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AUGUST 2025

NZ COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS AWARDS 2024
BEST COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT - WINNER
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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

WHO WILL REPRESENT US?



Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board candidates from left. TOP ROW: Harry Fatu Toleafoa, Joe Glassie-Rasmussen, Vicky Hau, Kaea Walter Inoke-Togiamua. MIDDLE ROW: Makalita Kolo, Manoj Kumar, Luke Dwaine Mealamu, Christine Frances O'Brien. BOTTOM ROW: Fe'etau Lafulafu Peo, Sara Reihana-Tara, Talei Solomon-Mua and Peter Sykes.



EDITORIAL



Bader Intermediate students performing taumafa kava during Tongan Language Week

Here in Māngere, where Pacific and Māori families form the backbone of the community, supporting and uplifting our languages is vital.

When we speak, sing, and teach our languages, we nurture the culture and confidence of our young people and ensure their heritage is carried forward.

Over the past month, our community has proudly celebrated Cook Islands Language

Week and Tongan Language Week, with many more Pacific language weeks still to come. This September, Aotearoa marks 50 years of Te Wiki o te Reo Māori, a milestone that reminds us how far we have come in restoring and revitalising our indigenous language.

But language survival is not guaranteed. It requires us to be active – to speak these languages at home, to encourage Pacific and Māori greetings in schools and workplaces, and to honour every opportunity to learn from one another during language weeks as well as 365 days of the year. Māngere's strength lies in its diversity, and in keeping the rich and unique cultures of our community alive.

We'd love to hear more ways of how we can incorporate Pacific and Māori language into our articles so feel free to get in touch if you'd like to help with this.



Editorial Team: Jo and Justin Latif

✉ editor@275times.co.nz
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CONTENTS

- 5 Manukau Magpies Rugby League
- 6 Glorius Tours
- 7 Māngere Budgeting Services
- 8 Queen Shirle'e's new single
- 9 Dr. Timoti Te Moke
- 10 Māngere Arts Centre
- 11 Pumanawa Awhina
- 12 He Mana Tō Te Kai
- 13 Sports Highlights
- 14 Māngere Business Classifieds
- 15 What's On In Māngere

MESSAGE FROM YOUR LOCAL MP

Talofa lava and warm Pasifika greetings. With food prices and the cost of living on the rise – times are getting difficult for a lot of families.

Food, electricity, and housing costs are all going up under National. Christopher Luxon promised to make the cost of living better, instead he's making it worse.

NZ cannot afford another three years of National. Labour will prioritise real action on the cost of living.

In warmer news, our youth MP for Māngere – Marques Tominiko – joined other youth MPs from around the country for youth parliament. To quote Marques: "I came as the representative of not only my MP, the Honourable Lemauga Lydia Sosene, but also my Māngere community, the voices of Māngere youth, Pasifika as a



whole, and South Auckland." It's this spirit of bringing voices from Māngere, that was also carried by fellow Māngere youth who came to Parliament to not only support Marques but also take valuable lessons.

To hear it from one of our young people:

"This experience was profoundly enriching and taught me valuable lessons about New Zealand's democratic system. Most importantly, I learned that young people must stay informed about parliamentary processes and political issues because government decisions directly impact our lives and futures."

Feel free to connect with my local electorate office team by, contacting 09 273 1150 or email 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)

ELECTIONS 2025:

HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUR FUTURE

It's that time again when politicians plaster street corners with their smiling billboards, while teams of party faithful do their door-knocking pilgrimages, and social media pages pop with happy pleas for votes.

From September 9 you should start seeing election papers in your letterbox, and you'll have until October 11 to make your picks for Mayor, our two Manukau Ward councillors and the seven Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board members.

But despite this familiar three-yearly ritual that are the local government elections, statistics show not many of us in Māngere give it much notice.

In 2022, only one in four enrolled voters in Māngere-Ōtāhuhu handed in their ballot papers, which was the third lowest turnout for the whole city. Research done into why that is has thrown up various reasons, including that people don't

feel local government is relevant to their daily lives and many families feel too busy to get informed.

But don't be dismayed. Voting is as easy as ticking a box and visiting a

library.

In terms of relevance to your life, it's actually local politicians who decide on new playgrounds and new roads, as well as make plans to ensure our homes are safe from flooding. And local government is also where funding for our libraries, pools and rubbish services get decided.

There's also a bunch of easy ways to get more informed about who to vote for. Firstly, there's the VoteAuckland.co.nz website which has great explainer videos, as well as infosheets translated into eight different languages.

And 275 Times is hosting a *Meet the Candidates* event at the Māngere Town Centre on September 6, which will also be live on Facebook.

Lastly, your voting papers will have info on all the candidates and where to place your ballot. Voting is one of the best ways to shape the community you want for you and your whānau, so have your say and VOTE!



MAYORAL CANDIDATES (1 SEAT)

Name	Affiliation
ALCOCK, John Ronald	
BROWN, Wayne	Fix Auckland
CHUAH, Eric	
COOTE, Michael	Independent
JOHNSTON, Ted	Independent
LEONI, Kerrin	
MCNEIL, Rob	Animal Justice Party Aotearoa NZ
PAUSINA, Ryan Earl	
PIETERSE, Jason	
STAM, Simon	Independent
WAKEMAN, Peter	Independent
WIDDISON, Denise	Independent

MANUKAU WARD COUNCIL CANDIDATES (2 SEATS)

Name	Affiliation
AH-VOA, Carol	
DEVOE, Henrietta	ACT Local
FILIPAINA, Alf	Labour
FULI, Lotu	Labour
HAU, Vicky	Fix Auckland
HUGHES, Christopher Stephen	Independent
MEALAMU, Luke Dwayne	Fix Auckland
NELSON, Swanie	
TURNER, Malcolm Mu Sakaria Harry	C&R - Communities and Residents

MĀNGERE-ŌTĀHUHU LOCAL BOARD CANDIDATES (7 SEATS)

Name	Affiliation
FATU TOLEAFOA, Harry	Labour
GLASSIE-RASMUSSEN, Joe	Labour
HAU, Vicky	Fix Auckland
INOKE-TOGIAMUA, Kaea Walter	Labour
KOLO, Makalita	Labour
KUMAR, Manoj	
MEALAMU, Luke	Fix Auckland
O'BRIEN, Christine	Labour
PEO, Fe'etau Lafulafu	Labour
REIHANA-TARA, Sara	
SOLOMON-MUA, Talei	Labour
SYKES, Peter Brian	Green Party

Head to voteauckland.co.nz for more information



Getting prepared for storms

Some useful tips to help protect yourself, your family and your property:

Create an emergency plan

- Gather the household and have a chat about what would happen if you needed to leave your home, or if you needed to stay there for a few days.

Keep things clear

- Clear out or repair gutters so that water can flow properly.
- Keep leaves, rubbish and garden waste out of drains.
- Move large items such as a barbecue, garden waste or toys out of where water flows so it doesn't build up behind it.

Tie things down

- Trampolines can get lifted by high winds so keep them tied down.
- Move any loose items e.g. rubbish bins, where they can't be picked up by wind.

For an emergency plan template and more information go to:

aem.govt.nz/floods



**Auckland
Emergency
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Tokonga Mate Ohotata o Tāmaki Makaurau



MAGPIES RISE AGAIN

CLUBHOUSE REOPENS AFTER TWO YEARS OF FLOOD RECOVERY



Manukau Magpies Co-Chair Ngawai Rewha outside the club



Picture spread of the annual Junior Club day, 26 July 2025

After two years without a home, the Manukau Magpies Rugby League Club has finally reopened its clubhouse, marking a major milestone in its recovery from the Auckland Anniversary Floods and Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023.

The reopening coincided with the club's annual Senior Club Day, which co-chair Ngawai Rewha says carried special significance.

"In 2023 we were shut down because of Cyclone Gabrielle. Not having a clubhouse, not being able to host our members, was really hard. We saw a big decrease in teams and players going to other clubs. Being able to open the doors again after two years is huge."

With more than a century of history in the community, the Magpies suffered extensive damage when floodwaters rose over a metre inside. Walls and floors were ripped out, furniture and gear destroyed, and kitchen equipment lost to sewage contamination.

Recovery was far from straightforward. The committee had to manage building consents, drying and soil testing, and coordinating tradespeople. Rewha credits the local board, Auckland Council, Auckland Rugby League, the Department of Internal Affairs, and Rotary Club Ōtāhuhu for support,

alongside dedicated volunteers and tradespeople.

**"WE WANT TO
OFFER MORE TO
THE COMMUNITY
AND MAKE SURE
THIS PLACE IS
ALWAYS BUZZING
WITH ACTIVITY."**

"All hands were on deck. I'm not a demolition person, but I know how to rip floors and walls out now."

Despite the progress, work remains. Around \$20,000 is still needed to fully refurbish the kitchen. Without ovens, fridges, or catering gear, the facility can't yet be hired for private functions, once a vital revenue stream. Beyond rugby league, the

Magpies hope to re-establish the clubhouse as a community hub. It once hosted church services and local events, and the committee aims to attract other sports clubs and groups.

"More people using the facilities means more life here," says Rewha. "It also means less chance of vandalism, which has been a real problem since we reopened."

Looking ahead, the Magpies plan a long-term rebuild that would raise the building above the floodplain. With Māngere's growing population, Rewha is optimistic: "We want to offer more to the community and make sure this place is always buzzing with activity."

For more information, head to: facebook.com/manukaurugbyleague or email mrl.secretary@gmail.com

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SISTERS TO BRING MĀNGERE TO THE WORLD THROUGH GLORIOUS TOURS



Sisters Ama Mosese (left) and Louisa Tipene Opetaiia (right) on Māngere Mountain

Two proud Māngere sisters, Louisa Tipene Opetaiia and Ama Mosese, have turned their passion for storytelling and cultural pride into a new tourism venture – Glorious Inc.

Louisa, whose background is in media and communications, spent years living abroad in Australia, Japan, Hawaii, and the United States before returning home to South Auckland 12 years ago.

"I could live anywhere in the world, but I choose to live and work here," she says. "I'm very proud to be from Māngere."

Her sister Ama shares the same sentiment. Though she grew up between Australia and Samoa, she says Māngere has always been the

anchor point.

"We've always regarded Māngere as home, no matter where we go in the world," she says.

Both sisters discovered their love for guiding while working with national tour companies, travelling across Aotearoa and meeting visitors from around the globe. But they noticed something missing – few opportunities for tourists to connect with Māori and Pacific experiences outside Rotorua. "Sometimes we were the only brown faces our guests would see on their whole trip," Ama recalls. "They came looking for Māori and Pacific culture, and too often left without finding it."

That realisation sparked Glorious Inc. – a small tour company dedicated

to offering authentic cultural experiences in South Auckland. Operating with just a 12-seater van, their flagship product is the **Auckland Urban Māori Experience**, a day-long tour centred in Māngere. Visitors are welcomed with coffee from locally-owned cafés, taken on a hikoī up Māngere Mountain with mana whenua, treated to hangi, and introduced to South Auckland's vibrant arts and community life.

"Our vision is to be cultural connectors," Louisa explains. "We want to connect our people to the world and the world to our people." Central to that mission are values of manaakitanga, kaitiakitanga, and whanaungatanga. "Once you come on our bus, you become part of our whānau," says Ama.

Beyond day tours, the sisters have also launched a new night show, **Mana: Spirit of the Pacific**, hosted at local hotel Naumi. The event features kapa haka and Pacific dance performed by Māngere youth and other local groups, alongside traditional kai. "There's nowhere else in New Zealand where visitors can experience both Māori and Pacific performances in one place," says Louisa.

For the sisters, it all comes back to showcasing the richness of Māngere. "People ask why South Auckland, and we say – why not?" Louisa says. "We've got the airport, the maunga, the harbour, the marae, the arts. But most of all, we've got our people – and that's what makes this place glorious."

For more information, head to their website: www.gloriousnz.com, instagram: @glorious.nz or facebook: @Glorious NZ

WHAT THE YELLI: MĀNGERE COLLEGE BUSINESS STUDENTS PROMOTE THEIR NEW PRODUCT

Support Māngere College students Yolanda, Dorothy, Moubarak, Peter, and Revelation as they launch their new business and product as part of the Young Enterprise Scheme.

"Our product was designed as a unique, eco-friendly waterproof tote bag that's perfect for our country's unpredictable weather. It is stylish, durable, and reusable."

Head to IG: @yelli.fashion to find out more and to purchase their tote bag.



STANDING WITH FAMILIES THROUGH THICK & THIN

MĀNGERE BUDGETING SERVICES TRUST



CEO Lara Dolan (second from right) with her team from Māngere Budgeting Services Trust

For more than 30 years, the Māngere Budgeting Services Trust has been on the frontline of financial hardship in South Auckland, walking alongside families through mounting debt, rising costs, and tough choices about how to make ends meet.

Established in 1994, the Trust began in Māngere and now operates branches in Ōtāhuhu and Ōtara, along with drop-in clinics in Manurewa and Onehunga. CEO Lara Dolan says the heart of their work is one-on-one financial mentoring, helping whānau set realistic goals, manage debt, and take steps toward financial stability. “We work with families to achieve their financial goals,” she says. “We also run financial education courses, offer debt solution services, and provide a food bank and social supermarket for clients in urgent need.”

The demand is relentless, and growing. Dolan says they’ve seen a 30% increase in clients compared to last year. “The cost of living and high levels of debt are the main reasons people seek our help. The level of debt for many is so high they can’t service it, and then interest and penalties spiral out of control.”

A major driver of this debt is high-interest lending. “Lots of our clients have bad credit ratings, so they can’t borrow from banks,” Dolan explains. “They have no choice but to go to high-interest lenders, with rates as high as 32%. It’s literally unaffordable for our community.”

**“WE WANT
OUR FAMILIES
TO NOT JUST
SURVIVE, BUT
TO THRIVE.”**

For many, these debts come from personal loans, car finance, or emergency borrowing when other options are closed. The impact is devastating: families are left making impossible decisions. “Do they pay the rent or feed the kids? Do they service a high-interest loan or keep the power on? These are the kinds of trade-offs people are facing every week.”

It’s not only renters who are under pressure. Homeowners are also feeling the squeeze from rising mortgage rates. “People who used to have

disposable income now don’t, because all their money is going into mortgage repayments,” says Dolan. “That makes it harder to afford uniforms, school shoes, or even groceries.”

While the Trust receives funding from the Ministry of Social Development, Dolan says it falls far short of what’s needed. “For our foodbank, we were given \$80,000, but that only lasts about two months when you include rent, electricity, and running costs. The need is higher than the money we’re getting, so we have to find the rest ourselves.”

Despite the financial strain on the organisation, the team continues to provide compassionate, practical help. They work with clients to consolidate debt, negotiate with creditors, and find solutions that give families breathing space. For some, that support has meant keeping a roof over their heads; for others, it’s been the first step toward breaking free from crippling debt.

Dolan says the Trust’s mission is simple: to stand alongside the community through hardship and help people build a stronger financial future. “We want our families to not just survive, but to thrive.”

For more information or to access support, visit www.mangerebudgeting.org.nz or call 09 275 2266.

QUEEN SHIRL'E DROPS NEW SINGLE



Southside's own Queen Shirl'e has just dropped her latest single *Somebody New* – a heartfelt anthem for anyone who's faced heartbreak but still believes in love.

Independent, unapologetic, and deeply rooted in her community, Shirl'e uplifts not just through music, but through her tireless work mentoring youth across South Auckland.

Moving to Māngere from Samoa



new nana, she's been a driving force in community arts, youth development, and grassroots leadership for nearly two decades. From launching Youth in the Booth – a youth-led podcast with over 70 episodes – to mentoring young artists through her QS Academy, she's created countless platforms for rangatahi to shine.

Somebody New, produced by Beatz Lowkey and mixed by award-winning artist Shane Walker, blends smooth island bounce with Shirl'e's signature honest lyricism. "It's got summer vibes,

in the 80s, she proudly calls South Auckland home.

A single mother of three and

a lil heartbreak healing and a whole lotta sauce," she laughs. She also wrote, directed, and edited the music video herself, released on August 1.

"This song is about moving on, healing, and reminding yourself that love still exists," she says. "I made it for anyone who's ever been let down but still chooses hope."

It's all part of her bigger vision: "We've got the talent, we've got the passion – we just need the space. My dream is to have a creative hub in South Auckland where youth can train, get qualified, and thrive."

The release also coincides with her newest venture, NEW BAE™ – a speed dating event for 30+

singles tired of dating apps, held every fortnight on a Monday at Woodside, Manukau.

With her powerful story, relentless drive, and community spirit, Queen Shirl'e shows why she remains a true voice for South Auckland.

Somebody New is streaming now – and it's ready to be the soundtrack to our post-winter healing.

SCAN QR CODE FOR FULL ARTICLE



GETTING A GRIP: HOW PASSION AND HARD WORK HELPED GROW A GLOBAL BRAND

A budding pro-footballer from Māngere has turned a business side hustle into a hugely popular sock brand, worn by the likes of All Black Sevu Reece and NRL's Jordan Riki.

Maro Bonsu-Maró, founder of Best Grip, says the idea came from his own frustration as an athlete trying to find quality grip socks.

While his football career took him to Switzerland for two years, he grew the business remotely from his laptop, leaning on family and friends in South Auckland to pack and deliver orders. Five years on, his socks have been worn in the A-League, the English Premier League, and by top rugby and league professionals.

Bonsu-Maró says his drive to start a business while chasing sporting dreams came from his upbringing.

"Like many kids growing up in Māngere, sports played a massive role in my life," he says.

"But being Pacific Islander, I

also saw firsthand the challenges our communities face — from financial pressure to limited access to opportunities. That gave me the drive early on to find my own financial solutions."

He hopes others from Māngere can follow in his footsteps.

"To see a product that started in my living room now on the feet of some of the world's best athletes is surreal and deeply humbling.

"And as a proud Cook Islander, it's important for me to show other young Pasifika youth that starting a business is not just possible — it's more achievable now than ever. You don't need a fancy office or massive startup money. You just need passion, a willingness to learn, and the courage to start."

Bonsu-Maró's ultimate goal is for Best Grip to become the number one grip sock in the world while also creating pathways for Pacific youth to chase their own dreams.

To find out more, head to:
<https://bestgripsocks.com>



FROM GANGS TO HEALING HANDS

DR. TIMOTI'S STORY OF HOPE

By Louisa Tipene Opetaitia

From gang life to prison to becoming a doctor at 56 - the incredible story of Dr. Timoti Te Moke.

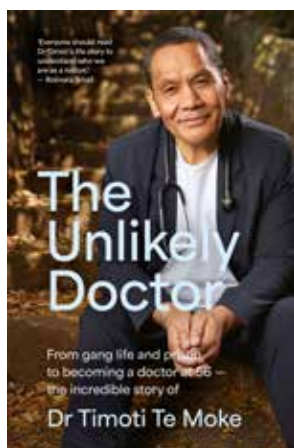
Former gang member, prisoner and now medical doctor Timoti Te Moke has returned to Māngere on August 21st to speak at the Māngere East Library about his extraordinary life and his new book 'The Unlikely Doctor.'

The event was part of the annual We Read Auckland reading and writer's festival.

Dr. Te Moke is now a staunch advocate for Māori, Pasifika and the oppressed but he endured a life of violence, abuse and trauma to get where he is today.

**"I NEED PEOPLE IN
SOUTH AUCKLAND TO
SEE A BROWN-SKINNED
DOCTOR, A MĀORI
DOCTOR, A PASIFIKA
DOCTOR..."**

He wears his scrubs around the streets of South Auckland and on the bus going to his job at Middlemore Hospital. The former prison inmate wants young



Book by Dr Timoti Te Moke is now available in book stores

people to see more doctors than gang patches.

"I need to stay in South Auckland because it needs to be normalised to be a brown-skinned doctor. That's why I wear my scrubs.

"It's not an ego thing. I need people in South Auckland to see a brown-skinned doctor, a Māori doctor, a Pasifika doctor, and see it so often that they take it as normal."

He knows that what he has done, despite the odds stacked against him, has been nothing short of miraculous but he says that he shouldn't be the only one.

"I grew up with 19 other guys. And



I'm the only one that's not in prison or dead," he says.

Through grit and an unyielding drive for justice, Dr. Timoti transformed his life.

His book is a powerful, confronting memoir of injustice, identity and the cost of lost potential.

He believes whole-heartedly that his story is not just his alone and that when we remove the barriers for success, we don't just help individuals – we can help reshape our nation.

The Unlikely Doctor is now available in all book stores.

TAMARIKI TAKE THE LEAD IN 'GROWING WITH WASTE'



Barnardos Early Learning Māngere is seeing big benefits from the Growing with Waste programme, which has introduced worm farms to teach tamariki about caring for the land, reducing waste, and growing food.

The centre was one of three Barnardos sites in Tāmaki Makaurau to pilot the project, thanks to AMC Commercial Cleaning. Kaiako Paayal Prasad says the hands-on learning has sparked huge interest. "Children love checking on the worms, feeding them lunch scraps, and using the 'liquid gold' worm tea in the gardens. They're excited to harvest vegetables they've helped grow."



Families have noticed changes at home, with tamariki eager to peel potatoes, chop carrots, and help prepare meals.

The centre has shared veggie bags and recipes with whānau, supporting access to fresh produce in a community where healthy food can be costly.

Prasad says the programme is creating lasting change. "They're learning life skills – from sustainability to healthy eating – and taking that learning home." For many Māori and Pasifika families, the initiative aligns with cultural values of caring for the land and sharing food. "It's brought our tamariki, whānau, and kaiako together with a shared purpose," says Prasad.

ARTS CENTRE & WHARE KOA UPDATES

THE LANDING

30 August - 18 October, Māngere Arts Centre

By Sith Douang Kahm Chanh and Lilian Rose Martinez, proudly funded and supported by Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board, Auckland Libraries.

The Landing invites audiences to explore the lived experiences of Māngere-Ōtāhuhu residents—how they came to call this vibrant community home and what has kept them rooted here. The exhibition celebrates their contributions, resilience, and cultural connections that have shaped the neighbourhood's fabric over generations.

At its centre is a documentary sharing their voices, alongside a

photographic series offering an intimate glimpse into what they hold dear. The Landing not only preserves these stories but also fosters intergenerational connection, encouraging younger members to learn from the wisdom of their elders. Ultimately, The Landing honours the strength, spirit, and enduring legacy of Māngere-Ōtāhuhu's people, enriching our



understanding of the area's past, present, and future.

NEW MĀNGERE COMMUNITY HUB MANAGER



Clinton Hewett (bottom right) with friends and colleagues

We're excited to share some great news – on Tuesday 5 August we welcomed Clinton Hewett as

Manager of the Māngere Community Hub. Clinton will be at the helm of our amazing spaces – Māngere Arts Centre – Ngā Tohu o Uenuku, Whare Koa Māngere Community House, and the Māngere Town Centre Library – bringing people, creativity, and community together. This role

is all about supporting the aspirations of the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board and the wider Auckland Council

whānau, ensuring these important places continue to thrive with heart, purpose, and plenty of creative energy. Clinton comes to us as a very proud Cook Islander, with a wealth of experience – from leading Te Oro Music and Arts Centre in Glen Innes to previous roles in galleries and community-focused customer service. He's passionate about manaakitanga, partnering with Māori, and creating opportunities for youth and the arts in South Auckland. Clinton has a calm, collaborative working style, and his deep belief in the power of place to help communities flourish. We're thrilled to welcome him aboard – nau mai, haere mai Clinton!

WHARE KOA MĀNGERE COMMUNITY HOUSE

141R Robertson Road Māngere

'The House of Joy & Love'

Whare Koa Community Group Leaders
From left to right:
Mama Tutana - Akatangi Ukarere, Rosie - Adullum Arts, Kilistina - Tuitu'u Heilala O Aotearoa, Lanlee - Emerge Aotearoa, Mama Theresa - Akatangi Ukarere, Papa Ota - Akatangi Ukarere, Joy - Fale Pasifika, Sepa - Whare Koa, Jane - Fale Pasifika, Shilpa - Diamonds in the Rough



MĀNGERE MANAAKI

BRINGING WHĀNAU TOGETHER THROUGH SPORT

For Alexander Teraitua, giving back to his hometown is at the heart of everything he does. Born and raised in Māngere, he now leads Māngere Manaaki – Community Connect as the local coordinator.

“To give back to the community that I love so much means everything,” Teraitua says. “As a local Māngere boy I feel that this programme is a great way to get the community active in social sport. It also allows me and the team to give back to the community and create a safe environment for whānau in the spaces we activate in.”

Delivered by Pūmanawa Āwhina, Māngere Manaaki is a free weekly programme that combines social sport with kai, music, and opportunities to connect with local groups. For Teraitua, it's about creating positive, safe spaces where families can come together, get active, and build relationships.

The initiative is designed for the community, by the community. A local steering group made up of organisations such as Papatūānuku Marae, Māngere Town Centre, and AIA Māngere helps shape what the programme looks like. “The beauty of that co-design is that local organisations identify what's best for the community,” explains Pūmanawa Āwhina Operations Manager Josh Simpkins.

Teraitua says his role is about more than running games on the court or field. It's about creating pathways for whānau. Local sports clubs and cultural groups are invited to take part, offering participants the chance to continue their involvement beyond



Alexander Teraitua, second from left, the Māngere Manaaki local coordinator



One of the Māngere Manaaki activities at Māngere Centre Park

Community Connect. “It's awesome to see families come down, have fun, and then discover there are opportunities for them to stay involved, whether that's joining a volleyball team, a rugby club, or even connecting with cultural groups like dance collectives,” he says.

The long-term goal is for the programme to become self-sustaining. Currently supported through Tu Manawa funding for a year, the pilot aims to build strong local infrastructure so the steering group and coordinator can eventually run it

independently. Training is provided in event planning and facilitation, ensuring the community has the tools to keep the kaupapa alive.

For Teraitua, the vision is simple but powerful: “It's about whānau coming together in a safe, fun environment, being active, and connecting with each other. That's what makes Māngere Manaaki so special.”

Follow their social media pages to find out how you can get involved.

IG: @mangerecommunityconnect

FB: Māngere Manaaki - Community Connect

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

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

HE MANA TŌ TE KAI: RECONNECTING WHĀNAU WITH FOOD SOVEREIGNTY



Destiny Harris (second from left) and He Mana Tō Te Kai wānanga attendees

Food is more than nourishment, it's identity, connection, and sovereignty. That belief sits at the heart of He Mana tō te Kai, a transformative wānanga now being delivered in Māngere through ME Family Services.

Developed by Para Kore and facilitated locally by Destiny Harris, the programme is an immersive eight-hour experience designed to help whānau rebuild their relationship with kai. It blends mātauranga Māori, practical skills, and hands-on learning with space for deep reflection.

Participants explore traditional food systems, experiment with zero waste practices in the home, and consider how colonial systems have shaped the way communities think about food

today. The kaupapa arose as a direct response to three issues seen clearly in Māngere and Ōtāhuhu: food poverty, food waste, and disconnection.

"Households across Aotearoa throw out more than 300,000 tonnes of edible kai every year, while many of our families struggle to put meals on the table," Harris explains. "We wanted to restore people's confidence and capability with kai."

What sets He Mana tō te Kai apart is its ability to combine cultural resonance with practical action. Para Kore provides the indigenous framework, while ME Family Services has adapted it for an urban setting, teaching whānau to grow food they know will be eaten, or to create simple, affordable recipes.

Harris describes it as "ancient



Exploring the ME Family Services garden



Wānanga in action

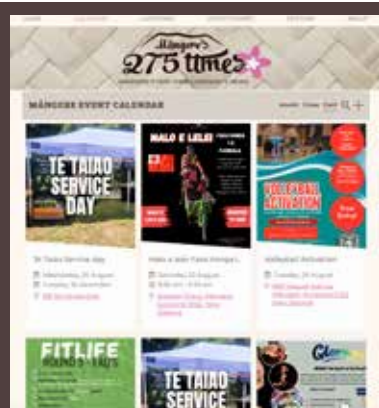
wisdom meets modern budgeting."

The impact has already been significant. Whānau who take part often leave with more than just new skills.

"We've seen people start to value not just their kai, but everything around them," says Harris.

For some, the wānanga has been deeply personal. One kuia described the experience as a reclamation of culture, remembering the communal, self-sustaining ways of life that existed before urbanisation. ME Family Services has upcoming wānanga planned, and can tailor sessions for different groups.

To find out more and keep up to date with ME Family Services programmes, head to www.facebook.com/MEFSC



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.

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

GET IN TOUCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE ANY SPORTS TEAMS/ATHLETES - EMAIL EDITOR@275TIMES.CO.NZ



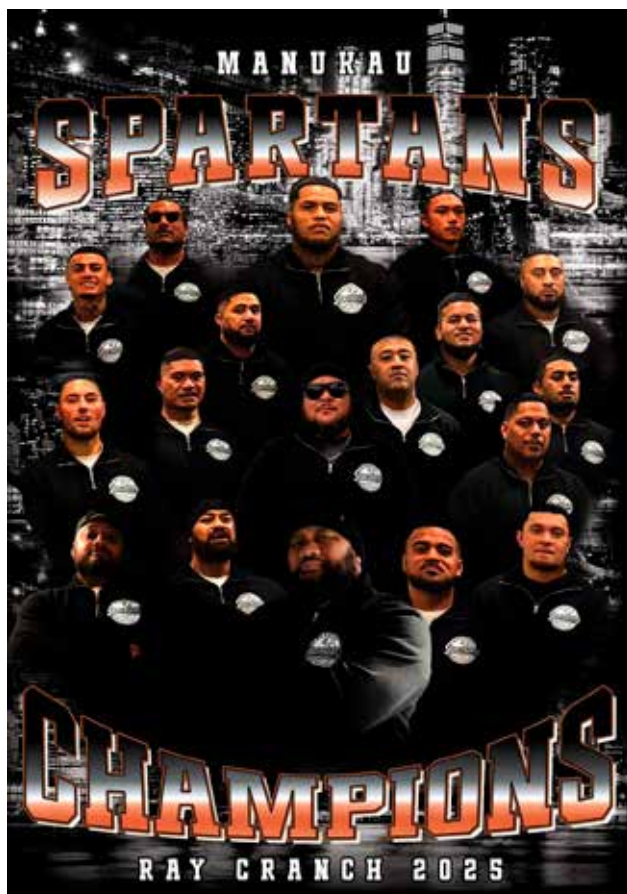
Congratulations to the Māngere East Hawks U18 QUEENZ, who are the Auckland Rugby League U18 Girls Grade CHAMPIONS once again!



The Māngere College Junior Basketball team who have won 10 out of 10 games and have made to the Auckland Championship Finals



Mother and daughter duo Meiya Lemafa (left) and Jordina Katu (right) representing Cook Islands for the FIBA Asia Cup Women's basketball tournament



Congratulations to the Manukau Spartans who are champions two years in a row for the Ray Cranch A Cup for Auckland Rugby League

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

Takoha Ora Barbers

91 Mangere Road Otahuhu
Email: Admin@takohaora.com
Ph: 0273431436
IG: @takohaorabarbers

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

D65 FITNESS FITLIFE

Free group fitness sessions at Sir Douglas Bader Intermediate.
Tue/Thur 6am & Mon/Wed/Fri 6pm
Contact IG @d65fitness.

FREE XTREME-HIP HOP

Free step classes every Wednesday at Bader Drive Community Trust, 19 Richard Pearse Drive, Māngere.

FREE SOFTBALL SKILLS CLINIC

Calling all 9-13 year olds, you are welcome to come! Every Sunday in August 11am-1pm at Norana Softball Park. Organised by the Ohehunga Māngere United Softball Club.

LOVE TENNIS - GIVE TENNIS A GO

On 7 September 10am-2pm Bridge Park Tennis Club will open doors to our community. Games, tennis drills, giveaways, BBQs and more to be expected. FREE.

VOLLEYBALL ACTIVATION

With Māngere Manaaki - Community Connect.
Free 6 week whānau volleyball activities. Every Tuesday 3pm-6.30pm at Moana-Nui-a-Kiwa

LOCAL ELECTIONS: MEET THE CANDIDATES EVENTS IN MĀNGERE:

Wed 27 Aug 6pm at Ōtāhuhu Youth Space
Sat 6th Sept 11am at Māngere Town Centre
Tue 16th Sept 6.30pm at Māngere East Hall (Metro Theatre)

MĀNGERE BRIDGE FUN RUN

Saturday 28 September. 5k, 10k and 21k distances. Fun for the whole family. Head to:
<http://mangerebridgerun.com>

PAPATUANUKU KOKIRI MARAE

141R Robertson Rd

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

FREE KAI @ MOANA NUI-A-KIWA

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

TURUKI HEALTHCARE

Walk n Talk Walking Club

Mondays 10am meet up at Turuki Health Care Māngere.

Low Carb Cooking Class

Every Tuesday 5.30pm-7.30pm at Turuki Healthcare. MUST BOOK - jcannons@thc.org.nz
<https://www.turukihealthcare.org.nz/bookings>.

ME FAMILY SERVICES

16-18 Ferguson St, Māngere East
mefsc@mefsc.org.nz

MAARA KAI ORA PROGRAMME

Learn hands-on gardening skills and kai knowledge to nourish your whānau and whenua.

LIVING RESOURCEFULLY PROGRAMME

Tuesdays 10am-12pm. Learn practical skills to reduce waste & save money. Email destiny@mefsc.org.nz.

MĀNGERE BRIDGE COMMUNITY ORCHARD WORKING BEE

Saturday 6 September, 2pm-4pm. Free composting workshop. Organised by Friends of the Farm.

MĀNGERE EAST COMMUNITY SAFETY HUI

The Māngere East Community Safety Hui is a monthly get together for anybody in the local community who would like to have some input into safety initiatives, events, road and town planning etc. Keep an eye out on their facebook page for the next hui. www.facebook.com/MangereEastCommunityCentre
The next meeting will be Wednesday 17 Sept 2025 : 1.30-2.15pm

MĀNGERE ARTS CENTRE

The Landing (exhibition)

Exhibition blessing: Sat 30 August, 9.30am. Documentary Screening: Sat 30 August, 10.30am. Community Participation Wall: Saturday 30 August - 18 October.

NGA MANGA O MĀNGERE

Bi-monthly community network meeting. Thursday 25 September, 10am-12pm. Māngere Law Centre. Email: harry.toleafoa@mangerelaw.org.nz for more information.

MEDTECH EXPLORER SHOWCASE

Thursday 28th August, 10am-2pm. Fale Samoa, 141 Bader Drive.

Join us for an interactive showcase of MedTech innovations—from life-saving medical devices and AI-powered diagnostics to wearable health tech and digital solutions shaping the future of healthcare.

MĀNGERE EAST COMMUNITY CENTRE

Before & After School Care & Holiday Programmes.

FREE CLASSES

Mondays: Te Reo Māori (10am-12pm & 6pm-8pm), Pono BoxFit Classes (6pm-7pm)

Tuesdays: Sewing for beginners (10am-1pm), Te Reo Māori (12.30pm-2.0pm), Hulafit (6pm-7pm), Ethnic Arts & Crafts (6pm-8pm)

Wednesdays: Law in a nutshell (6pm-8pm), Te Reo Māori (6pm-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)

REGISTER TODAY:

www.mangereeast.org
info@mangereeast.org | Ph: 275 6161

WHARE KOA MĀNGERE COMMUNITY HOUSE

141 Robertson Rd, ph: 09 379 2030, FB: @WhareKoa

IG: @wharekoamangere

MONDAY: Emerge Aotearoa: 10am-12.30pm, Sew Simple: 1.30pm-4.30pm

TUESDAY: Akatangi Ukulele: 10am-12pm, Fale Pasifika Parenting Programme 1pm-3pm

WEDNESDAY: Diamonds In The Rough: 10am-12pm, Tuitu'u Heilala: 1pm-4pm, Adullum Art: 6.30pm-8.30pm

THURSDAY: Tiare Taina Mamas & Eva Ma Le Koko: 10am-2pm

FRIDAY: Polynesian Creative Arts: 10am-2pm, Brownālf Creative Lab: 4pm-8.30pm

SATURDAY (MONTHLY):

Naitisian Fijian Mothers: 5pm-9pm

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.iamhaponi.co.nz
connect@iamhaponi.co.nz

Māngere Work and Income
93 Mascot Ave Māngere
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

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