

# Māngere's 275 times



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

## CYCLONE GABRIELLE: TROW GROUP TO THE RESCUE

When Cyclone Gabrielle was bearing down on Māngere, Saia Latu knew he had to get his team out to help with clearing streets of rubbish to stave off further disaster.

Following the massive flooding that had occurred only two weeks earlier, the streets around our suburb were piled high with flood-damaged items awaiting pick up from council's waste services.

But these large mounds also posed a significant risk given the forecasted 150km/ per hour winds that were expected to hit Māngere. And that was when Trow Group, one of NZ's largest commercial deconstruction companies - founded by Saia Latu, came to the rescue. Armed with trucks, a digger and teams of workers in safety gear, Trow Group worked relentlessly over a three-day period to clear the streets of debris and rubbish - and they've also continued this work after the cyclone passed.

"We collected easily over a 100 tonnes of rubbish from over 200 houses around Māngere," Latu says



Trow Group CEO Saia Latu just hours before Cyclone Gabrielle hit Māngere.

"We could see the community was doing awesome work to help each other, but we could scale up the work -

we could just get in and get it done. "The main thing was we could see how dangerous it was having all this rubbish on the streets and it could have gone either way - so it was about being pro-active rather than reactive."

Having met a number of families who didn't realise there was support available from Auckland Council, Latu's main message is for people to get informed about what financial and support services are being offered. "Make sure you find out what help is out there, whether it's help with food or your rent or mortgage."

Latu, who grew up in Māngere and attended local schools, says his organisation will continue to walk alongside the community as it rebuilds after this torrid summer.

"Our job is not done, neither is our mana and drive - the push continues until our communities feel safe and secure again, especially after going from one extreme weather to another.

"Today we continue to reach out, help out and smash out what needs to be done in order to rebuild our community."

## TO CUT OR NOT - IT'S IN YOUR HANDS

It's time to have your say on Auckland Council's next annual budget.

The main thing to be aware of is that this budget is looking to reduce a \$295 million deficit in council's finances.

One of the main approaches proposed is to make a series of spending cuts to core services:

- including reducing library hours and services provided at libraries, arts centre and community facilities.
- cuts to the waste reduction and environment protection work by ME Family Service's Talking Rubbish team
- cuts to the amount of grants our local board can distribute
- cuts to arts, music and cultural events like Polyfest, Music in the Parks and CultureFest.

- cuts to homelessness support services
- and cuts to funding for the Citizen's Advice Bureau.

**One option not being considered is selling any golf courses that are on land owned by Auckland Council.**

The new budget also proposes a rates increase for the average property of around 4.66% (or roughly \$3 a week), selling the council's Auckland International Airport (currently around 18% of the Airport's shares) and taking on \$75 million of additional debt. Council says another way to avoid these cuts is to increase general rates by up to 13.5%

for the average residential property (which is around \$6.50 per week).

One option not being considered is selling any golf courses that are on land owned by Auckland Council.

In a 2022 report, this land was estimated to be worth approximately \$2.9 billion, used by less than 10% of Aucklanders.

This budget will have a major impact on our city so give your feedback at the **Community Hui at 5.30pm, Thursday March 16, at the Ōtāhuhu Town Hall.**

Otherwise submissions can be made online, via email, by phone, post.

Visit [akhaveyoursay.nz/budget](https://www.akhaveyoursay.nz/budget) between 28 February and 28 March to find out more and have your say. Final decisions will be made in June 2023 and the final budget will be available on the Auckland Council website.

SCAN TO HAVE YOUR SAY



Rain Te'i, performing at Polyfest 2022, one of the events that may be facing a funding cut.

# Congratulations to 275 Times for re-launching the printed editions!

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Arts is an initiative from the Māngere Ōtāhuhu Local Board to support and enable community-led arts activities throughout the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu area. It involves having an Arts Broker, whose role is to identify, curate, programme and enable community arts activities.

The Arts Broker works with local artists and creative organisations to offer support in the development and delivery of their creative ideas and projects, whether this be assisting with funding, marketing, or helping to find the right location or people to work with.

It all starts with a conversation about what you want to do - from there, together we work out what advice or support you need. **So, get in touch!**

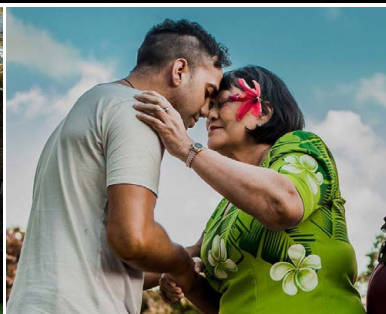
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“There is a wealth of research showing that people have an increased sense of community pride when they read positive news about their area - and this would be the ultimate goal of this initiative.”

Jo and Justin Latif,  
275 Times

”

275 Times received Māngere Ōtāhuhu Arts support for the re-launch event at Māngere Arts Centre, 14 March 2023. Below is a selection of other projects supported by Māngere Ōtāhuhu Arts.



Email: [renee@mangereotahuhuarts.org.nz](mailto:renee@mangereotahuhuarts.org.nz)

[www.mangereotahuhuarts.org.nz](http://www.mangereotahuhuarts.org.nz)

# COMMUNITY Highlights



Father and son get ready to go onstage for Te Matatini with Angitū. This was Ranea's 10th Te Matatini (right) and Ranea Jnr's first time (left) performing. Ranea Jnr has just graduated from Te Kura Kaupapa Maori O Māngere last year.



Pictured above are the some of the Social Sciences students at Māngere College going on a trip to Japan in September this year. This is the first time that Māngere College students will be going to Japan. The students are fundraising for their trip, so if you are interested in helping with sponsorship - please email Aidyn Rasmussen at [a.rasmussen@mangere.school.nz](mailto:a.rasmussen@mangere.school.nz).



The TwoSevenFive Clothing store opened at the Māngere Town Centre on February 18. (L-R) Lily, Jordan, Danika, & Fitz from TwoSevenFive.



Time to Thrive celebrating its first year anniversary since the Māngere Community Bike Hub opening.



Māngere Central School boys softball team who finished 7th at a recent interschool tournament.

## Masterplan

- Site boundary
- Contours
- Current leased areas
- Existing trees (indicative locations)
- Proposed trees
- Street planting
- Train tracks
- Lawn areas
- Sports fields
- Existing drainage
- Proposed sports field lighting
- Proposed paths
- Road / carparks
- Proposed site furniture
- Fencing / edge note 25
- Fitness stations
- Amenity/gathering nodes



## MĀNGERE CENTRE PARK PLANS GET THE GO AHEAD

A masterplan to guide development at Ngā Hau Māngere/Māngere Centre Park has been adopted. Māngere Ōtāhuhu Local Board approved a draft masterplan for community engagement last June. That engagement was undertaken in July and early August and included seeking input on priorities for the plan's implementation. Board chair Tauanu'u Nanai Nick Bakulich

says the community mostly supported the plan but changes were made based on feedback, and further engagement took place before the plan, and details around implementing it, was finalised. "The Centre Park masterplan is all about guiding long-term improvements which will be welcomed by a community that has one of Tamaki Makaurau's fastest-growing youth populations. "The plan addresses enhancing the parks

intrinsic values, meeting community needs and providing the board with a framework for future investment and development decisions.

"We aspire for a park that the people of Māngere and surrounding areas could be proud of, a park that meets our diverse needs, and we are on the way to delivering that.

"Parks can cater for different purposes, from sport fields, picnics to passive recreation. We are fortunate that this open space also provides for activities like the steam trains and a vibrant food hub.

"Parks should be welcoming spaces open to all, Centre Park's 21 hectares can certainly be just that. We're grateful to everyone in the community who provided feedback and has helped shape what is being built for the community."

The next stage of the process can now begin. It will focus on providing fit-for-purpose, multi-use facilities that meet current and future community needs. Some work supported by the masterplan has already been implemented, including redeveloping the playground, three field upgrades that include lighting, a new cricket/kilikiti wicket and commemorating the former homestead. Funding has already been allocated over the coming years for renewing the existing toilets and developing new toilet facilities.

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## MĀNGERE EAST COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Out Of School Care** – Quality & Affordable Before School Care (7am – drop off to school) and After School Care (2pm-6pm) including transport and kai. 5-13 year olds.

**FREE Adult Education Classes** available including English for Speakers of Other Languages, Te Reo Māori, Hulafit, Korowai and more.

**Venue & Bus Hire** – We have our Hall (capacity 120) and Kowhai Room (capacity 35) and we also have a 32 seater bus and 2 Mini-Buses available for hire at affordable rates.

**FREE Parenting Programmes** – Ohomairangi Trust provides a variety of Parenting Programmes for our whānau, plus FREE transport, childcare and kai.

**CONTACT:** [www.mangereeast.org](http://www.mangereeast.org) | phone 09 275 6161 | or drop in 372 Massey Road, Māngere East

## MOTH PLANT COMPETITION

Get your team of 10 together and compete against other teams in Māngere-Ōtāhuhu for the top prize of \$500, spot prizes also up for grabs. Get a FREE tackle kit filled with everything you need to safely collect pods. Email to register your interest: [pestfree@mefsc.org.nz](mailto:pestfree@mefsc.org.nz)

## HARANIA STREAM DAY - "Our Waterways" event

Find out more about how our water systems work, what we can do to keep them working as they should and how our voice can have a positive impact on our homes and our natural spaces. Saturday 1st April 10am-12:30pm at the Harania Stream, Cnr of Bicknell Rd and Archboyd Ave, Favona. Email Nelly for any enquiries: [nelly@mefsc.org.nz](mailto:nelly@mefsc.org.nz)

## REPAIR CAFE - SATURDAY 18 MARCH - 10AM-1PM (AT THE MĀNGERE BRIDGE LIBRARY)

Do you have any small items that need fixing? Bring them along. Repair cafes are free events where local people bring in damaged or broken items and volunteers repair them. We'll have skilled volunteers on hand to fix bikes, cell phones, laptops, sew ripped clothes, mend damaged books, and fix small electrical items. Enjoy a cuppa and snack while you wait. This event is being run by Friends of the Farm Māngere Bridge. Questions?

Email [friends@fof.nz](mailto:friends@fof.nz) or <https://aboutmangerebridge.nz>

## NZ NATIONAL PARTY NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the selection of the National Party Candidate for the Māngere Electorate at the 2023 General Election will open from Tuesday 28th February 2023 and will be received from National Party members by National Party Headquarters up to midday, Wednesday 15th March 2023 when nominations close. Nomination forms and details regarding procedures may be obtained from:

NZ National Party. Email: [selections@national.org.nz](mailto:selections@national.org.nz)

*275 Times does not favour any political party and we will consider any requests to share information.*



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## FLOOD RECOVERY SUPPORT

# Black MOULD

Homes that have been flooded need to be aware of mould that could be now growing. Mould is a fungus that can be very bad for you and your aiga. It gives off tiny spores that we can't see but can irritate your skin, cause headaches and make breathing harder. It grows in damp or wet places and can grow and spread in a short time. Visible signs of mould can be found on walls, ceilings, curtains, carpets, around windows, and in kitchens or bathrooms. Dangerous black mould can also grow inside walls and needs to be checked for.

### COMMON SIGNS OF MOULD INSIDE WALLS:

• Musty damp Smell • Dampness • Mould patches on the dry wall • Soft Drywall • Dark stains like wet patches on wall • Poor Health

### CONTACTS FOR SUPPORT IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE MOULD:

**Kāinga Ora residents:** Visit the Kāinga Ora Māngere office at 4 Waddon Place or call 0800 801 601

**Rental Support:** Contact your landlord first, if they are not providing support call Tenancy Services - 0800 836 262,

**Free Legal Advice:** Māngere Community Law Centre: (09) 275 4310 or email [reception@mangerelaw.org.nz](mailto:reception@mangerelaw.org.nz)

**Homeowners:** Ring your insurance company, if they can't help ring the Māngere Community Law Centre for advice

**Auckland Emergency Management:** If you need help to dispose of flood damaged clothes and furniture call 0800 253 268

**Social Work support:** ME Family Services - call 09 256 0810

**PLEASE KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR FLYERS IN YOUR LETTERBOX RELATING TO THIS INFORMATION.**

# Streets ahead in Māngere.

List your place with Māngere's  
number one real estate company.

**BARFOOT  
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**Māngere**  
09 257 5680

