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EDITION #75
SEPTEMBER 2025

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Māngere's 275 times



Our stories, our people, our Māngere
Kōrero paki ō tatou, Tāngata ō tatou, Ngā Hau Māngere ō tatou

MANUKAU REIGN SUPREME



Photo: PhototechNZ

The Māngere-based Manukau United Mens football team have won NRFL Men's Championship for 2025, earning promotion to the Northern League. Head to **page 7** for the full story.

GET PEACE OF MIND WITH A NEW BUILD

Remove and rebuild with GJ's "It was the better option to knock down and rebuild than try to renovate. Just the peace of mind you have because its brand new." – **York Family**

09 274 2082 / gjgardner.co.nz



G.J. Gardner. HOMES

EDITORIAL



Each year, Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori (Māori Language Week) reminds us that te reo Māori is more than words, it is at the heart of our community's identity. Once suppressed and on the brink of being lost, te reo has survived because of tireless advocacy by Māori communities who understood that language carries culture, history, and connection to whenua.

Māori Language Week is not only a

celebration but also a challenge: to normalise te reo in schools, workplaces, and daily life. Every greeting, every place name spoken correctly, strengthens the language and affirms Māori identity. For non-Māori, participating is a gesture of respect and partnership under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Given the importance of this time, it is worth highlighting the achievements of Arihia Stirling who recently announced she will be stepping down as tumuaki of Te Kura Māori o Ngā Tapuwae as of next year, to pursue other opportunities within the education sector. Arihia has not only been a champion of te reo Māori but has also been a true community leader, advocating strongly on a range of issues that have made our area better. So we wish her well and encourage you all to watch the tribute to her on Te Karere's Facebook page.



Editorial Team: Jo and Justin Latif

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MESSAGE FROM YOUR LOCAL MP

Talofa lava and warm Pacific Greetings. Times are hard for a lot of families right now with food, electricity, and housing costs all going up.

Under National, property speculators and fossil fuel companies are being looked after, while New Zealanders suffer.

Facing the worst unemployment rate in the country and a surge in homelessness, Christopher Luxon promised to fix things but instead he's making life worse for Aucklanders.

With 15,000 more people unemployed in Auckland in the last year alone, it's no wonder many are leaving the country in record numbers.

As I turn to our youth in Māngere, I think of my Youth MP, Marques Tominiko. While his term as Youth MP ends on Friday 29 August,



Marques will continue his Year 12 studies at De La Salle College and in some small capacity with me till the end of this year. Watch this space!

New Zealand cannot afford another three years of National. I want to

reassure our community, Labour has a plan - we care about what our local community is telling us and will prioritise real action on cost of living.

I want to acknowledge again and thank you all for braving through these tough times.

Feel free to connect with my local electorate office team by, contacting 09-2731150 or emailing Mangere@parliament.govt.nz.

Manuia tele
Lemauga Lydia Sosene
MP Māngere

*Approved by Lemauga Lydia Sosene
MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington*

Funded by Parliamentary Service

(sponsored content)

MEET THE CANDIDATES:

SCHOOL STUDENTS DEMAND ANSWERS AT LOCAL ELECTION FORUM



Local board candidates, Mayoral candidate Kerrin Leoni (in light blue), De La Salle students and Lotu Fuli (far left)



Manukau Ward Councillor Candidates



Māngere College students from bottom left Manuia Fox-Romia & Safa Mustafa. De La Salle College students Elijah Wilson & Cadell Armstrong

By Mary Afemata

Housing, youth spaces, accountability and Māori representation were front and centre as young people questioned candidates ahead of the local council elections.

High school students were given the microphone to ask the hard questions of local body candidates at a recent Meet the Candidates event in the Māngere Town Centre.

Manuia Fox-Romia, head girl for Māngere College, challenged candidates on the disconnect between council and communities.

"What will you do to ensure accountability and bridge that gap and ensure people on the ground have a say and are informed of the decisions that affect them the most?" she asked.

While her schoolmate, Safa Mustafa, stressed accessibility.

"Events like this should be accessible to everyone, not only through social media but in places where everyone else are also involved."

CANDIDATE RESPONSES

Incumbent Manukau ward councillor Lotu Fuli said underserved communities needed strong advocates.

"Our communities remain underserved, and so we need really strong voices at that decision-making table.

"People like Alf [Filipaina] and myself ... will not back down when

we are faced with huge pressure from multi-millionaires sitting around that table."

First-time candidate Vicky Hau and manager of the Māngere Town Centre, said youth spaces were urgent.

"We do not have a youth hub ... that is one of the initiatives that I would like to roll out and ideally for it to sit here somewhere in our town centre."

Others focused on jobs and leadership, and calls for greater employment and career pathways for rangatahi.

Local business owner Swanie Nelson highlighted Māori representation was missing.

"It's crazy to me that we don't have a Māori representative currently on our local board ... The first thing you can do is vote Māori back into these positions ... what's good for Māori is good for all."

COMMUNITY-LED FOCUS

The event, held on Saturday, September 6, was co-organised by 275 Times managing editor Jo Latif, who said the goal was to make politics accessible.

"We have a really low voter turnout for Māngere historically. The

point of today's event was to show people who is standing. So when the papers arrive in their letterbox, they'll be like, 'oh, I know these people, I've seen them talk'."

Latif said including students was deliberate.

"It's important for young people because they are our future leaders. They are the ones facing the decisions of today's leaders ... they are going to be growing up in this community with their families and living the reality. So what better people to speak up and have a say now."

Visit pmn.co.nz for the full article.

Voting closes on October 11 so visit voteauckland.co.nz for information where and how to vote.

Go to facebook.com/275times/live_videos to watch the live stream of the event.

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Reducing flooding in Māngere.

To help reduce flooding, we'll be making upgrades to **Walmsley Road** near the intersection of **McKenzie** and **Miller Roads**. The road will be closed to vehicles from early **October until March 2026**.

Detours will be in place:



Vehicles travelling on **Walmsley Road to SH20 Northbound on ramp** will be detoured via **Mahunga Drive** and **Rimu Road**.



Bus routes 309 and 309X will change, visit Auckland Transport to check for bus stop closures, rerouted bus services and alternative bus stops.



Pedestrians and cyclists will be able to use a **temporary bridge**.

If you experience urgent traffic issues, please call 09 301 0101.

Search **Te Ararata Creek** 

**Tāmaki Turuki.
Altogether Auckland.**



'SONGS OF STRUGGLE & SOLIDARITY'

LAUNCH OF ROGER FOWLER'S VINYL LP



Roger performing on stage with his family and friends, including Tigilau Ness (far left)



Roger (right) with Hools (left) from Banana Boat Records



A long history in activism: Roger holding a sign in the 1970's at a civil rights protest on Karangahape Road

Community voices rang out at the Nga Tapuwae Community Centre this month as long-time activist, musician and former 275 Times editor, Roger Fowler launched his new vinyl album, *Songs of Struggle & Solidarity*.

The project was sparked when young people attending Palestine rallies encouraged Fowler to record his well-known protest songs. "They thought they should be recorded," he said. "So we pulled together a session."

True to his grassroots approach, the album was recorded in just one day at Revolver Studios, with each track laid down in a single take. Roger chose vinyl for nostalgic

reasons.

"I'm old school," Fowler laughed. "But hey, vinyl is making a comeback!" Produced in collaboration with Banana Boat Records, the LP carries the energy of live performance and community spirit.

The launch night drew a full house of whānau, friends, and fellow campaigners. Highlights included a rousing mass singalong and an emotional moment when Fowler was honoured with an appreciation award from leaders of the local Palestinian community.

"It was an amazing turnout," he said.

For Fowler, the album is not just music but a call to action. He remains committed to writing and singing

in support of the Free Palestine movement.

"It's about building awareness and support for justice," he said.

The LP is being distributed on a koha basis, with supporters invited to contribute to his account (RN FOWLER, ASB 12-3055-0179291-00). Fowler also encourages people to connect with the global movement for Palestine through the Kia Ora Gaza website and Facebook, and to join weekly rallies each Saturday.

Special thanks, he added, goes to his whānau, Revolver Studios, and Banana Boat Records for their backing in bringing the project to life.

More information: kiaoragaza.wordpress.com

SPECIAL OFFERS

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WHY EVERY FAMILY NEEDS A WILL

MĀNGERE BRIDGE LAWYER SHARES CRUCIAL ADVICE



**“...A WILL ISN'T ABOUT DEATH
– IT'S ABOUT LOVE AND
PROTECTING YOUR FAMILY.”**

The Māngere Bridge Mason & Mortimer team (L-R): Sharon Lockhart-Beattie, Mataiasī Toófohe, Maria Mortimer, Averil McIntyre and Adele Mulcahy

For many families, the subject of writing a will can feel uncomfortable, but Māngere Bridge lawyer Mataiasī Toófohe says it's one of the most important steps people can take to protect their loved ones.

Toófohe, who works at Mason and Mortimer's Lawyers in Māngere Bridge, says too many families leave things until it's too late. “A lot of people put it off because they don't want to think about death,” he explains. “But not having a will creates more stress, more cost, and more conflict for your family.”

He notes that when someone dies without a will, their estate must go through the courts, which can take months – especially if there are multiple children or generations involved. “You've got all these different personalities, different views, and sometimes greed comes into it,” he says. “A will removes that uncertainty. It's a simple document that makes sure your wishes are followed.”

Drawing from his experience with local families, Toófohe says having a will isn't just for the elderly or wealthy. “If you own a house, have more than \$40,000 in savings, or any kind of insurance, you should have a will,” he stresses. “Even young people with assets need one.”

He adds that setting up a will is quick and affordable – often completed within a week. “It's actually cheaper to do it with a lawyer than to leave your family to fight it out in court,” he says. “And remember, a will isn't permanent. You can change it as your circumstances change.”

Proudly Tongan and from Māngere, Toófohe also wants Pacific families to feel comfortable seeking advice. “I enjoy working with our community because I understand the cultural values. At the end of the day, a will isn't about death – it's about love and protecting your family.”

Get in touch with the team at Mason & Mortimer's Lawyers: Email info@mamlaw.co.nz or Ph: 09 269 0037.

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MANUKAU REIGN SUPREME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...



The team and supporters celebrating after the sealing their title win.

Winning the Lotto NRFL Championship and securing promotion back into the Northern League isn't just a victory for Manukau United's mens team, but a statement that South Auckland football is on the rise, according to the team's head coach Gordon Paulsen.

"This means a lot for our club and our community," Paulsen says. "We'll now be the only South Auckland team competing at this level. It's a fantastic achievement and something everyone involved can be proud of."

The promotion marks a return for Manukau United, who were relegated two seasons ago.

Last year they narrowly missed out, losing in a playoff on penalties. This season, however, they pushed through, overcoming an early stumble to go on a strong winning run.

Paulsen credits the team's success to culture and unity.

"We've built an inclusive culture where players love the club and know what it means. Some of our squad have played professionally, others are still developing, but they've all bought into a common goal," he says.

"United we stand, together we achieve – that's our motto."

Depth also played a key role. "Last season we didn't quite have it, but this year we did. Even when players were out, our performances stayed consistent," Paulsen explains.

For the coach, community support has been vital. Fans followed the team across Auckland and beyond, and young local players have been inspired by the journey. "We can't do what we do without our community," Paulsen says.

"We encourage more kids in South Auckland to take up football. Sport teaches life lessons you don't always get elsewhere – teamwork, resilience, positivity."

As Manukau United prepares for the challenges of the Northern League, Paulsen is confident.

"We've changed the narrative. The club is stronger, the culture is right, and with our community behind us, we'll keep building."



Head Coach Gordon Paulsen

AKL is seeking South Auckland Community Representatives for the Aircraft Noise Community Consultative Group

Three individuals with strong networks in South Auckland and experience understanding and explaining technical topics are required to provide a community voice on matters relating to aircraft noise. Preparation and attendance at four meetings per year for three years is required. A honorarium of \$300 is paid for each meeting.

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FROM SIDE HUSTLE TO ICONIC EATS: BANH MI BOY PUTS MĀNGERE ON AUCKLAND'S FOODIE MAP



John showing his award winning bahn mi at his new store at 55 Montgomerie Rd



Zeena (left) and John (right) outside their food truck on Massey Rd where it all began

What started as a side hustle on Massey Road has become one of Auckland's most celebrated food stories. Banh Mi Boy, founded by husband-and-wife team John and Zeena Giang, has now been recognised three years running in Auckland's Iconic Eats 100 list – proof that their authentic Vietnamese sandwiches have struck a chord well beyond Māngere.

For John, the inspiration came years earlier. Having lived in California and Australia, he was struck by how entire takeaway shops were dedicated to banh mi. A 2016 trip to Vietnam sealed the idea. "Banh mi is a staple in Vietnam – you can get it nearly every corner you turn," he recalls. Back in Auckland, while juggling a career in real estate, John and Zeena began recipe testing and in 2022 took the

plunge with a food truck.

Māngere was always the natural home for the business. John's parents once ran a bakery there, and he spent his childhood at the local markets. Zeena also has strong family connections to the area. "We felt right at home here," says John.

**"THE 275
COMMUNITY
BACKED US
FROM DAY ONE."**

Their dedication quickly paid off. The traditional banh mi – stacked with Vietnamese ham, BBQ pork, and pork brawn – won Iconic Eats accolades in their first two years. The third award went to Zeena's favourite, the fragrant lemongrass chicken banh mi. At first, John thought the award notification was spam. "The second

time I thought it was a fluke. The third time I knew all our hard work was paying off."

For the couple, the recognition is about more than awards. "My goal is to put the spotlight on this staple food item," John explains. "In New Zealand, banh mi is often hidden in menus as just a light snack. We want to give it the recognition it deserves – and be the place people think of when they crave it."

The transition from food truck to their store on Montgomerie Road was "much needed," John says. "The truck was just to test our product. Amazingly, it worked out exactly how I envisioned."

Community has been central throughout. "The 275 community backed us from day one," John says. "Even now, our food truck regulars still come to the shop. Without their love and support, we wouldn't be here. Our BMB family keeps growing – and we're truly grateful."

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

Email: editor@275times.co.nz to find out more

HITTING THE MARK: JAEDA TO REP COUNTRY AND CULTURE IN TRANS-TASMAN CLASH



Jaeda wearing her newly-presented Archery NZ shirt



Jaeda's archery skills in action



Jaeda receiving her Archery NZ shirt

With her bow in hand and her community behind her, Māngere Bridge local Jaeda Alaalatoa-Dale has proudly earned her place in the New Zealand Under-21 Archery Team. She is the only member of the squad of Māori (Te Rarawa) and Samoan (Village of Vaiusu) descent, carrying her family connections proudly with her on this great journey

Recognised for her leadership both on and off the range, Jaeda was nominated by her peers and voted into the role of team captain, alongside fellow captain Logan Dittert of Manawatu. She also helped design the new team shirt and, together with her koro, wrote the team's karakia in te reo Māori.

The 37-strong squad will take on their Australian counterparts in the Trans-Tasman Challenge from September 25 to 30, a test that will demand focus, skill and teamwork.

For Jaeda, the honour is as much about service as it is achievement.

"I am immensely proud to have earned my spot on the team and to wear the fern, particularly as archery begins to increase in popularity and diversity in Aotearoa," she says. "I see the captain's role as a position of service to the team and look forward to supporting the younger archers on their journey of NZ representation."

She draws strength from the whakataukī: "Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini" — success is not the work of an individual, but the work of many.

Looking ahead to the week of competition, Jaeda says: "We must work together to be successful against the Australian team. I look forward to bonding, shooting and making life-long memories."

To follow the progress of Jaeda and her team, head to NZ Trans Tasman Archery Team on Facebook for daily updates or Jaeda's public archery instagram page @jaes_archery.

BECOME A Host Family

Hosting an international student is a great way to bring the world to your home. Create lifelong relationships with people around the world and earn extra income.

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START YOUR JOURNEY BY CONTACTING US

Mangere Central School
244 Kirkbride Road, Mangere
Dayna Hill - International Student Coordinator
office@mangerecentral.school.nz
09 275 6775

'PURE MAGIC':

SOUTHERN CROSS STUDENTS CELEBRATE PERFORMING ARTS



Students from Southern Cross Campus taking to the stage at the Due Drop Events Centre, including Taivero Isamaela and Illzmay Kimi-Piiti (top right)

Southern Cross Campus recently lit up the stage at the Due Drop Events Centre with its annual Performing Arts Showcase, a celebration of music, dance and culture that sold out across two nights.

The event, a highlight of the school's arts calendar, brought together singers, dancers and musicians from Years 10–13. Music teacher Emily Heeney, who co-directed alongside Junior Nansen and Head of Performing Arts Jessie Nansen, said the showcase was about more than just performance.

"...WE PROVED TO OURSELVES THAT WE REALLY COULD PERFORM TO OUR FULLEST POTENTIAL"

"Our students rose to the challenge," said Heeney.

"For many it was their first time on a big stage, and it takes resilience and perseverance to rehearse long hours,

perform multiple acts, and deliver at such a high standard. We are so proud of the way they represented their whānau, culture and God-given talents."

The programme featured vocal ensembles, soloists, hip-hop, cultural and contemporary dance. Students not only performed but also supported one another through fast costume changes and back-to-back numbers.

"One of the most beautiful things about Showcase is how unifying it is," Heeney added.

"Our senior students step into the role of tuakana for the juniors, and so many unlikely friendships are formed. It's pure magic."

Three Southern Cross alumni, Christian Faimalo, Petelo Saia and Freddy To'ofuhe, returned to help backstage. To'ofuhe, now studying performing arts, reflected: "I loved coming back and helping. Thank you for letting me help backstage, it was so good to experience the showcase from a different side and learn new things. I'll be back for the next one!"

Students also shared their pride in performing.

"The showcase was the highlight of

my life so far, I can't wait to do it again next year," said Taivero Isamaela.

Fellow performer Illzmay Kimi-Piiti added, "The showcase shows us that someone believes in us.

"We proved to ourselves that we really could perform to our fullest potential."

The showcase capped off a stellar year for Southern Cross Performing Arts, which also celebrated success in the national Play It Strange competitions and Elev8's win in the New Found Sound competition (pictured below).



THE LANDING:

PRESERVING VOICES OF MIGRATION, MEMORY AND COMMUNITY



The directors (left) and subjects of the *The Landing* film presented with gifts for their participation in the project



L-R: Sith Douanga Kham Chanh, Lillian Rose Martirez, Gillianne Ray, Sione Faletau at the exhibition at the Māngere Arts Centre



The exhibitions runs until the 18th of October

A powerful new exhibition and film project, *The Landing*, is now on show at the Māngere Arts Centre, celebrating the voices and stories of seniors from Māngere and Ōtāhuhu. The project combines a documentary film with a photography exhibition, weaving together deeply personal accounts of migration, settlement, and community pride.

Directed by husband-and-wife team Sith Douanga Kham Chanh and Lillian Rose Martirez, *The Landing* is their first long-form documentary. Both are proud to be from Māngere and say the project gave them an exciting opportunity to work creatively in their own community. "Normally we work in commercial content, but this time it was ours. No one was telling us what to do," says Martirez. "It was our creative freedom."

The film captures intimate interviews with local elders, recorded in their homes. While initially nervous, the directors said the participants quickly opened up. "Hearing everyone's story was heartwarming. They welcomed us and made us feel at home," says Kham Chanh. Diversity was central to the project: "We wanted to make sure we captured different ethnic groups. Everyone's experience is different, but also parallel."

The project was led by Auckland Council's Gillianne Ray, who serves the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board. With a background in community planning, Ray saw the need to record these histories before they were lost. "I realised our seniors will pass on – have we actually captured their stories?" she says. "This is part of our heritage. It's about future-proofing for generations to come."

Ray worked to secure funding, coordinate the moving parts, and set the brief: the stories had to feature ordinary people, not politicians or public figures. For her, the project is also about changing perceptions. "Too often South Auckland is painted negatively. We wanted a proud story, one that shows the good in this place."

The title, *The Landing*, reflects both the journeys of those who settled in Māngere and Ōtāhuhu, and the presence of Auckland Airport nearby. "It's about how people arrived and why they chose to stay," Ray explains.

Together, the film and exhibition stand as a tribute to

resilience, belonging, and community pride – a reminder that Māngere's stories are worth archiving, celebrating, and passing on.

Māngere East Primary School Te Kura Tuatahi o Māngere ki te Rāwhiti **ENROLMENTS FOR 2026**



The Board of Trustees invites applications for enrolment for all new students wishing to attend Māngere East Primary School in 2026. **Parents of students who live within the home zone should also apply** by this date to assist the school to plan appropriately for next year. The Enrolment Form is on our school website (www.meps.school.nz). Students who live in the home zone are entitled to enrol at the school.

Enrolment at the school is governed by an Enrolment Scheme, which is available from the school office or website. The deadline for applications for out-of-zone places is 3pm, Wednesday 8th October 2025.

The Board has determined that there will be approximately the following places available for out-of-zone students next year:

Te Poho o Rāwhiti (Māori): Years 1 = 17 spaces, Year 2-4 - 10 spaces, Y5&6 - 3 spaces
O Lou Ala i Mālō (Samoan): Year 1 = 5 spaces, Y2-4 - 7 spaces, Y5&6 - 0 spaces
Kafa Taha (Tongan): Year 1 = 5 spaces, Year 2-6 - 0 spaces.
Cook Islands Māori: Year 1 = 8 spaces, Years 3-6 - 8 spaces.
Kahu (English-Medium): Years 7-8 = 0 spaces
English-Medium: Years 1-6 = 0 spaces

The exact number of places will depend on the number of applications received from students who live within the school's home zone. If the number of out-of-zone applications exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot. If a ballot is required it will be held on **Wednesday 15th October 2025**. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot within three school days of the ballot being held.

If you require a copy of the enrolment scheme, enrolment forms please visit our school website or for more information please contact Ange on 276-4689 x802 or email office@meps.school.nz. **All applications must be received online no later than 3pm, Wednesday 8th October 2025**

NZCT KEEPS MĀNGERE BRIDGE FUN RUN MOVING



The Māngere Bridge Fun Run last year

New Zealand Community Trust (NZCT) has awarded a grant of \$8,050 to the Māngere Bridge Village Business Association to help cover traffic management, marshal costs, and a PA system for the Māngere Bridge Fun Run on Sunday, 28 September.

Office Manager Corinne Cameron says, "The Fun Run is all about bringing our community together and encouraging active lifestyles. Thanks to NZCT, we can keep entry fees low and make sure everyone stays safe on the day." With NZCT's contribution the Business Association can run the event professionally and safely without passing rising costs on to

the community, keeping the Fun Run accessible to families, school groups, and participants of all ages and fitness levels, while meeting increased health and safety requirements.

The Māngere Bridge Fun Run has grown into a much-loved grassroots event, welcoming participants from toddlers to retirees. With its accessible route, spot prizes, and focus on fun, it promotes health, active transport, and community spirit. Community member Melissa Atkin says, "It's my first time doing the Fun Run and I've convinced my whole whānau to join me. We're so excited to do it together!"

NZCT's GM of Grants, Marketing and Communications, Ben Hodges, says, "It's great to see events like the Fun Run bringing whole neighbourhoods together."



275 TIMES CALENDAR

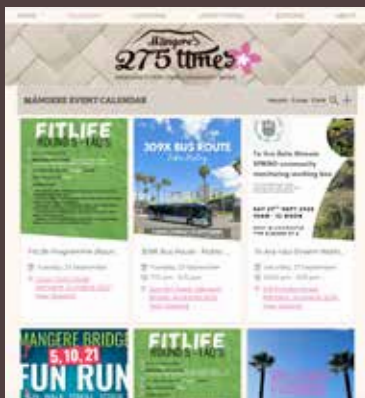
Stay up to date with all things Māngere!

Check out our community calendar at www.275times.com/calendar to find all the latest events happening in Māngere.

Got an event of your own? It's easy to add it! Just head to the calendar on our website, click the '+' symbol

on your desktop or the three lines on your mobile. Once submitted, your event will be reviewed and approved.

Or, if you'd prefer, simply email the details to us at editor@275times.co.nz and we'll add it for you. Let's keep Māngere connected.



SDA HIGH SCHOOL BOYS MAKE HISTORIC BASKETBALL DEBUT



During the recent Winter Tournament Week, the senior boys' basketball team from Auckland Seventh-day Adventist High School made a historic debut at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Northern Cup at Bruce Pulman Arena.

This was the school's first time

competing in the tournament, a milestone achieved despite challenges with its scheduling during the school week—a barrier in the past due to the school's religious commitments.

The boys quickly adapted to the demands of competitive play, with two games each day and 10-minute stop clock quarters testing their physical and mental endurance. Despite the intensity, the team displayed resilience

and determination throughout.

Finishing with just two losses, the result was impressive for a group still developing their skills and representing only their school, without experience in external leagues. Their performance highlighted strong teamwork, perseverance, and a growing understanding of the game.

Special recognition goes to the Year 13 players who stepped up to lead on a bigger stage. Their leadership and commitment inspired younger teammates and were pivotal to the team's success.

Auckland Seventh-day Adventist High School is proud of the boys' achievements and is eager to build on this experience in future competitions. Their first Northern Cup appearance not only boosted confidence but also laid the foundation for a promising future in school basketball. The team's confidence but has also set the foundation for a promising future in school basketball.

By Jordina Katu

WEDDING & EVENTS EXPO SHOWCASES LOCAL TALENT RIGHT HERE IN MĀNGERE

Born from a desire to celebrate community and showcase South Auckland's hidden gems, the Wedding & Events Expo has debuted in Māngere this month. The event aims to highlight talented Pacific and Māori vendors while giving locals a one-stop shop for planning weddings, balls, and special occasions.

The expo was held on Wednesday, 24 September 2025, at the Holiday Inn, Auckland Airport (2 Ascot Road). Attendees were treated to a free glass of bubbles while VIP guests came away with a show bag filled with vendor goodies.

Hosted by Captured Events, a branch of Loving Memory NZ, and managed by Soul Food Events in partnership with the Holiday Inn, the inspiration came from organiser



Left: Soul Food Events - Moe Afeaki & Marika Grace. Middle: Captured Events - Fatima Afoa. Right: Holiday Inn - Venue Partner



Event poster

Fatima's own bridal journey.

"After attending many expos, I saw how few Pacific and Māori vendors were represented," Fatima explains. "We wanted to create something in Māngere that celebrates our own community."

Event managers Moe and Marika of Soul Food Events add: "This is a chance to highlight incredible local talent while giving families and future

brides a place to plan and dream — keeping it local, for local."

Looking ahead, Soul Food Events will return in March 2026 with their annual Soul Food Festival, which promises to be their biggest yet. Follow their business on Instagram @weddingandeventsexpo and check also check out their Soul Food Fest account @soulfoodfest_nz

MĀNGERE BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

GET IN TOUCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE A LISTING HERE. STARTING AT \$20 PER CLASSIFIED

Xeroe Waste events

Waste Management for events
Email: Vernz10@gmail.com
Ph: 02102459988
<https://xeroewaste.co.nz>
FB: Xeroe waste

275 Kai

Food Trailer serving delicious burgers and more.
Email: Mary.talisa@275kai.com
Ph: 0212971262
IG/FB: @275Kai

Twosevenfive clothing store

Shop 5, 93 Bader drive, Māngere
Town centre, Māngere
merch@twosevenfive.co.nz
Ph: 099481463
IG: @twosevenfive.clothing

Alliance Electrical

Electrical services
info@allianceelectrical.co.nz
Ph: 027 414 1718
FB: Alliance Electrical, IG: Electrical_alliance

Precision Lawn Care

Lawn mowing & landscaping
Email: info@precisionlawn.co.nz
Ph: 022 042 1516 IG: cprecisionlawn
Fb: Precision lawn care

Mark Swords Electrical

Fully registered Master Electricians
Ph: 027 275 0097
Email: mse.ltd@gmail.com
<https://mseltd.co.nz>

Cleean.co

Cleaning Service
Email: Cle3an.co@gmail.com
Ph: 021 164 8920

Remnant Brothers Tree Experts Ltd

remnantbrothersltd@gmail.com
Ph: 2108495876
IG/FB: @remnantbros_treeexperts

Aunty Enahs Hangis

Food - Unique Hangis
Email: Auntyenaskai@gmail.com
Ph: 022 373 9141
FB: Aunty enahs Kai
IG: aunty_enahs_hangis

MĀNGERE TOWN CENTRE

Ph: 09 275 7078
office@mangeretowncentre.nz
www.mangeretowncentre.nz

COMMUNITY HUB

I Am Māngere Community Hub
027 255 2049

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Mr Katsu Māngere	0210376358
Pacific Fresh Fish	09 257 5135
Pizza Curry Corner	09 257 5100
Sushi Time	09 275 0893
Zara Kebab	0212105602

RETAIL

Feathers	09 257 0909
Jit Shoes	09 275 0405
Māngere Fashions	09 256 0303
Māngere Jewellers	09 255 5907
Māngere Mini Mart	022 636 1371
Māngere Post Shop	021 762 478
Megastar Fashions	09 275 6962
My Hairdressers & Barbers Salon	09 218 9161

Nesian Collective	027 255 2049
One Stop Pak Māngere	09 215 8383
Pacific Fashions	021 510 071
Regal Apparel International Ltd/	
Megastar Fashions	09 275 6962
Sunlight clothing shop	021 301 987
TechFixers Māngere	09 255 5105

SERVICES

BaderDrive Doctors	09 275 858
Beauty By Harpi	022 421 0957
Māngere Budgeting Services Trust	0508 22 22 83
Māngere Dental Centre	09 275 7754

Facade by Sade LTD

Cosmetic teeth whitening & Nifo koula
Email: Facadebysade@gmail.com
Ph: 02904503518
IG: @facadebysade

Glorious Inc.

Providing indigenous tours
6/203 Kirkbride Road, Māngere
Email: gloriousnz.info@gmail.com
Ph: 0212226675

Anela's Kitchen

Pacific baking business
andrew.lameko@gmail.com
IG: @anelas_kitcehn | 022 590 8542

MĀNGERE BRIDGE VILLAGE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Ph: 021 776 139
info@mangerebridgevillage.co.nz
www.mangerebridgevillage.co.nz

CAFE/RESTAURANT/TAKEAWAYS

Brandy's Roasts	09 6363998
Hong Kong Takeaways	09 6347159
Mangere Floral Studio	09 6366291
Neptune Seafoods	09 6369171
Lucky Café	09 6369400
Ros Bake	09 6345475
Coronation Restaurant	09 6340969
Burger Shop	09 2186327
Happy Horse	09 6365053
Ruby Red Café	09 6346454
Phnom Penh	09 6363586
Hong Kong Bakery	09 6367756
Village Butcher	09 6367856
Black Box Pizza	09 6369999
Butter Chicken Factory	09 2560500
Golden Sunrise Bakery	09 6348365
Māngere Bridge Takeaways	09 6342463

CHILDCARE

Small Kauri Educ Centre	09 6360644
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HAIR/BARBER/BEAUTY

Village Barber	021 135 6370
Keith the Barber	027 478 3598
Bridge Beauty	09 3201667
Hair Zone	09 6365747

HEALTH

My Dental Mangere Bridge	09 2421130
MB Pharmacy	09 6364249
Dr Usha Chand	09 6342542
Local Doctors	09 2544290

LAUNDROMAT

Coronation Laundromat	0221093125
Sunrise Laudromat	Shop 27

LAWYERS

Mason and Mortimer	09 2960037
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REAL ESTATE

Ray White	09 6369992
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RETAIL

Bridge Mini Market	09 6365433
Post Shop	09 8926109
St Vincent de Paul	09 6361290
Coin Save	Shop 33
Coin Max	Shop 34A
Hammer Hardware	09 6367084
Mangere Bridge Flowers	09 6221292
Fresh Choice	09 6368424

WHATS ON IN MĀNGERE

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES IN MĀNGERE

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS WITH

WEEK 2

MON 29 **MAARA KAI**
Bring your bannocks down to the Māngere community gardens and learn how to plant and grow your own seeds at home.

TUE 30 **HARANIA HIKOI**
Bring your bannocks down to the Māngere community gardens and learn how to plant and grow your own seeds at home.

WED 1 **HARANIA HIKOI**
Bring your bannocks down to the Māngere community gardens and learn how to plant and grow your own seeds at home.

THURS 2 **LIVING RESOURCEFULLY**
Bring your bannocks down to the Māngere community gardens and learn how to plant and grow your own seeds at home.

FRI 3 **LIVING RESOURCEFULLY**
Bring your bannocks down to the Māngere community gardens and learn how to plant and grow your own seeds at home.

FREE WHĀRE KOA SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

TERM 4 10AM - 3PM

PRINTING & DRAWING PROGRAMME

AGES 7 - 12

WEEK 1: 22ND - 25TH SEP
WEEK 2: 29TH SEP - 2ND OCT

BYO LUNCH MORNING TEA PROVIDED

Māngere Ōtāhuhu Local Board

MĀNGERE BIKEFIT - SCHOOL HOLIDAYS (FREE)

Come & learn bike safety skills while having fun! Tue/Wed/Thur 12pm-1.30pm. Waddon Place. Email sokko.timetothrive@gmail.com.

PONY RIDES

Wed Oct 1st, 10am-12pm. Rides \$10. At Ambury Park Centre. 66 Wellesly Rd, Māngere Bridge.

FRIENDS OF THE FARM

Māngere Bridge Seedling & Swap Day: Sat 4 October, 10am-12pm at Ambury Farm Park Barn, Māngere Bridge.

Māngere Bridge Repair Cafe:

Sat 18 October, 10am-1pm at Māngere Bridge Library. Head to aboutmangerebridge.nz for more information.

MĀNGERE EAST COMMUNITY CENTRE SEPT/OCT HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

MON 22ND 3:30PM **MOVIE**

TUE 23RD 3:30PM **BEE SWAX WRAPS**

WED 24TH 3:30PM **TE ARA-RATA STREAM MICROBES WORKSHOP**

THUR 25TH 3:30PM **TERRARIUMS**

FRI 26TH 3:30PM **WOOL PETS**

MON 29TH 10:30AM **BLOOMIN' EXPERIMENTS**

TUE 30TH 2:30PM **NEAPOLITAN SLICE**

WED 1ST 2:30PM **MAKING FUNAFUNA SWEET TUVĀLU DONUTS**

THU 2ND 10AM-3PM **CYBERNIX! ALL GAMING**

FRI 3RD ALL DAY **TUVALU WIDOW HUNT**

SAT 4TH ALL DAY **LEGO**

SUN 5TH ALL DAY **LEGO**

www.mangereeast.org/holiday-programme
OR CONTACT ANDRE TODAY.
ANDRE ESTAY
09 275 6161 | 0297730146
372 Mātangi Road, Māngere East

AWESOME!

Term 3 School Holidays Māngere East Library

MON 22ND 3:30PM **MOVIE**

TUE 23RD 3:30PM **BEE SWAX WRAPS**

WED 24TH 3:30PM **TE ARA-RATA STREAM MICROBES WORKSHOP**

THUR 25TH 3:30PM **TERRARIUMS**

FRI 26TH 3:30PM **WOOL PETS**

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THU 2ND 10AM-3PM **CYBERNIX! ALL GAMING**

FRI 3RD ALL DAY **TUVALU WIDOW HUNT**

SAT 4TH ALL DAY **LEGO**

SUN 5TH ALL DAY **LEGO**

MOANA NUI-A-KIWA POOL AND LEISURE CENTRE

	Monday 29 September 2025	Tuesday 30 September 2025	Wednesday 1 October 2025	Thursday 2 October 2025	Friday 3 October 2025
Ag 5-13yrs	A-Z DAY \$38.00 Unleash your creativity as we tackle a fun activity for every letter of the alphabet!	MĀNGERE ARTS CENTRE \$38.00 Get ready for a fun-filled creative adventure! Come and discover the artist in you. Don't forget your togs for a swim.	CHIPMUNKS \$56.00 We're off to Chipmunks for loads of fun! Bring your socks, lots of lunch and a drink bottle.	CULTURAL DAY \$38.00 Learn cultural dances and taste different dishes from around the globe. Dress up and bring a plate to share. Don't forget your togs!	WE'RE OFF TO THE MOVIES \$53.50 Check out the new blockbuster with us, we'll even throw in the popcorn too!
Ag 14yrs & over	A-Z DAY \$38.00 Unleash your creativity as we tackle a fun activity for every letter of the alphabet!	MĀNGERE ARTS CENTRE \$38.00 Get ready for a fun-filled creative adventure! Come and discover the artist in you. Don't forget your togs for a swim.	BATTING CAGE \$56.00 Step up to the plate and swing for the fences! Test your skills, build your confidence and have a blast. Let's knock this out of the park!	CULTURAL DAY \$38.00 Learn cultural dances and taste different dishes from around the globe. Dress up and bring a plate to share. Don't forget your togs!	WE'RE OFF TO THE MOVIES \$53.50 Check out the new blockbuster with us, we'll even throw in the popcorn too!

Please note: if your child is bringing a bike, scooter, or skates - a helmet must be worn, and we cannot guarantee time during the programme to use their wheels.

Phone 09 261 8040 or visit aucklandleisure.co.nz

FREE KAI @ MOANA NUI-A-KIWA

Every Wednesday 5.30pm. Ran by Life Community Kitchens. All welcome.

TURUKI HEALTHCARE

Head to www.turukihealthcare.org.nz/bookings for an amazing range of community classes & workshops.

PAPATUANUKU KOKIRI MARAE

KAI IKA. Bring cans to swap for free fish head and frames. Māngere Centre Park car park. Wednesdays & Fridays: 11.00am.

Community DIRECTORY

A COMPACT LIST FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT, RESOURCES AND ADVOCACY. CONTACT EDITOR@275TIMES.CO.NZ FOR ANY UPDATES

ADVOCACY

Auckland Action Against Poverty
Māori Wardens Office, Waddon Pl
advocates@aaap.org.nz

Citizens Advice Bureau Māngere
Shop 17, 93 Bader Drive
www.cab.org.nz | 09 275 6885
0800 367 222 | mangere@cab.org.nz

Communities Against Alcohol Harm
contact@communitiesagainstalcoholharm.co.nz

Māngere Law Centre
Shop 27, Māngere Town Centre
reception@mangerelaw.org.nz
https://communitylaw.org.nz/centre/
auckland/mangere/ Ph: 09 275 4310

MP for Māngere
Māngere Electorate Community
Office, Shop 9, 93 Bader Drive
Mangere@parliament.govt.nz

BUDGETING

Māngere Budgeting Services Trust
Shop 8B, Māngere Town Centre
appointments@mbst.org.nz
0508 222 283 | www.mbst.org.nz

Viola Budgeting
Māngere Baptist Church, Bader Dr
vpibs@vaiola.org | 09 256 9639
www.vaiola.org/contact.html

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Cook Islands Development Agency NZ
287 Kirkbride Road, admin@cidanz.co.nz
https://www.cidanz.co.nz

Maangere Mountain Education Centre
100 Coronation Road, Māngere
Email: info@mangeremountain.co.nz
Ph: 09 634 7305

Māngere Arts Centre
Cnr Bader Drive and Orly Avenue
mangereartscentre@aucklandcouncil.
govt.nz | 09 262 5789

Māngere East Community Centre
372 Massey Road | Ph: 09 275 6161
info@mangereeast.org
https://mangereeast.org

Māngere Bridge Library
5/7 Church Road | 09 377 0209

Māngere East Library
370 Massey Road | 09 377 0209

Māngere Town Centre Library
IG: @mtc_lib | 09 377 0209

Moana-Nui-A-Kiwa (Pools & Leisure)
66R Mascot Avenue | 09 275 8979
mangerepools@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Ngatapuwa Community Centre
phil.d@strive.org.nz | 09 275 4470

Old School Teaching Garden
299 Kirkbride Rd | https://
aucklandteachinggardens.co.nz/

Papatuanuku Kokiri Marae
141R Robertson Road, 027 256 1472
admin@pkm.org.nz | https://pkm.org.nz

Whare Koa Community House
141 Robertson Road | 09 379 2030
https://www.facebook.com/WhareKoa

COMMUNITY SAFETY

**Auckland Council Animal
Management Team (report dogs)**
Ph: 09 301 0101 | 0800 462 685

Neighbourhood Support Māngere
022 010 4707 | ns4mangere@gmail.com

**Neighbourhood Support Māngere
Bridge** | mangerebridgens@gmail.com

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Bader Health Care
09 275 8598 | info@bdhealthcare.co.nz

Turuki Healthcare
32 Canning Crescent | 0800 493 552
www.turukihealthcare.org.nz

HOMELESSNESS SUPPORT

LinkPeople
0800 932 432 | linkpeople.co.nz

Kāhui Tū Kaha
09 531 4040 | 0800 678 323
reception@kahuitukaha.co.nz

HOUSING SUPPORT

Monte Cecilia Housing Trust
30 Windrush Close, Māngere,
0800 624848.

Pacific Healthy Homes Initiative
(Support e.g. curtains, heating, insulation)
Cause Collective: 027 301 3326
thecausecollective.org.nz/contact-us
AWHI Healthy Homes Initiative:
referrals@awhi.co.nz or 0800 100642

Strive Community Trust
294A Massey Road, Māngere
Ph: 09 255 0144 | info@strive.org.nz

SUPPORT

**Fale Pasifika (Pacific Womens
Refuge)** Ph: 09 6220572
Crisis Line: 0800 733 843
admin@falepasifika.org.nz

I AM Mangere
027 348 9454 | www.iamhapori.co.nz
connect@iamhapori.co.nz

Māngere Work and Income
93 Mascot Ave Mangere
www.workandincome.govt.nz/about-work-
and-income/contact-us/index.html

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board
mangereotahuhulocalboard@
aucklandcouncil.govt.nz | 09 301 0101

Manukau Urban Marae Authority
Foodbank, Whānau Services,
Justice Services & more
0800 686 232 | www.muma.co.nz

Martin Hautus Foundation Trust
0223920189 | talei@mhfoundationtrust.
org.nz | www.mhfoundationtrust.org.nz

Taime Pasifika Cancer Support
021 0248 5177 | https://taime.co.nz

**Te Oranga Kaumatua Kuia Disability
Support Services Trust**
64 Mascot ve, Māngere
kingi.martin@teorangakk.org.nz
09 255 5470
Refugee Centre Māngere East

**Te Whanau Rangimarie (Women's
Refuge, Favona)** Ph: 09 275 1230
Free Phone: 0508 626 2254
Email: admin@twr.org.nz

WHĀNAU/AIGA SERVICES

Barnados Aotearoa
33 Cape Road | Ph: 09 625 3600
auckland@barnados.org.nz

B4Baby Breastfeeding Support
(Turuki Healthcare)
b4baby@thc.org.nz | 0800 242 229

Family Start (Turuki Healthcare)
Home visiting service designed to
support whānau facing challenges
familystart@thc.org.nz

ME Family Services
ECE, Social Services (in Schools),
Environmental support, education &
workshops | mefsc@mefsc.org.nz
16/18 Ferguson St, Māngere East
09 256 0810 | https://mefsc.org.nz

Ohomairangi Trust
Free parenting programmes
372 Massey Road, Māngere East
www.ohomairangi.co.nz
admin@ohomairangi.co.nz

Strive Community Trust:
- Family Service Centre Department
familycentre@strive.org.nz | 09 2573424
- KEYS – Youth Services Department
ysadmin@strive.org.nz | 0800 787 483

Victim Support
0800 VICTIM – 0800 842 846
contactservice@victimsupport.org.nz