

RURAL TRAVEL FUND SUCCESS

The Ōtorohanga Sports Club recently wrapped up a fantastic season for their Junior Rugby programme, made possible in part by a \$1,150 grant from the Sport Rural Travel Fund. This funding helped cover travel costs, allowing the young players to attend practices and competitions throughout the region. We're proud to have supported these rising rugby stars and look forward to seeing them continue to thrive in the sport!



CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY CELEBRATION

On 8th October 2024, we proudly hosted a citizenship ceremony, welcoming new citizens to the Ōtorohanga District. It was a wonderful celebration of unity and diversity, as we embraced individuals from various backgrounds into our community. The ceremony marked an important milestone in the lives of our new citizens, with each person publicly declaring their commitment to New Zealand through an oath or affirmation of allegiance. We thank everyone who attended and helped make this event special. Welcome to Ōtorohanga.



UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Ōtorohanga Community Board	Monday 4 November 4.00 pm
Kāwhia Community Board	Thursday 7 November 4.00 pm
Council – Extraordinary	Tuesday 12 November 10.00 am
Elected Member Workshops	Tuesday 12 November 11.00 am
Council	Tuesday 26 November 10.00 am

ŌTOROHANGA COMMUNITY GRANTS

We're pleased to announce the successful recipients of the Ōtorohanga Community Grants for Round 1 of 2024/2025! This \$100,000 fund supports community initiatives, including \$3,554 awarded to the Pacifika Dance Group at Ōtorohanga College for new performance uniforms.



LIBRARY

Did you know that the library offer way more than just books? See below some of the amazing programmes and spaces you can join to learn new skills.



STEM

Are your children interested in science, technology, engineering, or maths? Do they want to try new things in a hands-on, fun environment? Do they just love making stuff? Then they'll love our Term 4 STEM sessions!

Ozobot, for ages 8+ - Mondays 3.30pm - 4.30pm
Code the movements of our Ozobots!

KEVA Contraptions, for ages 7+ - Thursdays 3.30pm - 4.30pm
Build structures with "the world's most captivating construction toy"

MAKERSPACE

SEW ME HOW - Saturday, 16th November 10:00am - 12:00 noon

Got a sewing project that needs a little guidance? Our sewing expert is here to help!

Marker Mark: Badge edition - Tuesday, 19th November 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Get creative and try out our Badge Maker at this hands-on workshop! \$5.00 per person - please register in advance.

DIGITAL PLATFORMS

Appy Hour!

Want to know how to use the apps the library has? Join us at one of our 'appy hours' where we can teach you how to get the most out of these apps.

13th November

- 10-11am Bolinda - online ePlatforms reading
- 1-2pm eWheelers - brings eBooks & Audiobooks to you wherever you are

11 December

- 10-11am Beanstack - earn badges, start your reading streak and be in to win amazing prizes!
- 1-2pm Beamafilm - a streaming service for film lovers to enjoy

Questions / Registrations?

Phone 07 873 7175 | Email library@otodc.govt.nz

ON THE ROAD TO A SAFER COMMUNITY

NEW MARAE SIGNAGE FOR OUR DISTRICT

You may start noticing some new signs popping up around our district in the coming days. As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping our roads and community safe, we've reached out to local Marae



to update and signpost these important gathering places.

Marae are central hubs for the community, often hosting large gatherings such as tangihanga (funerals), wananga (educational gatherings), and celebrations. Ensuring that drivers are aware of nearby driveways, cars and pedestrians is crucial for maintaining safety around these spaces.

Our roading team, together with our contractors, have begun installing updated Marae signs throughout the district, just in time for Labour weekend! The new signs will replace older versions and feature the latest designs that comply with NZTA standards, which were identified in our Speed Management Plan as an effective way to enhance driver awareness.

Installation began in early October 2024, with signs clearly marked with "Marae" or "Pā" and the relevant names where appropriate. This initiative is part of our wider effort to ensure the safety of our community and visitors, especially during busy times.



ROAD MAINTENANCE ON SCHEDULE FOR NGUTUNUI ROAD

Road construction has started on Ngutunui Road, as crews work to repair the failing road surface that has been under speed restrictions since June. The project is expected to take 12 weeks to complete, with road closures in place for the majority of the works. We are running to schedule with sealing on the first section now complete, allowing the team to move to the next section.

The road will be closed from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, to ensure the safety of both workers and the public. A detour route has been established, directing traffic via SH39 and SH31 to minimise disruption. We appreciate your patience as these necessary repairs are carried out.

SPEED MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024: NEW SIGNAGE INSTALLATION

The Speed Management Plan 2024, adopted by the Ōtorohanga District Council in March 2024, marks a significant step towards enhancing road safety in our community. After several years of effort to align with changing Government directives, we are pleased to announce that the plan has been officially endorsed by the Director of Land Transport as of October 2024.

As part of this initiative, we will be installing new speed limit signage on several key roads: Huiputea Drive, Mangauika Road, Ouruwhero Road, Old Te Kūiti Road, Phillips Avenue and Waitomo Valley Road.

In the words of our roading team, "We are excited to be finally installing these signs to make our communities a little safer."

We encourage all residents to stay informed about these changes and to observe the new speed limits as they are implemented. Together, we can contribute to safer roads for everyone.