

Onerahi Orbit

Free to you from the Onerahi Community Association

December 2024 - February 2025

Covering Onerahi, Parua Bay, Pataua and Whangārei Heads



See page 17 for the Onerahi Playcentre Upgrade

Pg 9 - Policeman Sam represents Aotearoa New Zealand

Pg 22 - Alcohol Control By-law changes

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Haere mai,

Welcome to the summer edition of the Orbit! With the festive season comes increased alcohol consumption. Some recent national conversations have centred on the use of alcohol by those with mental health issues. There is a well-established body of research from New Zealand and overseas that clearly links alcohol use with poor mental health outcomes and increased suicide risk.

If alcohol helped mental health problems, we would expect heavy drinkers to be happier than people who seldom drink. This is not the case. In fact, poor mental health and heavy alcohol use often go together. Longitudinal studies show that heavy alcohol use and alcohol dependence are associated with subsequent development of depressive symptoms. Please be aware of how alcohol affects others over this holiday period. Ask for help if your whānau is being impacted by alcohol. Mere Kirihimere!

Based on a report by the Public Health communication Centre: 'Alcohol and suicide: The facts', 31 October 2024

Nga mihi from the Orbit team

Letter to the Editor

The "silly" season is nearly here and the pressure is on for parents, caregivers etc about getting presents. Sadly children seem to have become conditioned to believing Christmas is all about presents and so the pressure is on to provide these.

What about explaining presence is far better than presents. Spending time with each other is so precious. Make kids a voucher book with vouchers for things they love doing with you. It can be as simple as reading, cooking, and walking together. Maybe a picnic somewhere, getting an ice cream, going to the movies or 10 pin bowling. I did this for my kids. I decorated the books with stickers etc.

When it comes to Christmas trees, why not buy a fruit tree or native tree - and when Christmas is over, you can repot it, plant it out or donate it to a community garden project.

Most of all, have fun and treasure your time with family and friends. Life is too short to be anything else but happy.

Cheers, Wendy Giffin



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Quantum Healing Hypnosis

In the heart of Whangārei, nestled among the lush landscapes and serene vistas, lies a sanctuary for self-discovery and healing—Guided Healing, led by Vanessa Wilson. As a dedicated QHHT practitioner, Vanessa brings the transformative power of Quantum Healing Hypnosis Technique (QHHT) to the local community, offering a unique blend of expertise and personal touch.



Vanessa Wilson, a resident of Whangārei with deep local roots, has been guiding clients through QHHT since 2019. The journey into this transformative technique began as a deeply personal one. Faced with the prospect of surgery for their young daughter, Vanessa and her husband turned to QHHT as a last-ditch effort to address the family's challenges. Working together as a substitute for their daughter, they explored the profound benefits of

this technique in hopes of finding a solution. This powerful and deeply personal experience not only resolved their daughter's issues but also solidified Vanessa's commitment to QHHT. Inspired by the results, she dedicated herself to making this life-changing tool available to others, ensuring that everyone can benefit from its healing potential.

All QHHT sessions are conducted in the tranquil setting of Deloraine Cottage, a charming retreat available for short-term rental on the same property where Vanessa and her family also run Deloraine Cattery, their dedicated cat boarding service. This serene environment enhances the healing experience, providing a peaceful backdrop for clients to relax and explore their inner selves.

At Guided Healing, every QHHT session is a personalised voyage into the subconscious mind, following the groundbreaking work of the late Dolores Cannon. Dolores Cannon's method reveals how our subconscious holds the keys to our past lives, current challenges, and deeper self-understanding. Vanessa's approach is infused with her cultural heritage and personal experiences, creating a supportive and enriching environment for each client.

Imagine stepping into a welcoming space where Vanessa invites you to relax and explore the depths of your inner world. During a QHHT session, you may delve into past life experiences, uncovering insights that address current life issues or connect with your higher self for guidance and clarity. Vanessa's culturally rich background and empathetic approach ensure that each session is handled with care and



respect, fostering an atmosphere where profound healing and personal growth can occur.

One memorable client, Emma, came to Guided Healing seeking relief from unexplained physical ailments and a sense of disconnection. Through her QHHT session with Vanessa, Emma accessed past life experiences that revealed a significant emotional trauma affecting her present life. The insights gained from this exploration allowed Emma to release old patterns and experience deep healing, illustrating the powerful impact of Vanessa's work.

While Vanessa applies a monetary value to her QHHT services, she is open to various forms of energy exchange. Whether you offer a trade in services, goods, or another form of exchange, Vanessa welcomes the opportunity to work with you, reflecting her commitment to making this transformative healing accessible to everyone.

Explore the possibilities of Quantum Healing Hypnosis Technique with Vanessa Wilson and embark on a journey of self-discovery and healing. Visit GuidedHealing.nz to learn more and schedule your session. Discover how Vanessa's expertise and cultural insight can guide you toward clarity, healing, and a deeper connection with your true self.

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, Pataua, and Whangārei Heads. 4,000 copies are printed by Jeff Oliver Print 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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- Cultivate and nurture the interests of the community of Onerahi
- Promote the district
- Assist residents
- Develop and administer facilities

President's report December 2024



King's Birthday Honours - NZ order of Merit

Governor General Cindy Kiro presented Grant Harrison, the President of the OCA, with his MNZM award at the Auckland investiture ceremony on 1 October 2024.

Holiday time

The summer months are fast approaching and with the improved weather, increased day length and warmer temperatures, we will see increased outdoor activity. Increased outdoor activity can provide positive benefits to community members, however the antisocial behaviour of some can have negative impacts on all of us. The OCA are keen to see less of these types of behaviours; so ask for restraint when celebrating in our suburb.

With school finishing there will be more younger people around during the day so driving habits should reflect this.

Community swimming at the pool

The school pool at Raurimu Avenue will open for summer in early December – it will be available on a weekday evening and Sunday afternoon. Planning is underway for a weeklong holiday programme in January based at the pool. Keep an eye on Onerahi Facebook for details.

Basketball court upgrades

In the planning at the moment is an upgrade of the basketball court with lines being marked out and regular training and competition opportunities offered.

Onerahi village shopping centre

Community members will have noted the bright blue painting of the disability car parks in the shopping area, it is hoped the increase in visibility will mean the car parks are able to be used for those who need them when they need them.

There will be more seating around planter boxes placed in the shopping area allowing people to stop, connect with each other over a coffee or soft drinks.

Community Champions

October - Roy Guyatt: Roy has been delivering the Onerahi Orbit to households for several years. This involves the collection of the magazines and then the delivery into mailboxes (in all weathers!). Roy makes a valuable contribution to keeping Onerahi connected.

November - Steve Phillips: At 80 years of age Steve volunteers three times a week at Dragonfly Springs and until recently was also a long time volunteer on Matakohē Limestone Island. Steve also helps to present information about Dragonfly Springs to the community of Onerahi, and those visiting, thereby encouraging connection of the community to their environment.

Planning for 2025

Early next year will see increased activations in the after-school time – a range of sports will be offered targeting whānau groups in the community.

Lastly, this edition will coincide with Christmas. OCA wishes everyone a safe and Merry Christmas.

Beware of your parcels being pinched



We're heading into the busiest time of year for postal deliveries and Police want to remind everyone to do what they can to stop parcel theft. Our advice is:

- Get packages delivered to a place where someone will be home to receive them, or to a work address.
- If you have deliveries made to your home, make sure you're going to be home to sign for them, or have a secure location where they can be left.
- Make sure your delivery instructions are clear, and ask for packages not to be placed at your front door, or on top of a post box.
- If you're not going to be home when the parcel is delivered, arrange to collect your parcel from the depot, or have the parcel redirected to the address of someone you trust.
- Be smart when disposing of packaging, so passers-by can't see what you've been buying.
- Report any suspicious behaviour to Police - e.g. if you see a car following a courier van.

By Sergeant Rowan Steenkamp, Wellington Prevention Coordinator for the New Zealand Police

Letter to the Editor

The Whangārei District Council has proposed changes to the Alcohol Control Bylaw 2018. One of the amendments to the Bylaw is to lift the blanket coastal ban that applies to public places within 300m of the mean low-tide mark.

The existing coastal ban covers areas like the Onerahi foreshore, Ngunguru, Tutukaka, and Parua Bay to Whangārei Heads to name a few. The amendment would mean there would no longer be any alcohol ban for these coastal residential areas.

Other coastal areas (namely Oakura, Whananaki North, Whananaki South, Matapōuri / Whale Bay, Pataua North and South, the beach and foreshore in Bream Bay, from Marsden Point to Waipū Cove, and at Langs Beach) will have alcohol bans from 7:00pm to 7:00am.

Whether omitting areas such as the Onerahi foreshore, Ngunguru, Tutukaka, and Parua Bay to Whangārei Heads was a deliberate decision or an unintentional oversight, one cannot say. These areas do require some form of alcohol ban, though, whether it be for 24 hours or from 7:00pm to 7:00am.

Let's be clear, the Alcohol Control Bylaw should not be used to target those adults who may come to these areas to have one or two drinks while they picnic, for example. However, it is a necessary tool to deter those who abuse alcohol. A common example witnessed at the Onerahi foreshore is people getting drunk next to the children's playground.



Similarly, alcohol and oceans are not a good mix. While this should be taken as a given, it is not, and the Alcohol Control Bylaw is one way this can be made clear.

Submissions have closed. Still, it doesn't hurt to contact the Whangārei District Council if you also disagree with this amendment. The Council's decision will be made in December.

From a concerned Onerahi resident

Note from the Ed - please see page 22 for more on the Alcohol Control Bylaw changes

Christmas hours

Onerahi

CHRISTMAS EVE 7am-8pm	Monday 30 December 7:30am-8pm	✨ ✨ ❤️ ❤️
CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED	NEW YEARS EVE 7am-8pm	
BOXING DAY 8am-8pm	NEW YEARS DAY 8am-8pm	
Friday 20 December 7:30am-8pm	Friday 27 December 7:30am-8pm	
Saturday 21 December 7:30am-8pm	Saturday 28 December 8am-8pm	
Sunday 22 December 7:30am-8pm	Sunday 29 December 8am-8pm	
Monday 23 December 7am-8pm		
Thursday 2 January 7:30am-8pm		
Friday 3 January 7:30am-8pm		
Saturday 4 January 8am-8pm		

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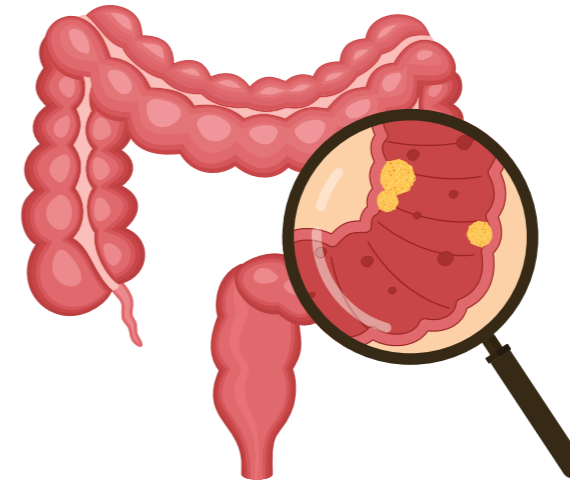
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Bowel screening can help find cancer early

STAGES OF COLORECTAL CANCER (CRC)



- STAGE 0**
Cancer has been found inside the inner lining of the bowel
- STAGE 1**
Cancer has spread into the inner lining of the bowel
- STAGE 2**
Cancer has spread to the outer layers of the bowel wall
- STAGE 3**
Cancer has spread to nearby lymph nodes
- STAGE 4**
Cancer has spread to other parts of the body, such as the liver or lungs

New Zealand has one of the highest rates of bowel cancer in the world with more than 3,000 people being diagnosed with it and 1,200 dying from the disease each year.

Bowel cancer, also called colon, rectal or colorectal cancer, starts when cells in the bowel begin to grow out of control, these cells can turn into a polyp (growth) and some polyps may turn into a cancer over a number of years. Regular bowel screening provides an opportunity to find and treat bowel cancer at an early stage.

The National Bowel Screening Programme is a free programme offered to 60- to 74-year-olds who are eligible for publicly funded health care and aims to detect precancerous changes or bowel cancer at an early stage.

If you are eligible you will be sent:

- an invitation letter
- a consent form
- a free bowel screening test kit, with instructions

The test is clean and simple to do at home.

What are the symptoms of bowel cancer?

There may be no warning signs that you have bowel cancer but common symptoms include:

- a change in your normal bowel habit that continues for several weeks
- blood in your bowel motion

These symptoms can be caused by other conditions but it's important to get them checked. If you have any bowel symptoms that concern you, discuss these with your doctor as soon as you can, don't wait to receive the free bowel screening test.

How do I do the test?

The bowel screening test detects tiny traces of blood present in your bowel motion (poo). These tests have an expiry date, so it is important that you complete and post it the same day. The laboratory can't process tests which have passed their expiry date and you will be sent another test to complete.

To do the test, you need to:

- collect a small sample of your poo using the test stick, and put it into the tube
- put the sample in the zip-lock bag, along with the dated and completed consent form
- place it in the reply-paid envelope provided and post it the same day

You will be contacted with your result and told what this means for you.

To find out more visit www.timetobowelscreen.nz, email Bowel.Screening@northlanddhhb.org.nz, freephone 0800 924 432 or talk to your doctor.

Bowel screening is easy

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If you're aged 60 to 74, you can have free bowel screening. A bowel screening test kit will be sent to your home every two years. This simple and clean test can help find bowel cancer early when it can often be successfully treated.

When you get the test, just do it! It could save your life.

To find out more go to timetobowelscreen.nz or email Bowel.Screening@northlanddhhb.org.nz

Time to screen National Bowel Screening Programme

MP for Whangārei - Hon Dr Shane Reti

This Government recently marked a year since being elected by the New Zealand people to get things back on track. I'm incredibly proud of our achievements since that time, and it continues to be a privilege to serve as your Minister of Health as well as the MP for Whangārei.

Since my last update, we've seen more important improvements to our health system to ultimately benefit Kiwis across the country, including the roll out of new cancer medicines to whānau who desperately need access to these important treatments. This was made possible by our Government investing a record \$604 million into Pharmac to purchase these life extending, and in some cases, lifesaving, drugs.

Alongside treating cancer, it's also vital we try and diagnose it as early as possible. That's why this Government promised to expand the BreastScreen Aotearoa programme for those aged 70-74 (for too long, the age range has been 45 to 69 years).



Shane Reti officially opened the BestStart Kotata Heights early childhood education centre in Whangārei in late October 2024

A phased roll out for this important initiative has now begun and will be operating nationally within five years. The programme currently screens around 270,000 women per annum, and when the roll-out of the age extension is complete, it will mean approximately 50,000 additional women screened each year.

I also want to reinforce an important message around Whangārei Hospital. Our Government remains absolutely committed to an upgrade of our local hospital. There's been a lot of wrong information circulating. There's been progress around the rebuild: earlier this year, I opened the new Kotuku maternity and paediatric block, with the old paediatric block then converted into 30 new adult beds. Whānau House – a first stage of the Whangārei redevelopment – is also newly opened, and plans are being finalised for a new Child Health Unit.

I've also had the pleasure of attending several senior prize givings at our great Whangārei schools, and it was a particular privilege to present the Whangārei MP Racial Harmony Award to five very inspiring youthful recipients.

As we begin to look forward to the Christmas period, I want to wish you all a safe and restful summer period. I look forward to spending some time with family before getting back to work for the people of Whangārei and New Zealand.

HON DR SHANE RETI QSM
MP for Whangārei

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Policeman Sam represents New Zealand

Constable Sam Davidson from the Onerahi Community Police station played for New Zealand at the World Masters Hockey World Cup in Cape Town in October this year.

The team did well, reaching the semi-finals and claiming fourth after a hard battle against the English team at the Hartleyvale Stadium in Cape Town. The gold and silver places were taken by South Africa and Australia.

Sam reports that he thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and it was nice to be able to travel with others from Whangārei to the event. He is now back on the job in Onerahi.

The Onerahi Community Constable has been honing his skills as the goalie in the Master Men's 40 age group, with his selection occurring after the National Masters tournament in Wellington. This is the first time he has donned the Silver Fern and represented New Zealand.

Sam funded the trip himself, raffling firewood and holding a pub quiz among other things to raise the necessary funds for the trip and to pay for his playing kit.

In the build up to the World Cup, Sam tapped into the experience of former New Zealand goalkeeper and Northlander Grant Croft, and worked on speed, foot work and agility. "It's the first time I've been coached," says Sam. "I've just relied on good reflexes and developed technique through playing the game rather than being taught. With Croft we have broken down the skill sets and worked on those, like body positioning and sliding. I've never trained so hard in my life."

Sam credits his 16-year-old daughter, who is also a hockey goalie, as the reason for pushing himself. "I wanted to show her that if you put the effort in, you can take your game to another level."

Sam says he loves the team environment, but being a goalie also allows room to be an individual. "It can be the difference between winning and losing. The ball must go through 10 other players but it's the goalkeeper who can make the difference at the end of the day."

Sam's New Zealand team was one of 13 teams in the Master 40s division, which also included Argentina, England, Australia, France, Germany, Kenya, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa and USA. They will be playing the tournament at two venues, including the Western province Cricket Club at the base of the imposing Table Mountain. "This is my first



time to South Africa so I'm really looking forward to doing some sight-seeing after the tournament."

Sam is well connected to Onerahi community where he has worked for eight of his 12 years in Police and says the support from the community has been amazing.

Based on feedback from Sam and Police press releases

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Since October 2023 there has been a change in ownership. Kahn Dobney, June Cumming and baby Rex have taken over from Mike.

- Exciting new changes are happening instore!
- Prices have been permanently reduced!
- Now open 7 days a week!
- Focusing on working with our local community, we have started FREE education sessions for you!
- We love working with local Northland rescues, holding adoption days and have distributed over 10 pallets of food to the local rescues since taking over!
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Kia ora Koutou

Warmest greetings to you all as we head into summer and the festive season!

With the weather warming up, our harbour and beaches are getting a bit busier! Have fun out there with your friends and Whānau, and please remember to take care and follow the safe boating rules. Speed is a major concern during the busy summer months, remember the 5 knot speed rule when within 200m of land, 50m of another vessel, or 200m from a dive flag. There's loads of helpful information on the NRC website: <https://www.nrc.govt.nz/maritime/safe-boating/safe-boating-rules/>

Maritime NZ also has a helpful safe boating code with the following 5 simple points:

1. Wear your lifejacket
2. Take two waterproof forms of communication
3. Check the marine weather forecast
4. Avoid alcohol
5. Be a responsible skipper



Another seasonal reminder is around lighting fires... Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) has its own seasonal restrictions and permitting requirements. Even if your burning is within the Northland Regional Council rules, be sure to check if it's an open, restricted or prohibited fire season at: checkitsalright.nz

Reporting a smoke nuisance - or a fire Concerned about smoke or a fire? Try talking to the person, they may be



unaware they are causing a problem. If the problem continues call our 24/7 NRC Incident Hotline on 0800 504 639. If you feel the fire is a danger, call 111 immediately.

NRC council work has been busy as ever. We are pushing forward with community groups across the region to fund and support climate resilience projects, pest control, riparian planting, and civil defence preparedness. I keep in touch with our local WDC councillors to help ensure our two councils are working well together, providing efficient service for our community. There are lots of events in the diary for

summer, so I hope to see some of you out there soon!

I will continue meeting with local groups to keep in touch and hear community thoughts, I'm happy to hear from you, please just get in touch - amym@nrc.govt.nz, or find me on facebook: Amy Macdonald – NRC Councillor.

Ngā mihi nui,

Councillor Amy Macdonald Northland Regional Council

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



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Wai A Ariki Food Forest news

Spring has arrived at our Wai A Ariki food forest and community gardens.

There has been lots of preparation in the garden beds with some being covered with cardboard and mulch in preparation for vege planting. There's a pollinator bed and a wildflower garden being created too. As usual there's lots of weeding going on. A lot of trees sadly had to be removed as they did not recover from the phantom poisoner who sprayed and killed off several fruit and native trees over the last year. They will be replaced.



As there is a planting plan in place we ask that if anyone has plants to gift, or wants to help, could they contact one of the volunteers. We welcome and encourage people to come and be a part of this wonderful multicultural community project. We look forward to meeting new people and sharing ideas. A group meets on Fridays at @ 10am to discuss what needs doing.

I'd like to acknowledge the hardworking team from Toko toko solutions for their massive input, especially the much needed manpower. They've been turning up at our Friday garden meet to lend a hand with mowing, weeding, mulching and garden building. Cheers, Wendy

Mobility parking fines increased

You will see the newly painted and clearly visible mobility parking at our shopping centre. As of 1 October 2024, the fine for parking in a disability parking space in New Zealand is \$750. This is a 500% increase from the previous fine of \$150. Remember, a disability is not always visible so don't think you can park in a disabled parking space just because you think you have seen others do so. If you don't have a card, don't use the space.

Please be aware when driving and coming out of driveways etc to look out for people pushing pushchairs and wheelchairs, using walkers, mobility scooters and especially look for children. Parking a car on a footpath is a big no no, as it makes it unsafe for people to get past. Thank you to everyone who doesn't block footpaths with wheelie and recycling bins.

Cheers, Wendy



Onerahi Orbit Volunteers Team

A HUGE shout out to thank Onerahi Orbit volunteers for the work they do distributing the Orbit to our residents. The team braves all weather conditions year round to get the news to you five times a year - so thank you to ALL our wonderful volunteers. If you want to be on the Onerahi team and help out too, please contact Allan Westlake on 021 437 591.



Onerahi School report

Kia ora koutou,



We already find ourselves at the end of another year. Again, it has been full of rich experiences for our tamariki, in large part due to our committed staff. They are tireless

in seeking out opportunities for our tamariki and putting in the mahi to ensure these are successful. Thank you to our hardworking kaimahi for their efforts. Often these rich experiences need the support of our community to run smoothly and we are very appreciative to everyone who shared their time (that most valuable and limited of resources) to help us this year.

I would also like to acknowledge our tamariki. They are caring and helpful. Their curiosity and sense of wonder ensures that each day is different from the last. They are inclusive and like to support those around them and take the time to celebrate each other's success. When we talk about being whānau at our kura, it is more than words. Thank you tamariki for contributing to our success.

As much we love exploring our own whenua we also enjoy sampling the rest of the world. Recently we held a Cultural Festival at school where every child got to experience different aspects of Chinese and Japanese culture, each led by a visiting expert. We also saw performances from many groups across the school that had been building up to this moment. There was a dazzling display of singing and dancing. These performances were capped off by our kapa haka development group Whakapuāwai who, fresh from their latest noho, absolutely shone. Thank you to everyone involved.



Whakapuāwai captivates the audience with their performance

We move to the end of year with strong relationships across the school, we know each other, what makes us different, and what we share in common. Through our values of manaakitanga (care), Whānaungatanga (connection), and manawa reka (curiosity), we look forward to everyone continuing to thrive at Onerahi School in 2025.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Danny Hamilton Tumuaki Tuarua / Deputy Principal



YEAR 7/8 2025 Enrolments



The Parua Bay School Board of Trustees invites Out of Zone Enrolment applications from parents/caregivers who wish to enrol their children at Year 7/8 for 2025

We offer an extensive range of opportunities to our intermediate students



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Raurimu Avenue School

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Nei rā te karanga ki te takiwā o Onerahirahi e

He mana tangata, he mana whenua,

Tau mai te mauri

Haumie, hui e, taiki e

Well, it is official. I am now the proud Tumuaki of Raurimu Avenue School, and I would like to thank everyone who contributed to our mighty school over the last two terms and supported our students' flourishing.

Last term the students researched their pepeha and learnt mihi, karanga and a pōwhiri process. They put in the hard mahi going over and over practising what to do, and at the beginning of the term, they were able to use their learning in a real-life context and did so beautifully with so much mana, welcoming me into their school as their principal. I could not have been more honoured or proud of them.

None of that would have been possible without the expertise and support of an amazing staff. I am grateful for a wonderful team who have supported a vision that helps our tamariki to thrive, where student voice matters, and our school CARE values guide how and what we do. They are all



unsung heroes who go beyond the call of duty to ensure every child is seen, heard and nurtured.

I am looking forward to what the future holds for Raurimu Avenue School and have been humbled to learn of all the great memories that the school has had over the decades. I hope to add to those fond memories that our tamariki will be sharing in a decade or two.

Please feel free to pop in and connect, my door is always open for a chat. Whānau and community voice are just as important and I encourage your presence, connection and commitment to nurturing our tamariki and their school.

Mā te aroha, te manaaki, ka teaea te katoa.

Nā Whaea Celia Tumuaki

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Fire Brigade thanks Jay Cars for support

Onerahi Volunteer Fire Brigade has now installed the eight camera security system kindly donated by our local branch of Jay Cars. This has been in response to reports of late night unruly behaviour and vehicle theft in the vicinity of our Fire Station. We now have great security coverage around our Fire Station with high resolution pictures and excellent detection. Appreciation and big thanks to Jay Cars for their awesome support.



Jeff Pipe - Onerahi Volunteer Fire Brigade

PBRRA News- Parua Bay Residents and Ratepayers Association

Welcome to our last message for 2024.

COMMUNITY HUI and AGM- PBRRA invite all members, Parua Bay residents, and interested folk to our Hui and AGM on Tuesday 10th December 2024, 6pm @ the Mt Manaia Bowling Club, Parua Bay. Speakers will update residents on current projects and developments, including reports from our local Civil Defence group, local councillor(s), the Skatepark, and a Sports Hub update. This will be followed by our AGM. Please come along and meet us, and perhaps think about joining our committee.

We are a group of local residents who work on behalf of our community, to identify needs, raise funds for local projects, and speak up on behalf of Parua Bay and its residents. Currently our committee is dwindling, and we need your help! We are a friendly, pro-active committee. If you can spare a couple of hours per month, or have some ideas you'd like to share with us, come along to our hui, or email us at paruabayrra@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you.

If you are a Parua Bay Resident and do not currently belong to PBRRA as a member, please email us so we can add your name to our newsletters and emails, and keep you up to date with what is happening in our community.

Civil Defence

With everyone thinking ahead to summer and holiday time, take a moment to check if you are prepared for an emergency, eg tsunami threat, summer storm, power cut etc.

Do you have a GRAB BAG handy, with items to tide you over for a few hours, should you need to evacuate your house?

Do you have an EMERGENCY KIT, with supplies to last your family for 3 days, in the event of a power cut?

If you are staying in a rental property over summer, or renting out your own property, check that you or your guests know what to do in an emergency. Where would you go to higher ground, where is the local meeting place, and what do you do if you hear a tsunami siren?

If you are unsure, come along to our hui or check out info on the Civil Defence website- <https://www.nrc.govt.nz/civildefence/>

We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas season, and look forward to keeping you posted in 2025.

Your PBRRA Committee
Contributed by Barb Green



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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



End of year 2024

Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete me te tau hou, seasons greetings and Buone Feste Onerahi!

We're nearing the end of the year, which means it's time to look at what Council has achieved, what projects are currently underway, and what's coming up for the future of Onerahi and those out towards Whangārei Heads.

We all know Whangārei District is growing fast. Infometrics puts our Whangārei population at 101,900 for 2023 and is anticipating our population will grow to approximately 120,000 in the next 10 years. My own calculations put us much higher than that - I predict our population will reach 140,000 within the next 10 years (especially when the four-lane expressway is completed!).

With this growth comes infrastructure and planning challenges for essentials like wastewater, stormwater, drinking water, roading, rubbish and recycling, footpaths, parks, public toilets, sportsgrounds and libraries.

To prepare for this growth, Council is investing in your local water infrastructure, including watermain renewals at Whangārei Heads and investment into the Parua Bay wastewater scheme. Council has also improved Onerahi bus stops, sports fields, and footpaths, and we're investing \$100,000 into the Onerahi Bowling Club for a new turf.

The Land Search and Rescue Service, based at Onerahi

Airport, and the Whangārei Heads Volunteer Fire Service have both received funding for their new operational buildings. As our community grows sometimes these services are needed more than we would prefer, and it is great to have them there when we do need them.

This term of Council has been encouraging community engagement and community-led projects, such as the refurbishment of the Onerahi basketball court. I have always found that when a community stands together many things can be achieved. I look forward to seeing some of these community-led projects come to life.

Looking at the future of Whangārei, connectivity is one of the major needs we have and managing the growth that comes from that better connectivity means we need to plan well in advance. With the confirmation of the 4-lane northern expressway, we can turn our attention to the other forms of connectivity such as our local roads and intersections, shared paths and footpath widening, rail, seaports and air connections.

It is exciting to watch Onerahi and Whangārei Heads grow and thrive, as these areas have some of the most spectacular scenery within our District. It's no wonder people want to live there!

Happy holidays everyone.



Is it time to change your tech?

You see many people today with smart watches (a device that says what your heartbeat is, when someone is calling you, texting you or messaging you through Facebook, and oh yes, tells you the time). Yet is it time to upgrade?

There are so many electronic gadgets out there, that it can be confusing when talking to salespeople or even family members about what you may need.

At times I get asked from my clients about what to purchase "what do I need if I'm going to" I then proceed in asking a lot more follow up questions, so together we can determine what the need is and what the device will be used for.

Let us go through some of those questions now:

When choosing a piece of technology, first understand: why do you need it? "I'm wanting to stay connected", you say. Great. Will you be wanting to type emails or documents? Or just wanting to know stuff? Or even make calls to family and friends? Are you wanting it to be portable?

Next, work out what the price of the piece of technology is, what you can afford, as some devices cost a lot more than others, and they have a lot more bells and whistles that come with them for that extra cost (and you may not even use it or need it).

Lastly, always remember that nothing lasts forever, this is sometimes the hardest part to accept. Tablets and phones last approximately four years. Laptops and computers last approximately six years. Printers typically last for two changes of ink cartridges. TVs last approximately 10 years. Yes, there are a lot of variables within technology and it is mostly determined by wear and tear, or operating system updates.

It is true, we all want things to last forever.

Technology may change, our need to communicate never does, therefore picking the right piece of technology for today's use is much better than trying to predict what you plan to do in the future, and when all else fails, talk to your friendly IT professional, as they are here to help.

Swing by for a play



If you've driven past Onerahi Playcentre recently, the bright new swings area is hard to miss. Earlier this year the centre underwent an exciting upgrade, including a new turf and sturdy swing frame. The project was made possible with funding from Foundation North, Pub Charity and self-funding from the centre.

The new swings have enhanced the already amazing space, which is open to parents and caregivers to bring their preschool-age babies and kids. The centre is open for sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays 9.30am - 12.30pm during school term time. If you think playcentre could be for you, drop in for a visit, we'd love to see you!

Email us at onerahi@playcentre.org.nz for more info.

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Want to buy local?

There is a new initiative in Te Tai Tokerau which aims to link up buyers and sellers of all types, online, so that people can trade locally - because if you spend money in your local community, it goes back into local wages, into local community activities, into local schools, and therefore benefits local whānau.

Rerengātahi is a community economic development project which aims to create a robust and supportive 'online village' of businesses and community groups in Te Tai Tokerau. The primary focus is on providing support to Māori pakihi, sole traders and micro businesses, as well as Marae and community groups.


The Rerengātahi website is currently set up with the following functions:

1. A directory: The Rerengātahi directory serves as more than just a simple directory. For some of our businesses/groups their listing on Rerengātahi is their only online presence. Therefore a Rerengātahi listing can also serve as a web page.

2. A marketplace: For our businesses who are wanting to sell via Rerengātahi, it is a gateway to making sales as it allows easy connection between people.

Rerengātahi is an evolving project, and they are keen to find out what kind of support they need to give our community. If you're keen to find out more, see their website <https://rerengatahi.nz>

About Us



Rerengātahi is a digital and community development project to help develop connections and strengthen support networks. We encourage buying locally, because money spent in your local community will go back into local wages, into community activities, into local schools, and benefit local whānau.

What is a Timebank and can I use it?



A very happy Glenn wearing his new towelling poncho he got from timebanking

Timebank is a community-based system that allows people to exchange time, skills, and knowledge instead of money. Timebank members earn credits by contributing their time and can then use those credits to receive services from other members. Everyone's time is valued equally, one hour is one time credit, regardless of what you are exchanging.

Timebanking can therefore also help build communities by connecting people with new experiences and/or community activities, rewarding unpaid work that's important to society, creating stronger networks, encouraging skill sharing, and promoting social cohesion.

New Zealand has around 30 Timebanks, including our very own Tai Tokerau Timebank.

Tai Tokerau Timebank members have a profile on the online platform, Timeoverflow, where they manage the help they're offering and requesting; as well as where they record their time exchanges. Whangārei Timebank has an active membership who run workshops, crop swaps, social events and partnerships with a variety of local organisations such as the Repair Café, Green Drinks, FORCE, Ecosolutions and the Community Gardens. Membership only costs \$6 a year! Or you can 'pay' by giving your time to help Timebank.

Have a look at <https://www.taitokerautimebank.org/> or contact: Janey Pares Edney at janeype.tttimebank@gmail.com or phone 027 450 2577.



Mt Manaia from inside the Gun Emplacement - photo by Hadden Morrison

The Gun Emplacement at Bream Head

Bream Head/Te Whara
CONSERVATION TRUST

Bream Head Scenic Reserve isn't just a place to preserve wildlife but also human history. Although it is difficult to believe today, nearly 85 years ago New Zealand was preparing to defend itself from the rapid advancement of enemy forces. Some of those rare defence structures remain in the Reserve and can be easily visited today.

The 1940s were a nervous time for New Zealand as the war raging in Europe suddenly came uncomfortably close. The liner Niagara, was sunk by a mine laid by a German raider on the 19th of June 1940. It now lies on the seabed between the Mokohinau Islands and the Hen and Chicks. Then on the 14th of May 1941 the minesweeper HMS Puriri hit a mine 8 miles NE of Bream Head and sank with the loss of 5 lives. The threat of a Japanese invasion was also growing.

Thus, the New Zealand government embarked on a plan to begin building defence structures around their most important harbours and ports. Whangārei Harbour was

considered a secondary port. In January 1942, the War Cabinet authorized that a single 5 inch naval gun be established to protect Whangārei Harbour. The radar station, up from Ocean Beach, was being built at a similar time (see our article in the June Orbit).

The site was selected with great care. The gun emplacement, battery, observation post, engine, reservoir, personnel accommodation and ammunition shed were built to appear as if they were a local cottage and farm buildings. Grazing stock on the site continued to reinforce this disguise.

Luckily, no action was seen by the gun, however it did complete 3 test firings. The longest shot actually reached Ocean Beach and the shock wave was so

intense it knocked down the ammunition shed. The Bream Head gun emplacement only remained operational until November 1943 but it, and the radar station, were part of a comprehensive network of coastal defences. The Bream Head gun battery is now the only remaining example of WW2 defence structures in the Whangārei region and, although much of the structure has been removed, enough still remains to make a visit worthwhile. Pick up our brochure at Urquhart Bay, Peach Cove or Ocean Beach Reserve entrances and inside is a very useful map to guide you along the way.



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'Out of the Ocean, into the Fire'

A geological tour of Northland by Onerahian's Libby & Peter Urbahn - Part 3



After a short ferry ride across Hokianga Harbour and a leisurely wander around Kohukohu admiring the beautifully restored buildings and the tiny first stone bridge in New Zealand, we headed north continuing our geological tour.

Bruce Hayward's book, "Out of the Ocean, into the Fire"

More volcanics awaited us south of Ahipara, in the form of the little-known Mud Volcano. After unsuccessfully trying to gain the local farmer's permission to enter his land, we approached the 4m high grey dome that extended 30m into lush cattle country around Runaruna. It was an eerie experience as we skirted the dome inexplicably expecting something to happen. We thought the crater lake would be hot, but we were surprised to discover the mud was bubblingly cold as various gases found their way to the surface of Northland from hundreds of metres below.

Over thousands of years, the Mud Volcano had formed, a forlorn structure in the middle of Northland's attractive farmland. We consulted our geology 'bible' (Out of the Ocean, into the Fire by Bruce Hayward) surprised there were only three other mud volcanoes in New Zealand, one near



The Mud Volcano



90 Mile Beach from Ahipara

Gisborne, another in Canterbury. Further north, we arrived at Ahipara at the southern end of 90 Mile Beach. The view from Shipwreck Bay was awesome, the sweep of the famous beach stretching into a hazy salty spray. Our 'bible' reminded us that the sandy stretch was originally a tombolo that connected the hilly North Cape with the bulk of Northland. Sand has been deposited here for millennia building up the wondrous beaches we enjoy today.

Next issue: Part 4 - The Cape

Water safety support available

Maritime NZ has provided the Northland Regional Council with \$80,000 towards delivering the safe boating programme - 'Nobody's stronger than Tangaroa'. The programme provides communities with



safety training and equipment to reduce fatalities and injuries to people out on the water in recreational craft.

The funding will be spent on ambassadors who will deliver life jacket hubs (where life jackets are lent out to community members) and training geared towards priority groups including males over 45 years-old and Māori. The ambassadors will deliver key safety messaging, including the importance of wearing a life jacket, carrying two waterproof forms of communication, checking the weather forecast before heading out, and knowing the rules.

The programme will be supported by council's Maritime Officers and Harbour Wardens who will be conducting on-water patrols throughout the peak summer period (Labour Weekend to Easter) to enforce, educate, and achieve better compliance with safe boating rules and bylaws.



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Note! Changes to dog rules

Changes have been made to the Whangārei District Council's Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Management Policy. These took effect at the end of October. Dogs are now allowed on-leash in Whangārei's city centre and off-leash year-round at nine beach locations:

- Whananaki North (foreshore between boat ramps)
- Tūtūkākā Marina beach
- Between Kauakarangi Bay sandspit (Ngunguru) and Whangaumu Bay
- Ngunguru estuary foreshore (village side)
- Waikaraka Beach
- One Tree Point (northeastern side)
- Ruakākā Beach north (between Mair Road and Taotahi Walk)
- Ruakākā Beach south (between surf club and campground)
- Uretiti Beach (Tip Road northwards).

A number of coastal dog bans are in place to protect vulnerable wildlife. Many of these support existing rules on land managed by the Department of Conservation, such as in Whangaruru North, parts of Whananaki, Matapōuri and Whangārei Heads, and around the Ruakākā and Waipū river mouths.

Together with everything you need to know about the updated bylaw, the council has also provided, on their website, a new online map showing the dog access rules, detailed information about dogs on beaches and where you can exercise your dog.

Alcohol Control lifted on Onerahi waterfront

The council has proposed changes to the Alcohol Control Bylaw, with the Bylaw most likely being finalised before the festive season. The Bylaw applies to public places where drinking has led to a high level of criminal or disorderly behaviour. The proposed amendments include, amongst others:

- expanding the city centre alcohol ban to include the carparks at Okara Shopping Centre, Cobham Oval and beneath the Te Matau a Pohe bridge
- introducing a new alcohol ban at Tarewa Park
- lifting the existing blanket coastal ban that applies to public places within 300m of the mean low-tide mark
- introducing new 7pm to 7am beach and foreshore alcohol bans in Bream Bay, from Marsden Point to Waipū Cove, and at Langs Beach.

The lifting of the alcohol ban from the Onerahi foreshore/ Beach Road Reserve area was proposed as part of point three. The Onerahi Community Association made a submission opposing the lifting of the alcohol ban from this area, asking for a full 24 hour ban, or at least a 7.00pm - 7.00am ban. Other areas submitted on include the Parua Bay boat ramp area and the Raurimu Road area.

Plan ahead for emergencies

Have you thought about your survival plan...

In our wonderful Onerahi community there are many elderly, and people with disabilities and mobility issues. Do YOU have a plan in place to keep yourself safe or if you need to be evacuated? This would include a contact phone list given to a friend, neighbour, or family member who can check up on you. If you live alone or with someone vulnerable then this is especially important.

Civil Defence do their best, but it is up to people to make sure they have a plan in place for themselves and/or their families. Always have a phone fully charged and a backup plan. Get to know your neighbours and discuss with them your plan. Share how you will get through a disaster.

It's important to make sure you have blankets, radio, warm clothing, batteries, torch, water and food supplies, and a first aid kit handy. Don't forget your fur friends too. Cheers, Wendy

What you need to know about the new Gangs Act 2024

The new Gangs Act 2024 came into force on 21 November. The purpose of the legislation is to reduce the ability of gangs to operate and cause fear, intimidation and disruption to the public by:

- prohibiting the display of gang insignia in public places
- providing for the issue of dispersal notices to stop gang members from gathering in public places
- providing for the making of non-consorting orders to prevent specified gang offenders from associating or communicating with each other for three years.

Gang membership is now an aggravating factor at sentencing. It is unlawful to display gang insignia in public. Insignia is a sign, symbol or representation commonly displayed to denote membership of, or affiliation with, a gang. It includes any item or thing to which a sign, symbol, or representation is attached/affixed e.g. clothing or a vehicle. It excludes tattoos and does not include coloured clothing.

A public place is a place that is open to, or being used by, the public - such as service stations, shops, sports fields or club rooms. It also includes any vehicle, craft or vessel in a public place - ie a motor vehicle, train, ferry or aircraft. It does not include online places such as an online application, and it also does not include the parliamentary precincts.

What gangs do these laws apply to? These new laws apply to the gangs listed in the Gangs Act. In alphabetical order, these are currently: Aotearoa Natives, Bandidos MC, Barbarian Stormtrooper, Black Power, Comanchero MC, Crips, Damned Pirates, Devils Henchmen MC, Filthy Few MC, Fitus, Full Blooded Islanders, Greazy Dogs MC, Head Hunters MC, Hells Angels MC, Highway 61 MC, HTOWN07, Killerbeez, King Cobra, Kuki Squad, Magog MC, Mangu Kaha, Mongols MC, Mongrel Mob, New Zealand Nomad, Outcasts MC, Outlaws MC, Rebels MC, Road Knights MC, Satans Slaves MC, Stormtrooper, Taupiri MC, Tribal Huk, Tribesmen MC, Uru Taha and West Side.

Members are defined as:

- an individual who is a prospective member or nominee
- an individual who demonstrates affiliation to a gang by displaying the gang's insignia
- an individual who is involved in the affairs of a gang for the likely purpose of participating in a criminal activity.

Police can issue a dispersal notice if they have reasonable grounds to suspect three or more gang members are gathering in public, and the dispersal is necessary to avoid

unreasonably disrupting the activities of other members of the public. Once issued with a dispersal notice, the persons can be required to leave the public place immediately and not associate with one another in public for 7 days.

Based on information provided by the New Zealand Police in the pamphlet 'What you need to know', Gangs Act 2024

Emergency Numbers

Police ask that community members make sure to use the correct contact numbers.

The number 111 is if something bad is happening whereas the number 105 is if something bad has already happened. Stay safe.



Summer advice from the SPCA

Heading away for the holidays? Before you go check to make sure that your pet's microchip details (and your contact details) are up to date on the NZ Animal Companion Register.

If you are travelling with your pets and need to stop on route, please take them out of the car on a leash or in a crate, and pop them into the shade with water. On a 30C day the temperature inside your car can reach 39C in less than five minutes which can rapidly lead to sunstroke or worse.



This is the time of year when the SPCA are inundated with pregnant cats, kittens and puppies, so if your pet is not desexed now is a great time to get it done. If you need help with the desexing please don't hesitate to get in touch with our team at the centre, we are here to support you.

Here at SPCA Whangārei we are always looking for people who can volunteer either by helping at the centre during the week or weekends, or by fostering animals. The more volunteers the better. Please head to our website <https://www.sPCA.nz/how-you-can-help/volunteer> or pop into our centre and have a chat with the team.

At this time of the year our pens and foster homes are filled with baby animals who need tinned kitten and puppy food until they are old enough to transition to biscuits. If you are able to help with a tin or two we are grateful for all donations. There are donation boxes in the supermarkets, or you can pop them into the centre and say hi to our team.



Free bike parking and charging now available in town

For the next time you cycle to town, Whangārei now has access to self-locking and bike charging stations that are free for public use.

Just like drivers, cyclists need safe, convenient parking in town. These docks provide secure storage for all bikes and are ideal for e-bike riders who might otherwise worry about the risk of theft when parking. Ten Locky Docks make the first bike parking network, with an additional five proposed to be installed at a later date:



1. Kensington Shops – 117 Kamo Road
2. The Bach/Hundertwasser – 83 Dent St
3. The Quay/Clapham Clocks – 31 Quayside, Town Basin
4. Cameron Street Canopy – 1 James St
5. Old Library - Behind Old Library on right (Rust Ave)
6. Old Library - Behind Old Library on left (Rust Ave)
7. Lovers Lane – off Rust Avenue
8. Pohe Island Playground - On path by Pohe Island playground, Riverside Drive
9. Countdown Okara - 12 Okara Drive
10. Semenoff Stadium - 51 Okara Drive

Based on a press release by bigstreetbikers.co.nz



Hospice Memory Tree locations

North Haven Hospice will again have Memory Trees this Christmas from the 2nd to the 14th of December - this is where people write a message to a loved one they have lost on a heart or star, and hang it on one of the Christmas Trees or take it home. Hospice staff and volunteers will be on site with the Memory Trees 9:00am to 4:30pm on these dates at:



- Pak N' Save Whangārei
- Mitre 10 Whangārei
- Regent New World
- Whangārei Central Library
- Whangārei CBD North Haven Hospice Shop
- Two Birds Café, Ruakākā

Touch a truck this January!

This fun family day is back again on Sunday 26 January at Hurupaki School - in support of Te Kamo and Ngunguru Volunteer Fire Brigades.

This community event is open to families for everyone to get up close and climb up on diggers, graders, rollers, cranes and tractors. Come and see a display of a variety of big trucks - including Police, Fire and Ambulance vehicles. Fulton Hogan have again committed to providing some of their machinery to climb on, but we are really hoping to beef up the tractors & diggers with more tractors and more diggers, more graders and more equipment. This is the biggest truck show in Northland, and is a fantastic opportunity for the kids (both big and small!). Entry is by gold coin donation per person, and there will be rides, food, drinks and ice cream available at the event.



Significant risk to Whangārei Hospital rebuild

Whangārei Hospital's redevelopment has been labelled as a project with 'significant risk' by Health NZ due to a major funding shortfall.

In 2022, \$759m was approved for a new hospital block to include 10 surgical theatres, an expanded emergency department, intensive care unit, coronary care unit, radiology and support services. It also involved a new child health centre, whānau house and the design of a ward tower.

Documents released to 1News under the Official Information Act in October 2024 have revealed the project was given a 'red rating' in March this year and labelled as 'significant risk' due to insufficient funds.

Whangārei Hospital emergency doctor Garry Payinda said the hospital was built in the 1950s and was no longer fit for purpose. "We have a radiology department that, when it rains outside, it rains inside. We've got buckets near million dollar CT scanners, we have buckets and sponges, absorbent pads, near multi-million dollar MRIs. That's so substandard, and it's not right..."

Health Minister Shane Reti said planning would focus on priorities that could be achieved within the new budget.

Based on an article from 1news.co.nz - Whangārei Hospital redevelopment 'at risk' due to funding shortfall, dated 24/10/24

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Faith for today

A sliver of comfort to face the unknown



Breakfast from the Lord

Many years ago, I used to run a decorating business in Bristol, which involved working in many Bristolian homes. I often travelled along Muller Road, Ashley Down, named after the great German Missionary, Georg Müller. Georg was a mountain figure of faith, whose life was totally lived by faith. He was to consequently build five orphanages in the Bristol area.

Many of my elderly clients told me of eye witness stories about Georg. Several stories relate to the Sunday afternoons, with all the children dressed very smartly, walking down White Ladies Road holding hands together.

Of the many stories that I recall, is the day when everything looked bleak for the children. It was breakfast time, but there was no food for the children. A small girl, whose father was a close friend of Georg, was visiting the home at the time. Georg Müller took the little girl's hand and said "Come and see what our Heavenly Father will do."

In the dining room, long tables were set with empty plates and empty tin mugs. Not only was there no food in the kitchen, but there was no money to purchase any. Müller then prayed "Dear Father, we thank you for what you are going to give us to eat".

They heard a knock at the door. When they opened it, there stood the local baker. "Mr Müller," he said, "I couldn't sleep last night. Somehow I felt that you had no bread for



Georg Müller's orphans



Johann Georg Ferdinand Müller

breakfast, so I got up at 2am and baked fresh bread. Here it is." Müller thanked him and gave praise to God. Soon, a second knock at the door was heard. It was the milkman. His horse and cart had broken down in front of

the orphanage. He said he would like to give the children the milk so that he could empty the cart and repair it.

Why could Georg Müller pray with such confidence? Simply because he had seen God take care of the children many times before. Over the years, by Faith, Georg built five homes for children, with over 17,000 orphans given a safe and loving place to call home.

Georg Müller's mission ended in 1950 when the care system changed in England. One of the homes still stands today. The Blackwell House. Although badly dilapidated now, it is still a source of interest to many visitors today, who pay homage and respect to a German who never doubted God's faithfulness.

"Faith expects from God what is beyond all expectation."

Onerahi retired Pastor Ron Brewer



New property valuations

Currently, rates are based on property valuations as at 1 July 2021. Properties will be revalued this year to be used for rating from 1 July 2025. Council will communicate the new values in late 2024 or early 2025.

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

Acts 4:10-12

Contact: hello.onecc@gmail.com



LOCAL

NEWS

Whangārei Heads watermains renewal

WDC is replacing the watermains in Whangārei Heads due to ageing and damaged pipes. The renewals are taking place in three sections along Whangārei Heads Road:

- **Section 1** – From Scott Road to The Pines Golf Club (330m) – 4 November to mid-December 2024
- **Section 2** – From Pepi Road to Crisp Road (1.9km) – early March to late April 2025
- **Section 3** – From Bay View Road to approximately 2288 Whangārei Heads Road (1.4km) – late April to June 2025.

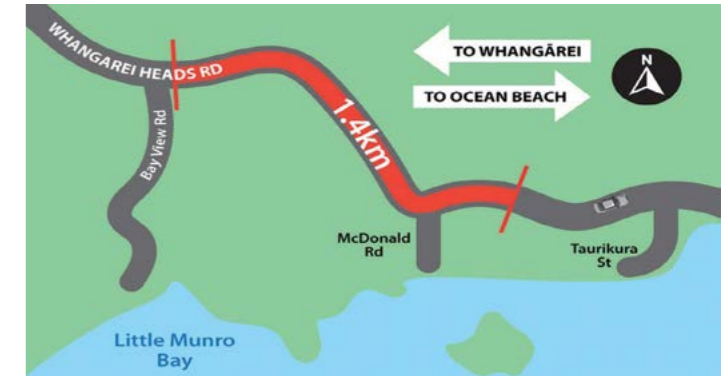
During the upgrades, due to the tight site constraints, traffic management will be in place with stop/go signs and traffic lights where needed. Residents will be notified by Council contractors when there will be disruptions to the water supply (expected during the day only).



Section 1 - 4 November to mid-December 2024



Section 2 – early March to late April 2025



Section 3 – late April to June 2025.

Missing swimmer

Onerahi is feeling the loss of a swimmer who failed to return from his swim on Sunday 20 October. He was reported missing on Monday 21 October. Sadly, there has been no sign of the man, and the rāhui has now been lifted. Police have thanked the Onerahi community for their assistance in the search, and in particular the Onerahi Yacht Club.

Police would still like to hear from members of the public who may have information, no matter how small or insignificant you think it might be.

If you have any dashcam footage or information that may assist, please get in touch with Police on the 105 online facility or phone 105 referencing file number 241021/1742 (from Detective Sergeant Paul Overton, Northland Police).

Plan Change 2: General Amendments

Some rules proposed by Plan Change 2 did not receive any submissions in opposition and are now 'treated as operative'. The proposed changes included amendments to specific rules to fix loopholes and/or unintended issues, amendments to specific definitions and insertion of new definitions, amendments to District Plan maps, removal of obsolete mapping layers, updates to zoning of new Open Space and Recreation Zone land, and correction of errors in the Open Space and Recreation Zone categories.

Are you eligible for a \$790 rates rebate?

Ratepayers who own their own home, which they were living in on 1 July, and who have a low income, may be eligible for a government rates rebate on their rates bill. A rebate is for the current rates year (July 2024 to June 2025) and you need to apply by 30 June 2025. You may also be eligible for an accommodation supplement to help pay the costs of owning a home. You don't have to be on a benefit to get this payment. Links to both government forms are available on the council's website.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 30 November to Tuesday 24 December

The Christmas Festival - a series of events across the Whangārei District including markets, concerts, arts and crafts, workshops, parades, light displays and more! Of note is Carols @the Basin on 3 Dec with the Whangārei Brass Band and Salvation Army Band and Christmas Wrapping services offered at Cameron Mall 12-14; 19-21 Dec: see <https://www.wdc.govt.nz/Events/Festivals/Christmas-Festival>

Monday 2 to Saturday 14 December

North Haven Hospice will again have Memory Trees this Christmas where people write a message to a loved one they have lost on a heart or star, and hang it on one of the Christmas Trees, or take it home. See the locations and times on page 25.

Thursday 5 December

International Volunteer Day - This annual event, led by UN Volunteers, highlights the power of volunteerism in shaping a better future for communities locally and worldwide.

Tuesday 10th December

Youth Action Holiday Programme Ecofriendly Gift Wrapping Afternoon - Creating sustainable gift wrapping options. Join us and minimise gift wrapping waste by creating alternative and personalised options to wrap presents, 3.30pm - 5.30pm, ages 14-24, <https://volunteeringnorthland.nz/events/youth-holiday-dec24-giftwrapping>

Tues 17 December

Youth Action Holiday Programme KiwiNorth Action Day - Help KiwiNorth (Museum, Kiwi House, Heritage Park) and the other community organisations at the Heritage Park with a range of tasks. Please contact verena@volunteeringnorthland.nz or text/call 027 607 3711

Wednesday 18 December

Onerahi Christmas Twilite Market 4 - 7pm at the Onerahi Hall

Wednesday 25 and 26 December

Public holidays - Christmas Day, followed by Boxing Day

Wednesday 1 and 2 January

Public holidays - New Year's Day and the day after New Year's Day

Wednesday 1 January to 31 March 2025

Endless Summer Festival - a series of events that happen across the Whangārei District from January to March each year for the enjoyment of residents and visitors. Events include art exhibitions, sport and recreation, concerts, festivals, markets, dance and performances, many of which are free of charge or entry by koha / donation. Check out the Whangārei District Council website for what's happening when

Sunday 26 January

Kamo Touch a Truck Day - a community event to get up close with diggers, graders, rollers, cranes, tractors and more. Come and see a display of a variety of big trucks - including Police, Fire and Ambulance vehicles. Entry is by gold coin donation per person, and there will be rides, food, drinks and ice cream available at the event. Hurupaki School, 10am - 2pm, see page 14 and www.touchatruck.nz

Saturday 1 February

Summer Sounds - a family friendly music festival with a line-up of live music at Tahamoana Angora Goat Farm, 566 Cove Road, 12:30pm - 7:00pm. General Admission: \$45.00 (Under 12s are free). Please contact fundraising@northhavenhospice.org.nz for accessibility information

Thursday 6 February

Public Holiday - Waitangi Day is a national holiday that commemorates the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi on February 6, 1840

REGULAR EVENTS

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 (2-4pm)

Love Whangārei Monthly Clean Up - Check our FB 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 Barbershop chats - every third Monday of the month, from 6 30pm, at Brothers barbers in Kamo. A support group for men dealing with everyday struggles. Contact Josh MacFarlane, 021 0255 1594 or josh.macfarlane@mentall.org.nz

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 Wednesday 6.45pm to 9.30pm 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 Hall market - First & 3rd Saturdays of each month (& also other Saturdays - provided that the OCA has not organised another hall user) 8 am-12 pm. Plants, garden produce, jams/pickles, art/craft, 2nd hand goods etc. Inside stall fees \$12; Outside stall fees \$9; Kids stall fees - inside \$6, outside \$5. Phone Jenny (09) 436 0009 (preferably in the evening) to book a space

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 - Volunteers will repair most things for a koha. Every third Saturday of the month, 1.30 - 4pm, Reyburn House at the Town Basin. For more info, look at the Facebook page or email karen@force.org.nz

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

Whangārei parkrun - A fun event where you can "run, walk or roll" every Saturday. 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

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

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.

VENUE HIRING AND EMERGENCY NUMBERS CAN BE FOUND IN A PREVIOUS ISSUE OF ONERAHI ORBIT

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

WINTER 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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