

Investment paves way for better expressway p3



Arts Trail date confirmed p9

Traps for businesses post-Covid p17



Who's in the class? p22



ŌTAKI TODAY

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Ngā Kōrero o Ōtaki

Old tote goes to the pots



SURROUNDED: Project manager Brent Craig holds a rabbit sculpted by Fiona Tunnicliffe at the opening of the Ōtaki Pottery Club's new premises, Tote Modern. The rabbit was presented to Brent by the club at the opening, for his work to upgrade the club facilities.

Photo Ian Carson

A crowd of about 200 helped the Ōtaki Pottery Club open its new premises, impishly named the Tote Modern, on Saturday, July 4.

The name is not only a twist on a famous contemporary art gallery, the Tate Modern in London, but also a nod to the building's original use as the totalisator (tote) at the Ōtaki-Māori Racing Club. Racing club stewards were on hand to hand over the building, acknowledging the valuable asset it had become and the attraction it would provide for race goers.

The pottery club bought the building earlier this year. As president Rod Graham said during opening speeches, the road was not paved with gold.

"Every time we wanted to do something, it cost more money than we didn't have," he said. "We were counting on our Festival of Pots and Garden Art [in February] to help out, and it did."

"The festival was a great success, which meant we could carry on with the work."

Led by club member and project manager Brent Craig, the potters have been on regular working bees, and local contractors have been helping with work that's had to be done professionally. Many provided their services or products free of charge.

Brent's dedication received special recognition at the opening. He was presented with ceramic

rabbit sculpted by guest artist Fiona Tunnicliffe, with the comment that it would probably be the only one on his property without a hole in it. The rabbit was therefore named Forrest Gump, acknowledging the famous movie line, "Run, Forrest, run!"

The Tote is a far cry from the cramped premises the club had previously at Ōtaki College. It has plenty of work space for club members, two classrooms, glaze room, kiln room, library, meeting room and kitchen. The new gallery is open to visitors.

The Tote Modern is open at the racing club Friday to Sunday 10am-3pm or by appointment.

Scholar misses out on NZ trip

There will be no visit by the Ōtaki Scholar this year, the first absence since the Second World War.

The head boy of Robert Gordon's College (RGC) in Aberdeen, Scotland, automatically becomes the Ōtaki Scholar, which includes a visit to Ōtaki and other parts of New Zealand in July.

Head boy this year is Patrick Robinson.

RGC's senior school head Mike Elder told *Ōtaki Today* it was disappointing for Patrick not to be able to attend, "especially when Covid is under control in your country".

Patrick intends to study medicine at Edinburgh University in September, assuming he passes the required grades.

Ōtaki College principal Andy Fraser says he's working on a Kiwi response with Internal Affairs, the Durham Association (merchant navy) and other host schools to send a letter and taonga to recognise Patrick's achievement.



WOULD-BE SCHOLAR: Patrick Robinson, head boy of Robert Gordon's College in Aberdeen.

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Election Nirvana for big government proponents

EMERGING from the clutter of pre-election campaigning during the closing stages of the current Parliament is clear evidence that the vote on September 19 will determine New Zealanders' appetite for big government at the expense of the private sector.

The reason is Covid-19. It has slammed the economy with a shock akin to nothing seen since the Great Depression. A result is the provision of a platform for government intervention in areas of the economy far beyond regulation intended to provide a fair community balance between the private sector and the public interest.

Social activists of the Labour Party and the Greens are gung-ho at the opportunity to introduce policies that will underpin shaping an economy more than ever dependent for direction on central government. Cover for ideological moves intended to achieve it is provided by claims – plausible or not – that they are necessary to cope with the ravages of the pandemic.

The \$20 billion voted by Parliament for government spending associated with Covid without any knowledge of the use to which the money would be spent is an example of this.

For those who believe in “big government”, the environment in which the election takes

place is almost Nirvana. There is a widespread public acceptance that massive government spending to give a measure of protection across society is essential. Even the private enterprise political champion, National, and the more economically hard line Act party, accept the need.

The more realistic of Labour's political elite try to keep a leash on the public face of their more fervent elements. But emerging policies suggest that if Labour and the Greens form the next government, command and control will be more of a characteristic of New Zealand government than has been seen for decades, albeit with a kinder face than when pugnacious Prime Minister Rob Muldoon was at the helm.

Policy areas shaping up for “shovel ready” preparedness within Green and Labour ranks include Kainga Ora – the housing arm of government now given powers to over-ride local and regional decision-making in pursuit of more housing development; health system reform that would place the minister of health as the arbiter of local hospital governance; taxation policies



POLITICS

BRUCE KOHN

that in better economic times would have run afoul of voter resistance but in post-Covid days can be characterised as essential to meet public debt and ensure cross-economy fairness; and Reserve Bank interventions to obtain shares in private companies to avoid their sinking into liquidation, which in turn would provide scope for direct political influence on their activities.

The “Jacinda” factor and her profile in oversight of virus containment suggest the advocates of “big government” have every reason to believe their cause will win the day. Labour's polling strength at around 50 percent in a recent Colmar-Brunton poll gives them cause for confidence. Probably only a Covid outbreak in the community could drastically alter the landscape.

National's failure to hold on to former leader Bill English has cost it dearly. Backroom politicking for the job by his successor, Simon Bridges, is whispered in National circles as a factor in his decision to step down. His credibility as a steady steward of economic matters would have served the country well in today's

environment. Without such a track record, new leader Todd Muller has an uphill battle to achieve for National a total vote that gives him a crack at the top floor of the Beehive.

Public unease at the portfolio management of many in Jacinda Ardern's caucus gives him scope to eat into the Labour-Greens polling lead. Act's surge in the polls gives him hope a reliable partner might be in the wings. NZ First staggers. Long gone are the days of train users on Waikanae station hearing the call from pensioners when free travel was available: “Winston's mob, back carriage!” Shane Jones seems often grumpy as election day nears. A National decision to let him win in Northland in return for post-election support might cheer him up.

Overall, however, use of the public purse to advance the call of “big government” is Labour's strength, with the Greens on its coat-tails. National's calls for a greater role and support for private enterprise will have to contain a compelling core of vision and realism to bring it in reach of the goal – the treasury benches.

■ Bruce is a former economics and business editor, political and foreign correspondent in Washington, London and Hong Kong. He recently retired as chief executive of the NZ Building Industry Federation.

LOCAL EVENTS

LIGHT THE NIGHT: ŌTAKI YARD

Light the Night is a unique combination of vintage train journey and winter night market. The exterior of the train from Paraparaumu to Ōtaki and return will be illuminated. The night market will be hosted by Ōtaki Yard as well as local businesses. Discover artisans and businesses from the Kāpiti Coast. Ōtaki Yard has food vendors and there will be time to visit local and market stalls. Saturday August 1, trains 4-7pm, 5.30-8.30pm, or 7-10pm from Paraparaumu. Adult: \$28, child (2-14 years): \$12.50, child under 2 and sitting on lap of adult: free. Tickets 021 320 623.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Thursday August 20, 6.30pm (doors open 6pm), Rotary Lounge, Aotaki Street, Ōtaki. Hear General Election candidates representing the Māori and general electorates. Only written questions accepted. Email mickel@slingshot.co.nz (must be received before meeting).

ŌTAKI COMMUNITY EXPO

September 5, 10am-1pm. Memorial Hall, Ōtaki. To book a stand email Carol Ward at otakicommunityexpo@gmail.com

ŌTAKI GARAGE SALE:

Third Saturday of the month, 9-11.30am, rain or shine, Presbyterian Church, 249 Mill Rd. 06 364-6449. Rev Peter Jackson 021 207 9455, owpresb@xtra.co.nz

ŌTAKI YARD MARKET

Every Saturday 8am-2pm, SH1 shops. Growers, crafters, bakers, makers and more. To book a stall or information, otakiyard.nz

ŌTAKI WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CLUB CRAFT MARKET

SH 1, opposite New World, open 9am-2pm, first, third (and fifth) Sunday of the month over winter. Contact Georgie 027 234 1090 for bookings.

TE HORO COUNTRY MARKET

Te Horo Community Hall, School Rd. First Sunday of the month, 10am-12.30pm. Free range pork, produce, preserves, olive oil, plants, herbs, jewellery, cafe.

ŌTAKI MUSEUM

Open Thursday-Saturday 10am-2pm, excluding public holidays, Main Street, Ōtaki Village. See otakimuseum.co.nz

ENERGISE ŌTAKI

Gertrude Atmore Supper Room, cnr Aotaki and Main Sts. Bi-monthly meetings: Wednesday August 12: AGM; Wed October 14; 6-8pm. energise.otaki.net.nz

WAITOHU STREAM & DUNE CARE GROUP

Monday 9-11am. Contact Lyndsay Knowles 364-6283.

To list your community event, contact debbi@idmedia.co.nz or 06 364-6543.

CARTOON OF THE MONTH

By Jared Carson



ŌTAKI TODAY

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Investment paves way for better expressway

By Ian Carson

A \$50 million investment by Waka Kotahi NZTA for a top-class road surface will have big long-term benefits for the community, road users and maintenance crews.

That was the message Waka Kotahi project manager Glen Prince delivered to the Ōtaki Community Board at its June meeting.

Glen mentioned some of the roading failures that had occurred on the Mackays to Peka Peka stretch of the expressway.

“We’ve looked closely at some of those failure mechanisms down there because we certainly didn’t want to repeat that on Peka Peka to Ōtaki. As a result of some of those discussions and investigations, the agency has invested a further \$50 million into what we call a structural asphalt pavement from Peka Peka to Ōtaki.

“That’s a great result for the project, the community and road users in general.”

It should mean a longer life span for the road surface and potential use of Ogpa (black top) sealing, resulting in a smoother ride and less maintenance over time.

The meeting was also told that the team could not predict when the expressway might open. It was scheduled to open about this time next year, but the Covid-19 lockdown has knocked the opening date into unknown territory.

The community board was told that it was too early to predict when the road would open, such was the effect of the lockdown.

There were two significant factors – one being the time lost when work stopped; the other that work that would have been done during the ideal autumn weather would now have to wait until spring.

Glen said Waka Kotahi had requirements around not sealing road surfaces during winter.

“There’s too much moisture in the paving and water gets under the seal and you end up with pot-holing and so on.”

That affected the new stretch of road at the southern end of the project, which would have been completed by winter this year if not for Covid-19. It would now be September-October before that road could be sealed.

“I certainly can’t give any commitments about what the opening date will look like.”

Project direct Chris Hunt told the community board progress on several sections had been good, including at the project’s biggest structure, the Ōtaki River bridge. With an expected completion date towards the end of the year, the bridge will be used to transport a substantial amount of material across from the south side.

“It doesn’t look like there’s much there because the elevation looks the same from a distance, but there is. Ōtaki Gorge Road is about six metres above the new road alignments.”

The bridge will also be used to move asphalt from a new plant expected to be commissioned on the west side of State Highway 1. The construction team is in the process of gaining consent for the plant.

With many culverts on the project, Glenn revealed one useful snippet of information – a culvert becomes a bridge when its cross-section becomes or exceeds 2.5 metres square.

“We have a lot of culverts on this project that are technically bridges just because of the size of them.”

One recent milestone was commissioning of the settling ponds at Winstone’s Quarry. They have been handed over to Winstone’s.



LOST TIME: The expressway site was deserted under lockdown, and work was held up for two months. Time lost with ideal weather has meant delays for the anticipated opening date.

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Night train lights up for market

Ōtaki Yard is holding a special winter night market supported by an illuminated steam train from Paraparaumu on Saturday, August 1.

The Light the Night event is expected to draw hundreds of people to the region with the unique combination of the vintage train journey and winter night market.

The event will see up to 1500 passengers travel on return journeys from Paraparaumu to Ōtaki on a fully illuminated heritage steam train operated by Steam Incorporated. They will be able to experience the first-ever night market at Ōtaki Yard – from 4pm to 9pm.

“We are thrilled to be behind this fantastic event which will definitely bring in the crowds from all over the region to support the amazing artisans and businesses around the Kāpiti Coast,” says Ōtaki Yard commercial manager Matthew Innes. “The support we have received from locals and out of towners has been fantastic so far and we believe this will create a mid-winter boost for the region.”

The founder of Light the Night, Sarah Ferguson, says that as a local she wants to create a magical experience for people, as well as showcase local artisans and businesses.



“This is a great opportunity for people to have a night out with friends and family and support local,” she says. “We believe this may be the first time a steam train has been illuminated and run on the ‘main trunk line’ in New Zealand.

Steam Incorporated has not run a service on the national network for more than a year. The train will be double ended with a steam locomotive leading and heritage diesel locomotive in the

rear. It will have up to nine vintage carriages holding between 45 and 60 passengers a carriage, with a total capacity across all three shuttle services of up to 1500 passengers.

There will be three train journeys throughout the evening. The first train leaves Paraparaumu at 4pm for Ōtaki where guests will have an hour and a half enjoying the hospitality of the Ōtaki business community. The final departure from Ōtaki to Paraparaumu will be 9pm.

The market element of the Ōtaki Yard development at the former Caltex site on the main highway opened for the first time on Saturday, June 13. The market can house up to 100 stalls as well as food trucks and other food offerings every Saturday, and is proving an attraction for families, food lovers and those seeking gift ideas.

Tickets are on sale at: lightthenight.co.nz See also otakiyard.nz



Repair Café is back

The Repair Café is returning after a successful launch last year.

Energise Ōtaki is hosting another pop-up Repair Café at the Memorial Hall from 10am-1pm on Sunday July 25. It's where people can bring items to be repaired and reused, rather than going to the landfill.

Meantime, the group is looking for people who want to help breathe new life into old items, pass on their skills and have fun in the process.

“We are looking for volunteers to help to with repairing items – especially people with electrical skills and certificate – and event assistants,” says Hannelore Wagner-Nicholls of Energise Ōtaki.

If you have the skills to fix household items, or you can help with event tasks, contact Hanne: 4hannawag@gmail.com

Donate your curtains to the Wellington Curtain Bank

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Drop your curtains & fabric off to Energise Ōtaki c/o Unit 2 31-33 Riverbank Road, Ōtaki.



Funding lack closes health centre

A funding drought has forced the closure of the Ōtaki Women's Health Centre.

In September *Ōtaki Today* reported that the centre was struggling to pay operating costs after funding began drying up for sexual and reproductive health services.

After 18 years, the PHO and MidCentral DHB decided between them last year to withdraw funding for sexual health services from December 31. The funding had been in place for 18 years.

The funding crisis was exacerbated after Ōtaki lost its ability to access Pub Charity money.

The centre, run by the Ōtaki Women's Health Group, has been operating in Ōtaki for 33 years. It closed on Friday, July 3.

Services such as cervical screening are available at the Ōtaki Medical Centre. Health services for younger people – aged 24 and under – are available once a week at Kāpiti Youth Services in Matene Street.

The MidCentral DHB still provides adult mental health, children and adolescent mental health, and drug and alcohol services from the facility.

The Ōtaki Women's Health Group will continue meantime to manage the building that was once Ōtaki's Cottage Hospital and later the town's maternity hospital. An AGM of the group on July 24 is expected to discuss future services,



ALL DONE: Ōtaki Women's Health Centre co-ordinators Michelle Baker, left, and Janet Murray at the centre that used to be the maternity hospital.

including tenancy arrangements.

Centre co-ordinators Michelle Baker and Janet Murray are now redundant. Janet has been with the centre for 22 years; Michelle for 19. However, they remain philosophical.

"It's a shame for the women of Ōtaki for us to be closing, but we simply couldn't continue with the funding we had," Michelle says. "We lost the PHO funding and continued to provide services

like cervical screening, but it was never enough to pay for power, wages and all the other things that go with it."

Janet says a big part of her and Michelle's work was related to, not the core services.

"It's the counselling we've been able to provide for people who sometimes desperately needed it that will be missed," Janet says. "Someone would come in with a health problem, but when

we started talking to them we found there were other important issues that had to be resolved.

"Sometimes it was simply a matter of someone to talk to, but we'd often link them up with other agencies that could help with a food parcel, pay for doctor visits or get a car fixed so they could get to work. We always tried to give people time – not to an appointment schedule."

The chair of the Ōtaki Health & Wellbeing Advisory Group, Adrian Gregory, says he will be raising the closure with the DHB.

"I wrote to the CEO back in 2018 about its decision to close the sexual and reproductive health services contract with the WHC, particularly raising concerns about the long-term implications of the change of contract for the health of young women in our community."

The Ōtaki Women's Health Group has a lease agreement with Land Information New Zealand (LinZ) to lease the centre, with the group maintaining the facility.

The group has upgraded the interior of the building with paint, new carpet throughout and new curtains, entailing many days of work and plenty of the group's own money.

Other compatible groups and businesses have sub-let spaces within the building. It continues to provide a space for other community groups, such as Narcotics Anonymous, yoga and at times Barnardos and Oranga Tamariki conferences.

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Funds 'power up' Māoriland



Māoriland Film Festival is one of only four organisations throughout the country to receive \$100,000 in funding from the Government's new Creative and Cultural Events Incubator.

"We are powering up," says Māoriland director Libby Hakaraia. "The funding recognises not only the hard work of the past six years, but also flies the flag for Ōtaki and the Kāpiti region because we're hosting an event now recognised as significant in the arts and cultural space."

The funding won't be used for operating the Māoriland Film festival, but rather to grow the human capacity to grow the event to be larger and to become self-sustainable.

Māoriland was asked to submit a growth plan for its annual festival to the NZ Major Events fund in late 2019.

"In this plan we had to articulate why we believed Māoriland had what it takes to be a major arts and cultural event," Libby says. "We spoke of how our secret ingredients were our community and our landscape, that these were unique factors that had enabled us to establish MFF from no funding to what it had become in 2019."

"Internationally Ōtaki was on the map and we were now ready to let the rest of New Zealand know about it."

Māoriland was then invited to an interview in January and in February invited to submit an application, which was successful.

Libby says the funding will allow Māoriland to announce new jobs and partnerships in coming months "to get word out there about Māoriland Film Festival 2020".

The 2020 festival was disrupted by Covid-19 in March, but Māoriland has forged ahead with a "remounted" festival from September 24-27.

"We won't be able to have international film-makers present – 91 overseas film-makers were travelling for the MFF2020 in March before the event was postponed – but we will be able to celebrate with our national visitors and show them why Ōtaki is the greatest little film town on the planet," Libby says.

"We will finally be able to screen four days of fantastic films to our community and to New Zealand visitors, and Ōtaki will be able to show the manaakitanga that has gained the admiration of the film festival circuit."

Events funded by the Creative and Cultural Events Incubator are expected to be on a pathway to becoming internationally significant and financially self-sustaining.

The new incubator recognises that creative and cultural events have been under-represented in the portfolio of the Major Events Fund.

The majorevents.govt.nz website says unlike sports events, global exemplars of major creative and cultural events are generally home-grown.

IN BRIEF

Fourteen call-outs in June

The Ōtaki Volunteer Fire Brigade had 14 call-outs in June. Four were for private fire alarms, two for medical assistance, two vehicle fires, three motor vehicle accidents, one to a rubbish fire and two special services.

Correction

In the June issue of *Ōtaki Today*, our regular report on the Ōtaki Volunteer Fire Brigade's activities incorrectly stated that among two special services call-outs, one was for a public assist. It should have been a "public" assist. Thank you to Kelly Fox for pointing out this error, which has not caused the fire brigade any embarrassment. It has, however, resulted in several enquiries of firefighters from their spouses as to their activities of which they are often reluctant to discuss. Ōtaki fire chief Ian King says the brigade does not perform public assists, and anyone seeking this service should not ring the brigade for assistance. "Although we get many strange requests for help from people who get themselves into all kinds of difficulty, we're not really trained in this area," Ian says. "However, we do have a contact for an exchange firefighter from Brazil who might be able to help."



**NEW ZEALAND GEOGRAPHIC BOARD
NGĀ POU TAUNAHA O AOTEAROA**

Notice of the Final Decision of the Minister for Land Information on an Official Geographic Name

The Minister for Land Information made the final decision on 16 May 2020 to assign the geographic name in the Schedule below, which took effect on 8 July 2020 being its date of publication in the New Zealand Gazette.

For further information see:
<https://www.linz.govt.nz/lancaester>

Schedule

Official Geographic Name	Geographic Feature Type and Description
Lancaster	A mountain in Tararua Range, approximately 19km southeast of Levin. NZTopo50-BN34 048848. Existing recorded name assigned as official.

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Hall to go as Rotary looks to future

The Rotary Hall in Aotaki Street is to be sold.

The Rotary Hall in Aotaki Street is to be sold.

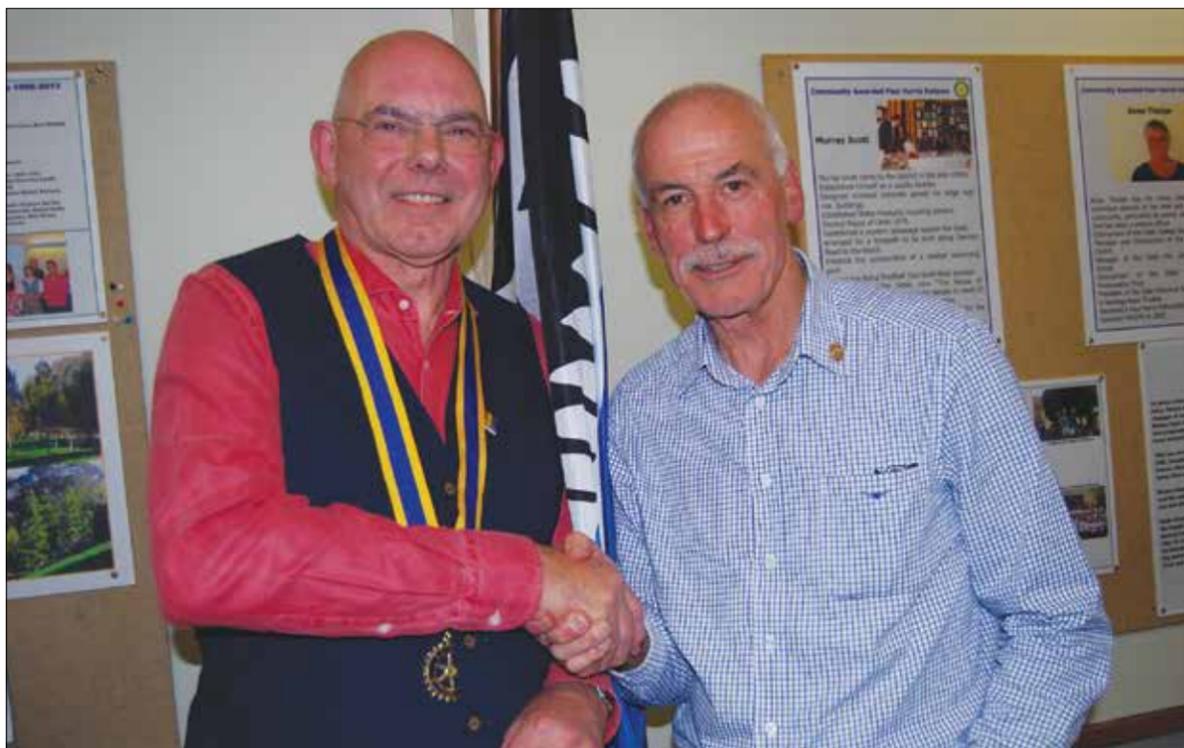
New Ōtaki Rotary Club President Adrian Gregory announced the decision at the annual leadership change-over dinner in the hall on June 25. It was a decision long in the making.

“Rotary has debated the future of the hall for many years, and until now the hall has always been seen as a valuable asset for the club,” Adrian told *Ōtaki Today*. “However, with ongoing costs to not only maintain the hall but also upgrade it, we felt fundraising and other income should be used for the purposes Rotary supports.

“Money should be helping in the community, rather than diverted to maintaining a hall.”

Adrian said the funds generated by the sale will be held in trust, with the annual income that it will generate used expressly for the club’s purposes – services to the local community and the people who live, study and work here.

As president through to next July, he’s keen to see a refreshed approach by the club and its members, existing and new, to projects that will respond to community needs.



HANDOVER: Outgoing Ōtaki Rotary president Grant Robertson, right, congratulates new president Adrian Gregory at the traditional change-over dinner.

“I look forward to working proactively with other local organisations and bodies over the next 12 months.”

Rotary has held its weekly meetings in the hall since it was bought from the Methodist Church in 1974. When it’s sold, the club will hold its meetings at another community venue.

FOR SALE: The Rotary Hall, at right, with the old church in the background.



The hall before 1974 was known as the Wesley Youth Hall, with the church also sold and still standing next to it. The sale was the result of an agreement with the local Anglican Church to pool its resources with the Methodists.

The hall was built in 1952. It was the venue for many meetings and community events – including for an ill-fated youth club in the early 1970s. The Rotary Club has also rented the premises for community groups and functions, and run meetings such as for candidates in local and central government elections.

Meanwhile, the June 25 meeting recognised Grant Robertson, outgoing president for 2019-20, for his many years of service not only to Rotary, but to Ōtaki generally. He was made a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow.

Grant was born and raised in Ōtaki and has been active in many community groups and projects over the years.

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Attention all creatives!
Are you planning a project for later this year or early next year?

Approximately \$22,000 is available (in this funding round) for arts and cultural projects from the Creative Communities Scheme, administered by the Kāpiti Coast District Council and funded by Creative New Zealand.

KEY DATES for this funding round:

- **APPLICATIONS CLOSING DATE** Thursday August 6, 4pm, 2020
- **GRANTS ALLOCATION** Subcommittee meeting Thursday September 17, 2020

Please note your project must start after Thursday September 17, 2020.

Projects must meet one or more of three key funding criteria:

- **Broad community involvement** – The project will create opportunities for our local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities.
- **Diversity** – The project will support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of our local communities, enriching and promoting their uniqueness and cultural diversity.
- **Young people** – The project will enable and encourage young people (under 18 years) to engage with and actively participate in the arts.

We welcome applications for projects with a Toi Māori focus and with a high degree of participation.

Application forms are available at Kāpiti District Libraries, and at www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

To discuss your application contact the Arts, Museums, and Heritage Advisor by email: artsadmin@kapiticoast.govt.nz or ph 04 296 4700.

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THEY'RE BACK: Andrew London's band plays at the Ōtaki Golf Club on July 2.

Photo supplied

Golfers back into the swing

Ōtaki's golfers have been quick to "get back to normal" after the Covid-19 lockdown.

Golfers throughout the country were some of the first leisure and sports people to benefit from going to Level 3. They were able to play – with social distancing – but just without the flags and no chance of socialising at the 19th hole. Most sports had to wait a lot longer.

Ōtaki Golf Club even managed to enlist several new members during lockdown, many of whom had been through the junior programme.

Once the country was at Level 1, the club decided to celebrate "normal" golf by holding a fun competition that supported local businesses.

The entry fee was a \$20 voucher bought from an Ōtaki business.

The competition was with a team of four playing 18

holes of ambrose, which is played over as many days as they wished, as long as they completed the competition by June 21. Of course there was a celebration End-Of-Lockdown dinner on the 21st at the clubhouse.

The winners of the gross, with a 69, were the team Hit and Hope – Peter Curling, John Draper, Robyn Gardner and Ward Tuite.

The nett winners, on 63, were the Mixed Herbs – Tracy Pearl, Alan Tucker, Raewyn Young and Rongo Reihana – who wouldn't disclose the particular herb that kept them relaxed enough to score so well.

The club also hosted Andrew London's Stationhouse Social Club on Thursday, July 2. The clubhouse was full and rocking, and the club hopes for a regular event on the first Thursday of every month. A two-course dinner and live music costs \$45.



Last baa at op shop

By Michael Moore

A loved local charity shop has fallen victim to the times, closing its clothing and second-hand store on the highway, near the BP garage.

The Opportunity for Animals shop had been operating for six years, selling a variety of second-hand and donated goods. The shop helped fund the Black Sheep Animal Sanctuary established at Ōtaki Gorge in November 2009.

"We were struggling to find volunteers and the workload was high," Coces Verkehrsschild says. "After rent of the shop, we were just not making enough profit for the high workload."

The animal sanctuary has monthly costs between \$4000 and \$5000. The 10 hectares (26 acres) provide a refuge for abused, neglected and mistreated animals, and especially former farm animals from throughout the region.

"On top of our regular running costs, we often have big vet operations," Coces says. "This can vary depending on the season. We rescue and rehabilitate abused animals, including ex-dairy cows, factory farm pigs, and battery chickens.

"Where possible, we rehome to loving forever homes. For the many animals that cannot be rehomed, we offer a safe space where they can live out the rest of their lives in peace and security, in the company of others of their kind."

The sanctuary still operates op shops in Newtown and Miramar, Wellington.

■ If you would like to support the sanctuary, see theblacksheep.org.nz

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Kāpiti Arts Trail confirmed

The Kāpiti Arts Trail has been confirmed for its original date on the weekends of November 7-8 and 14-15.

Kāpiti Coast District Council says the confirmation removes the uncertainty generated after the Covid-19 lockdown. This will be the Trail's 20th year.

The event is popular both within the Kāpiti community and with visitors. It's an opportunity for artists to welcome visitors into their studios, or to showcase their work at a gallery or hub for the duration of the Trail.

Kāpiti Coast District deputy mayor and arts portfolio holder Janet Holborow says the Arts Trail is an important feature of the Kāpiti events calendar, and in 2020 will be particularly special.

"Not only is this event celebrating the significant 20-year milestone, it will also be coming at an important time for our diverse local artists and our cultural recovery," Ms Holborow says.

"The past few months have been challenging for many in community and artists have been among those particularly affected. I urge everyone to put the event in their diaries and hit the Trail to show their support and see and meet artists in their work and studio spaces."

Waikanae Beach jeweller, painter and Arts Trail veteran Diane Connal will be opening her studio doors again this year and says this will be the perfect opportunity to buy and support local, and get a close up look at the creative process.

"It's a totally different environment," Ms Connal says of the post-COVID-19 landscape.

"The Arts Trail has always been a big



Ceramic native birds created by Ōtaki artist Kevin Haste. Kevin's birds were at Ōtaki's Old Courthouse Gallery, which was part of last year's Kāpiti Arts Trail.

Kāpiti Arts Trail: Saturday-Sunday November 7-8 and 14-15

promotional and sales event, and this year there are not going to be too many other events like it. So a focus on buy local will be big for artists.

"Seeing artists in their studios is also a great way to see what they do, and we are very lucky here with a great range of artists. I've got all my tools and machinery there so people can see

how I work."

Applications for artists, galleries, art societies/club or guilds, and hub managers for the 2020 Kāpiti Arts Trail are open until 5pm 12 July.

■ See <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/arts-trail> for important information and to apply.



River planting back on agenda

The Friends of the Ōtaki River have been busy, with the Wednesday volunteer group getting the winter planting programme back on track after Covid-19 lockdown.

Three public planting mornings were cancelled in compliance with the restrictions. They were by Ōtaki Secure Storage, Waiopahu College/Philipp Family Foundation, and Trees That Count/Ōtaki Historical Society.

However, a successful planting morning was completed with the Goodman Contracting team in mid June.

Two further plantings are scheduled, with the public invited to participate. Planting holes will be already dug, and there will be a morning tea after planting.

- Saturday July 11 at 9.30am 'Treescene' at Chrystalls Walkway A planting funded by many community supporters.
- Saturday July 25 at 9.30am Robertson family at Chrystalls Walkway Join Grant, Jo and the extended family to plant 1000 trees.



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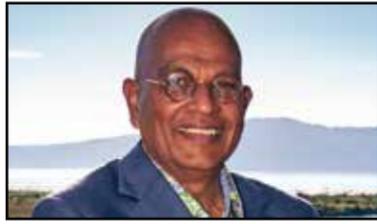
GURU'S VIEW: K GURUNATHAN

Group saddles up to promote benefits of equestrian activities

Congratulations to the work by the Kapiti Equestrian Advocacy Group (KEAG) for negotiating another stretch of access for horse riders.

This time they are in the process of securing one along the Winstone Quarry using the existing paper road skirting the quarry.

The group was formed in September 2018 to engage with Kāpiti Coast District Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council to ensure this recreational and associated business sector is not planned-out of mind. While the cycleway, walkway and bridleway (CWB) policy was formed more than a decade ago to



facilitate these activities, the horse riding fraternity was not organised enough to pursue its interest.

This changed two trienniums ago when then councillor Gavin Walsh, a farrier by profession, did the research to show that this was a \$14 million industry that the council should not ignore.

Last triennium, I picked up on his work to promote this activity as an important contributor to the overall rural economy. Kāpiti's lifestyle profile, promoted by council, includes the productive rural sector, but I don't think enough recognition is given to this. KEAG's active promotion helps to change that.

Greater Ōtaki's rural ambience of horticulture, livestock farming and lifestyle blocks gives the township a point of difference and one that we should not surrender to the pressures of unbridled growth. Nothing gladdens my heart more than seeing horse riders going through town.

OK, I can hear the grumbles about the horse droppings. But really, I don't see the car drivers picking up the toxic exhaust fumes, the engine oils drops and tyre particles deposited on the asphalt. These get washed away into our stormwater and into our waterways.

Having been a local journalist for 15 years and on council for nine years now, I'm aware that our CWBs are a source of tension between: cyclists and walkers; dog walkers and the others; horse riders and the others; dogs and horses. Given our demographics you can include mobility scooters into this mix.

Council's parks and reserves department deserves our sympathy as they try to balance these tensions to negotiate win-win outcomes for everyone.

So congratulations again to KEAG for starting to make a difference. Kāpiti has the potential to be the go-to equestrian centre in the Wellington region. At a time when we are competing to attract local tourism, Ōtaki is well placed to leverage this comparative advantage.

And in the process fly the flag for our rural identity.

■ *Guru is the Mayor of Kāpiti Coast and is an Ōtaki resident.*

PLAIN SPEAKING: IAN CARSON

Ōtaki on a jolly ride

The jolly ride Ōtaki is taking at present is not only a pleasant surprise, but a great sign that we've escaped the worst ravages of Covid-19.

Of course we don't know what the future might bring, especially as we watch the nightly news full of the desperate measures some countries are taking – and others not – to curb the pandemic. That we got off lightly compared to almost everywhere else in the world is undeniable. Social media posts of us enjoying "normal" daily life is a different reality to our friends overseas.

But here we are in Ōtaki, having not only emerged without a single case – surely one of the few places in the world outside of Antarctica – but also bouncing back with a vengeance.

Retailers and eateries are doing OK. In fact, many are doing more than OK. People who continued to earn an income throughout the two-month lockdown were deprived of an outlet for their cash, so they started shopping again. Most businesses got through with the much-needed assistance from the Government and were keen to promote their wares and services again. Some used the lockdown to hone their technology skills, or – using that now ubiquitous PR term – they "pivoted" their business with some new thinking.

The loosened spending has delighted retailers and café owners. They're smart enough to know business moves in cycles, but when the swing is up you go for the ride. And there are more encouraging signs of improvement on the horizon.

The ever-growing Māoriland has just got more funding, so it can hire more staff and provide even better opportunities to learn new skills in the film environment – plus continue to grow the internationally recognized film festival.

The new Ōtaki Yard has had a great start with its market drawing good crowds every Saturday. When fully established, the Yard will be a major regional attraction.

And Elevate Ōtaki is close to launching the new Ōtaki identity. Where other towns are scrambling to promote their identity to the world, Ōtaki has already done the work. It will provide a big boost for the whole district.

So we've got plenty to look forward to. We're here as a small town with a big heart – and we're doing OK.

■ *Ian is editor of Ōtaki Today*

LOCAL LENS: JAMES COOTES

Residents encouraged to read independent review

Like the long-awaited release of a blockbuster movie, the independent review I initiated in the last triennium has finally been released to the public.

And just like a blockbuster movie, as I expected, it's come with its own reviews or "critics". I've been an elected member long enough now to know there will always be critics, those who would have done this or would have done that. Yet it's surprising come election time that they never stand up and be counted.

That aside, the independent review conducted by Martin Jenkins outlined several issues and made 29 recommendations covering areas where improvements can be made to lift the collective performance of council. These are encapsulated in the following 10 themes.

- Support council managers and staff in their decision-making, setting of priorities and managing workloads.
- Ensure that the community understands why the council is planning and doing what it does.
- Clarify and enable the respective roles



between councillors, chief executive, council management and staff.

- Foster a constructive relationship between councillors and council management and staff.
- Leverage the opportunities that the community boards present.
- Strengthen the partnership relationship with mana whenua.
- Continue with fostering the values behind council's Open for Business initiative to guide staff attitudes to service quality and customer focus, but change the name.
- Adopt a more strategic approach to workforce planning within the organisation (managers supported by organisational development).

- Ensure the organisation is resourced to support workforce planning, and staff training and development.
- Lift leaders' and managers' staff management skills where needed.

What did come through the independent review and was no surprise to me, was a team within council of dedicated, hard-working staff, doing their best to support the community they live in. Largely the areas of improvement were more around communication, implementation and supporting the staff that are, at times, overwhelmed.

So now, having the insights from the independent review, we will work with the chief executive to fine tune the way we do things. Change won't be instant but, over time, we will implement the recommendations.

To get a better understanding of the organisation I'd encourage you to read the full independent review at: <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/your-council/the-role-of-council/2019-independent-organisational-review/>

■ *James is Ōtaki Ward Councillor*

ŌTAKI OUTLOOK: CHRIS PAPPS

Rules are rules for pools, so it's out with the tools

Recently we had a visit from a KCDC compliance officer to inspect our pool barrier, otherwise known as a pool fence. Its main objective is to keep other people's children and grandchildren out of our pool.

When the former owners put in the pool, a sound boundary fence more than 1.2 metres in height, lockable sliding doors to the house and an external access gate that shuts and locks automatically were sufficient.

They, like us, assumed they could handle the responsibility of their own children and grandchildren. They taught them to swim and made family rules about an adult being present at all times when kids were swimming and playing in and around the pool. Anybody else's kids, who got in or were invited in, were their own parents' responsibility.

Agreed, that's not the way the law sees it, but it's worked for us and the former owners for



many years.

When it was inspected about four years ago, the lockable gate had to be increased in height, parts of the fence strengthened, the sliding doors bolted and some of the neighbours' trees pruned to remove bits kids could climb to get over the fence.

A pet door more than 100mm wide, set low in one of the sliding doors, was not noted as an issue.

Now the fence needs major repairs and

the neighbours' trees and a netting chicken fence attached to the back of our fence need to be removed. Two sliding doors that are permanently locked now have to be permanently fixed closed and the sliding access door must close and lock automatically. There's a high bolt on the door but the catch is too low and the pet door in the glass has to go entirely. The catch on the external gate no longer complies either.

We have only two options: fill in the pool and have more garden and lawn, or put an entirely new internal fence around the pool. We're doing the latter.

The dog will be happy. We'll still have a pool and, hopefully, when it's time to inspect again in three more years, the new fence and gate will comply.

Rules are rules.

■ *Chris is chair of the Ōtaki Community Board.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

If you have something to say, write to us. Please include your full name, address and contact phone number. Only letters that include these details will be published, unless there is good reason to withhold a name. Maximum 200 words. Note your letter may be edited for grammar and accuracy. Not all letters received will be published and the publisher reserves the right to reject any letter. Write to *Ōtaki Today*, 13 Te Manuao Rd, Ōtaki or email letters@idmedia.co.nz

OPINION: Note that the views and opinions of our contributors are not necessarily those of Ōtaki Today.

Why the emboldened ‘orange man’ cannot lose

There are roughly four American voters in every 10 who will vote for the Donald this November, no matter what.

That means even if you, and most other people in the world, can't stand the man, he is well on the way to getting slightly less than 50 percent of the vote he needs at this year's presidential elections to continue as "leader of the free-world".

Gasp, I hear. How can that be? This is a man who is a serial atrocity that no mother would tolerate in a four-year-old called Denis. And yet, even in the face of an appalling lack of leadership (or of anything), in the face of a pandemic that's decimated the United States, a culture war that he has stirred up, and in the midst of popular protests against police abuse, he strides forth emboldened even more.

MEDIA & COMMUNITY



FRASER CARSON

Moreover, the worst legacy from the Trump presidency may well be the irreparable damage done to global dynamics and relationships, including those that materially affect New Zealand.

I could go on about Trump, but it's pointless. I don't get a vote and a good night's sleep is too easily disturbed by visions of the worst Western leader in living memory.

But the reality check is obvious – the November US election will not end Trumpism. That's in spite of my pray-to-God prediction that he won't win the election, despite the gerrymandering,



voter suppression and Electoral College system that makes it much easier for Republicans pulling disproportionate support from smaller rural states.

But, before we even get to that, Trump will hold on to most of his massive supporter base, who back him no matter what.

However, unlike in 2016, he doesn't have the benefit of a smart woman opponent to kick around. This time he has another grey-haired bloke who is trusted to do the right thing – of course he will.

In polarised America, the middle ground, presumably made up of people with some education, is full of people who voted for Trump in 2016, but who also voted for Obama in the two elections before. Curiously, these people appeared to have seamlessly moved from Obama's "hope and wishful thinking" to Trump's promise of "Make America Great Again".

But many in this band of perhaps 20 percent of voters have witnessed 125,000 American deaths from Covid-19, as well as ongoing economic trauma and social unrest. They are now part of a recent Gallup poll showing national pride at a record low, which one would think will be bad news for Trump.

So, why can't Trump lose in the end?

The first reason is that Trump is yet to pull out all the stops on voter suppression, so even losing the election is not forgone. Already he is railing against mail-in voting that helps make voting safe in a pandemic, but which also inevitably increases the turn-out in favour of Biden.

But then, losing the election will merely be a flag-fall for him claiming a rigged election where he will appeal to his Republican Senate cronies, the Department of Justice and Supreme Court to render the results from a few key states so suspect that a new president cannot be installed in the White House.

After all this perhaps fails, we can imagine Trump being forcibly removed by the military where the "orange man" may end up wearing an orange jump-suit, after President Biden refuses a pardon and the new Congress takes him to court, with all immunity gone.

If the majority of Americans finally get the democracy they crave in November, Trump will blame everyone else, become a martyr and remain the flag-bearer for those in the US still yearning for a vision of America that Trump championed but could never deliver.

■ Fraser Carson is a member of the XŌtaki College Alumni Trust and the founding partner of Flightdec.com. Flightdec's kaupapa is to challenge the status quo of the internet to give access to more reliable and valuable citizen generated content, and to improve connectivity and collaboration. He can be contacted at fraser@flightdec.com.

In polarised America, the middle ground, presumably made up of people with some education, is full of people who voted for Trump in 2016, but who also voted for Obama in the two elections before. Curiously, these people appeared to have seamlessly moved from Obama's "hope and wishful thinking" to Trump's promise of "Make America Great Again".

REGISTER YOUR DOG BY 31 JULY



Dog registration for 2020/21 is now open. You can register online, or at any of our service centres. For more information go to kapiticoast.govt.nz/dogs




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2020/21 Annual Plan adopted

Kāpiti Coast District Council has formally adopted its 2020/21 Annual Plan.

This sets out priorities and budget for the coming year, ensuring the Council can continue to deliver essential infrastructure and services and support the community to recover from the impacts of COVID-19, while operating within its financial means.

The plan requires an average rates increase of 2.6 per cent for the year ahead, an average weekly increase per rates bill of \$1.65. This is down from a 5.7 per cent increase for the 2020/21 financial year that Council was considering prior to the onset of COVID-19.



No8 Wire Week events in full swing

No8 Wire Week is an annual mid-winter programme of events to encourage community resilience, DIY resourcefulness and environmental responsibility through fun, hands-on events and workshops.

No8 Wire Week runs from 27 June to 29 July so there is still plenty of time to experience a diverse range of practical workshops and community-led events including a repair café, crafts and more!

► [Check it out www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/our-district/on-to-it/no8-wire-week/](http://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/our-district/on-to-it/no8-wire-week/) to learn more.



Follow us!

There's a lot going on at Council, and we have a number of ways you can keep informed.

Did you know our Antenno app lets you sign up for Council alerts to your phone about local places you're interested in? Antenno is also a fast and easy way you can send us info about Council-related issues, like a tree that's fallen and is blocking a road.

We also have the Everything Kāpiti weekly newsletter, a Neighbourly page, a number of Facebook pages, Instagram account, and regular media releases.

► [Check out www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/follow-us/](http://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/follow-us/) for all the ways to keep informed.



Beach Bylaw Review work continues

Work on the review of the Kāpiti Coast District Council Beach Bylaw 2009 has resumed following a COVID-19 enforced hiatus. Thank you for your patience as we progress this important piece of work.

In our first phase of engagement we asked the community for its views, receiving a staggering 1700 survey responses.

Prior to the lockdown we were in the process of setting up some workshops, which for obvious reasons could not go ahead and have been rescheduled. Following the completion of the workshops we'll then move towards formal consultation on an updated bylaw.

► [Visit www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/beachbylaw](http://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/beachbylaw) more information and updated timelines.



Save the dates: Arts Trail back for 2020

We are delighted to be celebrating 20 years of the Kāpiti Arts Trail this year – put the weekends of 7-8 and 14-15 November in your calendar.

The Kāpiti Arts Trail is our premiere arts event and is always inspiring, showcasing the coast's flourishing creative community.

The Trail typically attracts over 100 artists to open their doors to display their art and give locals and visitors a behind the scenes glimpse into their studios, galleries and hubs.

► Visit www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/arts-trail for more information.



Help shape our transport future

Consultation on our refreshed Sustainable Transport Strategy is now open – have your say!

Being able to move around – or not – has an immense impact on day-to-day life and our ability to do the things we want and need to, whether that's shopping, getting to the doctors, school or work, or enjoying our beautiful environment. The refreshed strategy will take into account both old and new challenges to help us continue planning our transport future.

Transport impacts all of us so check out the draft Strategy on our website and complete a short survey to have your say. Submissions close 31 July.

► For more information about the Strategy and to have your say visit www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/whats-on/have-your-say



Annual dog registration now open

Annual dog registration for 2020/21 is open. Between now and 31 July, Kāpiti dog owners need to register their dogs with us, switching out the old yellow collar tag with a new blue one.

It's easy to re-register, you can do it online and we will post tags to you, or you can visit any of our service centres.

The information we, along with all local Councils, collect goes straight to the national dog control information database. We then use the registration fees to help maintain services that ensure all Kāpiti dogs are cared for properly by their owners and that keep our communities safe for everyone.

Dog registration is a legal obligation. Remember to register your dog before 31 July to avoid penalties.

► For further dog registration information or to register your dog online, visit www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/dogs



Changes for plastic recycling

From 1 July, Kāpiti Coast transfer stations and recycling collectors will only accept plastic types 1, 2 and 5 for recycling. These types make up 87% of our plastic products and can be recycled and repurposed here in New Zealand.

Plastics numbered 3, 4, 6 & 7 have historically been sent overseas to be recycled. The international markets for these plastics have been reducing since 2017 and most countries that used to take our plastics are not taking it anymore. This means that these plastics are ending up in landfill, so many councils and collection companies around New Zealand are changing the way plastics are collected.

► For more information about recycling in Kāpiti visit www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/waste on 0800 779 997.



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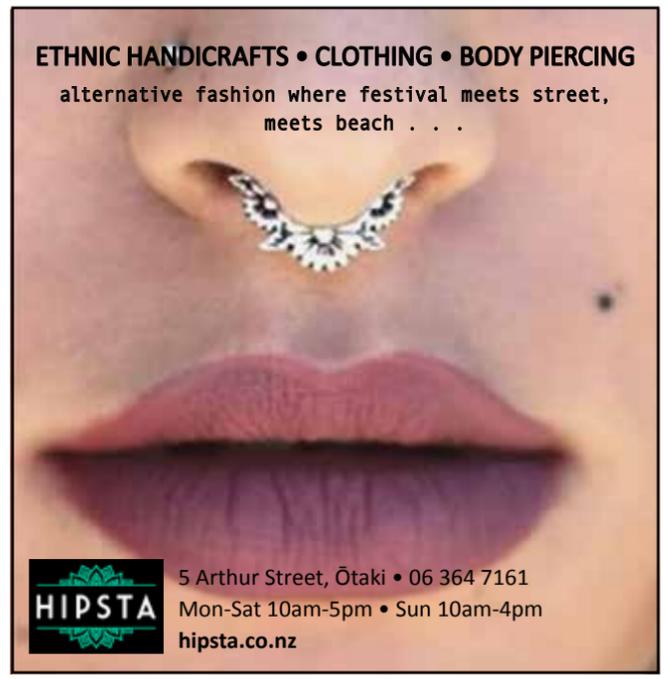
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ŌTAKI OPEN FOR BUSINESS: Helping Ōtaki thrive beyond Covid-19

ŌTAKI TODAY

**Ōtaki
Open
For
Business**

open.otakitoday.com

It's been a tough time for businesses, so *Ōtaki Today* is helping them get the town firing again. If you like what a business is offering, support them by buying locally. We've also set up a new website in which Ōtaki businesses can easily and freely create their own Profile page – open.otakitoday.com. In time, this website will have plenty of local businesses where you can tell them how well you were served. Remember to 'like' Ōtaki Today on Facebook, too.

**Fashionable
McAndrews**

Mike and Debbie purchased McAndrews Menswear in October 2019.

They're loving the experience of looking after people with the quality menswear and excellent customer service that's always been a hallmark of McAndrews. They hope to be doing it for many years to come.

Mike (at right) has been in the menswear trade for more than 35 years – so he knows his clothing.

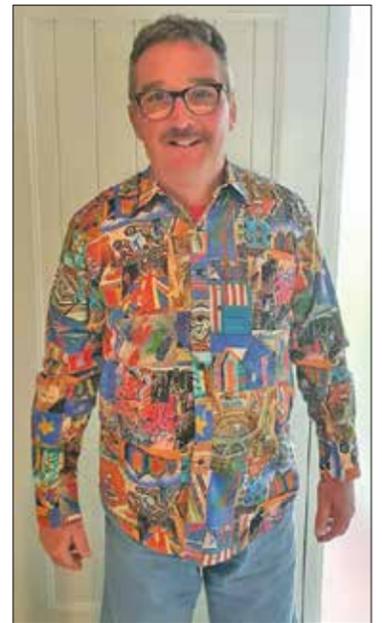
It's a family run business with all the family living here on the Kāpiti Coast.

That kind of business helps when it comes to finding the ideal outfit or accessory – whether it's for a wedding, funeral, ball, business or special night out.

"We have the experience to make you look great no matter what the occasion," he says.

McAndrews is the go-to men's clothing store on the Kāpiti Coast, conveniently located just across from the new Ōtaki Yard at Ōtaki's main highway shops.

The large store stocks a full range of fashionable clothing and accessories for men who like to look their best at all times! See mcandrewsmenswear.com



McAndrews

We would like to thank everyone for their business and support during lockdown – it was much appreciated.

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Buon appetito at Antonio's

Antonio's has quickly established itself as THE pizza place in Ōtaki after the Covid-19 lockdown.

Ready to go in March, the restaurant and pizza takeaway at the old Traffic Cafe site near the railway station had to wait until after lockdown to open. Since then it's been busy creating genuine pizza creations for its growing number of customers.

The pizzas are satisfyingly 12-inch, and thin crust so if you're hungry you would probably eat a whole one. Some people share one between two, and others (not too many) manage to eat two pizzas.

"Our service is not just about providing an exceptional experience by placing piping hot pizza on your table, it's everything from the way you feel while you're at Antonio's, the way our staff feel while they're at work, the love and care we puts into making food and being responsible earth citizens, and the partnerships they have with exceptional local producers," says Murray of Antonio's.

A little bit of New York, a little bit of Italy, and a lot like home. See antonios.co.nz



Alternative Hipsta

Retailer Hipsta – alternative fashion where festival meets street, meets beach – has been around for more than 20 years, selling their wares at markets and events, as well as stores in Ōtaki, Paraparaumu Beach, Napier and Palmerston North.

Owner Debbie Deans travels each year to India, Thailand or both, with a lucky staff member to source their stock. All products are ethically sourced, and chosen individually. The majority of their clothing is handmade, with the different fabrics selected by Debbie. Hipsta has worked with the same families for the 20 years they have been in business, and they are highly regarded as part of the Hipsta family.

As well as the beautiful ethnic handicrafts and clothing, Hipsta also has a fully certified body piercing studio in each store. Debbie attributes Hipsta's success to her super-friendly staff, who are dedicated and passionate about their work. They pride themselves on great customer service.

You can also buy online – see www.hipsta.net or www.hipsta.co.nz You can find Hipsta at 10 Arthur St, Ōtaki.

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MEN AT WORK: Barry Dwane and Geoff Railton at work in the MenzShed.

Photo Michael Moore

MenzShed seeks new members

By Michael Moore

Otaki's MenzShed is calling out for new members.

In the past year, several have left the club, after they moved away from the area or became unable to continue regular attendance.

The shed brings men together in a community space to share their skills, have a laugh and work on practical tasks either individually or as a group.

Projects for the community

are undertaken as well as some personal projects. Club members are often out and about doing small jobs around people's homes.

The shed has helped construct the dog exercise area on Aotaki Street, chairs for the playcentre, made wooden toy and bird-feeding boxes, planter boxes and numerous small tasks to help those in the community who are less able, and where getting a tradesman is not required.

Men often have smaller circles of friends than women, so the shed offers opportunities to foster new friendships, find camaraderie and make a positive contribution to their community.

Anyone interested and who would like a tour of the shed, meet some of the members and see how they might like to contribute, can visit the Shed at 186 Mill Rd on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-2pm or phone 022 4069 439.

Course aims to help college girls shine

Every young woman deserves to understand how much they are valued, their worth, strength and purpose, says Andrea Wheatley.

Andrea is running a course for students at Ōtaki College in the third term called Shinegirl. The course is aimed at giving girls the skills to approach their education, and ultimately their future, with confidence and commitment.

"So many struggle with low self-esteem, hurt, bad past experiences and challenges we face every day, especially in this current generation," Andrea says.

Shinegirl is an eight-week course with 10 year-9 students participating. It's run throughout New Zealand and in more than 40 countries. It uses an experiential, practical and inspirational approach, which addresses several key areas: exploring self awareness, personal decision-making, managing feelings, communication skills, self acceptance, personal responsibility, and conflict resolution.

Andrea says she saw a need and she'd previously run Shinegirl in



ANDREA WHEATLEY

Nelson, so she sought approval to run it at Ōtaki College.

"We have five keen volunteers who have been trained to facilitate it and we're looking forward to supporting students in our community."

The course, however, has a cost and Andrea is keen to talk to anyone who might be able to help.

"It would be great to get some financial assistance for this intake and possible future programmes."

■ For more information or to offer assistance, contact Andrea Wheatley 021 866 010.



Rotary

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PAKIHI/Business

Traps for businesses as they rethink post-Covid

With the effects of Covid-19 being felt by businesses everywhere, it's not surprising that business owners are starting to ask what can be done to minimise the impact of a similar event in the future.

Having employees and complying with employment law can be challenging at the best of times. This was only amplified by Covid-19: can they/should they be working at the various alert levels? Should they be paid if they can't work from home? If so, how much? How does lockdown affect a 90-day trial period that started just before lockdown? What steps do we need to take before we can make someone redundant?

There are far too many questions and issues to list and the answers are complex and largely untested as none of us have navigated our way through the employment implications of a pandemic before.



EMPLOYMENT LAW

AMY WEBSTER

Because of this, some business owners may be thinking of doing away with "employees" altogether and just engaging "contractors", either directly or through a labour hire company.

Others might be thinking that just using "casuals" is the answer.

The idea is that if a business engages only contractors and/or casuals and a lockdown or similar event happens in the future, it could simply cancel the contracts and/or not offer the casuals any work. Much simpler, right?

Possibly not. What you label a worker in their agreement or contract is only one small piece of the puzzle in determining the true nature of the relationship between you.

In relation to casual employees, it's all in the name; to safely categorise and treat someone as a casual employee, the relationship must be truly "casual".

This usually means the casual is back-up rather than a regular worker who you rely on to keep the business running. A true casual is offered work from time to time and, importantly, they have the option to accept the work or not. For this reason, it's not usually a great business strategy to have only casuals on your workforce as you run the risk of them all saying no when they are offered their shifts.

It's reasonably common for business owners to refer to an employee who works one short shift a week (say, 4 hours every Saturday) as "casual". This is not correct – they are a



TAKE CARE: The relationship between businesses and workers – whether permanent, casual or contact – needs to be looked at carefully to ensure compliance with employment law.

Photo Pixabay

permanent part-time employee.

For contractors, the factors determining the "true nature of the relationship" are more complex, but generally a true "contractor" will be an expert in their field, advertise their services, provide their services to more than one client, provide their own tools and equipment and do the job as they see fit – because they are the expert, after all.

Contractors don't tend to feature on their client's websites, nor do they wear their client's uniform or get invited to the Christmas party. Contractors tend to tell their clients when they can carry out the services, how much it will cost and produce invoices for payment. Some will be GST registered.

If your business contracts another business to do some work for you (including a labour hire company), it's likely to easily fit the bill of this description. The classic example is a building company that's building a house and will contract a plumber, electrician etc to do work for the company.

It's when you're looking at contracting a particular individual (for example, you wouldn't

be happy for them to get someone else to do the work for them) that the "true nature of the relationship" needs to be carefully considered. Some individuals will clearly fit the description above. For others, you might quickly realise you're trying to fit a square peg into a round hole. In which case, you should probably be taking them on as an employee, not a contractor.

Some red flags that a contractor is truly an employee:

- It's not a senior/expert role and the person has limited relevant experience.
- You don't want them working for your competitor.
- You expect them to be "part of the team".
- You want to have control over their work/tell them when, how and where to do it.
- You want them to have set hours and control over when they have time off.
- You want to decide how much they are paid and if/when they will get a pay rise.

If you currently have a contractor who you think might be an employee, it's important to get legal advice as the implications can be far reaching. It's also important to remember that

relationships can and do change over time, so someone who starts out as a true "casual" or "contractor" might morph into a permanent employee over time.

If you treat a worker as a contractor or a casual, when they are, in reality, a permanent employee, the fallout from any personal grievance they raise is likely to cause you a much bigger headache (not to mention a bigger hole in your wallet) than recognising them as an employee.

In short, if you're thinking of using casuals or contractors to "get around" your employment obligations or minimise the complications of a future situation like the Covid-19 lockdown, think again.

Next month's column will look at what business owners who use staff from temp agencies and labour hire companies need to know about The Employment Relations (Triangular Employment) Amendment Act, which is now in force.

■ Amy is an associate at Wakefields Lawyers and an expert in the area of employment law. She heads the company's employment team, which helps both employers and employees in all areas of employment law.

ŌTAKI TODAY

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open.otakitoday.com

Business coaching to make better returns

Every business – and every business owner – can benefit from coaching. Why? Because coaches get you to do the things you know you should be doing to make your business fly.

The former chief executive of the Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency (Wreda), Chris Whelan, is offering Ōtaki businesses the opportunity to benefit from his experience and expertise through ActionCoach.

He says completion changes things.

"Our business owners make more money without working every hour of every day of the week. So, if you answer 'Yes' to any of the following questions,

I'd love to have a chat."

- Are you working longer hours than you want to and expected when you went into business? What would you do with an extra 15-20 hours each week?
- Do you believe you should be getting greater returns from your business than you have been? How has that frustration played out? What would an extra 15-20% mean to your business? How satisfied are you with your revenue and profits?
- Are your business systems and team working for you or do you find yourself spending too much time 'fighting fires'? What would it mean to you

and to your family, if you could take more time away from your business and still make greater profit?

- He says when he coaches business owners, they:
- enjoy and benefit from practical, energetic and focused thoughts
 - receive real-world strategies, proven techniques, and great motivation
 - enjoy future-based goals and planning, coupled with clear path to these goals – and the enjoyment along the way!

■ Chris Whelan, call +64 222 332 669 or email chriswhelan.actioncoach.com

MAHI MĀRA/Gardening

Winter just another season to be in the vege patch

A journalist once asked me what's the best time of year to start a garden. I said: "Any time. There's not one food growing season, there are four!"

THE EDIBLE GARDEN



KATH IRVINE

Kath Irvine has been growing vegetables to feed her family for 21 years. Spray-free, natural, low-input food gardens are her thing. She believes smart design saves time, money and the planet, and makes a garden hum. She recycles, reuses and forages, and uses as little plastic as possible. Kath believes in a daily serve of freshly picked organic greens for a happy mind and strong body. She provides organic gardening advice through her articles, books, workshops and garden consultations.

Let's take a look at what to plant in your vege patch in winter. I encourage you to take this leap into year-round gardening (also called successional planting). Your reward is great – a year-round harvest.

And there is, I'm sure you'll agree, the gift to your soul – the "being alive" feeling that gardening brings; the thrill of providing your own food – best food – for yourself and your family; the small triumph you feel when, although it rains, you went out and got on with it!

WET, HEAVY CLAY

If you're on wet, heavy, and therefore cold soil, your winter garden will be best in pots. Over time the addition of organic matter, gypsum and mulch will transform the glug into the free draining humus you need for year-round planting. For now, the best thing you can do is to mulch soggy soils and leave them well alone.

LEARN YOUR PLACE

Understanding your unique growing environment is essential. There's a lot of advice out there and not all of it is going to apply to your patch. The only way you learn your garden's limits are by mucking in and doing it. This here is what I can plant in winter, in my Horowhenua garden. Tweak it to suit your place and your palate.

VEGETABLES TO PLANT OR SOW OUTSIDE

- Plant broccoli, cauliflower or cabbage for late spring harvest.
- Plant bok choy or kale for late winter harvest.
- Direct or tray-sow rocket, mesclun, miner's lettuce, corn salad, spinach, raddichio, snow peas, peas and broad beans for spring and summer harvest.
- Direct-sow parsnip, radish, kohlrabi, swede or turnips.
- Direct-sow legume green crops, as heavy feeders such as broccoli come to an end. (Now you're really thinking like a food gardener – preparing your ground for future crops.)
- Plant garlic, shallots, spring onions and onions for summer harvest.
- Plant globe artichokes for spring harvest.
- Plant asparagus crowns for future springs (about three years before you can harvest, but oh, so worth it).

VEGETABLES TO PLANT OR SOW UNDER COVER

By under cover I mean in the greenhouse, in a cloche or under bottles. Old windows and car windscreens are fab! Adding another layer warms the air and soil and speeds tender seedlings along. Another way to warm your seedlings is to grow them in pots close to your house.

- Direct-sow coriander, beetroot or lettuce.
- Plant out saladings.

GOOD THINGS TAKE TIME

It's important you understand the truth of how long from seedling to harvest. Good things take time. In the matter of a broccoli you're looking at three months, a lettuce six weeks, garlic six months. Add some frosty cold weather and everything slows, almost grinding to a halt. So when I say planting the winter garden, it's just that – planting. The food you're harvesting now was thoughtfully planted in autumn.



Frosty cabbage



Old window greenhouse



Daily winter harvest at ediblebackyard

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HAUORA/Health

Cough and sneeze – will vitamin C ease the wheeze?

While the common cold is a relatively benign and self-limiting illness, it is never-the-less a big cause of doctor visits, absenteeism from school and work, and money spent on a wide assortment of medications.

In the United States alone the total economic cost arising from colds has been put at \$40 billion annually.

The search for a simple and effective antiviral cold medication has been elusive. However, since it was first isolated in the 1930s, vitamin C (ascorbic acid) has been touted as a natural cold remedy.

In the 1970s Nobel Laureate Linus Pauling concluded in his book, *Vitamin C and the Common Cold*, that large doses of vitamin C could prevent and relieve the symptoms of the common cold. The book generated huge public interest in vitamin C, an interest that persists to this day. His book also created a huge increase in vitamin C sales – sales encouraged by a multibillion-dollar vitamin supplement industry.

Despite the public popularity, Pauling's book was widely criticised by the scientific community for basing its conclusions on a limited number of studies that were methodologically flawed. However, the book's popularity did stimulate further research. In the 50 years since the book there have been hundreds of studies and numerous reviews of the effects of vitamin C on the common cold.

For healthy adults on a balanced diet there's strong, consistent evidence that taking a daily supplemental dose of vitamin C will not reduce the chance of getting a cold. However, there is reasonably good evidence that daily supplementation might reduce the duration of a cold for some individuals.

The extent of that reduction varies across studies, but averaged across the better-quality studies it appears to be a modest 8 percent reduction for adults and 14 percent for children. These results are far from the panacea that Pauling hoped for, but even fairly small improvements might still be useful for an intervention that is relatively inexpensive and safe.

Whether it's worth taking a daily supplement on the chance it will reduce the duration of a cold by about half a day or so is an individual choice.

Most studies, though not all, indicate that taking Vitamin C after getting a cold will not make any difference to the duration or severity of the cold.

These results are all based on healthy people with balanced diets. Some historical studies that have found vitamin C to be effective have been criticised for testing people whose diets were inadequate by today's standards. Vitamin C supplementation might make a big difference for people on a low vitamin C diet, but dietary supplements are not meant to compensate for a poor diet. Are you getting your 5+ fruit and vege daily?

Further research is being conducted on sub-populations



who might respond more favourably to vitamin C. There is some indication that vitamin C might be more effective in children, and for people under physical stress (including extreme cold) or with impaired immune systems.

So if you're going to take a vitamin C supplement, which one is best? No brand or type of vitamin C has been shown to be clinically more effective than any other in terms of a measurable health outcome. On that basis you should simply buy the product that gives you the most vitamin C (ascorbate) for your money.

Beware of marketing hype. For example, Ester-C is promoted as a researched form of vitamin C that provides "24-hour immune support". Sounds impressive, but what does it mean? The Ester-C company funded in-house research for pay-to-publish articles. Hardly independent research in high quality journals.

One study compared the effects of Ester-C to plain ascorbic acid. The study found that 24 hours after ingestion, ascorbate levels were higher in leukocytes for the Ester-C group. Both groups had received exactly 1000mg of ascorbic acid, as measured by iodometric titration. But Ester C also contains dehydroascorbic acid (which is not detected by iodometric titration), which is converted in the body into ascorbic acid. So the people in the Ester-C group were effectively given higher doses of ascorbic acid! Not the sort of research that would get into a prestigious peer-reviewed science journal, but good enough for a world-wide slogan "24-hour immune support".

Vitamin C brands talk endlessly about the bioavailability of their products (for example, liposomal vitamin C vs vitamin C with bioflavonoids). What we really want to know is not how bioavailable something is, but does it make us healthier?

Where is the comparative research that shows one vitamin C brand shortens the duration of a cold more than another brand? Positive health outcomes like that would give a brand tremendous marketing advantage in a billion-dollar industry, but there's a reason they don't do that research.

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



DR STEVE HUMPHRIES

HEALTH SCIENCE

Diet, exercise and dreaded diabetes

Diabetes is a big problem for Western society. Being pre-diabetic is a reality for many people who are overweight and don't exercise regularly.

Many will develop type 2 diabetes and will more than likely die as a result of diabetes-related complications.

Type 2 diabetes is caused by too much glucose (sugar from carbohydrates) in your system and your body's inability to metabolise that glucose with insulin produced by your pancreas. Which leads to insulin resistance, where the insulin has little to no effect on metabolising the glucose at all.

This is heavily associated with obesity.

So what is the treatment? Firstly diet, and secondly exercise. That's the reality.

Your doctor will prescribe medication and recommend you get some



DANIEL DUXFIELD

GETTING FIT

exercise. In many cases, doctors, nutritionists and dietitians will advise starting a nutritional plan that still includes carbohydrates, knowing full well that too many carbohydrates are the problem!

Fortunately, many people have woken up to this flawed advice and are looking at ways of eating (woe) that restrict or eliminate carbohydrates from their diet.

The most popular of these is the ketogenic diet. This diet restricts carbohydrates while increasing the intake of good fats and protein.

This forces your metabolism to start using fat as an energy source. It helps the fats you're eating and your fat stores (glucose) to be used as fuel for your muscles by converting those fatty acids into ketones.

Now on the more extreme end, there's the carnivore way of eating. This is an extreme elimination diet designed to get your body back to running on fats instead of carbohydrates. As the name suggests, it's all meat and animal products.

The simple fact behind the carnivore woe is that we're designed to run on fats and not carbohydrates as they both metabolise into the same thing – glucose. Plus you get the added nutritional benefits of meat as a protein source. Which is the best source of protein on the planet.

Few people will argue that you need to have fruits and vegetables in your diet and they have their reasons. But do you? Well, no you don't. Saturated fat is not bad for you. If you want to see studies showing saturated fat is good for you, feel free to get in touch and I will provide you with some.

Many people like to go plant-based, which is fine – it's their life. Leaving the vegan arguments aside, the fact is that you will not get the same quality of nutrients from a plant-based diet as you will from a diet high in animal proteins.

There are plenty of studies that prove that, too – no matter what was presented in "that" documentary you saw on Netflix.

Simply put if you want to reverse your pre-diabetic condition or treat your diabetes better, stop eating carbohydrates. Really you don't need them. Especially for weightloss and muscle growth. Human beings come from an evolutionary stand point of being meat eaters who's bodies run better on glucose metabolised from fats."

■ Daniel Duxfield is an exercise professional who operates DuxFit Functional Fitness from a private studio in Ōtaki. Contact 022 1099 442 or danielduxfield@gmail.com and see www.facebook.com/duxfitfunctionalfitness/

HELPLINES AND LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES It's OK to reach out for help – never hesitate if you are concerned about yourself or someone else. IN A CRISIS OR EMERGENCY

If someone has attempted suicide or you're worried about their immediate safety, do the following:

- Call your local mental health crisis assessment team 0800 745 477 or go with them to the emergency department (ED) of your nearest hospital
- If they are in immediate physical danger to themselves or others, call 111
- Stay with them until support arrives
- Remove any obvious means of suicide they might use (eg ropes, pills, guns, car keys, knives)
- Try to stay calm, take some deep breaths
- Let them know you care
- Keep them talking: listen and ask questions without judging

- Make sure you are safe.

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

Services offering support & information:

- Lifeline 0800 543 354 (0800 LIFELINE)
- Samaritans 0800 726 666 - for confidential support for anyone who is lonely or in emotional distress
- Depression Helpline 0800 111 757 or free text 4202 - to talk to a trained counsellor about how you are feeling or to ask any questions

- Healthline 0800 611 116 - for advice from trained registered nurses
- www.depression.org.nz – includes The Journal free online self-help.

For children and young people

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

More options: www.mentalhealth.org.nz

GREY POWER AGE FRIENDLY SURVEY



This is your chance to win one of three \$100 vouchers provide by completing the Grey Power Age Friendly survey.

20. Providing homes to those that can't afford market prices is an essential role of councils.

0 1 2 3 4 5
Strongly disagree Strongly agree

21. Providing the right to occupy is guaranteed, offsetting rates against the equity of a house will help older people age in their own homes and communities.

0 1 2 3 4 5
Strongly disagree Strongly agree

22. Please select any of the following that you would like to do in the next twelve months.

- Move to a smaller house in my area
- Move to a smaller house elsewhere
- Move to live with family / whanau
- Move closer to children or other family / whanau
- Move to assisted living such as a rest home
- Move to a retirement village
- Move closer to health / support services
- Return to family / whanau land
- None of these

23. Please add any comments you would like to make on making your community age friendly.

24. Please tell us in twenty words or less anything you think we have missed or a key topic on age-friendly communities.

Finally, we would just like to ask you a few questions about yourself.

25. Please select the area you live in.

- Paekakariki Raumati Paraparaumu
- Waikanae Peke Peka to Otaki
- Other (please specify)

26. Please select the option that best describes your home.

- Own home with mortgage Own home without mortgage
- Private sector rental Shared accommodation
- Council/State home at market rent Retirement village property
- Aged care facility Social / pensioner housing

27. Please select the age range you come in.

- Under 19 20 - 29 30 - 39 40 - 49 50 - 59
- 60 - 69 70 - 79 80 - 89 90 and over

28. Please select the ethnic groups you identify with.

- NZ European Maori Chinese Asian
- Pasifika Other

29. Please select the gender you identify as.

- Male Female LGBTQI

That's all the questions. Thank you for sharing your views.

If you would like to go into the draw for a \$100 voucher, please select Yes below.

Otherwise select No to complete the survey.

30. Do you want to go into the draw for a \$100 voucher?

- Yes No

You need to complete these fields if you want to go in the draw for a \$100 voucher

31. Please enter your name here:

32. And your email address or phone number here:



Kāpiti Coast Grey Power Association
First floor, Coastlands
5254 Paraparaumu, New Zealand
04902 5680
e: kapitigreypower@outlook.com
w: kapitigreypower.co.nz
FB: www.facebook.com/KapitiCoastGPA/

HĪTŌRIA/History



Class of '36

Another cute lineup of young children from an Ōtaki School class in 1936. Many of these children will now be in their 90s if still alive . Email debbi@idmedia.co.nz if you can identify any or all of them. The photo is also on otakitoday.com



The influence of volcanic eruptions

Local historian REX KERR continues the story of how the natural phenomena have shaped Ōtaki's landscape. This is episode 4, part 1 of "Other forces come into play" ..

In 186AD a violent eruption of huge magnitude occurred in the Taupō area.

It's considered to have been one of the largest eruptions anywhere of the past 10,000 years, producing more than 50 cubic kilometres of ash and debris, and destroying more than 20,000 square kilometres of the North Island.

Taupō has a history of violent destructive eruptions. One of the largest to occur anywhere was 22,600 years ago, which produced 1170 cubic kilometres of debris. Some of the ash carried as far as Ōtaki and left a thin layer deposited on the high country.

The immediate impact of the 186AD eruption on the Ōtaki district was not directly from the eruption, but from an associated source.

The explosion deposited up to 50 metres of debris over the Central North Island, clogging the rivers that had their source in the volcanic plateau. This debris was then washed in vast rafts of pumice down the Whanganui, Whangaehu, Turakina, and Rangitikei rivers and carried out to sea.

The prevailing north-westerly winds and South Taranaki Drift carried it south in huge amounts, which was deposited on the emerging coastline from north of the Rangitikei River to Paraparamu. As accumulations of sand were built up along the shoreline they were blown inland in huge drifts reaching their greatest extent at Himatangi, penetrating more than 12 kilometres inland and more than 100 metres high.



DESTINATION OTAKI

REX KERR

Further south around Ōtaki, the dunes drifted inland several kilometres, burying the existing features under hills of sand as yet unnamed.

Between the dunes there were areas of swamp and wetlands. South of Te Horo they buried the Te Horo Cliff. Today the motorway construction at the new Waitohu Overbridge and at Hillcrest has revealed the size and extent of these old dunes.

Another impact of these migrating dunes was to block the courses of smaller streams leading to the sea, forming a series of small lakes from Whanganui to Paraparamu. Like the dunes they are as yet unnamed.

Many of the smaller lakes have long disappeared, to be marked today by areas of swamp or wetland. The West Coast's long flat distinctive black beaches stretching from Whanganui to Paekākāriki reflect the iron present in the pumice.

The beach is still being replenished today by coastal drift, tidal surges, storms and floods.

■ References:

- Fleming, C A. "The Genesis of Horowhenua." *Weekly News*, Christmas edition. 1961.
- Begg, J G & Johnston, M R. *Geology of the Wellington Area*. Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences Ltd. Lower Hutt. 2000.

Next episode: *Other forces come into play continued. Part b: Earthquakes have an impact.*



CLASS OF '48: Last month's school photo brought back many memories, and much feedback. With the help of Noeline Gimblett, Arthur Bills, and Janice and Maurice King, we have named all but two of these children.

Back row from left: George Brunning, Frank Maine, Brian Fannin, John Perkins, Donald Giddens, Paddy Ludlam, Arthur Edwards, Lesley Brunnell, Harry Dorne, Michael Perkins, Ross Kelly, Garry Nicholson.

Middle row: unknown, Mervin ? (Feltham Home), Cyril Owens, Betty Booth, Shirley Edwards, Flora Whiteman, Annette Nicholson, Terry Webster, Sam Cook, Boysie Barrett.

Front row: Dorothy Baker, Ra Johnson, Joy Williams, Barbara Cootes, Nellie Vickerstafs (Feltham Home), Shirley McLeavy, Noeline Cole, Dorothy Tweed, Judy Deller, Bella Royal, Nancy Ping.



Ōtaki Museum's latest exhibition *As Time Goes By: the Changing Face of Main St* opens from Friday July 17. Museum is open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays 10-2pm. Ōtaki Museum, 49 Main St, Ōtaki.

Why is it that folks can pour smoke into the air?

And there at dawn, from behind the low hill, a thick column of grey smoke pushes up towards the sky, becoming thicker after about 20 metres and then forming itself into a broader cloud as it meets moving air.

Half a dozen paddocks away someone, solving a problem for themselves, has lit a green waste fire.



WAIKAWA WAYS

MIRAZ JORDAN

For now the smoke drifts away, away from them and away from us. It forms a hazy screen over the golden glow from a rising sun largely hidden by clouds.

The fire has plenty of fuel, but as morning wears on the wind shifts. By lunchtime the smell of smoke is heavy by the front door.

I'm relieved I chose not to do washing today, but am sad I have to keep all the doors and windows shut tight. I try to avoid going outside.

Now this unknown person's solution has become my problem. This is no tiny trickle of smoke from a household woodburner. This is a mass of unhealthy offensive particles produced by someone who didn't feel like letting nature take its course or removing their green waste to

one of the region's approved stations.

In order to save themselves some space or a few dollars they're dumping their offensive waste on the rest of us.

This week it was this fire. Last month it was another one several kilometres away, but the smoke was clearly visible for days. A few months ago billowing clouds of smoke from the other direction led to five days of sore throat misery, rewashing three loads of clothes and bedding and then having to dry it all indoors with the house sealed.

It's hard to discover who's in charge of regulating and monitoring such outdoor fires, but it seems to be a combination of Fire Emergency, the Regional Council and the District Council.

It seems Fire Emergency allow the fires.

Horizons Regional Council strive to maintain clean air in the region and say "smoke from open fires must not go beyond the boundaries of your own property."

Meanwhile Horowhenua District Council manage smoke nuisance complaints.

It's handing off the problem on a large scale.

How hard it is to understand why in this era of heightened concern for our health and environment such outdoor fires are even permitted at all. We don't allow people to dump their rubbish on the side of the road, or to tip old engine oil into the streams.

Why is it that folks can pour smoke into the air?

■ Miraz is a Waikawa Beach resident and blogger. See www.miraz.me and lovewaikawabeach.nz



Green waste smoke. Photo Miraz Jordan

Horizons Regional Council aims to maintain and enhance the air quality throughout our region. Burning waste is hazardous to your health and our environment; your last option should be to burn. Please consider other disposal options first, such as composting, recycling, or taking waste to a landfill. Please note: There should be no offensive smoke or odour that crosses property boundaries. Smoke must not affect visibility on roads or for aircraft.

Horizons Regional Council No Smoke Policy

End of an era at old Taranaki Street premises

Moving out of their long-term premises proved to both a logistical and emotional challenge for Ngā Taonga staff – and that's without including the Covid-19 pandemic. David Klein investigates.

The Covid-19 pandemic was hugely disruptive in countless ways all around the world, but it didn't stop a big Ngā Taonga project from being completed on time.

A deadline of May 28 to fully vacate Taranaki Street premises in Wellington had been agreed with the new owners and was not altered despite lockdown regulations. Luckily, most of the planning had already been completed and the move was finished under Level 2.

Following the 2019 Ngā Taonga move of staff and operations to the National Library building, Taranaki Street was used as a consolidated storage space with multiple vaults. Planning for the final move began at the end of 2019. Principal access and discovery advisor Kate Roberts was one of the project leads.

"The whole thing took a while – it's a complex logistical exercise," she says.

It was also an emotional exercise. Taranaki Street was home to Ngā Taonga (and its predecessor the New Zealand Film Archive before that) for 18 years. During that time thousands of people watched films in the cinema and media library, the café and public spaces welcomed countless visitors, and dozens of staff joined and left the organisation.

While organising and working through this material led to plenty of reflection for Ngā Taonga staff, physically moving the thousands of precious film, video and paper-based records was of course no small undertaking. A huge amount of packing and checking took place.

"We were almost ready to begin the move when Covid shut everything down," Kate says.



PACKED: The book collection of Ngā Taonga packed to be moved.

"So there's been a two-month delay, but luckily we'd finished all the planning."

When the team was able to resume work during Level 2, it involved some iconic pandemic gear: personal protective equipment (PPE).

"We had staff doing lots of hard work in tricky circumstances – wearing gloves and masks and physically distancing."

Three large truckloads of material was moved, comprising film and video items, equipment, paper records, access DVDs and 300 boxes of books from the Jonathan Dennis Library.

Despite hitting the deadline, the whole project was understandably hampered in one regard.

"There were expectations that we could rationalise parts of the collections," Kate says.

It meant sorting and re-boxing the collection to get the most efficient arrangement for storage.

"This would have been ideal, rather than having to move things twice. The time constraints though made that unrealistic."

The focus then was on packing and shifting everything. The rest of the work will now be done at the Ngā Taonga facility at Motutawa-Avalon in Lower Hutt.

It will be a big unpacking job. Most of the material has a destination already sorted, so it's just a matter of getting it to the right place. Most of the material was moved to Motutawa-Avalon,



with some going to other vaults at Buckle Street in Mount Cook, Wellington, and North Point in Plimmerton.

With Kate's role involving access and discovery of the collection, she's pleased with the outcomes the project will provide.

"It means fewer storage sites and in time will give us better oversight of the collection and help with vault retrieval."

One of the final acts on vacating the premises on Taranaki Street was to offer karakia to clear the space and to keep it culturally safe for the next occupants. With Level 2 restrictions still in place, a limited number of staff attended. The karakia reflected on the taonga that had been held in the building, the events the space had hosted and the members of the Ngā Taonga whānau who had been lost.

"We don't ever sever our connection with a place – we just have a new and different kind of connection," Ngā Taonga chief executive Honiana Love said. "While we're leaving this place, we never really leave. We'll always have a connection."

Ko te kaupapa tino whakamutunga mā mātou o Ngā Taonga, he tuku karakia kia wātea ai te whare o Te Anakura kei te huarahi o Taranaki i Te Whanganui-a-Tara. Taranaki Street will always hold a special place in the cultural memory of Ngā Taonga.

■ Ngā Taonga cares for an enormous number of recordings that captured New Zealand life. They can be explored in the online catalogue at ngataonga.org.nz and you can sign up for the Ngā Taonga newsletter at www.bit.ly/2NwLtr

TAMARIKI FUN PAGE

COLOURING COMPETITION

GET A REUSABLE COFFEE CUP! 

PLASTIC FREE JULY 

DON'T FORGET REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS! 

USE BAMBOO TOOTHBRUSHES! 

REFILL JARS AND CONTAINERS AND BUY IN BULK! 

MIND YOUR BEESWAX! WRAP YOUR FOOD AND LUNCHES IN CLOTH OR BEESWAX WRAPS! 

TRY METAL STRAWS! 

Drop a copy of your coloured picture into Ōtaki Today's box at **Riverstone Café** to win a \$20 book voucher or an *Animals in Vehicles* book by Aug 9.

NAME: _____ AGE: . _____ PHONE: _____

ŌT KIDS' NEWS

It's plastic-free July
 Want some tips to find out how you can reduce plastic waste? The good news is, anyone can get involved. You can start out small, or really challenge yourself! Here are some things you can do. Ask for a plastic-free toothbrush. Use soap instead of liquid soap. Refuse to use plastic straws if you are offered one. Ask for a non-plastic drink bottle if you don't already have one. Ask for your lunch to be wrapped in wax sandwich wraps. Encourage others by sharing your ideas. Perhaps your schoolmates can look at their lunchbox to find one thing they can swap for a reusable alternative. Swapping balloons and other single-use plastic party decorations for reusable and eco alternatives is the way to celebrate in style without having a devastating impact on the environment. An example is swapping glitter for confetti made out of dried leaves. Choosing paper lolly bags by sourcing treats from the bulk food store, or make gifts of crayons, chalk, seeds, plants, second-hand books, and homemade playdough. Celebrating without disposable plastics is a great way to empower others to care. Learn what plastics you're using on a daily basis, and pick one at a time to substitute with an alternative can have a huge impact over time. Helping classmates, or the whole school, to reduce plastic waste will multiply your impact by hundreds or thousands. If you want to read more go to: plasticfreejuly.org

PLASTIC AND OCEAN QUIZ

- Why is plastic dangerous for marine life?**
 a. They mistake it for food and cannot digest it.
 b. They can get tangled in it, which hinders their ability to swim.
 c. It's not dangerous because they use plastic waste for habitats.
- Where does the majority of plastic waste end up?**
 a. Oceans b. Burned for energy
 c. Landfills d. Recycled
- True or False:** There are many alternatives to single-use plastic products.
- True or False:** There are 51 trillion microplastic particles in the ocean today – 500 times more than the number of stars in our galaxy.
- How many marine species are harmed by plastic pollution?**
 a. 52 b. 693 c. 1326 d. 5489

1. Both a and b: Plastic tends to float, and bobbing on the surface can lead it to be mistaken for marine life. Plastic bags are mistaken for jellyfish by leatherback turtles and eaten. Marine life also gets tangled in nets, cords, and other plastic debris, which hinders their ability to swim and in some cases, can be a severe choking hazard. **2. a. Oceans.** Taking 100s of years to break down, plastic is not going anywhere soon. While some of it does make it to landfills and recycling centres, the majority ends up in the ocean through deliberate dumping of garbage into waterways, inefficient waste infrastructure, and simple littering. **3. True.** There are many alternatives to plastic products. From reusable bags to stainless steel travel mugs, giving up plastic can be as simple as a single choice. **4. True.** More than 8 million metric tons of plastic waste ends up in the ocean every year. Most of it breaks up into tiny particles from millimeters to micrometers in size making it extremely difficult to clean up. **5. b 693.** A 2015 Plymouth University study compiled reports recorded from around the world and found evidence of 44,000 animals becoming entangled or swallowing plastic debris, accounting for a total of 693 marine species.

KYUSS' OCEAN QUIZ

- How much of the Earth's surface is covered in ocean?
 - The Earth's oceans are divided into how many individual oceans?
 - What is the largest ocean?
 - How much of the Earth's ocean has been explored?
 - What is the deepest trench in the ocean?
 - How deep is this trench?
 - How many known species live in the ocean?
 - According to scientists what is the biggest threat to the ocean?
 - What is the largest creature in the ocean?
 - The ocean is so big it affects which of the following – weather, temperature, food supply or all of the above?
- If you don't know the answers, Google them, or look in a book, just like Kyuss did! Last quiz answers are on page 26.*



A drone carrying library books.

Drones deliver library books

A school librarian, Kelly Passek, in Virginia, USA, has come up with a creative way to ensure kids in her community have books to keep them occupied during lockdown – they are being delivered by drone. While we are very lucky in New Zealand to be back to “normal” after our Covid-19 lockdown, the US and many other countries are still suffering. The idea came from Kelly's use of Wing, a drone service that delivers essentials straight to their door. Students request a library book online and it is then delivered to their front door!

Email your answers to KyussOT@idmedia.co.nz The first drawn with the correct answers wins a \$20 book voucher, or one of Jared's *Animals in Vehicles* books, your choice, as well as an Ōtaki Today T-shirt.



Nau mai, haere mai, welcome to

ŌTAKI MONTESSORI PRE-SCHOOL

Haruatai Park, 200 Mill Rd, Ōtaki. 06 364 7500 • www.otakimontessori.co.nz

Change is inevitable. Ōtaki Montessori Pre-School is excited to tell you about our upcoming changes.

With sadness, we said goodbye to two of our team last term. However, we welcome the two new teachers who will be starting with us starting shortly.

Ōtaki Montessori Pre-School focuses on Maria Montessori's wonderful teachings, which we feel she'd be thrilled with the focus on the well-being of the child at the centre in all we do.

The wonderful Haruatai Park plays a very important part in our teachings, as will our upcoming playground developments.

We welcome you to come in and check us out. We

have an awesome place that makes the child and their whanau central to what we do.

We offer morning sessions from 9am–12pm (a great option for the little ones) or a full day session from 9am–2.30pm

Get in touch with the office on 06 364 7500 or email us at om_admin@otakimontessori.co.nz to arrange a visit.



Ōtaki Montessori offers a unique choice of preschool in Ōtaki. If you would like to know more please contact us, or check out our Facebook page.



Plenty to do in the school holidays

By Debbi Carson

School hols, how fast they come around. Looking for some ideas that won't break the bank?

Holidays can be a great time to bond with your children and maybe even let your own inner child come out to play. But it can also be a stressful time when kids can misbehave because of boredom. It's best to put a little bit of advanced planning into the holidays and prepare yourself with an arsenal of activities to keep the little ones out of mischief.

School holidays are a great opportunity for kids to catch up with friends at the local park or go for a walk or ride during the day. A treasure hunt on the way can add interest - give them a list and get them to find things on the way.

Ōtāki has plenty of playgrounds, and a gorgeous beach and river, where kids can run free, leap about and burn some energy, weather permitting. Take a picnic with you even if it's cold, just wrap up warm. Or Ōtāki Pool is a great choice when it's too wet or cold to be outside.

Head to Ōtāki Library for Lego Club on Thursday, July 16 between 3.30 and 4.30pm. The library supplies the Lego pieces, all you need is your ideas. Lego Club is monthly on Thursdays at the same time for the rest of the year: 20 Aug, 17 Sep, 15 Oct, 19 Nov, and 17 Dec. You can also find great books to explore a new sport, your favourite hobby, or just find a great read - the librarians will help you out - just ask.

Start reading your kids a novel - an hour's special time with them can be a highlight of each day.

Do a jigsaw - always plenty at the op shops to choose from. This can have older kids absorbed for hours. We get a new one every year at Christmas (the



kids are into dinosaurs!) and do a little every day until it's finished.

Show them basic cooking skills (age dependent of course) - how to make a cup of coffee or pot of tea, how to boil an egg, cook toast, make their own sandwich. Invite a friend over so they can show off their new skills. Make homemade sweets. Hokey pokey is a fun choice, as is toffee (apples) or fudge. Baking cupcakes and icing and decorating them will fill in a few hours of delicious time.

While you're at it, show them some life skills like making their bed, helping to hang clothes on the line, folding clothes and putting them away. Great skills to set them up with leaving the nest.

Create a treasure hunt in the house, give them 10 things they have to find.

Take your wee darlings on a train ride. Waikanae to Paekākāriki is a good distance and you can walk to the shops for an ice-cream, then catch the train home from the other platform.

When the kids are getting antzy ask them to let their imaginations run wild

by inventing games to play around the house. Making a tent to hide and play in, or having afternoon tea under cover always goes down well at our house, especially when they come up with the idea themselves.

Play charades, cards, Monopoly - any game you have on hand to engage them for a while.

You can visit the Ōtāki Museum's new exhibition about Main Street for a trip down memory lane for you and a chance to show the kids what Main Street used to be like. Treat them to a gingerbread man from one of the local cafes.

Ministry of Health recommends children aged 5 to 17 do one hour of moderate or vigorous physical activity spread over each day, as well as a variety of light physical activities for several hours a day. Kids also shouldn't spend more than two hours on recreational screen time - good luck with that one!

And if all else fails, play the silence game. Our grandies love it! Practise every day to see who can be the quietest and last the longest.

To list your group, or update contact details, email debbi@idmedia.co.nz

COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

- AMICUS CLUB OF ŌTAKI 364 6464
- COBBLERS LUNCH CLUB Thursdays 11.15am-1.30pm Gertrude Atmore Lounge. Free soup.
- FOREST & BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY Joan Leckie 368 1277
- FRIENDS OF THE ŌTAKI RIVER Trevor Wylie 364 8918
- FRIENDS OF THE ŌTAKI ROTUNDA Di Buchan 364 0180/027 683 0213
- GENEALOGY SOCIETY Len Nicholls 364 7638
- KĀPITI COAST GREY POWER June Simpson 021 109 2583
- KĀPITI HOROWHENUA VEGANS: Alastair 364 3392 Eric 367 2512
- KEEP ŌTAKI BEAUTIFUL Margaret Bayston/Lloyd Chapman
- LIONS CLUB OF ŌTAKI Peter 021 267 3929
- MORRIS CAR CLUB Chris Torr 323 7753
- ŌTAKI BRIDGE CLUB Tim Horner 364-5240
- ŌTAKI COMMUNITY PATROL Errol Maffey 027 230 8836
- ŌTAKI & DISTRICT SENIOR CITIZENS Vaevae 027 447 7864
- ŌTAKI FLORAL ART & GARDEN CLUB Maureen Jensen 364 8614
- ŌTAKI FOODBANK 43 Main St, Lucy Tahere 364 0051
- ŌTAKI HERITAGE BANK MUSEUM TRUST 364 6886
- ŌTAKI HISTORICAL SOCIETY Sarah Maclean 364 2497
- ŌTAKI MENZSHED 022 406 9439 OtakiMenzShed@outlook.com
- ŌTAKI PLAYERS SOCIETY Roger Thorpe 364 8848 or 021 259 2683
- ŌTAKI POTTERY CLUB Rod Graham 027 445 7545
- ŌTAKI PROMOTIONS GROUP Cam Butler 021 703095
- ŌTAKI AND DISTRICT RSA, 9 Raukawa St 364 6221
- ŌTAKI SPINNERS & KNITTERS' GROUP, Barbara Austin 364 8381
- ŌTAKI WOMEN'S NETWORK GROUP Carol Ward 027 235 6151
- ŌTAKI WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CLUB/SUNDAY MARKETS Kerrie Fox 027 340 0305
- ŌTAKI WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Rema Clark remaclark@xtra.co.nz
- RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE Jamie 027 444 9995/Drew 021 288 7021
- ROTARY CLUB OF OTAKI Michael Fagg 021 294 3039
- TIMEBANK Suzanne Fahey 021 1275 074
- TOASTMASTERS OF WAIKANA E Graham 04 905 6236
- TRANSITION TOWN OTAKI Jamie Bull 364 0550
- WAITOHU STREAM CARE GROUP Lyndsay Knowles 364 6283

CHILDREN

- ŌTAKI TOY LIBRARY 027 621 8855 Saturday 10.30am-noon Memorial Hall, Main St.
- KIDZOWN OSCAR 0800 543 9696
- LITTLE GIGGLERS PLAYGROUP Baptist Church Hall, Te Manuao Rd. 10am-12noon Friday each fortnight. Denise 027 276 0983
- MAINLY MUSIC Hadfield Hall, Te Rauparaha St. 021 189 6510
- ŌTAKI KINDERGARTEN 68a Waerenga Rd. 364 8553.
- ŌTAKI MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL Haruātai Park, Roselle 364 7500.
- ŌTAKI PLAYCENTRE Mill Rd. 364 5787. Mon, Tue, Thu 9.30am-noon
- ŌTAKI PLAYGROUP otakiplaygroup@hotmail.com
- ŌTAKI SCOUTS, CUBS AND KEAS Brent Bythell 364 8949.
- PLUNKET MANAKAU PLAYGROUP Honi Taipua St, T & Th 9.30am-noon.
- SKIDS ŌTAKI out of school care, St Peter Chanel School. Sonia: 027 739 1986.
- TE KŌHANGA REO O TE KĀKANO O TE KURA Te Rauparaha St, 06 364 5599
- TE KŌHANGA REO O RAUKAWA 5 Convent Rd, 06 364 5364

SPORTS CLUBS

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

CHURCHES

- Rangiātea** 33 Te Rauparaha St, ŌTAKI • 364 6838
Sunday Eucharist: 9am • Church viewing hours, school terms: Mon-Fri 9.30am- 1.30pm
- St Mary's Pukekarakā** 4 Convent Rd, ŌTAKI Fr Alan Robert 364 8543 or 021 0822 8926. *Sunday mass: 10am. Miha Māori Mass, first Sunday.* For other masses: otakiandlevincatholicparish.nz.
- Anglican Methodist Parish of Ōtāki** St Margaret's, Te Horo. All Saints', Ōtāki. St Andrew's, Manakau. Co-Ministers: Jessica Falconer 021 778 345. Rev Simon Falconer, 021 857 744 email: ministers@otakianglican.nz *Services: 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, All Saints', Te Rauparaha St, Ōtāki, at 9.30am. 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, St Margaret's, School Rd, Te Horo, at 9.30am. 5th Sunday to be advised.*
- Ōtāki Baptist** cnr SH1 & Te Manuao Rd, ŌTAKI Pastor Roger Blakemore • 364 8540 or 027 672 7865 otakibaptist.weebly.com • *Sunday service: 10am*
- The Hub** 157 Tasman Rd, ŌTAKI • Leader Richard Brons 364-6911 • www.actschurches.com/church-directory/horowhenua/hub-church/ • *Sunday service and Big Wednesday service: 10.15am*
- Ōtāki Presbyterian** 249 Mill Rd, ŌTAKI • Rev Peter Jackson 364 8759 or 021 207 9455 • www.otakiwaikanaechurch.nz *Sunday service: 11am*
- Jehovah's Witness** 265 Mill Road, ŌTAKI 364 6419 • www.jw.org • *Sunday meeting: 10am*

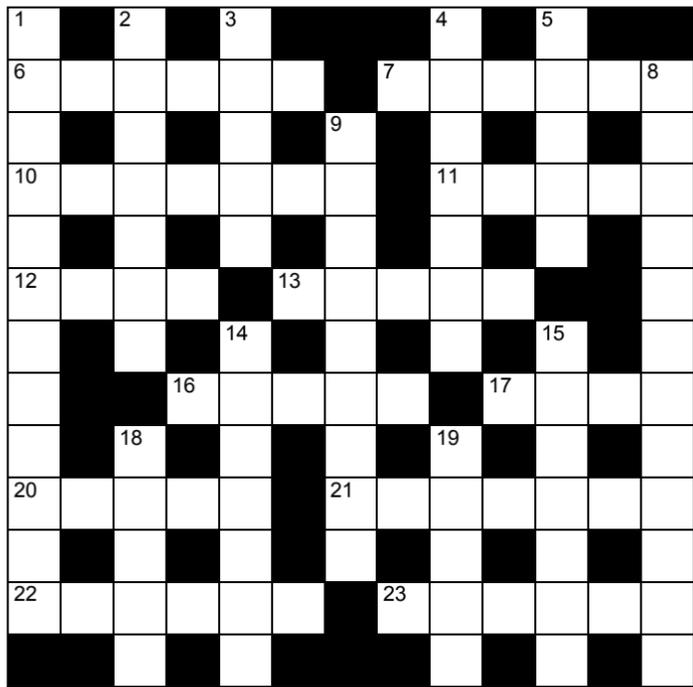
MEDICAL

- Ōtāki Medical Centre** 2 Aotaki St, Ōtāki 06 364 8555 • Monday-Friday: 8.15am-5pm • Saturday: 9am-noon. After hours. **Emergencies:** 111
- Team Medical**, Paraparaumu: AH: 04 297 3000 Coastlands Shopping Mall. 8am-10pm every day.
- Palmerston North Hospital** emergencies, 50 Ruahine St, Palmerston North • 06 356 9169
- Healthline for free 24-hour health advice** 0800 611 116
- St John Health Shuttle** 06 368 6369
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COMMUNITY

- ŌTAKI POLICE** 06 364 7366, cnr Iti and Matene Streets, Ōtāki.
- CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU ŌTAKI** 06 364 8664, 0800 367 222. 65a Main St, Ōtāki. otaki@cab.org.nz
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CROSSWORD NZ1788H (answers below) *The Puzzle Company*

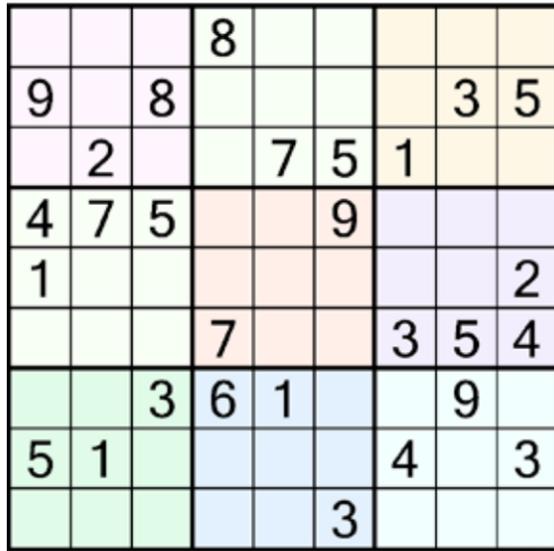


- ACROSS**
- Examination of intelligence (1,1,4)
 - Comment (6)
 - New Zealand's third most populated island (7)
 - Russian ballet company (5)
 - Deceased (4)
 - Salt water (5)
 - Harness racing (colloq) (5)
 - Departed (4)
 - Reverie (5)
 - Immortal (7)
 - Colour, pungapunga in Māori (6)
 - Christchurch businessman who had an airfield named after him (6)
- DOWN**
- Lotteries Commission promotion that ran from 2005-2015 (3,9)
 - Morally correct (7)
 - Any possession of value (5)
 - Traditional non-working days (7)
 - Military chaplain (5)
 - Second most capped All Black, with 132 appearances (5,7)
 - Engaged to marry (9)
 - Colour of pohutukawa flowers (7)
 - Ironworks (7)
 - String instrument (5)
 - Fiend (5)

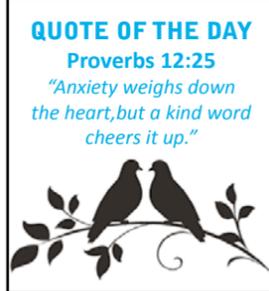
CROSSWORD NZ1788H ANSWERS
 ACROSS: 6. IQ test, 7. Remark, 10. Waiheke, 11. Kirov, 12. Dead, 13. Brine, 16. Tors, 17. Gone, 20. Dream, 22. Yellow, 23. Wigram. Down: 1. Big, 2. Wednesday, 3. Ethical, 4. Weekend, 5. Padre, 8. Keven Mealiamu, 9. Betrothed, 14. Crimson, 15. Foundry, 18. Cello, 19. Devil.

SUDOKU PUZZLES www.thepuzzlecompany.co.nz

Use logic and process of elimination to fill in the blank cells using the numbers 1 through 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Puzzle solutions below.



EASY #22



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MUSIC QUIZ

(answers below)



- What is Elvis Presley's middle name?
- Te Awamutu is the hometown of which famous musical brothers?
- Who was the Queen of Soul?
- What is the lowest male voice?
- Which famous group was known as The Quarrymen?
- What was the name of AC/DC's lead singer who died in 1980?
- What band took its name from the street address of their Dunedin student flat?
- What is the noisy invention of Louis Glass in 1890 called?
- Devonport is the home suburb for which famous New Zealand singer?
- Who is the drummer of Metallica?
- Which group had a hit with the Macarena?
- Who won the most Grammy Awards in the 80s?
- How many strings has a mandolin got?
- What was Bing Crosby's biggest hit?
- Which song is considered to be NZ's first all-out hit record recorded on TANZ?
- Which British pop group had a hit called Angel Eyes in the 70s?
- Which pop singer married Debbie Rowe?
- Which British singer had a hit in 2006 with Rehab?
- Who composed the music for the Spaghetti Western 'The Good, The Bad and The Ugly' with Clint Eastwood?
- What was Mozart's nationality?
- In which city was John Lennon killed?
- Which country does Celine Dion come from?
- Which NZ musician recorded an album with the Dalai Lama recently?
- Annie Crummer, Debbie Harwood, Kim Willoughby, Dianne Swann and Margaret Urlich were members of which New Zealand vocal group?
- What do the letters OMC stand for?

QUIZ ANSWERS: 1. Aaron 2. Neil and Tim Finn 3. Aretha Franklin 4. Bass voice 5. The Beatles 6. Bob Scott 7. Six60 8. Jukebox 9. Lorde 10. Lars Ulrich 11. Los Del Rio 12. Michael Jackson 13. Eight strings 14. White Christmas 15. 'Blue Smoke' - Ruru Karaitiana 16. Roxy Music 17. Michael Jackson 18. Amy Winehouse 19. Ennio Morricone 20. Austrian 21. New York 22. Canada 23. Junelle Kunin 24. When the cats away 25. Otara Millionaire's Club

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COBWEBS COMMUNITY TRUST AGM
 The trustees hereby give notice that the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Ōtaki Presbyterian Church meeting room on Tuesday 28 July, 2020 at 5pm. All welcome.

DEATHS
 WAREING, Janet Eloise (Jan). Passed away peacefully on July 3, 2020, aged 88 years. Dearly loved wife of the late Peter. Loved mother and mother-in-law of Neil and Sharyn, and Alison & William Shakespeare.

Loved Nana Jan of Hannah, Alice, & Victoria and Kieran, Will & Emily. Fondly remembered youngest sister of Ailsa Cree (Sydney). A private cremation has been held.
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 Restored local treasures
Speaker: Diane McAllen
 Tuesday August 4, 2020, 7.30 pm
 Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision collects, shares and cares for New Zealand's audiovisual taonga in sound and moving images. Diane, who is Senior Outreach Curator Kaitoko Kaupapa Torotoronga-ā-Iwi, will tell us about local treasures that have been digitally restored from the collections.
ALL WELCOME!
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KYUSS' FRUIT & VEG QUIZ ANSWERS

- How many different varieties of apples are there? **7,500.**
- Are tomatoes classified as a vegetable or a fruit or both? **Both!**
- How do monkeys peel bananas? **Flip the banana upside down, pinch the bottom until the peel splits, and you're ready to remove the peel.**
- What is Chinese gooseberry another name for? **Kiwifruit.**
- What vegetable is said to help you see in the dark? **Carrots.**
- What are hot chips made out of? **Potatoes, but they can be made out of kumera, too.**
- What is another name for aubergines? **Eggplant.**
- How many different coloured capsicums are there? **The most common are green, yellow, orange and red, but there are also brown, white, lavender and dark purple.**
- Do grapes grow on trees, in the ground or on a vine? **A vine.**
- What percentage of a watermelon is water? **92%.**

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Farewell to 'grit room CEO'

BRIAN ERIC BREGMEN
3.10.34 – 15.6.2020

Brian Bregmen was born at Matamata on October 3, 1934, to Victor and Phoebe Bregmen (nee Atkins).

Two more members of the family were to come later, letting Brian become big brother to Penelope (Pen Bertleson) and Loyce (Bartosh). The family moved to the Atkins family farm in Manakau north of Ōtaki in 1939 when Victor went to fight in the Second World War.

Brian attended Manakau School and then went to Wellington College as a boarder.

When he left college, he worked firstly at the ANZ Bank in Levin. He went to work at the bank's Wellington branch after marrying Jannice (Jan) Silson on March 31, 1956. Brian was later transferred to the Pahiatua branch.

Brian and Jan moved back to the Kāpiti District, where they built their Ōtaki house in which they lived for most of the remainder of their life. They became well known in Dunstan Street, especially for their garden that had people stopping to look. They raised three children there – Shern (Knowles), Blair and Scott.

There they remained until they both moved into the Waikanae Lodge a couple of years ago.

Settled into Ōtaki, Brian started work with Edwards Transport, later to become Coastal Freighters. When the company closed, he spent a little time pumping gas at the local petrol station and then worked for Mowbray's Collectables, where he remained until he retired. In retirement he did some part-time work at Matta Products and described his position there as the "CEO of the grit room".

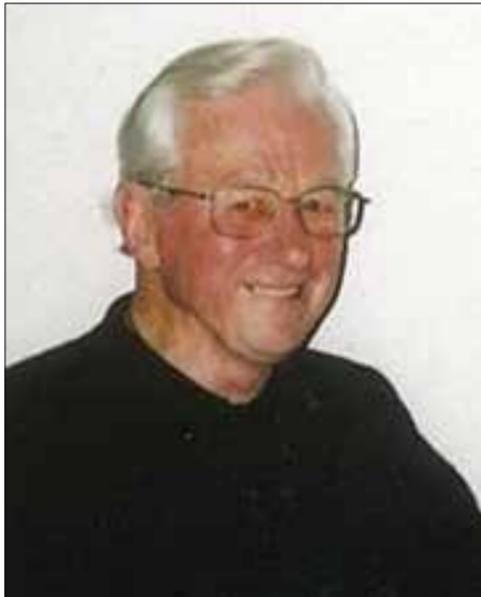
Brian played rugby for Horowhenua-Kāpiti as a junior and then joined the Athletic Rugby Club in Levin as a senior. He had a great love of rugby, and despite his Athletic affiliation, he was an ardent supporter of Ōtaki's Rāhui Rugby Club.

But he was also keen on sport in general. He was an avid tennis player and organiser of his beloved veterans tennis tournaments.

Brian was a great community man, and was for many years part of the local Lions Club. He



THE 80S: The Bregmen family from the 1980s, from left, Brian and Jan, Shern, Blair and Scott.



Brian Bregmen

was always available to help anyone at any time, be it school galas, fundraisers, or paraplegic camps.

He had a love of the outdoors, was a keen duck-shooter and tended his home garden. The home in Dunstan Street was a testament to that. People would often stand and admire his and Jan's efforts.

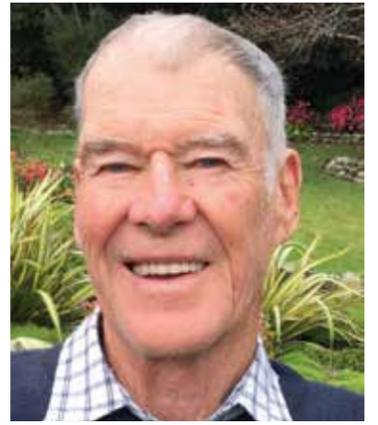
Above all that, Brian was a family man in

Brian played rugby for Horowhenua-Kāpiti as a junior and then joined the Athletic Rugby Club in Levin as a senior. He had a great love of rugby, and despite his Athletic affiliation, he was an ardent supporter of Ōtaki's Rāhui Rugby Club.

every sense of the word. He loved his family, both close and extended. He was a people's person. He was a devoted husband and he thought the world of his children. He took great pride in them all, including his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Brian was a true gentleman, displaying those old-school characteristics of politeness, manners, dignity, loyalty, strong ethics, community spiritedness and authenticity. He was kind and caring, with a quick wit, always willing to go the extra mile for anyone. He made everyone welcome and the door at Dunstan Street was always open for family and friends.

Brian will be sadly missed by Jan, his family, his friends and all who knew him.



Toastmasters president

The new leader of the local Toastmasters club, Neil MacInnes, is a long-time member of the international speaker-training organisation – but he never tires of it.

Neil, a Te Horo resident, took over as Toastmasters of Waikanae president on July 1. He hopes to bring new members to the club while maintaining its warm, positive atmosphere.

"There's a great range of experience in the club," he says. "The spirit is laid back and fun."

The twice-monthly meetings are a safe place for anyone to build confidence in how they present themselves in formal speeches, job interviews or meetings. These skills are especially crucial now, Neil says. "The job market after Covid will be a competitive place. Confidence in projecting yourself could well make the difference in a job hunt."

Neil joined Toastmasters in 1975 and always at a local club wherever he lived. Now retired from a career in printing and management, Neil finds that attending the twice-monthly meetings, giving speeches and evaluating other speakers, keeps him sharp and confident. He also loves learning from other club members as they tell their stories.

"I get motivated from hearing where people have come from and what they have accomplished in their lives."

He's seen many members follow a journey of growth in Toastmasters – breaking through nervousness and lack of confidence to bloom into effective speakers, listeners and leaders.

■ Toastmasters of Waikanae also covers Ōtaki and Te Horo, and meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month in the Cardiff Room, The Waikanae Club, 8 Elizabeth Street, Waikanae. Visitors welcome. Phone 027 427 4623 for information.

Ōtaki River entrance tides July 13 - August 12, 2020

meservice.com/marine-surf/tides/otaki-river-entrance

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

	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH
FRI 10 JUL	00:31	06:52	12:56	19:02	-
SAT 11 JUL	01:13	07:35	13:39	19:46	-
SUN 12 JUL	01:58	08:20	14:26	20:34	-
MON 13 JUL	02:48	09:08	15:18	21:29	-
TUE 14 JUL	03:41	10:01	16:16	22:29	-
WED 15 JUL	04:37	10:58	17:17	23:31	-
THU 16 JUL	05:33	11:56	18:18	-	-
FRI 17 JUL	-	00:30	06:28	12:52	19:12
SAT 18 JUL	-	01:22	07:20	13:43	19:59
SUN 19 JUL	-	02:09	08:09	14:29	20:43
MON 20 JUL	-	02:54	08:56	15:13	21:25
TUE 21 JUL	-	03:38	09:41	15:56	22:07
WED 22 JUL	-	04:22	10:26	22:50	-
THU 23 JUL	-	05:07	11:12	17:22	23:34
FRI 24 JUL	-	05:53	11:58	18:08	-
SAT 25 JUL	00:21	06:41	12:46	18:56	-
SUN 26 JUL	01:11	07:31	13:37	19:48	-
MON 27 JUL	02:04	08:25	14:33	-	-
TUE 28 JUL	03:03	09:22	15:34	21:51	-
WED 29 JUL	04:06	10:25	16:43	23:02	-
THU 30 JUL	05:13	11:33	17:55	-	-
FRI 31 JUL	-	00:13	06:21	12:40	19:01
SAT 01 AUG	-	01:16	07:24	13:40	19:58
SUN 02 AUG	-	02:11	08:20	14:32	20:46
MON 03 AUG	-	03:00	09:08	15:18	21:29
TUE 04 AUG	-	03:44	09:52	15:59	22:09
WED 05 AUG	-	04:25	10:31	16:38	22:46
THU 06 AUG	-	05:03	11:08	17:15	23:21
FRI 07 AUG	-	05:40	11:43	17:50	23:56
SAT 08 AUG	-	06:16	12:19	18:26	-
SUN 09 AUG	00:33	06:53	12:56	19:04	-
MON 10 AUG	01:12	07:31	13:36	19:46	-
TUE 11 AUG	01:55	08:14	14:23	20:35	-
WED 12 AUG	02:46	09:04	15:19	21:34	-



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TĀKARO/Sport



Domain double-header to support Sam

Ōtaki Domain is likely to be packed out for Sam's Day on September 5 when the Manawatū Turbos play the Wellington Lions in a Mitre 10 Cup pre-season rugby game and Horowhenua Kapiti play Wairarapa Bush as a fundraiser for Ōtaki's Sam Doyle.

Sam is in hospital battling leukaemia.

The double-header means three of the four teams will be those in which Sam has played – Horowhenua-Kāpiti, Manawatū and Wellington. He has also played for the Hurricanes as their 11th named player in 1996, and for the Māori All Blacks.

Perhaps most importantly, he also played for the local Rāhui club's premier team in 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2012. He has been Rāhui's senior coach for the past two years, interrupted only when his illness took hold earlier this year.

The initiative for the day came from the Horowhenua-Kāpiti Rugby Football Union. Chief executive Corey Kennett says he is proud to help Sam and organising a day involving all three provincial unions Sam represented was a great way of showing the rugby world's support.

"It made perfect sense to have the day at Ōtaki Domain, his home ground," Corey says. "Sam has been a huge part of our rugby community for a number of years and we're really looking forward to a great day in Ōtaki."

With Sam playing for Manawatū, Wellington and Horowhenua Kapiti among many other teams, this will be a special day for Sam, his whānau, and the Ōtaki community.

■ Wellington Lions v Manawatū Turbos, kick-off 1pm, Saturday September 5; Horowhenua-Kāpiti v Wairarapa Bush for the PGG Wrightson Cup, kick-off 3pm.



PADDING UP: The Rāhui Sports Club received a new set of pads (blue at left) for its goalposts recently, thanks to the generosity of New World Ōtaki. At the club's grounds on a bleak winter morning were, from left, New World Ōtaki owners Steven and Janine Cole, Rāhui patron Rex Kerr and Rāhui president Slade Sturmeay.

SHAVED: Rāhui players and administrators shaved their head to raise funds for Sam Doyle at an after-match fundraising function on June 20. Back row from left: Bradley Cribb, Moko Cooper, Johno Benner, Joel Winterburn, Brett Karipa, Levi Kemp, Hadley Gardner, Neihana Kirker, Jack Tatu Sima, Nopera Rikihana, Manaia Osbourne, Tiakina Manga, Lewis Marshall, Sam Gibson, Nick Fleming and Hamish Buick. Front row: Pātaka Moore, Teariki Peneha, Morehu Connor-Phillips, Makaore Beavan Wilson, Hayden Rasmussen, Slade Sturmeay, Tawhiri Kereama, Toddy Eriha and Manaaki Selby-Rickit.

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