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EDITION #73
JULY 2025

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MATARIKI ON THE MAUNGA

**“MARKING THIS
OCCASION ON
THE MAUNGA IS
FITTING, AS THESE
ANCESTRAL
PLACES HOLD
DEEP CULTURAL
HISTORY AND
CONNECTION.”**

- PAUL MAJUREY, CHAIR OF THE
TŪPUNA MAUNGA AUTHORITY,



Photo: Smoke

Zane Wedding, General Manager of Māngere Mountain Education Centre (right) and Wayne Derbyshire (left) unearthing the hangi on Te Pane o Mataoho as part of the Matariki Love Your Maunga Hāngi Fundraiser on 28 June, 2025.



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EDITORIAL



Jo & Justin Latif at the NZCNA Awards

Kia ora Māngere whānau — how are you enjoying our new format? We're changing things up a little and finding more ways to be sustainable.

In the wider media world, there's been big news: Stuff has announced it's shutting down several of its community newspapers, including the local Manukau Courier. It's sad to see these local voices disappear, leaving fewer platforms to

share the stories and celebrate the people who make our communities special.

That's why we're especially proud to still be here, locally owned and fiercely focused on Māngere. In fact, we've recently been recognised for it. At the NZ Community Newspapers Association Awards in May, we won Best Community Involvement for our Māngere Youth Voices Project and were Runner Up for Best Front Page (Magazine).

A huge mihi to the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board for sponsoring the Māngere Youth Voices Project and helping us get to Christchurch to accept these awards. Your support means our community's stories continue to be heard — and celebrated.

Thanks for reading, and for supporting local journalism. **Fill out our short survey and let us know how you're finding the new format! (Scan QR code)**

Māngere's
275 times

Editorial Team: Jo and Justin Latif

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MESSAGE FROM YOUR LOCAL MP

**Talofa lava, warm Pasifika greetings!
It's a tough time for many New Zealanders who continue to face the cost-of-living increases.**

Recently Parliament held Select Committee Scrutiny week. The purpose of Scrutiny is to hold the Executive to account, to contribute to good governance for improved outcomes, and to strengthen confidence in public institutions. Government Agencies continue to make Budget cuts. This means more Kiwis have lost their jobs, local community members advise Doctor's fees increasing costs, Kainga Ora cancels public housing projects whilst local homelessness is on the rise. Shane Reti Minister of Statistics announced there will no longer be a 5-year Census system from 2030. Instead, the Government will design a system using government data, a



smaller annual survey, and a targeted data collection in their new approach. As Labour Spokesperson for Statistics, I raised my concerns and questions at the Select Committee Hearing about this major change.

In Māngere, recently three community members approached my local electorate office because they cannot afford to pay their rent. We continue to raise matters with the Māngere Branch of the Ministry of Social Development

office. I acknowledge local community organisations: Strive, a local Service provider and Waatea Marae thanking them for helping these individuals as homelessness will continue to increase. Manawatia a Matariki was celebrated on 20 June 2025, thank you to the many local whanau, Marae, community groups and individuals who participated in the Maori New Year celebrations.

Nga mihi nui.

For queries email Mangere@parliament.govt.nz or speak to the Mangere Electorate Staff on 09 273 1150.

Manuia tele,
Lemauga Lydia Sosene
MP for Mangere

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

Funded by Parliamentary Service

(sponsored content)

‘NO FLUFF, ALL FACTS’:

LOCAL EVENT AIMS TO MOVE MĀNGERE RENTERS TO HOME OWNERS



L-R: Paki Scott, Johnny Aukusitino and Sifa Sifakula from My Finance Guys



The full panel of speakers

A recent housing event driven by Māngere locals has helped a number of families get started on their journey towards home ownership.

What began as a casual conversation between Paki, the entrepreneur behind the Haddon House burger business, and Munish Bhatt, Māngere Branch Manager at Barfoot & Thompson, soon grew into a full-fledged community education evening. Both shared a common goal: to see more Māngere residents owning homes in their own neighbourhood.

Paki and Munish were talking about home ownership in Māngere when Munish expressed how he wanted to see more locals owning homes.

“We want more people in Māngere, buying homes in Māngere.” Paki couldn’t agree more. From there, the idea took shape. Paki teamed up with Johnny Aukusitino from Māngere Barfoot & Thompson, and together they combined their networks and expertise to organise an event that would make the path to home ownership clearer for locals. They brought in mortgage brokers, lawyers, and relied on Aukusitino’s background in building and real estate to give

residents practical insights.

For Paki, it was personal. “The only way I got a home was by having someone who knew the system, who could translate it back to me so I understood. You need those experts,” he said.

He says the event was aimed at being “no fluff, just facts” to get locals informed and take the first steps toward owning their own place.

“It really was about bringing people together — especially people renting in Māngere who want to be homeowners — and just getting the information out,” Paki explained.

The need is clear. According to the 2023 NZ Census, 59.2% of families in the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu area are renting — well above the national average of 34%.

Mary (not her real name), a Māngere local who currently rents, knows the struggle firsthand. After several disappointing attempts to buy a home for her family, she was ready to give up.

“To be honest, before this all popped up, I was already like, oh yeah, I’m done. We’ll just rent,” she admitted. But when she saw Paki’s post about the event, hope sparked again.

“Once he posted about it, it was only

a few minutes and I was already like yup, I’m coming,” Mary said.

From Aukusitino’s perspective, many locals are closer to owning than they realise.

“If the median rent right now is about \$600 a week, and servicing a \$750,000 mortgage is roughly \$800, that’s only a \$200 gap to figure out. So you’re pretty close already,” he noted.

Mary left the event encouraged, especially after learning how family trusts and other tools could help both buy a home and protect it. “I was so happy when they brought up the trusts — we’d been thinking about it, but didn’t know how to actually move forward. Tonight was really good.”

Aukusitino reflected on a successful evening, the need to have more information available to locals and to talk to someone you can trust. “The turnout tonight was really good and just from a lot of the questions that we were getting, a lot of them were really common, especially just around not knowing where to start and not knowing who you should have in your corner.”

Call Johnny Aukusitino on 021-02906981 for more information.

Photos: Five Rings Videography



HĪKOI FOR HEALING: MĀNGERE STEPS UP FOR MENTAL HEALTH

A community hīkoi held in Māngere recently brought together hundreds of locals to raise awareness about suicide and mental health, while offering a space for healing, connection, and kōrero.

The event was a collaboration between Tom Polo of Alpha Wellness and community leader Fitz from the TwoSevenFive. Foundation and barbershop. Polo had previously run similar walks in Manurewa and Ōtara before bringing the kaupapa to Māngere.

"It was a real community effort," Fitz says. "Tom had the idea, and we worked together to bring it to life for Māngere."

The hīkoi took participants on a short walk from the Māngere Town Centre, up Robertson Road, across the new bridge, and back again—finishing

with a free sausage sizzle and live music from a local group.

Roughly 200 to 300 people took part, turning out on foot to show support, reflect on shared losses, and be part of a collective healing process.

For Fitz, one of the most powerful moments was speaking publicly for the first time about losing two close friends to suicide.

"That was a big thing for me—saying it out loud. But even more powerful was seeing other people from our community step up and share their stories. That's the start of healing—speaking it out."

Fitz says that the pain of suicide doesn't end with the person who has passed—it's often carried by those left behind.

"This hīkoi was about giving those families a chance to begin their own

healing, to know they're not alone." The kaupapa of the day was also about breaking the silence. "We need to normalise talking about suicide," he says. "We need to keep reminding our people—especially our rangatahi—that suicide is not the answer."

And his message for the Māngere community is quite simple. "A problem shared is a problem halved."

"Whatever you're going through—know that it's temporary. Talk to someone. But make sure it's the right someone. Not everyone is ready to hold space for that kōrero, so seek out professionals, or people you really trust. And don't be afraid to reach out. There's help out there."

With so many online tools available, Fitz is also encouraging those struggling to make sure they ask for support.

"Just sending one message can be the start of a way out."

While there are hopes to grow the event in future, the main goal remains the same - building safe, supportive spaces where tough conversations can happen and healing can begin.

"Hopefully, this hīkoi made it a little easier for someone to speak up."

If you or someone you know is struggling, free support is available:

Need to talk? Free call or text 1737 to talk to a trained counsellor, 24 hours a day.

Lifeline: 0800 543 354 or text 4357

Youthline: 0800 376 633, free text 234 or email talk@youthline.co.nz

Samaritans: 0800 726 666

Depression Helpline: 0800 111 757 or text 4202



LEONI: 'TIME FOR CHANGE'

Kerrin Leoni has promised to be an Auckland mayor who will care for all communities.

At a packed event in Manukau, Leoni told supporters she will be running a grassroots campaign in the upcoming supercity mayoral elections focused on delivering better outcomes for Auckland.

Leoni (pictured with Kharag Singh and Labour MP Anae Neru Leavasa) says now is the "time for change" to the city's

leadership.

"We need a mayor who will actually pay attention to South Auckland. And I'd love to see a Polynesian tourism centre to showcase our culture and give our young people jobs."

She also pledged to ensure there's more affordable housing in the region and better jobs for youth.

"We should be more supportive of our young people, so they can work their way out of poverty."

IA MALU LOU SĀ. FOLAU I LAGIMĀ

‘A WELL-GROUNDED SELF, IS A SUCCESSFUL SELF’



REFLECTION ON SAMOAN LANGUAGE WEEK

O le lagona o le fa'agae'etia ma le fiafia aua o nei atunu'u e to'atele tamaiti Samoa ae faigata ona iloa po'o ai o se tama po'o se teine Samoa. Ae ua avea le Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa ma se avanoa e fa'aali ai le lotonu'u ma le mitamita I tu ma aga fa'asamoa ua fa'alia i le la'eiiina o ofu Samoa, auai I le polokalame sa fa'atinoina ai siva ma pese fa'aleaganu'u fa'apea tautalaga I lo tatou Gagana.

O siva ma Pese, pese fatu ma le tele o fa'afiafiaga fa'asamoa sa mafai ona momoli mai ai se feau i tagata aemaise tamaiti aoga. Sa fa'aailoa mai ai tu ma aga, aganuu ma agaifanua a Samoa. Ae le gata i lea, o tautalaga a tamaiti laititi i totonu o le Laumua. Sa ou fa'alogoina le tele o feau momoli e tusa ma tautalaga a nai fanau e fa'atauta lea i le autu poo le manulauti o le Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa o lenei tausaga e fa'apea: IA MALU LOU SA, FOLAU I LAGIMA. E tele feau momoli mai aua le tapasaina ai o tagata Samoa o loo nonofo ma aumau i Aotearoa nei, fa'apea tupulaga lalovaoa o Samoa o loo feola ma tuputupu a'e. Sa ou maua fo'i le avanoa ou te fa'asoa ma taumafai ou te tautala i le Autu o le Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa I le fa'atasiga o le matou

a'oga. E leí faigofie ae sa lagona lava le agaga o le fiafia i le amanaiaina o se fa'atauva'a, ae o le mea sili ua ou maua se avanoa ou te fa'asoa ai i le autu o se vaega taua tele ia te a'u ma o se pinefa'amau fo'i ia te a'u ma lo'u ola tuputupua'e i so'u fa'atinoina o ni tulaga fa'apea, e taua tele ia te au aua o la'u aganuu ma la'u agaifanua e matua maua luga i lo'u ola a'oa'oina:

**“...BEING
CONNECTED TO
THE CORE OF WHO I
AM AS A TAMA'ITA'I
SAMOA WILL ALWAYS
LEAD ME TO THE
MOST SUCCESSFUL
VERSION OF
MYSELF...”**

Theme: “A well-grounded self is a successful self”

When I first heard this theme, I thought about what it really means to be grounded. For me, it is about knowing who I am. It is about being connected to my family, my culture, my language, and my values. Growing up in a Samoan family, we are always

reminded to respect others, serve with a good heart, and to do everything with humility. These are values that have shaped who I am, and I know they will help me in the future, no matter where I go, what I may achieve, being connected to the core of who I am as a tama'ita'i Samoa will always lead me to the most successful version of myself that serves to benefit my aiga, nu'u ma le ekalesia.

“Ia malu lou sā. Folau i Lagima,” which means, *when your sacred space is protected, your journey to greatness will be peaceful.*

That sacred space can be anything: your culture, your identity, your family, or even just knowing what you stand for. If we protect that, if we stay true to who we are, then we're already on the path to success. Being grounded doesn't mean being stuck, it means having strong roots so we can grow even taller. So this week, as we celebrate the beauty of our language and culture, let's remember to carry those things with us not just this week, but every day. Because the stronger our foundation, the stronger our future.

Soifua ma ia Manuia!
Nora Siaosi Tiavaasue
Vasega 13 Gagana Samoa
Southern Cross Campus

MATARIKI *Community* HIGHLIGHTS



Photo: Smoke

Rangatahi from Aorere College and Te Rōpū o Māngere performing at the Love Your Maunga Matariki Event at Māngere Mountain.



Photo: Smoke

Chefs preparing hangi for distribution for the Love Your Maunga Matariki Hangi Fundraiser.



Cookies for sale at the Matariki Youth Festival.



Riyanshi, Riyan and Riyanka selling hand-made jewellery.



Iloa Tu'ineau with the hangi he helped to prepare for the Matariki Mā Puanga Festival.



Matariki Mā Puanga Festival: Hangi with Rata (left) and the crew from Etū Rākau at the Māngere Envirohub, Elmdon St.



De La Salle College Young Enterprise Students promoting their product Mana Mist Airfreshners at the Matariki Youth Festival at the Māngere East Library. Follow on IG @manamist_



Ti rākau being played at the Matariki Youth Festival at the Māngere East Library.



Family on the Matariki Lantern Walk, Ambury Farm



Looking for the Matariki star cluster at the Triple Teez early morning bike ride to the Ako Ako stone in Māngere East (above right). Free Matariki Art made by Alan Worman for the Matariki Bike Ride event (above left).



Friends of the Farm volunteers for the Matariki Lantern Walk



Tamariki at the Māngere East Matariki Hangi in the Metro Theatre. Siva Afi dancing performed by Emi Ilinganoa-Prichard (right)



Correction: In the April 2025 edition, page 5, we incorrectly captioned the above photo Cook Islands Mamas. It should have read Niuean Mamas. We apologise to our readers.

GARDEN TO TABLE: MĀNGERE EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Māngere East School are one of many Garden to Table schools in Tāmaki Makaurau who run a programme teaching and providing the environment for tamariki to grow, harvest, prepare and share nutritious kai.

During Samoan Language Week the cooking group made Suafa'i - coconut sago pudding whilst the garden group were busy weeding and collecting "greens & browns" for the compost bins. The class came back together to share their experiences with one another and to share the kai the kitchen group had made.



Māngere East School run Garden to Table sessions with classes Monday to Friday. If you would like to volunteer please get in contact with the Principal Stephanie Anich - to principal@meps.school.nz. You don't have to be an expert in the kitchen or garden, they have a Kitchen and Garden Specialist, having volunteers enriches the experience for tamariki and provides valuable community connections.

PAPATŪĀNUKU KŌKIRI MARAE SHARES WELLBEING RESEARCH ON WORLD STAGE

Valerie Teraitua-Hotene - Kaiwhakahaere Matua, from Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae, recently returned from Adelaide where she and her team presented groundbreaking Māori mental health research at the Lowitja 4th Indigenous Health & Wellbeing Conference.

Held on Kauria Country in South Australia, the international gathering brought together Indigenous leaders, youth, researchers and health practitioners from around the world. Valerie was joined by Metiana Morehu (Research Assistant and Kaimahi at the marae) and Denise Neumann (Research Fellow at Waipapa Taumata Rau – University of Auckland and volunteer at the marae).

Their presentation, *Whakaoratia te hinengaro* – a Māori community-led research journey towards a novel culturally grounded mental wellbeing measures, highlighted the marae's work developing a mental wellbeing tool firmly grounded in Māori values. The project responds directly to the needs voiced by their



L-R: Denise Neumann, Metiana Morehu & Valerie Teraitua-Hotene

community, using approaches based on mātauranga Māori, tikanga and whakawhanaungatanga.

"We were honoured to share our journey and received overwhelmingly positive feedback," says Valerie. "People really endorsed our strength-based, community-led approach and appreciated how we wove tikanga Māori and storytelling into our

presentation."

The conference also offered a rich opportunity to learn from Indigenous communities globally. "It was incredible seeing how Indigenous youth are leading and co-designing wellbeing solutions, backed by elders, whānau and community," Valerie says. "Local Indigenous practices were beautifully interwoven throughout."

For Valerie and her team, the experience reinforced the importance of maintaining cultural identity while building international Indigenous networks.

Next, the marae continues its research journey with Kia Puāwai, a project placing Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae's community at its centre. "It's about creating Māori-led, marae-based wellbeing pathways that honour whakapapa, nurture resilience and empower future leaders — where healing is cultural, the environment is central, and whānau are uplifted in mind, body and spirit," says Valerie. "We've come back reminded to be **strong, fearless and together.**"

GINA OPARA TAKES THE HELM AS NEW PRESIDENT OF MĀNGERE ROTARY CLUB



Gina Opara, new Rotary President

The Rotary Club of Māngere celebrated its annual Changeover on 24 June at the Holiday Inn, marking the formal handover of leadership for the coming Rotary year.

Outgoing President Satya Samy reflected on the club's achievements over the past year before passing the chain of office to incoming President Gina Opara.

In her address, Gina shared her aspirations for her term, highlighting fresh goals and initiatives to continue Rotary's mission of service. This yearly Changeover is a hallmark of Rotary, ensuring the club's direction is regularly renewed.

A special feature of the evening was the strong show of support for

Gina from her family and friends. Also in attendance was a Rotarian from the Rotary Club of Apia — the very club that originally sponsored Gina into Rotary.

The night was not only about formalities. Guests enjoyed a fun game and a lively dance performance by Gina's niece, adding warmth and celebration to the occasion.

The club extended its gratitude to the Holiday Inn for providing an excellent venue and superb hospitality, helping make the evening a memorable start to Gina's presidency.

Head to the Māngere Rotary Facebook page for more info: facebook.com/MangereRotary



ATAAHUA MĀMA

EMPOWERING PLAY RESTORES MANA TO YOUNG MUMS



The crew of Ataahua Māma performing at the Māngere Arts Centre



L-R: Gwyneth Coleman, Shilpa Wilson & Daisy Patterson

A powerful new production called *Ataahua Māma* recently took the stage at the Māngere Arts Centre, brought to life by a group of young women from *Diamonds in the Rough*.

The show was more than a performance—it was a heartfelt celebration of mothers, a courageous confronting of generational pain, and a step towards healing for performers and audience alike.

At the heart of this kaupapa is *Diamonds in the Rough*, founded by Shilpa Wilson. The organisation works with young women to help them heal, grow, and rewrite their stories.

Speaking about the vision behind *Ataahua Māma*, Shilpa said there were two driving purposes. “The first was to celebrate our mums, to give them a space to walk in confidence and own who they are, without shame, embracing all of themselves,” she said.

The second aim was to spark conversations many shy away from. “We wanted the community to come together and actually face some of the hard issues that nobody wants to talk about because it’s painful. So we did it in a way where there were performances, plays, and speeches—light-hearted and heavy at the same time—so people could digest it. A big part of this is being advocates and pioneers of breaking generational cycles.”

For the young women involved, performing in *Ataahua Māma* wasn’t

just theatre—it was deeply personal.

Daisy Patterson shared that her role helped her confront her own past. “It was actually helping me process some of the things I went through in my early 20s—getting pregnant to someone who was abusive in every way. At the end, choosing myself and a better future for my kids. It was hard and I felt vulnerable, but it was good. It gave me a chance to process it.”

Gwyneth Coleman drew from her writing, including a chapter of her book inspired by letters she penned to those who hurt her.

**"YOUR PAST
DOESN'T
DEFINE WHO
YOU ARE.
YOU HAVE A
PURPOSE."**

“When I was able to say it on stage, it was powerful. I imagined saying it to their faces. I was owning it. Before I was nervous and didn’t let my emotions show, but this time I was naked again—in front of everyone—and it was good. It shook my core.”

Looking ahead, *Diamonds in the Rough* hopes their message reaches other young women who may feel

stuck or alone.

Shilpa offered a reminder of hope: “It doesn’t matter what you’ve been through or where you come from. You can heal and you can change your life and others’ lives too. If your heart is beating, you have a purpose. And if you’re stuck, message us—we’ll do our best to help.”

For Daisy, her encouragement is simple and profound: “Choose yourself. Know your worth more, especially if you’re in an abusive situation. Find love for yourself.” Gwyneth added her own wisdom: “Your past doesn’t define who you are. You have a purpose. Choose yourself, choose your children. And if you have someone constant in your life who keeps showing up—even in your mess—let them. Build your own village, your own family. Water is thicker than blood.” She also spoke of learning that while unhealthy relationships wound us, it’s healthy connections that can help us heal.

“There are amazing people out there who will love you and your children. Healthy love rebuilds what was torn.”

Through *Ataahua Māma*, *Diamonds in the Rough* have shown how art can be a vessel for healing, empowerment, and change—inviting others to break cycles, find hope, and know they are never alone.

To get in touch with *Diamonds in the Rough* head to:
diamondsintherough.org.nz
Or call/text Shilpa - 022 685 7251

MĀNGERE ARTS CENTRE

CORNER OF BADER DRIVE & ORLY AVE | IG - @MANGEREARTSCENTRE

MANAMEA - Season 3

IT'S BACK!

Season 3 of MANAMEA - the most popular Sau e Siva Creatives story yet - returns to where it all began: the mighty Māngere Arts Centre. Mark your calendars: 18 – 26 July. Expect the heartbreak, the joy, the boldness and brilliance of colour and culture you would expect from Sau e Siva Creatives as Manamea storms back onto the stage with fresh energy, familiar faces, and that unmistakable Southside spirit. This season is for our Australian fans - as Sau e Siva sets its sights on taking Manamea across the ditch! We're raising funds to take this

beloved story beyond our Kiwi borders, and every ticket helps make it happen. So – if you haven't bought a ticket yet – why not!?

Don't miss the show that had the whole community talking. Visit [Eventfinda.co.nz](https://www.eventfinda.co.nz) - and go to **Manamea Season 3**. Follow @sau_e_siva_creatives on Instagram to stay updated.



The Sau e Siva Creatives



TAIMWANUOKAI: Forget Me Not

Kaetaeta Watson & Louisa Humphry MNZM
19 July - 23 August 2025

Taimwanuokai: Forget Me Not highlights over a century of Kiribati knowledge, skills and artistry by master makers Kaetaeta Watson and Louisa Humphry MNZM. They chose the name Taimwanuokai because "It speaks to the things that we've done

and what we're capable of doing. Where our treasures in this exhibition are saying - don't forget us, don't forget our knowledge and practice of making and doing, carry on. It also relates to us as a people and carries messages of - don't forget who you are, and don't forget where you come from." The exhibition runs until 23 August.



ADULLUM ART EXHIBITION

Adullum Art Exhibition opened on Saturday, 5 July on our community walls. These are the white walls that you would see in and around the foyer areas when you come into the arts centre.

They are geared towards our local artists/groups that may not be suitable for the main galleries, or just emerging/developing artists that want a simple public space to exhibit. Adullum Art is a 10-week series of carving workshops held at the Whāre Koa Community House. This

exhibition is their second one for the year. With people from all walks of life, this group create a home away from home where they discover more about themselves as they "create"- and by the end of the 10-weeks, they have become a close-knit family. As their tutor Sio Laumatia says, "The exhibition is their final assessment!". This exhibition runs for the whole month of July.



'IT'S OUR TAIME'

PACIFIC CANCER SUPPORT GROUP GETS NATIONAL BACKING

A grassroots organisation born from personal pain and cultural purpose is gaining national recognition for its unique approach to supporting Pacific people affected by cancer.

Taime Pasifika Cancer Support, based in Māngere, was established in July 2023 by Elizabeth Fa'alili and husband David, after they both overcame their own diagnosis with cancer. Through their respective treatments, they also saw the very real gap in culturally safe support services for Pacific communities.

"Our family's journey with cancer began in 2011 when my husband David was diagnosed with testicular cancer. A decade later, I received my own diagnosis—stage 3 breast cancer," she explains. "Through our treatments, we accessed various services, but they didn't reflect our Pacific values—our faith, our languages, our way of showing care, or the importance of extended family."

Determined to create a space that honoured these values, she launched Taime Pasifika Cancer Support. "Taime" is the Cook Islands word for time—a poignant word for anyone facing a life-threatening illness.

The organisation offers emotional, practical, and cultural support to Pasifika cancer patients and their families, with a focus on community, connection, and compassion.

"As the founder and CEO, I welcome each new member into the our Taime family. I sit with them, listen to their stories, and help identify needs—whether it's understanding medical jargon, accessing services, or



just having someone who gets it."

In July 2024, Taime was invited to join the newly established Pacific Cancer Working Group—a collective of major health sector organisations including the Cancer Society, Te Whatu Ora, and Te Aho o te Kahu. Despite being the smallest and only grassroots organisation at the table, Taime's presence quickly gained respect.

"The Cancer Society began to see the depth of our work and the heart behind it. They saw how we meet families where they are—emotionally, culturally, spiritually—and how we wrap support around them in ways that feel safe and familiar."

That recognition has now developed into a formal partnership. While Taime has operated without government funding—relying solely on fundraising, donations, and volunteer hours—the new collaboration brings both visibility and financial support.

"This partnership gives us

affirmation. It tells us we're on the right path," she says. "It also allows us to keep our services free for those who need them most. With the cost of living rising, people battling cancer shouldn't also have to worry about how to get help."

Local community organisations in South Auckland, such as Moana Connect, Bader Drive Community Trust, and CIDANZ, have been early supporters. But with growing demand, Taime hopes to expand nationally.

"We want to take our in-person monthly event It's Our Taime around the motu. Our people are everywhere—from Waikato to Wellington—and they all deserve culturally grounded cancer care."

As the organisation enters its second year, the goal is clear: to ensure that no Pasifika person in Aotearoa faces cancer alone.

For more information or to support their work, visit www.taime.co.nz. Or come along to their monthly meetings if you're needing support.

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

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

FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS SHINE IN MOTH PLANT COMPETITION



Ngā Iwi School winners



Jass MP Extractors



Kingsford Primary School



Māngere Bridge Playcentre

The annual Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Moth Plant Competition has wrapped up with outstanding results, with local teams collectively removing a massive 168,925 moth plant pods and seedlings from the community.

The prizegiving, held at Ngā Iwi School, was a celebration of this collective mahi, recognising the many hands that worked tirelessly to tackle one of the region's most destructive pest plants.

Sharleen McClay, Pest Free South Auckland Coordinator, was thrilled by the turnout and results. "The competition was an absolute success this year with the teams gathering an incredible 168,925 pods and seedlings! One really surprising thing was the number of families involved — I've had parents tell me how much their children enjoyed it and that moth podding has become their new Sunday family outing."

Leading the charge was the overall winner for Māngere-Ōtāhuhu, the JASS MP Extractors, a dedicated

collective of volunteers from the Māngere Bridge area rallied by Andrew Richardson. They pulled in a phenomenal 12,176 pods. "It's an amazing achievement and really shows the power of community when people get behind a cause," McClay said.

The competition also saw strong efforts from local schools. Ngā Iwi School took first place in the Open Category with an impressive 5,257 pods collected. Kingsford Primary (1,624) and Zayed College for Girls (1,116) both received special mentions for their hard work in this category.

In the Team of Ten category, Waterlea Primary came out on top with 5,477 pods, followed by Havea Whānau with 3,700 — another fantastic effort, showing families and friends teaming up to make a difference.

Even the youngest members of the community got stuck in. In the ECE Māngere-Ōtāhuhu category,

Māngere Bridge Playcentre gathered a remarkable 1,336 pods, showing that caring for the environment starts early.

Throughout the competition, families reported that moth pod hunting had become a fun weekly activity, getting kids outdoors and learning about pests while spending quality time together.

"It's been really heartwarming hearing parents say how much their children look forward to it," McClay said.

The Moth Plant Competition is more than just a numbers game. It plays a crucial role in reducing the spread of moth plant, an invasive vine that strangles native vegetation and takes over gardens and reserves. Events like these highlight how communities can work together to restore and protect local biodiversity, all while having fun.

"It's incredible to see people of all ages getting involved," McClay added. "Together we're making a real difference for the future of our environment."

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



Manukau United FC U15 Girls.



Manukau City AFC Rockets U10s.



Manukau Rugby League Senior Club Day: All our Senior teams & our U13 Junior Hammer got to play at home. With such a successful day having 3 out of 5 teams secure the win, 1 team drew and 1 going down in a tight loss.



Glory Aiono, Ana Mamea, Lulu Leuta and Ti Tauasoi from the Manukau Rovers at the trials for the Samoan Woman's Rugby team, for the Rugby World Cup.



Great win for the Hawks Premiers recently (above) and the Hawks Premier Reserves (below), both home games.

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

Twosevenfive clothing store

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

Custom Designz Workshop

Pacifica 21st keys and decor
customdesignzworkshop@gmail.com
Ph: 020 4889 258
IG: @customdesignzworkshop

275 Kai

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

Marlina's Cookies

Freshly baked gourmet cookies
Located at Nesian Collective,
Mangere Town centre or contact
IG: @marlinascookies

Glorious Inc.

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

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_treexperts

Sancy Prabhakar

Singer/Songwriter/Rapper/Artist
sancyprabhakar@gmail.com
Ph: 02040940365
IG/FB @sancyprabhakar

Facade by Sade LTD

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

Aunty Enahs Hangis

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

Takoha Ora Barbers

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

Mark Swords Electrical

Fully registered Master Electricians
Ph: 027 275 0097
Ph: 09 636 2222
Email: mse.ltd@gmail.com
<https://mseltd.co.nz>

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

Kreative Kuki

Pasifika Inspired Accessories
Located at Nesian Collective,
Māngere Town Centre
KreativeKukiKollective@gmail.com
IG/FB: Kreative Kuki

Nesian Collective

One stop Pasifika retail ahop
Māngere Town Centre
Email: pelebabies@gmail.com
IG/FB @nesiancollective

Anela's Kitchen

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

MANGERE 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

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.

LOCAL BODY ELECTIONS:

INFORMATION & ENROLMENT EVENT

Māngere East Community Centre
Friday 25 July, 5.45pm-8pm
RSVP - britney.west21@gmail.com
Zeprina Fale - 021 722 293.

FREE SOFTBALL SKILLS CLINIC

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

NGA MANGA O MĀNGERE

Bi-monthly community network meeting. Thursday 31 July, 10am-12pm. Māngere Law Centre. Email harry.toleafoa@mangereelaw.org.nz for more information.

DE LA SALLE SHOWCASE

Thur 7 Aug, 6pm. Māngere Arts Centre. Tickets available on eventfinda.co.nz
A celebration of creativity, culture and community.

MĀNGERE ARTS CENTRE

Exhibition Proposal Drop-in sessions. Get help with your 2026 exhibition proposals.
Thursday 10 July - Online 6-7pm
Thursday 17 July - 12pm-1pm
Thursday 24 July - Online 6-7pm
Email: mangereartscentre@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz to book.

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

HE MANA TŌ TE KAI

FREE wānanga exploring the power of kai (food) and its deep connection to Ngāa Hau Maangere. 23rd and 30th July | 10am - 2pm

MAARA KAI ORA PROGRAMME

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

Term 3 starts July 24, register now.

LIVING RESOURCEFULLY PROGRAMME

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

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 20 Aug 2025 : 1.30-2.15pm.

FRIENDS OF THE FARM

Community Orchard Working Bee

Sat 2nd Aug, 2-4pm.
Friends of the Farm Community Orchard behind 84 Wallace Rd, Māngere Bridge.

Sewing Bee at Ambury Barn

Sat 9th Aug, 2-4pm.
If you're skilled with a needle or want to learn to sew and would like to join some like-minded buddies, come along to Friends of the Farm's next sewing bee in the barn.

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), SILENT SKIES Wool Innovation Workshops with Liz Mitchell 12pm - 3pm

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)

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

Māngere Bike Fit

Waddon Place, Māngere
www.facebook.com/tripleteez

Turuki Healthcare

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

HOUSING SUPPORT

Pacific Healthy Homes Initiative

(Support e.g. curtains, heating, ventilation,
insulation, education, or minor repairs)

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 Māngere

027 348 9454 | www.iamhapori.co.nz
connect@iamhapori.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 Pacifika 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@barnardos.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

For people directly affected by crime
and traumatic events
0800 VICTIM – 0800 842 846
contactservice@victimsupport.org.nz