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OCTOBER 2025

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

COMMUNITY PREVAILS AFTER 10 YEAR BATTLE



Some of the locals involved in the campaign to close the liquor store on Wickman Way. Scan the QR code to watch a video filmed by Amiria Puia-Taylor from a campaign event in 2014. Head to **page 4** for the full story.

GET PEACE OF MIND WITH A NEW BUILD

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EDITORIAL



The nationwide strike on October 17 that saw tens of thousands of public service workers, including firefighters, nurses, doctors, teachers and social workers take to the streets to call for better pay and working conditions, was also a demand to be treated with greater respect.

If you look at our local Māngere fire service, they are not only concerned by a below-inflation pay offer, but also about the ageing equipment and trucks that make their jobs harder.

And it's not just our firefighters. All the workers striking play vital roles in our community, and as Covid and the 2023 floods showed, our essential workers have to be resourced, so they are ready to help us during times of crisis.

So next time you engage with our local public servants, let them know you have their back and hopefully our country's leaders will also soon see that they need more support to deliver the services we all rely on.



Editorial Team: Jo and Justin Latif

✉ editor@275times.co.nz
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CONTENTS

- 5 Council results confirmed
- 6 Dr Vili Nosa
- 7 Arihia Stirling retires
- 8 Paper Roots: Bader Intermediate
- 9 50 years of CAB
- 10 Tuvalu Fatele Dance Workshop
- 11 Va'ine Fresh
- 12 New food truck for Papatūānuku Marae
- 13 Onehunga Māngere Softball Club
- 14 Māngere Business Classifieds
- 15 What's On In Māngere

MESSAGE FROM YOUR LOCAL MP

Talofa lava and warm Pacific greetings, Times are tough for people as the cost of food and electricity is going up. Christopher Luxon promised to make the cost of living better, instead he and his government are making it worse.

New Zealand cannot afford another three years under National. I want our community to know that Labour has a plan to prioritise real action on the cost of living.

As we head into October, we are rapidly approaching the final days of the local government elections. Voting is an incredibly important part of our democracy and allows you to have your say in how your community should run and who supports you. Voting closes at midday on Saturday 11th October, so ensure your details



and address are correct on www.vote.nz and go out and vote.

Over the last month, as a member of the Governance and Administration Select Committee, I have been listening to submissions on the Online Casino Gambling Bill. On 24

September, we heard from local organisations, who wanted to express their views and suggestions on the Bill. It has been very important that we continue to hold the government and its legislation to account. I want to acknowledge you 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 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)

COMMUNITY PRESSURE RESTORES 309X BUS



Community meeting at the Māngere Memorial Hall with Auckland Transport representatives



James Campbell (second from right) and Māngere Bridge locals who attended the public meeting to discuss the 309x bus

After initially planning to scrap a much-valued bus route through Māngere, Favona and Māngere Bridge, Auckland Transport (AT) has reversed its decision, following a heated community meeting.

Māngere Bridge resident James Campbell first raised concerns earlier in the year but he says trying to get AT to respond has been like “shouting into a void”.

“I was pretty upset that AT could announce such a big change with no warning. I had given feedback in Feb 2025, when the 309 was no longer aligned to the changed Onehunga Train timetable, of the massive impact they were causing the Māngere Bridge community.”

James says for him and many others in the area, the 309x massively reduces their commute.

“Personally the 309x is by far the best way for me to get back to my family. We know Onehunga is a choke point for traffic so the difference to the

regular service can be three times.”

After a poll on a local Facebook group showing overwhelming support (98%) for the route, as well as letters of complaint by James, 275 Times and the local board, a public meeting was called for September 23.

With two AT staff in attendance, a range of locals, including high school students, parents and those who can't drive due to disability, passionately explained why this route was so important to them.

At the meeting, AT's Public Transport Service Change Planning Manager Dave Hilson conceded his organisation had not consulted sufficiently on the changes.

“One thing I'll put our hands up to right now and I think everyone knows it, we didn't engage properly with the community as early on as we could have done. It went out with the RPTP (Regional Public Transport Plan), which is a draft document, public stakeholders can give feedback on that but we recognise that is very

different from going out to affected communities.”

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board member Tupuivao Harry Toleafoa says the situation highlights how current consultation methods aren't working for communities like Māngere.

“The reinstatement of the 309x routes is a testament to the power of public pressure and community organisation. We need to take the learnings from this experience and improve how we engage, listen, and deliver, both within Council and alongside Auckland Transport.”

Following the public meeting, Auckland Transport provided this statement to 275 Times explaining the route will be kept - but in a reduced form.

“In response to community feedback, we will reinstate two morning and two afternoon trips on Route 309X starting Monday, 3 November 2025. These services will operate until the City Rail Link opens at which point they will be reviewed.”

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COMMUNITY PREVAILS AFTER 10 YEAR BATTLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...



Community activation outside the front gates of Southern Cross Campus, October 2019, across the road from Thirsty Liquor Wickman Way



Te Kura Māori o Nga Tapuwae principal Arihia Stirling, centre, with students in 2020

Just over ten years since the Wickman Way liquor store opened in Māngere East, it has been ordered to close by the High Court by November 14.

Te Kura Māori o Ngā Tapuwae principal Arihia Stirling heralded the decision, given her concerns about the potential for alcohol-related harm on the area’s young people.

“I’m just so grateful for every community and person that was

involved in this 10 year saga of trying to save our kids.”

The bottle store has held an off-license since 2014, despite opposition from nearby schools, the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board, the Māngere East Community Centre and ME Family Services.

Since then the store’s license has been regularly challenged by locals, with Auckland Council’s licensing inspector deciding to appeal the store’s license all the way to the high court.

Communities Against Alcohol Harm’s (CAAH) secretary Dr Grant Hewison says getting the store closed is a good example of Māngere’s “community power” to fight for what people believed was best for the area and will inspire others to do the same.

“Māngere has led the way ... and it has now gone nationwide and there are communities all over Aotearoa New Zealand who are following the same model.”



Bus changes in Māngere

From 2 November 2025

- New **bus routes**
- New **bus stops**
- **More frequent & better connections**



Find out more about these changes
Scan the QR code, visit at.govt.nz search for ‘Māngere bus changes’ or call us on **09 366 6400**



COUNCIL RESULTS CONFIRMED

MAYOR



Wayne Brown

MANUKAU WARD COUNCILLORS



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Lotu Fuli

MĀNGERE-ŌTĀHUHU LOCAL BOARD



Harry Fatu Toleafoa



Joe Glassie-Rasmussen

MĀNGERE-ŌTĀHUHU LOCAL BOARD



Christine O'Brien



Talei Solomon-Mua



Makalita Kolo



Togiatsu Walter
Togiama



Papaliitele Lafulafu
Peo

Another local body election campaign is over and a raft of familiar faces have been re-elected to represent us at council and local board level. While Wayne Brown has secured a second term as mayor with a huge margin of around 90,000 votes.

MANUKAU WARD

According to final results, Labour's Alf Filipaina and Lotu Fuli (who got 13,406 and 12,193 votes respectively) have been re-elected as your ward councillors, with independent Carol Ah-Voa coming in third with 5,599 votes. Independent candidate Swannie Nelson was fourth receiving 5,087

votes, while Luke Mealamu and Vicky Hau from the Fix Auckland ticket got 4,422 and 4,301 and ACT's Henrietta Devoe attracted 3,328 votes. Christopher Hughes garnered 2,116 votes, while well-known Māngere Bridge local Malcolm Turner received 2,065 votes.

MĀNGERE-ŌTĀHUHU LOCAL BOARD

On the local board, the new face to be elected is Talei Solomon-Mua (with 7,076 votes), who joined the Labour ticket after local board chair Tauanu'u Nanai Nick Bakulich announced he wouldn't be running for re-election. Talei will be joined by incumbent board members Harry Fatu Toleafoa (who got 8,690 votes), Joe Glassie-Rasmussen

(8,046), Christine O'Brien (7,077), Makalita Kolo (6,904), Kaea Walter Inoke-Togiama (6,766) and Fe'etau Lafulafu Peo (6,540), while Vicky Hau from the Fix Auckland ticket finishing 8th with 4,936 votes and outside the top 7 who qualify to be on the board. Fellow Fix Auckland candidate Luke Mealamu received 4,887 votes, while Peter Sykes from the Green Party secured 4,096. Independent newcomer Sara Reihana-Tara followed with 3,840 votes, and Manoj Kumar, also a first-time candidate, gained 1,419 votes.

Total vote count for Māngere-Ōtāhuhu was 23.7%, The Auckland average was 29.3%.

Go to voteauckland.co.nz for a full breakdown of results.

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'BOY FROM MĀNGERE'

DR VILI NOSA RECEIVES HIGHEST ACADEMIC ACCOLADE



Dr Vili Nosa (centre) and his family following his inaugural lecture as a Professor at the University of Auckland.

Courtesy of Auckland University
Pacific scholar Dr Vili Nosa devoted much of his Inaugural Lecture introducing the many people from his family, community and academia who each contributed to his rise to Professor, at the University of Auckland.

Dean of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, Professor Warwick Bagg welcomed the audience to Professor Nosa's Inaugural Lecture on 11 September at the University's Grafton campus; later remarking at its conclusion that the evening was unlike any other he had attended.

Rich with humour, humility and heartfelt tributes, Nosa paid homage to the many who shaped his path — from his grandmother and parents

to his mentors, colleagues, wife and children.

Born in Niue and arriving in New Zealand at the age of three, Nosa's first language was Niuean. He recalled the early challenges of adapting to a new country and learning English. When he returned to Niue he was greatly influenced by grandmother, Nena Hantau Hakeagaiki Santeli and his Auntie Ketu and Uncle Hakupu Fereti.

"My auntie and uncle were my parents in Niue. They taught me a number of Niue traditional and cultural practices and what it means to live here in Niue."

His parents, Hapaki and Hanatautama Hakeagaiki Nosa, migrated to Aotearoa New Zealand seeking better opportunities for their children. Nosa, one of eight children, grew up in Grey Lynn and then later in

Māngere.

"I was a Māngere boy, I spent a lot of time at the Māngere Town Centre," he laughed, recalling the adventures embarked on ... and the ones he probably shouldn't have.

He found his spiritual home within the Māngere Pacific Islands Presbyterian Church, that would eventually set him up for a life in academia.

He noticed a troubling pattern: most research about Pacific communities was written by non-Pacific scholars. I thought, 'Man, these Palagi are writing about us - why can't we write about us?' I knew in my heart I had to do something."

With that realisation, he embarked on a Masters thesis on Niuean migration, then a PhD, and ultimately the successful academic career that has led to his professorship.

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

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

ARIHIA STIRLING STEPS DOWN, LEAVING A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP, LEARNING, AND LOVE



Arihia Stirling (left) at Te Ahurea Tino Rangatiratanga 2025 held at Te Kura Māori o Ngā Tapuwae



Arihia Stirling, second from right, at her retirement celebrations



Arihia Stirling (middle-right) with students and staff, alongside her father Te Kepa Stirling (middle-left)

After almost 30 years at the helm of Te Kura Māori o Ngā Tapuwae, respected tumuaki (principal) Arihia Stirling has announced her retirement - marking the end of an era for one of Aotearoa's most influential educators.

Stirling, who has dedicated more than 40 years to teaching, first revealed her retirement decision during a professional development session she was leading on the topic of "Inspiring, Aspiring and Expiring Principalship."

"...THIS HAPPENS BECAUSE COMMUNITIES DARE TO THINK DIFFERENTLY."

While speaking about the importance of succession planning, she had what she describes as an 'aha moment'.

"I was listening to what I was saying and then I was like, am I that person?" she said.

"The true proof for me and my leadership is that the school stays standing [after I leave]."

Her retirement announcement

set off a two-year process of careful planning, with Harley Mariu eventually appointed to take over as principal at the end of the year. Stirling, meanwhile, will remain involved part-time, overseeing new projects including a health and wellbeing strategy and the construction of a new auditorium.

"It has [been] a two year grieving process - so that was very hard. But the re-designing stuff was really exciting."

In 2023, Te Kura Māori o Ngā Tapuwae had the highest NCEA achievement rate of all secondary schools in Aotearoa, and at the end of 2024, Arihia was recognised as one of Australasia's outstanding educators at the National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEITA), winning a Founders' Principal for Leadership Award - the only principal in New Zealand to have done so.

But despite the accolades, Stirling is quick to credit her community.

"Stuff like this doesn't happen because of one person. Stuff like this happens because communities dare to think differently.

"So my community has grown up with an understanding that learning is power."



To watch the video on Te Karere's facebook page featuring Arihia's retirement, scan the QR code with your phone camera.



ANNUAL General MEETING

You are invited to celebrate the year that was and look towards the future for ME

Date
20 November, 2025

Time
4:30PM - 6:00PM

ME Family Services
16-18 Ferguson Street, Mangere East



RSVP TODAY



office@meffc.org.nz

PAPER ROOTS

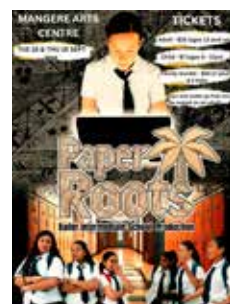
BADER INTERMEDIATE TELLS MOVING STORY OF IDENTITY AND BELONGING



Main character Maya (centre) played by Davina



One of the scenes in the production



Event poster

Bader Intermediate's latest production, Paper Roots, took the stage at Māngere Arts Centre. It was a heartfelt and powerful performance exploring identity, belonging, and self-discovery.

Co-written and directed by drama specialist Talia Leilua, and built alongside her amazing team of creatives and students, the play was inspired by the school's focus on identity. "I wanted to create something real and relevant," Leilua said. "We've done fun, upbeat shows before, but this time I wanted to push boundaries

and tell a story our students and community could truly connect with."

Initially, students were unsure about the deeper themes. "They were used to our usual fun, upbeat shows," she said. "Once they developed that understanding of Maya's journey, they began to embrace it."

Rehearsals were intense but rewarding, as students balanced schoolwork and performance prep. "It was chaotic at times," Leilua admitted, "but seeing them step onto that big stage made it all worth it."

Audience reactions were

overwhelmingly positive, with many stunned by the professionalism and emotion of the young cast. "Some parents said they forgot they were watching intermediate students," Leilua shared. "Many shared that were able to connect or empathise with the shows theme. That's when I felt like we had accomplished what we set out to do."

She added, "There's so much raw talent in South Auckland. They just need the right platform and people who believe in them."

HALLBERRY BLOCK PARTY BRINGS NEIGHBOURS TOGETHER

The sound of laughter, music and a sizzling barbecue filled a quiet cul-de-sac in Māngere East as neighbours came together for the Hallberry Block Party, a joyful celebration of community spirit spearheaded by local resident Abby.

Abby and her husband John have lived on Hallberry Road for seven years and say it's the people who make their street special. "We love living here," Abby said. "A great part of that is simply because we know our neighbours and feel connected to the wider 275 community through our local kindergarten, school, church, parks, and community centre."

The idea for the gathering came from a casual chat with neighbours Willie and Lesley. The last block party was held five years

ago, during the Covid era, and the group decided it was time to bring everyone together again. "We thought it would be great to have another get together and be able to have it at the end of our street," Abby said.

With support from I Am Māngere, Neighbourhood Support NZ, and local police, the event came to life. Toni and her team from I Am Māngere helped coordinate activities and connect the organisers with local groups to make the day even more special.

Families filled the street with games, food



The team behind organising the Hallberry Block Party

stalls, conversation and kids played on the street. "It was just a beautiful day of meeting wonderful people, sharing each other's passion and interests and having some neighbourly fun," said Abby.



50 YEARS OF CAB IN MĀNGERE



The Māngere CAB team celebrating the 50th anniversary at the Polynesian Centre in Māngere.

The Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) Māngere celebrated 50 years of service with heartfelt speeches, vibrant Samoan dancing, and a feast at the Polynesian Centre.

The milestone honoured decades of helping locals navigate life's challenges with compassion and confidentiality.

Chairperson Rabia Banu said the

anniversary was a chance to reflect on how far the organisation has come. "It started in a small building near the recreation centre and grew into the trusted service it is today," she said. "We've helped thousands with housing, employment, immigration, and so much more. Our volunteers are our greatest asset."

CAB Māngere operates under



Left to right: Meritiana (Manager), Rabia (Chairperson) and Ake outside the CAB at the Māngere Town Centre

an umbrella that also supports the Ōtāhuhu and Papatoetoe branches, offering free, non-judgmental advice in multiple languages.

Manager Meritiana Mulianga highlighted the need for more volunteers. "With more people, we could extend our opening hours and help even more families," she said. "Many come to us not just for answers but to be heard, sometimes they just need someone to listen."

For 50 years, CAB Māngere has been that listening ear, a safe space where community, care, and connection come first.

Phone 09 275 6885 to get in touch.

COMMUNITY CHAMPION MUNISH BHATT BIDS MĀNGERE BRANCH FAREWELL

After four incredible years as Branch Manager at Barfoot & Thompson Māngere, Munish Bhatt will step down from his role on October 31 to return to his roots in real estate sales. He plans to take a short break before resuming selling in 2026.

During his tenure, Munish led the branch to become one of Barfoot & Thompson's top-performing offices, fostering a culture of pride, passion, and purpose — and, of course, a reputation for having the best coffee machine in Māngere.

He actively supported local events and groups, from "Local Heroes" and the "Best Māngere Garden" awards to sponsoring the Manukau Rovers, Māngere Hawks, and other community initiatives. Highlights included back-to-back Gallaher Shield wins and a cricket victory over a branch twice their size.

"Thank you to the Māngere community, 275 Times, I Am Māngere, Haddon House, Fitz (Mr Māngere), Manukau Rovers, Māngere Hawks, Māngere United, MSD staff, and the Māngere East Business Association for your support," Munish said. "And to my incredible team — you are the heart of this branch. This isn't goodbye, just see you around the open homes."



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VAIASO O TE 'GANA TUVALU

FATELE DANCE WORKSHOP WITH TUVALU CHRISTIAN CHURCH



For Vaiaso o te 'Gana Tuvalu (Tuvalu Language Week), Molia Alama Tulafono brought the Tuvalu Christian Church youth fellowship to the Māngere Arts Centre for a free Fatele Dance Workshop.

Tulafono is the founder, master mind and lead director of Maneanea Dance. She is passionate about preserving the Tuvalu language and culture. The workshop was a beautiful experience and everyone who participated enjoyed being able to

celebrate the Tuvalu culture and special momentum of the modern style of the Fatele dance. Fatele - which is more than just dance or entertainment - is also a passing of knowledge and stories from the elders to the younger generations.

MĀNGERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Māngere Historical Society team at the Māngere Town Centre Library with one of their displays of the history of Māngere Bridge. Left to right: Julie Benjamin, Alan Bray, Barbara Dixon and Les Dixon.

The stories behind the places and people of our area can be discovered by young and old thanks to Māngere Historical Society who open their archives to the public each month.

Longtime member Alan Bray says through their extensive records, people can learn about what makes

the area so unique.

"It's very important because basically we record the history of Māngere, and the names of people that have lived in Māngere over a large number of years."

Since 1982, the society has been building up its records to provide a treasure trove of local knowledge. The

archives include photos, newsletters dating back to the 1980s, and fascinating local histories — like that of Mr. House, who founded the Māngere Bowling Club in 1923 and ran an orchard on Robertson Road. Alan says the evolution of the iconic Māngere Bridge, from the original wooden bridge built in 1865, to the current structure that connects the community to Onehunga is another fascinating story recorded in great detail by the society.

Led by president Julie Benjamin and treasurer Barbara Dixon, the society welcomes new members — especially younger generations — to help ensure Māngere's rich history is remembered and shared for years to come.

The society's next gathering will be their end-of-year Christmas meeting on 18 November at 1pm at St James Church Hall. The society also opens its archives to the public on the first Thursday of each month, 9.30am–11.30am, or by appointment, 09 636 6260.

VA'INE FRESH

EMPOWERING PASIFIKA WOMEN THROUGH LAUGHTER AT MĀNGERE ARTS CENTRE



The team of women that performed in Va'ine Fresh, including Rhiannon McCall (sitting centre right) and Sarah Richards (sitting centre left)



Kalolaine Finaulahi on stage



Another Māngere local, Ama Mosese (bottom)

The laughter that filled the Māngere Arts Centre during Va'ine Fresh was more than entertainment - it was a celebration of courage, creativity, and connection among Pasifika women breaking into the world of comedy.

Led by Cook Islands-Kiwi comedian Rhiannon McCall (2024 Billy T Award nominee) and produced by Samoan-Kiwi Sarah Richards, Va'ine Fresh brought together an all-Pasifika female lineup of first-time comedians who turned their stories and humour into something truly powerful.

McCall says the idea for Va'ine Fresh was sparked at a Cook Islands Women's Summit when she was asked what she was doing to uplift other Pacific women in comedy. "I realised I could be doing a whole lot more," she recalls. "That's what inspired the idea for Va'ine Fresh." With support from fellow Cook Islands comedian Laura Daniel and funding from Auckland Council's Creative Communities Scheme, McCall and Richards created a series of workshops for Pasifika women to learn the art of comedy - culminating in a live showcase at Māngere Arts Centre.

For McCall, the location was key.

"We wanted the workshops to be as accessible as possible," she explains. "A large population of Pacific Islanders live in South Auckland, which is why we chose to run the workshops in Māngere."

The programme gave participants the tools, mentorship, and confidence to bring their stories to the stage.

One of the comedians to take the stage was Kalolaine Finaulahi, a proud Māngere local who works at the suburb's library and arts centre. "I grew in Māngere. My family settled in Māngere East when we moved from Tonga," she says.

**"OUR STORIES ARE UNIQUE,
AND WE ADD VALUE TO THE
SPACES WE EXIST IN."**

For her, joining Va'ine Fresh began with curiosity. "I'd always enjoyed watching stand-up comedy, but I wanted to see what the process of creating comedy can look like."

Through the workshops, Kalolaine found herself pushed out of her comfort zone. "they were fantastic and challenged me to step out of my comfort zone and sometimes sit in the discomfort when the punchline didn't land," she says. "The day of the show I was riddled with anxiety, and my rehearsal went terrible. I forgot my

lines!"

However, due to the sisterhood that was formed during their time together, this helped her push through.

"It was a display of support and encouragement that afternoon though, from all the women of Va'ine Fresh and we rocked that night!"

McCall says that the performers' "absolutely smashed it" in their debut.

"They brought their whole selves to their performances and displayed skill and confidence far beyond a beginner level. I could not be more proud!"

While some, like Kalolaine, may see comedy as a "side quest," the initiative has opened the door for her and the others. "Our stories are unique, and we add value to the spaces we exist in," she says. "If you're interested in these spaces... just start."

McCall hopes Va'ine Fresh continues to ripple through the industry. "Tangata Moana are amazing natural storytellers and the funniest people out there," she says.

"We hoped that through this initiative, we could make it easier for Pacific Island women to get started in the comedy industry by providing support, learning and performance opportunities. I think we have achieved that."

FEEDING PURPOSE, FUELING CHANGE

NEW FOOD TRUCK INITIATIVE FROM PAPATŪĀNUKU KŌKIRI MARAE



The crew who gathered for the dawn blessing of the new food truck, 26 September, including Nestlé representatives, Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae staff, Local Board and representatives from other local community groups

By Valerie Teraitua

Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae in Māngere has unveiled its newest initiative, Te Waka Kai Komau — a food truck created to carry the marae's kaupapa of kai sovereignty, sustainability, culture, and whanaungatanga far beyond the marae gates.

For decades, the marae has been a leader in food innovation through its Hua Parakore Maara Kai, Koha Café, and the Kai Ika project. These kaupapa have nourished whānau with healthy kai, reduced waste through circular systems, and created meaningful leadership pathways for rangatahi. Te Waka Kai Komau now builds on this foundation, enabling the marae to reach kura, marae, and community events across South Auckland and beyond, carrying both kai and kōrero to new spaces.

The project was realised in 2023

through a purposeful partnership with Nestlé, grounded in the shared value of "Ma ngā Hua ka Ora — through the fruits we thrive." For Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae, this is expressed through its vision Oranga Whenua, Oranga Tangata — thriving lands, thriving people. For Nestlé, it reflects a commitment to healthier lives and stronger communities. More than sponsorship, this collaboration has been about co-designing solutions, aligning values, and creating lasting impact together.

Named Te Waka Kai Komau, the truck will serve kai ika soup, smoked fish heads, frames and wings, alongside fresh produce from the Hua Parakore gardens. Beyond food service, it has been designed as a mobile classroom — a place to learn about zero-waste systems, food sovereignty, and the interconnection between whenua, moana, and people. It will also provide



Blessing the new food truck



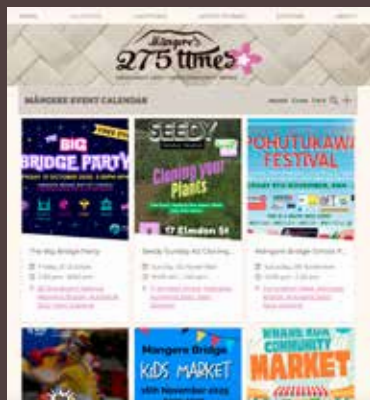
Valerie Teraitua (right) and Chairperson Hineamaru Ropati (left)

training, employment, and leadership opportunities for rangatahi.

Connections with Healthy Families and the Te Ahi Komau ki Tua Indigenous Kai Systems Collective ensure the kaupapa is part of a wider movement — strengthening resilience, amplifying Māori-led innovation, and taking the marae's vision into the future.

Te Waka Kai Komau is more than a food truck — it is a waka for transformation, fuelled by purpose, partnerships, and people.

For more information about Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae - head to <https://pkm.org.nz/>



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.

NOTHING CAN STRIKE THEM OUT: OM SOFTBALL'S FIGHT TO REBUILD



Onehunga Māngere United Softball Reserves team in their new uniform



Newly renovated Norana Softball Park in Favona



Once the beating heart of Auckland softball, Norana Softball Park in Favona, formerly known as the Lion Red Ballpark, is being revitalised thanks to the dedication of the volunteers at Onehunga-Māngere United Softball Club (OM Softball).

Once home to national tournaments and bustling weekend crowds, the park had fallen into disrepair after Auckland Softball sold it to Council in 2008. Now, OM Softball is leading a community effort to restore the grounds, rebuild the diamonds, and bring the venue back to life.

OM Softball's move to Norana followed a difficult decision in 2024 to leave their longtime home on Māngere Mountain due to rising costs. The club re-formed as an independent society in July, starting from scratch and fundraising tirelessly to replace lost equipment, uniforms, and funds. Sharon Lockhart-Beattie, a committee member, described the difficulty: "It was a mighty challenge - but the Committee and members worked tirelessly to fundraise by way

of quiz nights, raffles, sausage sizzles, sponsorship, and applying for many funding grants to ensure our players had uniforms and gear to start the 2024/25 season that October."

With support from Auckland Council and the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board, Diamond 1 has been restored and is ready for competition games. Plans are underway to rebuild two additional diamonds and restore Norana to its former status as a premier softball venue capable of hosting tournaments and more

**"...WE WILL GET BACK UP,
TO HAVE THE SUCCESSFUL
SEASON OF SOFTBALL
WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING
FORWARD TO."**

home games. The work has required dedication from a hearty bunch of volunteers, who have been central to fundraising, planning, and preparing the grounds.

On the field, OM Softball has



Friday night Teeball programme at Norana Park

marked a significant milestone by re-entering the Reserve Men's grade for the first time in 25 years. The season opened with a strong 10-7 win against Howick, signalling a successful return to higher-level competition. Despite a heartbreaking break-in on opening weekend, which saw equipment including a pitching machine, generator, and line marker stolen, the club has been buoyed by community support. Sharon said of the response: "While the break-in was such an upsetting incident, we feel very reassured with the support of so many that we have and will get back up and continue to have the successful exciting season of softball that we have been looking forward to."

OM Softball's teeball programme is also thriving, with teams competing against neighbouring clubs, while junior and senior teams prepare for the full season ahead. A formal blessing and reopening of Norana Park is planned to celebrate the regeneration and the community's efforts. Volunteers continue to play a pivotal role, helping run teams, fundraise, and support players on and off the field.

Softball at OM isn't just about the game, it's about community and growth. Sharon highlighted the wider benefits: "Softball not only teaches and grows amazing lifelong skills but also grows a family sports community. It gives our kids and ourselves the opportunity to get outside, get engaged and enjoy a sport that has limitless benefits for our minds and bodies."

For more info, head to:
sporty.co.nz/onehungasoftball or
onehungamangeresoftball@gmail.com

MĀNGERE BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

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

Five Rings Videography

Filmmaking, Videography & Photography.

Email: thomas.mosby@outlook.com, instagram: @5_rings_films

275 Kai

Food Trailer serving delicious burgers and more.

Email: Mary.talisa@275kai.com

Ph: 0212971262

IG/FB: @275Kai

Mark Swords Electrical

Fully registered Master Electricians

Ph: 027 275 0097

Email: mse.ltd@gmail.com

https://mse.ltd.co.nz

Aunty Enahs Hangis

Food - Unique Hangis

Email: Auntyenaskai@gmail.com

Ph: 022 373 9141

FB: Aunty enahs Kai

IG: aunty_enahs_hangis

Takoha Ora Barbers

91 Mangere Road Otahuhu

Email: Admin@takohaora.com

Ph: 0273431436

IG: @takohaorabarbers

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

Remnant Brothers Tree Experts Ltd

remnantbrothersltd@gmail.com

Ph: 2108495876

IG/FB: @remnantbros_treexperts

Twosevenfive clothing store

Shop 5, 93 Bader drive, Māngere Town centre, Māngere

merch@twosevenfive.co.nz

Ph: 099481463

IG: @twosevenfive.clothing

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/ 09 275 6962

Megastar Fashions 021 301 987

Sunlight clothing shop 09 255 5105

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

Xeroe Waste events

Waste Management for events

Email: Vernz10@gmail.com

Ph: 02102459988

https://xeroewaste.co.nz

FB: Xeroe waste

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

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

Mangere Bridge Flowers 09 6221292

Fresh Choice 09 6368424

WHATS ON IN MĀNGERE

MĀNGERE ARTS CENTRE

Exhibitions: 25 Oct - 6 Dec.

'Mean As G - Keciano Tufuga':

Free screenprinting workshop, Sat 8 Nov, 12-2pm.

'South Auckland - Photo Club':

Māngere Town Centre Photo Walk, Sat 1 Nov, 10am. Portrait Workshop for Beginners, Sat 15 Nov, 11am-1pm.

MĀNGERE COLLEGE FUNDRAISING DINNER

30 Oct, 6pm, NZMA Sylvia Park Campus. Tickets available on <https://humantix.com>

THE BIG BRIDGE PARTY

Free community event for all ages! Friday 31 October, 5.30pm-8pm. Māngere Bridge Baptist. Disco party, bouncy castles, food & games.



FREE Māra Sessions at 17 Elmdon Street - Māngere Enviro Hub

Dates: 19 Oct (Seed your summer garden), 2 Nov (Cloning your plants), 16 Nov (Design your garden), 30 Nov (Weeding, feeding & protection), 14 Dec (Spring Harvest!). With Etū Rākau. www.facebook.com/eturakau

MĀNGERE BRIDGE SCHOOL POHUTAKAWA FESTIVAL

Sat 8 Nov, 9am-2pm. Cultural performances, food stalls, games, pony rides, bouncy castles & more!

MĀNGERE BRIDGE KIDS MARKET

Sun 16 Nov, 9am-1pm. Bill Kirk Park. Contact: info@mangerebridgevillage.co.nz

MĀNGERE EAST END OF YEAR FESTIVAL

Saturday Nov 22, 10 AM – 2 PM We're looking for performers and stallholders! Please send expressions of interest to info@mangereeast.org.

FREE KAI @ MOANA NUI-A-KIWA

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

FREE XTREME-HIP HOP

Free step classes every Wednesday at the Māngere Town Centre (Zumba Stage) with Phatboifit. Beginners - 6pm-6.45pm Intermediate - 7pm-7.45pm

MĀNGERE BIKEFIT

Bikefit Repairs, Tue/Wed/Thur 11am-4pm, Sun 11am-2pm.

WOW Rides Wednesday's On

Wheels. 5pm. Waddon Place.

Halloween Trick or Treat Ride, Fri 31 Oct, 6pm-8pm.

For more info email:

sokko.timetothrive@gmail.com.

MURA MURA ĀTEA: CREATIVE EMPOWERMENT SPACE

Free Woodblock carving workshops, Wed 10am-12pm, Thur 1pm-3pm. 68d Tidal Rd. Mike - 021 262 7087

BOXFIT (WITH PONO BOXFIT)

Free community fitness classes. Mon 6pm, Māngere East Community Centre. Wed nights 6.30pm Aorere College.

BRIDGE KIDS ATHLETICS

29 Oct - 17 Dec. Wed 5.30pm-6.15pm. Base skills, running and games for 2-8 year olds. Gold coin donation each week. Swanson Park. info@mangerebridgevillage.co.nz

TURUKI HEALTHCARE

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

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>.

PAPATUANUKU KOKIRI MARAE

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

CLOSURE OF MĀNGERE MOUNTAIN FOR GUY FAWKES

To protect these taonga from fire, all Maunga will be closed from 6.30pm-7.00am, Sunday 2 – Wednesday 5 November 2025.

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-2pm), Hulafit (6pm-7pm), Ethnic Arts & Crafts (6pm-8pm)

Wednesdays: Law in a nutshell (6pm-8pm), Te Reo Māori (6pm-8pm), Zumba (6.30pm)

Thursdays: Sewing for beginners (10am-1pm), Zumba (6.30pm)

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, Brownālfā Creative Lab: 4pm-8.30pm

SATURDAY (MONTHLY):

Naitisian Fijian Mothers: 5pm-9pm

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR WHARE KOA

Kia Tupu | Sew Simple Fashion

Show, Sat 1 Nov, 6.30pm Taha Wahia - Woodside in Manurewa

Tivaevae Exhibition – November 27th at Te Puke Ōtara

Whare Koa Community Market

- 10 Dec, 10am-2pm, Māngere Memorial Hall. Email sepa.iosefo@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

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