

Paparoa Press

JULY 2026

Pony Club international exchange

2026 will be a year I will remember for the rest of my life when I was selected to represent New Zealand, traveling to China to represent NZPCA in showjumping.

With four short weeks to get organised it felt like an impossible task but thanks to our amazing village of local businesses, friends and family this dream, and a future goal I had once set, was going to be a reality

I travelled to China with three other riders- two girls I had never met before and one who I had been show jumping with on the Northland circuit.

We boarded a long 12-hour flight to Shanghai before having a short layover and catching another flight to Fuzhou.

When we arrived, we were warmly welcomed by the China Pony Club. After enjoying a nice lunch and having a short rest, we got straight into meeting the horses and going for our first ride. Over the next four days, we spent our time riding, getting to know the horses, and preparing for the competitions.

The team competition day was a great success. The New Zealand team competed in the Pacific/Asia Cup and achieved an excellent second place.

In the next competition we came away with a 3rd place- such a huge achievement for an international competition.

The following day was the individual competition where I competed and was proud to place seventh overall.

We received trophies, sashes, rosettes and medals, as well as some amazing prizes. We were interviewed and photographed at every moment. It was very overwhelming at times but such an honor.

After the competitions, we spent the rest of our time sightseeing, visiting schools, shopping, and trying some amazing food. It was a fantastic



opportunity to experience a different culture, meet new people, and make lasting memories while representing New Zealand.

This whole trip was an incredible experience, and I feel extremely lucky to have had the opportunity to represent New Zealand, compete internationally, and explore China. It is an experience I will never forget.

I would like to thank the Maungaturoto Op Shop, Paparoa Lions, Albertland Ponyclub, The Wooden Wheel, Maungaturoto Pharmacy, Ottaways doughnuts, and everyone else who sponsored me with my "I got your back" fundraiser to help me on this trip of a lifetime.

Stevie-Raye



Lucky Chance

Paparoa resident Simone Frewin and one of her horses, 23 year old Chance, are now world famous! What began as a plea for help on the Paparoa Facebook page on June 7th became a news story that touched people the world over.

Local heroes came to the rescue and Chance was dug out by Flynn and Shane of Shane Powell Earthmoving with volunteer fire chief Ken Ogilvy, Simone's husband Bryce, and others in there up to their elbows.



After two hours an exhausted and very sore Chance was out. He was very lucky to have only sustained a few nicks and cuts, and is slowly recovering from some muscle strain.

A truly remarkable outcome and a huge relief for all involved!



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Paparooa Press PP

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Paparooa Lions Annual Schools Speech Competition

On the evening of Monday 15th June, a very full Paparooa Sports and Recreation Pavilion hosted the annual Schools Speech Contest. Fifteen contestants from various local schools in two age groups participated.

The Junior years five and six group made up by participants from Tinopai, Maungaturoto, Paparooa, Otamatea Christian, and Matakoho schools gave us compelling insights into why Good Manners Matter. All the contestants spoke passionately and humorously about the nominated topic and provided us with food

for thought as to how we should treat one another and be respectful of all walks of life.

The Senior years seven and eight group was made up by participants from Matakoho, Otamatea High, and Otamatea Christian schools. Their speech topic addressed Public Health Protection reducing individual responsibilities, the contestants articulated many of the issues in balancing the two and provided the audience plenty to think about.

The evening was particularly memorable for the Bonham family, long standing retired Paparooa Lions members, as their daughter, Adele Wells (the first speech competition winner in 1982), spoke to the participants about her experiences and the value of the event.

Thanks to the judges, Deb Clapperton and Ken Hames, who were very complimentary about the speakers' efforts, particularly as to their abilities to form arguments and back them up with appropriate examples.

Following the judges' deliberations, the winners were announced as follows and the certificates and cups presented by Adele Wells:

Juniors - years 5 and 6:

1st: Hunter Tullett (Matakoho)

2nd: MJ Ruka-Tahere (Tinopai)

3rd: Stellar Watson (Tinopai)

Seniors - years 7 and 8:

1st: Aaliah MacKenzie



(Otamatea High School)

2nd: Esther Chitty (Otamatea Christian School)

3rd: Dante Olvera (Otamatea Christian School)

All the participants were recognised for their efforts and presented with a certificate and a very large bar of Whittakers chocolate!

The audience was treated to an impressive finger food buffet provided by the Paparooa Lions Club.

I'm sure there will have been some pretty active kids later in the evening, given the lolly boards provided. Thanks to all the club members for their kind donations and help in organising this event - good job team.

Each of the participating schools were given a \$250 donation from the Paparooa Lions Club in recognition of the time and effort they put in to supporting this community event, long may it continue as a means of developing our future youth and leaders.

If you would like to know more about the work done by Lions International or become involved with the Paparooa Lions Club, please contact any of the club members. We are regularly seen at the Saturday Farmers Market, for further information. Paparooa Lions

A reminder to our contributors!

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

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

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

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Paparoa School news

It has been another busy and exciting month at Paparoa School, with plenty of memorable experiences both in and out of the classroom.

Our Year five and six students recently returned from an incredible camp at Kokako Lodge in the Hunua Falls area. What an adventure it was! Students challenged themselves through a range of outdoor activities, with highlights including the high beam, tramp, and wall climb. It was fantastic to see our tamariki stepping outside their comfort zones, supporting one another, and showing determination and resilience throughout the week.

A special part of the camp was our visit to the Auckland Museum. Students took part in an engaging palaeontology workshop where they learned about fossils, dinosaurs, and the work of scientists who uncover clues about the past. They then put their teamwork and problem-solving skills to the test during an Amazing Race around the museum, completing challenges and discovering fascinating exhibits along the way.

A camp of this size would not have been possible without the support of our amazing parent helpers. Their willingness to give up their time, supervise activities, and support

our students made the experience a huge success. We were also incredibly well fed throughout the week, thanks to the many whānau who provided baking. Your generosity was greatly appreciated by everyone involved.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Paparoa Depot Trust for their generous grant towards our camp. Experiences such as these come with significant costs, and support from community organisations helps ensure these opportunities remain accessible for our students. Their contribution helped keep camp affordable for families while allowing our tamariki to enjoy an unforgettable week of learning, challenge, and adventure. We are incredibly grateful for their ongoing support of our school and community.

Back at school, preparations for our Wearable Arts production continue at full speed. Our Page to Parade Wearable Arts Show will be held on Wednesday 12th August at the Paparoa Memorial Hall. Due to the growth of our school roll and the popularity of the

event, we have moved the show to the hall to ensure there is enough room for all our supporters. Students are busy creating, designing, and perfecting their wearable masterpieces, and we can't wait to share their creativity with our community.

On Monday 15th June, two of our students, Ruby and Chloe,

Continued on page 5...

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Morgs and Tim

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Matariki at the market

The Saturday of the Matariki long weekend, 11th July, will be a special day at the Paparooa Farmers' Market and we hope that everyone will come and join us there.

Matariki is a celebration of the Māori New Year, a time of remembrance- honouring those we have lost, a time of celebration - giving thanks for the present, and a time of aspiration- looking ahead with hope.

Celebration of Matariki takes many forms, but essentially it is about getting whānau

and communities together to share food, share stories and being inclusive. What better place to do that than our local market. We have a great range of stalls including some yummy food options, a wide range of produce, preserves, plants, trees, fish, incredible craft stalls with great options for gifts, and of course our resident musicians who help to create a festive atmosphere.

As an added incentive to come along Progressive Paparooa will be running a simple competition at the

market to match the nine stars of Matariki with their traditional Māori meanings. The great thing is that you won't have to do the research before you come as the answers will all be on the nine yellow stars hanging on the stalls of the market. The first correct entry form drawn at the end of the market will receive a \$100 voucher to spend at the market, with two further chances to win a \$50 voucher. We look forward to seeing you all there.

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OCS July News

Hopefully the days are chilly but nice and sunny as you read this- just as it is today as I write, and it's close to the middle of June.

OCS calendar dates for July are as follows:

Free shopping trips to Whangarei take place on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 22nd. Our 11-seater van leaves the parking area at the Maungaturoto Retirement Village on Hurndall Street, at 9am, returning mid-afternoon. Phone to book your seat if you would like to go. This is a good opportunity to spend some time in the city for lunch, window shopping, grocery shopping or just enjoying a nice day out with no driving or parking worries.

Every Tuesday at The Community House, 155 Hurndall Street, Victoria provides **meals from 12 to 3pm**. All welcome. Join us for lunch.

Also, in the Community House - **every Wednesday** - we have **Mike's Dancing Dollars**. This is from **11am until 1pm**. This group presents ideas for low-cost meals, beginning with planning, then purchasing the ingredients, preparing and sharing the meal. The group has been behind the new raised garden beds at the back of the Community House, so eventually they will be able to use their own produce. Children from Kaipara Kids came over and planted vegetables - what an amazing time they had, and we did too! It was a fabulous sight to see all the little ones getting busy in the garden.

On **Wednesday 15th** we have the **Community Lunch** at The Good News Church Hall in Hurndall Street. This is open to everyone and starts at **11am with morning tea, with lunch at 12** and the raffle draw at 1pm. Come along and enjoy the company, meet new people, and make new friends.

Evening events in Brooks House 153 Hurndall Street, AA Mondays, 500 Club Wednesdays, Board Games Club Thursdays.

For information about these and anything else, phone us on 4319080.

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Continued from page 3...

proudly represented Paparoa School at the annual Paparoa Lions Speech Competition. The competition brings together Year five to eight students from schools across the local area, providing an opportunity for young speakers to share their ideas and develop confidence in public speaking. Huge congratulations to all the students who participated in the event. Standing in front of an audience and delivering a speech takes courage, preparation, and determination. We are especially proud of Ruby and Chloe, who both delivered their speeches with confidence and poise, representing our school exceptionally well. Their willingness to step outside their comfort zones and share their ideas is a credit to them. Public speaking is an important life skill, and both girls demonstrated the effort and commitment that goes into preparing for an event of this calibre. We were incredibly proud to see them stand alongside students from across the district and showcase the high standards of learning and achievement we value at Paparoa School. Well done, Ruby and Chloe - you represented our school with pride.

We will be finishing the term with a splash of colour during

a Colour Run. We are looking forward to celebrating the end of a successful term with plenty of fun, laughter, and colour. Any fundraising from this event will go towards our Ngahere.

Speaking of the Ngahere, significant progress continues to be made in this special space. Ms Harper, Matua James, and our students have been spending many hours clearing stinky iris and privet from the area. Their hard work is transforming the space, revealing its natural beauty and creating more opportunities for learning, exploration, and play. Every week the Ngahere looks more impressive, and we are excited to see the vision continue to come to life.

As another term draws to a close, we would like to thank our whānau and wider community for your ongoing support. The opportunities our students experience are only possible because of the strong partnerships we have with our families and community members. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday break and look forward to another exciting term ahead.

Ngā mihi nui,
Karyn Taylor
Principal



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Letters from The Old Post Office...



The government is merely a servant -
Merely a temporary servant; it cannot be its prerogative to determine what is right and what is wrong, and decide who is a patriot and who isn't. Its function is to obey orders, not originate them. - Mark Twain

Dear Reader, as those who are of a deductive nature will have ascertained it was my intention to write of politics and other ghastly topics. However, looking out at the grey and gloomy day and reflecting on the state of the world my idle thoughts turned to rats. (It is not for you to reason why but to do and possibly turn the page.)

Yes, rats. There are three types of rat in New Zealand, *Rattus rattus* (ship rat), the *rattus norvegicus* (Norwegian rat) and the Kiore (*rattus exulans*, or Pacific rat). Quite frankly judging by the size of the local rats they are some larger variety, as yet not classified. More Reepicheep, (refer to CS Lewis and the Narnia series). Suffice to say when he stood on his hind legs and brandished his sword he was a fearsome sight. (Not an euphemism.) It was with awe that I would stand well back and watch the commencing battle between rat and my late lamented cat. It was a little like being seated in the stands and watching a jousting competition as portrayed in a Monty Python film. Blood and gore and the cat would win even if it took all day. Guests loved it!

Naturally.

My sainted offspring were also fascinated by rats, and were particularly fond of the overnight kill deposited under the kitchen table. Cries of disgust were de rigour of a winter morning. However, one fine day when I was otherwise engaged somewhere on the property the neighbours' children and my own decided to see if a deceased rat would burn. What conditions were conducive to the ashes to ashes routine. As there was a brisk wind that day it was collectively decided the trampoline would make an excellent windbreak. I was alerted by the smell of burning rubber and the suppressed gurgles of merriment.

Needless to say, every action has a reaction. The offspring learned to jump on the remnants of the trampoline mat for years avoiding the rather dangerous gap to one side. It added to their physical dexterity in later life.

Deb

PS just remember that *"Sanity and happiness are an impossible combination"*.
- Mark Twain

Here's a reminder of all the awesome things that happen at the Memorial Hall every week. Why not try something new? And remember the Hall is available to hire at very reasonable rates. Call 09 431 7306 for booking enquiries.



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Tuesday 10.30am
Exercise to Music - Stacey 021 045 0529

Tuesday 6.30pm
Ballroom Dancing - text Lisa 021 828 531

Wednesday 6pm
Box Fit - Stacey 021 045 0529

Thursday 9.30am
Line Dancing - Jackie 027 368 7298

Thursday 7pm
Badminton - Pete 021 056 7163

Magical Winter Wonderland Ball

Otamatea Christian School brought a touch of winter magic to the local community on June 12, with its inaugural Winter Wonderland Ball held at the Good News Church in Maungaturoto.

The hall was beautifully transformed with enchanting Winter Wonderland-themed decorations. Sparkling snowflakes, twinkling fairy lights, frosted trees, and elegant winter accents created a magical atmosphere that perfectly captured the theme of the night.

The event welcomed students from the school along with teens from the local homeschool community for an unforgettable evening of music and dancing. As the night began under a light winter drizzle outside, the

atmosphere inside quickly warmed up into a lively dance party that kept the teens moving for hours.

Music spanned decades, featuring hits from the 1980s right through to current chart-toppers. No ball would be complete without a rousing rendition of the classic YMCA, which had everyone joining in on the dance floor.

A highlight of the evening was the impressive grazing table, which kept the energetic crowd fuelled and ready to keep rocking.

Continued on page 20...

Our community benefits by \$35,000

In the recent round of grants distribution, the Paparoa County Depot Trust allocated approx. \$35,000 to twelve local organisations and entities.

These ranged from \$400 to \$6500, covering a wide range of activities that will bring benefit to the district.

Trust Chair, Graham Taylor, said the decisions were not made lightly and some applications were declined as the trustees considered they failed to meet the Depot Trust's strict criteria. The total applied for amounted to over \$80,000 so the Trust tried to make best use of the available funds and unfortunately this meant some applications were scaled back. Notable was the interest shown in installing solar panels on community buildings. The Trust aims to assist activities where the participants have raised at least one third of the funds which shows a clear commitment to helping themselves.

The successful applicants

were: Otamatea High School Kapa Haka group, Tinopai School, Paparoa War Memorial Hall, Manaaki Circle Owners Assn, Paparoa Play Centre, Maungaturoto Good News Food Bank, Matakoho Community Group, Maungaturoto Community Centre, Maungaturoto Recreational Society Inc., Ruawai Lions Club, The Kauri Museum, Paparoa Sports and Recreation Soc.

The Depot Trust calls for grant applications twice a year, May and November. Last year close to \$70,000 was distributed. These funds are raised locally, and it is great to see local organisations benefitting. The Depot Trust hopes to continue in its role of supporting the greater good of our community.

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Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary

Our Club is continually looking for projects that we can be involved in. We seem to have a Youth focus and later this month we will be holding a meeting of interested parents and youth in Paparoa to see what activities/projects that they would like to be involved with. (At the Paparoa Sports Pavilion on Sunday, July 12th at 3pm.) President Tim has decided that this would be the best way to approach a new venture, so please come along and have a say if you have ideas.

In Rotary we have our own Charity- the Rotary Foundation- donations made to this do not have any administration fees deducted, which means that whenever money is given, 100% goes towards Rotary projects, both here and overseas. Late in June, we had the District Changeover and Awards in Kerikeri, and our Club, small though we

were the proud recipients of the White Dixon Trophy for the most money donated, per head of capita in our District. We are very grateful to all who have supported our Club in this way. On the same evening we welcomed in our new District Governor, Mitchell Brown who resides in Kerikeri.

Our Interact Club continues to think of ways in which they can be involved in the community and we have recently learnt that we can become part of the Student Volunteer Army (SVA) (that group that was set up after the Christchurch earthquake by Sam Johnson, to help those in need). Not only does SVA provide inspiration by making volunteering visible but it also provides guidance, training and frameworks for student-led action. It has been pleasing to note the number of younger students wanting to be involved with Interact.

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

Eileen



Merv Huxford, Eileen Parsons, Bron Ellison and Mitchell Brown



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T&C'S

My two cents worth – what does “local” mean?

I moved into the suburbs of Maungaturoto recently, meaning streetlights and footpaths out front but sheep grazing outside the back gate. As custom suggests, I held a housewarming party.

It was a most enjoyable event including as it did, family members, locals whose ancestry goes back several generations in this area as well as more recent arrivals. It got me pondering about how to categorise a “local”. The usual joke is that it takes about 40 years to become a local, although someone suggested that it can be fast-tracked if you join a committee. I can think of several examples of newer residents who have done just that, and provided much-needed vigour and innovation to local community groups as a demonstration of their commitment to their new community.

I don't think newcomers should need to apply for a Kaipara passport, but if they move here, put down roots here and participate

in this community then they should be regarded as a local, in my opinion. I can recall a discussion with a friend several years ago; he was lamenting that the activities in the area which often attracted people to it, are things that are often provided by volunteers from the community, not the local council as they might have expected, and those newcomers were not stepping up to the plate.

This column didn't start out being in praise of volunteers, but as I write this, it is actually the week when volunteers are to be celebrated and so they should be; they are the mortar which holds the bricks of our communities together. I was intending instead to lead on to the impending changes to local government in Northland, and how it is



important that people have their say in the limited time imposed by the Government, because what happens next is really important for local democracy. It doesn't matter how you define “local”, if you live here it will affect you.

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Mark Vincent

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Paparoa Community Dinner

Thanks for the wonderful support from the community for our recent community dinner at the sports pavilion.

Over 80 people enjoyed a scrumptious meal, good company, and entertainment. It was also a great fundraiser for the Paparoa Sports and Recreation Association. A big thanks to our team of helpers and our musicians - Mark and Brent, and those who donated raffle

prizes, including Gary Fraser Fabrications.

If any other community group would like to run a community dinner at the sports pavilion please get in touch. We can support you for your own fundraiser.

Contact Libby at: hames.jones@xtra.co.nz

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There's something for everyone

Paparooa Bush Walkway winter update

For all regular walkers, you will have seen the work done between gates along the river bank on the Paparooa side. This pathway has always been subject to drainage issues in the winter due to the runoff off from the hillside which results in boggy patches developing.

Last month the Paparooa Lions Club volunteers undertook some remediation work, cleaning out the existing drainage channels, inserting new ones and laying drainage metal on the worst affected areas. The work took some effort as the materials had to be transported from Hubands yard by trailer and

then towed down the track by tractor to then be spread. Improving the drainage

walkway weed spraying as well as tree planting, watch this space as we will be soliciting community help to assist with tree planting.

Again, we would like to acknowledge the incredible help and support we received from Hubands Contracting to compete the work. If you would like any further information



issues will allow the pathways and memorial area to be mown through the winter months and make access for walkers drier, easier and safer.

Further maintenance work is being planned for the

on the work being done on the pathway please contact any of the local Paparooa Lions club members or PPI members - volunteers are always welcome. Shorts and gumboots obligatory.

Ric Hughes

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White Rock Gallery

We are thrilled to welcome a new artist into our creative family: Jude Hazeldine, a talented watercolour and mixed media artist. Her quirky, colourful work is a wonderful bright addition to our Winter Exhibition.



'TALL HORSE 'WINNER' by Jude Hazeldine

The winter exhibition opened in early June, the gallery is buzzing with excitement. Alongside our collection of paintings and handcrafted pieces, we also offer a beautiful range of wooden creations - from breadboards and walking sticks to finely crafted wooden pendants.

As the cooler weather settles in, it's the perfect time to explore the gallery and then enjoy a visit to the Gumdigger Café for great coffee and delicious food.

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

We're open 7 days a week, 10am-4pm. There truly is something for everyone.

BOOKS AND BOOKCLUBS

From the pretty blonde with the '50s hairdo and lipstick on the cover, one might think that "In the Valley of Blue Gums" by J.H. Fletcher is a soppy romance, but it is rather more than that. It is written by a male for one thing, one who is well educated and much travelled, and no doubt many of his own experiences are written into this novel. Warning- it bounces around all over the place between mother and daughter, past and present, Australia, America, Malaysia and Vietnam, with giddying abruptness. Basically it is the life story of a journalist/author, growing up in Malaysia, fleeing with her mother to Tasmania, falling in love and marrying a wine-maker, giving birth, pursuing an intrepid career in journalism, and finding love again in her sixties. Alongside that is the story of her daughter, grown-up and running the winery. Much of the action is through her career, covering the assassination of President Kennedy and the Vietnam war amongst other things, earning worldwide renown as a hero and writer. I was not too sure what to make of this one, I didn't not like it- try it and see what you think.



No doubt at all of the genre of "Not A Happy Family" by Shari Lapena, definitely a thriller. A murder mystery with any one of this family of psychopaths the possible killer. I had to look up the dictionary to find out the difference between a psychopath and a sociopath. Both are characterized by a persistent lack of empathy, lack of remorse or guilt, and impulsive, anti-social behaviour. A sociopath is shaped by life circumstances, but a psychopath is shaped by genetics, making for a very unhappy family indeed. The victim is the cruel, malicious, manipulative wealthy father, and the motive his impending decision to change his will. The investigating detectives first of all need to find out who knew of the changes, making the most likely motive, and who had the opportunity. With such a plethora of suspects, all very accomplished liars, it takes the whole novel to find out, and even then, there is a sadistic twist at the end. If you enjoy a good thriller this is for you.

"An Alligator in the Bathroom" may sound equally thrilling, but is a much more pleasant read. Written by Carter Langdale, an RSPCA Inspector in Yorkshire, "back in the day", i.e. pre-2000. It is a collection of amusing anecdotes, each complete in itself, but written in chronological order so that you are part of this fascinating man's journey from being obsessed with animals as a boy, to his first job cleaning dog kennels, and on through his marriage, fatherhood and career. Similar in style to James Herriot's "All Creatures Great and Small" there is many a laugh, some odd and quirky characters, including the animals, and hair-raising adventures, told with humility and wit. With no mobile phones, or even walkie-talkie radio to begin with, his unpaid wife became his message service, and his garage and house, home to many a rescued animal, including at one time, an alligator. Pure, light-hearted fun for the reader, easy to read, and one to put down and pick up again at your leisure. I found it a welcome change of literary diet. You will find it in the library in the non-fiction section, 636.0832. I know one local who can relate to inspectors being covered in fleas!

Anne Bate



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Possums return to Pahi Peninsula

Residents of the Pahi Peninsula are being urged to step up possum control efforts after a noticeable increase in sightings of the pest animals across the area.

Pahi Road local Ros Sullivan recently discovered the extent of the problem when possums began helping themselves to the lemons from trees in her garden.

"They've stripped fruit that was nearly ready to pick," said Ros. "It's frustrating after putting time into looking after the trees, and it's a sign that possum

numbers are building up again." Ros and her son Mike have caught four possums in the last month.

While damage to backyard fruit trees is an annoyance for many residents, possums pose a much wider threat to the peninsula's environment. The introduced pests feed on native leaves, flowers and birds' eggs, placing pressure on local ecosystems and reducing the success of native wildlife.

There has been coordinated trapping on Pahi for over a decade, with Pest Free Peninsulas trappers working across the peninsula since 2016. This sustained effort has kept possum numbers well below those seen in the wider Paparooa area. As a result, there have been significant conservation gains, including kākā visiting Pahi each year, strong kererū numbers, and an overall increase in native birdlife.

Alongside this work, community traps have

been provided to support local participation. Since July 2025, the programme has shifted from active contractor-led trapping to a greater reliance on community trapping and involvement. If you need a possum trap or rat bait and you live on Pahi Peninsula, please reach out to pestfreekaipara@gmail.com. Even a small number of households participating can make a significant difference in controlling possum populations across the peninsula.

The return of possums serves as a reminder that pest control is an ongoing task. Without continued effort, populations can quickly recover. Anyone interested in learning more about possum trapping on Pahi contact Grant O'Neill granto.2009@gmail.com – if there is enough interest an information meeting will be organised.

Grant O'Neill



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Mike Sullivan and lemon raider

A new place to play for Pahi

Pahi's new playground is now open, giving local and visiting children a fun new place to play, explore and let their imaginations run wild. Designed around a nautical theme to reflect the coastal setting of Pahi, the new playground offers a safer, more accessible play space that caters for a wider range of ages and abilities than the previous play area.

The goal was to create a playground which encouraged movement, creativity or challenge, so it features interactive play experiences like a mud kitchen where children can get their hands dirty, lookout tower, swing boat, sand diggers, and a sensory walk to encourage kids to kick off their shoes, get a little muddy and connect with nature through play. Landscaping has also been carefully chosen to complement the playground's nautical and whimsical theme. Mainly planted with tororaro (Muehlenbeckia Astonii), the garden will evolve as the plants mature. Billy button plants will add pops of colour, and topiary plantings will be shaped into an octopus and a seal. The project team was mindful of the reserve's long-standing role as a place for picnicking, camping and enjoying the waterfront, so the playground has been designed to accommodate

these activities, helping to make sure the reserve remains a multi-use space. KDC Mayor Jonathan Larsen said the playground was a great example of planning that balances the needs of locals, visitors and the surrounding area. "The playground delivers on the vision of creating a fun, imaginative place for children while fitting naturally within its surroundings. It will be a fantastic community asset and a place families can enjoy for many years to come." An official opening was held on Saturday 20 June, where elected members, council staff, contractors and members of the community gathered to celebrate the completion of the project. Thank you to Sheriff Building, Downer, Huband Contractors, and everyone else who collaborated so positively to bring this to life.

KDC



Shade sails having annual clean

If you are wondering where they've gone, the shade sails at the playground are away for their annual clean and repair. At the same time Shade Systems from Dargaville are strengthening the smaller poles with new concrete foundations. Timothy from Shade Systems said he enjoyed working in Paparoa and looked forward to getting the poles back to their correct angle. That's critical as there is considerable stress from the sails. Good to know someone is looking after these community assets.

GT

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From pork production to power generation

When Graham and Sally Taylor closed their long running pig farming operation, Ariel Farm, in 2024 they were left with a large number of empty buildings. Now they are utilising the roof area to generate power directly into the grid. From selling 5000 plus pigs per year they now have a solar system that potentially supplies 67000kWh per year to the national grid. That equates to the average consumption of 8-9 houses.

Supa Energy, a power company, approached the Taylors curious about the roof area that showed on a google search. As a result, 110 solar panels, seven batteries and an inverter have been installed with connection to the grid.

Graham said, "It stacked up as the roof space was unused, our power consumption is now very low, the panels don't impact on any future use of the buildings and the power is going direct to the local grid. Supa have been good to deal with and Northland Solar who did the actual installation had a great team on the job. I'm very happy to make a small contribution to the energy security of the local area".

Nick Hayman of Supa Energy said, "Our technology allows us to store the power during the day and release it at night when there is most demand. We are interested in talking to anyone with a large roof area and nearby grid capacity. Our focus is on community energy generated locally".

It might be that pigs can't fly but it's possible to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear.

GT

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Racquet Sports update

With winter upon us we are mostly concentrating on the indoor racquet sports of table tennis and badminton, but we have had some fine days, and the tennis courts are available year round. If you would like to have a hit, we have some tennis racquets and balls in the equipment box at the front of the sports pavilion that are free to use- just make sure to put them back when you are finished for the next users.



Table tennis is held at the sports pavilion every Tuesday evening from 7pm. High school students and adults with all levels of experience are welcome to come along for just \$2 per evening.

We have lots of spare bats available. We were thrilled that one of our younger players, Kason Frost, came second in the Northland Secondary Schools boys championships recently, with another local Joseph Stevens finishing eighth. Well done to both these young men.

Badminton is a great way to warm up on Thursday evenings at the hall from 7pm. High school students and adults welcome. Racquets available.

For further info contact Pete on hames.jones@xtra.co.nz

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Monday & Wednesday 2pm - 4.30pm

Tuesday 10am - 1pm

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Friday 11am - 1.30pm

Saturday 10am - 12midday

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



What is the NUMBER ONE THING that a homeowner can do before they list their property?

Hi, my name is Nicky Reid and I was selling real estate for about 13 years in Northland. The first ten of those years were in a buoyant market, the past 2-3 years in a much softer market-which is a much less forgiving market to sell in.

One poor judgement before listing can impair those all-important first impressions, lengthen the sale process, which in a falling market, can make a sales campaign feel like a salvage operation.

The difference between a strong sale and an average one can be a six-figure sum of money, especially in a softer real estate market.

I would really feel for my clients as they prepared to sell. I could sense their uncertainty as they worked through the tangle of interconnected decisions they were faced with during the listing process.

I noticed a repeating pattern of common and avoidable mistakes. I wrote a long list and set about creating a solution. I realised that the NUMBER ONE THING that homeowners could do before they list is to EDUCATE THEMSELVES about real estate, so they could make better-informed decisions - rather than listen to a confusing array of opinions and advice.

My solution evolved into "Sell Smarter" - independent education for homeowners before they sell. It's a compacted version of my years of real estate experience, seen through the lens of a psychology graduate. Over time, I distilled it into just over an hour's worth of short videos, with a PDF Guide to help people apply what they have learned to their own situation.

Real estate is not just about bricks and mortar; it's about psychology. As I created "Sell Smarter" I realised that it could probably apply in any market, anywhere. It's all about humans, and what humans do.

"Sell Smarter" provides a structure framework for working through the bundle of listing time decisions.

Explaining the psychology and trade-offs behind each, offering strategy, tactics and tools. Here's a quick summary of what's inside.

Section One: The psychology of the real estate market. Why first impressions are so important.

Section Two: Price. Why you need to educate yourself, (and a step-by-step guide how to do it), rather than relying on other people's opinion. How to understand your local market, how to choose a method of sale, when timing matters and when it doesn't.

Section Three: Presentation. By the end of this section you could have your own structured plan for the presentation of your home, complete with a budget and a time frame.

Section Four: Promotion. By the end of this section you will understand the principles of creating competition for your property, and finding your perfect buyer.

Section Five: The psychology of decision-making and negotiating.

Section Six: Choose your real estate agent. Questions to ask.

"Sell Smarter" is not designed to replace a real estate agent, it is designed to help you choose the right one for you, to recognise good advice, and to work together as a more powerful team. It is general education only. It is not real estate (or any other sort of) advice. I am no longer selling real estate and I'm not affiliated with any actively selling real estate company. Your information will not be shared.

"Sell Smarter" is a conveniently packaged solution to help homeowners avoid costly and stressful problems.

If you are thinking of selling, I created "Sell Smarter" for you.

Nicky Reid

Founder of The Nicky Reid Academy, Creator of "Sell Smarter"

<http://www.the-nickyreid-academy.com>

Facebook: Sell Smarter
Instagram: nickyreid.co

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Science Corner

Bumble bees

Bumble bees are cool, clever creatures! At Nelson Lakes recently, I became covered in bumble bees! A bit scary but luckily they rarely sting. Why? I was wearing a blue sweat shirt! There must have been a nest nearby and bumblebees are attracted to blue and violet. I rapidly moved out of the sun into the bush and they left me. So, I started thinking about them, Incredible creatures – more closely related to ants than honey bees.

They have a warm coat – called pile – which enables them to start work on pollen collection before the honey bees.

They can warm themselves up by disengaging their wing muscles and shivering, warming up their ‘muscles’, making themselves warmer than the surrounding environment and so get an earlier start up.

Their wings go back and forward instead of up and down like other flying insects which enables such large bodies to fly.

The queen over winters by hibernating in holes in the ground. (Wonder what happens here in the north as they certainly aren’t hibernating here yet?)

They buzz pollinate many flowers like tomato and blue berry by vibrating their wing muscles causing the pollen to be released.

An interesting ability they have is, that if their hibernating hole fills up with water, 90% survive for over a week. Their respiration rate drops considerably and they move to anaerobic metabolism and use oxygen from the water expelling carbon dioxide. It is not understood how they do this.

An even more amazing skill bumblebees have is that they can solve problems like monkeys do!

They're put in a sealed container (can't fly) with no food, except a blue spot with sugar on it out of reach of the bumble bee. There is a white ball on the floor of the container and the bee rolls the white ball under the blue spot and climbs on top of it so it can reach the sugar! It can then teach other bumblebees that are added! They can work together shifting a block and figure ways to solve maths problems when put in puzzle boxes.

They are essential for horticulture – we have hardly any honey bees where I live, but lots of bumble bees and native bees. In many places the population of bumble bees has dramatically declined due to pesticides etc.

Again nature is amazing!

Stella



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Grow Paparoa

It was National Volunteer Week from the 14th to the 20th June and on behalf of the Grow Paparoa Whakatipu committee we would like to say a huge thank you and acknowledge all of our amazing volunteers that faithfully give their time both in the gardens and in Aladdin's cave.

Currently almost all of our garden beds are planted up and looking good for this time of year. We have been harvesting and have been pleasantly surprised with the amounts we are getting for this early in the season. Harvest has included lettuce, silver beet, broccoli and spring onions which continue to go to the local foodbanks. We are going to try planting fennel this year and the fruit trees are being pruned ready for next season.

Aladdin's Cave, we are happy to say, has equally been doing well. We currently have lots of clothing so please pop in and check out what we have on sale on Saturday mornings 9am until 1pm. If you are having a bit of a clear out please keep us in mind we are currently in need of men's jackets, jigsaws, towels, sheets, blankets and duvet inners.

Our final bit of news is that we are having our annual AGM on the 19th August at 5pm at the Sports Pavilion. If you are curious about what we do or would like to find out more please come along. Everyone is welcome.

Gardens are open Thursday and Friday mornings 9am to 12 noon and harvesting on a Saturday morning 8am until finish.

Aladdin's Cave is open Saturdays 9am until 1pm. Any donations please drop between these times. Thank you for supporting us!

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Do we have?

- Youth who want a say in their hood
- Who want to get to know some more locals
- Who want to raise money, get a skatepark, predator trapping or some other facility/activity
- Who want to learn new skills, e.g. carpentry
- Who want to make Paparoa better now and more interesting for the youth

Also, do we have?

Parents or mentors who would like to help with this initiative?

Let's have a yarn about this. Come and enjoy our BBQ at the Paparoa Sports Pavillion

on Sunday 12th July at 3pm.

Please come and share your ideas of projects we can work towards.

If you can't make the meeting please email or text President Tim Magill,
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**Grow Paparooa Inc.
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A.G.M.

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Paparooa Sports Pavilion

All welcome

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Derek Birt, Mareretu
4316847

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

WHAT'S ON - JULY 2026

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

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

Would Paparooa like a Youth Group? - Discussion & BBQ. Sun July 12, 3pm.
Sports Pavilion. Hosted by Maungaturoto Rotary. See p17 for more info.

Maungaturoto Kids School Holiday Movie - The Mountain. Thurs July 9, 2pm.
Kitchen open 1pm. \$10. See Maungaturoto Country Club Facebook page for more.

Mary Poppins Junior - Otamatea Repertory Theatre, Maungaturoto, July 10th-19th - please check the website at www.ort.org.nz for full details. See p7.

Maungaturoto Movies - The Ballad of Wallis Island. Sat July 18, 6.30pm. Kitchen & bar open 5.30. \$10. See Maungaturoto Country Club Facebook page for more.

Matakoho Community Potluck Dinner - Sat July 18, 5.30pm. Matakoho Hall.
Bring a plate to share and BYO drinks. All welcome.

Coming up in August:

Matariki Celebration at Paparooa Farmers Market - Sat Aug 11. See p4.

Paparooa School 'Page to Parade' Wearable Arts Show - Wed Aug 12 at
Paparooa War Memorial Hall. More info next month.

Grow Paparooa AGM - Wed Aug 19, 5pm. Sports Pavilion. All welcome.

OUT & ABOUT AROUND TOWN

Paparooa's Farmers Market Happens every Saturday morning, 9am - 12 at the Village Green. Fresh fruit & veges, sweet treats, plants, fish, eggs, assorted crafts, live music and so much more. A great place to catch up with friends or make new ones.

Grow Whakatipu Paparooa Community Garden Drop in for a chat, hands on experience, or a cuppa. Every Thursday & Friday 9am-12pm. Op Shop open Sat 9-1. Next to the showgrounds.

Paparooa Golf Course 91 Golf Course Rd, off Golden Stairs, Maungaturoto. Winter Golf every Sunday 10 am tee off for 18 hole, 12:30 for 9 holes. Special events check our Facebook page - Paparooa Golf or contact us on 022 678 1474. Will also be advertised on local FB pages. Everyone welcome, no matter your skill level. The course is open for casual play - \$10 for 9 holes and \$20 for 18. Children under 18 free.

Ballroom Classes Over the school term on Tuesday evenings from 6.30- 7.30pm, \$12 per person, at the Paparooa War Memorial Hall. Contact Lisa (by text or leave a message) on 021 828-531.

Musical Mayhem Acoustic Open Mic session. Welcome musicians, singers, poets. Gold coin contribution. 6- 7.30pm Thursdays. Fortnightly from 4.6.26. Paparooa Sports Pavilion. Lynn 0274583691

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

Tea & Talk Come and enjoy good food and some activities on the 4th Saturday of each Month at the Footprints Room behind the Anglican Church, 132 Hurndall St East, Maungaturoto, 3-4:30pm. Cost \$8. Contact Kirsten to book a place on 021 1807 321.

No trolls under Skelton's Bridge

If you've noticed Steve Bowling contractors' trucks around Skelton's Bridge lately it's because NZTA have commissioned a study of the strength of the bridge. The contractors are measuring the steel by boring through the concrete to expose the steel for testing. The results will determine if the bridge can continue to carry heavy loads. No reason to not cross, but good that someone is looking to the future. GT

**The Paparooa Press is also
available online, in colour,
at paparooa.org.nz**

Anglican Parish of Paparooa

- July 5th Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto, 10am
Communion with Rev Kim Parker
- 12th Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto, 10am, Café,
- 19th No service in Paparooa Parish as we
will be joining the Congregation in
Dargaville as Bishop Ross will be presiding
- 26th St Marks, Hook Rd, Paparooa, Morning Prayer, 10am
Parish Office: at Holy Trinity, Maungaturoto
PO Box 8, Maungaturoto
Phone: (09) 431-8193
Email: maungaturotoholyltrinity@gmail.com

**4 Hook Rd
Paparooa
Northland
phone
Sam Turner
022 317 1507**

**Paparooa Community
Church**

**Connecting with God
Creating Community
Communicating the
Gospel**



Church Service on Sunday at 10 30am
6pm for fellowship, prayer and sharing.
Everyone Welcome

REGULAR EVENTS, MEETINGS AND ORGANISATIONS

- Aladdin's Cave Op Shop** At Grow Paparoa Community Garden open Sat 9am-1pm
- Anglican Church St Marks** Hook Road, ph 431 8193 for services info
- Ararua Church** 10.30am every Sunday. All welcome Ph 431 6622
- Coates Memorial Church, Matakoho** Phone 020 446 1645 for services information
- Badminton** Thursdays 7pm Paparoa Hall \$2 students, \$3 adults, Pete 021 056 7163
- Art Studio, Ruawai** Wed 10-12noon ph Frances 439 2554
- Farmers' Market** Every Saturday 8.30-Noon, Village Green. Stall info Stephen Findlay 022 480 1066 or 09 4316 148.
- Grey Power** Last Wed in month, 1pm, Anglican Church Hall, Maungaturoto
- Grow Paparoa** Thur/Fri 9am to 12pm at the Community Gardens
- Holy Trinity Anglican Church**, Maungaturoto, All welcome. Ph 431 8193 for services information.
- Kaipara Marching Team** Weds 4-5.30pm, M'gto, Ph Lyn Hutchings 022 070 8674
- Line Dancing** Thurs 10am-noon Paparoa Hall Ph Jackie Cornes 027 368 7298
- Mainly Music** Wed 9.30am Paparoa Comm Church, Lynaire Porteous 431 7520
- Matakoho Garden Circle** 1st Weds each month, 1pm, J Mackinnon 431 6689.
- Maungaturoto Opportunity Shop** Open Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 10-3, Thurs 10.30-3. Alternate Sat mornings 10am-1pm. Check FB on Sat.
- Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary Club** Maungaturoto Centennial Hall, Tuesday evenings 6pm, Ph Stella 021 149 0877
- Otamatea Quilters** 1st and 3rd Mon month 10am, Paparoa Hall 09 439 2262
- Outdoor Bowls** Maungaturoto Green Ph Tony 431 6026 or Brian 431 6884
- Pahi Hall** available for hire Ph Tina 0210335128
- Paparoa Community Church** Sundays 10.30am, 4 Hook Road, 431 6795 or Dave Porteous 0274 180 676
- Paparoa Box Fit** Every Wednesday 6-7pm, Stretching/Cardio/Boxing \$10, Paparoa Hall, Stacey Watson 09 283 9931
- Paparoa Exercise to Music** Every Tuesday 10:30-11:30, Stretching/Balance/Resistance/ Bands/Zumba, \$5, Paparoa Hall, Stacey Watson 09 283 9931
- Paparoa Community Gym** To join email Libby at hames.jones@xtra.co.nz
- Paparoa Hall** Functions venue. For bookings ph Robyn 431 7306
- Paparoa Library** Mon, Wed 2-4.30, Tues 10-1, Thurs 10-4, Fri 11-1.30, Sat 10-12. Library Manager 09 431 7555 during library hours. Returns Box at Skeltons
- Paparoa Lions** Dinner Meetings 3rd Mon in month 6.30pm, Sports Pavilion
- Paparoa Mah Jong Group** 1st & 3rd Tues, Paparoa Hall 10-noon, Sara 021 0774947
- Paparoa Playcentre** Tuesday and Thursday 10am-1pm. Franklin Rd. Visitors welcome. paparoa@playcentre.org.nz
- Paparoa Primary School** 2025 - Term 3 - 14 July - 19 Sept, Term 4 - 6 Oct - 16 Dec Ph 431 7379
- Paparoa Toy Library** Wed 10-11.30am, Paparoa Community Church, 4 Hook Rd
- Paparoa Volunteer Rural Fire Force (VRFF)** 1st and 3rd Monday of the month 6.30pm Depot Rd ph Ken Ogilvie 021 129 4042
- Plunket Ready Steady Wriggle** Mon 10am. At playcentre. Tina Ball 021 033 5128
- Selwyn Centre** Thurs 9.45am for over 65's, St Marks, Hook Rd, Sue 027 417 4626
- Sports Pavilion** Functions Venue Bookings ph Jane Bailey 431 6148
- St Mary's Catholic Church** Maungaturoto 10am Wed, 4pm Saturday
- Table Tennis** Tues 7.30pm, Sports Pavilion. \$2 Pete 021 056 7163
- Tennis** Tues Jnr 3.30 & 4.30pm, adult 5.30. Juliet 021 143 2560, Pete 021 056 7163
- Yoga For Everyone** Tues and Fri, 9.30am, Sports Pavilion. Hatha yoga & more. \$15. Equipment provided. Beginners welcome. Ph Luciana for more info 0221896496

PLEASE UPDATE US WITH YOUR DETAILS: press@paparoa.org.nz

Paparoa Press CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Storage Available

In Paparoa: Secure 20 foot Containers - contact Gary Dallas 021 431 712 Paparoa County Depot Trust



Carpet & Vinyl layer Supply, restretching & repairs Phone Ian 0274996413

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Email press@paparoa.org.nz

LOCAL TIDES for JULY 2026

TIDES - CALCULATED for PAHI-WHAKAPIRAU

DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	17.52	12.01	17th	06.49	13.16
2nd	06.15	12.38	18th	07.36	14.02
3rd	06.52	13.15	19th	08.21	14.46
4th	07.30	13.53	20th	09.07	15.31
5th	08.09	14.32	21st	09.53	16.19
6th	08.51	15.14	22nd	10.43	17.12
7th	09.36	16.02	23rd	11.39	18.15
8th	10.27	16.57	24th	12.43	06.39
9th	11.25	17.59	25th	13.49	07.44
10th	12.29	06.22	26th	14.48	08.46
11th	13.37	07.28	27th	15.37	09.39
12th	14.44	08.36	28th	16.19	10.25
13th	15.45	09.41	29th	16.56	11.05
14th	16.40	10.41	30th	17.30	11.41
15th	17.31	11.36	31st	18.04	12.16
16th	06.00	12.28			

Community Directory

EMERGENCY: FIRE ■ POLICE ■ AMBULANCE dial 111

COAST TO COAST HEALTH CARE

- Maungaturoto Medical Centre: 8am-5pm Mon-Fri..... 09 431 8576
- Paparoa Clinic: Open Tues and Thurs 8am-5pm..... 09 431 7222
- For urgent after hours medical service (Wellsford)..... 09 423 8086
- DISTRICT NURSE** Dargaville Hospital 09 439 3330
- Healthline - 24 hour service..... 0800 611 116
- HOSPICE KAIPARA** Dargaville Hospital..... 09 439 3330
- KAIPARA DISTRICT COUNCIL** Helpline 0800 727 059
- LINKING HANDS** Health Shuttle Service, Maungaturoto..09 431 8969
- LIONS CLUB PAPAROA** President Ken Chambers 09 431 7443
- MAUNGATUROTO PHARMACY** 09 431 8045
- RIVERVIEW REST HOME** 09 431 8696

- OTAMATEA COMMUNITY SERVICES** Community House 09 431 9080
- PAPAROA LIBRARY** Free Membership. Ph 09 431 7555 (Bus hours) Mon, Wed 2-4.30, Tues 10-1, Thurs 10-4 Fri 11-1.30, Sat 10-12
- PAPAROA PLAYCENTRE** paparoa@playcentre.org.nz
- PAPAROA PLUNKET**Appointments/enquiries 0800 184 803
- PLUNKET Helpline** 0800 933 922
- PAPAROA PRIMARY SCHOOL** Principal Karyn Taylor.....09 431 7379
- PHYSIOTHERAPIST**At Paparoa Medical Centre, Mondays. Book on 431 9062 or email admin@maungaturotophysio.co.nz
- PROGRESSIVE PAPAROA INC (PPI)**.....Pete Hames 021 0567163
- PARENT PORT Inc**free help for families 425 9357 or 027 280 5093

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The teens dressed to impress, with the young men looking sharp in a range of suits from crisp white linen to elegant navy blue tuxedos. The young women shimmered like stars on a winter's night, wearing stunning gowns of satin, silk, and velvet.

Organisers described the first-ever Winter Wonderland Ball as a resounding success, fostering friendships and creating lasting memories for everyone involved. Many attendees are already looking forward to next year's event.

Rebecca



Left to right: Holly Cullen, Paige Chambers, Laura Cullen, Vanessa Perry, Brooke Chambers, Grace Cullen, Savannah Rout, Kayla Leaf.



Left to Right Samuel Erceg, JJ Brits, Kohby Borger, Joel Erceg



Back: Kohby, Sarah, Rebecca and Lillian Borger, Miriam and Josh Turner
Centre: Sammi Borger
Front: James and Andrew Borger




Simply good gardening.

Contact:
Tristan Burch
027 237 1909
tristan.goodground@gmail.com



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David Ayling
027 417 1671
david.ayling@arizto.co.nz
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