.20 for paid social media.

"This outcome confirms previous studies, making print advertising one of the most effective forms of advertising in a digitally dominated industry," Thinkbox says.

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**BUSINESS PROFILE**

*This series of profiles on local businesses is supported by Land Matters and Pritchard Civil*



Heather Barnes in the Riverbank Engineering retail store where tradies and serious DIYers can find tools and accessories.



Dean Roberts at Riverbank Engineering on Riverbank Road. Simon Haines is behind welding one of the brackets for the Ōtaki River bridge shared path. *Photos Ōtaki Today*

# Dean engineers path to successful future

**Dean Roberts arrived in New Zealand from England more than 17 years ago with no job, but determined to build a new future in a country he saw as offering a better lifestyle than his birthplace.**

Having owned and operated Riverbank Engineering since 2021, he seems to have succeeded. He now has a wife and three kids, and a business he can call his own.

Dean admits it's not always been easy. "It was a bit tough last year, but we've got through and I think we're out of the worst of it," he says. "There's work out there for us – we just have to keep doing what we do well."

It's a philosophy that's sometimes put Riverbank's prices slightly higher than their competitors, but Dean is unapologetic.

"I've had one or two clients querying our price, but I tell them they won't get a variation

on the job – what you ask for is what you'll get. We won't be coming back asking for more."

Getting it right first time is a key part of the business ethos. It's driven by what Dean says is the "perfectionist" in him. He's got a work history that backs up the personality trait.

Dean left school at 16 and took up a four-year engineering apprenticeship with the power transmission company Renold in Rochdale, Greater Manchester. He then did five years at the University of Manchester before running the operation and design of large bespoke gearboxes for lifts, escalators, cooling plants etc.

After more than 17 years he was looking for a change of lifestyle. New Zealand appealed.

"I quit the job, got on a plane and landed here."

After a month with the need for work, he got a job at Precision in Lower Hutt, ensuring products met the AS/NZS standards. He later

had an integral part of the outsourcing of mass-produced items to China, with frequent visits to determine and maintain quality of suppliers.

Then he went to work for Nigel and Justine Pritchard at Riverbank Engineering as their operations manager. With the Pritchards wanting to retire, the opportunity to buy the business arose and Dean took over in April 2021.

He has continued the engineering work that includes jobs big and small.

One of the larger contracts at present is constructing 14 steel brackets that will form the sub-structure to hold the shared pathway on to the side of the Ōtaki River bridge.

There's also farm work fixing, for example, feedout wagons and railings for fences. There's also the residential and commercial structural steel road that Dean is confidently walking. He works with companies such as Focus Projects, A1

Homes and David Reid Homes, bespoke builders such as Matai Homes, Eller Construction and BMK, while also having excellent relations with local architects and engineers such as Ben Gilpin, Hamish Wells and Peter Bolton.

And then there are teapots – yes, teapots. "We get a lot of people coming in with the handle on their teapot broken. So we fix them."

"We're everything to everyone – if something breaks we're here to fix it."

Riverbank Engineering has 14 staff, including five casuals in the workshop, office and retail – Dean says they're a highly skilled, close knit team.

The retail part of the business provides power tools, hand tools, brackets and bolts – the sort of stuff for tradies and serious handy people.

■ Riverbank Engineering, 46 Riverbank Rd. 06 364 7444. See [riverbankeng.co.nz](http://riverbankeng.co.nz)



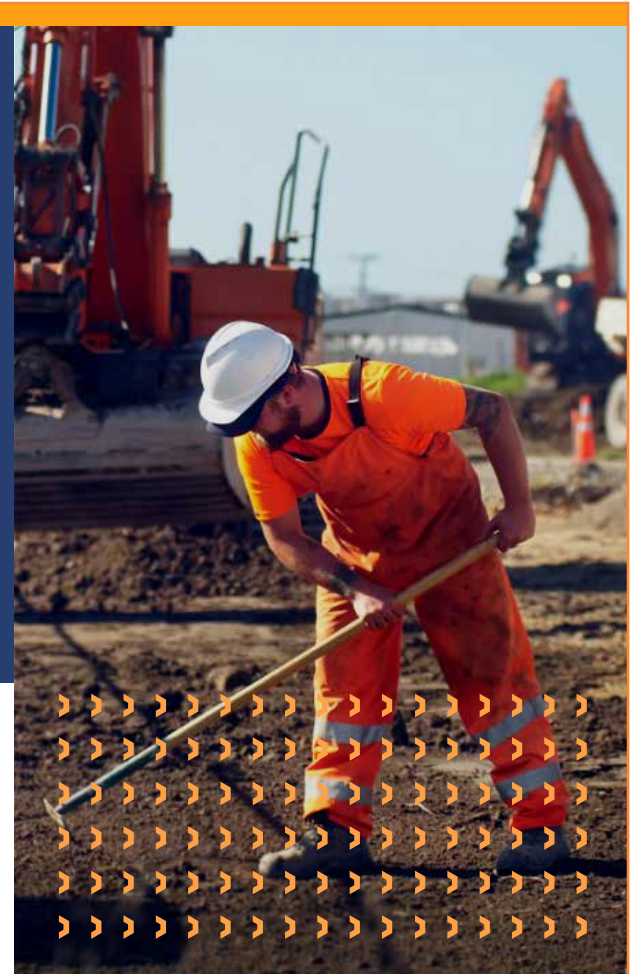
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# HĪTŌRIA/History

## A race for the ladies' bracelet

**I**dropped into the Ōtaki Museum on a recent Thursday hoping to meet some of the Collections team to talk about notable additions to our collection during 2023-24.

The plan was to include the information in the Ōtaki Heritage Annual Report, which has to be presented at the Annual General Meeting to be held at the museum at 2pm on Sunday, October 6 (by the way, everyone is invited to attend it, especially those who are interested in joining us as volunteers or as trustees).

Sue Carroll and Jenn Corbitt were working in the Reading Room and we chatted about interesting objects they had



accessioned. Among them was a silver bracelet, which is on display in the current exhibition about "The Beach".

So this is a story about that bracelet and the three people most closely associated with it.

The bracelet is an oval-shaped sterling silver bracelet, 7.5cm by 6cm – with a width of 2.5cm. Artistically it is styled in the form of a buttoned shirt cuff, with a "push in tongue and groove closure". On the interior is engraved "L. Emanuel's Patent 124", as well as some hallmarks.

Lawrence Emanuel was a silversmith who worked from Warstone Parade in Birmingham, located in an area known as the Jewellery Quarter. Emanuel registered his first hallmark "L.E" in Birmingham and London in 1886. He continued working as a silversmith until about 1936. The "Patent 124" indicates that he patented the design of the bracelet and, perhaps, the clasp.

The bracelet's outside is engraved with:

"O. A. C 1894  
Ladies Bracelet  
Won by B. P Brown  
Nom by Miss Bright"

The first line references the Ōtaki Athletic Club, which was founded in 1886. It had its annual meetings on March 17 – St Patrick's Day. So the bracelet was won on March 17, 1894, by (dropping now to the third line of the inscription) Byron Brown. He would then have been 27 years old and a resident of Ōtaki for about a year. Byron Brown was to be actively involved with Ōtaki and making important contributions to its development over many years. He died in Wellington in 1947.

Moving on down to the fourth line and Miss Bright. Susannah (Susie) Bright was the daughter of well-known Ōtaki butcher, stock buyer, hotel keeper and farmer Fredric Bright. The family had moved to Ōtaki in 1875 when Susie was 5. She and Byron Brown married in 1895, a year after the race. She died in 1925, aged 55. Her obituary read: "She associated herself with all deserving objects in the town, took a keen interest in everything for the welfare of the district, and in all things was a great favourite."



The bracelet won by Byron Brown in 1894, nominated by Susannah Bright, who was to marry Byron a year later.

RIGHT: Susannah and Byron Brown with their children, Pauline, left, and Winton.

Photos courtesy of Ōtaki Heritage



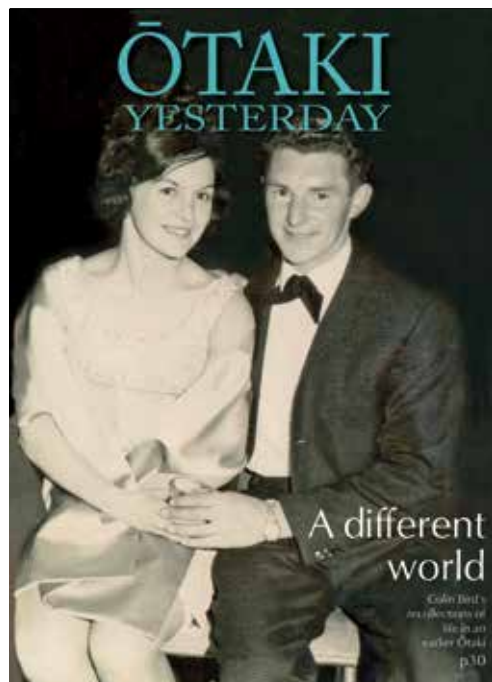
The "Nom" on this line links it and the third line back to the second line because it indicates that Susie Bright nominated Byron Brown for the Ladies' Bracelet Race at that March 1894 meeting; it was likely the 440 yards handicap.

The traditions from which the ladies' bracelet concept emerged, might well lie in the jousting tournaments of 12th century Britain. They evidently included parading and pageantry, and ladies observed proceedings, jousts sometimes carrying their token, or favour.

In the mid-1800s and early 1900s a principal purpose of the races in New Zealand and elsewhere seems to have been to increase female engagement with sports, as both spectators and participants.

They could be found across a wide variety of sports; for example, horse racing and eventing, motor racing, cycling, swimming, yachting and athletics. Ladies' bracelet races continue to be included in events today, most notably in thoroughbred and greyhound racing.

In the museum we were pondering why such a prize would be awarded to a man – it was obvious it would not fit around his wrist – nor, if that were the case, would it lead to such a romantic story as the reality. Byron Brown was never meant to wear it – it was for, Susie Bright, the woman who nominated him. That they were to marry was not an unusual outcome of ladies' bracelet races in what, somewhat ironically, has been identified as the post-Romantic period.

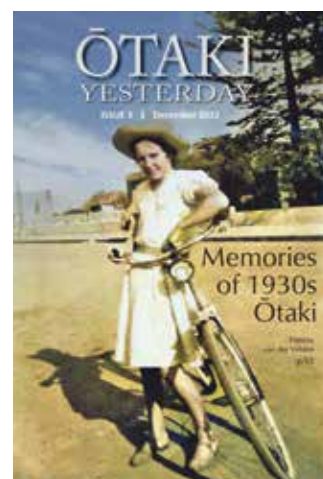


## Ōtaki Yesterday

The 2024 issue of Ōtaki Yesterday will be available for Christmas – contact Debbi now if you want to secure a copy as a gift. Meantime, copies of the first four issues are still available. There are stories about the gymnastics club Mari Housiaux created; the local Summer Breeze band; Pat van der Velden's story of growing up in Rangiuru Road; how Rikiville shrank as rates bills began to bite . . . and so much more.

All issues are \$25 a copy.  
Contact [debbi@idmedia.co.nz](mailto:debbi@idmedia.co.nz)  
or text 027 285 4720

Ōtaki Yesterday features stories about the people and places of old Ōtaki.





# OLD ŌTAKI

Compiled by Debbi Carson



## The Railway, 1940s

The fascinating photo above is looking west over the Railway area of Ōtaki, most likely early 1940s.

It's a remarkable snapshot of Ōtaki at the time, notably for the clues it offers to date it.

In the middle of the photograph is the Rāhui Road/County Road intersection and railway crossing. Until The Ramp was built in 1937, traffic came along Rāhui Road and up County Road. To the left of the intersection, County Road continues south on a slip road used to access the goods sheds and railway wagons.

At the top right is the main highway intersection with Rāhui Road and Mill Road, and Dunstan Street just west of that. Note no Hariata Street (built in 1950), nor college (opened in 1959)

Middle left is the bustling milk station, with the big Arlington house opposite. The railway station has its goods sheds opposite the station, and the water tower near the Rāhui Road crossing.

Paddocks and gardens dominate the scene. There are few buildings in what is now the shopping district, but the Atlantic service station is on the Mill Road corner. Next to it is the two-storey Moutere Hospital, which closed in 1939. Southgates Engineering is on the Arthur Street corner

At top left near the station is the Railway Hotel, with the Railway Theatre opposite.

■ Thanks to Gavin Case for providing the photo.

## Spring in the Ngā Taonga collection

It's that time of year when spring is in the air and the most ambitious plants are already flaunting their first blossoms.

To celebrate the new season, here are three items from the Ngā Taonga online collection centring around the theme "spring flowers". To view them, search for their title or reference number at [ngataonga.org.nz](http://ngataonga.org.nz).

*Our New Garden Blossoms Forth (1958)* – Collection ref. F100055

This charming home video credited to W H Davidson showcases the vibrant flowers in the garden of a Roseneath home in Wellington.

*Hello Spring (1955)* – Collection ref. F29025

This uncredited personal record captures spring scenes in Dunedin, from rocky coast to cosy countryside. Flowers are aplenty, including seasonal daffodils.



*News & Views of Interest (1954)* – Collection ref. F58507

From blossoming fruit trees to flower fields beside the Avon River, the spring vibes are overflowing in this footage, credited to Jack Oxley. There is even a glimpse of a newlywed couple with a bouquet to match the season.

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



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# TAMARIKI FUN

Drop your coloured picture in to **RiverStone Café** by October 4 to win a \$20 book voucher or an *Animals in Vehicles* book.

## OT KIDS' NEWS

### NINE GIRLS WINS AWARD

*Nine Girls*, a novel weaving comedy, fantasy and history together, was named the Margaret Mahy Book of the Year at the New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults in August. Written by Stacy Gregg, one of Aotearoa's most successful writers, the book tells of the adventures of Titch, her rowdy cousins, and her new friend Tania, as they set out to find gold hidden somewhere on her family's farm. It might be tapu but that won't put Titch off. Her dad has gone bankrupt, and she has had to leave her home in the city and move back with her family to small town Ngaruawahia, start a new school and find new friends. But an unexpected encounter with a creature from the nearby river sees Titch learn about her whakapapa, her own ancestor's role in the brutal Tainui wars and the dangers of messing with tapu. A story about growing up in a time of social unrest in early 1980s New Zealand, *Nine Girls* is a page-turning adventure.



### WORLD'S OLDEST DIES

In March 2024 we ran the story of Maria Branyas Morera, who was recognised as the world's oldest person. She has since died peacefully at the age of 117. Born on March 4, 1907, in San Francisco, she lived through two world wars, the Spanish Civil War, and two pandemics. In January 2023, she became the Guinness world record holder for the oldest living person. Maria's family shared her final words on social media, where she was known as "Super Catalan Grandma." In her message, she reassured her loved ones not to grieve, expressing that she was ready for the end. She died in her sleep, just as she had wished, at the Santa Maria del Tura nursing home in Spain, where she had lived for 20 years. Her death leaves Japan's Tomiko Itooka, aged 116, as the oldest living person.



### BANKSY'S ANIMALS GO WILD

English artist Banksy is famous for creating unusual art. No one knows who he is for sure. He began as a street artist, painting on building walls. This is called graffiti, and is against the law. But Banksy's work is so special that usually people are excited about having his art on their walls. Recently, Banksy surprised people in London by putting up a new piece of art featuring animals every day for nine days. Day 1 was a goat painted high on a wall near a part of London called Kew Green. Day 2, two elephants appeared to be talking to each other out of two second-storey windows. Day 3 saw three monkeys, who seemed to be hanging from a thin ledge on the side of a bridge. As each new piece was added, people began to ask if there was a larger meaning to the series. It was clear that animals were part of the theme, but what did it mean? Banksy's paintings are often funny, but it's also common for them to have a message. A wolf howling at the moon showed up on day 4 painted on a satellite dish. The next day pelicans pulling fish out of the sign of a fish shop. This was followed by an image of a large wild cat. The next day, the glass of a police lookout box was painted to look like it was full of piranhas. Since Banksy's art is outdoors in public spaces, it doesn't always last very long. Sometimes they are destroyed, or covered over. Sometimes people remove them to sell them. Day 8, a rhinoceros appeared to be climbing on top of a car that seemed to have crumpled under the animal's weight. The final image of the series turned up at the London Zoo, showing a gorilla who appeared to be lifting up a security gate to let other animals escape from the zoo.



## COLOURING COMPETITION

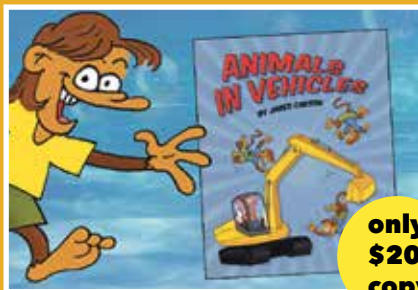
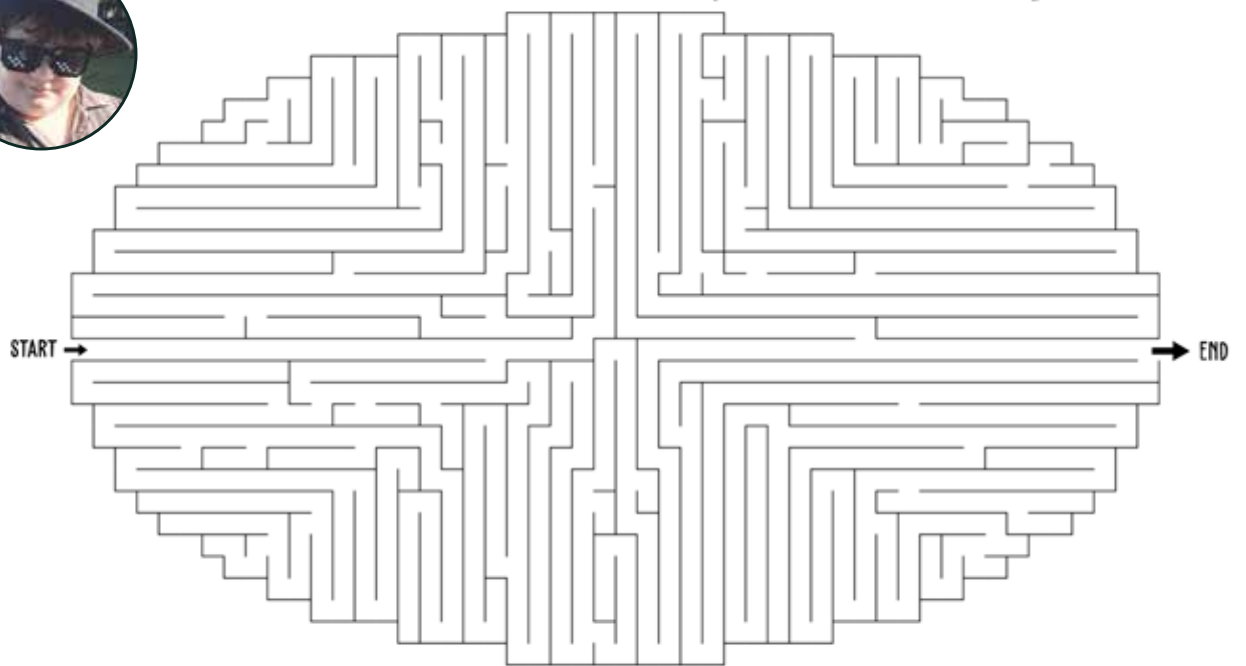
### Spring colour by numbers

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

1 2  
3 4  
5 6



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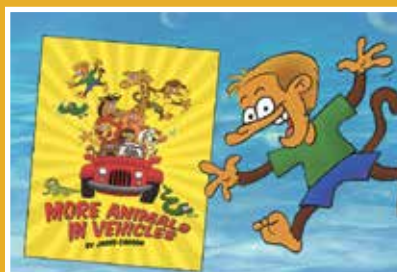
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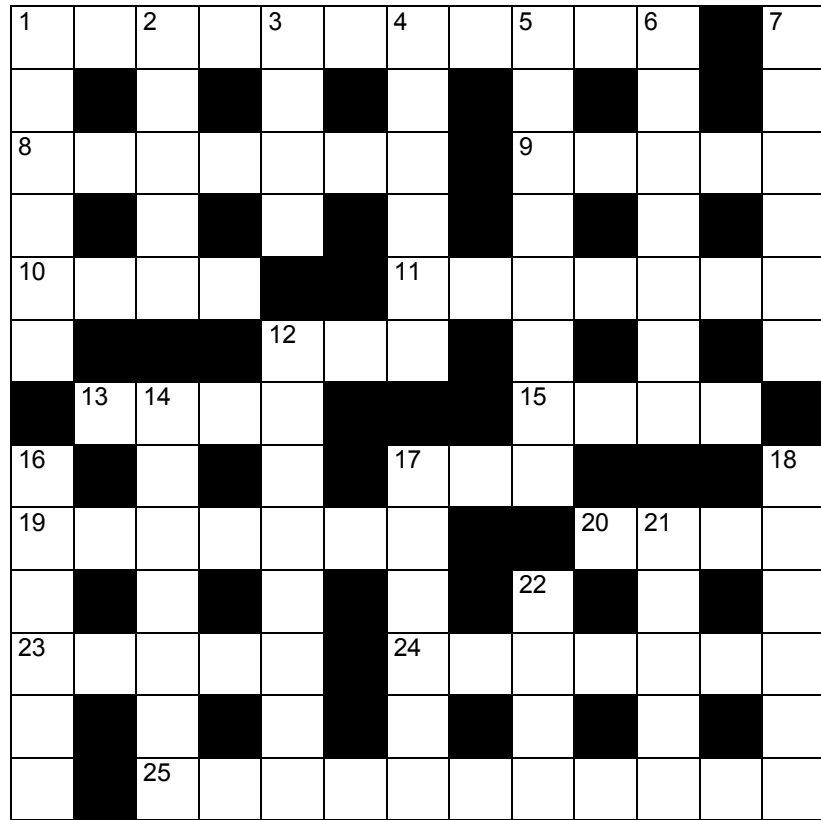
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**THE CROSSWORD #NZNZ1929I** (answers below)



**ACROSS**

- 1. Profit-share dairy farmer (11)
- 8. Eyelash makeup (7)
- 9. New Zealand tree fern (5)
- 10. Frosted (4)
- 11. Device for asthma drugs (7)
- 12. Curve (3)
- 13. Three (Māori) (4)
- 15. Flying toy (4)
- 17. Potato variety (3)
- 19. Laugh inwardly (7)
- 20. Incinerate (4)
- 23. Spark \_\_\_\_, events centre in Auckland (5)
- 24. Survive longer than (7)
- 25. Game whereby players flip plastic discs into a cup by pressing them with

a 'squidger' (11)

**DOWN**

- 1. Peak (6)
- 2. Passage in a church or supermarket (5)
- 3. Formal test (4)
- 4. Sloping typeface (6)
- 5. Māori performing arts (4,4)
- 6. Curl of hair (7)
- 7. Kiwi greeting (3,3)
- 12. New Zealand's capital from 1841-1865 (8)
- 14. Luxuriant (7)
- 16. Cream-filled pastry (6)
- 17. Flinch, move back (6)
- 18. Otherwise (6)
- 21. Employee organisation (5)
- 22. Slow-cooked meal (4)



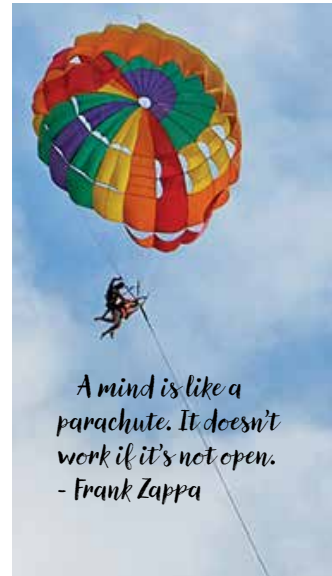
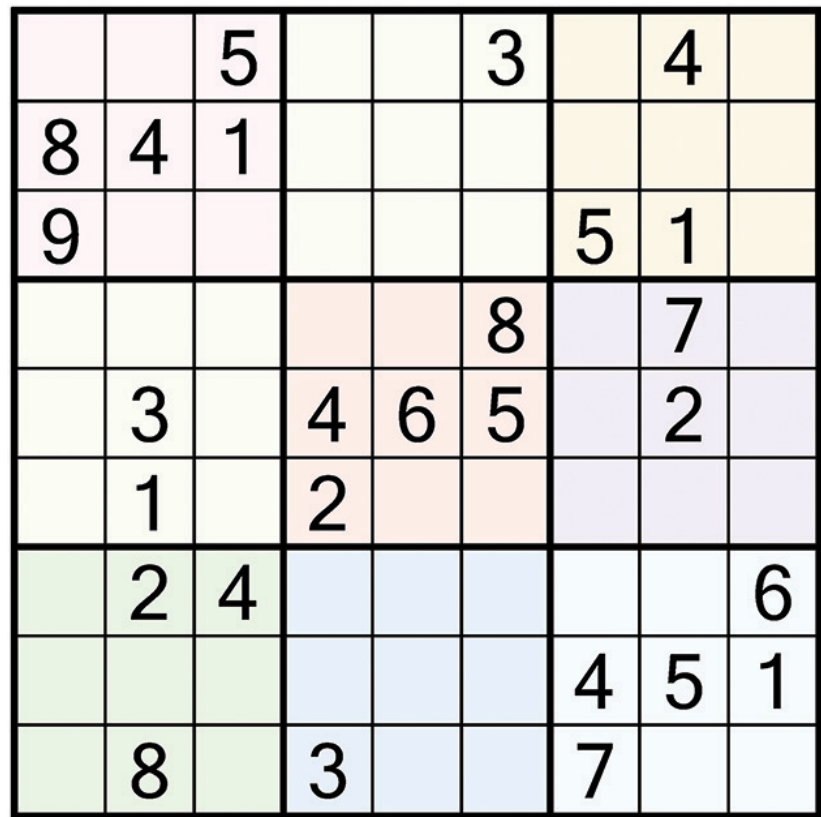
**WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT QUIZ**

Think you know a bit about your country? Answers below.

1. Women achieved the right to vote in New Zealand in 1893. True or False?
2. What year did women in New Zealand gain the right to stand to be a member of Parliament?  
a. 1919 b. 1893 c. 1922 d. 1900.
3. Who was New Zealand's first woman MP? a. Kate Shepherd b. Elizabeth McCombs c. Mary J. Carpenter d. Sarah Lurchin
4. Who was the first wahine Māori MP? a. Whetu Tirikatene-Sullivan b. Paula Bennett c. Iriaka Rātana d. Nanaia Mahuta?
5. Jacinda Ardern was the world's youngest female head of government. How old was she?
6. Who was the first wahine Māori cabinet minister? a. Whetu Tirikatene-Sullivan b. Paula Bennett c. Iriaka Rātana d. Nanaia Mahuta
7. The Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians New Zealand Group gives each woman MP a brooch with a flower on it. What flower is depicted? a. A red rose b. A yellow sunflower c. A pink peony d. A white camellia?
8. Who was the first woman cabinet minister? a. Rosetta Baune b. Aileen Cooke c. Ellen Melville d. Mabel Howard?
9. Jenny Shipley was New Zealand's first woman prime minister. What year was this?
10. In 1999 who was the world's first transgender MP?
11. In what year did women have the majority of seats in New Zealand Parliament for the first time.
12. In 1984 who was the first female party whip?

**SUDOKU PUZZLES** thepuzzlecompany.co.nz

**HARD #72H** 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 at right..



**CROSSWORD #NZNZ1929I**  
**ACROSS:** 1. Sharemilker, 8. Mascara, 9. Ponga, 10. Iced, 11. Inhaler, 12. Arc, 13. Toru, 15. Kite, 17. Rua, 19. Chuckle, 20. Burn, 23. Arena, 24. Outlive, 25. Tiddlywinks.  
**DOWN:** 1. Summit, 2. Aisle, 3. Exam, 4. Italic, 5. Kapa haka, 6. Ringlet, 7. Kia ora, 12. Auckland, 14. Opulent, 16. Eclair, 17. Recoil, 18. Unless, 21. Union, 22. Stew.



**Ōtaki River entrance tides**  
September 4 - October 9

<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 4 SEP	-	04:30	10:38	16:42	22:51
THU 5 SEP	-	05:02	11:08	17:12	23:21
FRI 6 SEP	-	05:32	11:38	17:42	23:51
SAT 7 SEP	-	06:03	12:08	18:13	-
SUN 8 SEP	00:22	06:36	12:40	18:46	-
MON 9 SEP	00:56	07:11	13:16	19:25	-
TUE 10 SEP	01:36	07:51	13:59	20:13	-
WED 11 SEP	02:26	08:41	14:57	21:18	-
THU 12 SEP	03:31	09:46	16:15	22:38	-
FRI 13 SEP	04:50	11:06	17:41	23:59	-
SAT 14 SEP	06:09	12:25	18:52	-	-
SUN 15 SEP	-	01:05	07:17	13:29	19:48
MON 16 SEP	-	01:59	08:13	14:21	20:36
TUE 17 SEP	-	02:47	09:01	15:08	21:20
WED 18 SEP	-	03:33	09:47	15:52	22:04
THU 19 SEP	-	04:17	10:31	16:36	22:47
FRI 20 SEP	-	05:02	11:15	17:21	23:32
SAT 21 SEP	-	05:46	11:59	18:06	-
SUN 22 SEP	00:17	06:31	12:44	18:54	-
MON 23 SEP	01:05	07:19	13:33	19:47	-
TUE 24 SEP	01:58	08:11	14:30	20:48	-
WED 25 SEP	03:00	09:11	15:41	22:02	-
THU 26 SEP	04:14	10:26	17:08	23:24	-
FRI 27 SEP	05:38	11:51	18:28	-	-
SAT 28 SEP	-	00:36	06:53	13:02	19:26
SUN 29 SEP	-	01:32	08:48	14:54	21:10
MON 30 SEP	-	03:16	09:30	15:35	21:47
TUE 1 OCT	-	03:53	10:06	16:10	22:19
WED 2 OCT	-	04:27	10:38	16:42	22:50
THU 3 OCT	-	04:59	11:08	17:13	23:19
FRI 4 OCT	-	05:30	11:37	17:42	23:49
SAT 5 OCT	-	06:00	12:07	18:12	-
SUN 6 OCT	00:19	06:31	12:37	18:44	-
MON 7 OCT	00:50	07:04	13:09	19:18	-
TUE 8 OCT	01:25	07:40	13:45	19:58	-
WED 9 OCT	02:07	08:21	14:30	20:49	-
THU 10 OCT	02:59	09:13	15:30	21:56	-
FRI 11 OCT	04:08	10:20	16:48	23:15	-

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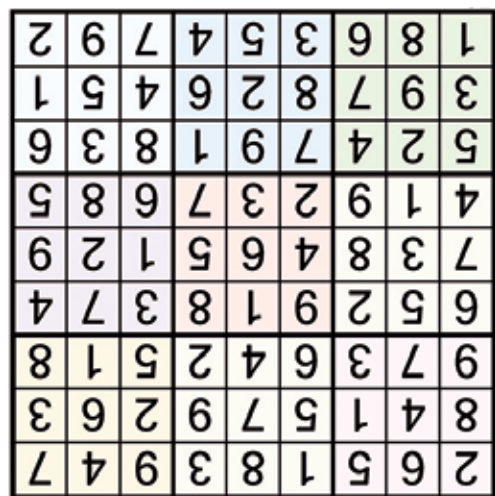
**John MacLeod**  
 John's ashes are being interred with his wife Margaret at Ōtaki Cemetery on **OCTOBER 5, 2024, at 11am.**

**ALL WELCOME**

Friends and family are invited afterwards for lunch, tea, or a beer to celebrate John and Margaret's lives at Littel Motel, Dunstan Street.

**TRIVIA QUIZ ANSWERS:**

1. True, 2. a 1919, 3. b. Elizabeth McCombs, 4. c. Iriaka Rātana, in 1949, 5. Aged 37, 6. Whetu Tirikatene-Sullivan, in 1972, 7. d. A white camellia, 8. d. Mabel Howard, 9. 1997, 10. Georgina Bayer, 11. 2022, 12. Fran Wilde.



**SUDOKU SOLUTION #72H**



# TAKĀRO/Sport

## More than a game for young wāhine

**From the Olympic Games to the Black Ferns and Women's NRL, women's sport is being televised more often, inspiring young wāhine to the possibilities in not only sport, but life.**

With the idea that these young women need spaces to come together with and to play against their peers, the Rāhui Māreikura – girls rugby programme – has been established. It's been supported by funding from the Ōtaki Community Board, local sponsors Concrete Doctors, Dukes Plumbing, Luxury Golf Tours, and e Accounting Services, and using a van supplied by Ngā Hapū Ōtaki.

After playing a season with the boys, a bunch of girls who make up the majority of their usual year 7 and 8 rugby team are now embarking on the all-girls rugby kaupapa in Ōtaki.

There are three important goals that lay the foundation for Ōtaki's young wāhine to thrive, not just in sport but life:

1. enhance and increase confidence and self esteem
2. enhance and increase a sense of belonging
3. inspire their future aspirations on and off the field.

To achieve all this is not just down to rugby training and games.



Rāhui Māreikura girls (left and middle) after a game against Waikanae year 7/8s at Ōtaki Domain. Photo supplied

Inside the 10-week kaupapa is a careers day where the two teams of girls (years 5 and 6, and years 7 and 8) visit "wāhine in work" to expose their minds to what's possible for their careers.

It's no secret that there's a challenge for wāhine to gain pay equity with tāne. By visiting wāhine in senior,

leadership or business owner roles, young wāhine in the programme see that anything is possible.

On the field involvement includes two training sessions a week and games through August and September. It's a build-up to a girls festival in Ōtaki on September 24,

the Rāhui Royale. Both teams and the year 7 and 8s will go on to the National Girls Festival in Auckland on September 28-29.

The coaches are Rauru Walker, a father and tumuaki (principal) at Ōtaki School, and Jared Tuoro, a father and former coach for the

Manawatū Cyclones and the Scotland Women's team at the 2010 Women's World Cup. They both have daughters in the team and are excited about the growth and interest in the girls game.

"Like many other parents we supported our girls and started coaching," Jared says. "Knowing the boys don't like to pass the ball so much to the girls, we wanted to create a space where the girls could step into their own mana motuhake.

"The confidence they gain by playing with and against their peers is huge. We then build this confidence by playing against some all-boys teams and they realise they can perform really well – and even better – and this confidence is like a seed that's planted, so one day they will take that into their careers and be confident about what they bring to their chosen career and workplace."

The coaches want Rāhui Māreikura to continue offering opportunities for girls to come together and play throughout the age grades.

"We're always looking for other coaches and supporters passionate about growing the game for girls," Rauru says. "We would love you to get in touch."

■ For more information or to offer assistance, call Jared on 027 237 1446.

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