



MAY 2025



Ann Morris and Janet Stutt with a wreath from Paparoa RSA

Lest we forget



John Tullett wearing his namesake and grandfather's WWII medals

Paparoa Sports and Recreation Association

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Paparoa Press PP

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CONTACT US:

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- PPI, PO Box 107, Paparoa 0543
- www.paparoa.org.nz

ADVERTISING

Rate Card available by email
Booking & Copy deadline:
15th of month
Publication date 1st Wed of month

Fun at Otamatea Day Camp

Another successful year for Otamatea Day Camp! Held from Monday 14 April to Wednesday 16 April at Millar's farm on Paparoa Station Road, Day Camp is for kids of the Kaipara aged 6 to 12 years, and involves fun outdoor activities.

This year these included building bush huts, cooking over a campfire, a tent program with stories, singing, and skits, and fun elective activities like wood work, soccer, arts and crafts, go karting, t-shirt design, and horse riding.

Despite the terrible weather that hit the area

on Wednesday, things went ahead as usual. The camp site was remarkably calm and sheltered with only light winds and some drizzle. A small change in the afternoon program was all that was needed for a brilliant last day, with campers joined by family in the afternoon for prizegiving and a free BBQ.

Day Camp happens every year, and is run by volunteers from Good News Church Maungaturoto, Ararua Church, and Paparoa Community Church. It's aim is to teach local kids about Jesus Christ and the Bible, and is always great fun. For more information, follow Otamatea Day Camp on Facebook.

Natalie Chambers



Teen leader Brooke Chambers in front of the team's bush hut effort.



Isaiah Cullen and Finney Chambers enjoying the woodwork elective.



Teen leader Toby Browne helping his campers cook sausages over the fire.

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Paparoa County Depot Trust Inc.



Applications are invited for PCDT grants.

Opens May 20th closes June 24th 2025.

Grants are restricted to the area of the old Otamatea County.

Applicants should be incorporated societies or organisations that benefit our community.

For an application form email Stella.clyde@gmail.com

**The Paparoa Press is also
available online at
paparoa.org.nz**

An open letter to the good folk of Paparoa

I've been lucky enough to experience the hospitality and charm of Paparoa over the last eight years. When we moved from Auckland, we learned that we were colloquially referred to as 'Lifestylers' which my husband I thought was quite apt, as that was the reason we bought a home here- to set up a home as well as a lifestyle which we both enjoy very much.

We felt welcomed into the area and since made some lovely friends and experienced the many charming perks of the surrounding areas.

We witnessed the locals' sense of pride and hopeful anticipation of growth and energy in the town. The word about town was the area was attracting new faces (and patronage) which was welcomed and the heart of Paparoa and Kaipara continued to beat. We saw Paparoa promoted in the media and wondered if there would be an influx of us "Lifestylers". To be honest, we were a little worried our little secret (paradise) may be let out of the bag.

Sadly, we've witnessed a decline in our once vibrant town. With post-Covid fallout, the economic challenges and simply keeping up with the cost of living, the energy, vibrancy

and security has diminished. I know I'm not alone in feeling saddened about this and I worry for the local business we have enjoyed and appreciated so much.

I have seen businesses close their doors, which I know has impacted the community tremendously. I also feel for the hard-working families who have put their blood, sweat and tears into their work. I see the increasing fear and exhaustion of my friends who, after years of providing much needed and wanted services in the areas. The negative impact on them is heart-breaking.

We, as a collective, need to get together and support our local businesses. I want to encourage those who enjoy, appreciate, and reap the benefits of our Paparoa community to give some thought about who we are giving our dollar to. My vote is for supporting our hardworking business

owners, families, and communities that breathe life into Paparoa and Kaipara itself, to allow them to not only survive, but thrive and enjoy the rewards.

From a concerned, hopeful and proud Paparoa 'Lifestyler'

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**Contact Ken Ogilvy
021 129 4042**



A reminder to our contributors!

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

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

Opinions expressed in Paparoa Press are the author's own and not necessarily those of the editorial team or PPI.

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It's back again!**Paparooa and Districts Community Showcase 2025**

Sunday 8th June, 3 - 5.30pm - Paparooa War Memorial Hall.

Free entry - Free parking - Free Soup - Free to register a stall.

Paparooa are hosting another great community event.

The purpose of this showcase is to connect local groups, clubs and organisations with our growing local communities. We believe that by supporting each other, we develop a healthy and dynamic community for everyone to enjoy.

Calling all clubs, groups and organisations... If you would like more members, volunteers or attendees or if you'd like to get the word out about the services or support you offer, please register to have a stall at this event. Stallholders will also be in to win \$200 in our prize draw!

Use this link to register.
<https://forms.gle/SMY2XqZ2En55jhMc8>

Or scan the QR code on our poster (back page).

Email us at Paparooa.ca@gmail.com for more information.

Doors open to the public at 3.30pm, as the first half hour will be for the stallholders to network.

Many diverse and interesting groups have already signed up. These offer everything from learning to grow your own food to ballroom dancing.

Meet the people from Coastguard North Kaipara and the Civil Defence Community Response Group, who give their time generously to protect our safety. Find out about groups that offer music, health and fitness lessons. It's going to be a great afternoon.

Make sure you save the date and come along to this worthwhile event.

Community Activator

School holiday sewing fun

Paparooa Library ran beginners sewing classes over the holidays and everyone got top marks for their creations!





Council Mark says –

It's a hard road to find the perfect candidate, mate

In my February column I wrote about attributes of a good council candidate. I have considered the desirability of some sort of pre-selection process, but there is a risk of that process being in conflict with the principles of open democracy.

I do think though that there should be a means of enabling the voting public to know more about what a candidate has to offer than just a billboard or the maximum of 100 words that come out with the voting paper.

In the business world, private company board members are usually appointed because of their skills and expertise in relation to the enterprise, or because they are related to the owner. With a co-operative such as Fonterra, my basic understanding is that there is a mix of members elected from the shareholder base, and independent members appointed by the existing board to ensure all key governance competencies are covered. An added step for shareholder candidates is an assessment by an independent panel of experts which then recommends

the best ones to vote for to the shareholders, quite an involved process.

In local government there is no such filter. Any NZ citizen over the age of 18 may stand as long as they are on the electoral roll. What we get is like the proverbial Forrest Gump box of chocolates.

I had thought that perhaps there could be a process for potential candidates to follow which would enable them to demonstrate the sort of skills and attributes I outlined in my February column. The results of such a test could be published on line to assist voters in their choices. There is an independent organisation called Policy.nz which you can google (their ownership and editorship is quite open and transparent). They give candidates the opportunity to state their position on a range of policies, and they are collated in a way which makes it easy to compare

candidates and/or parties. I have asked them if it would be possible to add the sort of attributes I have been promoting.

We'll see.

Mark Vincent
Otamatea Ward Councillor
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White Rock Gallery A G M

All are welcome to our AGM on Sunday 18 May, 1pm at Pahi Hall.

New Members

We've welcomed yet more new members: Tinopai artists

- Lynn Walters with her decoupage creations,
- Tina De Suza with her gorgeous sterling silver jewellery, and
- Gay Neels whose artwork will offer a new dimension to our upcoming Winter Exhibition - do come and see.

Winter Exhibition : 1 May thru 31 August

Come and check out our latest show. Our winter exhibition is ready to view from 1st May and will run for 3 months until 31st August.

Congratulations

Our congratulations to **Mgto Gallery** on their recent opening – well worth a visit to see some awesome art! We wish them well and applaud this addition to the Kaipara art scene.

White Rock is open 7 days, 10am-4pm, opposite Gumdigger's Cafe, in The Kauri Museum's *Post & Telegraph Office*.

And, as always, you'll find - There's something for everyone.

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Letters from The Old Post Office...

Once more into the breach...

"Any great change must expect opposition, because it shakes the very foundation of privilege." Lucretia Mott.

Once more into the breach, Dear Reader. No doubt many are counting the days not to mention the ways until I depart these merry glades.

However, this month's cheery epistle will deal with the rich and varied ways in which "me nightie is ripped". (Please note the underwear theme going on, although I must insist it is only metaphorical. Unless the material is the modern poor quality that

passes for cotton. Oh, clothe me in hemp etc.)

Rip number one: Why does one start to do all those things that have always annoyed one ONLY when in the process of going to market? Loving the clean painted walls in the wardrobe. Have found clothing that I thought long lost and abandoned.

Rip number two: Why does everything suddenly seem grubbier than ever before? My beloved offspring would claim that my charming little home has never been up to their standards. Interesting their memory loss, it seems to have come on quite early. I think do remember plunging one's hand into a veritable compost of rotting sandwich and overripe banana, quietly fermenting at the bottom of their school bag.

Rip number three: Why, when one lifts one's head from cleaning, gardening, being nice to guests, (EVEN when they arrive hours early) do you realise that the world is still turning to custard (shark infested custard at that) and while many view the USA with disapprobation, not to say merriment, we fail to note the similarities in our own back yard. When banks commit acts of illegality and turn to Govt to change the law, not the courts... heigh ho back to feudalism we go.¹

Rip no 4: Why do so many

people take the liberty to park across the shed door access? Huge letters spell out quite noticeably KEEP CLEAR, I have even written it in Latin underneath (dog Latin and quite rude but the message is still valid. Do not say that I do not attempt to educate the great unwashed) but still they park up. Lord knows what they find to do, although if I bothered to check the security cameras no doubt I would soon find out. Perhaps a sign indicating that any and all misbehaviours would be shared on social media? Financial opportunities abound. Is blackmail still illegal, as so many other regulations are being broken it is hard to keep up.

Rip no 5: Why, just when the elder sainted daughter is due to visit we have Cyclone Tam. I can only mourn the fact that the establishment is in a state of total clean bliss and she will not only miss it but disbelieve my statements to that effect.

Oh well, nil desperandum.² Or in "mock Latin" my preferred phrase 'nil carborundum illegitimi.'³

Over and possibly out.

Ka kite ano
Deb

1. The "NACT" CCCFA amendment will change the Credit Contracts and

Continued next page...



Kaipara Comm-Unity Hub

May 10th -12pm-3pm KaiparaHUB@proton.me

Pete Fairclough

Revitalizing the Water the Soil and other things

Paparoa Sports Pavilion - Paparoa 027 4583691

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Thanks to Dog Trial Supporters

The Otamatea Dog Trial Club held its annual trial in March and it was a very successful (and hot) couple of days.

A huge thank you to the people who make it all happen.

Sponsors: The Vet Centre, Avoca Lime, Ralph Schultz, Sloane Livestock, Huband Contractors, PGG Wrightson, Barfoot & Thompson Real Estate (John Davey), Maungaturoto Motorcycles, ORT Blue Vengeance, Karl Tomich. Also our property owners, Quinten and Tracy Robinson, and for the sheep supplied by R & H Shepperd.

Thank you all for your support of the club, and the event, and to all helpers.

Fiona Hastie

Paparoa Lions

Just a quick recap from last month before I update everyone with what's happening locally.

Thank you Libby and Pete for your great write up in the last edition of the Paparoa press.

Yes we had a fabulous response for the 75th Pioneer Luncheon, we hosted round 120 amazing and very interesting people who shared lots of great stories and memories.

We were also involved helping marshal the Paparoa Fun Run Walk which again had a fabulous turnout and enjoyed by all.

So, whats happening in Paparoa...

Over the next few weeks you may see some of our Paparoa Lions out and about as it's all very exciting. New signs are being arranged for the walkway, and new metal has also been arranged for the walkway near the Memorial Trees.



With the help of the Queen Elizabeth II Trust, a large portion of the fencing around the covenanted bush is being redone, keeping farm stock out of parts of the Bush Walkway.

Junior Speech Night

Invitations will be going out shortly for local schools to participate in this event, it was such a successful night last year, everyone who participated showed tremendous skills and confidence.

Date and time to be confirmed. 😊

Remember, if you're out and about and see our Paparoa Lions crew working away, please don't hesitate to say hello especially if you want to find out more about what we do, you could become a Lion too.

Patsy

From previous page...

Consumer Finance Act, New Zealand's key consumer lending law.

This amendment will retroactively weaken a critical consumer protection rule that says if a bank fails to properly disclose key loan information (like interest rates or terms), it must forfeit all interest and fees charged during the period of non-compliance. This rule has been in place since 2015 to stop banks from profiting off incomplete or misleading disclosures.

Why it matters:

Two major banks - ANZ and ASB - are currently facing a class action lawsuit over such breaches. More than 150,000

mortgage holders could be owed hundreds of millions in compensation. The proposed amendment would rewrite the law going back to 2015, effectively killing the lawsuit and letting the banks off the hook.

It matters because this is not a general law reform - it's a targeted, retrospective favour for two powerful banks in the middle of an active court case. It undermines the rule of law, sets a dangerous precedent, and signals that corporate lobbying can override justice for ordinary citizens (from an article by P. Heke).

2. Do not despair.

3. Do not let the bastards grind you down.



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Need funds for your organisation?

Paparoa is very fortunate to have a source of funding available to local organisations. In recent years the Depot Trust has distributed over \$70,000 annually by way of grants, donations, sponsorships and scholarships. The beneficiaries range from sporting groups, youth activities, welfare groups, community facilities and, if the trust's criteria are met, individuals pursuing a specific activity. From small grants for school sporting activities to larger amounts such as providing water tanks for a local group, the Depot Trust has been able to help.

The funds accrue from the activities of the Paparoa County Depot Trust in renting and leasing the facilities in Depot Rd, Paparoa. As the trust is run by volunteers the vast majority of the income is available for distribution. Set up originally to house the former Paparoa Fire Party, now Fire and Emergency NZ (FENZ) the Trust has expanded its activities and provides a valuable service to the community.

While maintaining its charitable status with the distribution of profits, the Depot Trust is a go-to-place for groups needing that funding boost. Ask for our funding application forms, these are called for in May and November if you or a local group is in need of monetary support. See the advert page?

The Trust will be holding its Annual General Meeting on 2 July and welcomes the public to attend. Details will be in the June Paparoa Press. As a charitable organization the Trust is actively seeking more volunteers. If you have governance, property management and practical skills plus a desire to contribute to your community please consider standing for the Trust board. Contact Trust secretary stella.clyde@gmail.com if you have questions.

PCDT



2025 LOCAL ELECTIONS KEY DATES

- NOW**
Voting enrolment opens
- APRIL**
Enrolment details arrive by post
- 4 JULY**
Candidate nominations open
- 11 JULY**
Exclusion period cannot change from Māori roll
- 1 AUGUST**
Candidate nominations close
- 6-8 AUGUST**
Candidates announced
- 9 SEPTEMBER**
Voting open – special voting begins
- 11 OCTOBER**
Voting closes at 12 noon
- 18 OCTOBER**
Results confirmed

VOTE BY 11 OCT

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OCS May News

Autumn is definitely making its presence felt. People around me are talking about the extra blanket on the bed and the warm socks being dug out of the drawer. I welcome it, I am over the hot weather, it's too hard to sleep when it's so hot at night.

Just a few more mils of rain would be good, but I know some didn't welcome the few showers we had recently. I guess it all depends on what kind of lifestyle we have. No doubt there will have been much more rain by the time you read this.

Sadly, like many up and down the country, our agency has suffered the effects of funding issues. Some of us have shortened weeks or days, which all helps spread the funds, while the most affected is our famous food bank which sadly closed its doors at the end of March. It's a sign of the times, as they say, but very hard for all concerned. We have provided food for hundreds of families and individuals since the Community House first opened in 2003 as Homebuilders. We have so many organisations and community members to thank for the wonderful support they have provided over the years. They have given produce, eggs, pantry items, knitting, sewing, money, and time. Without all of this we would not have been able to continue keeping people supplied with our generous parcels of food and household goods. To the beautiful people of Otamatea- you are so very much appreciated. The end of this service also means we miss very much the staff and volunteers who did such a great job running the food bank.

At the time of writing we are hopeful that there may be someone or a group planning to operate a food bank in the vicinity.

Our calendar for May:

Tuesday 2nd, and Wednesday 28th: Free shopping trip to Whangarei. The van leaves the Maungaturoto Retirement Village parking area at 9am and returns after lunch.

Wednesday 21st: Community Lunch at the Good News Church, 98 Hurndall Street, Maungaturoto. 10am Morning tea and lunch at 12, then raffle draw at 1pm. All welcome- come and enjoy good food and good company in lovely surroundings. Our community van can pick up and return to the Retirement Village if required.

Wednesdays at The Community House from 11am: Dancing Dollars. Join those who have put their saving tips to good use by buying local ingredients and making lunch, demonstrating that wholesome, tasty meals are possible on a limited budget. Keep those Dollars from Dancing out of your pocket.

Thursdays at Brooks House, from 6pm, a happy bunch play Board Games- choosing from a large collection of games for all tastes.

For information on any of the above please phone us on 09 431 9080 and we will be happy to help.

Keep warm and dry, take care of yourselves

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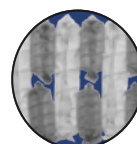
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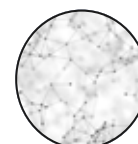
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Paparoa School news

Our water woes are over - what a difference a month can make! I'm working from home this time, a welcome change thanks to the school break.

The irony isn't lost on me, however, as I sit here listening to the relentless drumming of rain on the roof - my water tank, just weeks ago a source of anxiety, is now happily overflowing.

Just before the holidays kicked off, we had the pleasure of visiting the vibrant Tangiteroria School. This trip was a fantastic

experience for our whole school as a part of our Environment programme. The visit gave our tamariki the wonderful opportunity to learn firsthand about their ngahere (bush) as well as some of the enriching activities they undertake there. Our students were captivated by the sight of beautiful, mature native trees and the promise of young seedlings. The highlights for many were undoubtedly the exhilarating 'mud run' and the collaborative fun of hut building alongside their new Tangiteroria friends. This immersive experience will directly build upon the planning we started in Term 1 for the development of our very own ngahere, providing a tangible connection to the natural world and fostering environmental stewardship.

That same spirit was on full display at a fantastic Football Festival that brought

together students from Paparoa, Matakohe, and Tinopai Schools. The fields were alive with the excited shouts of children chasing the ball, the friendly rivalry between teams, and the supportive cheers from the sidelines. It was a wonderful opportunity for all of our young athletes to showcase their skills and enjoy spending time with other students in our area. It is always a privilege to continue the strong connections that we have as neighboring schools.

Beyond these enriching experiences for our students, our staff have been extra busy, undertaking valuable Structured Literacy professional development. This dedicated professional learning is a crucial step in further enhancing our teaching practices. Structured literacy is a teaching approach that uses systematic, explicit,



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Continued...

and sequential instruction to help students learn to read and write. It focuses on building foundational literacy skills like phonemic awareness, phonics, and vocabulary, which are crucial for decoding/encoding and comprehending text. This approach is beneficial for all students, particularly those who can find literacy challenging, as it provides a clear and structured path to literacy development. Although our learning is not finished, we are looking forward to adding new ideas to our current Structured Literacy programme.

I hope you all enjoyed the two April long weekends with family and friends.

Nga Mihi
Karyn Taylor
Principal

**Rain!**

We are thankful for the rain and for it filling up most of our water tanks. The wind wasn't so pleasant and we hope everyone was safe through the recent storm.

With the rain and the soil we acquired we now have four of our newly finished garden beds ready for planting. As always we are thankful to Rowie for her continued support with seedlings. All going to plan we should get these into the ground this week. With the commencement of this work we have more soil coming and should be able to get the rest of the gardens into full winter swing very soon. Sunday harvest is still postponed at this point but please keep an eye out either here or on Grow Paparoa's Facebook for this restarting. We are still working on a Thursday and Friday 9am- 12 noon. Feel free to drop in, lend a quick hand and have a cuppa during these hours.

Aladdin's Cave will begin winter trading hours as of the 3rd of May. We will be opening one hour later at 10am and closing up at 2pm. Winter stock will be available from this date also. Thank you to all who regularly support Aladdin's Cave, it is very much appreciated.

Katie Fullerton

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BOOKS AND BOOKCLUBS

"Quantities of cheap fiction will be required. The soldier will carry a book in his kitbag; the civilian will keep books for his fireside. We are a nation of readers, and the war is only going to increase the demand for books." Frederick J. Cowles, Chief Librarian of Swinton and Pendlebury Library Service, as quoted in "The Little Wartime Library," by Kate Thompson. A work of fiction, female characters and romance, set in the real-life situation of the London blitz. An underground tube station became a bomb shelter housing a community with bunk beds, nursery, tearoom, theatre and – a library. Married women were not allowed to hold positions as librarians in those unenlightened times, but Clara is recently widowed and childless, and there's a war on, so exceptions are made. The story of the real tube station library with photographs is told at the back of the book. Each chapter begins with a quote from a British librarian. This novel is a feast for lovers of books, libraries, history, and all things literary.



Another delve into history is "The Killing Snows," by Charles Egan. No, it is not a murder mystery. It is labelled as "The defining novel of the Great Irish Famine" of the 1840s. In 1990 a box of very old documents was found on a small farm in the west of Ireland. They told a story of suffering, love and courage which inspired this novel. It also holds a warning about mono-farming. When food was dependent on the potato crop, and it failed for years on end, famine leading to starvation and plague, exacerbated by the coldest winter for years with snow to the rooftops, well, the consequences are pitiful to say the least. It makes for extraordinary reading. Workhouses and work schemes were set up in an attempt to ease the people's hunger, but with little knowledge of how disease and infection is spread (Lister and Pasteur were only just discovering knowledge we take for granted today) the workhouses, rather than saving people, condemned them to death in their hundreds from the plague. There is a distinctly Irish flavour to the language, lifestyle and writing which is poignantly beautiful and heartbreaking at the same time. Lots to absorb and ponder over.

Sometimes I misjudge a book. It can't be because of its cover because that, along with its blurb, is why I chose it in the first place. It's the opening page or pages. If it doesn't grab me right from the start I will put it aside, read something else, and maybe get back to it when I've run out of reading material. This is a mistake. I've almost missed some really good reads that way. Some poor beginnings can lead to astounding adventures and glorious endings. "The Blue Hour," by Paula Hawkins was one such book for me. It starts off being about a piece of "art". Art in inverted commas because I don't consider collections of junk in a box to be art. That put me off, I didn't want to know any more about this so-called artist, now deceased, or the island she lived on, nor the curator attempting to set up an exhibition of her work. But when a bone in one of her pieces is thought to be human, and recently deceased, this thriller takes off. Any one or all of the characters could be bad guys or good guys. I wouldn't describe the writing as peeling the layers off an onion, but more an opening up of petals unfolding, revealing the heart inside. Magnificently crafted suspense. Great autumn or winter reading, one of those un-put-downable, read non-stop all day by the fire until it's over tales, that pumps adrenalin through your body and leaves you excited and wanting more.

Anne Bate

I've been thinking...

Media

Modern media are brilliant if you want to be entertained: music, sport, movies, shows of all kinds on demand. But it's a different story if you simply want to know what's going on in NZ or in the world.

Programmes which give unbiased news or balanced commentary on current affairs are definitely rare and endangered.

Sure, there's a plethora of information on social media, but how can you judge reliability?

Then there's radio, television and newspapers which are undergoing huge changes in their fights for survival (particularly the last two) and downgrading their news and current affairs.

Various factors have contributed to what I consider a serious decline in standards.

Firstly there is commercialisation. Media need to deliver target audiences to advertisers. They therefore need to attract readers/listeners/watchers. Hence the trend towards entertainment or sensationalism.

The development of the www and social media has made cheap information available. It has also made it possible for every Tom and Dick to report anything and to 'publish' their own commentary as well. Traditional media are somewhat bound by laws of libel and so on, but there is very little to control the www.

Newspapers, radio and tv have had to adjust to this competition resulting in a downward spiral. Relatively expensive exercises like investigative journalism, documentaries and public affairs programmes are becoming history. Instead

we have, on tv for example, a diet of cooking or cavorting on desert islands or marrying strangers. Entertaining? Not informative.

Journalists have had to adapt. Some have doubtless found other ways of making a living. Others have become "personalities". Whether these 'personalities' have invented themselves or been created by their producers/directors is scarcely relevant. Either way they showcase themselves rather than highlight the issues or persons who are the news.

Things were getting pretty bad for television in particular. The Labour Government gave them some relief by buying air time to inform the country about developments in post covid times. (You might suggest this was a poorly disguised form of political advertising.) When the present Government did not continue this practice more redundancies occurred.

I would not like to suggest that any media people are so petty as to seek revenge against the Government by extremely biased reporting.

Forgive me for mentioning school lunches, but I think this subject clearly illustrates media deficiencies.

Seymour's lunch programme obviously deserves to be criticised. But do we really need every School Principal, every parent and every kid in the country to have his/her say about it?

What we really need is an informed conversation

about who needs lunches and how they could be best delivered. We must all recognise that the present arrangement is akin to the ambulance at the bottom of a cliff. The real problem is poverty and inadequate parenting. Responsible media could have stressed this.

And while the media were gorging on Government performance they were ignoring other

thought provoking things... such as Richard Prebble's reasons for resigning from the Waitangi Tribunal, or the Government's attempts to sort foreign policy and trade.

Democracy depends on voters being given the information needed to make informed choices.

I no longer trust our media to do this.

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Science Corner

Strange Animal Stories



Joy riding octopus

In December 2023 a marine research group working in the Hauraki Gulf spotted a strange sight!

It was an orange hued octopus riding on the back of a short fin mako shark.

That's a real adventurous octopus as mako can swim at 50km/hr.

Octopus generally live in deeper water while mako generally live nearer the surface. Octopus are seriously smart but that kind of takes the cake. Was it a teenage octopus out for a joyride?



The Great Potoo Bird from South America

The 'tree stump bird' makes a loud moaning growl in the night, can see with its eyes closed while sleeping (admittedly between tiny slits in its eye lids) and is extremely well camouflaged during the day.

Its mottled grey feathers make it look like a tree stump or part of a tree hiding it from predators. This bird is owl like in that it hunts at night eating insects, bats and small birds. It is monogamous (mates for life) and both parents take turns at incubating their one egg and feeding the chick. The adult bird grows to about 60cm with a wing span of about 70cm. It has giant eyes adapted for hunting in low light.

Its strange moaning growl cry has caused myths to arise that these are the calls of lost children.



The Turkey Vulture

This bird ranges from southern Canada to the southern most tip of South America. It is a scavenger and feeds almost exclusively on dead animals. It finds its food from being able to detect the gasses arising from the carrion. It flies using the thermal air currents seldom needing to flap its wings.

It can only vocalise with grunts and hisses as it has no syrinx (bird vocal chords).

Each year it raises 2 chicks in nests in caves or hollow trees. Its bald red head and dark plumage reminded people of a turkey, thus its name. They live in large family groups- some times 100s. It can lower its night time temperature by about 6 deg C. The turkey vulture may live in the wild upward of 16 years. Both parents take turns incubating and feeding the chicks who take about 16 weeks to fledge.

Weird things- it defecates on its own legs. This helps to cool them and also makes their legs look white with a coating of uric acid.

If attacked the turkey vulture's defence is to regurgitate semi-digested meat (a foul-smelling acidic concoction) and spit it at the attacker. This vomit is acidic and will sting if it lands on the enemy. Clearing their crop may also help the vulture to find lift off as it gets rid of a heavy undigested meal.



Stella

Maungaturoto and Districts Rotary

Last month our focus was on Jaime, our overseas Exchange student for last year and she has successfully gathered a group of Otamatea High Students together to form the Interact club that was spoken about. As mentioned previously, this Club is student led (with the support of a staff member) so we eagerly await to hear about their plans to move forward for the rest of the year.

Late in March we had the McSweeney Bros provide a concert at the Country Club. Because Marian Burns was overseas, Paddy, Alastair and Eddy had the skills of Jono Loney who not only played the Irish whistle and the violin, but also the mandolin, which he mastered with incredible skill. While the crowd was smaller than last time, all present were able to enjoy not only traditional dancing but also line dancing. Once again, Jane and her team in the kitchen provided a very good meal to all who wanted it.

We have provided funding for Duffy books at Tinopai, for some years. This scheme, initiated by Alan Duff aims at putting books in homes for students. These students can choose their own two books from a very substantial catalogue. Gael and I were fortunate to attend the recent presentation, the format for which was quite different from previous ones. On other occasions, there have been a group of young people acting and the very strong message is the importance of reading. This year we had Kenape doing a presentation with music and song. He currently runs a Music Therapy and Mentoring program and he was able to testify to the youngsters about how reading is an important



part of helping him with his music creation. Reading helped him increase his vocabulary skills as an artist and he was able to show the students how he was now able to convey his feelings

through the lyrics and music he composed. As part of this Kenape encouraged the youngsters to make up songs about themselves.

As both Mangawhai and Maungaturoto Rotary clubs meet on the same night, we often don't hear about each other's work in the community. Just recently we were fortunate to have Mark Bygraves visit us and he was telling us that they will soon have three new bus shelters erected in the village. They have recently had the prize-giving for the sailing club, which operates in daylight saving time. This group has been a huge focus for the club since its inception. This has been so successful that a group of parents may now be taking responsibility for the running of the Club. No doubt Mangawhai Rotary will find another project to get involved with.

Eileen



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A blast from the past...

From Paparoa Press May 2012.

This block of shops sure looks different now!

New-look Shopfront for Village

Look what's happening at the old McFarlane Motors building in the middle of the Village. More recent Paparoans may know it better as having also been 'Magpies Hoard - Antique and 2nd hand store' which closed down a few years back.

Present owners Alister and Lyn Taylor have been hard at work behind the hoarding that has been in place for some time.

Recently revealed is the new frontage with two sets of matching doors and windows opening onto the old forecourt. The new doors and windows have been cunningly re-made by dismantling and re-using the

material from the old ones. New wiring is now being installed and this will be followed by interior linings.

Alister and Lyn hope to have the work finished before too much longer and will then be looking for commercial tenants.



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Paparoa Golf Club Pink Ribbon fundraising golf afternoon

Five Hole Ambrose Tournament, 24th May 1pm start. Golf Course Road Maungaturoto

You have possibly seen that Paparoa Golf Club is holding a Fundraising Afternoon Ambrose Golf Tournament but you're not too keen to play AND you're not sure what an Ambrose tournament is all about.

You don't ever have to have played golf - its all about fun and hitting a ball with a stick. For those who don't have any clubs there will be equipment available for the afternoon, and each tee will have someone there to show you the ropes.

In an Ambrose tournament,

teams of three, or four players collaborate for their best team score. Each player hits a tee shot, then the team selects the best shot. All other team members then pick up their golf balls and place them close to the chosen ball, within a specified distance and hit their second shots from that spot. This continues until the ball is holed, with the best shot always being selected.

So get your teams of three or four together, get yourselves a great team name, find something pink to wear, and register to join in a

fun afternoon raising money for a great cause.

Just \$25pp all inclusive. Teens 14- 18, \$10.

Children under 14 free and accompanied by an adult.

All monies raised will go to the Breast Cancer Pink Ribbon Foundation.


Spot prizes, best dressed team prize, best pink person, and raffles. Come along for heaps of fun, laughter, and make new friends!


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Pets in the Valley



Isn't it amazing what a difference a month makes. We've gone from very dry and brown to moist and green in a short space of time. It makes you very aware of how life-giving rain is, so, no matter how wet and muddy it is over winter, I am going to try and remember not to complain.

Unfortunately the change in weather hasn't deterred one of life's little pests that has been extremely active this summer - the bot fly. Anyone with horses will know this critter and how annoying it can be as it lays its little



yellow eggs on the horse's legs and elsewhere on the body. It does have a very interesting life cycle. The eggs, which stick amazingly well to the horse's hair, hatch out little larvae, which the horses lick as they are probably as annoying as their parents. The larvae then crawl into the gums of the horse for a while and are then swallowed into the stomach where they

attach to the gastric mucosa. They can overwinter in this nice warm place and then are passed out in the manure as pupae and eventually hatch into flies. And so the cycle begins again.

The flies are like slow moving bees and it is interesting to watch them lay their eggs as they do not touch the horse with their legs but curl their body around and lay the egg directly onto the hair. Despite them being slow flyers, I struggle to knock them down very easily but it is very satisfying when you do get one and manage to stand on it. The horses hate them but as they don't actually land on the horse the usual fly repellents don't work to keep them away. Pretty much all horse drenches will kill the bots in their stomach and I usually say wait until the fly are gone and then treat for bots but it seems to me the bot season is getting longer and longer. A joy of the winterless North perhaps?

Janine

From our family to yours

Chucken Run (deliberate spelling error btw)

It was a successful harvest season for us, which ended in a very dry way in March, simply running out of water for the garden. So we let everything die in April, but not before harvesting just a few bits and pieces... 40 pumpkins, 60 watermelons, kilo upon kilo of cucumber, tomatoes, and not to mention the orchard! I was trying to figure out how many kilos we harvested of apples, pears, figs, feijoa and peaches, but my maths is rotten, so it was at least 50 tons. I'm not prone to exaggeration either. The wonderful part was gifting 95% of it to those who needed it, because I don't need a fat storehouse of bottled chutney that I won't have eaten in five years when there are families who can't afford veggies... just sayin'...

With the garden empty, the Man of the House brought home a few chicks from work for a party. 42 chickens. He works on a chicken farm. I don't know what you were thinking...

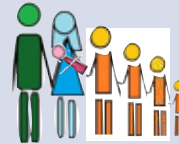
And frankly, I don't know what he was thinking either! Now these 42 chickens are providing enough eggs for everyone, as you can imagine, but I have discovered- and I'm sorry- that I don't like chickens. Vicious, nasty things. They establish an order, and will basically try and kill the one deemed lowest. The lowest victims were removed from the housing estate- where they began their own order! I stand out there, waving a stick, trying to make them be friends, but no! Mr threatens them with the chicken recipe book! To no avail.

The future of the chickens is they will be put to work in the orchard, to break the bug cycles, and as they'll be further away from the house, it'll be easier to turn a blind eye to their antics. And the nose away from the smell.

But I digress. As usual. On with the next job of industrial chicken proof fencing, so that when a new garden goes in, their claws won't be on it.

Have a great May!!

Jenny



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Sandy's Shop!

Eagle eyed locals may have spotted an 'Open' sign at 237 Pahi Road, and wondered what was happening therein? Head in and have a look!

Sandy and Morris have moved in, from Kaiwaka, converting one of the rooms into a treasure trove of crystals, jewellery, art, potae (hats) and handmade korowai. Sandy was a regular at the Paparoa Farmers Market, but now her reasonably priced goodies are found daily on Pahi Rd - she still frequents markets as far away as Auckland, Marsden and Kerikeri.

Sandy was born in Port Albert, and lived mostly in Wellsford and Kaiwaka, and she learnt the craft of weaving from her first husband's Aunty, in the Far North. Each korowai (ceremonial cloak) takes many hours to make, and everything about them is symbolic, from the colours of the

feathers, to the patterns. Sandy also teaches other crafts; weaving, jewellery making and art. Find her on facebook: Sandy Davies.

Pop in to her shop and have a chat - she says even if the sign isn't out, ring the bell and come take a look, it's worth the visit!

Jenny



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WHAT'S ON -MAY 2025

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

"Letters Home Exhibition April 25 - July 22.

White Rock Gallery - 5 Church Rd Matakoho (Kauri Museum) Open 7 days 1-4.
Winter Exhibition May 1 - August 31.

Natural Perfumery Workshops - Sat May 3 and Wed May 7. Limited spaces.
See p11 for time and booking info.

White Rock Gallery AGM - Sun May 18, 1pm. Pahi Hall. All welcome.

Paparoa Golf Club Pink Ribbon fundraiser - Sat May 24, 1pm. Five hole
Ambrose Tournament. Registration required. See p16 for details.

Coming up...

Paparoa and Districts Community Showcase - Sun June 8, 3.30 - 5.30pm.
Paparoa War Memorial Hall. See back page for more info and registration details.

OUT & ABOUT AROUND TOWN

Paparoa'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 Paparoa Drop in for a chat, hands on experience, or a cuppa. Every Thursday & Friday 9am - 12pm. Next to the showgrounds.

Paparoa Golf Course Winter golf programme every Sunday from 2 March - 10am start for 18 holes, 12.30 for a 1pm start for 9 holes. \$10 haggle includes food. Eftpos available. Enquiries 022 678 1474.

Ballroom Classes Monday evenings at the Paparoa Memorial Hall, 6.15 - 7.45pm. An hour of tuition (social foxtrot, waltz, cha cha, rumba, slow jive etc) followed by a half hour of free time to practice, laugh and socialise. \$15pp. For more info ph Lisa on 021 828-531.

Paparoa Community Gym Open 24 hours. For more information email Libby at hames.jones@xtra.co.nz.

Lynn's Ukulele Group (L.U.G.S.) Tuesdays 1.30- 2.30pm, Paparoa Sports Pavilion. \$10. New players welcome. Also beginners guitar class 1pm. Ph Lynn 0274 583 691.

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



Calling Gardeners

If you're a keen gardener and would like to contribute a monthly gardening column please contact

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Letters Home Exhibition April 25 - July 22

ANZAC exhibition at the Kauri Museum, commemorating Kaipara's most decorated soldier Joseph Gordon Coates, who also became the first elected NZ born Prime Minister 100 years ago, Experience the true human impact of war through the handwritten letters of Coates and other service people connected with Otamatea.

Next Community Dinner

Welcome to our Hawaiian Night Community Dinner, which will be held at the Paparoa Sports Pavilion on Saturday 24 May. Enjoy a delicious meal and fun night. Dress up if you like. BYO drinks. It's a great way to meet up with local people you haven't seen in a while or meet some new people, as well as supporting the sports pavilion. Book now with Jane - ph 4316 148 or lillian.jane.bailey@gmail.com



REGULAR EVENTS, MEETINGS AND ORGANISATIONS

Anglican Church St Marks Hook Road, ph 431 8193 or 431 6224 for services info

Ararua Church 10.30am every Sunday. All welcome Ph 431 6622

Art Studio, Ruawai Wed 10-12noon ph Frances 439 2554

Badminton Thursdays 7pm Paparoa Hall \$2 students, \$3 adults, Pete 021 056 7163

Farmers' Market Every Saturday 9-Noon, Village Green, Alistair, 027 525 4782

Grey Power Last Wed in month, 1pm, Anglican Church Hall, Maungatūroto

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

Matakohe Garden Circle 1st Weds each month, 1pm, J Mackinnon 431 6689.

Maungaturoto Opportunity Shop Open Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 10am-3pm.

Alternate Sat mornings 10am-1pm.

Maungatūroto and Districts Rotary Club Maungatūroto 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 Dance to Music Every Tuesday 10:30-11:30, Stretching/Balance/Resistance/Bands/Zumba, \$5, Paparoa Hall, Stacey Watson 09 283 9931

Paparoa Garden Circle 2nd Wed of month. Contact Raylee Over 021 2565 893

Paparoa Hall Functions venue Ph Robyn 431 7306 or a/h Loraine 431 7290

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 1 starts Thursday 30 Jan, ends 11 April. Term 2 - 28 April - 27 June. Term 3 - 14 July - 19 Sept. Ph 431 7379

Paparoa Toy Library Wed 10.30-1pm, Paparoa Comm Church, Hilery 431 7330

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, Ph Sue 431 6224

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 Junior from 4pm, Adult 5.30pm, Ph Sue 431-6224, Pete 0210567163

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

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LOCAL TIDES for MAY 2025

TIDES - CALCULATED for PAHI-WHAKAPIRAU

DATE	LOW	HIGH	DATE	LOW	HIGH
1st	7.13	13.38	17th	7.35	13.57
2nd	8.07	14.33	18th	8.23	14.46
3rd	9.06	15.32	19th	9.17	15.42
4th	10.10	16.37	20th	10.16	16.43
5th	11.18	17.47	21st	11.18	17.47
6th	12.24	6.25	22nd	12.19	6.14
7th	13.23	7.27	23rd	13.18	7.14
8th	14.13	8.18	24th	14.14	8.10
9th	14.56	9.01	25th	15.08	9.04
10th	15.35	9.39	26th	16.00	9.57
11th	16.47	10.15	27th	16.51	10.49
12th	16.44	10.49	28th	17.41	11.42
13th	17.21	11.23	29th	6.09	12.34
14th	17.56	11.58	30th	7.01	13.27
15th	6.14	12.35	31st	7.54	14.20
16th	6.52	13.14			

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 Chambers09 4317443

MAUNGATUROTO PHARMACY 09 431 8045

MAUNGATUROTO 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 Plunket Nurse Louise 027 2823987 or 09 438 2508
PLUNKET Helpline 0800 933 922

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

PHYSIOTHERAPIST At Paparoa Medical Centre, Mon, Tues, Wed.

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



Paparoa & Districts Community Showcase 2025

Sunday 8th June
3.30pm - 5.30pm

Paparoa Memorial Hall, State Highway 12, Paparoa, Kaipara.

**Save the Date! Come along and find out what's available
in our community. Sports, childcare, health, gardening,
clubs and so much more.**

FREE ENTRY and it's FREE to register a stall for this event.

**Progressive Paparoa invites all local community groups to attend.
Register by emailing us or use the QR code on this poster.**

3pm - Stallholders Networking, before doors open.

Stallholders will be in to win \$200 in our prizewdraw.

Free HOT SOUP served at 5pm.

paparoa.ca@gmail.com



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