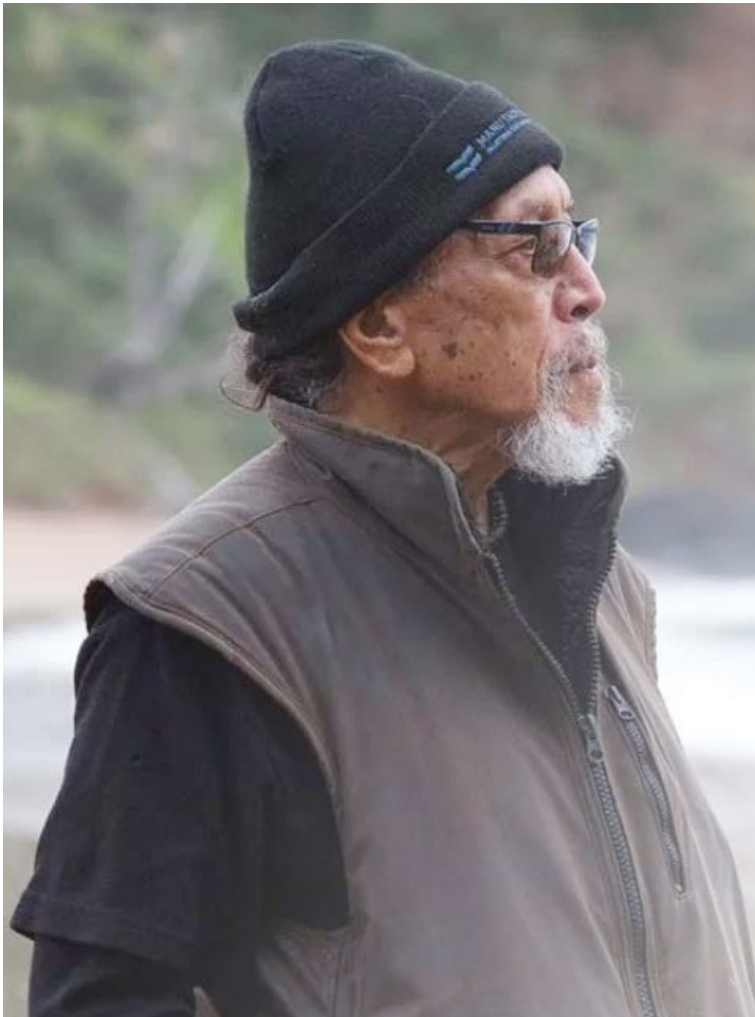


Onerahi Orbit

Free to you from the Onerahi Community Association

Autumn - April 2026

Covering Onerahi, Parua Bay, Pataua and Whangārei Heads



New Zealand Order of Merit

Long term resident of Onerahi/Pataua South, and respected kaumātua and rangatira Mr Hori Te Moanaroa Parata has been appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for his outstanding services to conservation and Māori, recognising decades of leadership grounded in kaitiakitanga, mātauranga Māori and service to iwi and hapū.

Hori (Te Waiariki, Ngāti Kororā, Ngāti Takapari, Ngāti Wai, Ngāti Hine) is widely regarded across Te Tai Tokerau as a tireless advocate for the protection of taonga species, the restoration of whenua and moana, and the intergenerational transmission of Māori knowledge and leadership.

Throughout his life, Hori has been at the forefront of conservation efforts in Northland, raising awareness of the deep connection between ecological health and Māori wellbeing. His work has consistently reinforced the Māori worldview that humans are not separate from the environment, but part of an interconnected system of whakapapa and responsibility.

One of Hori's most significant contributions has been the revitalisation of cultural practices and protocols surrounding tohorā (whales).

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Comfort Hotel (Flames) Gold Award Pg 17 • What's the plan Stan? - colour me in! Pg 21**

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Haere mai,

The weather in autumn in Whangārei is goldilocks weather. The long, still days mean it's pleasant to get out and about - it's not too hot, not too cold, not too windy, not too wet (yet). The colours of the sea and trees are somehow more intense. This makes it a great time to get active and make the most of the good weather before winter sets in. During April, it's also still just hot enough for a swim on a good day, and the fishing is usually exceptional through April till May.

Enjoy our paradise while the weather holds!

Nga mihi from the Orbit team

Letter to the ed

To the Editor,

As we see a local surge in ADHD diagnoses, we need to ask a difficult question: Is the problem strictly biological, or are we witnessing a "mapping" error in the developing brain?

In our modern world, children are being flooded with ready-made visual information from tablets and TVs. While this keeps them quiet, it leaves the brain's auditory-visual connection underdeveloped. Historically, when a child heard a story, their brain had to work hard to build a "mental movie." Today, that mental workshop is sitting idle.

When a child cannot create internal imagery from spoken words, their focus shatters. They may be able to read the words on a page, but they cannot "see" the story, leading to a total collapse in comprehension. Furthermore, because these children are often sedentary while being "visually entertained," they miss out on the physical movement required to properly map their auditory field.

The result? A child who cannot filter out the hum of a classroom air conditioner or a peer's pencil tapping. To that child, every sound is an equal threat, keeping their nervous system in a constant state of "fight or flight." This isn't just a lack of willpower; it is a sensory system that feels under attack.

A suggestion for our families: We can help our children "re-map" their focus. I urge parents to prioritize:

- 1. Audio over Video:** Trade thirty minutes of TV for an audiobook or a told story. Force the brain to build its own pictures.
- 2. Movement as Medicine:** Climbing, spinning, and balancing aren't just play—they help the brain organize sound and space, lowering the "fight or flight" response.
- 3. Read Aloud:** Even for older kids, hearing a story helps bridge the gap between the ear and the mind's eye.

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Before we reach for a prescription, let's try to reach for the skipping rope and the storybook. Our children's attention spans depend on it.

Sincerely,

Rachael Hardcastle, Educational Therapist,
www.pathwaystolearning.co.nz



- Cultivate and nurture the interests of the community of Onerahi
- Promote the district
- Assist residents
- Develop and administer facilities

President's report

A focus of OCA over the past couple of months has been the registration with the Incorporated Society organisation and re-registration with the Charities Commission. This was an important step in maintaining the integrity of the organisation. The constitution was required to be rewritten to better reflect modern business practices.



Facilities

- Small maintenance items have been addressed as they are identified, most recently a wall socket in the kitchen and safety tape on the western fire exit stairs. Quarterly deeper cleaning of floors, walls and windows.
- We are intending to do a thorough clean of the chairs.
- The Order of Merit Honours board has been updated.
- Some signage is now in place outside of the building outlining contact details for hiring the hall.
- EV charging stations in the car park are being considered and investigated along with bike racks.
- Stair hazards/trip grips on the back door of the hall have been installed following hirer feedback.
- After a slow couple of months over the holiday period, hall hire bookings remain steady with regular hirers starting their yearly programmes off and with weekend use increasing as the year progresses.
- The basketball court has had lines completed and now new basketball nets have been installed.
- This area along with the skate park has had increased use from the community.



Events/Activities

- We are looking to arrange a Whakatau/welcome for the new constable.

Continued on Pg 4

Feedback forms, application forms and nomination forms are all available from the website www.onerahicommunity.co.nz
Through our website we will try to provide information about what is being done and share good stories about our community.

Funding Grants

- Funding scholarship to support a young student off to study to become a vet (see page 5)
 - Funding to support a young athlete going to the UK on a sports scholarship
 - Funding to assist in the control of possums in urban bushland
 - Fire Brigade funding support for the annual Fire Brigade Christmas Lolly distribution
- Application forms can be found on the website as detailed in the blue box above

Order of Merit

The committee recently presented the Order of Merit to Onerahi Volunteer Fire Chief Stephen Jennings for his significant volunteer work with multiple organisations including Coast Guard, Surf Life Saving, Onerahi Football and the Onerahi Fire Brigade. His volunteer journey began at age 14 as a SLS Surf NZ Life guard at Foxton, Paekākāriki and Red Beach. More recently he is at Ruakaka SLSC and is now the IRB Head Examiner for Northland. He joined Auckland Coastguard as a member of Trillion Rescue Alpha and qualified as skipper. Currently Stephen is in the Onerahi Fire Brigade and has progressed to the role of Chief. Alongside this he is also an active coach at the Onerahi Football club.

Community Champions

If you know someone in the community who deserves to be the monthly champion, please get in touch. Nomination forms are found on the website.

Published in April, June, August, October, and December.

The Onerahi Orbit is a not-for-profit publication owned by the Onerahi Community Association, that reports the good news in Onerahi, Parua Bay, and Pataua. 4,000 copies are printed by JOP and distributed by volunteers throughout this area; readership is approximately 12,500. Opinions expressed in signed articles, or in advertisements appearing in the Onerahi Orbit are those of the author and advertiser and do not reflect those of this newsletter nor its publisher. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the prior written permission of the editor, writers, and owners of Onerahi Orbit.

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- We will be holding another ANZAC day service this year. (25 April - 11.00am). See pg 10.
- Community activation days have been held at Onerahi Primary school, seeing a number of young people join with their whānau to take part in a range of activities

Community Led Projects

- Working with the Council, some bench seats will be placed in different locations, following requests from locals on the need for resting places.
- New planter boxes are in place in the shopping area. The garden club is providing the plants to go into them.
- The Raurimu Avenue School Pool open to the community was impacted by poor weather, vandalism and low patronage, so the final day was held on 1 March.

Feedback

Tell us how we are going - feedback on the Community Led Projects can help the Steering group identify other possible project areas. The Council Long Term plan is receiving submissions on its contents. The OCA committee is preparing to contribute to the submission process. The OCA wish the community a good Easter break and hope to see members at the ANZAC day commemorations.

Grant Harrison
President



Onerahi Community Association News

OCA Youth Grants available

In this edition of the Orbit, we would like to tell you more about the OCA Youth grant available to the community. We have a total of \$750 available this year that offers young people between 16-23 years of age the opportunity to come up with a project, event or activity, that is by youth and for youth. We are looking to support an initiative that will make a difference to Onerahi and the wider community. However, the grant is not intended to pay anyone wages for their efforts. Last year, most of this grant went towards supporting a young woman in the community who helped set up a special activity and initiative for young women basketball players. The scope of this grant can be quite broad, as long as these criteria are met. If you are a young person with a vision to help make a difference to local youth, why not give it a go and apply?

Scholarship Grant available

In the last edition we told you about our scholarship grant and we have given one of the \$500 scholarships to a local

lad about to attend veterinary college. We have one more scholarship grant left, so if you know a worthy young person about to attend tertiary education that could do with a \$500 grant, email - onerahicomunity@gmail.com to ask for an application form.

Environmental Grants and Sport and Recreation Grants have been awarded.

Our Environmental grant is mostly accounted for now (with just a few hundred left to give out) and our Sport and Recreation grant is now fully used up for the year.

Further Grants available

We still have grants available for Arts/Culture and Heritage and Community Wellbeing. These will be explained further, in future editions of the Orbit.

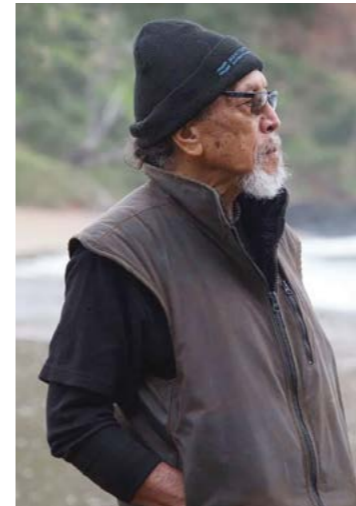
Dee Williams (Secretary of OCA)

Onerahi Community Association - Funding Grant for Education allocated

Otis Langridge received a \$500 OCA educational grant for education in December 2025. "My passion lies in the field of Veterinary Science and the Pre-Selection Bachelor Of Veterinary Science program held by Massey University, of which I have received and accepted an offer of placement for the first semester in 2026."

Otis attended Onerahi Primary School before completing his school studies at Whangārei Boys High School last year. "I have participated in nearly every inter-whānau event (swimming sports, athletics day etc) where I give my all to help my whānau group. I volunteer weekly at the local North Haven Hospice, giving my time to help give back to the community that supported me in my growth. I currently organise and run the weekly Music Club at my school, am currently one of the two Student Volunteer Army Head Ambassadors for my kura and have also completed 40 hours of veterinary practical work at the Maunu Vet Clinic, which was a truly eye-opening experience. Most recently I have volunteered to help run the 2025 Northland Regional Mathex competition, just as I had the previous year (2024)"

Otis received a reference from Maudena Wood, who wrote "My own mahi involves working with Manu Taupunga. We are led by Papa Hori Parata, our Ngāti Wai rangatira, in the cultural honouring of our stranded tohora/whales, particularly our parāoa/sperm whales." Maudena wrote "With his positive outlook and dedication to hard work, I know that Otis can make significant contributions to Te Ao Māori. I wish Otis well for his future and I know that he will be hugely successful in his future endeavours."



Hori Parata continued...

Hori has worked on more than 500 whale strandings, leading and training individuals, hapū and iwi across the country through his response group Manu Taupunga. His leadership has ensured that responses to whale strandings are grounded in tikanga Māori, respect for taonga species, and the wellbeing of communities involved. Hori worked for the Ngātiwai Trust Board for several decades, supporting iwi development,

environmental stewardship and governance. In addition to his regional work, Hori has contributed at a national level as a member of several Māori advisory bodies. Through these roles, he has helped ensure Māori voices and values are embedded in environmental decision-making and regulatory processes.

For Māori communities, Hori Parata's MNZM reflects a legacy grounded in mana, humility and service. His

work stands as a powerful example of kaitiakitanga in action - caring for the environment, honouring ancestors, and preparing the next generation to lead. His MNZM acknowledges not only what he has achieved, but the enduring pathways he has created for Māori-led conservation across Aotearoa.

Based on an article by Matthew Tukaki, Waatea News, 31 December 2025

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Intro to the Onerahi Indoor Bowling Club

The Onerahi Indoor Bowling Club is now up and running, offering a warm, welcoming and inclusive space for people of all ages and abilities.

Whether you're a seasoned player or completely new to indoor bowls, you'll be supported in a relaxed and friendly environment where everyone is encouraged to join in and give it a go.

We meet every Friday at the Onerahi Community Hall. Doors open at 12.30pm, allowing time to settle in, enjoy a chat, and connect with others before games begin at 1.15pm. Play finishes at 3.15pm, followed by pack-up, with the afternoon wrapping up at 3.30pm. There is plenty of free parking available at the hall, making it easy and convenient to attend.

Indoor bowls is a fun, low-impact activity that helps maintain coordination, balance and gentle movement. It's suitable for a wide range of abilities and fitness levels, making it accessible for many in our community. Beyond the physical benefits, it also supports mental wellbeing through social interaction, light-hearted competition, and shared laughter. It's about participation, encouragement and enjoying time together.

Coaching and friendly guidance are always available for those wanting to learn the basics, improve their skills, or simply build confidence. The Community Hall offers ample space, ensuring a comfortable and accessible setting for all participants.

If you're looking for a welcoming Friday activity that combines fun, connection, exercise and community spirit, we would love to see you there.

The welcome mat is out. Come and join us. For more information, please contact: Marjorie Bowdler - President 021 217 9061



Whangārei Flying Club

There has been some form of flying club in the Whangārei Community for almost 100 years. The current flying club has been in existence since 2001. Based at Hangar 10, Whangārei Airport, the club has been a gateway for affordable flying for all ages and experience levels. A great place to start one's flying journey.



Almost 40% of the club's membership are student pilots working towards their light recreational aircraft licence. We currently operate two Tecnam P.92 aircraft which are safe, ideal training platforms and easy to fly. We have seven instructors, all volunteers. All you pay for is the cost of operating the aircraft from the moment the engine starts to when it is turned off after landing.

Affiliated to the Recreational Aircraft Association of New Zealand Inc and with a current membership of 120, we are one of the larger flying clubs in New Zealand. RAANZ in turn operates under the rules of the Civil Aviation Authority. Recently the club has started to work with outside training groups and we are looking to partner with youth organisations. In November 25, the club hosted over two Saturdays, No 20 Squadron Air Training Corps; providing hands-on flying experiences for 24 air cadets.

The photos from the day show all our aircraft and five of our instructors hard at work operating on a 'cab rank' basis, in order to accommodate everyone. Of course you don't have to be an air cadet to learn to fly with us - anyone can do it. We are now offering 30 minute trial flights at only \$100 (\$180 for a full hour) making the experience even more affordable for everyone. You get the chance to take the controls and learn what it's like to pilot an aircraft. Plus you get to see the beauty of the North Island from above.

Come and see us at Hangar 10 any day of the week - our Sunday social burger BBQ events are a good time - make a booking at www.Whangareiflyingclub.com, click on the Trial Flight tab or simply call one of our instructors. If you are thinking about an aviation career consider this - there is an expected shortage of 100,000 airline pilots worldwide by 2030 and a current acute shortage of aircraft engineers in this country. We might just provide the spark for you to take the experience further.

email: secretary@Whangareiflyingclub.com
Tel: 021-762.077

Let's make season 2026 one to remember!

Onerahi Football Club is gearing up for another fantastic season of football, with registrations now open for 2026.

The Club has a proud history of great teams, outstanding players, and a club culture that's second to none, backed by a strong community of supporters and volunteers.

Whether you've got an enthusiastic four-year-old who's excited to join the First Kicks group, a teen ready to take it to the next level, or an adult wanting to get back into football yourself, OFC is here for the whole family.

You'll find Onerahi Football based at their clubrooms at 148 Church Street, Onerahi - at the rear of the Whangārei Airport. Trainings and home games are held onsite.

If you or your child is interested in joining the Onerahi Football Club this season, registrations are



open now at <https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/469606> or scan the QR code to the right.

Stay in the loop by following us: www.facebook.com/OnerahiFootballClub
Contact onerahifootballclub@outlook.co.nz or visit onerahifootball.club/

Our rising star

Xavier Corsbie is a promising young football player who has been part of the Onerahi Football Club family since the age of five. He started his journey in the First Kicks programme and has progressed through the youth ranks to the senior level. Despite his young age, Xavier began playing in senior men's grades at just 15 years old, serving as a vital member of Onerahi's 4th Division squad. He has now been offered an international tour. Check out more on Xavier's story on page 14...

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Parihaka Community Landcare celebrates its 10-year anniversary!

The new year marks ten years of community driven pest management within Whangārei's iconic Parihaka Scenic Reserve, led by the Parihaka Community Landcare Group.

Started in 2016 by former Parihaka resident Dai Morgan and a dedicated group of locals, the project has grown from 40 hectares to more than 200 hectares of year-round volunteer-led pest control.

The removal of nearly 3,000 pests through trapping and many more from baiting operations has contributed to an exciting resurgence of native species. Endemic kauri snails (pūpūrangi) are now commonly encountered along traplines, and fernbirds (mātātā) and tomtits (miromiro) are regularly seen and heard across the reserve – at the start of the project seeing these species was relatively rare. This success reflects a steady decline in rat and possum numbers, thanks to dedicated volunteers who service traplines monthly and support biannual toxin operations in autumn and spring.



The group has ambitious plans for continued biodiversity recovery. Dai explains:

"I'd like to see the entire reserve under rat, possum, and stoat control, and to build a strong buffer zone by getting neighbouring landowners trapping as well. We've supported several landowners to get started with traps and training, but there are still more to bring on board. Ultimately, I'd love to see bird populations grow to the point where they spill into the city and backyards. It would be incredible to reach a stage where we could reintroduce North Island robins (toutouwai) and whiteheads (pōpokotea), species locally extinct in Whangārei for more than 120 years."

Volunteers say their involvement strengthens their connection to the environment, builds pest control skills, and provides them with a strong sense of purpose.

As the group looks ahead to its next decade, their success shows what committed locals can achieve. For those in Whangārei's urban area keen to start a similar project, Tiakina Whangārei can offer support, advice, and equipment.

Learn more at www.tiakintetaiokerau.nz or email TiakinaWhangarei@NRC.govt.nz.

For Parihaka Community Landcare info, visit their Facebook page or email parihaka.Whangarei@gmail.com.



Volunteers have also been tackling invasive weeds in the Mackesy Bush for a number of years, helping curb the spread of species such as wild ginger and climbing asparagus.

The project was developed with the support from Ngāti Kahu o Torongare, the kaitiaki of Parihaka.

Ongoing funding from the WDC and technical support from the NRC through the Tiakina Whangārei project have been vital to its long-term success.

District Council message



Kia ora Onerahi

There's plenty happening around our neighbourhood over the coming months, with several projects focused on making Onerahi safer and easier to get around for everyone.

Work will soon get underway on the Weir Crescent Road Safety Improvements, which will deliver a long-awaited new footpath between Munro

Street and Gloyn Road. This project fills a missing link in the walking network and will improve safety for people heading to and from nearby homes, bus stops and local destinations.

Construction is expected to start in late March or early April, with works scheduled through to mid-May 2026. Alongside the new 1.8 metre wide footpath, the project

includes some minor drainage improvements, new kerb and channel, an upgraded bus stop, and refreshed road markings. You may also notice changes along the Onerahi Shared Path (Riverside Drive section) as part of ongoing safety improvements. These works include updated markings and the removal of some bollards, helping to clearly reinforce right of way for cyclists and pedestrians at key driveways. The changes bring this section of the path up to current NZTA standards for shared paths and are part of a wider programme of improvements across the district, with similar work planned next on the Kamo Shared Path.

At Onerahi Sport Park, planning is progressing for new light towers, which will support greater use of the park and improve safety for evening sports and activities. More detailed information on this project will be shared as it becomes available.

As always, thank you for your patience while works are underway and for continuing to look out for one another. These projects are about supporting a safer, more connected Onerahi

Cr. Nicholas Connop
cr.connop@wdc.govt.nz

Justice of the Peace - Whangārei Urban Service Desks

| | | |
|-------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| MON | Tikipunga Library | 10:15am to 12:00pm |
| TUES | Civic Centre Te Iwitahi | 9:30am to 12:30pm |
| WED | Whangārei Central Library | 9:30am to 12:00pm |
| THURS | Whangārei Central Library | 9:30am to 12:00pm |
| | Onerahi Library | 2:00pm to 4:00pm |

| | | |
|-----|--|-------------------|
| FRI | Civic Centre Te Iwitahi | 9:30am to 12:30pm |
| | Tikipunga Library | 2:00pm to 4:00pm |
| SAT | Whangārei Central Library | 9:30am to 12:00pm |
| SUN | NONE ON SITE. Look in White Pages under 'Justices of the Peace' or on JP or library website. | |

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would sell for and she was bang on the mark with a fabulous offer being made after one day on the market. Thank you so much Tracey. You were such a pleasure to work with and I hope our paths cross again in the future" *Michelle & Frazer Dale*



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For more information or pest control advice:

W: tiakinatetaiokerau.nz

E: tiakinawhangarei@nrc.govt.nz





Introducing Councillor Baker

Tangiwai Baker was elected last year as councillor for the Whangārei District Council's Whangārei Heads Ward, which includes the areas from the Onerahi outskirts to Ocean

Beach (including Parua Bay and Pataua) and north to Parihaka Reserve and then to the southern parts of Glenbervie and Ngunguru). The following is a report from Tangiwai:

March was a month of community meetings at Parua Bay Community Centre, Whareora Hall and Glenbervie Hall. Drop-in sessions also kicked off at the Smith & Local, Parua Bay (8-9am first Friday of every month), followed by one at Huanui Fresh on Ngunguru Road (8-9am 2nd Friday of the month).

I'm writing at the start of March and two of these meetings have happened so far – the meeting at Whareora Hall and the first drop-in session at Parua Bay.

The first drop-in session at Parua Bay was advertised in a leaflet drop - which certainly seemed to do the job, as there was a queue! I heard about the need for Council to enforce planning rules, speed limits on side roads and beach access.

If you haven't heard about these sessions, or if you're not on Facebook, you can still access the same information by visiting the website: tangiwaibaker.co.nz. You can read Facebook messages there even if you're not on Facebook.

The Mayor also hosted community meetings in March, meeting with ratepayers and residents' associations from across the district. The five associations off Whangārei Heads Road all had a pre-meet (with NRC Councillor Amy McDonald). This was a great chance for all of us to hear from each other. I learnt about the project at Ocean Beach for an energy hub to increase community resilience and received feedback on issues that could benefit from early community engagement (e.g. dogs on beaches and tsunami sites).

I'm excited for what may come of all of this engagement.

Nau mai, haere mai, get in touch and have your say.

Best wishes,

Tangiwai Baker
Councillor | Whangārei Heads Ward
cr.baker@wdc.govt.nz

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Onerahi ANZAC Day Service



The Onerahi Community Association will once again host an ANZAC Day Commemoration Service at the Onerahi Hall at 11am on Saturday 25 April.

Anzac Day commemorates the anniversary of the 1915 Gallipoli landing, marking the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) forces during World War I. The service will honor the courage, sacrifice, and suffering of all service personnel who have served, fought, and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. Everyone is welcome to attend to honor and remember those who served and died in wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. The service is to be followed by morning tea and sharing memories.

The Central Library is CLOSED on Sundays

The Whangārei District Council has now closed the main library on Sundays as it is not possible for the library staff to run a seven day service within current staffing levels and budgets. It is still open on Saturdays, which have become the library's busiest day.

The Onerahi Library is open Monday to Wednesday 9:30am-12:30pm, and Thursday and Friday 2-5pm. The library is disability accessible, offers after-hours returns, books and audio visual material, internet access, free WiFi, printing, copying and scanning services. JP services are available Thursday afternoons from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.



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We also offer specialist services for everyone in our community. These include ear suction to safely remove earwax and a travel health clinic for those preparing for overseas travel. The practice is an authorised Yellow Fever Vaccination Centre and stocks a wide range of travel

vaccines, with same-day service available in many cases. You do not need to be a registered patient to access these services.

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Onerahi Family Healthcare

116 Onerahi Road, Onerahi 0110
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More information about our services and team can also be found at: www.onerahifamilyhealthcare.co.nz



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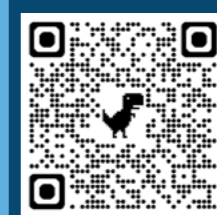
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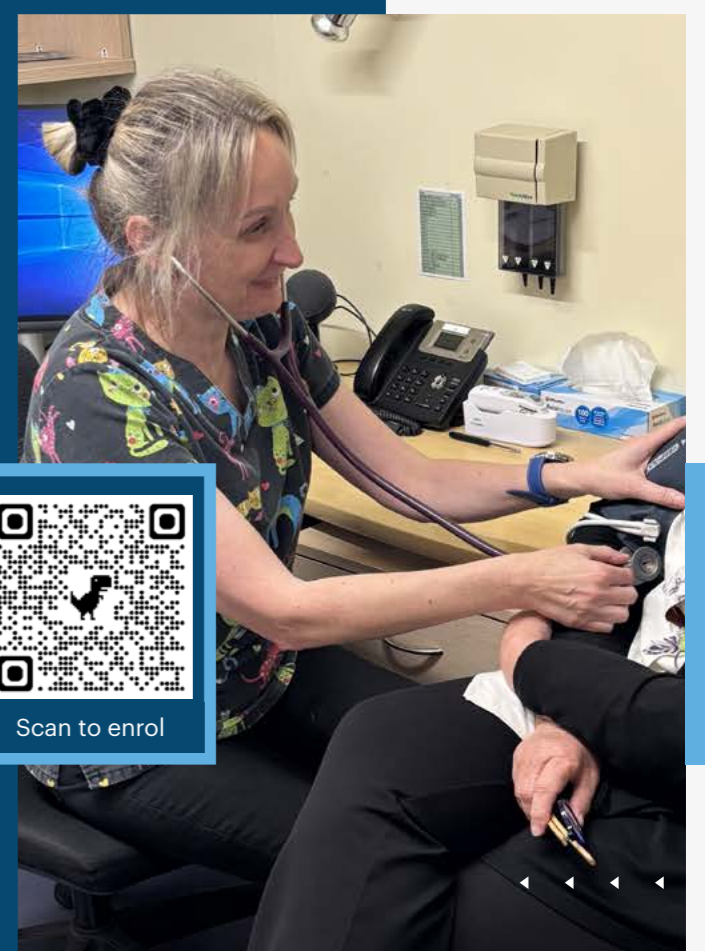


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Ongoing vandalism at Onerahi water reservoir

Whangārei District Council is dealing with ongoing vandalism to the security fencing at its water storage tank in Onerahi, with repeated damage requiring repairs that come with associated costs. The site is a critical part of the local drinking water network, and fencing is in place to protect essential infrastructure and ensure public safety. Council is asking the community to help by reporting any suspicious activity and reminding people that damage to public assets ultimately affects everyone. Anyone who witnesses vandalism is encouraged to contact Police or report it to Council on 0800 932 463.



Keeping kids safe on the road: a community responsibility

As the school year gets into full swing, families, motorists, and communities alike are reminded of the crucial responsibility to keep our children safe as they travel to and from school.

Young pedestrians, big risks

Every day, thousands of children across the region make their way to school on foot, by bike, or by bus. But for many, especially younger ones, handling traffic safely is still a learning process. Because they have less experience, they tend to misjudge the speed of oncoming vehicles, are easily distracted, and can act unpredictably. This makes them particularly vulnerable around busy intersections, crossing points, or rural roads with limited visibility.

For children living in rural areas, the risks are often higher. Many local roads lack footpaths, pedestrian crossings, or proper lighting. In some places, long stretches of roadsides force children to walk close to traffic. Slower reaction times, blind bends, and high-speed vehicles combine to create potentially dangerous situations. Drivers using country routes during school hours should be especially alert to children walking, cycling, or waiting for school buses on road shoulders.

Safety tips for children and parents

Parents and carers can play a leading role in helping children develop strong road safety habits. Here are a few reminders to discuss with your child:

- Always use pedestrian crossings where available, and never run across the road.
- Look both ways — and listen — before crossing.
- Wear bright or reflective clothing, especially during early mornings or darker afternoons.
- Walk facing oncoming traffic if no sidewalk is available.
- Avoid distractions, like mobile phones or headphones, while walking or cycling.
- For cyclists: ensure helmets fit snugly, that bikes have reflectors and working brakes, and routes are well-planned to avoid heavy traffic areas.

What drivers can do

Motorists also share responsibility for keeping young road users safe. Slow down near schools and bus stops, especially during morning and afternoon peak times.

Be patient and prepared for sudden stops or unexpected movements. Avoid overtaking school buses that are picking up or dropping off children. Stay alert in both rural and urban environments where children are present. By working together as a community we can create safer roads for every child — no matter where they live — so their journey to learning is a safe one.



Onerahi School report



Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back to another beautiful year at Onerahi School! The first few days of term saw everyone reconnecting, reigniting friendships, and welcoming new members to our school community. We had over 60 new enrolments at the start of the year and as our school whānau grows, the stronger we become. Nau mai, haere mai!

We began the year with a successful Whānau Picnic, where we came together to eat and play in the afternoon sun. Throughout the year there will be many more opportunities to connect with your kura. We appreciate everyone's support, such as helping out in 'Garden to Table' or taking part in the adventure that is camp. Some people have special skills they share with our tamariki, such as Mark who runs our Model Club; or Latoia who supports our kapa haka groups. If you are able to help, don't hesitate to reach out as you will be both appreciated and make a positive difference for our tamariki. The school feels its most alive when we are all learning together.

We have all been watching over the last four weeks as our new playground took shape. As I write this we are about a week away from unleashing the tamariki upon it. Classes have been busy developing guidelines for using the playground safely, as well as sharing their ideas for its potential name. At its highest point you can cast your gaze out over our harbour and gain a real sense of how interconnected Whangārei is. Less philosophically, it has an incredible slide that is sure to prove a hit.

There are a number of changes happening in education right now. New curriculum, new forms of assessment, and



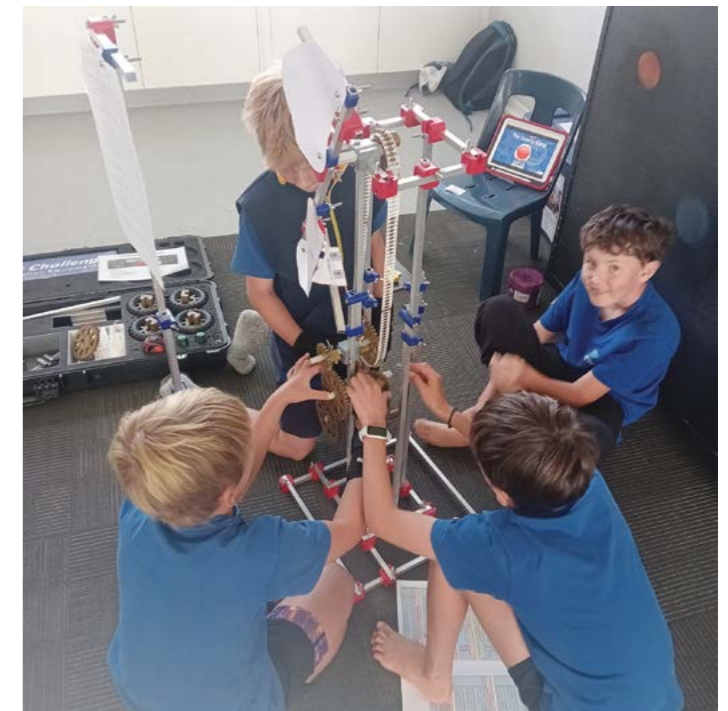
The new playground is nearing completion



Racers power through the water at Swimming Sports

new guidelines for reporting. One thing that isn't changing is how our kura prioritises people. Education is so much more than just reading, writing, and maths. We are focused on people developing into caring, connected, curious, compassionate, and confident members of our community. Our school values, developed with our community, of manaakitanga, whānautanga and manawa reka ensure we are all moving in the same direction.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Danny Hamilton - Tumuaki Tuarua / Deputy Principal



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Our rising star

Xavier Corsbie was invited to attend a football camp in Australia on the Gold Coast in late 2024 after impressing scouts at a training camp in Whangārei. As of early 2026, Xavier (aged 16) has been selected for a development tour to the United Kingdom currently scheduled for late 2026. Xavier shared more with the Orbit in the message below:



"My name is Xavier Corsbie, and ever since I can remember football has been a huge part of my life. I've always dreamed of building a future in sport.

I started playing for Onerahi Football Club when I was five years old and have stayed with the club ever since, (apart from one season with Marist). Last year, when I turned 15, I stepped up into an Onerahi men's grade team, which has pushed me to grow even more as a player.



In 2025 I was given the opportunity to attend a two-day training camp with George Cowie and the West Ham United foundation. On the morning the camp began, my Grandfather in the UK passed away. It was one of the hardest days of my life, but I chose to attend, still, and try my hardest. I'm proud that I performed well enough to be invited to a regional four-day camp in Australia later that year.

My parents supported me to attend the Australian camp, which was intense, challenging and incredibly hot - but it pushed me to another level. After reviewing the footage and performance, the coaches selected players to take part in a football tour to the UK. I'm honored to be one of them.

This upcoming tour includes training in both London and Manchester, matches against academy sides, attending professional games, and being seen by coaches across Europe. One of the coaches is currently coaching a professional side in Dubai, which shows just how far these connections can reach!

This experience is a huge step toward developing myself not only as a player, but also as a person. Obviously, the dream would be earning a chance to play professionally somewhere in the world. I've been training hard, running and improving my fitness to be ready for this challenge. I'm grateful for any support that helps me move closer to my dream."

If you are keen to support Xavier and his parents on this journey, please contact Andy - 02102174444 or Caroline - 02108214751

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Did you see it?

A total lunar eclipse ('Blood Moon') occurred over New Zealand on the night of March 3-4, with the entire event visible without any fancy equipment needed.

The moon turned a deep copper-red as it entered Earth's shadow, starting around 9:45pm, with totality occurring between 12:04am and 1:02am. Onerahi Orbit regular contributor, Wendy Giffin, captured the images below from the event, in Onerahi:



A blood moon is a popular term for a total lunar eclipse, occurring when the Earth passes directly between the Sun and Moon, casting a reddish glow on the lunar surface. This color change, caused by Rayleigh scattering, happens as Earth's atmosphere filters sunlight, bending longer red wavelengths toward the Moon while scattering shorter blue light.

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MP for Whangārei - Hon Dr Shane Reti

Direct Government investment that makes a difference in Onerahi



Over the last two years, the government has been working hard to fix the basics. Reducing wasteful spending which has helped lower inflation and interest rates, and reduced taxes to give Kiwis more money in their back pockets.

We've banned gang patches, introduced tougher sentences and put more police on the beat which has resulted in 38,000 fewer victims of

violent crime and an 85 per cent reduction in ram raids - making our communities safer.

In education we have mandated an hour of reading, writing and maths a day, banned cell phones in classrooms and stopped new open plan classrooms. As a result, 58 percent of new entrants are now meeting expectations in reading - up from 36 per cent in term one 2025.

After two years of fixing the basics, we're now seeing real progress. While we will keep our eye on fixing the basics, we can now turn more focus to building the future.

We know it's still tough out there, so it's even more important to continue growing the economy to create more jobs and better opportunities for Kiwis so we can afford quality public services like health and education.

It means ensuring we have the world class infrastructure New Zealand needs, our kids are getting the qualifications they need at school and Kiwis have financial security in their retirement.

When we talk about government spending, it's easy to think in big, abstract numbers. But the real measure of public investment is often closer to home - it's what happens in communities like Onerahi.

Direct government investment, when done well, strengthens the everyday services and infrastructure that residents rely on.

The local Whangārei council received \$9.48 million from central government under the Better Off Funding scheme. A portion of this money has been secured for projects, including: \$0.15 million towards a new Land Search and Rescue Base at Onerahi Airport, directly funding a facility

upgrade that benefits local emergency response capacity. And funding for the Whangārei Heads Volunteer Fire Brigade building extension (\$0.15 million) - a community safety facility.

These are actual dollar figures, and they represent concrete investment in your community.

HON DR SHANE RETI OSM
MP for Whangārei

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Are you a Silver Swan?

Love to dance, or secretly think you might? Ballet North's new Silver Swans community adult ballet classes could be just what you've been looking for.

Nestled in the private St. Stephen's Community Hall, Silver Swans meet weekly for daytime, evening and weekend classes that dip a wing into the artistic world of classical ballet. Everyone is welcome, from complete beginners to those rekindling a childhood passion for dance. Classes are provided by Royal Academy of Dance Silver Swans Licensee Patricia Watkins, and are specifically designed for learners aged 55 years+, though all aspiring adults are welcome. Short introductions to adult ballet courses are also available for those wanting to begin adult ballet with other beginners, and gain confidence in spreading their wings.

Have fun while improving your balance, co-ordination and muscle strength; meet others exploring the world of dance, and bring more joy and artistry into your life! For more information about Silver Swans and other adult and teen ballet classes, please visit balletnorth.nz

Regional Council news

Kia ora Koutou,

We've had a busy and productive start to the year at NRC! Summer is the field season for our NRC environmental monitoring team so they are out there surveying dune lakes, checking coastal water quality, diving for marine biosecurity, and supporting big events like the Northland field days!

Waitangi week is a huge week for Northland politics - a unique opportunity to have government ministers and officials focused on Northland. NRC has a strong supporting presence at Waitangi, and during the week our NRC Chair Pita Tipene had many productive meetings with the Government on our big issues (Caulerpa, Madagascar ragwort, roading and transport, Local government reform). I attended on the 5th and 6th of February. It was interesting to be part of the powhiri for Parliament and then the celebrations on the 6th.

NRC has just opened the Climate Resilient Communities Fund for applications. Now in its third year, this fund supports community-led projects that help build resilience to climate change. Past rounds have supported projects such as solar power installations, water conservation, groundwater mapping, and restoration of areas suffering from coastal erosion. The focus is on helping communities prepare for and adapt to severe weather events and other climate impacts. Grants of \$5,000 - \$40,000 are available, and applications close 27 April 2026. You can find more information on the NRC website: www.nrc.govt.nz

I'm always happy to hear from you, please just get in touch - amym@nrc.govt.nz, or find me on facebook: Amy Macdonald - NRC Councillor.

To report pollution and environmental incidents call the 24/7 environmental hotline: 0800 504 639

Disclaimer - this is my personal opinion and not that of the Northland Regional Council



Waitangi Marae - (left to right) NRC Councillor Arama Morunga, Nyze Manuel, Cr Amy Macdonald and Cr Pita Tipene NRC Chair

SPONSORED CONTENT

Gold award winner!

Comfort Hotel Flames Whangārei (Flames Hotel) in Onerahi has been selected as a 2025 Choice Hotels Asia Pac Gold Award winner, one of only 31 hotels selected from more than 300 hotels in the Asia Pacific region. This Gold award means that Flames Hotel has also been shortlisted for the 2025 Comfort Hotel of the Year Awards, which will be announced while this edition of the Orbit is still being printed.

The Gold Award is given for exceptional performance and steadfast dedication to the guest experience in 2025. Choice Hotels Asia-Pac CEO Trent Fraser said, "The Choice Hotels Gold Award serves as a benchmark for excellence within the network. All of our Gold winners this year are stand-out properties, and we are proud to have them as part of our network." With regard to Flames Hotel, Trent said "Your contribution continues to strengthen our brand and exemplifies the standards we strive for across the region."

Raewyn, the owner of Flames Hotel, noted that staff are incredibly proud to receive the 2025 Choice Hotels Asia-Pac Gold Award. "This recognition means a great deal to me and my entire team here at Comfort Hotel Flames Whangārei.

Every day, our focus is on delivering warm, genuine and friendly service. We want every guest who walks through our doors to feel welcomed, valued and completely at ease. Cleanliness, comfort and consistency are standards we never compromise on - they are the foundation of the experience we offer. We also strive to create a true home away from home. From the moment guests arrive, our goal for them is to be able to settle in, relax, and have everything they need right here. Whether they are travelling for business, leisure, or a special occasion, we aim to be a one stop destination where comfort, convenience and care come together. This award reflects the dedication and team work of our entire staff, who take great pride in what they do every day. I am incredibly grateful for their commitment and for the continued support of our guests and Choice Hotels Asia-Pac."

In addition to guest satisfaction, Gold Award winners are judged on operational excellence and active engagement in sustainability and corporate social responsibility initiatives. The results demonstrate not only a strong performance in 2025, but a culture that values quality, accountability and continuous improvement.



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CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Get your pod squad ready

The Northland Regional Council has launched a new competition initiative aimed at reducing the spread of moth plant, a highly invasive pest plant throughout Taitokerau. The competition encourages individuals or teams to collect moth plant pods, vines and seedlings, with cash prizes up for grabs.



The NRC hopes the point-based competition will put a spotlight on this problematic pest and reduce its spread, helping to protect native species which often fall victim to the smothering vine. Every pod collected will prevent up to 1000 seeds from being released and spread by the wind. Participants will also get extra points for pulling out moth plant seedlings and vines with the roots intact, preventing them from producing pods in future.

The competition awards one point per pod collected and three points for every vine/seedling with roots intact. Cash prizes include \$500 for first place, \$300 for second place, \$200 for third place, and several Prezzy Card spot prizes will also be given out. To register visit www.nrc.govt.nz/mothplantcomp

For further questions please email mothplantcomp@nrc.govt.nz or call them on 0800 002 004 and ask to speak to the Moth Plant Competition coordinator.



Moth plant tacklers - 761 pods 23/3/2026

Supporting future pathways beyond school - Local mentors needed

I Have a Dream, in partnership with Tikipunga High School, is seeking local mentors to support Year 12, 13 and 14 students enrolled in its Pathways Programme as they prepare for life beyond school.



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The I Have a Dream Pathways Programme provides targeted support during these important senior years and scholarships to help students, known as Dreamers, transition into vocational training, tertiary study, or meaningful employment. Mentor experience doesn't need to mirror a Dreamer's chosen pathway; instead, mentors are matched for their ability to share transferable skills that help young people grow their professionalism and map out a clear future direction, ensuring the right support at the right time. Mentors commit to a minimum of 12 months in the programme, including at least one face-to-face meeting per month, check in contact by phone or email, as well as direct contact with the student's whānau.

Mentors receive:

- Onboarding and training to step confidently into the role
- Ongoing support and guidance from the I Have a Dream Volunteer and Mentor Coordinator and Pathways Navigator to ensure alignment with each Dreamer's goals and wellbeing

I Have a Dream believes local volunteer mentors play a vital role in shaping the futures of young people in the community and they welcome individuals who are willing to contribute their time, skills, and life experience to support the next generation. For more information or to sign up as a mentor, visit www.ihaveadream.org.nz/mentoring



I Have a Dream with children at Otuihau Falls Whangārei

SPONSORED CONTENT

Staying safe online: make these changes!

The internet has become woven into almost every part of our daily lives, with how we shop, bank, communicate, and even how our homes operate. As our digital world grows, so do the risks. Staying safe online is no longer optional; it's a responsibility we all share, and it starts with a few simple but important changes.

1. Strengthen our passwords. Don't rely on easy-to-guess combinations or reuse the same password across multiple sites. A strong password should be long, unique, and difficult to predict.
2. Be careful what you click. Phishing emails and fake websites are becoming increasingly sophisticated. If something feels off, an unexpected invoice, a message asking for urgent action, or a link that doesn't look quite right, pause and verify before responding.
3. Keep your devices updated. Software updates aren't just about new features; they patch security vulnerabilities that criminals actively exploit. Whether it's your phone, laptop, or even your smart TV, updates matter.
4. Be mindful of what you share. Social media posts, location tags, and personal details can all be used to build a profile about you. Share only what you're comfortable with the world seeing.
5. Online safety is about awareness. With a few small changes, we can all enjoy the benefits of the internet while keeping ourselves and our community secure.

Remember your IT professionals are always there to talk to, when you are concerned about anything IT.

By Vince Cocurullo - IT Professional, 26 Years



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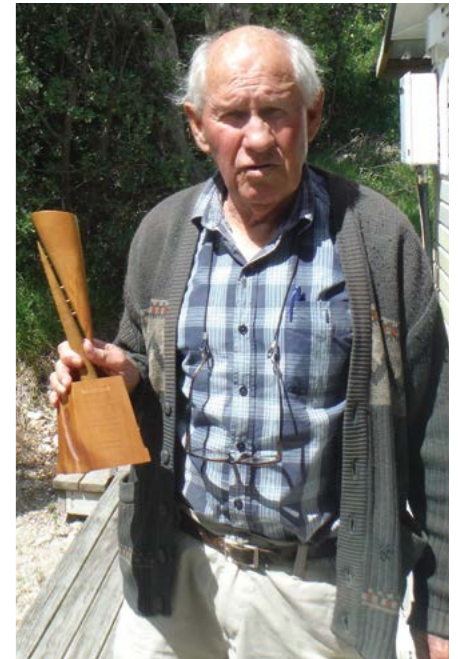
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Volunteer of the Year - FOMLI

John Nicole, who lives in Onerahi, has been awarded the Northland Regional Council Environmental Award by the Friends of Matakōhe-Limestone Island Society for 2025.

John and his wife Maree first became involved with Limestone Island more than 20 years ago, back in 2004, when they returned to Whangārei from England - where John had been working for five years. In addition to helping with the planting of trees on the south side of the island, they and their two daughters became involved with the resettlement of grey-faced petrel (oi) chicks on the island. They joined a group of volunteers



who would go across to the island to feed the chicks 'sardine smoothies'. These were mashed up sardines mixed with a bit of oil and fed to the chicks from syringes. Once the chicks



Grey faced petrel chick - photo by Bream Head Conservation Trust

have fledged and gone to sea, those that survive are expected to return to the same place some five to seven years later to breed. John says it is really gratifying to know that some birds have indeed done just that over the last several years.

Since retiring almost 10 years ago from the district council, where he was in the parks department, John has been a regular volunteer once a month on the island, refilling bait stations, clearing paths and drains, and removing pest plants such as the rampant moth plant.

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Kiwi, Banded Rail, and a new way to share good news

A report from the Waimahanga Track Action Group (WTAG)

Onerahi is home to something special – a community of people who care about protecting our wildlife and natural spaces.

Recent highlights show why these efforts matter. Kiwi have been recorded within one kilometre of Cartwright Road, a reminder that these taonga are closer than you imagine. The Waimahanga Track has a documented recording of a moho pererū/banded rail, classified as at Risk and Declining. These are encouraging signals that local conservation work is making a difference.

To help connect and share this momentum, a new online community space has been launched on Facebook: Pest Free Onerahi – Community Page

This Facebook page is for everyone. We'd love you to join – whether you are actively trapping, curious to learn, or simply interested in local nature stories. It's a place to:

- Share trapping successes
- Exchange practical tips and ideas
- Ask questions and seek advice
- Post wildlife observations and photos
- Celebrate wins and good news

Across Onerahi, volunteers and households continue strengthening predator control. Protecting biodiversity is a collective effort, and this page makes it easier for neighbours to connect.



Search 'Pest Free Onerahi' on Facebook or scan the QR code and join the community.

Bream Head news

It's been a busy first quarter for the Bream Head Conservation Trust team and we have a lot to share with the Onerahi community.

First up a big thank you to your local ranger Bevan Morgan, who helped support the grey faced petrol (GFP) colony on Bream Head through the breeding and fledging seasons. The result was an extremely successful year for the GFPs. Bevan also watches over the Matakoho-Limestone Island colony and we'll be returning the



favour with help trapping & monitoring in the coming season.

Stu McLeod from Onerahi-based Mahi Drones has been contracting in the reserve of

late, spraying mothplant and other pest weeds. Their massive drones with advanced technology are able to surgically target otherwise inaccessible weeds nestled in the rocky crags and bluffs. They not only save our rangers a huge amount of time but also allow a more thorough eradication than would be possible on foot.



Fun time - What's the plan Stan?

The website <https://getready.govt.nz/prepared/school/play-and-learn> has many resources available to help teach children about dealing with emergencies. There are a number of resources, including colouring in pages and an online game.

'What's the plan, Stan' is an online game to educate children about how to be prepared in an emergency situation - it shows them what tasks they can do or what to point out to their parents. The game teaches kids how to pack an emergency kit, what hazards could harm and what to do in those situations.



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Caregivers! Please take some time to go over the 'Get Thru plan': <https://www.getthru.govt.nz/>

Faith for today

A sliver of comfort to face the unknown

Look and be quiet



In the song 'Look at Him', Mexican composer Ruben Sotelo describes Jesus at the cross. He invites us to look at Jesus and be quiet, because there really is nothing to say before the type of love Jesus demonstrated at the cross. By faith we can imagine the scene described in the gospels.

When Jesus breathed His last, those who 'had gathered to witness this sight... beat their breasts and went away' (Luke 3v48) Others 'stood at distance, watching these things'. They looked and were quiet. Only one spoke, a centurion, who said "Surely this was a righteous man."

Songs and poems have been written to describe this great love. Many years before, Jeremiah wrote about Jerusalem's pain after its devastation. "Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?" (Lamentations 1v12). He was asking people to look and see; he thought there was no greater suffering than Jerusalem's. However, has there been any suffering like Jesus's suffering?

All of us are passing by the road of the cross. Will we look and see His love? This Easter, when words and poems are not enough to express our gratitude and describe God's love, let us take a moment to ponder Jesus's death; and in the quietness of our hearts, may we whisper to Him our deepest devotion.

Retired Onerahi Pastor Ron Brewer



EMERGENCY NUMBERS

| | |
|--|---|
| Aviva | For free 24/7 support line, call 0800 AVIVA NOW (0800 28482 669) |
| Elder Abuse Helpline | 0800 32 668 65 Open 24 hrs text: 5032, email: support@elderabuse.nz |
| Family violence info | 0800 456 450 |
| Gandhi Nivas | Supporting men to be free from violence 0800 426 344 |
| Hey Bro helpline | Supporting men to be free from violence 0800 HeyBro (439 276) |
| Need to talk? | Free call or text: 1737 for mental health support from a trained counsellor |
| Oranga Tamariki line: for concerns about children and young people | 0508 326 459, email: contact@ot.govt.nz1737 |
| Safe to Talk sexual harm helpline | 0800 044334, text: 4334, email: support@safetotalk.nz |
| Sensitive Claims ACC | 0800 735 566 |
| Shakti - for migrant and refugee women | 0800 742 584 Open 24 hrs |
| Shine domestic abuse services | 0508 744 633 Open 24 hrs Live webchat is also available |
| Rape Crisis | 0800 88 33 00 |
| Victim Support - support for men and women | 0800 842 846 Open 24 hrs |
| Women's Refuge crisis line | 0800 733 843 Open 24 hrs |
| Youthline | 0800 376 633, free text: 234, email: talk@youthline.co.nz |

Venues available for hire in Onerahi, Parua Bay and Whangārei Heads area

| | | |
|--|----------------------|---|
| Whangārei Cruising Club | Clare O'Donnell | wccinc@extra.co.nz 09 438 9043 |
| Onerahi Community Hall & Community House | Heidyn Harrison | onerahicomunity@gmail.com 022 085 8286 |
| Onerahi Bowling Club | Roger Kerr-Davis | 027 390 7185 |
| Onerahi Rugby Club | Fiona Raymond-Paikea | onerahirugby@yahoo.com. The Onerahi Rugby Club has had a recent facelift and renovation, and is available to other clubs and sports groups to use - please call us on 021 228 5982. |
| Onerahi Soccer Club | Fiona Ellis | onerahifootballclub@outlook.co.nz |
| Onerahi Yacht Club | Dave Cochran | 024 438 8911 |
| Hope Church | Secretary | 09 438 1667 |
| Raurimu School Hall | School Office | 09 436 0820 Ext. 2 |
| St. Stephen's Church Hall | Paul Doherty | 021 189 4797 or 09 436 0207 |
| Tamaterau Hall | Jane Kippenberger | 021 463 330 |
| Parua Bay Community Centre | Richard Burgoyne | bookings@paruabaycommunitycentre.org.nz |
| McLeod Bay Hall | Jos | hallbookings@whca.nz |
| Taurikura Hall | Pearl Newman | 021 545 087 |

Whangārei District Council Hotline: 0800 932 463
Onerahi Police (09) 436 0222

ONERAHI COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sundays 10am Raurimu Ave School Hall

... the name of Jesus ...
 there is no other name ...
 by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:10-12

Contact: hello.onecc@gmail.com

REGULAR EVENTS

Alcoholics Anonymous - Fellowship available at Onerahi Community House, 130 Onerahi Road, Onerahi on Mondays 7:30pm; and at the Parua Bay Mt Manaia Bowling Club Rooms, 1347 Whangārei Heads Road on Mondays 7:30pm. See - <https://aa.org.nz/newcomers/faqs/>. If you are struggling and can't find a meeting please call 0800 229 6757 or email AA on help@aa.org.nz

Community Adult Ballet Classes - Silver Swans: Tues 10:30am, Wed 5:30pm, Sat 4:30pm; Adult Improver-level open class: Wed 6:40pm; Floor Barre class: Sat 1:00pm; Adult & Teen Intermediate-level: Open class Sat 1:50pm & Repertoire class Sat 3:15pm; St. Stephen's Church Hall. www.balletnorth.nz

Community Education Whangārei (CEW) at Kamo High School - Website: <https://www.cew.ac.nz/> Email: cew@kamohigh.school.nz; Phone: (09) 435 0889; Class venue: Unless otherwise stated all classes are held at Kamo High School

Creating with Love Art Workshops - adult colouring-in workshops, held on Thursdays 11-12 noon. Please RSVP with Multicultural Whangārei (09) 430 0571 or email info@mwhg.org.nz

Jolly Dodgers Scooters group - If you are keen to join up call Wendy on 021 031 7781 or Denise on 022 087 4955

Justice of the Peace - For all your certification needs visit the JP Service Desk at the Onerahi Library on Thursday afternoons (between 2-4pm)

Love Whangārei Monthly Clean Up - Check LWMCU Facebook page for upcoming events. <https://www.facebook.com/LWMCU>

Matakohe/ Limestone Island Volunteers - Volunteer day is on the first Wednesday of every month. The group leaves from the Onerahi Jetty at 9 am. Volunteers work on a variety of jobs to suit whatever volunteers feel like doing. Bring your lunch. Home by 2pm

Men-Tall mental health support - Monthly support group for men dealing with everyday struggles - every third Monday of the month, from 6:30pm, at Brothers Barbers in Te Kamo. Contact Josh MacFarlane, 021 0255 1594 or josh.mcfarlane@mentall.org.nz

New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc - Whangārei Branch - Meets 1st Saturday, February to December, 9am - 12 noon in the May Bain Room, Whangārei Central Library. Contact Kathy 021 263 7358 or Whangarei@genealogy.org

Onerahi CoastLine Action Group - Volunteers meet for an hour a week on Sundays (Summer: 7-8pm; Winter 4-5pm.) Would you like to help us regenerate neglected council reserves? Contact Valerie Green-Moss 0210672760 or Brian McLachlan 4363660

Onerahi Indoor Bowling Club - Every Friday 1pm to 3.30pm in the Onerahi Community Centre Hall. All are welcome. If you want to know more, contact Marjorie on 021 217 9061

Onerahi Sit-Fit - At Hope Onerahi Church, 137 Onerahi Road, Mondays 10.30 am

Onerahi Garden club - Meets the third Friday of the month, 9.30 til 12.00 noon, at the Onerahi Community Hall. Speakers each month, and garden visits. New members warmly welcomed. Contact Maureen on maureen101@hotmail.com

Onerahi Hall market - First & third Saturdays of every month and all other Saturdays unless otherwise advised. 8 am-12 pm. Plants, garden produce, jams/pickles, art/craft, 2nd hand goods etc. Inside stall fees \$13; Outside stall fees \$10; Kids stall fees - inside \$6, outside \$5. Phone Jenny (09) 436 0009 (preferably in the evening) to book a space - or just turn up! There will be no market on ANZAC day Sat 25 April

Onerahi Playcentre - Tuesdays and Fridays, from 9.00am to 12.30pm during school term time. 1B Church Street, Onerahi, Phone: 027 880 3894

Onerahi Silver Swans - For more information about Silver Swans and other adult and teen ballet classes, please visit balletnorth.nz. See pg 23

Onerahi Strength and Balance Classes - Mondays 8:45-9:45am and 10-11am, and Wednesdays 8:45-9:45am and 10-11am held at St. Stephens Church. \$5.00 per person or \$5.00 per couple

Onerahi Tennis Club - for all age groups and abilities. See facebook and website: www.clubspark.kiwi/OnerahiTennisClub

Parua Bay Village Farmers and Crafters Market - Open every second Sunday between 9am - 1pm; Parua Bay Community Centre, 1341 Whangārei Heads Road, Parua Bay

Repair Cafe Whangārei - Volunteers repair most things for a koha. Every third Saturday of the month, 1.30 - 4pm, Reyburn House at the Town Basin. For more information, refer to the Facebook page or email karen@force.org.nz

Wai A Ariki Food Forest Gardening Group - meets 10am on Fridays - everyone welcome

Whangārei Budgeting Service - FREE Financial Mentoring: Our financial mentors have the skills to negotiate debt repayments and discuss debt solutions with creditors

Whangārei Choral Society - Do you love to sing for pleasure? We meet Mondays, 7-9pm, at St John's Golden Church, 147 Kamo, to rehearse for 3 annual concerts. No auditions. Our friendly welcome mat is out to men and women, all ages. More Info - Meg - 027 337 9072 or Whangarei.choral@gmail.com

Whangārei Flying Club - Sunday Social 12:30pm every Sunday, Hangar 10, Whangārei Airport, Handforth Street, Onerahi (access via Gate 4, Handforth Street). Come and partake of home-cooked burgers and home-made cake for only \$10 and talk to our friendly team of pilots and instructors. You can even go for a trial flight if you want. www.Whangareiflyingclub.com

Whangārei parkrun - a fun event where you can "run, walk or roll" every Saturday. It's a 5km course starting and finishing under Te Mate A Pohe Bridge in Port Rd. It's free to enter by going to <https://www.parkrun.co.nz/register>. We are there by 8am, come and join us. Open to all no matter what speed or age you are

Whangārei Scale Modellers Group - Meet third Tuesday evening of every month, 7-9pm at Northland Hobbies, 10 John Street Whangārei. Open to all with an interest in all types of scale modelling irrespective of age and skill level.

Whangārei Scottish Country Dance Club - The Scottish Country Dance Club meets every Thursday at the Onerahi Community Hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome. If you want to know more before arriving, call Fiona on 437 1817

155 Whare Āwhina Snack Packs - Every Monday during term, one per child, all you need to add is the sandwich. Request through Facebook messenger OR come to 155 Open Arms (Corner Robert and Walton Sts) OR 155 Kamo Rd on Monday mornings between 8.30am and 9am

155 Whare Āwhina Food Bank - 155 Open Arms, 102 Robert Street, Whangārei. Call us on 09 437 0185 Ext 4 or freephone 0800 120 926 to request your parcel. Whānau can receive two parcels per month

HOPE ONERAHI

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

135 Onerahi Road • Office: 438 1667

Minister: Howard Carter 027 750 8602

Sunday Worship @ 9.30am. All Welcome!

Sit Fit \$5 - Monday 10.30am - Hope Onerahi Church Hall 'Use it or Lose it' - Contact Bett Harvey 021 208 6719

Mainly Music in the Church Hall - Every Wednesday 10am (during school term). By donation. Contact Nancy Dodds - 436 1444

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday to Monday, 3 to 6 April - Easter Weekend Public Holiday

Friday 3 April - Canopy Night Market: 5-8pm at the Whangārei Town Basin. A vibrant open-air market with food trucks and live music.

Saturday and Sunday 4 & 5 April - Whangārei Heads Arts Trail

Saturday 4 April - Onerahi Hall Market: please see page 23 for all market days. There will be no market on ANZAC Day, 25 April.

Saturday 4 April - Kiwicall Markets: 9am at Kaurihohore Public Hall. A community event focused on creative and performing arts with various stalls.

Monday 6 April - Parua Bay Long Weekend Markets: 9am at Parua Bay Community Centre. A relaxed family-friendly market with local food and stallholders.

Wednesday 8 April - Dazzlehands: Presented by the Royal NZ Ballet. An award-winning tale of a persuasive pig transformed into a 'dazzling ballet bash' for kids and families. Three shows available, \$15 for early bird tickets, Capitaine Bougainville Theatre, Forum North, 7 Rust Avenue

Sunday 19 April, 17 May - Sunday Markets at Reyburn House. Join us for a vibrant monthly community market celebrating local creativity and bringing together talented local makers, artists and food vendors in a welcoming, family-friendly setting. 10am - 3pm, Reyburn House Art Studio & Grounds, Town Basin.

Wednesday 22 April - Earth Day

Saturday 25 April - ANZAC Day Public Holiday. A Commemoration Service will be held at the Onerahi Hall at 11am. All welcome to attend - to be followed by morning tea and sharing memories

Friday 1 May - International Labour Day/May Day

Monday 27 April - Climate Resilient Communities Fund applications close. See pg 16 for details

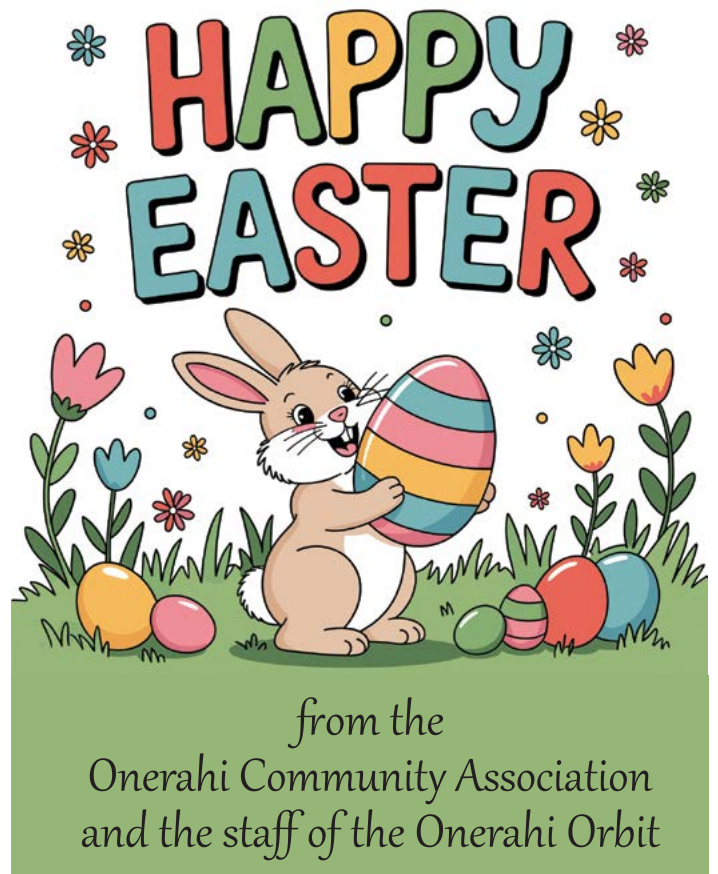
Saturday 2 May - Touch a truck! This popular annual event was postponed from January and will be held at Port Nikau this year - at 325 Port Road, Whangārei. The day offers hands-on exploration of the fascinating world of emergency services, heavy machinery, and specialty vehicles. From fire engines and police cars to diggers, tractors, and tow trucks, kids (and grown-ups!) can climb aboard, honk horns, and meet the real-life heroes who operate them. 9am -2pm

Saturday 2 May - Port Nikau Community Open Day: Come along to the Port Nikau Community Open Day and explore this exciting new development in central Whangārei! 9-4pm, guided tours of Stage 1 residential development, plus children's activities like bouncy castles, face painting, bike tracks, boat trips to Matakoho Limestone Island, disc golf and bike trails etc. Port Nikau Development, 325 Port Road

Saturday 9 May - Stamp Fair at St Johns Golden Church, Kamo Road, Whangārei from 9am. Dealers for both philatelic items and numanistic items will be present. Children's corner. Further details available from Barry Jones, Secretary, on 0212444140, cjnzbj@yahoo.com or 612 Three Mile Bush Road, RD 1, Te Kamo

Saturday 23 May - 'CELEBRATE!' Concert - Whangārei Choral presents its first concert for 2026, 2.30pm, at St John's Golden Church, 149 Kamo Road, Kensington. \$20 entry. You'll be inspired by a rich mix of new and a few old favourites - contact Whangāreichoral@gmail.com

Saturday 29 August - Stamp Fair at St Johns Golden Church, Kamo Road, Whangārei from 9am. Dealers for all things philatelic will be present. Children's corner. Further details available from Barry Jones, Secretary, on 0212444140, cjnzbj@yahoo.com or 612 Three Mile Bush Road, RD 1, Te Kamo



Want your free community or sporting activities highlighted here? Notice something is still advertised here but is no longer offered?

Email: onerahiorbitmagazine@gmail.com.

Onerahi Orbit is not responsible for any events listed here that are cancelled for any reason. Please check with local event organisers for confirmation.

AUTUMN TIDE TABLES

Download your own copy of tides tables for Northland at <https://www.nrc.govt.nz/resource-library-summary/publications/coast/northland-tide-tables/>



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