HORQUHENUA STOR Ngā kōrero o Horouhenua

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Long-time doc retires

By Paul Williams

A Levin doctor who helped birth a generation of babies – and their babies – is hanging up his stethoscope.

Andy van de Vyver delivered more than 3500 babies and helped 16 of those babies when they returned to have children of their own.

"There was only Grant Irving [a former longserving Levin GP] and myself delivering babies in those days," he says.

Andy came to Levin from South Africa late in 1986, having previously studied and qualified as a doctor there. He had met his future wife, Niki, and "fell in love" while in Europe in 1983. They married a year later, immigrating to New Zealand with their eldest daughter in tow.

There weren't many spaces available for doctors at the time – a far cry from the situation today when there is a dearth of GPs in New Zealand. With just two positions advertised, one in Tauranga, he successfully applied for the other available spot going, at Tararua Medical Centre in Levin.

Andy has practised in Levin ever since, moving to Masonic Medical Centre in Queen Street East, which he co-founded in 2007.

He doesn't deliver many babies these days though. In the early 1990s, New Zealand underwent significant reforms in maternity care, particularly with the Nurses Amendment Act 1990, which allowed midwives to practise autonomously without requiring medical supervision from doctors.

It's just one of many changes to the health sector he has seen during his career. Without

wanting to get political, one constant is that funding never filters down to result in better working conditions for those at the coalface.

"I've been fortunate to work with good people. We've never had much in the way of staff

turnover," he says. With the prevalence of locum doctors, his like are now a rarity in having served their communities long-term in one area, which is proven to result in better overall health outcomes for patients.

"When you see patients consistently you know what happened two, five, 10, years ago, and they don't have to reiterate that all the time," he says.

Andy was also the police doctor for many years, assisting with homicides, sudden deaths, and taking blood to test for alcohol in cases of suspected drink driving.

Today is officially his last day. With his 70th birthday fast approaching he is looking forward to finding more time for bike-riding, skiing and visiting friends, and of course family, children Amanda, Lance and Eloise. *continues page 2*



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HOROWHENUA Ngā kōrero o lorowhenua EDITOR **DESIGN** by ID Media Paul Williams For editorial enquiries or news tips, **Online:** call Paul on 027 250 4865 or editor@horowhenuastar.com **ISSUE 25:** SENIOR REPORTER (print) Janine Baalbergen (online) 027 801 9545 Next copy and janine@horowhenuastar.com July 22. **ADVERTISING** SALES **Publication:** Pip Hakaraia 027 809 4201 sales@horowhenuastar.com GENERAL MANAGER Debbi Carson. 027 285 4720 Ōtaki debbi@idmedia.co.nz MANAGING EDITOR lan Carson Association 027 2411 090

PRINTED by Beacon Print, Whakatāne.

horowhenuastar.com

ISSN: 3021-3630 **ISSN 3021-3649**

advertising deadine: Tuesday 5pm,

Friday, July 25. Delivery: If you don't receive your copy of Horowhenua Star, please text or call 027 2411 090.

The Star is published by ID Media Ltd 13 Te Manuao Road

The Horowhenua Star is a member of the NZ **Community Newspapers**

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Long-time doc retires

from front page

"I've had a very understanding family. Sometimes you miss some of those achievements, or sports games," he says.

He says trust, integrity and patient privacy is essential in general practice and he is proud of having built and maintained that trust.

"It's never easy to give someone bad news, and unfortunately there was a lot of that over the years, but it is just part and parcel of the job you have to do," he says.

He's been humbled by the "very nice" comments from patients, thanking him and wishing him well.

"It's very hard to leave. It's certainly not easy. I was going to leave a year or two ago," he says.

"It's certainly a very rewarding career. I wouldn't change it for anything." Experienced general

practitioner Dr Yuan-Xiang Meng from Georgia, USA, is his replacement at Masonic Health Centre. Nurse practitioner Carol George also joined the team this month.

What's on **AROUND HOROWHENUA**

ARMIES OF THE PERSIAN EMPIRE

WARGAMES Saturday and Sunday 19-20 July, 9am-4pm, Hudson **Room at Levin** Cosmopolitan Club.

See story page 16.

ROLLING STONES TRIBUTE BAND: WILD HORSES The Globe Theatre in Palmerston

North tonight (July 18). Wild Horses, formed in Wellington in 2021, is made up of experienced musicians led by charismatic Robbie Mulligan as Mick Jagger, Matt Fitzpatrick (guitar), Callum Worsley (guitar and backing vocals), Cam Crawford (piano, hammond, EP and backing vocals), Callum Black (bass) and Leith Hazlitt-Black (drums). They play legendary tracks like Gimme Shelter, Paint It Black, Honky Tonk Women, Angie, Miss You, Jumpin' Jack Flash, Wild Horses and Satisfaction. globetheatre.co.nz

FRIDAY CONCERTS

Friday July 18 and 25, 12-1pm Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō10 Bath St. Levin

Free live music every Friday lunchtime. The Horowhenua boasts a plethora

of seasoned musicians with musical stylings across a diverse range of genres. **BELIEVE IT OR NOT QUIZ** Wednesday July 22, 7-9pm

Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-po Assemble your crew of up to six people and test your trivia knowledge. Tables available from 6.30pm. Register on the night. \$5 per person. Snacks and soft drinks available for purchase.

DRACULA'S

Regent on Broadway, Palmerston North

The touring cabaret show Draculas has added extra Palmerston North shows this weekend following demand for tickets. The iconic Australian vaudevillian show is on a tour of New Zealand, opening at Regent on Broadway last night, with another show tonight, and two more shows now set down for tomorrow. Draculas: Sanctuary is part cabaret, comedy and chaos with musical tributes to bands like Guns N' Roses, Elton John and No Doubt. Spawned by the Melbourne show in Drewery Lane, the 2021 tour of New Zealand sold out. Tickets and more information at draculas.co.nz

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Bus tragedy of 1965 remembered

By Anita Nalder

It was a tragedy that sent Levin into mourning 60 years ago.

Now, a memorial tree has been planted to commemorate the six women who died in a horrific bus accident on July 16, 1965. A memorial service will be at Thompson House gardens on Sunday, July 27.

The last remaining survivor, Avis Barrie, will be at the service along with her husband. Avis was pregnant at the time of the accident. Their baby daughter Sandra survived the crash, too.

Five women died on the day of the crash; Sadie Day, Valmai Farrell, Marjorie Netten, Fransesca Romans, and Eunice Sorenson. Bessie Weggery died a week later having never regained consciousness.

The women were avid gardeners, friends, and members of the Horowhenua Floral Art and Gardening Club. There were 29 members of the club on the chartered bus that Friday morning to visit a floral exhibit in Hunterville. One woman had made a lastminute decision to join the group, accepting a friend's seat when she was unable to go.

The brakes failed as the bus descended a hill at Rata, north of Marton. Bus driver Ian Taylor tried to change down gears to slow the engine, but the gears didn't reengage, and he tried to apply the handbrake.

Passenger Irene Dallenger is said to have called to the others "don't panic" as the bus approached a sharp bend at the bottom of the hill. Ian tried to keep the bus upright, steering onto a side road, but the uneven and wet surface offered no respite and the bus rolled down a 9m bank and collided with a stand of trees.

The wooden upper half of the bus was shredded from the metal base and chassis. Passengers were hurled from their seats and strewn across the ground. Others were pinned by a tree that had toppled and fallen across them.

One survivor, Betty Bruce, clambered up the bank, collecting someone's knitting on her way, and flagged down a motorist. The local service station owner was first on the scene with his truck and two-way radio to call emergency services. A passing Ministry of Works crew helped lift the tree off the women trapped beneath it.

Ambulances arrived from Marton, Palmerston North and Whanganui as doctors and nurses from throughout the region were called in to help. A triage station was set up at the Club Hotel in Marton. Blankets, soup and tea were handed around as the women's injuries were assessed.

The most serious casualties, including the driver, were taken to a dedicated ward at Whanganui Hospital. Those in a more stable condition were taken to Palmerston North.

Family and friends endured hours of not knowing who was hurt, who had died, or where their loved ones had been taken. Only nine of the passengers were treated and discharged quickly, and even they suffered cuts and fractures.

The women were members of a social club that served a crucial role in Levin in 1965. The Horowhenua Floral Art and Gardening Club had 300 members at a time when many women did not have employment outside the home.

"I remember the friendship, the fun and the excitement of doing things together, being part of a group of wonderful people." Irene Dallenger said.

During the combined funeral for three of the victims, Levin stores and businesses closed their doors. Shopkeepers and members of the public stood along Oxford Street and a policeman on point duty stopped traffic for the hearses. An estimated 1000 people attended the funeral at St Mary's Anglican Church.

Both Avis and her daughter, Sandra, were at the planting of the first memorial tree in 2015. Sadly, the tree didn't thrive.

Now, the women will be remembered with a crabapple tree, "Plena", a variety chosen for its beautiful colours – soft-pink blossom in spring and orange-red foliage in autumn. It will be presented to the community by celebrant Jo Mason with Mayor Bernie Wanden at 2pm on Sunday, July 27.

The tree will be cared for by Horowhenua District Council and the Thompson Memorial Cultural Centre who continue to value the connection between people, art, flowers and gardens. A display detailing the Horowhenua Floral Art and Garden Club will be on show July 26-27 at the Thompson Memorial Cultural Centre. The Horowhenua Art Society and Pottery Club will also be open to the public.



An estimated 1000 mourners attended the service at St Mary's Anglican Church for three victims of the bus crash in 1965.

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Medal haul for brass band

By Paul Williams

The Levin and Districts Brass Band has come away from a national Festival Of Brass competition in Christchurch with a massive medal hall.

The band had seven first placings, five second placings and was crowned Champion C Grade Brass Band of New Zealand. It's now tipped to enter B-Grade next year for the first time in its 125-year history.

Levin and Districts Brass president Chris Craddock says it's an outstanding result of which the band and its travelling party of 44 members and supporters is extremely proud.

The competition was the largest national brass band contest held in 30 years, with 37 bands competing, including five from Australia. Levin won the Lloyd Edwin Thorne QSM

Cup against 11 other bands in C grade. It also won the Tom Taylor Memorial Shield, a trophy it had donated 25 years ago in honour of long time band conductor Tom Taylor QSM. It's the first time in 25 years that Levin has won the shield.

The band placed second in both the Sacred Item and the Set Test piece before winning the Own Choice Selection, scoring 97 out of 100..

Band musical director David Maas won the most prestigious solo event of the contest, the Invitation Slow Melody, competing against New Zealand's elite brass musicians. It's the fourth time the supremely gifted musician and musical director has won the event. He also won the RNZAF Wigram Trophy as conductor of the Champion C Grade Band, a trophy originally donated by long-time member of Levin and Districts Brass, Myron (Blue) Caldwell, on behalf of RNZAF Wigram.

Chris says David is an inspirational leader,

and being a piano tuner by trade meant he had an incredibly learned ear.

"He has inspired us and has us playing so well together – and in tune," he says.

On the first day the band also won the small ensemble (for 3-5 players) and the large ensemble (6-12 players).

There were two second placings that day, too - the duet of horn players Kirstine White and Andrew Aitken in the section 2 Duet, and cornet player David Miller in the Masters' Solo for age group 75-84 years.

The band had a pre-contest warm-up at Speldhurst Country Estate less than a week before leaving for Christchurch.

The 2026 event will be held in Wellington in April.



Catriona seeks council role

Catriona Finau McKay, a former chief executive of The Horowhenua Company Ltd, says she is standing as a candidate in the Levin Ward for council elections in October.

A commercial lawyer and business consultant, Catriona and her family moved to Levin from Wellington in 2016. She spent four years with THCL before leaving in January this year to concentrate on



post-graduate studies at Victoria University. Catriona, 58, has a background in regional economic development and a passion for the Horowhenua district.

"We are a district facing growth, which is both exciting and challenging," she says. "To ensure that our growth is positive, we need a diverse and resilient community.

"This includes our businesses being able to create good jobs for our people, our young people seeing a future for themselves and their families in the district."

She says her career has been built on service – from corporate and commercial law to senior public sector roles in strategic programme leadership, national operational leadership and regional economic development.

"I believe that service is a privilege and one that requires commitment, respect and energy."





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Focus on FOXTON



Nola seeks stronger voice, not just advice

By Janine Baalbergen

Foxton Beach activist and community board member Nola Fox decided to try for a seat at the council table after long-standing councillor Ross Brannigan decided not to seek re-election.

It's left the door open for her to take a stronger voice to council than she's been able to as a community board member. The board has an advisory role only, which has frustrated her at times.

"The community board can recommend, but we don't make decisions," she says. "I would like to be at the decision-making table, so that's why I am standing for the Kere Kere Ward now that a seat has opened up."

Despite her frustrations, she says being a board member offers opportunities to stay in touch with what's happening locally, as members join plenty of local organisations on behalf of the board.

Nola got a seat at the Foxton Community Board with the most votes at the last local body elections in 2022 - 1176.

She says there are huge opportunities for Foxton to grow in coming years.

"The new expressway will make Foxton and Foxton Beach true destinations and there are opportunities to give that an environmental focus."

Being a community board member had been a huge learning experience.

"Local Government New Zealand has great resources available for new board members and councillors, which has been very helpful."

She believes the relationship between council

and community board has greatly improved over the past few years, although "it could be better".

Nola has been active in the community for years and was a driving force behind the rescue of the War Memorial Hall. She consistently believed the community could create a thriving community space at the old building.

She says that with Foxton and Foxton Beach having only two votes at the council, its

shouldn't stop anyone from getting the most out of the council for the area.

"It's an challenging mix of urban v rural at the council," she says. "What suits Levin may not suit Foxton. I believe in local solutions for local problems."

She says one great concern is getting the general public interested in council politics by participating in consultations. That's one thing she wants to change if elected to council, though suggesting it's "a big challenge".

Nola and her family have lived in Foxton Beach permanently since 2015, but used their property often in the years before that.

"We've been a fixture here for 30 years." Nola is also involved with many local organisations, including as a trustee of the

Foxton Wildlife Trust, trustee of the Manawatū River Estuary Trust, trustee of MAVTech and chair of the Foxton War Memorial Society.





LEFT: Evan Taiaroa guides Grand Prospect to his careerfirst win at Woodville. Photo Race Images Ltd

Winning smile for Evan

Winners are grinners and there were smiles all round when amateur Foxton jockey Evan Taiaroa posted his first career win at Woodville at the weekend.

It came in an amateur riders race aboard Foxton horse Grand Prospect, trained by Sue Walsh. Evan rides the horses every morning in training at the Foxton racecourse.

It has been a patient wait for Evan, who had his first raceday ride in 2006. He's had just 15 rides since then, recording a couple of minor placings before the weekend victory. He now joins his father, Arnold, (two wins) and daughter Temyia (87 wins) as winning jockeys.



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HUATAU/Opinion

KÕRERO MALLA KUKU: DR HUHANA SMITH

Pride of Tukorehe as even more flags fly on our whenua

Whānau of Ngāti Tukorehe have had their temerity and embeddedness in place tested since our Matariki new year celebrations, where so much aroha was expressed at our first marae-based hautapu ceremony.

I am proud of all our key leaders who held this sacred space for us and who promulgate the resounding presence of our iwi within the Horowhenua region.

I am very grateful to how key whānau members responded to the unwelcome activities of person(s) who espoused anti-Māori sentiments and acted deleteriously against our marae – our principal home for all who descend from our eponymous tupuna, Tukorehe. Despite weekend antics under darkness, we have just doubled down to emphasise our Tukorehetanga by flying even more haki (flags) from our Māori land holdings.

When tangata whenua and tangata Tiriti work powerfully together, like when Horizons Regional Council, Forest and Bird, local kaitiaki and the wider community

THE ELECTORATE: TIM COSTLEY, MP

Celebrating our local winners

Congratulations to Cam, Kathryn, and the whole team at Lewis Farms. They won Supporting Gold at the Wellington Gold Awards for services and infrastructure.

Lewis Farms are a great family business who create jobs for so many in our community, and some from overseas. I'm sure



everyone is looking forward to the coming strawberry season. A special mention also to Ōhau Gourmet Mushrooms who were a finalist in the Sustainability Programmes and Products category.

The next thing to celebrate: work on the new O2NL expressway has begun! On Monday Suze Redmayne and I had a fantastic day together in Horowhenua. As part of this we visited the site office on Tararua Road to welcome the team to our region. Most of us have seen the new roundabout on Tararua Road that is part of the project, but with the official start this week site establishment work has commenced. This involves things like building haul roads, clearing vacant homes, constructing reservoirs, vegetation clearance, and fencing work.

As well as meeting the roading team, we also visited Manakau School. I've been working with the school and the Ministry of Education to try and get a pragmatic solution to the new school enrolment zones being established in Levin for our two colleges. The current plan sees Manakau excluded from both, leaving them only the option of Ōtaki for high school.

Ōtaki College is a great school, but for some families, their lives orientate north of Manakau, with parents who work in Levin. This means it is far easier to be part of a Levin school community, and access to colleges here means families can be involved in sports, arts, and other extracurriculars, and students can study and socialise with friends from school.

While the school transport scheme for Manakau will remain for Ōtaki College only, I'm hopeful that we can get one of the Levin college zones extended to the southern boundary of Horowhenua district. As an aside, if my members bill went through, it would legislate this and make these situations far easier for schooling, health care, housing and more.

Also on Monday Suze and I met with seniors in the Vintage Car Clubrooms, checked out the new "Farm Track" at Donnelly Park, wished the Bramleys a happy 70th wedding anniversary, met the team at Carters, visited the Tara Ika development, spent some time in muddy paddocks with Woodhaven Gardens, and called in to Focal Point.

What a day to celebrate.

■ Tim is MP for the Ōtaki electorate



mobilised on July 6 to plant out dune and ephemeral wetlands by coastal Kuku Beach Road carpark, we were somewhat eased from the discomfort we felt.

Last Saturday, Tukorehe whānau members made us duly proud again when presenting three years of creative effort that culminated at Māoriland Hub. Produced by Besty and Mana Productions, *HINA* premiered as a contemporary dance, digital media/filmic and soundscape event, featuring close whānau member Dolina Wehipeihana, and her daughters Tyler and Huia. All were superbly supported by mātauranga Māori/mana wāhine expert/poet Tui Matira Ranapiri (Ngāti Tukorehe and Wehiwehi) and long-term collaborators Lousie Potiki Bryant (film maker) and Paddy Free (musician) as key to the creative team.

HINA was funded by Creative New Zealand and Kāpiti Coast District Council. It was a performance deeply rooted in the powerful story of our Tukorehe-led Te Hākari/Te Hakiri back dune wetland restoration project that since 2002 remains under active revitalisation by Kuku Ōhau estuary within Tahamata Incorporation farm. With an articulate voiceover by Dr Aroha Spinks to strengthen the kaupapa, *HINA* is described as a "bold and moving work that blends dance, film, live performance, community workshops, and kōrerorero".

I and others revelled in the comfort of whānau at the afternoon weaving workshop offered by Briar Moffat, who also hails from the Rowland whānau of Ngāti Tukorehe.

At the evening event, costuming was created by exemplary contemporary Māori artist Rona Ngāhuia Osborne, with lighting and stage management from our Kapumanawawhiti whānaunga Jane and Emily Hakaraia. While it took me some time to get to sleep after such a reverberating visual feast, it was out to the wetland on Sunday morning with the *HINA* creative team, He Whiri Whitau harakeke researchers and kaitiaki from Massey University and other local community members, spurred by desires to assist. We cleared away decaying harakeke leaf matter from beneath our expanding pā harakeke stands, now growing prolifically within the revitalising coastal dune wetland.

The collective power of whānau from Ngāti Tukorehe inspired this creative culmination and also urged returning repo as buffers and carbon sequesters against climate change, while healing fresh waterways and their related peoples up and down the coastline. *HINA* had been spurred by decades of Ngāti Tukorehe environmental action to create an enriching, enabling and transformative experience. Therefore, reverberating that Ngāti Tukorehe will never be diminished by those with impoverished mindsets and destructive intent. *Huhana (Ngāti Tukorehe) lives at Kuku*

TE PATI MÃORI: DEBBIE NGAREWA-PACKER

A declaration of pride, place, peace

Along the highway in Kuku, a line of flags has been flying proudly for months – Tino Rangatiratanga, He Whakaputanga, Toitū Te Tiriti.

They speak to who we are as tangata whenua, as a people grounded in whakapapa, whenua, and generations of resilience.

But recently, those flags were torn down in anger. Left in the mud (*Star*, July 11). A card was found at the scene warning to "stop co-governance" and "fight back against radical Māori". This wasn't just vandalism, it was a denial of identity, it was a rejection of visibility, and a reminder that, sadly, racism still walks freely among us.

And yet, the response has not been retaliation, it has been restoration. Our community will fly more flags, not fewer, because these flags are not weapons. They are taonga, they are declarations of pride, of place, and of peace. When we fly our flags, we're not shutting anyone out. We're standing in who we are as tangata whenua, as Indigenous people, as kaitiaki of this land.

We are proud to be Māori. That pride doesn't diminish anyone

CITIZENS ADVICE: GINNY WILLIAMS



else. It doesn't take anything away. In fact, it's an invitation – to Tangata Tiriti, those who have made Aotearoa home through the promise of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, to stand with us. To walk alongside us. To see te tiriti as a pathway to shared responsibility, dignity, and justice for all.

The flags tell a bigger story. They tell the story of our elders who never gave up. Of

our tamariki who deserve to see their culture celebrated. Of our whānau who know that the road to unity begins with truth, not silence. They also tell the story of a young nation still learning who it is. This is our opportunity to be better, together.

We have a chance to choose a different path. One where Te Tiriti is upheld. One where being Māori is not labelled radical. One where we honour each other not by ignoring our differences, but by respecting them.

So when you see our flags flying at Kuku, or anywhere across this motu, know they are raised in purpose. In hope. In dignity. There for our mokopuna. There for the future of Aotearoa. Debbie is MP for Te Tai Hauāuru

Know your employment contract

When we begin a new job, it is a legal requirement that we are given an employment contract.

This is a contract between an employer and employee that is a record of what has been agreed to about the employment. It's good practice to have any Code of Conduct or Health and Safety booklets and training schedules available for perusal during the interview to sign the agreement.

- There are two types of agreement: • individual agreements, which are negotiated between employer and
- employee, andcollective agreements, negotiated between employer and a union.

Every employee must have a written employment agreement. It's legally binding. If one party doesn't do what they have agreed to, the other party can enforce the agreement through a disputes process and the Employment Relations Authority, if necessary. At any stage, the employee has the right to ask their employer for a copy of their employment agreement and the employer must provide it.



All employment agreements must include certain mandatory clauses:

- the employee's job title
- the names of the employer and employeea description of the employee's duties
- a description of the employee's duries
 what type of employment agreement it is, for example permanent, fixed term, casual
- the location of work
- the employee's hours of work including guaranteed hours of work and availability clauses (if relevant)
- how much pay the employee will receive
 how to resolve any disputes between the employer and the employee
- entitlements relating to public holidays
- what will happen to the employee if another business takes over as their

employer.

A prospective employee may take employment documentation away to consult with a knowledgeable person before signing any paperwork. The employment agreement must also have a space for the employer and employee to sign and date.

Changes, whether small or large, can be done only by agreement with both parties and must be recorded, signed and dated.

If you are an employee and you believe that your employment agreement does not meet the legal requirements, you should first try and discuss this with your employer. If they don't listen to you or refuse to make any changes to your agreement, you have the right to raise a personal grievance on the grounds of disadvantage.

If you'd like more information about employment contracts you can visit the website of Employment NZ or contact one of the team at Citizens Advice Bureau: 06 368 5921 or levin@cab.org.nz

Ginny is chair of Citizens Advice Bureau Levin

Discontent with 'farce' of select committees

There are signs of a growing clamour for reform of the electoral system against a backdrop of select committee hearings being turned into a farce, influencer groups resorting to Trump-like misinformation to get their way, and public weariness with stunts and "click bait" terminology in Parliament itself.

Veteran parliamentary writer Richard Harman is reported to have "pondered the decline of parliamentary committees as a place of serious work", saying they have become platforms

for political protest. A former National Party president, Sue Wood, has said she believes the current political structure has undermined access to

a genuine voice in Parliament. The *New Zealand Herald* reported her last week:

"I'm not sure the extent to which members of political parties, certainly the major parties, are listened to now in the same way. The power is centralised around the respective caucuses and the machines that are funded to support them.

"MMP was the worst they [the public] could have chosen. I'm not saying go back to first past the post at all, but it is not serving us well. I don't believe political parties should have that power over representation. I'm affronted that half the members of Parliament are now not accountable to real people and real electorates. That is not how democracy is meant to work."

A significant catalyst for this latest wave of expressed disenchantment with the manner in which the country's electoral system is working springs from parliamentary consideration of the Regulatory Standards Bill promoted by Act leader David Seymour. The legislation itself seeks to impose more rigid checks on the quality of regulations approved by the



government. It is not shattering of democracy's foundations. Probably at worst it may be a potential time

waster for the public service because provision exists in existing law for most of the checks it calls for. It would, however, tighten

> observance of them – the plus side of the legislation. It is not a legislative ogre, about to defang Māori rights or entrench far right political views as critics have claimed. Nor is it, from a public perspective, a must-have piece of legislation.

It has, however, exposed absurdities in the political system. Use of digital tools for assembling submissions to Parliament means

influencer groups are able to almost overwhelm select committees with a flood of opinions that might in physical circumstances be compared to the floods devastating Marlborough. Nor does much of the content lack hyperbole. It might also at best be termed an opinion; at worst worryingly misleading.

Compounding the careful consideration select committees are supposed to give legislation is the use of social media by influencer groups, and even political parties themselves. Submitters may be videoed and the content streamed online, with commentators giving their opinion/comment on what is happening and what it means.

Through this process, the select committee system becomes little more than theatre and

simply another cog in the ideological battle for voter support. The system no longer represents an appraisal forum for studious consideration of potential laws intended to be an integral part of the administrative fabric of the country.

Use of these techniques came to the fore while the highly significant Treaty of Waitangi Bill promoted by Act worked its way through the parliamentary process to ultimate defeat. But while arguments and counterargument on that measure were strong, and probably suffered a surfeit of exaggeration on all sides, the regulatory measure is for the most part "a yawn" to the casual follower of politics.

As a consequence, it lends itself to greater introspection of processes within the academic and ideological environment without a fear of inflaming society's bottom-line tensions.

Among those who consider Parliament's primary roles are to address national needs, establish frameworks for social cohesion and economic development, and provide services for society, there is concern that the institution is drifting from being a deliberative forum to one perceived to be more circus-like than demanding of thought.

That these concerns co-incide with the

surge of Act, the Greens, and Te Pati Maori as ideological sparks on the left, right and ethnic sides of the political spectrum, is not surprising. Each wants time in the sun to achieve its objectives.

But each had representation in elements of National and Labour prior to MMP, as did NZ First. Their sway varied according to their influence within the once much stronger political parties that National and Labour represented. The extent of it was less dependent on public "noise" and more on back-room persuasion and judicious use of media.

It meant that by the time MPs entered Parliament their approaches were closely aligned with party objectives as spelt out in preelection manifestos and tempered by the needs of the local communities they represented.

Click-bait politicking took second place to accountability to real people in electorates; and to party machines geared to promoting policy within left or right approaches consistent with what electorates were telling MPs they wanted.

 Bruce has been an economics and business editor, and a foreign correspondent in Washington, London and Hong Kong.

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Community Connection

Issue 220 JULY 2025



Message from the CE

Kia ora Horowhenua.

Local Body election season is now upon us – which is why this message is coming from me and not Mayor Bernie.

Monique Davidson

What's important, though, is that our residents get involved in the elections, by voting or even standing as a candidate. One of the wonderful things about local government is that it's local – and that means that you as a resident can have a direct impact on your community.

To vote you need to be on the electoral roll. If you aren't - or you're not sure - visit the Electoral Commission website. You can enrol online right up to 10 October (though any later than 1 August and you won't get your voting papers sent to you in the mail).

The people elected to local councils make decisions about our daily lives and the future of our towns and communities. They set rates, oversee town planning, and make decisions on services such as rubbish collection, parks and libraries.

So if you want to take community service to another level why not consider running for office, as a member of Council or Te Awahou Foxton Community Board?

It's a serious role and not for the faint-hearted – but it offers you the chance to serve your community and shape the district's future.

To learn more about standing in this year's election go to www.horowhenua.govt.nz/stand, where you can also read the 2025 Pre-Election Report. This is a very useful document which sets out who we are as a district as well as Council's recent achievements, the challenges ahead, and a good summary of our financial strategy. You can pick up a hard copy from any Council office.

Nominations close at midday on Friday 1 August. As we say here around the office - Stand for something. Stand for Council.

In a sense some of you have already had a say about how we're performing. Every year, we ask the community to provide feedback on how satisfied they are with the services and facilities that we provide.

This year's resident satisfaction survey makes interesting reading. We asked more than 8,000 of you for your views, and when we crunched the numbers your overall satisfaction rate was 63.26 percent. That's up slightly from last year and is well above the national average, which we are very proud of.

Things you liked included our libraries, kerbside rubbish and recycling, and road maintenance programme.

On the other hand many of you were worried about crime, which accounted for 20 percent of dissatisfied results. There were concerns about water and healthcare, and fewer of you found us easy to do business with than last year.

I'd like to thank everyone who contributed for their time and frankness. And I'd like you to know that we take these surveys seriously and are working hard to address the areas where we can do better. You can find more information about the resident satisfaction survey on our website.

There are also some great opportunities coming up to get involved in community life. Community Grants and Funding applications open on 1 August, and we'll be holding drop-in sessions at our libraries throughout August to help people with their applications. These sessions are a great chance to ask questions, get advice, and feel more confident about applying.

And from 28 July, nominations open for our 2025 Civic Awards and Youth Excellence Awards. These are a chance to recognise the local heroes and young achievers who help make Horowhenua a great place to live.

We'll be sharing more about both these initiatives in the coming weeks, so keep an eye on our website, social media channels, and local newspapers. Ngā mihi,

Monique Davidson

Monique Davidson Chief Executive

In the Works



We're making good progress replacing water mains and sewer pipes along MacArthur Street in Levin. Traffic management continues to keep everything safe and free-flowing.

Work is also going well on Bryce Street in Shannon, where we're replacing sewer pipes and installing a new pump station.

And we've finished replacing 650m of watermain replacement on Margaret Street in Shannon.

Thanks as always to everyone for their patience as we carry out this important work.

Council Meetings



6

6

Community Funding and Recognition Committee

Wednesday 30 July 2025, 11.30am to 1pm Council Chambers, Horowhenua District Council, 126 Oxford Street, Levin

Horowhenua 😪

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Risk and Assurance Committee

Wednesday 6 August 2025, 10am to 12pm Council Chambers, Horowhenua District Council, 126 Oxford Street, Levin

Horowhenua District Council Meeting

Wednesday 6 August, 1pm Council Chambers, Horowhenua District Council, 126 Oxford Street, Levin

Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Please refer to horowhenua.govt.nz/Council/ Council-Meetings for the full meeting schedule, minutes and agendas.



Be a paw-some pet owner and register your dog

Dog registration renewal notices should have made their way into letterboxes and inboxes throughout the district by now.

Dog owners with their noses to the ground will know they need to pay by 31 July 2025 to avoid a late fee penalty.

With dogs on the mind, we took a look back at the most popular dog names in Horowhenua after last year's registration period. And the winners were:

Male names:	Female names:
1. Max	1. Рорру
2. Buddy	2. Ruby
3. Charlie	3. Lily
4. Teddy	4. Bella
5. Leo	5. Lola

Whether you own a Max, Teddy, Poppy or Lola, it's quick and easy to register your dog online at www. horowhenua.govt.nz/pawsonline, or you can do so in person or by post. You can also elect to receive future registration renewal forms via email – the environment will thank you!

Dog owners who believe they may have difficulty paying their dog registration fees are encouraged to contact Council on 06 366 0999 or at enquiries@ horowhenua.govt.nz to discuss possible options.



Twelve Levin locals are celebrating after successfully obtaining a class 2 driver licence with a forklift endorsement thanks to Council's Community Grants and Funding.

The initiative, led by the local Columbian and Venezuelan communities, combined English language education with practical driver training.

English Language Partners (englishlanguage.org.nz) delivered English classes and local business One Stop Driver Training provided the forklift driver training.

"The English Language Partners class was essential for my classmates and me to master the technical

language of forklift operation. Getting my forklift operator certificate was a real milestone in my life and an opportunity for me to move towards my employment aspirations," said learner Alejandro.

This initiative is a strong example of communitydriven service delivery, responding directly to local needs. It also aligns with the goals of the Horowhenua Community Wellbeing Strategy, particularly in areas such as employment, education, and inclusion.

The 2025 round of Community Grants and Funding applications opens on 1 August – keep an eye on our website for details.

Come and plant native trees

Council is partnering with Ngatī Whakatere and the Shannon community to restore the mana of the Ōtauru Stream in Shannon.

The Ōtauru Stream Riparian Planting project aims to improve the water quality and ecosystem of the stream, and will be completed through community planting initiatives involving several groups in our hāpori over a period of three years.

On Friday July 25 we'll be planting 1,200 native plants at the Velvaleen Farm at 62-66 Old Foxton Road, from 9 am to 2 pm.

Bring your gumboots and join us to have fun and make a difference to the environment.



Download free app Antenno to report issues, as well as receive alerts and notifications.

www.horowhenua.govt.nz/Antenno



Register for trade waste assessment

Just a reminder that anyone who operates a business or organisation at a trade premises within the Horowhenua District needs to register with Council.

This applies even to businesses which are not connected to the Council wastewater network. We will assess the type and volume of trade waste (if any) that your business is discharging. Depending on how the business is classified a trade waste consent might be needed.

Registering is easy – you'll just need some basic details about your business. You can drop into a Council office or register online – just search for 'trade waste' on our website.

We need to manage trade waste to protect the environment and our wastewater network, to comply with resource consent conditions, and to ensure that businesses generating trade waste contribute fairly to the cost of its treatment and disposal.



@ enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz
 Www.horowhenua.govt.nz
 HorowhenuaDC
 06 366 0999
 Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540
 126 Oxford St, Levin 5510
 Customer service hours: Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm and Wednesdays 9.30am to 5pm.



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MAHI MĀRA/Gardening



es, the annual event of planting potatoes has started for those gardeners that like to grow a few spuds. Potatoes eaten in their many forms are a staple of our Kiwi food chain. We are to eating potatoes as Asians are to their rice.

Potatoes were introduced to Western diets in the 16th century, primarily through Spanish conquistadors who brought them back from South America.

While initially met with some resistance and suspicion, potatoes gradually gained acceptance, particularly in regions like Ireland, where they became a staple food. Then in New Zealand we have what are often called



Māori potatoes - taewa or riwai - which originated in South America and were introduced to New Zealand by European explorers, notably James Cook.

Māori adopted these potatoes, named and cultivated them, developing unique varieties and integrating them into their culture as a staple food and valuable trade item. There are now several varieties, alongside a big list of European potatoes. In times gone by it was a tradition to

WALLY RICHARDS

plant a crop of potatoes to mature in time for Christmas dinner – the first new potatoes. Before that one would only have the old potatoes from last season that had gone soft and were sprouting shoots.

So like many things since long gone, the new potatoes at the beginning of the early season harvest were a great treat, and much easier to peel if peeled at all.

Now because of cool storage, bought potatoes are like new potatoes, or near new, as they are starting to age out of cool storage.

The best grown potatoes come from the deep south of the South Island and are streets ahead of commercially grown North Island potatoes.

Potatoes can be grown from tubers, either whole or cut in half with at least one eye on each piece. They can also be grown from potato peelings that have an eye intact. (The eye is where the sprout comes from.) They also can be grown from seed, which is that round green fruit that forms on the plant after flowers have set. Hence how new varieties are created by crossing pollenating from one variety to another and then grown from the resulting seed.

European potatoes are divided into groups that relate to the maturing times in days from planting to harvesting. You have very early crops like Swift or Rocket maturing in about 60 -70 days. Then you have early crops such as Apache and Highlander maturing in about 80-90 days. Main crops such as Cliffs Kidney and Maris Anchor mature in 90-100 days. Late crop and Māori potatoes take longest at 110-120 days.

How to plant

Firstly, "shoot and green" the seed potatoes. This is simply done by placing them in good light out of direct sunlight, such as in a car port or under a hedge.

If reluctant to start, take them into the kitchen as you do bought potatoes to eat, and they soon start sprouting in the warmth. As soon as a sprout starts they must go outside into a good light spot and protected from frost. If not the sprouts will become long and white searching for light and ruined for planting.

From past experience I've found that placing a little BioPhos, a little Gypsum and a few sheep manure pellets under each seed potato you plant will give you the best results.

Traditional planting is in the garden digging a trench about one to two spade depth and placing the tubers that have sprouted and shoots hardened off and turning green from light at the bottom of the trench with the products above under them.

Just cover so the shoots are not exposed. The shoots will soon break through the soil covering and you cover with a bit more soil. Repeat this as soon as they break through the soil till you reach ground level.

This does two things: it protects foliage from any frosts and it stretches the "stem", which has the ability to produce new tubers all the way up the stem.

This only happens if you keep covering very soon after the shoot appears. If allowed to grow taller, about 5cm or so, then you have lost the plot and it has grown too tall to keep on producing more new potatoes as it grows.

Once it gets to ground level then you keep mounding up till you have a mound about 15 to 20cm high. Then let the foliage do its thing.

Early potatoes are typically ready for harvest when their flowers are fully open, about three months after planting. You can also gently dig around the base of the plant to check for potatoes of a good size.

Unlike main crop potatoes, early potatoes have a thin skin and are not ideal for long-term storage, so harvest them as needed for fresh eating.

Maincrop potatoes are typically harvested from late summer into autumn, when the foliage has died back.

The exact timing depends on the specific variety and planting time, but you can also start harvesting them earlier for immediate use once the plants begin to flower. If you don't have a lot of garden space to grow potatoes other than maybe a small crop of early potatoes, then you can still grow in buckets or grow bags and use a compost layer in the bottom, place the goodies as mentioned above for open gardens. Just cover over the seed potato with compost and as shoots appear keep covering till you reach the top level of the container.

If you have an old bath or deep trough with good drainage you could grow several potatoes in it using the container method. If you have a waste area where you don't grow anything but weeds you can use that area to grow, and if stoney put a layer of compost down first then the seed potato and cover as with the bath method.

I found a mail order site that has a good range of seed potatoes along with several types of Māori potatoes at bulbsdirect.co.nz/collections/edibles

You can buy small amounts or large lots depending on your needs.

■ Wally has owned plant shops, a garden centre and three nursery sites. He operates an online business called Wally's Garden Enterprises. Phone 0800 466464. For garden information and news go to gardenews.co.nz





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Horowhenua Star, Hūrae/July 18, 2025

HĪTŌRIA/History

TE AWAHOU FOXTON SETTLER FAMILIES

Compiled by Debbi Carson



Old Foxton identities

Above: The Brown family are pictured in front of their house in 1906. From left, George, Henry (Harry), Rebecca (Nell, later Mrs Monk), Ema (grandmother), Thomas. This was originally the Parata home (1901), Paetawa. Photo: Horowhenua Historical Society.





Above: The Walden family of John and Cora (nee Elkin), taken at Foxton about 1908. Another boy, Hector. was born in 1909. Pictured are John and Cora seated middle, with Percy, MInnie, Alfred, Emily, May, Harry, Alice, Arthur, John, Edward, Hilda, Frances, and Frederick.

Left: The Collins family. The nine Collins children with their mother Annie Collins (nee Cook). Annie was the eldest daughter of Thomas Uppadine Cook and his wife Te Akau. Annie was married to James Collins and when their eldest child, Amelia, was 2, they moved to James' home in England. All the other children were born there, and came to Foxton only after the death of their father in 1896. Those in the photograph are from left, back row, Harold, Ethel, William, Edward and Frederick. Seated: James Motteshead, Annie (mother), Amelia, Patty. In front: Cyril

Photos: Foxton Historical Society

Persian armies march on Levin

More than 2000 toy soldiers are set to invade the Levin Cosmopolitan Club this weekend.

Organised by local wargamer Vince Cholewa, the annual competition attracts enthusiasts from all over the North Island.

"It's for people of all ages and anyone can come along and watch," he says.

Vince says wargaming is a tactical game played on a tabletop. The figures used represent different types of soldiers with different strengths and weaknesses. The aim is to exploit the strengths of your own army against the weaknesses of your opponent's. Dice are used to give an element of variability.

"You expect your better troops to beat your opponent's weaker troops, most of the time, but you don't know when the unexpected might happen," Vince says. "So, what have you built into your game plan to cope with an unexpected setback? That's one of the fun challenges and pleasures of the game."

Armies will be representing five Persian empires – Medes, Early Achaemenid Persian, Later Achaemenid Persian, Parthian and Sassanid Persian – from about 850BC to 650AD, along with Macedonians, Romans and others who fought the Persians.

In addition to the ancient competition, there will be two multiplayer games from the time of Louis XIV, King of France, during the second half of the 17th century and the beginning of the 18th century.



Gothic foederati from a Middle Imperial Roman army, painted by Michael Stonyer from Wellington. Photo Paul Williams

A group of Horowhenua wargamers meet twice a month at the Levin East School hall, where they play games from all periods of history, and science fiction and fantasy.

People are welcome to view the action in the Hudson Room at Levin Cosmopolitan Club between 9am and 4pm tomorrow and Sunday. Vince says he's happy to be contacted with any questions about wargaming and the local group on 027 344 1073, or toysoldiers111@gmail.com or on Facebook Wargaming in Horowhenua. The Facebook group for the rules being used for the Levin competition is DBMM New Zealand.

LETTER

Work at the Gunning home

We were really interested in your Gunning article (History page, Horowhenua Star, July 4). My mother, Elizabeth Conchie (nee Harris), daughter of Dal and Ellen Harris, grew up in Shannon. She left college at 14 and went to work at Gunnings' home looking after the children. It was probably Eric Gunning's family, about 1920. Mum loved looking after the children but after a couple of years left and worked at a nursing home in Palmerston North. She didn't stay long as she was not happy there, so went back to Gunnings' until about 1925. Mum then went to work as a housemaid at the Club Hotel. She married in 1927. Later on in life, Mum lived with my husband and I for five years before passing away in 1999. We had many conversations about Shannon and when she worked at the Gunning home. Mum loved children and there were 11 in our family, four boys and seven girls – heaps of descendants.

Wendy Bovey, Levin

TAKARO/Sport Eden Park to Easton Park for Kahn

By Paul Williams

Former Crusaders halfback and Samoa representative Kahn Fotuali'i will play a game of international rugby at Eden Park in Auckland tonight, then jump on a plane to make it home in time to play for his Foxton club in its Horowhenua-Kāpiti season semi-final against Waikanae less than 24 hours later.

The evergreen halfback/first five-eighth joins a Pacific Island All Stars team playing a Classic All Blacks team as a curtain-raiser to the test match between Scotland and Samoa.

Kahn, now aged 43 (pictured left), has played rugby all over the world. Un his prime he was rated one of the best halfbacks in world rugby, but for the past few seasons has been a regular of the reigning premier grade champion Foxton team.

Once upon a time he came close to All Blacks selection after forcing incumbent All Black Andy Ellis to the Crusaders bench for much of the 2010 Super Rugby campaign. Foxton coach Tom Zimmerman says he

has no qualms about Kahn backing up from the Eden Park match.

"He's in good nick. He's fit as," Tom says. "He's training to run a marathon at the end of the year."

In 2011 Kahn joined top Welsh side Ospreys. In 2014, he signed with Northampton Saints and played there for three years, before playing three seasons at Bath. In the 2019-20 season he signed with French team Montpellier. Earlier in his career he played for both Hawke's Bay and Tasman.

Kahn adds experience to an exciting Foxton backline that has scored plenty of tries this season and 495 point in 12 games – more than 100 points more than

Kahn Fotuali'i, who will play for Pacific Island All Stars against a Classic All Blacks team in Auckland tonight (Friday), then back home to play for Foxton against Waikanae in a Horowhenua-Kāpiti club rugby semifinal on Saturday.

Photo Bruce Falloon

any other team – with Joeli Rauca and fullback Arana Murphy adding plenty of punch.

Arana has been wearing the number 23 jersey after the club made the decision to retire the number 15 jersey for the season as a mark of respect for club stalwart Ivan Coley, who died earlier this year. Ivan played his rugby at fullback for Foxton and was a club patron, a life member and former president, coach and committee member of the club.

It will be a big day for the club with their senior reserve team also earning a semi-final, playing Athletic in the curtainraiser.

Meanwhile, the other semi-final action is at Ōtaki Domain, with Rāhui hosting Paraparaumu in the premier semi-final and Levin College Old Boys in the senior B semi-final.

Both Rāhui teams earned home semi-finals last season, too.

Ramsbotham Cup – teams

Foxton: George Jacobs, Jeremy David, Dion Mcerlean, William Lander, Kale Eriksson, Alby Hemopo, Dino Rutten, Makaere Harvey, Tema Tihema, Kahn Fotuali'I, Shaun Sue, Connor Paki, Joeli Rauca, Josh Sanson, Arana Murphy, Massie Harvey, Tevita Fehoko, Dave McErlean, Michael Laursen, Mason Pakau-Wallace, Kenny Hill, Moses Pearce.

Waikanae: Sam Gouk, Kolino Koto, Scott Cameron, Sam Gardner, Seth Stewart, Aaron Lahmert, George To, Jah Tarrant, Jaxon Poutama, Cam Bond, Esala Banuve, Jamie Hinds, Taine Hata, Suia Fotu, Shane Osmond, Mika Tyrell, Dyland Smith, Jake Carter, Isaia Ioka, Sam Mortiboy, Iraia Parapa. #22 tbc

Rāhui: Hayden Rassmussen, Liam Tooman, Edward Northcott, Makaire Kanavatoa, Sam Gibson, Wirangi Parata, Brodhi Archibald, Joel Winterburn, Jeziah Lewis, Tama Cook, Hamish Buick, Regan Verney, Vaianu Donaghy, Alizay Roach, Morehu Connor-Phillips (c), Teraiti Donaghy, Raahiri Connor, Charles Donaghy, Lewis Case, Kaharau Kaihe, Tonihi Raureti, Jayaiah Lewis.

Paraparaumu: Max Saunders, Brad Reilly, Ben Lynch-Philips (c), Zac Lemana, Dan Smith, Rob Fridd, Alex Brunskill, Mike Tuiala, Jayden Keats, Thomas Barnsley, Shaun Gardiner, Jayson Aquila, Jacob Keating, Dale McNamara, Max Hosking, Jimmy Cooper, Dane Dawson, Hayden Sale, Tone Lofi, Kahu Vermeeren-Thompson, Liam Rukuwai, Corey Voullaire.

RUGBY

SEMI-FINALS, Saturday July 19 Ramsbotham Cup (Premiers), 2.45pm Foxton v Waikanae at Easton Park, Foxton. Rāhui v Paraparaumu at Ōtaki Domain.

Bill Muir Cup (Senior Reserve), 12.30pm Rāhui v Levin COB at Ōtaki Domain. Foxton v Athletic at Easton Park, Foxton.

Standings, after final round Premier: Foxton 56, Rāhui 49, Paraparaumu 35, Waikanae 32, Levin Wanderers 18, Shannon 17, Levin COB 16. Senior Reserve: Rāhui 54, Foxton 51, Athletic 41, Levin COB 27, Paraparaumu 23, Waikanae 18, Levin Wanderers 15. Ramsbotham Cup results (July 12)

Levin Wanderers 23, Levin COB 21 Wanderers: Tries to: G Naruhn, I Alauni and P Picchi. M Masoe conv, 2 pen. COB: Tries to N Tafolo and K Taunoa. C Salu conv, 3 pen. Shannon 27, Waikanae 10 Shannon: Tries to P Carroll 2, J Woodmass, N McLeod-Jones. S Pape 2 conv, pen. Waikanae: Tries

N McLeod-Jones. S Pape 2 conv, pen. *Waikanae:* Tri to I loka and J Poutama. Foxton 17, Rāhui 13

Foxton: Tries to A Hemopo, J David. A Murphy conv, pen, T Tihema conv. *Rāhui*: Try to L Tooman. A Roach conv, 2 pen.

Bill Muir Cup (Senior Reserve) Levin COB 29, Levin Wanderers 14 Levin COB: Tries to N Fiu 2, K Ng, V Tia, S Maasi. K Ng 2 conv. Levin Wanderers: Tries to O Hirini, C Chard. O Hirini 2 conv. Athletic v Waikanae – Win to Athletic by default

Rāhui 13, Foxton 12

Rāhui: Tries to J Lewis, W Paletasala. J Lewis pen. *Foxton:* Tries to S Visavisawaqa, M Pearce. S Seniviavia conv.

GOLF Foxton

July 10: Lorna Soo 40, Rick Mooney 39, Tamati McGregor 37, John Koteka 36, Huck Baird 34.



Twos: Keith Norris on 12. **July 15**: Rick Mooney 39, Steve Tickner 37, Barry

Charlie Matenga 20.

Graham 36, Craig Revell 34. **9-hole July 16:** Putting – Geoff McBrydie 14, Ruth Williams 16, Kevin Young 16, Elaine Pedersen 17, Mahes Naran 17, Carol Kupa 18, Karen Marshall 19,

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Entrance tides July 18–25

https://www.metservice.com/marine/regions/whanganuimanawatu/tides/locations/foxton

https://www.metservice.com/marine/regions/kapitiwellington/tides/locations/waitarere-beach

Please note: The actual timing of high and low tide might differ from that provided here. Times are extrapolated from the nearest primary port for this location, so please take care. MANAWATU RIVER FOXTON

	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH
FRI 11 JUL	-	04:39	10:27	16:55	22:46
SAT 19 JUL	04:06	10:46	16:46	23:20	-
SUN 20 JUL	05:10	11:51	17:58	-	-
MON 21 JUL	-	00:32	06:19	13:02	19:10
TUE 22 JUL	-	01:42	07:29	14:11	20:16
WED 23 JUL	-	02:45	08:35	15:11	21:12
THU 24 JUL	-	03:41	09:32	16:04	22:01
FRI 25 JUL	-	04:31	10:23	16:51	22:46
WAITARERE	BEAC	CH			
	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH
FRI 11 JUL	-	03:37	09:42	15:53	22:01

	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	
-ri 11 Jul	-	03:37	09:42	15:53	22:01	
SAT 19 JUL	03:21	09:44	16:01	22:18	-	
SUN 20 JUL	04:25	10:49	17:13	23:30	-	
MON 21 JUL	05:34	12:00	18:25	-	-	
TUE 22 JUL	-	00:40	06:44	13:09	19:31	
NED 23 JUL	-	01:43	07:50	14:09	20:27	
THU 24 JUL	-		08:47			
-ri 25 Jul	-	03:29	09:38	15:49	22:01	





THE CROSSWORD #NZ1944K (answers below right)



EASY #87H Use logic and process of elimination to fill in the blank cells using the numbers 1 through 9. Each number can appear only

6

3

6

5

3

8

9

1

6

9

3

8

4

2

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8

4

once in each row, column and 3x3 block.

8

6

3

4

9

9

2

- ACROSS
 - 7. Colours worn by
 - Hawke's Bay rugby
 - team (5,3,5)
 - 8. Children's hospital
- (8)
- 9. Wild cat (4)

10/15. New Zealand's most successful

- Paralympian (6,6)
- 12. Dark blue (6)
- 14. Informal spelling of 13. Branch of 'love' (3)
- 15. See 10
- 17. Hire (6)
- 19. Church recess (4)
- 21. Ragged (8)
- 23. Politician who was briefly banned
- from parliament grounds in 2022
- (7,6) DOWN 1. An excess of (8)
 - Proverbs 12:25
 - "Worry ways a person down. An encouraging word cheers a person up."

Mental health is not a destination, but a process. It's about how you drive, not where you're going



2. Char (6) 3. Holiday house (4) 4. Having the capacity

to adjust to new

conditions (8)

6. Ernest Rutherford's

11. Poll that occurs

in NZ (8)

16. Dairy product

research target (4)

every three years

mathematics (8)

produced widely

around New

20. First song in Māori

charts (3,1)

(Māori) (4)

to be No1 in the

22. Sacred or forbidden

Zealand (6)

18. Attractive (6)

5. Formed (6)



MID-WINTER QUIZ Answers bottom of page.

- Where do people go to witness the winter solstice in the UK? a, Mam Tor b. Stonehenge c. Avebury.
- 2. Which European country is home to the 'Icehotel'? a. Norway b. Denmark c. Sweden
- 3. Which animal's fur turns white in winter?
- a. Arctic foxes b. Harp seal c. Caribou. In Home Alone, where does Kevin's family end up for the
- holidays? a. Paris b. Rome c. New York City 5.
- Winter Solstice is the shortest day and longest night of the year. What day did it fall on this year?
- Where is the snowiest city on Earth? 6. 7.
- What is the Māori word for winter? What do we celebrate in winter each year marking the 8.
- beginning of the new year in the Māori lunar calendar? Which year was Aotearoa New Zealand's warmest and 9.
- wettest winter on record?
- 10. The world's coldest temperature record was -89.2°C on 21 July 1983, Where was this?
- 11. What is the coldest city on Earth?
- 12. What is the coldest place in the world?
- 13. How cold is Mars?
- 14. Is snow Is white? 15. What is snirt?

windblown snow and black dirt make what is called snirt. is actually clear and colourless. 15. When combined, an average temperature of about -63°C. 14. No, snow Celsius)on a clear winter night. 13. Mars is very cold, with temperatures in several hollows can dip below minus 92°. ridge in Antarctica on the East Antarctic Plateau where hgid A .21. .2° 0.8- fo shuterequest leurne egeneve ne sed station in Antarctica. 11. Yakutsk, in the Russian Far East, Matariki. 9. 2022. 10. The high-altitude Vostok weather with about 26 feet of snow on average. 7. Hotoke. 8. City in northern Japan. Each year citizens are pummeled 3. a. Arctic foxes. 4. a. Paris. 5. June 21, 2025. 6. Aomori WINTER QUIZ ANSWERS: 1. b. Stonehenge. 2. c. Sweden.

CROSSWORD #1944K ANSWERS Across: 7. Black and white, 8.

Starship, 9. Puma, 10/15. Sophie Pascoe, 12. Indigo, 14. Luv, 17. Employ, 19. Apse, 21. Tattered, 23. Winston Peters. Down: 1. Plethora, 2. Scorch, 3. Bach, 4. Adaptive, 5. Shaped, 6. Atom, 11. Election, 13. Geometry, 16. Cheese, 18. Pretty, 20. Poi E, 22. Tapu.

SUDOKU SOLUTION #87H

	-				-	-		
З	2	٢	6	9	8	1	5	4
8	-	6	4	ω	ъ	7	2	б
ъ	6	4	7	2	-	8	ω	9
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9	8	З	2	5	4	6	-	7
4	ъ	9	8	-	7	2	9	ω
2	ω	1	6	4	6	5	7	∞
7	4	5	-	8	ω	9	6	Ν
6	6	8	5	7	2	ω	4	-



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For information about standing for council, see the Pre-election Report: Search 'Pre-election Report' at horowhenua.govt.nz



listening to Alex Hogg, who shared his experience of travelling to Antarctica.

Rotarians open their doors

Levin's Rotary Club has begun holding open nights inviting non-members so they can get a taste of what it means to be a Rotarian.

The club has recently had entertaining guest speakers, something the members want to share with the wider community.

This week Alex Hogg shared his photos and tales from a trip of a lifetime to Antarctica.

President Chris Clarke was chuffed with the 19

non-members who turned out by special invitation. He is planning to hold an open night every month. The next will be on August 12 when a speaker will

talk about using AI and lasers to control weeds. The club gets together at the RSA (Bristol Street entrance), gathering for drinks and a chat between 5.30pm and 6pm every Tuesday night. A dinner is

served after that at \$30pp, RSVP for catering. If you want to know more or would like to check out the next Open Nights, talk to Chris: 0274 421 639 or email cmclarke@xtra.co.nz.

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