

ACCESS FULL ARTICLES ONLINE AT WWW.GREATBARRIER.CO.NZ/AOTEAADVOCATE

EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL & MAY
Regular Yoga Classes
 Yoga for Presence | Tues | 5:30pm | Gallery
 Yoga for Tradies | Thurs | 5:15pm | Gallery
 Hatha Yoga | Fri | 10am | Glenfern

27 APRIL
Dog's Day Out!
 Bird Aversion (Ōkiwi & Medlands)
 Dog & Owner Training
 (OME Eco Hub Medlands)
 Details within | All Welcome

27 APR & 1 MAY
Grow Food Aotea Workshops
 Feeding the Living Soil
 Making Hot Compost
 Full details online | Contact Caity Endt

27 APRIL
Resin Art
 9:30am | Community Art Gallery
 Supplies provided | \$180
 Contact Philip: info@resinandmore.co.nz

28 APRIL
Currach Quiz Night
 Last quiz with maestro Heidi Mills
 Fundraiser for Levi's pump track
 6:30pm

29 APRIL
Island Screens
 'Scraper' - Sundance Film Festival
 Winner 2023
 Kitchen from 5:30pm | Movie at 7:15pm
 Entry \$10 | \$15 for non members
 Tryphena Social Club

30 APRIL
**Local Board Extraordinary
 Business Meeting**
 1pm
 Claris Conference Centre

MAY
**Painting Workshops & New Art
 Exhibition**
 with Helen McLorinan
 Community Art Gallery
 Check our online events calendar

4 MAY
Growers & Makers Market
 from 10am
 Claris Conference Centre
 First Saturday of every month

**MAY, JUNE,
 & JULY**
Kawa Marae Youth Program
 10am - 3pm | Registration required
 Dates and Full details of program
 inside

All events can be found online at
www.greatbarrier.co.nz/events

Urgent Fundraiser

Support Our Local Ambulance Service

Find Details Within



BEING TRUE

Lurline (Lou) Reed's passion for both children and Māori culture has enabled Te Reo me ōna tikanga to become an essential part of Ōkiwi school and the community for the past 34 years. Last week, Lou retired.

"In the 1990s the Board of Trustees consulted with the community in regards to developing a localised charter. Whetu McGregor said 'definitely teach Te Reo, but I don't want it isolated, I want you to teach the whole school.' And so that's what we did."

Afterwards Te Reo and other Māori practices were integrated into the kura and community. "Rereahu Woodcock ran Te Reo night classes at Ōkiwi prior to 2000, Brian my husband ran Te Reo classes at both Motairehe marae and Ōkiwi school while supporting the men with their whaikōrero after 2000."

"Te Motu o Aotea Māori Women's Welfare League was established in the early 1990s. We wanted to bring back skills that our Māori people had before colonization. We organized 12 weavers from Northland and Auckland to come and share their skills."



Ōkiwi kura make sure tikanga is integrated, through every day practices.

"We start the morning off with karakia and the children have a process called whakapuare (opening of the day). Every morning there are four rōpū (groups), and each will have a kaikarakia (someone who starts the karakia), hīmene, two kaimihi (someone doing the mihi to acknowledge the kaiako and any manuhiri or parents who may be there), a kaiwaiata (someone to start the waiata tautoko). We open morning tea and lunch up with a karakia and have different commands that are taught and known by the children, as well as phrases they can repeat themselves. All the children learn the pepeha and how to do a mihimihi."

"It's not about the teaching, it's about the children using the Reo." For the tamariki coming out of Ōkiwi kura, Reo becomes second nature, whether they are Māori or Pakeha. "The skills they learn at Ōkiwi school are with them for the rest of their lives. Wherever they are, they are confident to stand up and introduce themselves."

Lou speaks about what it was like for her growing up being Māori, "I remember coming home from school at the age of five crying and mum said to me "what's the matter?" I said, "these kids are calling me a Māori - which was not a good thing to be. My mother quickly put me right there."

It wasn't until Lou went to teachers college that she started learning Te Reo as there were no options to do so at high school in the 1970s.

"I completed the 5th, 6th and 7th form. I was the only Māori girl to do that. So it gave me a voice to speak to the other Māori children. I said "don't leave at 16. There are too many of you doing that. If you have a problem, put your hand up. If you don't understand, put your hand up. If that teacher is not prepared to teach you or help you, go to the headmaster. I wanted them to develop strength and belief in themselves and their capabilities."

"As a teacher my dream has always been to guide children into making good choices for their lives and their communities. To be kind to themselves and others, to be happy, be creative, to sing and dance freely like no one's looking, be curious and ask questions."

"I am positive with all the love, caring parents and staff at Ōkiwi, that it will continue to rock."

Lou recently received a moko kauae at Koriniti marae in Whanganui. "I am Māori, this is where this moko kauae comes from. I was Māori in my heart and now I wear it, I show the world. This is me, this is who I am."

Words by Georgie Higham. To listen to Lou Reed's full interview with Tim Higham on AoteaFM visit: www.greatbarrier.co.nz/island-stories-podcast

GET INVOLVED

Auckland Council is working towards eradicating and keeping out a number of high risk pest plant species from Aotea. We need your help to hunt these plants out.

- ✓ Visit inaturalist.org
- ✓ Join project 'Aotea High Risk Weeds'
- ✓ Identify and record your weedy find!

✉ pestfree@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Aotea Growers & Makers Market



SATURDAY @ CLARIS CONFERENCE CENTRE
4 MAY 2024
 PROUDLY GOING ZERO WASTE
 PLEASE BRING YOUR RESUBLES!
 BROUGHT TO YOU BY AOTEORA TRUST
 ENQUIRIES: CAITY ENDT AT 021 212 7153

COMPOST AVAILABLE AT ANAMATA

Anamata has locally produced compost for sale at \$5 for 10 litres!



This compost is the result of a concerted effort to collect and process green and food waste on-site, thanks to the support from the Waste Minimization and Innovation Fund (WMIF) and the community who deliver their compostable materials to Anamata.

Want to contribute to our compost?

Anamata also accepts food scrap drop-offs

If you are interested to see the process, call or pop into Anamata to arrange a time that suits.

9am - 4pm - Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
 10am - 3pm - Saturdays
 Closed - Sundays & Public Holidays

Contact: info@anamata.nz | 09 4290 654



WASTELINES

Updates on Aotea Zero Waste Initiatives

We're excited to see some great new initiatives aimed at minimising waste and reducing our carbon footprint. Here are some of the latest developments shaping Aotea's journey towards zero waste and resilience:

Recycling Vapes at The Rocks



Tiddles at The Rocks has taken a proactive approach towards reducing e-waste by offering a vape recycling program. Customers can now drop their used vapes into a designated bucket at The Rocks, knowing that these materials will be collected and sent to Auckland for recycling. This service, provided free of charge by Tiddles, demonstrates a commitment to environmental stewardship and community engagement.



Carbon Neutral Cleaning Products

Claris Store has introduced a range of cleaning products from 'Cleanery'. If you use cleaning products, these ones come with many eco friendly features, including:

- > *Locally made in Auckland- less carbon emissions associated with transport*
- > *Septic tank friendly*
- > *Minimal packaging, reducing waste generation*
- > *Concentrated formulations, saving space and resources in the shop and during transportation*
- > *Elimination of water content in the products, reducing costs and environmental burden associated with water transportation.*
- > *The sachets are a reusable soft plastic, and not having liquid in them, they don't require rinsing first*
- > *You can fill into your own existing spray bottles.*
- > *If a Cleanery refillable bottle is purchased and it becomes damaged, it is fully recyclable. The nozzle just needs to be separated from the bottle and brought to Anamata.*

Not only are these 'Cleanery' products environmentally responsible, but we think they also offer great value for money.

By embracing innovative solutions and community collaboration, Aotea is paving the way towards a greener, cleaner future.

Learn more about zero waste at:

anamata.nz



URGENT FUNDRAISER Support Our Local Ambulance Service



Last issue, we covered volunteer paramedic Adam Johnston's urgent call for change to ensure the island's ambulance service is sustainable. Over 60 people attended a hui at the Barrier Social Club on Saturday, to show their support for this life-saving service.

Here is a summary of the discussion:

Essentially Adam has been volunteering as a paramedic for 15 years, but he can no longer sustain this.



Short Term Issue

Adam is not available for two months starting from early May and we need to pay a paramedic to come over to the island to cover him. We currently have two amazing St Johns ambulance volunteers but what we're missing is a qualified paramedic to work with them.

This requires \$14,000. There is no St Johns funding available, as the island does not reach the threshold to receive funding for wages, so we (as in the community) need to raise the funds within the next two weeks.

If we can't afford the cost of a locum paramedic, then we may not have an ambulance service while Adam is away (although of course we'll still have our after-hours doctors and nurses who can attend any emergency).

Donations can be made to:

The Great Barrier Island Community Health Trust

Bank account: 12-3011-0531871-00

Reference: Paramedic

As someone at the meeting said, if 1,000 people give just \$14, we're there!

Longer term, the proposal is to create a new role - a "community paramedic" - someone who does more than just the ambulance. In other words, they manage the ambulance but are also able to assist with primary care in the community. This would require funding of 40 hours per week, with a total cost of between \$105,000 and \$120,000 per annum. Funding would need to be sourced and managed by a local trust. This could be an existing trust, or a new one could be set up.

But for now, our focus is on the \$14,000. If anyone can raise the money, we can!

Let's go for it.

CRITTER OF THE MONTH

Snapping Shrimp (Alpheus novaezealandiae)



These guys are so loud, submarines famously sought out concentrations of them to hide from surface trackers in WW2!

Nickname: Pistol Shrimp

Kāinga: Low tidal zones/muddy shores around Aotea but can be found as deep as 50m or more

Population: Over 330 species worldwide. Aotea has one known native: *Alpheus novaezealandiae* (growing to 2-3cm).

Superpowers: Giant claw that produces a supersonic snap of compressed water. This compression heats up to an astonishing 4000 degrees Celsius! When the bubble created "pops", the sound is deafening, reaching 218 db (louder than a rock concert!) making it a deadly weapon

Diet: Primarily a scavenger, but will use its powerful snapping claw to stun prey and drag back to its burrow

Song: That popping sound you might hear when snorkeling - off the Aotea coast there is a "morning", "barnyard" and "evening" chorus.

By Ecology Vision Aotea

KAWA MARAE YOUTH PROGRAM

Kawa Mara Taiohi Tū Māia Program will run fortnightly on Sundays from 10am - 3pm. This may however change, due to weather in the winter months. A Panui will be put up on Barrier Chit Chat fortnightly (a week prior) to advise of activities, any date changes, location, and any other information we need to provide.

The ages for this program are 10yrs to 18yrs old. Children under 10 are most welcome to attend provided they are accompanied by a parent or guardian. As we have limited transportation, we ask, if possible, to please drop off and pick up, your Taiohi/Tamariki at the location of their chosen activity.

Dates for the following three months:

- > 12 May & 26 May
- > 9 June & 23 June
- > 7 July & 21 July

Kai will be provided, (unless your child has severe food allergies). Your Taiohi/Tamariki must bring their own snacks and drink bottles. Hats and sunscreen are also essential.

Booking contact details:

Call: 027 525 8802

Email: nancy.kawamarae@gmail.com or through Facebook messenger.

Registration is required prior to attendance.

We hope to see you there!

Looking to make a submission or advertise? Email us on: AoteaAdvocate@gmail.com

AOTEA EARLY LEARNING TURNS 1!

On the 26 April the Aotea Early Learning Centre turns one! Years in the making, this pivotal organisation has transformed lives across the island since it opened its doors nearly 365 days ago. Offering three days of licensed pre-school education to our tamariki, it has allowed mums and whānau to return to work, take on voluntary roles or just regroup.



The first year was a pilot but they are on the cusp of receiving a permanent license to operate. It's a beautiful space where our island's under 5s can learn and grow. Well done to the Aotea Education Trust for its amazing work getting the centre off the ground and humming.

Words by Kathy Cumming, Community Broker

DRUG AND ALCOHOL SUPPORT

Aotea was lucky enough to have a visit from addiction specialist Peter Thorburn. Having broken free of decades-long addictions and a life of crime (he was a renowned meth cook) Pete took himself back to school and studied for eight years to become an expert in the field of trauma, addiction, and mental health. He hosted two workshops – one at Kawa and the other in Claris. They were hard-hitting and pulled no punches, describing the genuinely shocking nature of meth addiction – it's lure and the damage it does. We're hoping to get Pete back later in the year for some more workshops. Thanks to the local board for funding this visit. If you or anyone you know is experiencing issues with meth, please see below for information on how to access support.

New Regular Drug and Alcohol Counselling

For many years, Aotea has lacked a dedicated drug and alcohol counselling service. This has now changed, with Community Alcohol and Drug Services (CADS) sending someone over each month, with contact also available with that person throughout the month (by phone). The service is completely free.

The unique thing about the new CADS system is that it offers total confidentiality (should you want it). You don't need to book through the health centre - you can contact the counsellor directly to make an appointment.

CADS clinician Suzie Walker (currently the regular visiting counsellor) says "We became aware that being more accessible for people who are experiencing concerns with alcohol and drug use, particularly young people, would be useful, so we started face to face clinics for residents."

"An alcohol and drug clinician is now available at the health centre on the second Wednesday of each month. You can contact them directly to arrange an appointment. The number is 0800 845 1818. That number will take you through to CADS central and you can ask for the Great Barrier Island clinician.

"Our clinicians are very excited to spend time with you and provide as much education, information and support as possible."

Words by Kathy Cumming, Community Broker

TOURISM STEERING GROUP BEGINS

A new steering committee has convened, following the initial tourism hui that discussed the Destination Management Plan back in February, attendees from that meeting (minutes available online or from the local board office) who showed interest in the future of the island's tourism industry were invited to attend a recent follow up meeting.

Local board rep and temporary Chair of the group, Chris Ollivier described the vibe of the meeting as "positive" and at the end attendees were asked if they wished to select themselves to form a steering group.

The establishment of the group is to create a coordinated effort to tackle action points raised in the Destination Management Plan (also accessible online or in print from the local board office).

The steering group is now made up of Chris as the nominated local board rep along with Karen Thompson-Smith (Tataki Auckland Unlimited), Grant Bacon (Barrier Air), Jason Ross (Island Gin), Jason Elliott, Fiona Green (Aotea Lodge), Chris Sattler (Island Aviation), Teresa Smyth & Ben Rogers (SeaLink).

For anyone interested in this process or for those that would like to contribute to the discussion, please contact Chris Ollivier via email chris.ollivier@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or phone 027 225 4302

INCREASED WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS ACROSS AOTEA

Species Monitoring at Windy Hill

Monitoring species is one of the most enjoyable parts of working in the Windy Hill Sanctuary, giving us an indication of how well species are faring under our pest management program.

Each year through May and June, lizards, invertebrates, birds, freshwaters stream species and seabird burrows are counted.

Jo Sim of DabChicks, with her dog Miro, has been a frequent visitor to the Sanctuary over the past decade to survey seabird burrows and check out new ones. Accompanied by field team member Maxine Barrowman, they found the 'trifecta'- finding Cooks, Black and Grey Faced Petrel burrows, and even banded a Black Petrel chick.

As Windy Hill maintain pressure on pests, including feral cats and pigs that predate seabirds, they are finding more seabirds and burrows present.

Medlands & Hirakimata

Jo and Miro also visited OME in Medlands and found seven new Black Petrel burrows around Station Rock area, and also on the Walker property in Okiwi.

Dr Kevin Parker also carried out the third North Island Robin banding on Hirakimata where populations have established following translocations over the years. The team banded four birds this seasons fitting them with tiny coloured bracelets on their legs, allowing them to be identified and to monitor the population which currently sits at around 20-30 birds. If you are walking up Hirakimata these engaging birds may pop out on the track in front of you.

Read the full article from 'What's going on up the Hill?' online, where you'll find some video clips and further information.

Words by Judy Gilbert, Founding trustee of the Windy Hill Sanctuary

IT'S A DOG'S DAY OUT! SATURDAY 27TH APRIL



BIRD AVERSION

Okiwi Airport from 9am-10am

OME Eco Hub from 11am-12.30pm

Aotea is home to many ground-dwelling birds. Aversion training helps to teach dogs to stay clear of any birds they may come across on their walks along the beach or in the bush.

'TRAINING TIME'

A fun event for dogs and their hoomans!

What - Dog and owner training

Where - OME Eco-Hub

When - 10am-12.30pm



Aotea Community
**NATIVE
PLANT
NURSERY**

OPEN DAYS:

OPEN SATURDAY'S
FROM 10AM - 2PM

OR BY APPOINTMENT

CONTACT: AOTEANURSERY@GMAIL.COM

END OF GARDEN RD, MULBERRY GROVE

SUPPORTED BY AUCKLAND COUNCIL &
AOTEA/GREAT BARRIER LOCAL BOARD

FREE Microchipping & Desexing of Aotea Cats

Be a responsible cat owner Keep your cat and wildlife safe

Aotea is home to rare and endangered species facing a threat from feral cats. There is feral cat trapping underway - let's keep your pet cat safe.

- Microchip your cat
- Desex your cat
- Register your cat in the Aotea Cat-alogue
- Put a collar on your cat for easy ID
- Keep your cat on your property

For FREE desexing and microchipping contact local GBI Vet Anne Kernohan on 09 4290 463 or text 021 797 538

Register your pet cat in the Cat-alogue, email: annamarie.clough@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



FIRE EMERGENCY **NOTICE OF CHANGE TO FIRE SEASONS**

Notice is given under section 56(1)(b) of the Fire and Emergency New Zealand Act 2017 that a change of fire season is declared from 9am, Monday 25 March 2024 in the following area(s) until revoked or amended by Fire and Emergency New Zealand:

Hauraki Gulf Islands – For Waiheke, Great Barrier, Rakino, Kawau & Ponui Islands a Restricted Fire Season has been declared (fire permit required)
All other Islands of the Hauraki Gulf will remain in a Prohibited Fire Season (Total Fire Ban)

A permit is required to light a fire in open air. See www.checkitsalright.nz for types of fire which have been authorised as not being fires in open air and do not need a permit.

You commit an offence if you knowingly or recklessly light, or allow another person to light, a fire in open air in an area that is in a Restricted Fire Season unless under a permit issued by Fire and Emergency New Zealand and in accordance with any conditions of the permit. Any permits issued during a Restricted Fire Season are suspended if Fire and Emergency declares a Prohibited Fire Season, or prohibits fire in open air in the area.

Auckland Mainland is in an Open Fire Season

Further information about fire seasons is available on www.fireandemergency.nz

Geoff Purcell | District Manager Counties Manukau
 To check the season status in an area please visit www.checkitsalright.nz or call 09 429 0258

Job Vacancies Aotea Family Support Group

Home Care Workers

AFSG are looking for Home Care Support workers to join our amazing team, supporting older people, those with disabilities or recovering from injury to retain independence and continue living at home on the motu. Helping with tasks from cleaning to helping someone shower. Full training and support given. Full drivers license and police check required. Encouraging applications from males, tangata whenua and rangatahi with an interest in caring for people.

Rangatahi Activities Assistant

Position available from now until November. Must be aged 18-25 to represent the voice of rangatahi in the Kaiarahi rangatahi program. Must be creative, relate well to rangatahi, available for some weekend work and have a full drivers license. 8 hours per week initially with further opportunity for up to 15 hours per week. Closing date Sunday 5th May 2024, 5pm

For an informal discussion, job descriptions and application forms. Please call Beverley on 021 02468 696 or email office@aoteafamilysupportgroup.co.nz

THE ROCKS AOTEA **OUR WINTER HOURS START MAY 1** **MON - THURS 10AM - 5PM** **FRIDAY 10AM - 5PM (NEW HOURS)** **SAT & SUN 10AM - 4PM (NEW HOURS)**

BARRIER'S RESIDENT SALES TEAM

Mike Jensen 021 825 826
Karen Lombard 021 765 776

m.jensen@barfoot.co.nz
k.lombard@barfoot.co.nz

BARFOOT & THOMPSON



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✉ info@clarisstoreaotea.nz

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Fresh milk, bread, fruit and vegetables. Cold beverages including beer and wine. Ice and ice cream. Locally made products. Bait, fishing gear and all other grocery and general needs

BARRIER SOCIAL CLUB KITCHEN



OPENING DAYS:
 MONDAY MOVIE NIGHTS
 5.30-7.30PM
 WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY,
 SATURDAY
 5.30-8.30PM-ISH



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PEOPLE & POST

NORTH TO SOUTH SHUTTLE SERVICE

OPERATING MONDAY - SATURDAY

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