

Onerahi Orbit

Free to you from the Onerahi Community Association

Spring - October 2026

Covering Onerahi, Parua Bay, Pataua and Whangārei Heads

Taniwha bring the shield home

There was plenty to celebrate at Whangārei Airport on Friday 21 August, as the Northland Taniwha returned home with the Ranfurly Shield for the first time since 1978.

The Taniwha produced a huge performance in Christchurch the night before, defeating Canterbury 36-12 and ending Northland's 48-year wait to get its hands back on the famous Log o' Wood. It was also Northland's first win over Canterbury

since 1999, making the occasion that much more special. Hundreds of supporters made their way to Whangārei Airport on Friday afternoon to welcome the team home. Airport Rescue Fire Service crews helped mark the . . .

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Haere mai,

Collectively we don't think about it much these days, but in this welcome, I would like to remember the significance of Labour Day (26 October). For many of us, this long weekend means relaxing at backyard barbies, starting the veggie patch, visiting informal markets, taking trips to the beach, and spending much appreciated extra time with our families.

But beneath the relaxation of this weekend lies a proud Aotearoa New Zealand history of standing up for what is right. Labour Day is a day to pause and remember those who sacrificed for what we now enjoy. Samuel Parnell's motto from 1840 (that we should each have a day of eight hours for work, eight hours for sleep, and eight hours for recreation) still holds true. This concept was enacted in 1899 but it was only in 1936 that the five day working week was achieved. Both were long fought battles that have now benefitted the country as a whole.

Thank you to all in our community for your hard work to earn a living, and for the extra work you do to make our communities stronger and better places to live. Enjoy the break—you've earned it!

Nga mihi from the Orbit team

Ranfurley shield at Parua Bay Four Square

With great excitement, we heard the Ranfurley Shield was to be on show at the Parua Bay Four Square.

It was 4th September and we had some necessary groceries to grab, as well as a trip to Coastal Landscaping & Supplies for a 3.45pm appointment.

We stopped at the Four Square first and were able to see the shield and take some photos.

How excited everyone was to have this opportunity! One comment was, "I think the Dads are more excited than the kids!" Yes indeed, what a treat. Thank you to the Four Square for organising this.

Contributed by Meg McIsaac



The Ranfurley Shield. Photo by Rob McIsaac

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

Onerahi Community Association update

Decisions made in our recent meetings:

Policies - We have approved the review of our hall and facilities hire policy, although there were hardly any changes from the previous version. We also approved our grants policy that had a few very minor changes. We had quite a discussion about our OCA child protection policy, as we are not sure we even meet the criteria to have one. A bit more research is going into this.

Electricity costs - Due to rising electricity costs, we are getting timers installed on the heat pumps in the Onerahi hall and house, as we have been finding, sadly, these get accidentally left on, and it is needlessly chewing through power.

Governance - We discussed the membership process needed to ensure everyone knows about our new constitution. We will be sending out a membership application form in due course for all current members to review and complete. One of the issues that arose from the changes required to Incorporated Societies was we somehow ended up being removed from the Charities Commission Register. Our previous treasurer Rose did a fabulous job at getting us reinstated, even though we were told the waiting list was months. Rose advised us just before our meeting that we were back on the register and we were pretty happy about this. It apparently also means we don't have to forward our AGM and finance information to the Incorporated Society, as the Charities Commission supersedes this. This is not my forte, so not sure how that all works, but glad to do less paperwork. We are going to have to work through a special governance checklist for the Incorporated Society.

New handrail for the hall - One of our hirers asked if we could install another handrail for the stairs to the stage in the hall and this was agreed to and will be done shortly.

Upcoming events - We are going to apply for a grant from Sport Northland for 'Playweek'. One of our committee members, Sue is going to lead the charge on this.

Feedback forms, application forms and nomination forms are all available from the website

www.onerahicomunity.co.nz

Through our website we will try to provide information about what is being done and share good stories about our community

Champions - Feel free to get in touch if you know of some person just going about in the community doing good work – we would love to acknowledge them with a Championship Award.

Dee Williams, OCA secretary

Celebration time

OCA committee member Wendy Giffin celebrated her birthday at Flames Restaurant on 4 August 2026.



It was planned as a small gathering of friends but expanded because of the number of people wanting to attend. Wendy left a review on their Facebook page thanking Flames Restaurant staff for being flexible and understanding about the growth in numbers "What started as a small group expanded to 20, then 30 then 35 and ended up at almost 50!!! I'd like to say a huge thank you for looking after us all. The meals were lovely and enjoyed by all."

Happy Birthday and many happy returns to Wendy from everyone at The Orbit.



Wendy with Valerie Green-Moss

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

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

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Stories of approximately 200 words or less are due for the next Orbit by 6 November 2026 - share your news by emailing Margie at onerahiorbitmagazine@gmail.com

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PBRRRA News

Kia ora from Parua Bay.
It is lovely to be enjoying some sunshine, time in the garden, or forays to the beach as we welcome in summer.

Parua Bay continues to thrive, and there has been a lot of wonderful feedback about the improvements to our roading and footpaths. A working bee was held in early August to spray out the weeds on the bank beside the new link path from the Community Centre to Lamb Road. This will be monitored and weeded, and when the time is right in the new year, new planting will begin. This will be a community-lead project, so if anyone is interested in helping with this, please let us know. A huge thank you to the PB Weed Action team who helped with this working bee. This group meets once a month to tackle areas of weeds and noxious plants around the Village. New people are always welcome.

A big thank you to Judith Sunderland and her team for providing free CPR and AED Training to our community in July and August. These sessions were well attended and very positive reviews have been received from participants. A reminder that there is an AED situated at the PB Community Centre, and at GAS Parua Bay!

Unfortunately, we have been made aware of some unsavoury behaviour happening in the Village - graffiti, broken glass bottles, vaping in and around the toilets etc. We want our community to be a safe place for all to enjoy. Please watch out for each other, and contact the Community Police Officer if you have any concerns.

- Call 111 – For any immediate emergency or crime in progress.
- Call 105 – For non-emergencies (reporting past crimes, lost property, or general enquiries). You can also file reports online via the New Zealand Police Digital Portal.
- Call 555 – For urgent, non-life-threatening traffic and driving behaviours

Would you like to be more involved in your community? Are you new to the area and want to meet new people? We welcome you to join PBRRRA, and would love some new

AGM: The Parua Bay Residents and Ratepayers (PBRRRA) will be holding their AGM on Wednesday 18 November, 6pm at the Mt Manaia Bowling Club, at Parua Bay. Please put this in your diary!

members on our committee. We meet once a month, and endeavour to provide a voice for our community on issues that concern you. We are looking for a special someone to fill our Secretary role, which is approximately 1-2 hours per month. If you think this sounds like you, or you would like to join our committee and learn more, please contact us on paruabayrra@gmail.com

Nga mihi, Barb Green



Paramedics in Onerahi

In our last edition we had a story about the Northern Rescue Helicopter paramedics assisting a football player in Onerahi. This photo of the paramedics based at the airport in Onerahi was provided by the Trust to share with the Orbit community.

Justice of the Peace – Whangārei Urban Service Desks

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

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



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Passion for Landscape

Heading down past Parua Bay village on the way to Pataua South, just before the one lane bridge, is the exciting new yard Coastal Landscaping & Supplies. Father and son, Wayne and Gabe, started the new business in October 2025.

During the past nine months, the pair have been working exceptionally hard to tidy up and bring their ideas to fruition. Gabe is the Company Director and is an enthusiastic and helpful man, combining his talents with his knowledge of all things landscape. Offering supplies of aggregates, driveway metal, drainage metal, washed sand, bark topsoil, mulch, pine peelings bark, compost, timber, pavers and farm posts they have also incorporated a Garden Centre with flowers, native plants and vegetables lovingly prepared for your garden. Having such an enterprise right on our doorstep is welcome, saving many the 30 minute or so drive into Whangārei city centre.

With NAPA Auto Parts coming on board in 2027, Gabe is excited to be stocking auto car parts as well as general hardware such as gardening tools and accessories creating an essential 'One-Stop-Shop', a very valuable asset for the rural community.

I was fortunate enough to witness their 1000th customer on Friday and managed to snap a shot of Wendy Darragh receiving her special gift. Gabe would like to assure pensioners that for orders over \$50, on presentation of the Gold Card, they will receive the 5% discount (limited to one purchase daily).

These talented lads also make Beerbowser Custom made Fridges to order. You must see them to understand their ingenuity, so head on in and have a look at all their wonderful products, and the 'Man Cave' housing many antiques and interesting collectables, the result of years of collecting. It's fascinating! You'll find them at 35 Pataua South Road, Parua Bay, 021 083 53876.

The official opening weekend is on Labour Weekend – October 24 to 26 2026. Don't miss it!

Contributed by Meg McIsaac



Gabe with the 1000th customer, Wendy Darragh. Congratulations Wendy!



The 'Man Cave' with many, many interesting things!



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An exciting new chapter for Hammer Hardware

Our Onerahi Hammer Hardware store has new owners! The Orbit is pleased to introduce Theo and Brad to the broader Onerahi and Whangārei Heads community, and we wish them all the best of many happy years with us. The message below is from them to you:

For years, stepping into Hammer Hardware hasn't just been about picking up a box of screws, a tin of paint, or a bag of compost. It's been about a friendly kia ora, a bit of trusted local banter, and knowing you'd get honest, practical advice from people who genuinely care about our communities.

We want to extend our deepest gratitude and respect to Wayne and Rosemary in Te Kamo and Wayne and Adair in Onerahi. Their years of hard work, dedicated service, and unwavering community support have built the foundation that makes both stores so special. Following in their footsteps is an absolute privilege, and we wish them the very best in their well-earned next chapters.

As the new local owner-operators of both Hammer Hardware Te Kamo and Hammer Hardware Onerahi, our top priority is preserving what you already love: the familiar faces on the shop floor, the personal service, and the convenience of having everything you need right here on your doorstep without having to fight traffic across town. And we've got some exciting ideas to improve your experience:

An Expanded Garden Centre: We're expanding the garden centre at the back of our Te Kamo store to include a wider selection of native and garden plants and supplies.

Connected Convenience: Linking our two Whangārei stores means if an item isn't on the shelf at Onerahi or Te Kamo, we can quickly source and transfer it between our stores for you.

We want to build our stores to work for our community. If there's a product line you've always wanted to see on our shelves, a local community group we can partner with, or simply an idea to make your shopping experience better, our doors are always open. Pop in, say kia ora, and meet the team. We're proud to be part of the community and look forward to earning your continued trust.

Beware of scams!



Recently, the Whanganui District Council paid \$309,654 to scammers through an altered invoice. Scammers gained access to the company's emails, intercepted an invoice and altered the bank account details to their own. Netsafe chief online safety officer Sean Lyons says "In the right conditions and the right moment, we can all be susceptible." Double check bank numbers by ringing the business, take your time and resist pressure to act quickly. See page 20 for some tips on how to keep safe.

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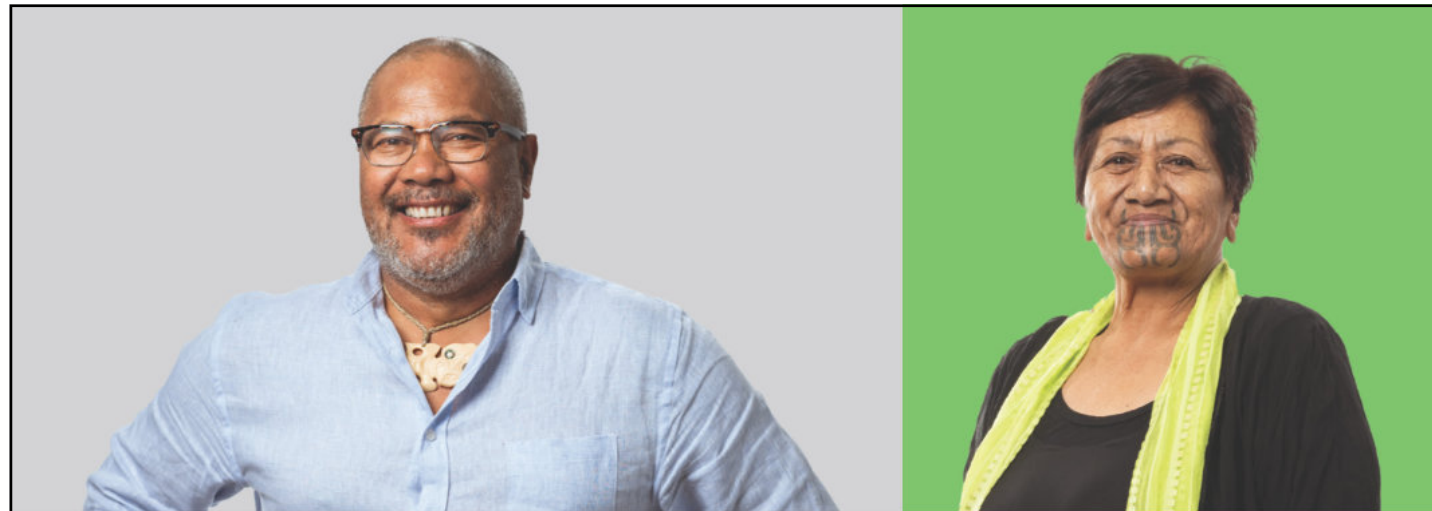
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Continued from Pg 1 . . . occasion by providing a guard of honour for the arriving Q300, with the fire appliances positioned either side as the aircraft made its way onto the apron.

Once the team stepped off the aircraft, they were met with a traditional welcome from the waiting crowd, with a haka from local supporters followed by one in response from the Taniwha. The players then spent time amongst the crowd, speaking

with news crews, posing for photos and selfies, signing gear and, most importantly, giving Northlanders the chance to get up close with the Ranfurly Shield.

After 48 years away, it was a pretty special sight to see the Shield arrive through Whangārei Airport and finally come home to Northland.

Contributed by Steve Jennings, Airport Manager



Academy partnership boosts opportunities for Onerahi's young footballers

Inspiring the next generation of footballers is the goal for Onerahi Football Club, which has recently partnered with the Ricki Herbert Football Academy (RH3).

RH3 is a specialised football academy offering training and development programmes for youth across New Zealand. "This is our first year working with the academy and we're really excited about the opportunities that will open up for the junior and youth players who get involved," says Brad Hall, RH3 Coordinator for Onerahi Football Club.

RH3 offers Term Programmes for Under 9s through to Under 16s. Weekly training sessions provide specialist football development for players, whether they're competing in local leagues or travelling to regional competitions.

For the third time this year, Onerahi FC will also offer a school holiday programme for ages 8 to 16, hosted at the Onerahi FC grounds, running from 5-7 October.

In addition, the club is looking to establish a girls' development group as part of the RH3 sessions and is currently seeking expressions of interest.



development group as part of the RH3 sessions and is currently seeking expressions of interest.

Brad says that for Onerahi, the partnership is about more than simply developing football ability. "The club wants to create confident, skilful players who love the game and will continue to enjoy football for years to come."

But RH3 is not only for the players. "Junior football relies heavily on the commitment of our dedicated volunteers, so providing these volunteer coaches with resources, mentoring and practical support helps to create a high-quality development environment for players and coaches alike," says Brad.

To express interest in joining the girls' development group, email onerahifootballclub@outlook.co.nz For

more information about RH3 and a link to register for the Term 4 Programme or the School Holiday Programme, visit www.rh3footballacademy.co.nz/register

Contributed by Natalie Carmichael

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Roads are probably the issue I hear about most often from residents.

Concerns include the condition of metal roads, maintenance that provides only short-term relief before corrugations reappear, and requests for dust suppression and road sealing.

As someone who lives on a metal road, I understand the frustration. As a councillor, however, I also have to understand the cost of meeting those requests across the district. That can leave me in a bit of a quandary.

As a local advocate, I can't deny the case for road sealing and dust suppression. On some roads where residents are calling for these improvements, there were once five houses and there are now thirty. The rating base has grown significantly, yet the same arterial road is still the same route home, so development hasn't necessarily meant improved infrastructure.

The challenge is that road sealing is expensive. I've been told it costs close to \$1 million per kilometre (including constructing the base). And, after that spend, maintaining a sealed road is not necessarily much cheaper than maintaining a metal road. If a road is resealed regularly, the overall cost may be lower or broadly cost-neutral over the long term.

As a councillor with a governance role, I've also learned more about how road sealing has historically been funded. NZTA once contributed up to 50% of the cost of sealing local roads, and Council largely stopped sealing roads when that funding ended. For a time, Council maintained a \$3 million annual

road-sealing fund, with contributions from ratepayers on the affected roads, but that fund has now ended as well.

NZTA still funds some road-sealing projects, but the criteria are narrow and the opportunities are limited.

This brings us back to the dilemma. I understand why residents want sealing and dust suppression. Living on a metal road, I want better outcomes too, and I encourage those of you who are affected to let me and other Councillors know if this is an issue for you. At the same time, I can see the significant cost involved in accommodating all the requests that come before Council.

If we want road sealing to happen in earnest again, central government support will likely need to be part of the solution. With the election on 7 November approaching, it may be worth contacting your local candidates and letting them know if this is an issue that matters to you.

Don't even get me started on stormwater culverts.

Tangiwei Baker, WDC Whangārei Heads Ward Councillor, www.tangiwaibaker.co.nz



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It's all go at the Onerahi Tennis Club



We are planning to start the season off with a flurry of activities with something for everyone.

MEN'S LEAGUE. This weekly event is held on a Monday afternoon and evening the whole year round. Each night you have three sets of tennis to navigate.

JUNIOR COACHING. This will commence with the start of the fourth term on October 12th. Pete Stenberg is the coach and we have all ages from 5 upwards split across age and ability groups. Membership gives you free coaching.

SOCIAL TENNIS & BBQ. Daylight saving allows this popular event to recommence on Friday evening club nights.

EVENING TENNIS BY FLOODLIGHT. Being a member allows you to play any night - using either of the two courts now equipped with floodlights.

ADULT COACHING. If you want to refresh your tennis skills and need some help to navigate this process then we have just the right person to help. Any cost can be deducted off your membership fees if you then choose to join and continue playing.

SILVER FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION. This year we are participating in the Whangārei Silver Festival. This will encourage social tennis on Wednesday morning October 7 & 14th for those retirees with some time and a desire for some gentle exercise.

We strive to be a family friendly club across all abilities and we have the only courts in Whangārei that are not locked and encourage public access for casual play.

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. You can find us off Church Street, opposite St. Stephens Church.

Contributed by Warren Thomas, President: Ph 021 0844 2023

Onerahi Lions - our Hospice valet service

Every fortnight on Monday mornings, the Onerahi Lions Club valet the hospice fleet cars inside and out. This is usually done by four of us and it is a commitment whatever the weather. We then have a cuppa and network with hospice staff from the office, catering, nursing, and other volunteers. We share people's experiences, hear of fundraising needs and identify how we can help.

Contributed by Frances Mason, Onerahi Lions



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Onerahi School report

Kia ora koutou,

Tuesday the 1st of September saw not only the first day of spring but also the beginning of the annual Onerahi School Cultural Festival. While the weather chose rain over shine, we were able to huddle together under our covered court to celebrate a huge range of performances from tamariki and adults alike. From a Chinese fan dance to hula, K-pop dancing to kapa haka, the scope of learning and commitment to performing was impressive. We also hosted the Cook Island cultural group from Te Kamo Primary, Te Vaka o Te Kamo, who shared some beautiful pieces with us. Please enjoy these photos from the event.

The theme of the day really was about connecting and appreciating the wide range of cultures that share this world together, to see diversity as a strength and an opportunity for personal growth. We hope to see you there next year.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Danny Hamilton - Tumuaiki Tuarua / Deputy Principal



Top to Bottom, Left to Right: Students shared speeches in both Mandarin and Japanese | Beautiful attire performing a traditional folk dance from China | A journey into the present with a modern Japanese dance routine | Hula got the crowd cheering | Long and sweeping movements characterise the Peacock Dance | The audience participated in learning Soran Bushi, a traditional dance from Japan | A fantastic turnout to support the performers | Whakapuawai, one of Onerahi School's two kapa haka roopu, closes the day | What you can't hear from this photo is the incredible sound of the fans snapping open as tamariki move to the music

Funds presented to Fire Brigades

For the first quarter of 2026, Mitre 10 MEGA Whangārei chose to recognise and support the vital work carried out by local volunteer fire brigades. Volunteer firefighters play a vital role within our communities, responding to emergencies, protecting people and property, and providing assistance whenever and wherever they are needed. Their commitment, courage and willingness to serve others often goes unseen, but their impact is felt every day.

Each quarter, Mitre 10 staff take part in staff-led fundraising activities, with team members voting on a local charity or community organisation to support. As locals themselves, they understand the importance of giving back to the people and organisations that help make Whangārei a safer, stronger and more connected place to live. Through fundraising initiatives held across the

store, their team raised a total of \$1,672.50.

The funds were divided equally between three local brigades, with donations of \$557.50 presented to the:

- Onerahi Volunteer Fire Brigade
- Portland Volunteer Fire Brigade
- Hikurangi Volunteer Fire Brigade

Mitre 10 would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all volunteer firefighters throughout the region for their dedication, service and commitment to keeping our communities safe. "We are honoured to be able to support your efforts and look forward to continuing to make a positive difference in our community together."



Steve Jennings (Onerahi) receives the Onerahi cheque from Ben McInnes



From left to right: Linda Jarrett (Portland), Trevor Gallagher (Hikurangi), Steve Jennings (Onerahi) and Mitre 10 Merchandise Manager - Ben McInnes.

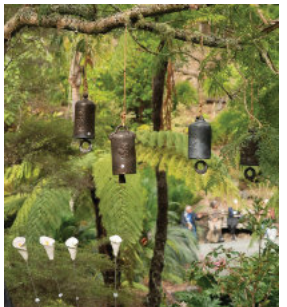
Sculpture Northland event

This much-anticipated exhibition, 2-8 November 2026, set in the stunning Whangārei Quarry Gardens, is celebrating its 10th birthday this year. With 53 Northland sculptors participating, over 100 artworks will grace The Gardens, along with live music, raffles, plant sales and more.

Sculpture Northland is a major fundraiser for Whangārei Quarry Gardens, and all the artwork is for sale. Our popular "Cash and Carry Zone" is back this time, with small items priced under \$200 and starting as low as \$20; you're bound to find something you can't resist.

- VIP preview Sunday 1st November
- Other exhibition days open 9 am to 4 pm. \$15 adults, \$5 children, under 3s go free
- Quail Cafe is open daily. Golf cart available for \$5 per person
- Free parking shuttle will be available

Contributed by Sally Spicer, Whangārei Quarry Gardens



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The 2026 Hospice House tour

Mark your calendars for one of Northland's most anticipated community events, with the **2026 Hospice House Tour set to take place on Saturday 31 October and Sunday 1 November.**

This much-loved fundraiser will showcase a collection of beautiful homes in the Whangārei Heads and Pataua North and South areas while raising vital funds for North Haven Hospice.

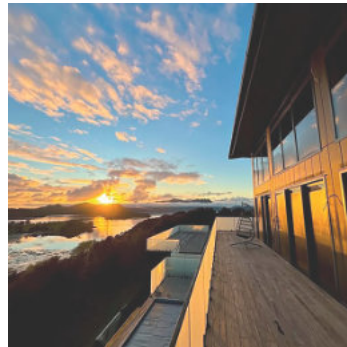
Ticket holders are sent an itinerary prior to the weekend so they can plan their fund day out with friends and family. This event is organised and run by five fabulous women in our

Whangārei Genealogy Group

Interested in learning more about your family history?

Have you ever wondered where your ancestors came from, how they lived, or the journeys that brought them to New Zealand? Join the Whangārei Genealogy Group and discover the fascinating stories waiting to be uncovered in your own family tree.

Whether you're just starting out or have been researching for years, we're here to help. Our friendly members offer guidance on where to begin, how to find and interpret records, and ways to organise your discoveries. You may even find that you share more with your ancestors than you ever imagined. We meet on the first Saturday of each month (February to December) at 10.00 am in the May Bain Room at the Whangārei Central Library. New members and visitors are always welcome.



community who donate their time and talent to making it happen. Tickets sold out last year and over \$70,000 was raised for North Haven Hospice!

North Haven Hospice has a funding gap of approximately \$3 million a year to keep their services free of charge for those they care for and their families and whānau regardless of age, terminal illness or condition, or faith.

While this is one of the biggest fundraisers for North Haven Hospice, any community group, club or organisation is welcome to put on an event large or small to raise funds for hospice. All funds raised in our community, stay in our community.

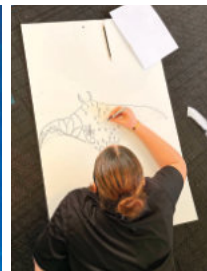
For more information about the Hospice House Tours, check their Facebook page or buy tickets on evenfinda.co.nz

Contributed by Lyn Cheyne, NorthHaven Hospice



Raurimu Avenue School

"Poipoia te rito o te harakeke"



Our tamariki have truly embraced the second half of the year, turning it into an inspiring and exciting learning journey. Throughout Term Three, our learning has been centred around Visual Arts, giving our tamariki the opportunity to explore and express themselves and bring their ideas to life. It has been fantastic to see their confidence grow as they discover new ways to share their thinking through art.

Ruma Tahi – Exploring Our Local Pūrākau

Ruma Tahi has been immersed in the richness of our local pūrākau and making meaningful connections with te ao Māori. A key focus has been exploring the pūrākau of Tāne Mahuta and the powerful story of how he separated Ranginui and Papatūānuku, creating space for light and life to flourish.

Through visual art, inquiry and rich conversations, our tamariki have been exploring the stories of ngā atua, using their creativity to deepen their understanding of our local history and cultural heritage. They have also discovered that the physical form of Tāne Mahuta can be found in the Waipoua Forest. This connection between pūrākau, whenua and our local environment has provided a wonderful foundation for curiosity and learning.

Ruma Rima – Leaving a Legacy

Ruma Rima has been on an exciting journey of artistic discovery, researching and exploring the work of internationally and locally recognised artists and drawing inspiration from their unique styles and creative approaches.

One artist they have explored is Banksy, whose thought-provoking and distinctive street art has encouraged our tamariki to think differently about how art can communicate ideas, challenge perspectives and tell stories.

Our senior tamariki have also explored their visual arts learning through the exhibits that local artists have installed in our local community. It has been fantastic to see them developing their own artistic voices and confidently experimenting with different ideas and techniques. We are

excited to see their creations come to life and, most importantly, to celebrate their mahi by displaying their artwork throughout our kura.

Introducing Our "Choice Programme"

This term, we have introduced a new and exciting way for our tamariki to learn, explore and engage through our Choice Programme! This initiative gives every tamaiti the opportunity to follow their interests and discover new passions by selecting a specialty area they would love to explore, led by the amazing staff across Raurimu Avenue School.

There is something for everyone, with a fantastic range of choices including cooking, textiles, gardening and STEM, visual arts, crafts, dancing and carving. It has been wonderful to see our tamariki excited about their choices, stepping outside their comfort zones, developing new skills and learning alongside others who share their interests.

We are looking forward to seeing where their curiosity and creativity take them as they continue to choose, create, discover and grow!

Contributed by Kerry Campbell, Kaiako and Senco, Raurimu Avenue School



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NOTE: October consultation on Northland Local Government Reform

Last year, central government instructed all 78 councils across New Zealand to develop a plan (due early August 2026) to reorganise and simplify local government, or the government would step in and do it for them.

The Whangārei District Council, Far North District Council, and Northland Regional Council jointly proposed to establish two initial unitary authorities, with a future transition over time to form a single one. The Kaipara District Council rejected this joint model and submitted an alternative.

If the government gives the green light in September (at time of publishing this was not yet given), then a much more detailed, comprehensive public consultation period will be launched in Northland starting in October 2026. This consultation period will be your opportunity to dive into the specifics of any concerns you may have or any good ideas, and have your say in directly shaping our future. Keep an eye out for updates, timelines and both paper and online submission forms from the Whangārei District and Northland Regional councils.

Public seminar on the Declaration of Independence

Did you know that Aotearoa/New Zealand has its own Declaration of Independence that has international standing? If you didn't, you are like over 60% of New Zealand.

Network Waitangi Whangārei is running a seminar on this Declaration - He Whakaputanga o Ngā Rangatira O Nu Tirenī - on the anniversary of its formation (28 October 1835). The seminar will explore the background to its establishment and its importance for us today.

Network Waitangi Whangārei started in 1985 as a group belonging to Project Waitangi, a national organisation which received government funding leading up to the 150th commemoration of Tiriti in 1990.

It grew out of the anti-apartheid, anti-racist movement in response to the challenge from Tangata Whenua to educate ourselves and each other as Tangata Tiriti. Network Waitangi Whangārei secretary, Jette de Jong, says that the organisation is a committed group of people who have held the kaupapa of providing information, education and support to implement te Tiriti o Waitangi for over 30 years. Refer to the back page for registration details.

Contributed by Network Waitangi



Photo from NZ Human Rights Commission

Thank you Onerahi From the team at SPCA Whangārei



Hi everyone,
We had a fantastic response to our Long Stay Animals Adoption Campaign featured in the last edition. Thank you so much for your support! We still have Mia and Nickle waiting patiently to find their forever homes. We know their families are out there, it will happen, and hopefully soon.

SPCA's Drop-In Centre – Supporting Animals and Their People

This time, we wanted to share a little more about the important work SPCA does in our community through our Drop-In Centre Program.

During the first week of each month, one of our team members



heads out in the SPCA van, visiting eight different areas across the Whangārei and Kaipara Districts. We offer practical help and support, including animal food for struggling families, low-cost flea and worm treatments, advice about animal care, and desexing vouchers to help make responsible pet ownership more affordable.

Sometimes people simply need someone to talk to, some advice, or a little help through a difficult time. By taking our services out into the community, we can make support more accessible with no judgement, just a helping hand.

Keep an eye out for us at the A&P Show this year. We'll be there, so come along and say hi to our team!

Contributed by Sue McDonald, SPCA



Bonded brothers, Mischief and Mr T.
<https://www.sPCA.nz/adopt>

Seatbelts save lives

Northland Police are urging drivers to wear their seatbelts and take regular breaks.

Inspector John Fagan, Northland's Road Policing Manager, says "Wearing a seatbelt is one of the most important things you can do every time you get into a vehicle. It takes just two seconds to buckle up, and that

simple action can make the difference between life and death. If you know someone who regularly doesn't wear a seatbelt, have that conversation with them. Tell them how much they mean to you and how much they would be missed — because if the worst happens, you don't get the chance to say it later. Everyone has a role to play in keeping our roads safe — and putting on your seatbelt is one of the simplest and most important things you can do."

Dr Gary Payinda for Whangārei

19 years in Whangārei ED, caring for you and your whānau. Real service to the hard-working people of this community. Join us and get involved as we campaign for fairness, dignity and opportunity.

 /Gary.payinda.labour



Authorised by Rob Salmond, 2 Gilmer Terrace, Wellington.



Vince Cocurullo Candidate for Whangare

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Authorised by H Howard, 91 Makino Road, Feilding



Kill those Moth Plants now

Keep the pressure on. Keep a look out now to save time later.

It's not a Moth Plant competition but ... have you noticed how WELL we are doing in Onerahi? The Moth Plant is still with us but compared with other suburbs in Whangārei we are making great progress with reducing the spread of this invasive vine.

In December and January look out for:

- Flowers ... pretty and white. You may need to cut the vine at ground level and paste with Metgel.
- Seedlings ... easy to pull out ... if you're unsure, break the stem and if 'milk' comes out it's our target ... pull it out!



Contact us if you need help with this Waimahangaweeds@gmail.com Remember the work involved in gathering pods later in the summer? Save time and effort by looking out for flowers and young vines NOW.

Contributed by Chrissie Stephenson

Why are we so concerned about Moth Plant:

- The vines grow fast and aim for the tops of trees
- The vines produce PODs that contain thousands of seeds that fly like thistles to find new places to establish
- If we do nothing our trees will be smothered and our birds will starve

Have you ever wondered where this street name came from?

The churches in the area when the street was named are responsible for the name Church Street.

There were originally two churches on this road, St Stephens Church and St James Church. The road officially became known as Church Street on 6 February 1914. The section of road that continued from Domain Road to Munro Street was initially also called Church Street, however this

Church Street

was renamed Weir Crescent in 1956. On 19 June 1957 the council resolved that the road from Alexanders Corner to Cliff Street be called Church Street.

St. Stephen's Church was built in 1910 from Kauri, dedicated in 1911, the porch added in 1922 and the hall in 1956. It also has the Onerahi Memorial Oak Tree Grove associated with it, an important First World War heritage site.

St James Church (now the Hope Church, was formed when St James Presbyterian/Uniting Church formally merged with St Andrew's (Central Whangārei) and Trinity Church (Tikipunga) to form one combined church body called HOPE Whangārei) was originally built in 1939 at 131 Church Street and moved from there to Onerahi Road in 1966. The original small piece of land was donated by Mrs Tom Beasley, and the church was built with Rimu wood milled from Alex Riddle's farm in Waikaraka. It was a team effort, with Mr Clotworthy's bullock team hauling the logs to the site and many others pitching in to help build the church. A two hundred pound loan was obtained from the Century Fund to finish the project.

Contributed by Alison Shrigley, Wendy Giffin and Judy Guthrie



St Stephens in the early days

Whangārei news

Fast track for Whangārei dry dock

A fast-track consent application for a shipyard and dry dock at Northland's Marsden Point was lodged in August 2026.

A dry dock for ships would allow for large ships to be repaired and serviced in New Zealand instead of having to go to places such as Australia and Singapore, saving ship owners hefty transit costs, improving vessel availability, and reducing emissions. The project would need to be largely privately funded.

The government is funding the project through the consenting stages and has set aside \$100 million-plus as a construction co-investment from the Regional Infrastructure Fund.

New Zealand Youth Girls' Sailing Team

The Whangārei Girls High School Sailing Team would like to thank the following sponsors for backing the team at the Interdominion Championships, bringing together the top three girls' and boys' secondary school sailing teams from NZ and Australia.



L-R: Selma Aastroem, Cara Guerin, Aria Young (Captain), Bo Baker, Anouk Haag, Amber Lorigan & Becky Buckland.

Special thanks to our amazing sponsors: Dockland 5, All Marine, Hawthorn Geddes Engineers & Architects, Busck Prestressed Concrete Ltd, Whangārei Cruising Club, Sail Northland Charitable Trust, Kamo Kitchens and coach Phoebe Buckland.

For more information on youth sailing, email: sailnorthland@gmail.com

Warning to Northland Boaties

Northland Regional Council Deputy Harbourmaster Peter Thomas says the Harbourmaster's office has noticed an increasing number of boats are failing to display the correct light patterns at night, and some boats are traveling at unacceptable speeds which create potentially dangerous large wakes.

"Of particular concern is the use of high-powered LED lightbars and spotlights used as a type of headlight to illuminate the water in front of a boat while it is underway. One might say it's 'blindingly' obvious why you shouldn't do this."

He says correct lighting displays for different size vessels can be found in the council's boating book and other maritime publications. It's an offence under the council's maritime rules and bylaws to display an incorrect light pattern. The current fine is \$200 so check your lights before heading out.

Damaging wakes

Mr Thomas says some larger recreational vessels in particular are creating damaging wakes "Excessive wake can cause environmental damage, including shoreline erosion, and safety hazards for other recreational water users, particularly smaller vessels like kayakers, paddleboarders, and small dinghies which can be swamped or capsized. Passengers can also be knocked off balance and injured or thrown overboard."

Good practice for vessel skippers is to keep a proper lookout and slow down well before areas where their wake could cause issues. Lose your wake by letting it pass your vessel and don't pull it along with you, then proceed at 5 knots with no wake.

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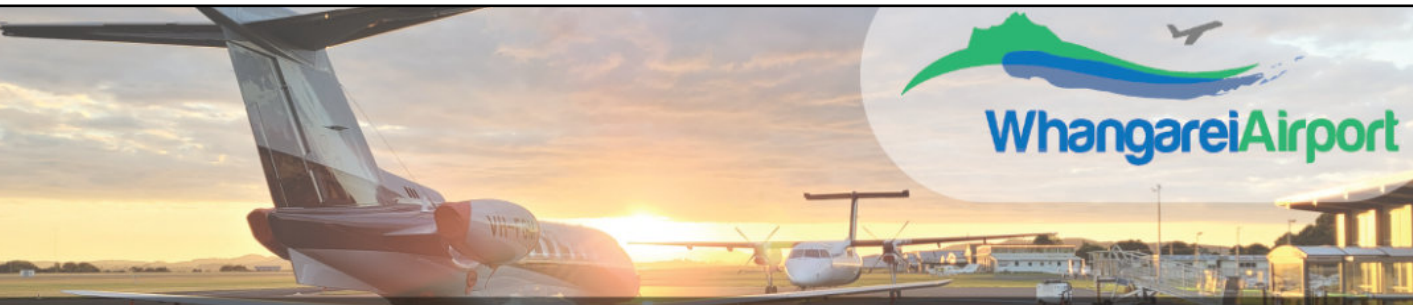
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Northland Regional Councillor Amy Macdonald

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While most eyes are on the approaching national elections, I've been enjoying getting behind a different type of campaign: Bird of the Year!

This year, I'm once again supporting the Matuku-hūrepo (Australasian Bittern), a secretive and highly threatened wetland bird that lives right here in our backyard. Bittern populations have declined significantly due to habitat loss, more than 90% of New Zealand's wetlands have been drained. They rely on healthy wetland ecosystems with clear water, as they are visual hunters. September to November is bittern breeding season, during this time males make their distinctive "booming" call at dawn and dusk. Any sightings or observations can be reported to Kiwi Coast or Northland Regional Council.

Regional Science Fair



I was privileged to be part of the regional judging panel for this year's Science Fair, NRC sponsors an Environmental Action award. The quality and diversity of projects this year was incredible. The students demonstrated creativity and

Judging awesome environmental science at the Regional Science Fair

curiosity, tackling challenging questions with skill and enthusiasm. I really enjoyed reading their content and discussing their ideas with them. Full credit to the dedicated teachers, support staff and families.

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

Ngā mihi nui,

Councillor Amy Macdonald

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

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Online scams

Stop. Think. Check. Online scams are becoming harder to spot. Gone are the days when every scam email had terrible spelling and promised you millions of dollars from someone you had never met.

Today, scammers use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to create very convincing emails, text messages, pictures and even voices.

Imagine receiving a text saying: "Your parcel couldn't be delivered. Click here to rearrange delivery." You might actually be waiting for a parcel, so it is easy to click without thinking.

Or you could receive a phone call that sounds like a family member asking urgently for money. New technology can sometimes copy a person's voice from recordings available online.

So what should you do?

My simple rule is: **Stop, Think, Check.**

Stop before clicking a link, opening an unexpected attachment or sending money.

Think about what you have received. Were you expecting the message? Is someone creating urgency by telling you to act immediately?

Then **Check** another way. If your bank supposedly contacted you, call the bank using its official number. If a family member asks for money, ring them yourself.

Never give someone your password or verification code simply because they contacted you. A few extra seconds of caution can save hours of frustration, and potentially thousands of dollars. When something online doesn't feel right, **Stop, Think and Check.**

Remember your friendly IT person is always there to help.



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A Busy Winter for Bream Head Te Whara Conservation Trust

It has been another busy and productive few months for Bream Head Te Whara Conservation Trust, with encouraging progress across our seabird monitoring, revegetation, pest plant control and education programmes.

Our Ōi/grey-faced petrel monitoring season is now underway. In late July, we confirmed 15 adult birds with six of these having confirmed eggs (We assume the other adults will be sitting on eggs too but we don't want to disturb them unnecessarily).

Additional trees planted at Urquhart's Bay, brings the total to 2500 for the year. The Trust's nursery has now distributed all of the trees grown last season, supporting not only our own planting projects but a number of local community restoration initiatives.

We have also launched our new website (www.breamheadtrust.nz), where you can learn more about the Trust's work, projects and ways to get involved. We also have

a beautiful 2027 Bream Head Te Whara calendar, featuring stunning images from the reserve and surrounding area for sale on the website and via the QR code, shown on right. All proceeds go towards supporting our ongoing conservation work.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, supporters, funders and wider community for helping make this work possible.

Mauri ora — keep well!



Grey-faced Petrels having a conference



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Neighbours Richard and Katie with their three delightful children live next door to us. Richard who has held a ‘Flying for Fun’ pilots license for a few years, and enjoys the sheer exuberance of flying. I have on several occasions shared the joy of it with him. However, Richard has just passed his Commercial Pilots License. Consequently, Richard has now, after much hard work, making sacrifices, and training extensively, achieved his goal, and is now a fully qualified Commercial Pilot.

One of the training aids Richard used in his earlier days whilst ‘flying for fun’ was a Flight Simulator situated in his spare room. These simulators enable would-be students a chance to experience the challenges and dangers of flying an

aircraft, without the actual risk. The pilots don't have to leave the ground, and if they do crash in the simulation, they can calmly walk away.

Flight Simulators are tremendous teaching tools, helpful in preparing the aspiring pilot to take command of an actual aircraft. The devices, however, have a short coming. They create an artificial experience in which the full-blown pressures of handling a real cockpit cannot be fully replicated, in other words, it cannot reveal in the same way the experience of an actual event happening in real time.

Real life is like that, isn't it? It cannot be simulated. The risks and dangers of living in a broken world are inescapable. That's why the words of Jesus are so reassuring. He said "These things I have spoken to you, that in ME you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation (distress, agony, pain, discomfort) but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16 v 33).

Although we can't avoid the dangers of life in a fallen world, we can have peace through a relationship with Jesus. He has secured our ultimate victory.

No Life is more secure than a life surrendered to our Lord Jesus.

Contributed by Pastor Ron Brewer, Onerahi.

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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
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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@xtra.co.nz 09 438 9043
Onerahi Community Hall & Community House	Heidyn Harrison	onerahicomunity@gmail.com 022 085 8286
Onerahi Bowling Club	Roger Kerr-Davis	027 390 7185
Onerahi Rugby Club	Fiona Raymond-Paikea	onerahirugby@yahoo.com. The Onerahi Rugby Club has had a recent facelift and renovation, and is available to other clubs and sports groups to use - please call us on 021 228 5982.
Onerahi Soccer Club	Fiona Ellis	onerahifootballclub@outlook.co.nz
Onerahi Yacht Club	Dave Cochran	027 438 8911
Hope Church	Secretary	09 438 1667
Raurimu School Hall	School Office	09 436 0820 Ext. 2
St. Stephen's Church Hall	Paul Doherty	021 189 4797 or 09 436 0207
Tamaterau Hall	Jane Kippenberger	021 463 330
Parua Bay Community Centre	Richard Burgoyne	bookings@paruabaycommunitycentre.org.nz
McLeod Bay Hall	Jos	hallbookings@whca.nz
Taurikura Hall	Pearl Newman	021 545 087
Whangārei District Council Hotline: 0800 932 463 Onerahi Police (09) 436 0222		

ONERAHI COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sundays 10am Raurimu Ave School Hall

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

Acts 4:10-12

Contact: hello.onecc@gmail.com

REGULAR EVENTS

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

Community Adult Ballet - Beginner 6-week courses available Tuesdays on demand. Silver Swans: Tues 10:30am, Wed 5:30pm, Sat 4:50pm. Adult & teen open classes: Tues 5:30pm (basic), Wed 6:40pm (improver), Sat 2:10pm (intermediate). Floor barre: Sat 1pm. Repertoire: Sat 3:50pm. St. Stephen's Church Hall. Contact www.balletnorth.nz

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

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

Green minded events - a website that updates all upcoming eco events is <https://www.ecosolutions.org.nz/pages/upcoming-events>

Inspire For Life Key Workshops are held monthly on the third Friday of the month, 10am – 1pm. Venue is Mahitahi Hauora, 28 Rust Ave, Opposite Iwitihi Civic Centre. \$10.Held by Gwendolyn Needham, be.free@xtra.co.nz 09 4377183

Jolly Dodgers Scooterers group - If you are keen to join this local Onerahi group, 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>

Make & Meet - fortnightly weekend sessions at Reyburn House Art Studio. Every workshop is a surprise—one week it's crochet, the next clay. Bookings essential. Find us on Humanitix (search: Make & Meet Whangārei)

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

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 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

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 Lions - Guests or interested persons welcome. Meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month (business meeting) and 3rd Tuesday of month (dinner and social night). Both held at Onerahi Bowling Club, Alamein Avenue, 6:30pm. Contact Maria Goodhew 027 474 2213

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

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

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

Onerahi Tennis Club - for all age groups and abilities. See facebook and website: www.clubspark.kiwi/OnerahiTennisClub. Casual court use available - place \$10 in the honesty box if you use a court. Call 0210 8442023, or email wkthomas99@icloud.com

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

St Stephen's Church - Strength and Balance Classes 8.45 or 10am Mondays and Wednesdays. Quilting and crafting - Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.30-12.30; Knitting without Borders - second Thursdays 1-3pm; middle Saturday of the School Holidays 'Celebrating Youth' Pizzas and games, Saturday 5-8pm

Tiki Market - For local arts and crafts, garage sale bargains, plants, seasonal produce, car boot, seafood, kai and hot coffee! The market is now situated at 17 Water St opposite Domino's in the growers market carpark, every Sunday 7am-11am. For stall bookings and enquiries contact Lynne via Facebook - the Tiki Market page

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

Whangārei Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc - Meets 1st Saturday, February to December, 10am - 12 noon in the May Bain Room, Whangārei Central Library. Contact Kathy 0212637358 or Whangārei@genealogy.org

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? We are a non-auditioned community choir based in Whangārei. We sing a wide range of songs from traditional classical choral works through to musical theatre & modern songs. We welcome adult singers of all ages to join us. Please contact us at Whangāreichoral@gmail.com or just turn up on a Monday night, 7pm at St. John's Golden Church, 147 Kamo Road.

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

Whangarei Genealogy Group - Whangārei Branch - Meets 1st Saturday, February to December, 10am in the May Bain Room, Whangārei Central Library. Contact Kathy 021 263 7358 or Whangārei@genealogy.org

Whangārei Green Drinks - An eco-conscious networking event held on the third Tuesday of every month 6-7:30pm. A joint initiative by EcoSolutions and the Tai Tokerau Timebank. Held at the He Awhi Rito Envirohub (located at 8 First Avenue) unless a special field-trip location is announced closer to the date. Attendance is free and includes complimentary light drinks and snacks

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 Philatelic Society - For those interested in stamps, coins and bank notes - contact Barry Jones 021 214 4140 (Club Secretary)

Whangārei Scale Modellers Group - Meets third Tuesday evening of every month, 7.00pm to 9.00pm at Reyburn Art Studio, Reyburn House Lane, Town Basin, Whangārei. Open to all with an interest in all types of scale modelling irrespective of age and skill level.

Whangārei Scottish Country Dance Club - The Scottish Country Dance Club meets every Thursday at the Onerahi Community Hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome. For more information, 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

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www.cab.org.nz

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Tue 9am - 5pm
Wed 9am - 7pm
Thurs 9am - 5pm
Fri 9am - 6pm

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Onerahi Lions will be selling Christmas cakes again in October

Back in 1971, the New Zealand Lions Christmas Cake was born. Now, more than half a century later, our Cake has become an annual nation-wide favourite. Moist, fruity, delicious. Enjoy it now, at Christmas, next year or the next.

Our cake has a shelf life of no less than two years. Did we say it tastes delicious? Of course! Lions Christmas Cakes are available mainly from <https://lionschristmascakes.org.nz/> OR Onerahi Lions Club members. They are 1kg fruit cakes. These are \$25 each.

The Onerahi contact person to order from is Maria Goodhew 027 474 2213



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 1 October to 14 October - Whangārei Silver Festival: two weeks of celebrating older adults with workshops, sports tasters, social gatherings, and creative events. Details available from the council website <https://www.wdc.govt.nz/Events/Festivals/Silver-Festival>

Wednesday 7 and 14 October - Silver Festival Social Tennis at Onerahi Tennis courts: Come and have a hit. Friendly tennis offered for all from 9am. Rackets provided if you cannot find your old wooden one. Zero cost and the club will offer refreshments after your play

Friday 16 October - Onerahi Garden Group yearly fundraiser - lots of plants, gardening magazines and books, bric a brac, raffles, morning tea \$5, rock painting \$2, gardening questions (hopefully answered). Meet and mingle with our members - love to see you there. Venue - Onerahi Community Hall, 10am - 12.30pm

Friday 16 October - Key workshop: Self Esteem and Confidence Building. Contact Gwendolyn Needham, be.free@extra.co.nz 09 4377183

Saturday 17 October - Community Volunteer Fair: a free, family-friendly event that includes food, entertainment, and micro-volunteering opportunities. Stalls are free - see Volunteering Northland website to register a stall. 9am - 12:30pm, Whangārei Central Library

Sunday 18 October - Whangārei Ethnic Football Festival: A six-a-side festival to be held at Tikipunga Sports Park, 8-4pm. For official inquiries and registration, email info@mwwhg.org.nz or call 09 430 0571

Monday 26 October - Labour Day public holiday

Monday 26 October - Parua Bay Market: Special public holiday market to be held at the Parua Bay Community Hall, 9am-2pm

Wednesday 28 October 2026 - He Whakaputanga: A seminar about Aotearoa/NZ's Declaration of Independence: 9:30-12 noon, Te Ora Hou, 104 Cork Road, fee: \$5-15 (pay what you can afford). Book your spot on www.networkwaitangiWhangarei.org.nz

Thursday, 29th October - Hurupaki School 50th anniversary reunion - from 3pm-6:30pm

Saturday 31 October and Sunday 1 November - 2026 Hospice House Tour: Showcasing homes in the Whangārei Heads and Pataua North/South areas to fundraise for North Haven Hospice. See page 14 for details

Monday 2-8 November - Sculpture Northland: Exhibition in the Whangārei Quarry Gardens. Over 100 artworks for sale along with live music, raffles, plant sales and more. 9am to 4pm. \$15 adults, \$5 children, under 3s go free. Golf carts available \$5 per person. Free parking shuttle. See page 13 for details

Monday 16 November - Supporting Young People with Sexual Wellbeing full-day training session for those who work with youth. Go to <https://sexualwellbeing.org.nz>

Wednesday 18 November - Parua Bay Residents and Ratepayers (PBRR) AGM: 6pm at the Mt Manaia Bowling Club, Parua Bay

Friday 20 November - Key workshop: Take Charge of your Life. Contact Gwendolyn Needham, be.free@extra.co.nz 09 4377183

Saturday 21 November - Onerahi School Reunion. Contact Wendy Giffin on wagzrag@hotmail.com

Saturday 21 November - Dragonfly Springs Wetland Sanctuary OPEN DAY: 10am-2pm. Come tour your local nature reserve and learn about restored wetlands and native plantings. Family friendly environment, enjoy your sandwiches in a sanctuary! 47 Raumati Crescent, Onerahi. <https://dragonflysprings.co.nz/>

Saturday 5 December - Summer Concert by Whangārei Choral Society, at 2:30pm, at the Old Library, 7 Rust Avenue, Whangārei. For further information, please contact Whangareichoral@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page or website (www.Whangareichoralsociety.weebly.com)

Sunday 13 December - Sing-a-long of Christmas Carols: Bring the family and share in a fun (old and new) sing-a-long of Christmas Carols at the Kaurihohore Hall (16 Apotu Road), 6:30pm. Cuppa and cake will be provided. All are welcome. This is an initiative of the Kaurihohore / Kamo Co-operating Parish - for more information visit kaurichurch.org.nz

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.

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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