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OCTOBER 2026

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MĀNGERE: HOME OF NZ'S STRONGEST WOMAN

Māngere local Kezia Fifita, has recently won the title of NZ's Strongest Woman 2026. Read more on page 5.

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G.J. Gardner. HOMES

EDITORIAL



Māngere's Meet the Candidates event at the Māngere Arts Centre.

YouTube
SCAN FOR MEET THE CANDIDATES VIDEO

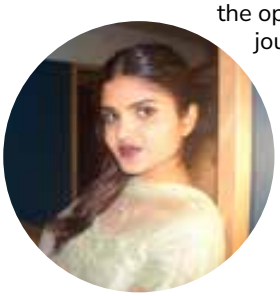
Recently, 275 Times was involved in the Māngere Meet the Candidates evening at the Māngere Arts Centre, organised by Ngaa Manga o Maangere.

Eight candidates attended and were grilled by the community about their parties' policies and how they would advocate for Māngere locals if elected to Parliament. It was an eventful evening and the candidates were put to the test. One question shone through: will you speak up for Māngere and be our voice? Scan the QR code above to watch the whole event on YouTube.

On another note, we are excited to announce that we have just employed a new Media Intern, Sancy Prabhaker (pictured below left). She is jumping on board to be part of the team and will be contributing to our newspaper and social media content. Below, she tells us a little about herself.

"I'm Sancy, a writer and creative passionate about storytelling, connecting with people, and shining a light on the stories that make Māngere unique. Excited to share the people, places, and happenings that bring our community together!"

We are excited to have Sancy join the team alongside our new Sales and Marketing Administrator, Poutoa Papali'i. We would also like to acknowledge Foundation North for funding this role and giving a local rangatahi the opportunity to gain experience in journalism and content creation.



A reminder that voting for the General Election starts on Monday 26 October and runs through to election day, Saturday 7 November. Check out page 10 for voting locations in Māngere.

Māngere's 275 times

Editorial Team: Jo Keenan and Justin Latif

editor@275times.co.nz
advertising@275times.co.nz
instagram.com/275Times
facebook.com/275times
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For any inquiries about our editions or ideas for stories, please email: editor@275times.co.nz

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AN HONOURABLE LIFE:
A TRIBUTE TO TE KEPA STIRLING

Renowned Māori education pioneer and advocate for the revitalisation of te reo Māori, Te Kepa Takataka-o-Rangi Stirling passed away on 14 Agust, 2026. His daughter Arihia Stirling, Associate Principal of Te Kura Māori o Ngā Tapuwae, shares his story, including some tales few have ever heard.

Te Kepa was born on 2 April, 1938 in Raukokore on the East Coast, the second youngest of eight children. Despite being offered a boarding school scholarship like his brothers, he instead chose Auckland Grammar, and moved north with his parents so he could attend the school.

He became a carpenter, building homes across central Auckland, before training as a teacher and joining Ngā Tapuwae College as a PE teacher in 1978.

"He was extremely hardworking," Arihia says.

"He held down three jobs and was a really present father."

At the school, he became board chair and a champion for Māori and Pacific students.

In 1980, as the chair of the Secondary Schools Polynesian Cultural Competitions, he changed the name of what is now known as Polyfest to the Māori & Pacific Island Cultural Festival. He also was the chairperson that brokered the support of the ASB Bank as the principal sponsor of the Secondary School Competition, which is something ASB has continued to do up to the present day.

He had a particular 'aroha' for Tangata Moana and in that same year made sure each Pacific nation had their own stage and speaking rights on the 'taumata korero' - which was the speaker order of rangatira - ensuring each nation had their own voice.

In 1996, he started the Te Ahurea Tino Rangatiratanga secondary schools kapa haka competition, and he was also a head judge for Te Matatini Senior Kapa Haka competitions.



Te Kepa Takataka-o-Rangi Stirling.

Yet his greatest act of service was done in secret. In the late 1970s, families told him their boys were being targeted in the Dawn Raids. Te Kepa built up the walls of the whare wānanga at Ngā Tapuwae College so light could come in but no one could see inside. Boys stayed there at night, were fed by Te Kepa, and trained in the gym each morning so nothing looked unusual. He risked his job to protect them and hid several boys over that time.

"His main achievement was that he stopped them from getting taken away," Arihia says.

At his tangi, those boys returned. "Our island people just wept for him, especially these boys," Arihia says. Many went on to thrive, with one becoming an international medical professional and another a pilot.

Former students called him a tough old bird, yet thanked him for teaching them to be honest, hardworking and proud.

Te Kepa's message for rangatahi was simple.

"Live honourable lives that you can be proud of," Arihia says.

"If you can be proud of the way you live, then your family is proud."

His mantra says it best: "Ko te reo te waka wairua o o mātua tīpuna. Kōrerohia i ngā wā katoa. Language is the vessel of your ancestors. Speak it always."

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At MTF Finance Māngere, building relationships starts with getting out into the community.

Co-owner and Branch Manager Penisimani “Peni” Tapueluelu leads the business’s outreach, connecting with local families, business owners, schools, churches and community organisations across South Auckland.

Whether meeting a business owner, leading a financial education workshop or joining a community conversation, Peni is the person opening doors and helping people understand how MTF Finance Māngere can support their needs.

Out in the community, working alongside you.

Peni brings 15 years of experience as a teacher and teacher trainer, a Master’s degree in Community Action and Social Impact, and business experience as a director of JP Autocentre since 2009.

That combination helps him connect with people from different backgrounds and make conversations about finance practical and approachable.

Through partnerships with banking professionals and mortgage advisers, Peni drives workshops covering credit scores, responsible borrowing and loan affordability. The team reports reaching 200 adults through community workshops, engaging 50 young people through school and youth workshops, and reaching an estimated 500 Tongan listeners through radio engagement.

His community involvement also includes supporting junior rugby league through his two boys and playing trumpet for Three Houses Down, recognised at the 2026 Pacific Music Awards.

Established lending experience.

Alongside Peni, co-owner Joanna Wolfgram brings 17 years of experience with MTF, spanning franchise ownership and management across South Auckland.

Her expertise in vehicle, equipment, business lending, personal finance and arrears management strengthens the business’s ability to help families and small businesses explore suitable borrowing options.

Together, they combine active community engagement with experienced lending support. Fluent in Tongan and English, the team are approachable and pride themselves in making customers feel welcome.

One customer shared:

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mtf finance MĀNGERE

MĀNGERE: HOME OF NZ'S STRONGEST WOMAN

Story by Sancy Prabhakar

Māngere East local Kezia Fifita has achieved an incredible feat, winning the title of New Zealand's Strongest Woman 2026 in her very first Strongwoman competition. For Fifita, the victory was both exciting and unexpected, especially considering she has been involved in the sport for less than a year.

When she realised she had won, Fifita said she was in complete shock. "It was my debut competition, so to walk away as New Zealand's Strongest Woman 2026 was something I never imagined would happen so quickly."

Although she now holds a national title, Fifita remains proud of her roots. Growing up in Māngere East surrounded by family and cousins, she says her community and Tongan culture have shaped who she is today. As a proud Tongan woman, she hopes her success will inspire others, particularly young Pacific women, to believe in themselves and pursue their goals.

Fifita's journey into Strongwoman began through her love of training and challenging herself physically. She was drawn to the sport because it required both physical and mental strength, pushing athletes to discover what they are truly capable of. While she always enjoyed setting new challenges for herself, she never expected to reach the top of the sport so quickly.



NZ's Strongest Woman, Kezia Fifita proudly wearing the Tongan flag.

Despite her success, the journey has not been without challenges. One of the biggest obstacles she faced was learning to trust herself and believe in her own abilities. The demands of training, combined with balancing responsibilities outside the gym, tested her determination. However, she remained focused on her goals and committed to the process.

A major factor behind her success has been the support of those around her. Fifita credits her coach, partner, family, friends and wider community for helping her reach the national stage. She is especially grateful to the people who supported her journey through donations, messages of encouragement and unwavering belief in her potential.

Looking ahead, Fifita hopes to continue growing as an athlete and competing at a higher level. She also wants to use her platform to represent Māngere East and her Tongan heritage with pride. More importantly, she hopes her story encourages young girls to dream big and have confidence in themselves.

"...NEVER BE AFRAID TO CHASE YOUR DREAMS."

"Where you come from doesn't limit where you can go," she said. "Be proud of who you are, stay true to yourself, and never be afraid to chase your dreams."

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RELATIONSHIP PROPERTY: TO PRE-NUP OR NOT?

WHAT EVERY COUPLE SHOULD KNOW



The Māngere Bridge Mason & Mortimer Lawyers team.

Column by Mason & Mortimer Lawyers.

Many people think pre-nuptial agreements are only for the wealthy, but in New Zealand, every couple in a long-term relationship is already subject to relationship property laws.

A "pre-nup" is legally known as a Contracting Out Agreement, allows couples to decide how their property will be divided if their relationship ends, rather than relying on the default rules under the Property (Relationships) Act. A qualifying relationship under the Act occurs after the couple have been together for three years, although the law can apply differently depending on individual circumstances. The challenge is that many people are unaware of these rules. There is no official notification telling couples when they become subject to the Act or how it may affect their assets. That's why we believe everyone should understand the law and make informed decisions about what is right for their situation.

Many people are surprised to learn that keeping finances separate or holding assets in one person's name does not automatically protect those assets. In reality, the ownership of property can be more complex. Depending on the circumstances, assets acquired during a relationship, and even some increases in value of separate property, may be subject to division.

Inheritances and gifts can also become intertwined with relationship property. For example, if inherited funds are used to help pay off the mortgage on the family home, or are mixed with shared finances, their treatment under the law may be affected. It's also worth remembering that verbal promises made when relationships are strong can be difficult to rely on if circumstances change in the future. This is why it is important to have a Contracting Out Agreement.

A Contracting Out Agreement allows couples to record how they would like property to be treated if their relationship ends. It can clarify what is considered "yours", "mine", and "ours", providing certainty and helping to avoid disputes in the future.

Think of it like insurance: you hope you never need it, but you will be glad it is there if you do.

Like any important legal document, a Contracting Out Agreement should be reviewed from time to time, particularly when major life events occur, such as having children, buying a home, receiving an inheritance, starting a business, or changing work arrangements.

For many people, the default rules under New Zealand's relationship property laws work perfectly well. The key is understanding your rights and making an informed decision about what best suits your circumstances.

Mason & Mortimer Lawyers can assist with relationship property matters and Contracting Out Agreements, helping you protect your assets and plan with confidence.

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A DEBATING COMPETITION BY SOUTH AUCKLAND, FOR SOUTH AUCKLAND

In under a year, a debating competition run by rangatahi has brought nine South Auckland schools together at De La Salle College in Māngere East.

The Southside Project began on 1 October 2025, and Co-President Juan Koti says the response from students and teachers has been "incredibly positive". The goal is simple: make debating more accessible and give young people a platform to speak on issues that matter to them, their cultures and their communities. The team also wants to build a debating community with its own distinctive South Auckland identity and style.

"It is a debating competition by South Auckland, for South Auckland," Koti said.

What sets it apart is who runs it. Four rangatahi lead the Executive Committee: Jarren Iuvale (President), Juan Koti (Co-President), Mikayle Babulal (Treasurer) and Eh Htaw Kue Wah (Secretary), alongside founder Mr Otto Wendt. Young people are not just taking part in the competition, they are helping lead and shape it.

Schools taking part this year are Marcellin College, Aorere College, Māngere College, Tangaroa College, De La Salle College, Te Haikura a Kiwa, Manurewa High School, Pukekohe High School and Onehunga High School.

It has been very exciting, Koti said, to see the project grow in such a short time. Students are growing in confidence. They debate challenging ideas, represent their schools with pride, then connect with students from other schools afterwards. Teachers have given their time, transported students and helped with preparation, while student volunteers and adjudicators have worked behind the scenes.



The Senior Southside Project champions, De La Salle College, pictured with Mr Otto Wendt (left).



The Exceutive Committee, including: Jarren Iuvale (President), Juan Koti (Co-President), Mikayle Babulal (Treasurer), Eh Htaw Kue Wah (Secretary), and Mr Otto Wendt (Founder - not present).

"The Southside Project really is a community effort," Koti said.

For the team, the project is about more than debating. "Student voice is too often neglected, overlooked or tokenised," Koti said. "This is youth voice in action, not simply a box-ticking exercise."

Koti thanked Lemauga Lydia Sosene, Te Whatanui Skipwithe and Michel Mulipola for their support, along with Auckland Council and Brownpride. With that backing, the project plans to expand in 2027 and become an annual non-profit organisation focused on youth civic engagement. Want to get involved? **To stay up to date, follow The Southside Project on Instagram.**



MESSAGE FROM YOUR LOCAL MP

Talofa and warm Pacific greetings. 2026 is an election year, and so, in preparation, the 54th Parliament was officially dissolved on October 1. This means MPs have returned to their electorates, to campaign and prepare for the 55th parliament.

This is also your final reminder that there's a couple of key changes that you should know about.

The rules have changed in relation to registering to vote. Unlike last election where you could enrol and vote on the same day during the early voting period or on election day, this election you must be enrolled to vote by October 25. You can check if you're enrolled to vote at www.vote.nz.



Early voting begins on Monday 26 October and will go until Saturday 7 November. Not all locations are open every day. Please check where your nearest voting booth is, and its opening times, at https://map.vote.nz/ Don't forget to vote!

I want to acknowledge everyone in Māngere who has been working very hard this year. These have not been easy times, but you continue to push through. And finally, it has been a pleasure being your MP for the 54th parliament.

Please feel free to contact my office on 09-2731150 or email mangere@parliament.govt.nz to speak to my staff for any assistance needed.

Manuia tele
Lemauga Lydia Sosene
MP for Māngere

Approved by Lemauga Lydia Sosene MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington
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G.J. Gardner. HOMES

NEW BOOK SERIES AIMS TO SCORE BIG WITH LEAGUE-LOVING KIDS

With another Rugby League World Cup capturing the hearts and minds of young and old alike, beloved South Auckland author David Riley has launched a new series of books to help attract children to reading.

The 10 books include stories about league superstars such as Samoa and Penrith Panthers winger Brian To'o, Mate Ma'a Tonga icon Jason Taumalolo, and Kiwis and NZ Warriors captain James Fisher-Harris. The books can be purchased from Riley's website, ReadingWarrior.com.

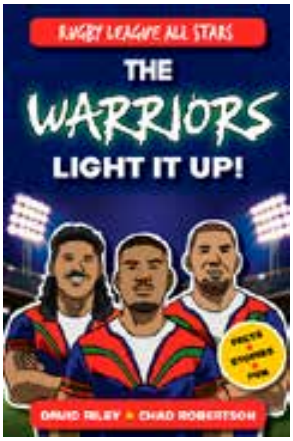
Riley says he has timed the launch of the books to coincide with the Rugby League World Cup.

"Whether you support the Kiwis, MMT, Toa Samoa, or you're Up the Wahs, there's something here for every league fan," he says.

"Ultimately, the vision is using rugby league to promote literacy."

Rave reviews have already started coming in, with Gulf Harbour School's Lisa Williams saying how grateful she is for material that will connect with her league-mad students.





Author David Riley (above). One of the Rugby League books he has launched (right).

"I've wanted books like [these] for so long, particularly for boys, that they can read independently, on a topic they're passionate about, and that has chapters."

David Riley is an award-winning children's writer and teacher based in South Auckland and as well as writing, while the illustrator for these titles is Chad Robertson, who is also a social worker.

He says these books are just another part of his ongoing work, aimed at getting young people exciting about reading and writing.

To purchase a book or learn more about Riley's literacy work go to: readingwarrior.com





MĀNGERE VOTING LOCATIONS

2026 General Election Voting Place Information for Voters in Māngere

Voting period is from Monday 26 October to election day, Saturday 7 November



AUCKLAND AIRPORT

Butterfly Creek,
10 Tom Pearce Drive
Sat 31 Oct–Fri 6 Nov 9am–4pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

The Warehouse,
Auckland Airport, 1 John Goulter Dr
Tue 27 Oct–Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm

FAVONA

Favona School, *50 Wakefield Street, Cardrona Place entrance*
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Free Church of Tonga - Mounga 'Olive, *47 Favona Road*
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Lesieli Tonga Auditorium,
143 Favona Road
Mon 26 Oct–Fri 30 Oct 10am–4pm
Mon 2 Nov–Thu 5 Nov 10am–4pm
Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm

IHUMĀTAO

Makaurau Marae, *8 Ruaiti Road*
Sat 31 Oct–Sun 1 Nov 9am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

MĀNGERE BRIDGE

Chinmaya Nikunj Wellbeing & Event Centre, *63 McKenzie Road*
Sat 31 Oct 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Māngere Memorial Hall,
Domain Road
Tue 27 Oct–Thu 5 Nov 10am–4pm
Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Mountain View School,
81 Mountain Road
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

St Anthony Catholic Parish Hall,
20 Kirkbride Road
Tue 27 Oct–Sat 31 Oct 10am–4pm
Mon 2 Nov–Thu 5 Nov 10am–4pm

St James Anglican Church Hall,
31 Church Road
Mon 26 Oct–Sat 31 Oct 10am–4pm
Sun 1 Nov 1pm–5pm
Mon 2 Nov–Thu 5 Nov 10am–4pm
Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

MĀNGERE EAST

De La Salle College,
81 GrayAvenue
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Jean Batten School,
Learning Hub 1, 6 Imrie Avenue
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Kedgley Intermediate School,
181 *Portage Road*
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Māngere East Primary School,
21 Yates Road
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Selwyn Anglican Church Hall,
3 Hain Avenue
Mon 26 Oct–Sat 31 Oct 10am–4pm
Mon 2 Nov–Thu 5 Nov 10am–4pm
Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

St Therese Catholic Parish Hall,
10 Wickman Way
Tue 27 Oct–Fri 30 Oct 10am–4pm
Mon 2 Nov–Thu 5 Nov 10am–4pm
Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

MĀNGERE

Al-Madinah School,
8 Westney Road
Sat 31 Oct–Sun 1 Nov 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

EFKS Magele I Sisifo Church, Preschool, *43 Thomas Road*
Sat 31 Oct 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Koru Primary School,
Gate 3, 71 Robertson Road
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Lifeskills Mangere Campus,
Building A, 59 Tidal Road,
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Malaeola Community Centre,
16 Waokauri Place
Wed 28 Oct 3pm–7pm
Sat 31 Oct 8am–2pm

Māngere Arts & Events Centre,
Corner Bader Drive and Orly Ave
Mon 26 Oct–Sat 31 Oct 10am–4pm
Mon 2 Nov–Thu 5 Nov 10am–4pm
Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm

Mangere Ōtāhuhu Netball Centre,
Court Town Close Entrance, David Lange Park
Tue 27 Oct–Thu 5 Nov 10am–4pm
Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Nga Iwi School, *60 Mascot Avenue*
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

PAK'nSAVE Māngere, *44 Orly Ave*
Wed 28 Oct–Fri 6 Nov 1pm–7pm

Papatūanuku Kōkiri Marae,
141R Robertson Road
Wed 28 Oct–Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Robertson Road School,
205 Robertson Road
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Te Kura Kaupapa Māori a Rohe o Māngere, *7 Comet Crescent*
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Te Wananga o Aotearoa, Māngere Campus, *15 Canning Crescent*
Mon 2 Nov–Thu 5 Nov 10am–4pm
Fri 6 Nov 10am–5pm
Sat 7 Nov 9am–7pm

Authorised by the Chief Electoral Officer, Electoral Commission, 34-42 Manners Street, Wellington 6011
For more information, visit vote.nz or freephone 0800 36 76 56

IT TAKES A WHOLE COMMUNITY TO GROW A NGAHERE

CLIMATE ACTION IN MAANGERE



Makaurau Marae nursery. Charmaine Bailie from Uru Whakaaro/Te Aka Kōtuia facilitating a discussion about raising plants for Māngere.



Zane Wedding (Manager) teaching the group whakataukī connected with the different native trees in the ngahere at Māngere Mountain Education Centre

By Justine Skilling

Groups from across the community have been gathering together recently, with the aim of re-greening Māngere — guided by our very own Ngaa Hau o Maangere Ngahere Planting Guide.

In August, over 50 participants from local marae, community organisations, schools, Auckland Council, Kāinga Ora and the Māngere/Ōtāhuhu Local Board joined a wānanga at Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae, sharing their passion for this mahi, and also the challenges.

Earlier this month, we went on a hīkoi around Māngere Bridge to check out the fabulous work that's being done to regenerate ngahere on Te Pane o Mataoho (Mangere Mountain), at the Māngere Mountain Education Centre, and along Te Ararata Stream. The hīkoi also showed us where ngahere is missing and helped us think through what it would take to join up these beautiful pockets of green in our community.

In order to grow the ngahere, we need more groups raising plants from seeds that whakapapa to this area. In support of this, Makaurau Marae recently hosted a hui for interested local groups, which included a visit to their own native plant nursery.

These events (funded through an Auckland Council Te Ara Urutau Climate and Emergency Ready grant) will contribute to an action plan, which Uru Whakaaro and ME Family Services are developing for our Māngere planting guide. The aim is to secure long-term, sustainable funding for this work, so our community can be supported to plant lots more trees, tiny forests, community orchards and maara kai, and to care for the ngahere in our neighbourhoods. Growing the ngahere is a big job, but if we work together across the whole community, we can do it!

If you're interested in being part of future ngahere events in Māngere, please contact Colleen Smith at ME Family Services: colleen@mefsc.org.nz.

Citizens Advice Bureau

"BECOME A CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU VOLUNTEER"

Want to make a difference in people's lives by volunteering your time with us?

CAB Māngere Inc is recruiting for new Volunteers now. Got some time to spare; wanting to make new friends or practice your language skills (English or your native language), have children at school, Semi-retired or retired. Come and join CAB Māngere, CAB Ōtāhuhu or CAB Papatoetoe.

Make a difference for your community. Training starts soon: -

- Phone **CAB Māngere 275 6885, email us on mangere@cab.org.nz,** or visit CAB Māngere at Māngere Town Centre, behind Māngere Town Centre Library



AGM REVEALS GROWING DEMAND FOR SUPPORT SERVICES



CAB Māngere, CAB Ōtāhuhu Agency and CAB Papatoetoe Agency gathering for ther 51st Annual General Meeting at the Māngere Law Centre.

More and more people in Māngere, Ōtāhuhu and Papatoetoe turned to the Citizens Advice Bureau for help this year, and the demand just continues to grow.

CAB Māngere Incorporated, which includes CAB Māngere, CAB Ōtāhuhu Agency and CAB Papatoetoe Agency, recently held its 51st Annual General Meeting.

Chairperson Rabia Banu told AGM attendees, that the numbers speak for themselves.

"During the year under review, CAB Māngere Inc. collectively assisted approximately 15,444 clients, compared with 12,975 clients in the previous year," she said.
"This substantial increase demonstrates both the continuing demand for our services and the important role our Bureau plays within the communities we serve."

That is almost 2,500 more clients than the year before, an increase of about 19 per cent across the three locations. Behind each number is a person or whānau looking for answers, and the rise is putting mounting pressure on the Bureau's services.

Those services depend on a dedicated team of volunteers, and Banu made a special mention of their contribution. Their time and care help keep the doors open for people who need guidance.

"The enthusiasm, dedication, generosity, and diligence of our volunteers are essential to the vitality and efficacy of CAB services," she said.

As demand rises, the work of those volunteers across all three locations becomes even more important to the communities they serve.

Banu closed her report by reminding everyone that the Bureau's success is a shared one.

"Our achievements are not the work of one person. They are the result of many people working together with a shared commitment to service, compassion, empowerment, and community."

REPAIR DAY PROVES A HIT



Written by Robyn Martin
Friends of the Farm Māngere Bridge celebrated International Repair Day on 17 October 2026 with a Repair Cafe, along with 7 other community groups thoughout Aotearoa New Zealand who had also organised one for their community.

The 14th Repair Cafe at the Māngere Bridge Library was off to a good start with a full complement of skilled people and volunteer helpers.

Electricians, tech experts, bike mechanic, handymen, darning and sewing experts were kept busy and repaired 45 items out of 77 items presented. That's a 58% success rate, plus another 25 items were repairable, but needed parts etc. Electrical and sewing were the busiest again!

Air fryers, a toasted sandwich machine, lamps, food mixers, jackets, shorts, belts and valued toys were some of the items brought for repair. Where they couldn't be repaired on the spot, advice was given on where to go for help.

Locals Gill and Helen commented: "What an excellent community service. It's satisfying to get an appliance repaired and kept out of the waste stream. And we got a cuppa and home baked bisuit too."

The volunteers appreciated the free coffees provided by local cafe Phnom Penh. "Thanks Phnom Penh for this treat. It gives us a boost".

Bike mechanic Luke from Duke Cycles did a marvelous job on an e-bike. "Not only did he adjust the gears so they changed smoothly, he identified and fixed an annoying 'whup, whup ' noise caused by a loose reflector," said local Paul. "I'm delighted!"

Repair Cafes - every fix is a win for the planet ... and your pocket!
For more info, head to: aboutmangerebridge.nz

'HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR'

PUPILS STUN AUDIENCE WITH POWERFUL PLAY





Scenes from the Crossroads production, performed at the Māngere Arts Centre.



Marely-Anne Kalauni-Mo, who played Sina, picture centre.

On 22 September, Sir Douglas Bader Intermediate students, most of them first-time performers, took the stage at Māngere Arts Centre and had the audience hooked.

Their show, Crossroads, tackled an issue close to many South Auckland homes: young people feeling they must work to help provide while trying to get an education. Director and co-writer Viliami Tupa'i said the pressure on young people was a lot to bear.

"Students at this age shouldn't have to worry about working and providing whilst trying to obtain a good education," he said.

The students are aged 10 to 13, and many had never done hip-hop or contemporary dance, acted, or performed on stage. "Yet, they looked as if this was just second nature to them," Tupa'i said. "I give my flowers to these kids for real."

Tupa'i, also a music teacher and teacher aide at the school, thanked everyone behind the show: Talia Leilua, Christmas Ropati, Praise Tupa'i, Becks Tupa'i, Alfred Nonu, Claudine Mailei, Josiah Tupa'i, Siosiana Tuli and Renee Misiniu.

Families responded with pride, surprise and tears as the message hit home. One audience member told Tupa'i, "You would expect this from at least secondary-school aged kids, even seasoned pros."

Marely-Anne Kalauni-Moa, who played the lead character Sina, said the experience was nerve-wracking and exciting.

"...I FELT ACCOMPLISHED & I KNEW THAT I COULD REALLY DO THIS."

"After our opening night had finished, I felt accomplished and I knew that I could really do this," she said.

"As far as I can tell and have heard, this will be their highlight of the year," Tupa'i said.





The Crossroads crew. *Photo credit: Alfred Nonu*
Left to right: Josiah Tupa'i, Viliami Tupa'i, Christmas Ropati, Talia Leilua and Praise Tupa'i. Missing: Becks Tupa'i, Alfred Nonu, Claudine Mailei, Renee Misiniu and Siosiana Tuli.

MĀNGERE BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

GET IN TOUCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE A LISTING HERE. STARTING AT $25 PER CLASSIFIED

XG Electrical & Data Ltd
Registered electricians in Māngere, Auckland
Phone: 027 690 0002
Web: www.xgelectrical.co.nz

Renovo Construction Ltd
Brooke Maney, Roofing Estimator m: 022 362 0684
e: brooke@renovogroup.co.nz
w: renovogroup.co.nz

Employee Advocate - Help for Work Related Disputes
Teresa Brown (Māori, Tongan, Samoan) (LLB, LLM)
teresa@brownpower.co.nz
Ph 022 100 8452

Kevin Madsen
Wooden Fence Repairs
Ph 021 027 73498
Located in Māngere Bridge.
Replace posts, pailings etc.

P Builders Ltd
NZCB & LBP qualified builders.
Phone: 021 025 07428
Email: pnaidu@pbuilders.co.nz
pbuilders.co.nz
IG: pbuildersnz

Tali The Mowing Magician
Gardener & Landscaping
Ph: 0226464761
Email: talifakava@outlook.com
Socials: Fb, IG, Tiktok @ talithemowingmagician

Custom Designz Workshop
Pacifika 21st keys & wall art
020 4889 258
customdesignzworkshop.co.nz

ADVERTISE HERE FOR ONLY
$25
PER EDITION
Email: advertising@275times.co.nz

MĀNGERE TOWN CENTRE

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

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	022 182 0071
Māngere Budgeting Services Trust	0508 22 22 83
Māngere Dental Centre	09 275 7754

Terry Allat
Māngere-based lawn mowing service. Also offers 2 free lawn mows for elderly on Fridays.
027 802 7526.

Landscaping Services Māngere
Ahi Tahutahu
kaitiaki@teahiwaru.co.nz
Ph: (09) 242-2068

Midas Onehunga
Car service, repairs, tyres, WOF, transmissions etc. 09 634 5983
26 Selwyn St, Onehunga

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
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

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

REAL ESTATE

Ray White	09 6369992

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
Māngere Bridge Flowers	09 6221292
Māngere Floral Studio	09 6366291
Fresh Choice	09 6368424

WHAT'S ON IN MĀNGERE

NGAA MAANGA O MAANGERE

Community Network Meeting
Thursday 29th October 10am-12pm, at the Māngere Community Law Centre. All welcome.

MĀNGERE ARTS CENTRE

Head to eventfinda.co.nz for tickets.

Māngere College Performing Arts Showcase 2026. Thursday 29 and Friday 30 October 2026 7.00pm.

The Nu'u Folau Showcase.
Friday 13 November 6.30pm.

TWOSEVENFIVE MARKETS

Every Saturday 7am-2pm
Thursdays 5pm-9pm (TRIAL)
Sunday 8am-12pm (TRIAL)
For more info - head to:
www.275markets.co.nz
Located outside the Māngere Town Centre.

READY & RISING

Free Southside Youth Podcast Programme at the Māngere East Library with Queen Shirl'e Academy. Starts Thursday 12th November and runs for 6 weeks. Ages 10-22.

WHĀNAU ORA DAY

Community event led by the tauira of the Manaaki Tangata class at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa.
Wed 28 October, 10am-3pm. At Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Māngere Campus

THE BIG BRIDGE PARTY

Sat 31 October, 5.30pm at the Māngere Bridge Baptist Church, 28 Woodward Avenue. A free community event for all ages! There'll be food, fun activities, heaps of treats, and a safe space for families and neighbours to enjoy the night together. And yes — our disco party is back for everyone to dance and have a great time!

HALLOWEEN AT THE LIBRARY

Sat 31 October, 10am-4pm at the Māngere Bridge Library. Come along for a day of family-friendly halloween games, crafts, puzzles and a spooky family fun session. Dress up in your Halloween best and join in the spirit! Get ready for a boo-tiful day at the library.

JUNIOR TOUCH COMP

Williams Park, (Manukau Rovers).
Mondays, 5.30pm – 7:30pm
Competition Start Date: 2nd November 2026. Grades: U8s, U10s, U12s, U14s. Contact: Edie-May Johnson, 0212334177.
Email: admin@xlr8sportstrust.org.nz

PAPATUANUKU KOKIRI MARAE

KAI IKA. Bring cans to swap for free fish head and frames. Māngere Centre Park car park. Wednesdays & Fridays: 11.00am.
KOHA CAFE. Open Thursday, Friday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

FRIENDS OF THE FARM

Head to aboutmangerebridge.nz.

MĀNGERE BRIDGE SEEDLING & SEED SWAP DAY:
Saturday 26 September, 10am-2pm. Ambury Farm Barn.
If you're new to the gardening world or just excited to get into another season of growing, this event is for you!

PUMPKIN COMPETITION
The date for the Pumpkin Competition is estimated to be in late February 2027. All pumpkins must be registered for the competition with Friends of the Farm and have received a seedling from Friends of the Farm – email friends@fof.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: **Low Carb Cooking Class, Romiromi, Walk & Talk, Maramataka, Art Therapy, Raranga Hauora, Kuia/Kaumatua programme.**
https://www.turukihealthcare.org.nz/bookings.

THE MĀNGERE BRIDGE WALKING GROUP

Meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 8.50am outside the Hong Kong Bakery for an hour's walk followed by time at one of the cafes. All Welcome.

MĀNGERE EAST COMMUNITY CENTRE

FREE CLASSES
Mondays: Pono BoxFit Classes (6pm-7pm)
Tuesdays: Sewing for beginners (10am-1pm), Hulafit (6pm-7pm), Ethnic Arts & Crafts (6pm-8pm)
Wednesdays: Beginner sewing (5pm-8pm)
Thursdays: Sewing for beginners (10am-1pm)
Fridays: Korowai Class (10am – 2pm)
FREE Parenting Programmes (Ante Natal, 3yr-8yr etc) Daily ESOL Classes (English for speakers of other languages) .
Venue hire plus bus and van hire also. OSCAR Programmes.
REGISTER TODAY:
www.mangereeast.org
info@mangereeast.org | Ph: 275 6161

WHARE KOA MĀNGERE COMMUNITY HOUSE

141 Robertson Rd, ph:(09) 275 4920.
FB: @WhareKoa
IG: @wharekoamangere
Email: naomi.tuaeu@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz. for bookings and more info.
MONDAY: Emerge Aotearoa: 10am-12.30pm, Sew Simple: 1.30pm-4.30pm.
TUESDAY: Akatangi Ukarērē: 10am-12pm, Fale Pasifika Parenting Programme 1pm-3pm
WEDNESDAY: Diamonds In The Rough: 10am-12pm, Tuitu'u Heilala: 1pm-4pm.
THURSDAY: Tiare Taina Māmās 10am - 2pm.
FRIDAY: Polynesian Creative Arts: 10am-2pm, That Rental Plug 10am - 12pm.

BOXFIT (WITH PONO BOXFIT)

Free community boxfit fitness classes. Mondays 6pm, Māngere East Community Centre. Wednesday nights 6.30pm Aorere College.

PROBUS CLUB OF MĀNGERE BRIDGE

Active retirees are invited to come along for morning tea, fun, friendship. Meets 4th Friday of each month. Bridge Park Bowling Club, 27A Taylor Road.

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

Māngere Law Centre
Shop 27, Mangere 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

Ngatapuwae 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 + 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 ave | 09 255 5470
kingi.martin@teorangakk.org.nz

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

WHĀNAU/AIGA SERVICES

Baderdrive Community Trust
Advocacy, Whanau Ora, Social Services Support | Bdct.org.nz
09 254 4340 | info@bdct.org.nz

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

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

Family Start (Turuki Healthcare)
Home visiting support service
familystart@thc.org.nz

Good Seed Trust
Strengthening families to thrive & succeed | www.goodseedtrust.co.nz
info@goodseedtrust.co.nz

ME Family Services
ECE, social services, environment, & more | mefsc@mefsc.org.nz
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