

## Covering Onerahi, Parua Bay, Pataua and Whangārei Heads

### Our sort of good sort!

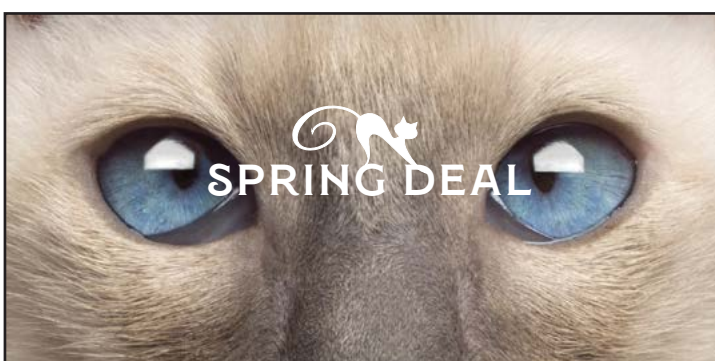
**Stephen has been caught and reported by a number of our readers and found guilty of being a good sort!**

He is a local guy and valued member of the Waimahanga Track Action Group who just loves doing what he can to assist the recovery of plants and trees native to New Zealand. He works tirelessly to give to his favourite places - which include the Waimahanga and Waverley Tracks, and Dragonfly Springs.

The plants that he is putting in have been grown by the Waimahanga Track Action Group, provided via the Whangārei District Council giveaway scheme or gifted from members of the Onerahi community. He also lends a hand to neighbours of the tracks who are putting an effort into their properties. Thank you Stephen! Let us know about the the good sorts you have caught in the act [onerahiorbitmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:onerahiorbitmagazine@gmail.com)



**Onerahi Community Grants pg 5 • Welcome to Julian and Shannen - New World Onerahi pg 9  
Parihaka Kindergarten turns 50! pg 11 • Voting in local elections pg 21**



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# Haere mai,

Firstly, thank you to all those who have taken the time to whip a quick email to the Editor of the Orbit to let us know what you think about our magazine - the increase in correspondence from community members is appreciated and helps us to focus the contents of the magazine on those things that mean the most to you. In response to feedback, we will be looking at macron usage in the future and have included two stories in this edition - page 1 (Stephen) and page 21 (information on Māori seats in local government and the current poll).

Secondly, we encourage everyone to share with us for publication their sports clubs' wins, work place triumphs or celebrations, and recreation activities with your whānau and friends. There is always space for a joyful photo of our people in the Orbit!

*Nga mihi from the Orbit team*



Sent in by Wendy Giffin: Bartailed Godwits on the Onerahi foreshore

## Your new Neighbourhood Support Coordinator

**Mike Henwood is the new Coordinator for Whangārei Area Neighbourhood Support. Some of you may know him from the Community Patrols.**

Neighbourhood Support is about building stronger, safer, more connected communities. They work in partnership with residents, police, and local organisations on crime prevention, emergency preparedness, and resilience. Mike will be focusing on:

- Tackling boy racer hotspots
- Business engagement

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- Reducing car theft and suspicious activity
  - Growing local engagement
  - Encouraging CCTV registration with Community Cam.
- Mike wants to build safer streets and a stronger Whangārei - one neighbour, one street, one camera at a time. If you want to get involved visit [commbase.nz/sign-in](http://commbase.nz/sign-in) or email [wans.coordinator@gmail.com](mailto:wans.coordinator@gmail.com)



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

## President's report October



The recent OCA AGM saw a new committee elected:

Grant Harrison	OCA President/ Committee Chair
Desarae Williams	OCA Secretary
Rose Tantau	OCA Treasurer
Nicki Powell	OCA Committee Member
Neil Pemberton	OCA Committee Member
Nicholas Connop	OCA Vice President / Committee Member
Sue Guiney	OCA Committee Member (new)
Melinda Leslie- Ogg	OCA Committee Member (new)
Wendy Giffin	OCA Committee Member
Heidyn Harrison	OCA Committee member/Facilities Manager

All committee members attend regular meetings and bring a wealth of experience and valuable contributions to the Onerahi Community. The members contribute to a range of portfolios that maximise their various strengths and knowledge. Areas that remain part of the strategic focus of the Association include: Relationships / Connections; Education; Youth; Environmental; Wellness; Finance; Facilities; Activities; Recognition and Funding Grants.

Each edition of the upcoming Orbit magazines will contain a brief profile of a group of committee members.

The focus for the next year will be to consolidate the increase in community facility use, along with generating community activity to increase connection. As the committee focuses on the process of re-incorporating as a society and a charitable organisation, we will look at how the strategic direction aligns with activity in the district.

Members of the community said at the AGM that safety and crime remained an issue, as does the importance of providing positive experiences for young people. Though the community led project initiative from the WDC, the OCA committee is up for this challenge!

Grant Harrison  
President OCA

## Community led projects

### What you told us:

Following community consultation regarding the community identified wants and needs, the Community Led Project Lead Group landed on three key priority areas:

- Youth/Young People – activate and engage
- Connection – provide meeting and connection places
- Safety – Crime and infrastructure

### What we have done:

- With the support of Whangārei Aquatic Centre, Raurimu school staff made available the swimming pool for community use - two days per week in the summer 2024/25.
- We refreshed the look of the shopping area with refurbished seats and new rubbish bins, with new hanging baskets to come (the baskets have been going for quite a few years - done by Council's Parks team).
- Provided improved seating in Sherwood Park (WDC driven).
- Young people activity at the Rugby Club and Onerahi School activations (Community Groups).

### What we plan to do:

- Planter boxes and plants to further enhance the shopping area
- Security cameras at the shopping area and Sherwood Park
- Basketball lines painted on the basketball court
- Murals

### How are we going?

Please use the QR code alongside to link to a survey - or alternatively provide direct feedback via [onerahicomunity@gmail.com](mailto:onerahicomunity@gmail.com)



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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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# OCA Committee member profiles

In this edition we introduce three members of the OCA committee - Grant Harrison, Neil Pemberton and Heidyn Harrison.

### Grant Harrison

**Length of time on the committee:**  
6 years

**How long have you been in Onerahi:**  
22 years

**Connections to Onerahi:**

Live here, raised grandchildren here

**Previous employment/activity in the Onerahi community:**

Employed at Sport Northland in the youth and education areas. Worked with the Onerahi Community project developing a community activity feel for the suburb.

**Reasons for being on the committee:**

I wish to contribute to the place I live. As a sports coach and teacher you aspire to make a positive impact. The OCA committee is positioned to impact many people. A connected community has great recreational opportunities both terrestrial and aquatic, and I see this community as one we can be proud of. We are fortunate to be surrounded by water and the impact of this environment is both energising and relaxing.



### Neil Pemberton

**Length of time on the committee:**  
2 years

**Connections to Onerahi:**

I grew up in Onerahi, attended Raurimu Ave primary school

**Previous employment/activity in the Onerahi community:**

Onerahi soccer coach and committee member, Onerahi scout leader, Onerahi Club Rear commodore, involved in the community garden in Church Street. Engineering tutor at North Tec on and off since 2000.

**Reasons for being on the committee:**

I wish to contribute to the place I live. Being on the committee gives me a voice for the people who are not heard; and to be involved in decisions to make Onerahi a better place to live; and to make a positive difference in our community.



### Heidyn Harrison

**Length of time on the committee:**  
1 year

**How long have you been in Onerahi:**  
22 years

**Connections to Onerahi:**

I live here

**Previous employment/activity in the Onerahi community:**

Currently the Onerahi facility manager

**Reasons for being on the committee:**

A lifelong Onerahi resident, I am 22 years old and am raising a young child in the same supportive, vibrant community I grew up in. With a strong connection to the area, I value the positive community spirit, excellent schools, and accessible services that Onerahi offers. I am passionate about the local recreational opportunities, and committed to fostering a welcoming environment for both current residents and newcomers; ensuring Onerahi continues to thrive as a great place to live and grow.



# Do you know about our Onerahi Community Grants?

The Onerahi Community association makes community grants available for a range of local projects.

Funding in the past has been allocated for more plants at the community gardens, Waimahanga track planting, sports equipment for schools, resources for school festivals (kapa haka), lollies for the Fire Brigade on Christmas day, marking the basketball court lines, green walks for schools and kindergartens and a contribution towards the fees for a Youth Leadership workshop series.

The Community Grants are available on application from the Onerahi Community Association – fill in the Application for Grants form available by emailing us for the form at [onerahicommunity@gmail.com](mailto:onerahicommunity@gmail.com) or accessing it online at [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QRE4yxc9dzgiu\\_nwoJEqRX7tGvRhSRpxcmBxis4QOzl/edit?tab=t.0](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QRE4yxc9dzgiu_nwoJEqRX7tGvRhSRpxcmBxis4QOzl/edit?tab=t.0)

### More information about the Environment Grant

OCA has a total of \$1000 available for specific environmental tasks, projects or events. This is not usually given to just one recipient, but spread amongst many and is one of our most popular grant application areas. We have actually increased the amount available this year. Once we receive a grant application, a sub-committee of OCA reviews this and then it is agreed upon (or not) by the whole OCA committee. On occasion we have given the organisation or group a portion of what they have asked for, instead of the total amount, as we are conscious of trying to help as many of the local community groups as we can. If you are part of a local group at Onerahi, this is available for you to apply for. An example of a successful environment project is the Green Walks initiative.

tamariki set out on a walk around adjacent local streets. For the school they have taken on the kaitiaki role for the first part of the Waimahanga track, which is close to their school. Equipped with their buckets and tongs, they carefully collect litter from the roadside, footpaths, and grassy areas. The collected rubbish is then placed in the cart and transported back to the school and kindergarten. This process not only keeps the neighborhood cleaner but also provides a tangible way for the children to see the results of their efforts.



Back at kindy and school, the rubbish is sorted and discussed. Teachers use this opportunity to talk with the children about what kinds of items are most commonly found, why they become waste, and how some of these items could have been avoided, reused, or recycled instead of ending up on the ground. The children begin to recognize patterns in what makes up trash - such as food wrappers, plastic bottles, or cans - and gain an early understanding of the human impact on the environment.

The Green Walks are about much more than just picking up litter. They foster teamwork, as the children work together to fill buckets and transport them back to base. They also nurture curiosity and critical thinking, as tamariki ask questions about why rubbish is left behind and what could be done differently. Importantly, the initiative instills pride in their role as kaitiaki (guardians) of their community, showing them that even small actions contribute to a healthier, more beautiful place for everyone.

By embedding these walks into their weekly routine, Both Onerahi Kindergarten and Raurimu School is helping to create a culture of environmental care from a young age, ensuring that children grow up with the values and practical skills to look after the world around them.

### Green Walks

Onerahi Kindergarten and Raurimu School's Green Walks initiative is a hands-on, community-supported project that helps young children develop a sense of responsibility and appreciation for their environment. With the support of OCA, the kindergarten and school was provided with practical tools such as a cart, buckets, and tongs. These simple resources make it possible for the children to safely and effectively take part in caring for their local surroundings. Once a week, a small group of



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# New Tamaterau/Waikaraka Community Civil Defence Response Group

We have started-up a Community Civil Defence Response Group (CRG) for Tamaterau/Waikaraka neighbourhoods, which joins the network of already formed CRG with representatives from Parua Bay, Onerahi, Whangārei Heads and Pataua.

Of course, we hope it is never truly needed, but our aim is to ensure that all our neighbourhood households will know where to go, what to do and how, if a civil emergency happens. And that we all will be prepared before, during and after a civil emergency event. It's about awareness and preparedness for when such a time comes.

Our CRG is directly linked with the NRC/Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) and in doing so, is linked to a multi-agency emergency management group,

tasked with managing more serious localised, regional, and occasionally nationwide emergency events.

This entails collaboration with emergency service leaders, regional and district council civil defence groups, and central government agencies that respond to and recover from such events. So if we were cut off from the other areas, we will have contact with the CDEM for collaboration and help where needed. This 'embryo' Civil Defence Group for Waikaraka and Tamaterau definitely welcomes any new volunteers to our group as we are keen to represent the whole Tamaterau/Waikaraka area. If you are interested in helping your community in times of civil emergency, please do contact: Anna ph: 027 5664600 email: aewrootbeer@gmail.com or Phil ph: 027 3681856 email: oilyrag24@gmail.com

## Wastewater investigations

Having completed a pilot study in Parua Bay to identify where stormwater is entering into the wastewater network, investigations have now moved further up the catchment, to McGregors Bay, Taurikura Bay and McDonald Road.

Council is currently working to remediate issues found in Parua Bay. Council's data shows that during dry weather, wastewater flows are fairly standard. Addressing stormwater inflow issues will help protect the system from overflows during heavy rain events.

An optimisation study has commenced, assessing how to speed up wastewater flow from Whangārei Heads to town.

Options being looked at include modifications to pump stations and introducing new ones, as well as replacing key pipelines in strategic areas. These improvements are planned within five years.

Council is also in the very early stages of assessing the feasibility of a new treatment plant in the Whangārei Heads area, which would service the wastewater network from Parua Bay to Urquarts Bay. This is not included in Council's current Long Term Plan (to 2035), but will be important to ensure the system can manage projected growth in the area.

For more information, head to: <https://www.wdc.govt.nz/Council/Projects/Whangārei-Heads-Wastewater-Scheme>

## PBRRA News

The Parua Bay Skate Park is progressing well, considering the weather. It is due to be completed in October and has piqued the interest of local children who will be keen to give it a go. Many of the Parua Bay School children were involved in promoting the skate park and coming up with imaginative ideas for it. This will be a great asset for locals and visitors alike.

**2025 Local Elections** – PBRRA has hosted two Meet the Candidates Meetings, on 3rd and 6th of September. We encourage you all to have your say by voting in the upcoming elections, which will be held by postal vote from 9th September to 11th October 2025. Please see the WDC website- 2025 Local Elections for further details.

**AED** – PBRRA is pleased to advise that we have been granted \$1500 from the Oxford Sports Trust towards replacing the AED (Defibrillator) at Parua Bay GAS Station. We had a shortfall of \$1480, for the AED and a new safety storage box for it. After asking the local community for help, we are very grateful to announce that we have received donations for that amount in just a week. This is a wonderful community indeed-THANK YOU!

**First Aid Course** – Civil Defence Emergency Management in Northland has recently sponsored a Community First Aid Course at Parua Bay. This was offered to local Civil Defence Group members, and also out to the wider community. The people who attended the course enjoyed updating their First Aid skills, (including CPR and AED use) and it is good to know we have more trained First Aiders in our community, in the event of an emergency.

**Public Toilets** – PBRRA has long been lobbying to get some public toilets in Parua Bay Village. We are pleased to advise



that a new 2-pan toilet block has been installed beside the Sports Field, and by summer, WDC will also install a public toilet beside the new Skate Park. Thank you WDC!

If you wish to become a member of PBRRA, and receive regular updates about what is happening in your community, please contact us on [paruabayrra@gmail.com](mailto:paruabayrra@gmail.com).

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Authorised by Brad Flower, [bradflower4mayor2025@gmail.com](mailto:bradflower4mayor2025@gmail.com)

# Northland Rescue Helicopter now at Onerahi airport

**Council and Northland Rescue Helicopter Limited (NRHL) have recently signed a lease enabling NRHL to relocate its flight operations to the Onerahi airport.**

The lease includes the blue hangar (which NRHL already owns) and the old Air Training Corp (ATC) building. NRHL also has an existing sub-lease for the old control tower.

While the lease is for 10 years, NHRL may leave the airport earlier if funding to build a new base at an alternative location is secured.

There is a high level of local interest in NHRL's (formerly NEST's) operation from the airport. A legal challenge to Council's decision-making delayed the finalisation of leases. While further proceedings have been lodged with the Environment Court by a new community group (ECHO), they relate to the airport designation (rather than the lease).

Through the lease negotiation process, NRHL has implemented several measures to address concerns expressed about noise from their operation. One of these is the reactivation of the Airport Noise Management Committee to communicate between Council, the airport management and the community. The committee plays a key role providing easy access to information and complaint procedures.

The Airport Noise Management Plan is being updated to cover all airport noise issues, not just any caused by NRHL. Around 500 households near the airport were surveyed on their views and expectations about the relocation in July 2025. The Orbit anticipates sharing the survey results with our readers once they become available.

Based on a WDC public notice, dated 14 July 2025

# New Chief and Deputy Chief for Onerahi Fire Brigade

**A huge congratulations to Stephen Jennings on his successful appointment as Chief of Onerahi Volunteer Fire Brigade! Your leadership, commitment, and passion for the brigade and our community are truly inspiring.**

Also a big congratulations to Brian Powell, who steps up as Deputy Chief - an excellent choice and a great support to the team.

We would also like to express our heartfelt thanks to Mike Chubb aka Chubby, our outgoing Chief, for his incredible service, dedication, and the many years he has led the brigade with strength and heart. Your efforts have left a lasting impact on everyone.

A big thanks to Wipari Henwood and Graeme Quensell for taking the time to support and appoint our new leadership team. Your guidance and involvement mean a lot to us all.

Here's to the next chapter - we are in great hands!

Contributed by the Onerahi Volunteer Fire Brigade



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# Heads up from the Justice of the Peace

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If you have printed an invoice from an email (yes, many invoices are now emailed to us), then you will need to show

our JP the email on your mobile phone. Organisations who are requesting certification are expecting our JPs to be doing these checks on their behalf.

When using your Drivers Licence as your Photo ID then please photocopy the front and back of your licence.

If you have a Statutory Declaration to complete, then please do NOT sign it until you are in front of the JP.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE Whangārei Urban – Service Desks		
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TUESDAY	Civic Centre Te Iwitahi	9:30am to 12:30pm
WEDNESDAY	Tikipunga Library	9:30am to 12:00pm
	Whangārei Central Library	9:30am to 12:00pm
THURSDAY	Whangārei Central Library	9:30am to 12:00pm
	Onerahi Library	2:00pm to 4:00pm
FRIDAY	Civic Centre Te Iwitahi	9:30am to 12:30pm
SATURDAY	Whangārei Central Library	9:30am to 12:00pm
SUNDAY	NONE ON SITE	Look in White Pages under 'Justices of the Peace' or on JP or library website.

# A big welcome to Julian and Shannen

**Julian and Shannen Rogers are the new owners of our Onerahi New World supermarket.**

Onerahi and the surrounding community has welcomed Julian and Shannen via social media posts, and the Orbit extends a warm welcome to them too. Julian and Shannen are super excited to be here, as supermarket ownership has been a long time dream of Julian's, who has been working in supermarkets for the past 13 years.

The couple moved up to Northland from Wellington and feel honoured to be taking over the reins of this vibrant community store. "A huge thank you to the staff here for welcoming us so warmly. We're grateful to be joining such

an awesome team and excited to continue building on the incredible work that James and Claire have done here at New World Onerahi. Be sure to say hello next time you're in, we look forward to meeting you!"

Janes and Claire Varcoe have moved down to the Devonport New World, which is an opportunity James had hoped for over the years. "I always said if John Ashton ever leaves Devonport I'd be keen. It's a really nice community store in a really nice community – and it's only two hours from Whangārei, where most of Claire's family come from."

Devonport New World is three times the size of Onerahi, which has 70 staff compared to Devonport's 125.

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# Effective tips for helping children set and achieve their goals



**One of the most valuable skills we can teach our children is how to set and achieve goals. Goal-setting helps them stay focused and motivated, while giving them a sense of purpose. It builds perseverance, planning, and time management skills that benefit them for life.**

The key to success is making goal-setting fun, engaging, and structured. Children's goals generally fall into five categories: personal, academic, extracurricular, short-term, and long-term.

### Personal goals

These are often the most motivating because they are based on your child's own interests, such as making new

friends, learning an instrument, or improving at a favourite game. Help them choose something exciting and make it specific and achievable, for example "practice soccer for 20 minutes each afternoon." Celebrate progress along the way to keep motivation high.

### Academic goals

Academic goals are not only about grades. They can also focus on improving study habits, organisation, or confidence in a subject. Keep goals realistic and break larger targets into smaller steps, such as improving homework scores before aiming for higher test grades. A study plan and regular progress checks can make a big difference.

### Extracurricular goals

Sports, music, art, and community activities help children explore interests and develop well-rounded skills. Goals here could include "learn one new song each month" or "attend all training sessions this season." Balance is important. Too many activities can lead to burnout, so help your child prioritise what they truly enjoy.

### Short-term goals

Short-term goals are quick wins that build momentum, such as finishing a project by Friday or cleaning their room by the weekend. These teach children how to break larger challenges into manageable steps and provide regular boosts of accomplishment.

### Long-term goals

Longer-term ambitions, such as joining the school choir or improving at a sport, require patience and persistence. Breaking them into smaller actions makes them achievable, while celebrating each milestone keeps enthusiasm alive.

### In summary

Goal-setting teaches responsibility, resilience, and self-motivation. By guiding your child to set realistic and enjoyable goals, you equip them with life skills that extend far beyond the classroom.

At NumberWorks'nWords, we help students set and achieve meaningful academic goals through personalised support that builds confidence and focus. The skills they gain with us translate into success both in school and in life. Contact us today on 09 438 1144 or email Whangārei@numberworks.com to arrange a free learning assessment for your child.

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# Parihaka Kindergarten turns 50!

**Parihaka Kindergarten turns 50 on October the 4th. Established in 1975 as Riverside Kindergarten, the kindy is putting on a birthday bash worthy of half a century of aroha (love). Anyone with a link to the kindy is invited to attend afternoon tea on Thursday the 2nd of October, from 2-4pm.**



Parihaka Kindergarten is located half way up Mount Parihaka on Kohe Street. It formally changed its name in December 2011 with a small ceremony. The name change was driven by the kindergarten discovering more about the history of Mt Parihaka, and wanting to strengthen its ties to the landmark and the community. The kindy at the time consulted Māori adviser Roimata Macfarlane and kaumatua Tokarangi Totoro who wrote a special karakia for the kindy which was sung by the children at the opening.

The kindergarten provides opportunities for exploration within a spacious attractive and well-resourced outdoor natural setting. The indoor environment is stimulating and encourages learning and development. "Our aspirations for our children are that they have a strong belief in self, are happy, socially and emotionally competent and see themselves as change makers."

Shelley, Christie, Fran, Kathy and Chanelle are registered and qualified Early Childhood Teachers - each bringing with them their own special strengths and experience. Linda, the Administrator, supports the team and kindergarten.

The kindy reached out to the Orbit to make sure that past teachers, students and parents/whānau all know that EVERYONE with a link to the kindy is invited to come along and celebrate this milestone. Please refer to the accompanying advert for the details.



**NKA PARIHAKA KINDERGARTEN IS TURNING 50!**

Formerly Riverside Kindergarten

We invite past teachers, students and parents/whanau to come along and celebrate with us

**Thursday 2nd October 2025**  
**2pm-4pm**



# Beware of scammers

**Whangārei Police are urging the public to be alert to fraudsters targeting trusting members of the community for their money. An investigation is in the early stages after an elderly couple had tens of thousands of dollars taken from accounts over the weekend.**



Detective Senior Sergeant Shane Pilmer, Whangārei Area Investigations Manager, says the couple were contacted about replacing their banking cards. "The fraudster has managed to convince them into providing pin numbers and leaving their eftpos cards in the mailbox for collection," he says.

DSS Pilmer is calling on the community to be extremely vigilant. "The last thing we need right now is other people in the community falling victim to this offending. I'm asking families and neighbours to check in on each other, please be aware that this is happening."

Police advise anyone who is contacted in these circumstances by potential scammers to not engage. "The authorities and banks will never call you asking to hand over banking details. If you're contacted, hang up immediately and instead contact the bank yourself."

Police would also like to hear from anyone who may have been contacted in these circumstances, or who has handed over bank cards in these circumstances. You can make a report online or call 105.

Based on a Police media statement

**38 Kohe Street, Parihaka**  
**09 438 9804**

**50**



## Onerahi School report



Kia ora koutou,

Those cold mornings that surrounded us as I wrote the last piece for the Orbit are finally rolling back. We are all very hopeful that this will also be met with a reduction in the sickness that has run through our community this term. We want to thank

everyone who has taken actions to ensure others have been kept well. It can be challenging to move things in your life around to keep a sick child at home and we appreciate the support. It has made a difference.

Term 4 begins on the 6th of October. It is packed with the usual rich learning experiences our tamariki enjoy each term but also has a number of big events. We have camps for the Nest, Middle, and Senior schools, Te Whanga Kapa Haka Festival, our big final assembly and all the attached awards, to name but a few. We also have a very special event

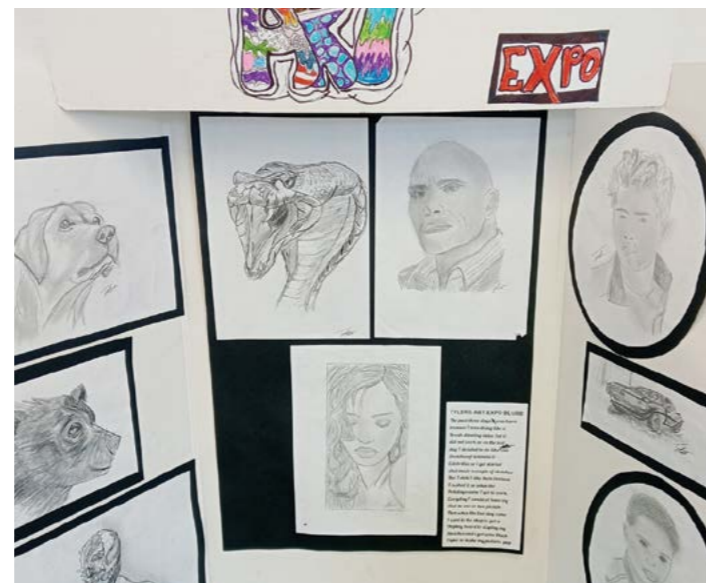
in our Year 6 Graduation. This is a big moment of reflection for staff, students, and whānau as we celebrate all that has been achieved and farewell our Year 6 students as they begin the next step of their lives.

These are the touchstones and traditions that allow us to connect through the generations of Onerahi alumni. You may fondly remember your own camps or graduation while you were at our kura. Things are always changing and evolving to meet modern needs. New staff members come and existing staff members move on. There is some comfort to be had that what makes us a special place doesn't change. We care about our tamariki and their success, we like people connecting together in a physical space, and we continue to shape a better future together.

Thanks to everyone who is navigating this journey with us. **Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa.** *Let us keep close together, not far apart.*

Ngā manaakitanga,

Danny Hamilton, Tumuaki Tuarua / Deputy Principal



A piece from our Senior Art Gallery created by Tyler



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## Raurimu Avenue School

"Poipoia te rito o te harakeke"

**Ko te pae tāwhiti, whaia kia tata. Ko te pae tata, whakamaua kia tina.**  
**Seek out the distant horizons. Cherish the ones you have attained.**

**E mihi mahana e te hapori o Onerahirahi! Tēnā koutou katoa.**

It has been a busy year drilling down into the curriculum refresh! While learning has definitely been a top priority for all, we have still managed to make time for growth mindsets, health and well-being, prioritising mental health so we can achieve mental wealth!

Earlier this year, thanks to our Whangārei RTLB services, we had the privilege of hosting House of Bricks, who delivered an interactive lego programme for the whole school. Boy did we see some brilliance emerge that day! From mosaic plates to clever race tracks, everyone had so much fun.

On another note, our seniors headed to Forum North to bask in the sweet sounds of Te Tohu o ngā Taiao, a harmonical orchestra performance paired with a visual sand art show from Marcus Winter. This was a must see event and had our senior students in awe. Meanwhile, Bob Bickerton and his amazing collection of taonga pūoro visited our school and serenaded the entire school with the sweet and soulful sounds of our native's most finest instruments. What a blessing!



We have had a few new developments this year at Raurimu Avenue School. We welcome Te Kura Rākau ā Tū, ā Rongo who have been teaching our students the fundamentals of mau rākau. Mau rākau is a physical art form of self discipline, self awareness and focuses on strengthening the mind, body and wairua as students

ground themselves and learn how to safely master their bodies, wield a rākau and tune into their environments and those around them. We hope to bring an opportunity for our wider community to get amongst it so If you are interested in mau rākau, contact our school office and let us know!



The more interest we receive, the more likely we are able to provide community classes here in Onerahirahi.

And lastly, let's talk about ki-o-rahi! We finally have a sports team that is proud to represent our school and participate in interschool tournaments. This has been a long time coming for Raurimu and only possible by the hands and hearts of those who have invested in teaching our tamariki how to be team players, be good sportsmen and encourage them to believe in themselves. A big thank you to Tuakana Teina Kaiārahi for setting the sporting foundations for our tamariki and to Mana Ake for taking a lead role in coaching and supporting our tamariki over the past two terms, but mostly to our tamariki for putting in the hard mahi, trusting those who shape their minds and skillsets and staying committed to their team!

Until next time...Poipoia te rito o te harakeke, Nurturing our tamariki together.

Whaea Celia, Tumuaki



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## MP for Whangārei - Hon Dr Shane Reti



**Spring's on the way, and you can really feel the buzz around Onerahi and Whangārei Heads.**

Local body elections are just around the corner. These elections shape the direction of our community on everything from local transport and housing to facilities and environmental management, these decisions shape everyday life, so make sure to get your vote in. Every tick of the box counts for how our community moves forward.

Speaking of moving forward, I personally met with Air New Zealand representatives in my Wellington office to discuss regional flight services and reliability, championing our cause. This makes the Government announcement that it will support at risk regional air routes with up to \$30m in loans from the Regional Infrastructure Fund, timely and important. Reliable air services are critical for New Zealand's economy and regional connectivity.

Also approved was the funding of digital upgrades, that integrate regional transport bookings - known as "interlining". Interlining will enable passengers to book a single itinerary and flights on different airlines, including major carriers.

With interlining in place, the traveller could book a single ticket from Whangārei to Westport on Air NZ or Jetstar website for example, and enjoy seamless baggage handling, and benefit from coordinated scheduling.

I was energised and impressed with local talent at the Central Northland Science and Technology Fair. These impressive and creative students could one day potentially

drive future economic growth and improved quality of life and the environment. Many thanks must also go to the teachers and parents for their encouragement and support. The projects were of outstanding quality.

I've also had my regular meetings with the Mayor and Police Area Commander, whereby we discuss, and action concerns raised by local constituents over matters that come to our attention at a local level.

Health services have also been in the spotlight. Patients in Northland may soon see faster access to heart specialists, following recent announcements about expanding cardiology services. This is welcome news for Whangārei, where travel times and waitlists have often created barriers to timely treatment.

At a national level, commentators continue to describe New Zealand as a potential economic powerhouse, with regions like Northland playing a vital role in food production, tourism, and renewable energy. For Whangārei, this could mean new opportunities for local business, alongside the challenge of ensuring growth is sustainable and community focused.



Central Northland Science and Technology Fair - photo by Amy Macdonald

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W | shanereti.national.org.nz

## Arctic or Antarctica?

**“Which is better - the Arctic or Antarctica?” Personally, for me, it isn’t a matter of comparison - it’s about the way each destination stirs something deep inside.**

Antarctica is a land of silence and ice, where the wildlife is curious rather than cautious. Penguins waddle right up to inspect your boots, elephant seals lounge along the shoreline, and whales surface close to the zodiacs, seemingly unbothered by our presence. There is no human habitation here, only research stations, so the wildlife reigns



A stunning moment expedition ship glides by the ice shelf – Ponant

## The Silver Festival will start soon!

**The Silver Festival, 1st October to 14th October 2025, brings together older adults from across Whangārei to share their talents, learn something new, and most importantly, have fun!**

This year the Silver Festival will be even more vibrant, including a diverse programme of community events that reflect the richness of experience and creativity within our older community. Whether you’re passionate about music, arts and crafts, gardening, technology, or yoga, there’s a place for you in this year’s festival.

There are Silver Festival booklets available to help you plan your festival experience. Booklets are available for pickup at Whangārei Library, Te Iwitahi (Civic Centre), and the Whangārei i-site.



### SPONSORED CONTENT

supreme. Standing among thousands of penguins, hearing their calls echo across glaciers, is nothing short of overwhelming - it’s as though time itself pauses.

The Arctic, by contrast, is alive not just with animals but also with culture.

Home to Inuit communities and spanning six countries, it feels more human yet no less wild. One extraordinary account told of 68 polar bears gathered around a whale carcass - a sight even the most seasoned guides had never seen before.

What strikes people most, though, is the feeling. The “sound of silence” in these polar worlds is deafening - a silence broken only by the slap of a whale’s tail or the shuffle of penguin feet. In the Arctic, the midnight sun and the northern lights add an otherworldly glow that many describe as spiritual.

So which is better? For us the question isn’t about comparison, but about the experience and connection: to wildlife, to cultures, and to moments so moving they’ll stay with you forever.

By Jared Jamison – North Travel (Travel Agent), [www.northtravel.co.nz](http://www.northtravel.co.nz)



Polar bear staring up at Le Commandant Charcot Expedition Cruise vessel – Sarah Porter

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## Windows 11 changes and why Windows 10 is coming to an end

**As many of you know, technology never stands still. Microsoft has confirmed that Windows 10 will reach the end of its support on October 14, 2025. After this date, there’ll be no more updates or security fixes, which is why they’re encouraging everyone to move to Windows 11. This does not mean you need to do this tomorrow.**

Windows 11 brings with it some clear improvements. The first thing you’ll notice is the new look and feel. The Start menu and taskbar are now centered, the design is cleaner, and the whole system feels more modern and user-friendly. However, if you like the way you are used to seeing things presently, it can be modified to look like that.

It’s not all about looks. Security and performance have been given a big boost. Windows 11 requires newer hardware, which helps protect against cyber-attacks. It’s also designed to run faster and more reliably, especially on newer machines.

For those who use their computers every day for work, study, or even gaming, Windows 11 offers new tools to be more productive. Features like Snap Layouts make it easy to organise your screen, Teams is built in for quick calls and chats, and gamers will notice smoother graphics with the latest technology updates.

So why retire Windows 10? The simple reason is that older systems take a lot of effort to maintain, and over time they can become a security risk. By moving forward with Windows 11, Microsoft can focus on delivering the best possible tools, while ensuring users stay safe and up to date.

## Protecting our children

**As the school year continues, Onerahi residents are being urged to remain vigilant about the safety of children walking to and from school. While the community is known for its friendly atmosphere and close-knit environment, the reality is that children, particularly those walking alone, can be vulnerable to potential risks from strangers.**

Local authorities are encouraging parents to reinforce basic safety tips with their children. These include walking with a buddy, sticking to well-populated routes, and being cautious of anyone who tries to approach or speak to them. Parents are also advised to make sure their children know what to do in the event of a stranger approaching, such as immediately returning to a trusted adult or a safe, public space.



Run to safety when approached by strangers in a car

In addition to personal vigilance, the Onerahi Community Association is working with the community to increase awareness about these risks. Community-driven initiatives are being discussed to further protect children and ensure peace of mind for parents. With a united community effort, we can help protect our children and ensure they continue to enjoy the benefits of our beautiful, welcoming neighbourhood.

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# Introducing the Onerahi Tennis Club



**The club is enjoying increasing attendance on the newly resurfaced courts. The striking new colours chosen blend well with the fantastic harbour vista from the club which operates on land leased from the council.**

We are located off Church Street almost directly opposite St Stephens Church. We strive to be a family friendly club across all abilities and are the only courts in Whangārei that are not locked and encourage public access for casual play. We are affiliated to Tennis NZ and take our role in the promotion of tennis and being a community based organization seriously. We have a total of four modern astro turf courts and a small club house with all the usual amenities.

We operate a wide range of scheduled events for members to participate in throughout the whole year. These range from junior coaching, adult coaching, scheduled group playing times, competitive tennis league, social tennis with a BBQ and pot-luck dinner on our Friday club night during the summer months. The club has hosted enjoyable Birthday Parties and has even been used as a junior hockey training turf.

We have a new Adult Coaching group that is designed to get your game improved at minimal expense.

The club also has installed floodlights on two of the courts and can offer evening tennis after work or in the evening to support social events. To be able to play at night, club membership is required.

Most importantly there will be a continuation of our summer Junior Coaching Program which is offered in Term 4 and Term 1 of the school year. For many years we have engaged the services of an outstanding coach, Pete Stenberg, who coaches on a Monday afternoon with a range of age/ability grouped classes. These lessons introduce the children to both tennis technique and etiquette in a safe, friendly environment. We run four 45 minute groups starting at 3:30 pm after school has finished for the day. Our groups are arranged to start with boys and girls as young as 5 and extend with ages right to the end of high school. Our location is very popular with children from the wider catchment area of Whangārei Heads.

We encourage family membership and offer discounted membership rates for those newly joining us. We encourage visitors and invite you to come, meet us and play a game or two before you have to join the club. We have listed our contact details on our Facebook page and website.



By Warren Thomas, President, ph 021 0844 2023

By Warren Thomas, President, ph 021 0844 2023

By Warren Thomas, President, ph 021 0844 2023

## Garden Club event

**We are having our annual, fundraising event, on Friday 17th of October, 10 - 12.00am at Onerahi Community Hall, with lots of plants for sale, as well as other trading table items, baking and preserves.**

There will be raffles, a large morning tea (\$2.00), and craft making tables (\$2-\$5). We have regular interesting speakers each month, and try to organize regular interesting garden visits, so come along and have a chat, we always welcome new members! See page 24 for details (regular events).

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# TopSail's Beach Road Brasserie

**You may have noticed a new sign on Beach Road. TopSail Restaurant has had a make-over, and it's got a great modern 'New Zealand contemporary meets casual classic French' vibe going - drop in to have a look!**

The new look had a quiet launch in mid-September. A little more casual than it was previously and with more tables, the owners Debbie and Ian have used their flair and hospitality experience to create a classic brasserie right on Whangārei Harbour, located on the first floor of the Onerahi Yacht Club.

You are welcomed by the warm glow of table lamps, black and white gingham tablecloths and large wall mirrors reflecting the fabulous water views. Quality and professionalism are on offer. The delectable smells from the kitchen make it a true assault on the senses!

"We have loved our 18 years of owning and working at TopSail, and have had fantastic patronage from locals far and wide. We've had quite our share of headwinds in that time; the Covid years, storm damage closure and now, with the increasing cost of everything, it is time to evolve."

Debbie and Ian both have a love of the classic European brasserie. Debbie, originally from Wales, has first-hand experience from her days on the continent; and Ian trained in French classic cuisine.

"We've chosen the essence of the brasserie and brought it to one of the best restaurant locations in New Zealand. No matter the weather, no matter the time, there is always a fabulous view from TopSail's Beach Road Brasserie."

The harbour views and peaceful lines of Matakoho-Limestone Island are ever changing, with passing yachts, windsurfers, fishermen, wildlife and of course the stunning sunset at the end of each day.



It is a clever menu featuring TopSail favourites with French classics and modern seasonal creations. The menu offers a tasty selection of starters, mains and desserts. There is A-la-carte, Set Menu for groups and a brand new 'Banquet Degustation'. You can even pop in for a bite on your way home from work! There is a very well compiled wine list and fabulous cocktails, an extensive beverage list including a great range of beers and non-alcoholic drinks.

The restaurant is now open Wednesday to Saturday, from 5pm. For reservations phone 09 4362885 or visit [www.topsail.co.nz](http://www.topsail.co.nz). Located at 206 Beach Road, in the Onerahi Yacht Club at Onerahi.



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**Pop in from 5pm Wednesday to Saturday. See you soon!**

# Winning the fight: Te Whara / Bream Head conservation success

**This winter at Bream Head has been full of energy, teamwork, and plenty of activity. From pest management and community planting to educating future conservationists, the spirit of mahi tahi—working together—is creating a big difference on the ground.**

Rats and mice experienced a population boom that pushed toxin uptake to 70% in June. This growth was also a result of a big decline in their main predator: stoats. In July, toxin uptake dropped to 55%, with stoat numbers also remaining down - the perfect outcome.

Efforts to control invasive plants continue. Restoration teams have made great progress leading into the critical spring period. Recent bushwalks have also uncovered the only known mainland population of flowering William's broom.

The Grey-faced petrels are returning to the reserve at a



number of nesting sites. The team has relocated traps to defend these new breeding sites, and although there have been a few stoat scares, the petrel chicks did well last year and this year the burrows are again full of chicks.

School field trips have brought local kids into direct contact with the reserve, planting seeds for lifelong stewardship. Volunteers teach about working as part of a large-scale team, as well as about flora and fauna. If you are a teacher and would like to bring your class along, please visit our website to get in touch.

We would like to thank everyone for their hard work this winter, and to invite new conservationists to join us. Please visit the website below to learn how you can get involved. See you out there!

[breamheadtrust.nz](http://breamheadtrust.nz)

## Backyard Kiwi - our kiwi are loving it here!



**The Whangārei Heads kiwi population has grown to an estimated 1,330 kiwi (compared with 1,185 last season**

**and up from only 80 back in 2001). In terms of the number of calls, 150 hours of listening at 19 sites recorded 1,850 calls at a call rate of 12.3 calls/hour.**

This is up from 10.3 calls/hour last year. Thank you for all the hard work, kiwi counters, and for braving the cold, listening hard and doing the paperwork accurately.

Without your efforts we would not know what was happening with our kiwi population.

The long term results show that good dog and stoat control is resulting in good kiwi chick survival. As young kiwi are slow growing and take two (or more) years to get to calling age, there are probably even more kiwi out there. There are also more kiwi showing up north of the Heads in the Parua Bay and the "Kiwi Link" areas. Many of these will be kiwi walking out of the Whangārei Heads peninsula area and finding new territories - this is great news for wider kiwi recovery! Thank you everyone for the huge team effort.

Todd Hamilton, Backyard Kiwi Project Manager

Ph 021 1145 385, email [todd.hamilton64@gmail.com](mailto:todd.hamilton64@gmail.com), visit [www.backyardkiwi.org.nz](http://www.backyardkiwi.org.nz)



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# Voting in the local government elections

**Readers of the Orbit have asked for some further information to be included in this edition.**

### How do I vote in local elections?

Local government elections are held by postal vote. Votes have to be returned by 12 noon on Saturday 11 October 2025. If you have not received your papers, or if you have questions, the Whangārei District Council has set up an elections hub at the central library - please visit them.

In the elections, we will be required to elect a Mayor for Whangārei, Councillors for Whangārei District Council and for Northland Regional Council; and to vote for two referendums on the future of Māori Wards - one for Whangārei District Council and one for Northland Regional Council.

### What is Single Transferable voting (STV)?

Under this system, voters rank candidates in their order of preference. You write "1" next to the name of your favourite candidate, "2" next to your second favourite candidate and so on. With STV you still only have one vote.

### What are Māori wards and constituencies?

Regional councils have Māori constituencies, city and district councils have Māori wards. The Māori wards sit alongside the general wards of each city or district and elected members have the same roles and responsibilities as those elected from the general wards.

Whangārei District will have one Māori ward for the 2025 Local Government Elections, with two Māori ward councillors elected district-wide.

Only people enrolled on the Māori electoral roll for the area can vote for candidates standing in their Māori ward. Electors on the Māori electoral roll can only vote for candidates from a Māori Ward and for the Mayor, while electors on the General electoral roll can only vote for candidates from a General Ward and the Mayor. In Whangārei District Council there are 13 councillors, of which two represent the Māori Ward. This equates to 15% of the representation, when Māori make up 34% of the population in the Whangārei district. Once elected, all elected members, whether elected from General or Māori wards, take a formal oath of office to represent the entire community.

### Why would we not want Māori wards?

Arguments against Māori wards center on the principles of democracy, fairness, and the potential for division. These concerns were a key reason for the National-led government's decision to reinstate binding referendums on Māori wards.

### Why would we want Māori wards?

Arguments for Māori wards centre on the understanding they ensure Māori representation in local government, giving Māori a voice at the decision-making table. By providing a dedicated electoral pathway for people on the Māori roll, these wards address historical underrepresentation and structural imbalances within the British Westminster system, promoting a more equitable and inclusive democratic process.

# YEAR 7/8 - 2026

## OPEN DAY

### Friday 24 October

The Parua Bay School Board invites Out of Zone Enrolment applications from parents/caregivers who wish to enrol their children at Year 7/8 for 2026

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To register for our Open Day please contact: [kate.fortune@paruabay.school.nz](mailto:kate.fortune@paruabay.school.nz)  
(09) 436 5814      [www.paruabay.school.nz](http://www.paruabay.school.nz)

# Faith for today

A sliver of comfort to face the unknown

## The power of two

In G.K. Chesterton's novel 'The Man Who Was Thursday', an undercover policeman infiltrates a lawless group that is dedicated to throwing the world into chaos. He is gripped with fear until he discovers an ally within the group.

Chesterton writes of the policeman's feelings at finding a friend; "Through all this ordeal his root horror had been isolation, and there are no words to express the abyss between isolation and having one ally. It may be conceded to the mathematicians that four is twice two. But two is not twice one; two is two thousand times one."

When David was being pursued by the jealous and irrational King Saul, he had a friend who risked great danger to stand with him. Jonathan, Saul's own son, pledged his loyalty to David and warned him of his father's intention to kill him. (1 Samuel 20:31-42) Later, when Saul pursued David into the wilderness, Jonathan" arose and went to David in the woods and strengthened his hand in God " (23v16)

What a wonderful gift we give by standing faithfully with a friend in need! There is incredible encouragement and power when two people are allied in life.

Whose hand can you strengthen by being a friend today? A true friend helps you keep going when you feel like giving up.

Contributed by Onerahi retired Pastor Ron Brewer

## New water entity to be established

Whangārei District Council has done a flip-flop and, instead of keeping the services inhouse, as previously agreed, WDC has voted to establish a Northland Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) for drinking water and wastewater services for the Whangārei, Kaipara and Far North districts.

WDC councillors voted unanimously for the proposed regional CCO. The new CCO will meet the requirements of the new Local Water Done Well (LWDW) legislation, which charges councils with finding the most affordable way of meeting increasing costs for water services.

The new Northland organisation will initially keep financials ring-fenced for each district and have non-harmonised water charges. Non-harmonised means water charges are different for residents in each district. These guidelines will be reviewed during the first three years of operation.

The target commencement date for the new regional waters CCO is July 2027.

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.nz/1737
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-Paieka	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
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	Kirsty	bjandkirsty@slingshot.co.nz
McLeod Bay Hall	Jos	027 315 6490
Taurikura Hall	Meg Mclsaac	09 434 0096

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

# LOCAL NEWS

## He Piripono Waiū Milk Bank



The opening of the new milk bank at Whangārei Hospital marks a significant advance for neonatal care in Northland. Designed to serve premature and vulnerable infants whose mothers may be temporarily unable to provide their own milk, the milk bank is a

testament to the community's commitment to giving every baby the healthiest possible start.

The milk bank is a free service for the pēpi (babies) and community of Northland. The milk bank addresses this gap by collecting, screening, pasteurizing, and storing donor milk, which can then be safely given to newborns in need.

If you have surplus milk to donate, you will need to complete a health and lifestyle questionnaire. This will include information about any medications you are taking, alcohol, tobacco and vape use, recent tattoos or blood transfusions and if you have been ill or around ill people during the donating period. You will have a free blood test to screen for specific viruses and illness that can be passed through breast milk.



If you want to become a donor, contact the milk bank on: phone 021 679 837 or email: Whangāreimilkbank@northlanddhb.org.nz

## Thanks for your patience during the roadworks

Council's infrastructure teams are offering 'a massive thank you' to the community for its patience during the renewal of the watermain running along Whangārei Heads Road - from the vicinity of the Pines Golf course out as far as Taurikura Bay. The teams appreciated the cooperation of those who experienced water shutdowns or traffic disruptions.

## Arrests in Onerahi

Police had a busy time in August in Onerahi. Two arrests were made over an aggravated robbery, followed by another two arrests for unlawful possession of ammunition and possession for supply of methamphetamine.

Detective Senior Sergeant Shane Pilmer, Whangārei CIB, said "We have zero tolerance for this type of offending, and will continue to hold those responsible to account.

"We really encourage people to report offending as it happens".

Suspicious or illegal activity should be reported to 111 if it's happening now. If it's after the fact, you can make a report online at [www.police.govt.nz/use-105](http://www.police.govt.nz/use-105) or call 105.

People can report information anonymously via Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

## Fluoridation of water has begun

Whangārei District Council has withdrawn from legal proceedings challenging the mandate to fluoridate water. Fluoride in drinking water acts like a constant repair kit for your teeth. It is estimated that living in a fluoridated area leads to 40% lower lifetime incidence of tooth decay among children and adolescents and a 48% reduction in hospital admissions for treating tooth decay among children aged 0-4 years. Check out the base statistics for yourself at <https://www.pmcsa.ac.nz/topics/fluoridation-an-update-on-evidence/>

# HOPE ONERAHI

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**135 Onerahi Road • Office: 438 1667**

Minister: Howard Carter 027 750 8602

Sunday Worship @ 9.30am. All Welcome!

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

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

## 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

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**The month of October** - Savour Northland food festival - <https://savournorthland.com/>

**Wednesday 1 October until 15 October - The Silver Festival.** An information booklet is available from Whangārei District Council, check out their website to choose from the MANY listed events - <https://www.wdc.govt.nz/Events/Festivals/Silver-Festival>

**Thursday 2 October - Parihaka Kindy 50th anniversary.** Parihaka (formerly Riverside) Kindergarten is holding a birthday afternoon tea and everyone with a link to the kindy is invited: 2-4pm.

**Saturday 11-12 October** - Whangārei Maritime Festival

**Saturday 11 October** - Local government elections close at noon

**Wednesday 15 October** - Onerahi Whānau Summer Fest - see page 4

**Friday 17 October - Onerahi Garden Club fundraising event.** We will have lots of plants for sale, as well as other trading table items, baking and preserves; with raffles, morning tea (\$2.00) and craft making tables (\$2-\$5). 10-12 noon, Onerahi Community Hall

**Sunday 26 October - A Hearty Halloween.** Event to raise money for Glass Ceiling Arts Collective Whangārei. 2 sessions, 10am til 12noon, 1pm til 3pm, \$12.50 - ticket from <https://www.eventbrite.com/>

**Monday 27 October - Labour Day.** For arts and crafts, visit the Community Monday Market at Kaurihohore Hall, Apotu Road, Kaurihohore - open 9-1pm.

**Friday 31 October - Halloween** - time to trick or treat. Children under 12 should be accompanied by an adult. Make sure children out after dark have reflective tape on clothing, and carry flashlights.

**November - Diabetes Action Month.** This is Diabetes New Zealand's biggest awareness campaign - <https://www.diabetes.org.nz>

**Saturday 1 November - Whangārei Latin Music Festival.** Come experience the culture and sounds of South America through live music, dance performances, and food. There will be something for everyone at this family-friendly fiesta 2-8pm at Forum North. Children under 16 are free

**Saturday 6 December - Whangārei Choral Concert.** Choice Selections for Spirit & Joy. 2.30pm at the Old Library, Rust Avenue

## 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 Education Whangārei (CEW) at Kamo High School** - Website: <https://www.cew.ac.nz/> Email: [cew@kamohigh.school.nz](mailto: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](mailto: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.macfarlane@mentall.org.nz](mailto:josh.macfarlane@mentall.org.nz)

**Miniature Train Running Days** - The track is open to the public every 3rd Sunday of the month, School Holiday Wednesdays, and all Museum Live Days. Join us for school holiday fun train rides at the Miniature Railway at Heritage Park, Maunu, Whangārei. Only \$2 per ride

**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](mailto: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 Susan on 021 248 9989

**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 [maureend101@hotmail.com](mailto:maureend101@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!

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

**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. \$2.00 donation please

**Onerahi Tennis Club** - for all age groups and abilities. See facebook and website: [www.clubspar.kiwi/OnerahiTennisClub](http://www.clubspar.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](mailto: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](mailto:Whangarei.choral@gmail.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 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

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

Email: [onerahiorbitmagazine@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## SPRING 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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