

# Puāwai

(Noun: To blossom or come to fruition)

*"Poipoia te kakano, kia puawai - Nurture the seed and it will blossom"*

*Your local Horowhenua community guide*



## NEW LOOK ELDERBERRIES MAGAZINE

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## Welcome to your new look Elderberries magazine, renamed Puāwai.

Puāwai means to have come to fruition, the sweetest part. A seed that has blossomed, that will go on to celebrate the next chapter of life.

While Elderberries has a new name, the content will be much the same as you're used to. You may notice the fresh new design. With many of our readers being over 65 years, we wanted to ensure it was designed with this in mind. You'll notice we've used a font style that is easier to read, we've integrated lots of clear space and moved away from colour palates that aren't accessible for those with visual impairments.

We're excited to continue to create this unique resource, and share the great work that is happening in our district. We have a few ideas for new content, but would love your input. If you have an idea, a story, recipes, photos or a local legend who deserves to be recognised, please send them through to

📧 [communications@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:communications@horowhenua.govt.nz) or write to

✉ Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540.

*Photo courtesy of Tim Sutton – Adventurer*

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# Council farewells their Chief Executive

**It was a bittersweet goodbye for David Clapperton, former Chief Executive at Horowhenua District Council, as he said goodbye to his friends, colleagues and neighbours after 16 years in the Horowhenua. He with his partner Catherine are now embracing the Hawkes Bay sunshine along with a small merlot vineyard and an exciting opportunity as the Chief Executive of Eastern & Central Community Trust.**

At a staff meeting in December 2021, David told his team that he would be leaving the Council. During this announcement to staff he needed a moment to regather his thoughts and fight back the emotion of leaving what in his words was his second whānau. "It's always hard to say goodbye when you are personally invested in people and the organisation," says David. Equally, Council staff were certainly going to miss his leadership, optimism and determination.

After leaving Farmers Mutual in Palmerston North in 2005, David took off to explore Asia and Russia for three months, something he'd always wanted to do and the timing was right.

While he was away he received an email from his good friend Catherine (now partner) about a Strategic, Corporate Services Manager role at Horowhenua District Council. He applied while he was away, the Council waited for him to return, and he landed back in New Zealand with a new job, new home and a new love.

David is an optimistic visionary who saw potential and beauty in our district and made great things happen.

Since becoming part of the Horowhenua District Council's team in 2005, David's highlights include leading major local projects, Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō and Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom. Being involved with these projects and working with the architects and community to create beautiful spaces for everyone to enjoy, is something he will take with him. At the time of the consultation, only 16% of people living in Horowhenua had access online; this was a high priority to get more people on the 'knowledge train' as David called it. When Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō opened, there were 45 computers available for everyone to use.

Understanding the importance of Council as Kaitiakitanga, David was a key driver in establishing a leading and innovative solution for wastewater management, with Horowhenua District Council securing a 25 year resource consent to irrigate treated wastewater to land at what is known locally as "The Pot". He has seen the Lake Horowhenua Accord signed, the Manawatū River Loop rejuvenated and leaves as the Levin Landfill consultation is in its final stages.



Pride is something David mentions often. He is so proud of what the Horowhenua people have achieved, community visions have become real. "It's not about me, it's about the people who have supported this growth, when we work together and think outside of the box, we do make a difference" David says.

David was asked, do you think people's attitude towards the Council and in the community have changed since you arrived in 2005? "People seem happier, more enthusiastic. It's like this area was stuck in first gear, but now we're in fifth" replies David.

It hasn't always been a rosy ride for David at the Council, some uncomfortable moments and naivety have taught him the importance of true and real partnerships, especially with our Iwi. As David steps into the Chief Executive role at Eastern & Central Community Trust he will be more experienced with talking to Iwi early in the process, something he learnt the hard way but has made him more understanding and aware of these critical key conversations.

David will stay connected with the Council, and some staff angling to drop in and try the first vintage of his infamous merlot.

Bon voyage David, till next time.

# Civic Honours and Youth Excellence Scholarships 2021

*“These awards are one of the highlights of the year for Council, where we acknowledge the meritorious commitment, and hard work, and for some, long voluntary service to our community.”*

– Mayor Bernie

**Outstanding voluntary community service saw three people recognised with Civic Honours and two with Certificates of Recognition at the 2021 Civic Honours Ceremony on 2 December. Mayor Bernie Wanden presented the awards with support from Mayoress Sharon Wanden.**

In addition, Council's 2021 Youth Excellence Scholarships were presented to 12 outstanding young people who have excelled in the areas of academia, arts and culture, community service, and sport.

Mayor Bernie said, “These awards are one of the highlights of the year for Council, where we acknowledge the meritorious commitment, and hard work, and for some, long voluntary service to our community.”

“Our Youth Excellence Scholarship programme is an initiative that commenced 17 years ago, with more than 200 young people acknowledged with a scholarship which assisted with a multitude of costs such as tertiary study, sporting equipment and travel,” said Mayor Bernie.

Cr Tukapua, Chair of the Community Funding and Recognition Committee, added, “The Committee was heartened with the high calibre of nominations. Almost 40 nominations were received for rangatahi aged between 12 to 24 from across the district. As a Council, we are immensely proud of our young people thriving despite the many challenges of 2020 and 2021.”



**Civic Honours awards were presented to:**

**John Hewitson**  
*Community Affairs.*

John serves his community quietly, with dedication, goodwill and without hesitation. He cares deeply about the community and the people within it.

John came to Waikawa Beach in about 1999 and was soon elected as chair of the Waikawa Beach Ratepayers Association, a role he has served in ever since. As chair, he has run the regular committee meetings and AGMs. John attends various meetings relevant to the community, such as the Manakau District Community Association AGMs and Waka Kotahi Ō2NL expressway meetings. He also represents the interests of Waikawa Beach residents at Horowhenua District Council consultations.

John readily responds to community members who approach him and spends time and effort to ensure that the appropriate people or organisations address these concerns or issues. He always lends a hand where there's a need.

Beyond the Waikawa Beach community, John has helped out extensively at the Levin Uniting Church, sorting out their electrical problems and serving free Sunday night dinners. He is always serving the community.

**Barrie Buck**  
*Community Affairs & Religious Affairs.*

A successful local businessman of 60 plus years, Barrie still continues to lead a team of qualified electricians and apprentices at B G Buck Electrical on Sheffield St, along with his daughter Ally.

Only recently has he retired as a Judicial Justice of the Peace (JP) for Levin, after fourteen years' service, providing essential voluntary service in our area, and relieving the load on our District Court Judges.

- Property manager for St Mary's Anglican Parish, Levin, with three churches, halls and offices to maintain and supply.
- 30 years' service to the Levin Brass Band, where he is a past president and life member.
- A secondary school hockey coach for many years, volunteered as an umpire and is a past chair of the Hockey Association.
- Barrie was a member of Levin's Promotional Council and a Rotarian.
- 55 years of service to the Masonic Lodge, where voluntary work and service to the community is well known across the district.

*Middle right: John Hewitson receiving his Civic Honours award. Civic Honours and Certificate of Recognition recipients. From left; Liam McLeavey, David Roache, Mayor Bernie Wanden, David Brewerton, Barrie Buck, John Hewitson.*

**David Roache**

*Community Affairs, Cultural Affairs, Education Services, Social Affairs/Services, Recreation and Sport, Religious Affairs.*

A stalwart across the wider Foxton Community, David has contributed personally or professionally over many years.

David has served an impressive 37 years in local government, commencing in 1985, serving five years with the Foxton Borough Council until amalgamation in 1989; a further 32 years on the Foxton Community Board, with three terms as the Kere Kere Ward representative. This has included two terms as chair of the Foxton Community Board.

David has been involved with community projects, including the seawall at Foxton Beach, Donnelly Skate Park, the new grandstand at Easton Park, lighting the water tower, and pushing for the development of the pump track at Foxton Beach. Initiating the Christmas tree installation in Foxton's Main Street, which began in 1975, firstly with the Foxton Lions Club, then the Foxton Tourist & Development Association, then with the Roache family continuing the tradition until 2018.

David was a trustee of the Foxton Flax Stripper museum, MAVtech and Manawatū College and served as the Bishop's Representative for Saint Mary's board of trustees. He served on the Foxton RSA as a committee member, vice president, and the last three years as president. David is the managing director of Roaches Concrete Products since 1979, employing many local people.

**Certificates of Recognition were awarded to:**

**Liam McLeavey**  
*Community Affairs.*

Liam has dedicated his entire young adult life to unleashing the potential and improving outcomes for others, particularly young people. He has supported businesses to grow, and strives to make Horowhenua a better place.

Liam has the unique ability to see possibilities and vision for a brighter future for Horowhenua. He takes promising ideas and delivers them into meaningful actions. Liam has generated an impact for the district and has led at a local, regional and national level.

He contributed to many forums, such as the Horowhenua Youth Council and the National Youth Advisory Group within the Ministry of Social Development.

Liam contributed to the Provincial Growth Fund bid for \$50,000 of funding from government to commission a feasibility study on the Horowhenua labour market.

This led to government investment of \$800,000 for Get-Go, the largest labour market development programme ever seen in the Horowhenua.

In 2018, Liam became a board member of the Youth One Stop Shop, passionate about youth health. This primary health organisation delivers health and social services to 10,000 young people in Horowhenua and Palmerston North. He was promoted to the role of chair of the organisation in 2021.

In late 2019, Liam was announced as a 2020 Global Teen Leader alongside a select group of 32 young leaders from 18 different countries. With such an impressive array of skills and achievements, we look forward to seeing what the future will bring for this enterprising and energetic young man.



*Photo captions*  
Top left: David Roache during his acceptance speech.  
Middle left: Performance by Kearndra Tohill.  
Middle right: Liam McLeavey and his family.  
Bottom left: Elizabeth Logologo, Misipeka and friends.  
Bottom right: Civic Honours award recipient Barrie Buck.



**David Brewerton**  
*Education Services.*

David is acknowledged for establishing and maintaining the Queer Straight Alliance at Horowhenua College.

David established the alliance in 2019 to provide social support and education for rainbow students and their friends, as rainbow students tend to face higher levels of bullying and exclusion from school than other students. Research has shown that if rainbow students feel supported and included at school, they will succeed academically. Since establishing the alliance, teachers have noted that students involved are more engaged in their learning than during their earlier years at the college.

The group meets weekly, with David maintaining this through two COVID-19 lockdowns using Zoom and social media. The lunch-hour gatherings consist of eating lunch together, engaging in games and general discussion, camaraderie and encouragement to be resilient, to face challenges and most importantly, to be themselves.

Setting up the group has shown that colleges and staff are often wary of allowing or advertising such groups because of the perceived risk of possible community pushback. David has navigated these tensions exceptionally well. He is a technology teacher at Horowhenua College and leads other social enterprises, such as the Refreshed Creations Trust – a recycling and employment charitable venture. David cares for these vulnerable young people. His efforts will assist in equipping the students as they complete their education and go out into the wider world.

**Horowhenua Youth Excellence Scholarships were awarded to:**

- Callum Baines (*Academia*)
- Nicole Burlace (*Academia*)
- Elijah Bathan (*Academia*)
- Kalanee Rauhihi-Wicks (*Arts & Culture*)
- Elizebeth Logologo (*Arts & Culture*)
- Kearndra Tohill (*Arts & Culture*)
- Misipeka Ana (*Community Service*)
- Sophia Kingi (*Community Service*)
- Octavia King (*Community Service*)
- Taylah Seng (*Sport*)
- Courtney Fitzgibbon (*Sport*)
- Hana Kerins (*Sport*)



*Photo captions*

*Top right: David Brewerton receiving his award from Mayor Bernie Wanden.  
Middle left: Octavia King receiving her Youth Excellence Scholarship.  
Left: Youth Excellence Scholarship recipients from left: Octavia King, Kearndra Tohill, Courtney Fitzgibbon, Hana Kerins, Kalanee Rauhihi-Wicks, Sophia Kingi, Mayor Bernie Wanden, Callum Baines, Elijah Bathan, Misipeka Ana, Nicole Burlace, Elizabeth Logologo and Taylah Seng.*

# Inaugural exhibition for impressive new Foxton arts collective

**Bringing together no less than 12 established artists – to work as one, in creative spirit – is no mean feat. A new local arts collective, convened by contemporary artist Albert McCarthy, has battled the odds though and unveiled its first exciting display of multimedia works in Te Awahou Foxton.**

Since 18 December, bright life-size sculptures inspired by sea and climate have been on show alongside photography and paintings inspired by whakapapa and tangaroa – in the Māpuna Kabinet Art Gallery, at Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom.

“We have an abundance of high-calibre artistic talent here, in Foxton and the Beach,” says Albert McCarthy from the Te Awahou Arts Collective.

“I thought it was time to bring our works together, so that we can show our depth of creativity to a wide audience. We all come from different backgrounds, and that vibrant diversity definitely makes our show come alive. We could think of no better place than to have our first show in a beautiful multi-cultural facility like Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom.”

The 12 members of the Te Awahou Arts Collective have been working on their ‘Kotahi Tonu te Wairua o Nga Mea Katoa’ exhibition for over six months. The art will be on display in the Māpuna Kabinet Art Gallery over the summer period, until Sunday 6 March.

“We’ve made a start, and we have bigger plans,” says Albert. “Next year we aim to participate as a group in the Manawatū Art Trail and the Kāpiti Arts Trail. I see our initiative as a result of what has evolved in Te Awahou Foxton, over the past few years. We are slowly growing into an arts and heritage town. Our collective wants to play an active part in that transformation. It’s exciting to be part of that vision and aspiration.”

In the last six months or so, a brightly-coloured 50m Art Mural by Amsterdam artist Jan van der Ploeg was added to Te Awahou Riverside Cultural Park, plus a ‘paint by numbers’ community mural facilitated by local artist Sonja Hart. In February, a Bonsai Tree sculpture by artist Leon van den Eijkel was added to the Park. There are plans for additional sculptures in the River Loop Reserve as well.

“The arts and creative sector is worth some \$11 billion a year and employs around 90,000 people,” says Arjan van der Boon, Marketing Manager of Te Awahou Riverside Cultural Park.



**“We will be there at times, to have a chat with people and make the stories of the art works come alive. And even though it’s a difficult time of the year to bring in the schools, we hope to have good numbers of ākongā and rangatahi come through as well.”**

– Albert McCarthy

“The arts are a potential career path for our rangatahi that we want to promote strongly. So we are very keen to show off the strong local talent in our Māpuna Kabinet Art Gallery. With Heemi te Peeti next door, working as a traditional whakairo carver and tā moko artist, we have a great deal to offer in both traditional and contemporary art here in the Cultural Park.

“Our town is becoming an important pivot in the arts ecosystem, by stimulating opportunities, discussion and learning,” says van der Boon.

“We’re slowly becoming known as an arts destination for visitors from throughout the region. And all those people coming into town, will bring in extra revenue for our shops and cafés. They will see how we’re transforming and growing economically. The arts is a tourism performer, and it helps people connect with each other – and that’s important in these pressing times.”

The ‘Kotahi Tonu te Wairua o Nga Mea Katoa’ exhibition, by the Te Awahou Arts Collective, will dazzle visitors until Sunday 6 March 2022.

“We have so many works to display, that we had to install them in three separate groups, over a period of seven days,” says McCarthy.

The variety of works on display will offer visitors the opportunity to learn and be inspired by local history and the creativity of our artists.

**Kotahi Tonu te Wairua o Nga Mea Katoa:**

**From now until Sunday 6 March 2022.**

Twelve renowned, established and upcoming creatives are part of the Te Awahou Arts Collective:

- Albert McCarthy
- Jody Burgess
- Reuben James
- Bruce Falloon
- John Bradley
- Sherilyn Bury Vilela
- Davey McGee
- John Tarlton
- Sonja Hart
- Duncan Hill
- Radha Sahar
- Wendy Hodder

**Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom**

*Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom is an award-winning multicultural museum and library facility. It is home to the Piriharakeke Generation Inspiration Centre that tells the local story of Ngāti Raukawa Ki Te Tonga, and the Oranjehof Dutch Connection Centre that tells the story of the Dutch in New Zealand.*

*Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, in Te Awahou Riverside Cultural Park*

- 📍 92 Main Street, Foxton
- 🌐 [teawahou.com](http://teawahou.com) for more information



# Meet your friendly Age Concern Team

**Catherine McAuliffe, Manager, Charlene Lyttle, Social Connections Coordinator and Janetta Scoble, Elderly Abuse Coordinator and Social Worker, they are a fairly new team.**

“The A-team” as they jokingly call themselves are a friendly, happy and supportive trio.

Catherine and Charlene used to work together at Horowhenua Vets and really enjoyed conversations and interactions with the older people in the community. When the role for the Manager at Age Concern became available, Catherine was excited to apply and be a part of an organisation that involved caring for and supporting older people in the community. She quickly recruited Charlene when the opportunity arose.

Janetta spent a life time caring and advocating for older people spanning over 30 years.

As a teenager, Janetta began her first three years in the nursing training programme at Kimberley Hospital, in Levin. Further nursing studies at Palmerston North Hospital meant graduating as a Registered Nurse.

Working in the social service sector, Janetta found her calling in making meaningful connections and to help and promote positive changes in the community. She completed her studies in Social Work and graduated in 2011.

“I have always felt that it’s such an honour working with elders and I was grateful to get a social work position at Wesley Community Action in a team supporting older people in the community.” said Janetta.

You can call in to see Catherine, Charlene and Janetta, Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm at 14 Durham Street, Levin (handily located near New World Levin in the car park close to the Ministry of Social Development).

Age Concern is not just for elder abuse or extreme situations. It’s a place you can come in at any time to have a cup of tea and a chat.

They can help you with any query you may have, if you need a recommendation, tradesperson, general advice or help with accessing support or service. If you are interested in getting involved with care and visiting people who are lonely and isolated, you can join the Accredited Visitors Service. Charlene can help you with this.

Age Concern also runs an exercise and fitness class called Steady as you Go (SAYGO). These classes are specifically designed for older people to increase strength, balance, flexibility and agility. Volunteers run SAYGO exercise classes in Foxton and Levin for a couple of hours each week. It’s a great way to have fun, get fit and meet new people.

*“I have always felt that it’s such an honour working with elders and I was grateful to get a social work position at Wesley Community Action in a team supporting older people in the community.”*

– Janetta Scoble



**Catherine McAuliffe**  
Manager



**Charlene Lyttle**  
Social Connections



**Janetta Scoble**  
Social Worker

*You can find out more about these classes, events and other services Age Concern Horowhenua offers on their website [ageconcernhorowhenua.co.nz](https://ageconcernhorowhenua.co.nz) or make yourself known to these three lovely women, pop in (14 Durham Street, Levin), say hi, call (06) 367 2181 or email [avs@ageconcernhorowhenua.co.nz](mailto:avs@ageconcernhorowhenua.co.nz). They are here to help.*

# Shining a light on loneliness in the Horowhenua

**Initiated by the New Zealand Coalition to End Loneliness, 'Light up Loneliness' is about bringing people together, to reach out and support people who are feeling lonely and isolated.**

Horowhenua District Council was asked how they 'light up loneliness' in their wider community.

"We have a wonderful, supportive, caring community here in Horowhenua with many local organisations and groups who look after our vulnerable people. Even with this support, 'light up loneliness' has made me stop and think about the people in my life, who live alone or that I haven't heard from in a while. A phone call or popping in to show that you care can make all the difference when someone is feeling lonely" said Mayor Bernie Wanden.

Council's Community Wellbeing Committee continue to enhance and celebrate the strength, diversity and vibrancy of the Horowhenua that allows all people to feel a sense of belonging, inclusion and social connectedness.

"We are lucky to have such commitment from many volunteers who are part of existing caring caller teams, parish groups or individuals who continue to strive for the very best, to enable our district to thrive" says Councillor Victoria Kaye-Simmons.

Age Concern Horowhenua has a social connection programme; an initiative that provides elderly with regular visits from volunteers, particularly important at Christmas.

Charlene Lyttle, AVS Support Worker from Age Concern Horowhenua says "Our volunteer visitors and clients become an integral part of each other's lives. It's not just the clients who benefit from these visits. The older people in our community share rich and interesting stories. Anyone who loves to learn and make meaningful connections would enjoy volunteering on our Accredited Visiting Service".

Older people in Aotearoa New Zealand are not the only ones who are feeling lonely or isolated. Statistics from The Social Report 2016 – Te pūrongo oranga tangata show 15-24 year olds were the loneliest age group.

Life to the Max Horowhenua supports young people through mentoring and providing pathways to training and education. Manager, Samantha Coromandel said they frequently hear the words 'don't belong or not included' by clients.



***"Often there are bigger issues than just 'feeling lonely', so along with our health and social work support, we offer programmes to build their self-esteem, confidence and reduce social anxiety."***

– Samantha

"Together, we hope it leads to better social outcomes" said Samantha.

Anyone can be a part of 'light up loneliness' in the Horowhenua, check on your neighbour, phone or visit the people in your life who live alone or are isolated.

You can learn more at [letsendloneliness.co.nz](https://letsendloneliness.co.nz), or get involved through social media channels and support the 'Light up loneliness' campaign.

If you are 18 years or older and would like to get involved with Age Concern Horowhenua's Accredited Visiting Service call Charlene Lyttle on (06) 367 2181.

If you are feeling isolated or alone please reach out to someone you know.

## Where to get help:

Need to Talk? Free call or text 1737 any time to speak to a trained counsellor, for any reason.

**Lifeline:** 0800 543 354 or text HELP to 4357

### Suicide Crisis Helpline:

0508 828 865 / 0508 TAUTOKO (24/7).

This is a service for people who may be thinking about suicide, or those who are concerned about family or friends.

**Depression Helpline:** 0800 111 757 (24/7) or text 4202

**Samaritans:** 0800 726 666 (24/7)

**Youthline:** 0800 376 633 (24/7) or free text 234 (8am-12am), or email [talk@youthline.co.nz](mailto:talk@youthline.co.nz)

**What's Up:** online chat (3pm-10pm) or 0800 WHATSUP / 0800 9428 787 helpline (12pm-10pm weekdays, 3pm-11pm weekends)

**Kidsline:** (ages 5-18): 0800 543 754 (24/7)

**Rural Support Trust Helpline:** 0800 787 254

**Healthline:** 0800 611 116

**Rainbow Youth:** (09) 376 4155

**If it is an emergency and you feel like you or someone else is at risk, call 111.**

# Local Legend

## Barrie Buck – Community Extraordinaire

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**Barrie Buck moved to Levin one Sunday, started his own electrician business on Monday and has never left, that was 60 years ago. He's still working, and leading his business B.G Buck Ltd with his daughter Ally and an exceptional team of electricians and apprentices.**

Barrie recently received a Council Civic Award for Community and Religious Affairs for his outstanding contribution to the Horowhenua community.

Not only is Barrie a successful local businessman, but he has also recently retired after fourteen years as a Judicial Justice of the Peace (JP) for Levin. JPs provide an essential voluntary service in relieving the load on District Court Judges. Barrie was also the chair of Horowhenua JPs and is still a committee member. He will continue his role as an administrative JP as he has done for the past four years.

Barrie's long list of service to the community includes Ōtaki, Horowhenua and Waiopahu College youth groups, Scouts, Wahine Toa, Combined Adolescent Challenge Training Unit programme CACTUS (Police building positive relationships with rangatahi, their whānau and partners in the community) and surf lifesaving. He coached secondary school hockey for many years, volunteered as an umpire and is a past chair of the Hockey Association.

Barrie was a part of Levin's Promotional Council to help drive economic growth and sustainability through the 1980s. Some may remember 'Levin Today', a marketing tool that was created as a part of this initiative. A Rotarian as well, Barrie contributed a staggering 55 years of service to the Masonic Lodge, where voluntary work and service to the community is well known throughout the district.

He's been involved with the Levin Brass Band for 30 years, which saw him as a past president and now a life member. Barrie is the property manager for St Mary's Anglican Parish, Levin, with three churches, halls and offices to maintain and supply.

We'd like to give a big shout out to you as our Local Legend for this issue Barrie, thanks for your positive influence and leadership in our community – you rock!

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*Pictured Right: Local Legend Barrie Buck.*



# Contractors start work on next stage of Tara-Ika infrastructure growth project

**The tender to extend Levin's wastewater network to the Tara-Ika growth area and upgrade part of the existing network was been awarded to Higgins Contractors Levin.**

Tara-Ika is a \$38.1 million project that will provide services to allow the private sector to build >2,500 homes on 400ha east of Levin. The project will deliver Three Waters services, a roading network, and Council-managed community infrastructure (parks and sporting fields). It is partly funded by Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP) as part of the Government's "shovel-ready" fund to support recovery from impacts of COVID-19.

Since the project began in December last year, new sections of the wastewater network have been constructed, including upgrading the existing wastewater main down Queen Street East.

The latest works will upgrade the existing wastewater main along Tararua Road (West), followed by Cambridge Street (South). The project will also build new network sections to connect it with Tara-Ika and an upgrade for part of the water main on Cambridge Street.

"We want to thank everyone for their patience as this critical infrastructure is installed," says Tony Parsons, Senior Project Manager at Horowhenua District Council.

This latest stage of the Tara-Ika project will be completed by the end of April 2022, subject to weather and COVID-19 level restrictions.



# Is your household ready if someone gets COVID-19?

**Tē tōia, tē haumatia** | Nothing can be achieved without a plan and a way of doing things

It's only a matter of time before a positive case of COVID-19 is in your community. The health care system will always be there for those who need help but most people who contract COVID-19 will not require hospitalisation and will be able to isolate safely at home. Everyone who tests positive for COVID-19 and their household needs to stay at home and avoid contact with others, including whānau.

Being ready is about people, conversations, connections and knowing what to do. Being ready will mean your whānau and community can help each other if needed.

Use the list below to have a kōrero and work out how ready you are to deal with COVID-19. Then, make a plan for your household.

## 1. Make a plan

*Work out what you'll do if someone gets māuiui/sick*

- Identify people outside of your home who could help if your family is isolating, for example by dropping off food or supplies or for social support.  
Services like The Student Volunteer Army might be able to help with drop offs and Work and Income may be able to help with costs.
- Are there people in your household who might need additional care or support? Talk to any in-home carers you have to make sure you agree in advance about what will happen if you need to isolate. Make plans if you have shared custody of a child or dependent.
- Talk to your school, work, community groups and networks to find out what their plan is - do they need anything from you? Will they be able to support you?
- Work out how to let people know your household is isolating - this could be a sign for your front door or fence. Set up a spot outside your front door with sanitiser and a pen and paper or QR code for people to record their details if they are helping with contactless drop off.

If people are helping with contactless drop offs, do you want them to text or message before they arrive? Beep the car horn from the gate? Use an agreed entrance?

- Write down any household instructions someone else could easily follow if you get sick. Cover things like feeding pets, paying bills and watering plants.
- Think and talk about how you reduce the chances of COVID-19 spreading across your household. Can you reduce shared spaces, or increase cleaning?

## 2. Have what you need

*Work out what you'll need to help you and those around you*

- Make a list of whānau information - include everyone's names, ages, national health index numbers (NHI), any medical conditions and medication they normally take or medical supplies each person will need. Include emergency contact information like your Doctor's clinic, afterhours, and any support agencies.
- Gather things you enjoy. What might help stop boredom if you're isolating at home?

## 3. Know and share your plan

*Make sure the people who matter know what they'll need to do*

- Have a house meeting so everyone (including younger ones) knows what to do, how to support each other and who to contact if someone gets sick or has to go to hospital.
- Share your plan with wider whānau, neighbours and regular manuhiri/visitors and talk to them about what you'll need them to do and how you can help each other.

## 4. Reach out to friends and whānau

*We're all in this together and we'll get through together*

- Stay connected - arrange regular catch-ups with your whānau, friends and community. If you're isolating make sure these are online or by phone.
- Support your friends, whānau and workmates to make their own plans to get ready.
- Find out what your community is doing - is there a group making meals to freeze, sharing planning tips or just staying in the know?

Find out more at [Covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz)

**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government

**Unite  
against  
COVID-19**

# The Box

*Kiri Pepene – Heritage Information Research and Local History Librarian  
Pamela Coleman – Community Engagement Librarian*

**At Libraries Horowhenua we value the stories of our predecessors and have been actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records worldwide. One of the best parts of being a Heritage Librarian is receiving cherished treasures.**

Many people donate items that are part of their family history. All of it is important but now and again you are entrusted with something that is truly unique.

So imagine my surprise when a plain cardboard box arrived at Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom from an elderly woman who was moving and wanted the contents of the box to be returned home to Foxton. There was no indication of what was inside and the box made its way to me in Levin.

I tentatively opened it and was stunned by what was inside. As we unpacked the contents carefully, we realised that it was a complete wedding dress from 1912. Included was a lovingly wrapped wedding picture. There was a cake topper, lapels that were worn by the groom, his best man and groomsman. We found the bride's tiny shoes and even two rare, black ostrich feathers. Considering the age of the contents they were in great condition and together with some other items provided strong providence.

The importance of a wedding dress, which was beautifully homemade with intricate stitching, along with the other items tantalised me and hinted at a deeper story of the beginnings of a family. I had to find out all about the family, so I started doing some digging. Who wore this dress? What happened to the couple, but most importantly, what was the connection to Foxton and why was it so important that the dress come back here?

So, with my detective hat on and magnifying glass out, the hunt began.

The dress was worn by Ethel May Hughes who married John Lambert Buick on September the 25th, 1912. They were married at the Presbyterian Church in Foxton. An article in the Manawatu Herald describes the proceedings, with a detailed account of the dress.

"The bridal party were motored to the church. The bride, who was accompanied and given away by her father, was charmingly attired in white silk, trimmed with silk lace and fringe, skirt draped with silk all over lace and a train embroidered with lover's knots. The bride carried a white bouquet of camellias and pearl blossoms".





Ethel was born in Foxton in December 1885. Her parents were George Hughes and Martha Ann nee Ingram. At the time Ethel was born, the family lived on a farm on No 2 Line (Newth Road). To give their story context it's useful and interesting to explore the history of her parents and their strong connection to Foxton.

George Hughes came to New Zealand from England with his brother at the age of 20 arriving in Wellington in May 1874. Three days later the brothers sailed for Foxton aboard the paddle steamer "Manawatu". Arriving at the port of Foxton they were greeted by an unpleasant scene. For three days Foxton had experienced a massive storm. The wharf had been swept away, chimneys had fallen down all over town and many windows were smashed and roofs blown away. The next day they departed ravaged Foxton on a tram bound for Palmerston North. For the next couple of years George worked putting up the Telegraph line around the bottom of the North Island. George finally made his way back to Foxton and began working as a Tram driver on the Foxton Palmerston North Tram Line. He drove a four-horse team on the old wooden tracks to Palmerston North.

It was in 1876 that young Martha arrived in New Zealand, from England, with her brother and also came up to Foxton. The following year George and Martha were married in a little cottage in Jenks Street by the Rev James Duncan. By the mid-1880s George and Martha had 44 acres of property on No 2 Line. Twelve children were born there and the farm became known as 'Pearl Farm.' George was a loyal member of the Foxton Racing Club and attended nearly 70 consecutive meetings, even attending when he retired to Paekākāriki.

This is only the beginning of this story. There is so much more to the story of John and Ethel. Alas, word count makes it impossible to do it justice here. The dress and I will be taking a trip down to Wellington in February so that the dress can be examined by Te Papa's textile conservators and protected for the future.

Precious objects like this give meaning to life, creating family bonds, linking the present to the past, and building bridges to the future. It is such a vital part of what Libraries Horowhenua do.

*Top: Ethel's wedding dress and shoes.  
Middle left: Lapels worn by the bridal party.  
Middle right: Photograph from Ethel and John's wedding day in 1912.  
Bottom left: Kiri Pepene examining the contents from the box.  
Bottom right: Details of Ethel's wedding dress.*

Sources:  
Kete Horowhenua, Papers Past, Foxton Historical Society and Colin Cochran (Notes)

# Heritage Room

## Discover the past and meet new friends at the Heritage Room at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

You might have walked by and wondered what the Heritage Room at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō is all about, here's an insight into what's available there and how you can be involved.

Volunteers with a shared interest in history come together each week to meet up and help out at the Heritage Room. It's not just social, there's a lot of work to be done; helping people with family history queries or general historical queries, archiving and sorting, and also reading and researching for your own curiosity. It's a good way to meet like-minded people, keep mentally active and be involved in a community project.

Every Tuesday and Saturday from 10am till 12.30pm, and Wednesday and Thursday 12.30pm till 3pm, you can pop in and talk to a volunteer there and they might be able to help or direct you with your family history journey.

***“Please come in, have a look and see what we do. There’s a wealth of knowledge available to us, and once you start looking it’s hard to stop.”***

– Kevin Miles

There are many tools at the Heritage Room to help you with your research; you have access to:

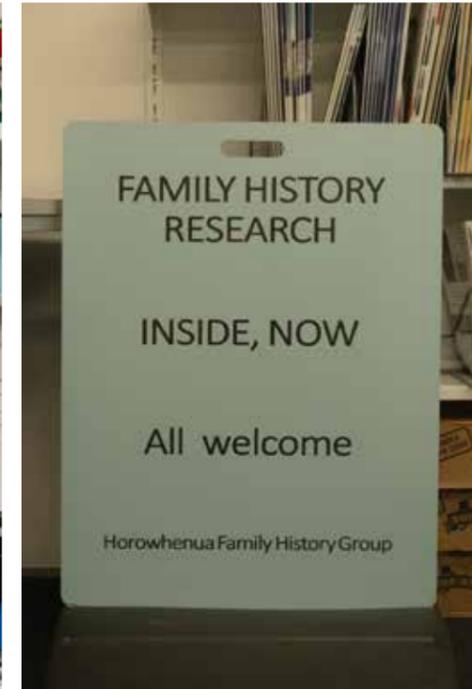
- Ancestry.com
- Online New Zealand databases
- Local archives
- Levin Chronicles
- Microfiche – births, deaths and marriages, electoral roles.

Kevin Miles (pictured right), a retired Secondary School teacher is an active member and President of the Horowhenua History Group, as well as being part of the Horowhenua History Society and a Committee member of the Heritage Room at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō.

“Please come in, have a look and see what we do. There’s a wealth of knowledge available to us, and once you start looking it’s hard to stop.” said Kevin.

Finding out the details and reading personal stories of past major events or politics, helps us to understand why things are the way they are today. And tracking your family's story can be meaningful, insightful and fascinating.

Next time you are in town, take a special trip to the Heritage Room, explore and dive into some old newspapers, maps, or have a chat with a volunteer and see where it leads you, you have nothing to lose.



**We'd like to honour our retired service men and women in our next issue for ANZAC day.**

If you have a story you'd like to share with us, please get in touch with us.

Email @ [communications@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:communications@horowhenua.govt.nz), call ☎ **06 366 0999** (leave your name and number and we will ring you back), write to

✉ **Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540** or drop it into Customer Service at 📍 **126 Oxford Street, Levin.**

# Gardening with Simon

## Summer Planting Guide

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**I trust you all had a very enjoyable Christmas and saw in the New Year without too many dramas.**

Below are some plants you might like to get in the ground for summer.

Tomatoes should be coming along nicely, remember to remove the laterals and the two bottom leaves to allow a bit of airflow and stop back splash when watering.

Capsicums can be used in many ways, fresh in salads or green in tomato soup. One of the benefits of capsicums is that you can harvest them at any stage of growth. They start off green and then turn red, orange or yellow. I personally like the red for the colour and the sweetness.

Cucumber and zucchini are two vegetables you need to keep a very close eye on once they have started to form fruit, as overnight they will end up as big as a marrow.

Then of course there is the ever popular lettuce and carrot varieties and any herb you may like to put in.

If you have any gaps where you had something planted, why not plant something there which you may not have planted before. The good thing about doing this is that if you decide you are not a great fan of that particular vegetable, someone you know may like them so it does not get wasted.

You hold the key to your gardens, so the final decision has to be yours, so let your imagination run wild.

Well, that is it from Gardening with Simon. You can comment on this article or if you want to say hello, please get in touch.

*Simon Broad*

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☎ 027 769 0674

@ sf.broad@xtra.co.nz



Let's cook...

Salt & Pepper Cafe's

# Chocolate Caramel Slice

## Ingredients

### Base:

Butter	200g
Caster Sugar	75g
Plain Flour	170g
Cornflour	35g

### Filling:

Butter	100g
Golden Syrup	150g
Condensed Milk	900g

### Chocolate Ganache Icing:

Dark Chocolate	200g
Cream	¾ Cup
Butter	50g
White Chocolate	50g
Splash of oil	

## Method

### For the base:

1. Cream butter and sugar together then add the dry ingredients and mix well.
2. Press into a prepared tray lined with baking paper and bake for 15-20 minutes at 180°C.

### For the filling:

3. In a bowl put the butter, golden syrup and condensed milk in a bowl and microwave for 3-5 minutes until the butter is melted.
4. Whisk together and pour over the base. Bake until the top of the caramel filling is golden brown.
5. Take out of the oven and cool and chill ready for the topping.

### For the topping:

6. Make the ganache by putting the chocolate, cream and butter in a bowl in the microwave for 2-3 minutes until the butter is melted, whisk and let stand on the bench.
7. Melt the white chocolate with a dash of oil in a separate bowl in the microwave.
8. Stir the mixture together.
9. Pour ganache over the caramel filling. Then, with either a thin nozzle piping bag or just a spoon, make lines with the white chocolate and oil all going one way. Then, with a skewer or toothpick, make lines running across the other way to give the icing effect.



Thanks to the team at Salt & Pepper Cafe

4 Buller Road, Levin

[saltandpeppercave.co.nz](http://saltandpeppercave.co.nz) 06 368 7270

# Puzzle corner

WORDFIND

## Horowhenua

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Muhunua East  
 Poroutawhao  
 Waitāre  
 Manakau  
 Taitoko  
 Foxton

Kuku  
 Koputaroa  
 Ōpiki  
 Ōhau  
 Shannon  
 Lake Papaitonga

Hōkio Beach  
 Foxton Beach  
 Tokomaru  
 Gladstone  
 Waikawa Beach  
 Lake Horowhenua

SODUKU

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# 'You do you' for 2022

Do you make New Year's resolutions? Do you wait for a new year to begin to set goals? Or, do you prefer to make smaller, incremental changes throughout the year?

Anytime is a great time to look ahead, set some personal goals and plan what new activities, events or skills you'd like to have a go at.

Some ways to increase your wellbeing are:

- spend more time with your friends and family – set up some dates
- attempt new recipes – plan these into your shopping list
- plant a garden
- learn a language you've always wanted to
- read that book you never have – talk to our knowledgeable librarians at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō.

Be bold and join a group, it can be a fun and daunting way to try something different and meet new people. If you are wondering where to start, 'Hey Horowhenua' has an easy to use and updated list of events and groups available to join.

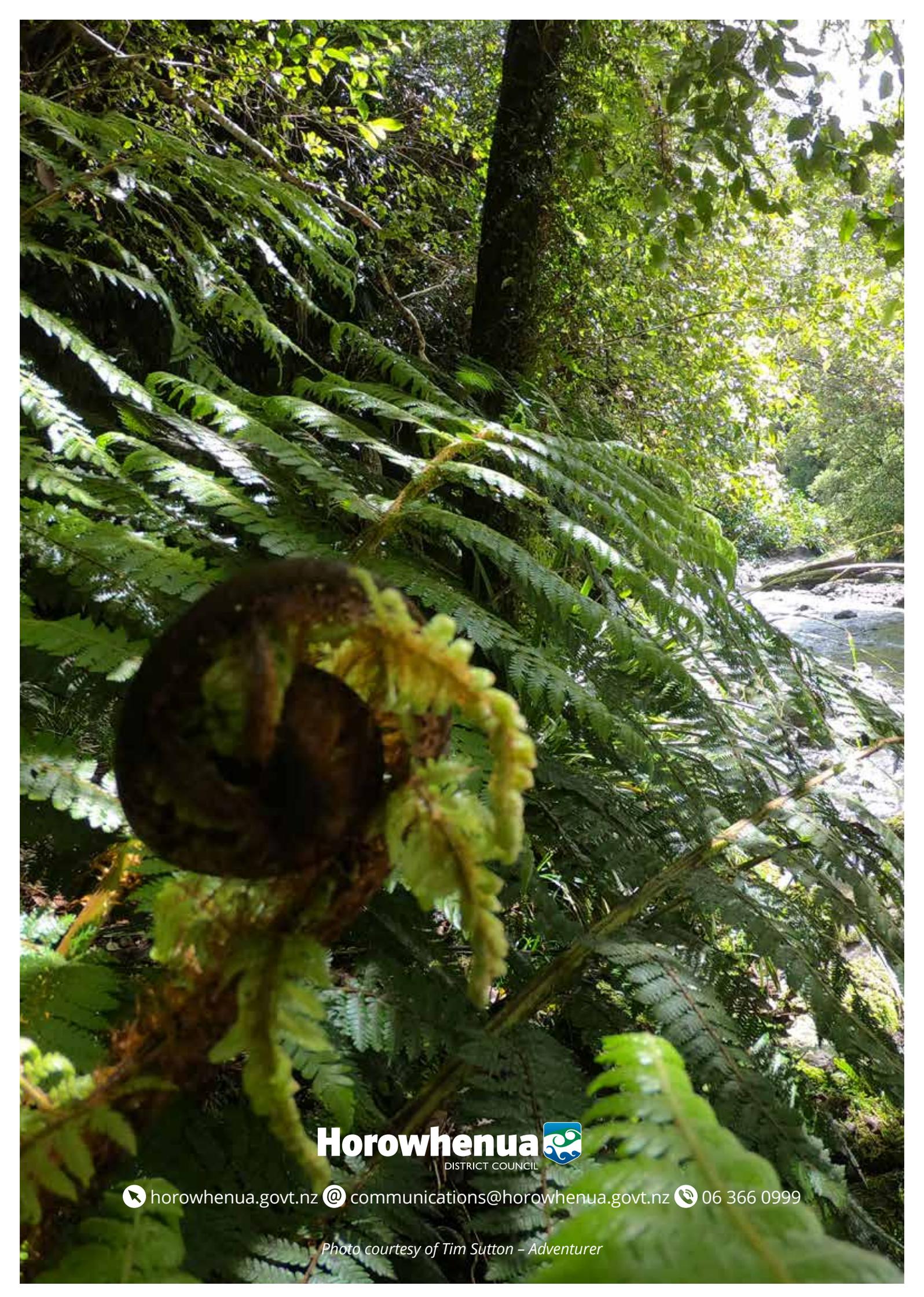
Two lovely women Katie (left) and Robyn (right) were new to the area and found it difficult to find what was on and what groups they could join, so they decided to create this website for everyone.

Check out:

- 📍 [heyhorowhenua.co.nz/groups](https://heyhorowhenua.co.nz/groups) to see which groups are in the area and how to get involved; or
- 📍 [heyhorowhenua.co.nz/events](https://heyhorowhenua.co.nz/events) to see which events are on.

## HEY! HOROWHENUA





**Horowhenua**   
DISTRICT COUNCIL

 [horowhenua.govt.nz](http://horowhenua.govt.nz)  [communications@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:communications@horowhenua.govt.nz)  06 366 0999

*Photo courtesy of Tim Sutton - Adventurer*