

# scene magazine

IT'S ALL ABOUT WHANGAREI

no.103/MARCH 2017

## KAWITI WAETFORD

HOKINGA MAI  
/RETURNING HOME

## TRAILBLAZERS

► FROM OREGON  
TO OAKURA

## NURTURING NATURE

► FARM ENVIRONMENT  
AWARDS: FIVE FINALISTS



wine, wheels  
fishing & boating  
& more

► SCENEMAGAZINE.CO.NZ  
► 30,000 FREE COPIES DELIVERED

## VOICES IN THE AIR

► JOHN MARKBY  
& ALF ROSE



# STRONGER COMMUNITIES

In 2005 a programme for Gifted And Talented students in the three Bream Bay primary schools (Ruakaka, One Tree Point and Waipu) was initiated through a Ministry of Education Collaboration Fund. The three Principals at that time (Bob Peni, Adrian Smith and Paul Ramsay) identified the children and employed Michelle Parsons-Sim to take the group once a week for 25 weeks of the year. There were two groups – Years 3/4 students and Years 5/6 students. The programme focused on different learning areas to the normal school day; divergent thinking and discussion was encouraged. A camp at the very start of the programme led to the name Great White Sharks (GWS) – to reflect the students' voracious appetite for learning.

However, by the end of 2006 Ministry funding was depleted and filing milestone reports for the Ministry was proving taxing, so outside sponsorship was sought.

Northpine stepped up to the plate, beginning an ongoing partnership with these three schools that has so far contributed about \$80,000 and allowed the three schools to continue offering an extended learning programme to Bream Bay's most gifted and talented schoolchildren.



Great white sharks 2015

Over the years the GWS programme has morphed into running separate modules to recognise specific forms of talent – in Science, Art, Music, Physical Education and Technology. In the last two years this has extended to Te Reo. An annual wananga has been run based at Takahiwai Marae for gifted and talented Maori. The wananga has also included the bilingual class at Bream Bay College.

"Several of our past GWS children have done extremely well at college and have moved on to university," says Marilyn Dunn, Principal of Ruakaka School. "The confidence these children gain by being given this opportunity cannot be measured. This is the one chance they get to work alongside like-minded learners, and the fear of standing out as the tall poppy is diminished."

"Our past Great White Sharks have stood out both academically and in leadership in later life," adds Paul Ramsay, Principal of Waipu Primary School.

"Several have taken out top prizes and dux awards at College. Just last year one of our former GWS was declared dux of Bream Bay College. Many have been school leaders and/or prefects in the various colleges they have attended."

Northpine congratulates all involved in this outstanding education initiative that is helping us to build a stronger local community.

For more about the Great White Sharks project, contact Paul Ramsay at Waipu Primary School on **09 4320135** or go online: **www.wps.school.nz**

↑  
**NORTHPINE**  
**GROWING**  
**STRONGER**

34 Cove Road, Waipu | Ph 09 432 1155  
office@northpine.co.nz | www.northpine.co.nz

↑  
**NORTHBEAM**  
*Timber beams, posts and joists*



Gateway, Pukekohe



Walkway, Henderson



Auckland Zoo aviary

If you want to build an imposing entranceway, pergola, deck or walkway there's nothing better than Northbeam for real strength and character.

Northbeam timber beams from Northpine are made exclusively from pine grown in Northland because it is **stronger, denser and stiffer** than pine grown anywhere else in New Zealand.

Available in lengths up to 7.2 metres, these SG8-verified beams and posts enhance the elegance and aesthetic charm of buildings in ways that can't be replicated by steel or other materials.

If you prefer the strength, warmth and charm of timber, insist on Northbeam. It's the natural first choice for specifiers. Talk to your architect, designer or building supply merchant.

**A:** 120 Foundry Road, Silverdale  
**P:** 09 426 4104  
**F:** 09 426 7226  
**E:** northbeam@northpine.co.nz  
**W:** www.northpine.co.nz

↑  
**NORTHBEAM**  
*A product of Northpine Ltd*





COVER 08



04



06



14

## CONTENTS/MARCH 2017

### COVER/

#### KAWITI WAETFORD

Kawiti Waetford was only eight years old in 1999 when he started having weekly singing lessons with Whangarei opera singer and teacher Joan Kennaway.

Just three years earlier Joan and her husband Rick had founded the voluntary organisation Opera North, aiming to help local singers get more opportunities – and for the community to enjoy the beauty of singing. Opera North's annual showpiece concert, *Opera In The Garden*, held in March at the Kennaways' Glenbervie property, has grown over the years to be an iconic event on our arts calendar.

So it is quite fitting that Kawiti Waetford, now a 26-year-old baritone with years of international singing experience and tertiary qualifications in music, has come home. His performance at the 21st Anniversary concert will be very special. **ARTS • 08**

COVER IMAGE: [www.jeremytoth.co.nz](http://www.jeremytoth.co.nz)

### LEISURE • TRAILBLAZERS

It's a long way from Oregon, USA, to Oakura – but Kaitlin and Jake Jenkins fell in love with the glorious North while hiking the Te Araroa Trail. **• 04**

### SAVOUR • FRUIT OF THE VINE

Andrew Bourke offers a history and geography lesson that ultimately ties in with his favourite subject – wine. **• 06**

### COUNTRY • NURTURING NATURE

Five finalists have been named for the Ballance Farm Environment Awards. Northland Regional Council chairman Bill Shepherd outlines the event. **• 10**

### PEOPLE • VOICES IN THE AIR

Former Radio Northland host Alf Rose drops in – unannounced! – on his old mate John Markby at More FM, to mark a special milestone. **• 11**

### WATER • MAD MOB

Northland cricketing legend and fishing supremo Barry Cooper looks forward every year to a weekend away with a mad mob of mates! **• 12**

### / THE SECRET IS IN THE RIDE

Boating expert Paul Dunn from Marine North outlines the qualities that give Haines Hunter boats such an enviable reputation. **• 13**

### WHEELS • THE BOOTLEGGERS CAR

David Muir visits the Packard Motor Museum on S.H.14 at Maungatapere and discovers ... treasure! **• 14**

### FINALE • TOO MUCH INFORMATION

Baby Boomer Laurence Clark fumes over the frustrations of modern technology – and waits an awful long time on the phone! **• 15**

## MR ED/SUMMER DAZE



STEVE CHALLIS  
EDITOR-PUBLISHER

### Having a fantabulous Summer?

If you're reading this in Whangarei, and you're NOT happy about Summer, don't blame the weather – unless you're a farmer needing more rain than the decent dose we copped in mid-late February.

It's a curious thing, but we humans seem to have this weird fixation that good weather makes us happy. Does it? Does bad weather make us unhappy?

Pity the poor Wellingtonians, and others, who claim that their Summer hasn't even arrived yet, and probably won't. They're so dazed and confused they want the Minister of Internal Affairs to legislate our Summer holidays into a different month. How silly is that?

The Minister is apparently so dazed and confused he's treating the idea seriously. (*Memo to Minister: Forget about it! Weather is like a box of politicians; you never know what nutty stuff you're going to get. Or when.*)

Meanwhile, back here in the funky 'Rei, we're revelling in another Endless Summer. It's March already, but there's still six weeks of warm outdoor delights to be had before a 'late' Easter holiday in mid-April.

IDEA! Let's invite Donald Trump to just 'chill' with us around the barbie (not Barbie). He might see the world differently!

Steady on, Mr Ed, now *you're* being silly. All this Endless Summer heat must be getting to me. Keep calm and carry on!

**WINNER  
OF \$500  
GIFT CARD  
FROM REGENT  
NEW WORLD**



**Congratulations to  
Derek and Ria Davis,  
who were nominated  
by Robert Aydon**

**WANTED**  
**Advertising Sales  
Representative(s)**

.....  
**Experience in  
print media sales  
is essential.**  
**Phone 021 905 505**



SCENE MAGAZINE PO Box 982, Whangarei 1040, Northland, New Zealand  
Email: [steve@scenemagazine.co.nz](mailto:steve@scenemagazine.co.nz) Web: [www.scenemagazine.co.nz](http://www.scenemagazine.co.nz)  
Editor-Publisher: Steve Challis (021) 905 505  
Advertising: Steve Challis (021) 905 505 or Leigh Crosbie (021) 204 9074  
Art Director: Matthew Chappory Designer: Bryce Zhang  
Contributors: Andrew Bourke, Steve Challis, Laurence Clark, Barry Cooper, Paul Dunn, Kaitlin and Jake Jenkins, David Muir, Alf Rose, Bill Shepherd.

Scene Magazine is distributed FREE throughout Whangarei District and is available for sale (\$4.95) outside the district. Additional copies and back copies are usually available. Scene Magazine is copyright in its entirety. The contents may not be reproduced in any form, either in whole or in part, without the written consent of the publisher. All rights reserved. No liability is accepted by Scene Magazine Ltd, the publisher, or contributors for any information contained herein. Scene Magazine is a member of the Magazine Publishers Association.





# /TRAILBLAZERS

ALTHOUGH OAKURA IS A LONG WAY FROM THEIR HOME IN OREGON, USA, **KAITLIN AND JAKE JENKINS** FELL IN LOVE WITH THE GLORIOUS NORTH

## We are a young married couple

from Portland, Oregon, doing what we call a 'thru-hike' from Cape Reinga to Bluff, walking the Te Araroa Trail.

Our journey through Whangarei District started in tiny Oakura. We found it relaxing to camp near the beach and happily fell asleep to the sounds of the ocean. Upon waking to the most stunning red sunrise we were thrilled to learn later that the Māori word Oakura means 'the light that comes with the red sky'.

We met a handful of friendly and inquisitive locals here. Several invited us to come back and visit their beautiful beach town in the height of summer, when things would be at their finest.

The Morepork Track is a highlight in our memories of the trail. Not only dry and well cleared, it was the best-marked portion we'd encountered for some time. And the people we met have left such an impression on our hearts.

We were brought in for morning tea and lunch by a group of ladies and, as these things often do, one thing led to another and we ended up WWOOFing on one of their farms for a day, and being 'put up' in a bach at the winery down the road. A few days of education and life lessons we'll never forget and such a contrast from our long days on the trail!

We luxuriated in the garden, put different muscles to work, and ate incredibly fresh food which nourished us body and soul. Wonderful conversation bridged the decades of age which separated us, and we felt an immensely close connection to people we had only just met, thanks to discovering a shared way of thinking and viewpoints on life.

We have found that Whangarei District and all across Northland really is full of the most wonderful people.

Our next impressionable moment came at a time of trouble on the trail, after getting ourselves a bit 'turned around' on the estuary crossing from Pataua South to beautiful Taiharuru. A bit of 'trail magic' intervened when another wonderful Kiwi took us under his wing and got us back on track.

We hit the Ocean Beach track on the

most lovely of days in late October, the sun shining and sand glittering. Even the tides were in our favour, leaving us with plenty of flat-packed sand to walk on, making our trekking much easier and drier. Many cheerful Kiwis chatted with us while enjoying their beach day in celebration of the Labour Weekend holiday, most of them wondering what we were doing walking the beach in hiking boots with big 22kg packs!

Tramping the Bream Head track and summiting Mt Lion was quite memorable – talk about a massive climb that delivered the most incredible views! The trail was exceptionally well maintained, and when we finally reached the summit and lookout point the ocean was dizzyingly far below us. We dubbed it 'the hike of a million stairs'. Surprisingly, we encountered more day hikers (many with their own little Kiwis in tow) on this trail than on all the other tracks combined.

Needing to resupply at the supermarket, we had the opportunity to take in the city of Whangarei more than the Te Araroa Trail normally affords. We explored the Town Basin and Hatea Loop Walkway. After doing part of the river walk and learning about the local history, we could

resist the local cafés no more. A latté and 'eggs benny' never tasted so good!

Next up for us was the memorable Langview track, or 'Heights of Paradise' as it was nicknamed. This area is beyond breathtaking to approach on foot, with rolling pastoral land full of sheep escorting us right up and into the bush, with splendid views of the beaches we'd walked the day before.

It always feels great to look back – literally – on such an accomplishment. The tui were plentiful and more than willing to share their splendiferous songs which encourage and reassure we trampers as we work through the dense bush.

These landscapes varied from deep bush to light pine forests, sandy coastal tracks, through farmland, settled neighbourhoods and so much more. We ascended steep inclines, walked our fair share of roadway, and muddled our way through deep mud in estuaries. It was truly a taste of the essential beauty and bounty your country has to offer.

The Long Pathway is showing us so much and teaching us plenty, but the real gift has been the relationships we've formed with people we've met on the way – an entirely unexpected treat. ●

## IMAGES

**Top left:** Plenty of flat-packed sand on the walk south from Kauri Mountain Beach to Ocean Beach.

**Top centre:** Jake and Kaitlin Jenkins, visitors from Portland, Oregon.

**Top right:** Jake follows a riverside trail.

**Right:** A typically spectacular Whangarei Heads scene: Kauri Mountain Beach.



**SEW COOL!**

We're celebrating being named **BERNINA DEALER OF THE YEAR!** Call in for magnificent machines, yummy yarns and fab fabrics ... And the best deals from the best dealers in Bernina-land!

**BERNINA NORTHLAND**

Strand Arcade, Whangarei  
Phone 09 438 7654  
[www.berninanorthland.co.nz](http://www.berninanorthland.co.nz)

**Artisan treasures Sale**

Come and browse dozens of lovingly handcrafted homewares, toys and personal accessories from Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Selected items reduced to clear. Sale from March 13<sup>th</sup> - April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Whangarei Trade Aid  
Cnr Vine Street & The Strand  
Whangarei

trade aid









# FRUIT OF THE VINE

**ANDREW BOURKE** OFFERS A HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY LESSON THAT ULTIMATELY TIES NORTHLAND TO ONE OF HIS FAVOURITE SUBJECTS – WINE

**Depending on which version of** history you choose to believe, the settlement of Northland began with legendary Polynesian voyager Kupe (a contemporary of Nukutawhiti, an ancestor of the NgāPuhi people), who arrived and lived at Hokianga in the 10th century before returning to his homeland of Hawaiki. Kupe later returned to continue his voyage of discovery around the new and wonderful land of Aotearoa.

In his wake came the great ocean-going waka, many of which made

their first landfall in Northland. Some continued south, but others stayed and settled, the names of these waka foremost in the oral traditions of Māori of Tai Tokerau (Northland).

Centuries later, when unfavourable winds drove him more easterly from Tasmania than he intended, Dutch seafarer and explorer Abel Janzoon Tasman became probably the first European to sight these fair shores – in fact, the only physical testaments to his 1642 discovery of Staten Landt are two names he gave to Northland landmarks. The names endure to this day: Cape Maria van Diemen and Three Kings Islands.

**IMAGE:** Liz Cameron

**Above:** The vineyard at Lochiel Estate, Brook Lane, Mangawhai Heads.

In 1768, Yorkshireman James Cook was appointed to command a scientific expedition to the Pacific Ocean. His primary objective was to find the fabled continent known as ‘Great Southern Land’. While he failed in this objective, largely because the continent doesn’t exist, Cook did produce remarkably accurate charts of the New Zealand coastline.

And like Tasman, Cook left his mark in Northland with several names of geographic features – the Hen and Chickens and Poor Knights island groups; Doubtless Bay, and the Bay of Islands.

Then, in March 1832, a young Scot named James Busby emerged from the Colonial Office in London having been appointed Official British Resident in New Zealand, a role that would see him draft the Treaty of Waitangi several years later.

Busby was an idealist, possessed of great energy and enthusiasm and a passionate interest in horticulture – particularly in viticulture.

Using some vine cuttings he had collected in France, James Busby established in 1836 the first wine-producing vineyard, in Waitangi. (It should be noted here that Samuel Marsden had, some 12 years earlier, planted vines at Kerikeri. However,

these were table grapes. There is no record of Marsden having made wine.)

Busby soon discovered what many present-day Northland winemakers now know – growing conditions in the Far North are less than ideal to make fine wine on a consistent basis.

Why? Soils too fertile; climate too benign; evening temperatures too warm; too much rain causing too-high humidity.

However, Busby, like many modern artisans throughout Northland, did manage to make a “more than acceptable” wine.

French explorer Jules Dumont d’Urville wrote, in 1840, when visiting Waitangi: “I was offered a light white wine, very sparkling and delicious to taste – I enjoyed this very much.”

Despite his best efforts, nothing came of Busby’s vision and initiatives. When William Hobson became Governor of the new Colony, Busby’s position was disestablished – and his gardens and vineyards were destroyed in the fighting between British forces and Kawiti and Hone Heke.

The arrival of French Marist missionaries saw small vineyards established in Whangaroa and Tangiteroria – and just as quickly disestablished as these missions moved southwards, initially to Auckland, then Hawkes Bay.

Between 1890 and 1925 over 5,000 Croatians (mostly from Dalmatia) emigrated and settled here, mainly in Northland and Auckland. While Kauri gum was their prime objective, they brought with them a culture of enjoying wine with their food. Many established small vineyards, making wines for their own consumption, and many of those names still exist here.

A century and a half after Busby, having survived battles against the Temperance/Prohibition movements and opposition from the ‘beer barons’ of the early 20th century, wine making in Northland is perhaps best described as “a tiny group of dedicated artisans who make small/medium amounts of very good, if not great, wines”. ●

"I was offered a light white wine, very sparkling and delicious to taste – I enjoyed this very much."

*French explorer, Jules Dumont d’Urville, 1840*

## WE HELP YOU LOOK YOUR BEST

2 Rust Ave, Whangarei | Ph 09 438 8135  
info@whangareisuit hire.co.nz  
www.whangareisuit hire.co.nz  
Business Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm & Sat 9am-12pm

### GET YOUR HOME READY FOR WINTER

**GAS WORKS & PLUMBING LIMITED**

Contact us to get a free/ no obligation quote on all your **gas** home heating or **water** heating requirements.

Corner of Poto St & Porowini Ave, Whangarei  
Hours: Mon - Fri, 7.30am - 5pm  
Phone: 09 438 0192  
www.gasworksandplumbing.co.nz

**Mon: Closed | Tue - Fri: 9am - 5pm  
Sat: 9am - 4am | Sun: 10am - 3pm**


24 Porowini Ave, Whangarei 0110  
Ph: 09 972 7170  
Email: info@potsplus.co.nz  
Website: potsplus.co.nz



25th ANNIVERSARY EDITION

# New Zealand Wines

2017



Michael Cooper's Buyer's Guide

Nearly 3000 New Zealand wines tasted and rated

**Wine writer Michael Cooper ONZM**

has written another remarkably detailed collection of tasting notes involving some 3,000 wines. He lists his 'classics' of the most popular as well as many lesser-known varieties.

It should come as no surprise that few Northland wines feature in Cooper's lists.

Fully 66% of all NZ wine is **Sauvignon Blanc** (mostly from Marlborough), which becomes over 90% when added to the volumes of **Pinot Noir** being produced, mainly in the South Island.

Both these varieties require specific growing conditions not present in Northland – specifically, a wide diurnal temperature range (ie higher daytime and cooler overnight temperatures), which preserve the zingy acids for which Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc is famed.

That is not to say that Northland lacks wines of excellent quality and character; *Marsden Estate Black Rocks Chardonnay*, grown in Kerikeri and *Lochiel Estate Chardonnay* from Mangawhai are both quite superb.

Varieties which do very well here are those which originate in the Rhone Valley of Southern France or in the hotter climates of Spain and Italy.

Whites include **Albarino** (*Ransom*, Matakana), a good food wine variety which loves Northland's wetter climate; **Pinot Gris** (*Ake Ake*; *Kapiro* and *Marsden Estate* – all in Kerikeri); and **Viognier** (*Marsden Estate*).

Reds of note include: **Chambourcin** – a French hybrid which thrives in Northland's humidity (*Ake Ake*; *Byrne Northland* and *Marsden Estate* – all in Kerikeri; *Okahu Estate* in Kaitiaki);

**Pinotage** (*Karikari Estate*, Far North); **Sangiovese** (*Heron's Flight*, Matakana); and **Syrah** (*Karikari Estate*, *Marsden Estate* and *Omata Estate*, near Russell).

While very little of Northland's wines reach the supermarkets – they are the domain of the larger-scale producers – a visit to the winery cellar doors or to a smaller 'boutique' retailer will bring its own vinous rewards. ●

**New Zealand Wines 2017 – Michael Cooper's Buyer's Guide**  
RRP \$40. From good book stores.  
Published by Upstart Press,

**ANDREW'S PICK**

**Lochiel Estate Chardonnay 2015**  
– \$25 from the winery, Mangawhai.



Free from gluten, dairy, eggs, refined sugars, artificial colours and flavourings. Proudly GMO free. Vegan and paleo friendly.

**HANDMADE, HEALTHY RAW FOOD DESSERTS**

561B KAMO RD, KAMO, WHANGAREI | PH: 027 8640 410  
PETRASRAWCAKES@HOTMAIL.COM | WWW.PETRASRAWCAKES.CO.NZ



**THAI chef's RESTAURANT**

From the team of most award winning Thai cuisine the Thai Chef's restaurant was privileged to be honoured Thai Select "PREMIUM" by the Prime Minister of Thailand in recognition of its high standard and most authenticity of Thai Cuisine. We will provide pick up and drop off from your motel.

**TAKEAWAYS & DELIVERIES**  
Open 7 nights Lunch Monday to Friday  
69 Bank Street, Whangarei Ph: 09 430 0145

**New Chef**  
"We are delighted to welcome the New Head chef, he is the most senior in our chain". He is the most awarded chef, Whangarei deserves the best or nothing.

www.thaichef.co.nz  
www.thaichef.co.nz



**NEW WORLD**  
Regent

**Get your New World Clubcard in store today!**  
Always more rewarding.

New World Regent, 167 Bank St, Whangarei. Open 7 days, 7am – 10pm



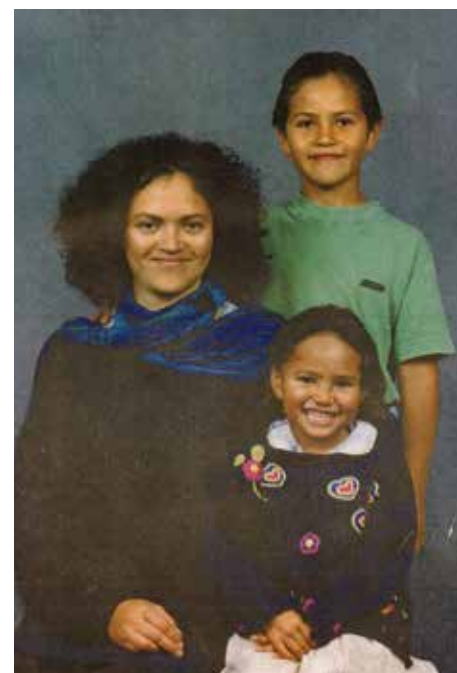


# KAWITI WAETFORD

hokinga mai / returning home



IMAGE: Graham Werman



## IMAGES

**This page, left:** In the drawing room of Carrington College, Otago University, 2013.

**This page, above:** Family photo with mum Dorothy and younger sister Bella in 1997.

**Facing page:** Solti Te Kanawa Accademia di Bel Canto (Italian school of beautiful singing) – final gala recital with mentor Dame Kiri Te Kanawa. Tuscany 2011.

**Centre top:** The bach at Matapouri Bay, where Kawiti grew up.

**Centre middle:** Singing with Joan Kennaway and the Opera North chorus at *Opera in the Garden*. March 2010.

**Centre bottom:** Winner of the Maori Song Contest, NZ Aria, Rotorua. October 2011.

**Far right:** Final masters recital, Wales International Academy of Voice. June 2014.

ONE OF WHANGAREI'S MOST CELEBRATED SINGERS RETURNS FOR THE 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF OPERA IN THE GARDEN

**SCENE:** Tell us about your childhood.

**KW:** I was born into a big family of four generations living under the same roof at a time when Te Reo Māori was experiencing a huge resurgence and renaissance. As a child of Kōhanga Reo my first language was Māori so my mum Dorothy, a solo parent, moved my younger sister Bella and I from Auckland to live on our ancestral land, in a little bach at Matapouri Bay. I loved living at the beach, but it was tough at times. I was groomed in roles of leadership throughout school and attended Te Kura Kaupapa Māori

o te Rawhiti Roa from primary all the way up to secondary school, then went to Kamo High for years 12 and 13.

**SCENE:** Who were the early influencers teaching you to sing, dance and act?

**KW:** Growing up I've always been surrounded by the arts and particularly Maori Performing Arts. My mum was a dancer in her youth and my dad Leon did theatre. Māori have a very rich musical culture so Kapa haka was my first major influence – another medium through which Te Reo Māori lived and thrived.

**SCENE:** Do you recall your first exposure to classical music and opera?

**KW:** It was probably seeing Dame Kiri Te Kanawa perform at one of Auckland's Opera in the Park or Opera

Under the Stars when I was a toddler, with the big firework displays at the end. I remember being scared that the stars were going to fall on my head.

**SCENE:** Role models?

**A:** My upbringing has definitely been a case of a village raising a child so there are a lot. In particular there was my late granddad, Tiuka, who was my father figure growing up. His mother, Mange, named me after the northern chief Te Ruki Kawiti, who signed the Treaty for Ngati Hine, eight generations before me. In following his legacy there was always an expectation that I would lead. However, my nan always said: "Don't take on any burden, it's just a name." I think she just encouraged me to be myself, and to know who I am and where I come from. They

were breathing life into Te Reo Māori and the preservation of our culture through me.

**SCENE:** When did you first realise that you wanted to be a performer on stage?

**KW:** My grandmother, Patsy, and mum took my cousin and I to see 'Phantom of the Opera' at the Civic Theatre when I was about four. As young kids we didn't pay much attention, crawling under the seats at times. However, I distinctly recall looking up at one particular song and being mesmerised by this music, totally different to what I knew. Afterwards, I listened to the Phantom tape on my Walkman (no iTunes in those days) and learned it off by heart. Any chance to perform in front of people at family gatherings and so on I took, so mum took me when I was eight for my first

## THE DESIGN SCHOOL

PALMERSTON NORTH - WHANGAREI

New Zealand's best foundation design schools  
graphic design - fashion design  
level 2 - all ages - zero fees

60 Robert St, Whangarei - [www.designschool.ac.nz](http://www.designschool.ac.nz)  
facebook - 09 430 3637 - [mike@designschool.ac.nz](mailto:mike@designschool.ac.nz)

enrol now - start now

launch your design career today



enrol  
now



Joan taught me two songs per lesson, from folk songs to classical ... inspiring in me a passion for singing, and taught me that it's all about expressing the poetry in the music



IMAGE: Clive Barda



singing lesson with Joan Kennaway. I was eager to learn as much as I could, so Joan taught me two songs per lesson, from folk to children's musicals and classical numbers. She inspired in me a passion for singing and taught me that it's all about expressing the poetry in the music.

**SCENE:** Did you have to choose between 'serious' opera and musical theatre?

**KW:** Yes, definitely. I had to make a decision before I went to university which pathway I would follow. While in London, performing at the Globe Theatre as part of the Young Shakespeare Company 2009, I went to explore and see various opera and musical theatre performances to get a feel for which I liked best. I knew I wanted the vocal control and beauty I found in opera; you become your own amplification,

your voice is the instrument and that's all. Working with your own energy to create frequency and vibration with your voice connects you directly to the ears and hearts of your audience – that is extraordinary. It was this classical vocal technique that I wanted to pursue and develop.

**SCENE:** Why did you move to the UK?

**A:** Towards the end of my time studying towards a Bachelor of Music at Otago University under Isabel Cunningham and Professor Terence Dennis, I met renowned Welsh tenor Dennis O'Neill, who adjudicated the 2012 Lexus Song Quest. As a finalist I worked with him and loved his teaching method. He offered me one of twelve spots at the Wales International Academy of Voice, so I moved to the UK to complete a Masters degree with him.



IMAGE: Tony Whitehead

**SCENE:** Are you back home for good?

**KW:** Having spent recent years in the UK, Canada and Europe, I've seen amazing things and had some amazing experiences. But it's true that there is no place like home. I still want to travel internationally but to be honest I've always wanted to be based in New Zealand, around whanau and upon the land on which I grew up.

We are so blessed to live in one of the most beautiful parts of the world. Equally I feel a strong obligation to my heritage, language and culture, and a desire to uplift, encourage and showcase Māori success, having been heavily invested in as a young man. I believe everything happens as it should, so for the immediate future at least my wife Jesse and I will be based here.

**SCENE:** You're already a veteran of Opera in the Garden, aren't you?

**A:** Yes, My first was in 2005 and most recently in 2013, when the theme was 'Drinking Songs'. This time it's their 21st anniversary, so Opera North will be celebrating the Roaring 1920s. You can expect to hear timeless tunes from the likes of Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, and from shows such as 'Anything Goes', 'Thoroughly Modern Millie' and 'The Student Prince'. FABULOUS! ●

#### Opera In The Garden

3pm Saturday 11 March 2017  
Kennaways Operacado Orchard,  
Glenbervie, Whangarei  
[www.operanorth.co.nz](http://www.operanorth.co.nz)

CollaboratioNZ A Biennial Art Event Whangarei Heads / Aotearoa NZ



**PUBLIC OPEN DAY**  
Tuesday 14th March 2017  
10am - 3pm Mt Manaia Baptist Camp  
Whangarei Heads

**ART AUCTION**  
Saturday 18th March 2017  
Preview 11am Auction 1pm  
Forum North 7 Rust Ave Whangarei

**FOR MORE INFO VISIT [WWW.COLLABORATIONZ.CO.NZ](http://WWW.COLLABORATIONZ.CO.NZ)**

**PERSONA Spa**  
AOTEAROA

Ultrasound Cavitation  
**DROP DRESS SIZES**  
in just a few sessions!  
Cavi-Fast Ultrasound Cavitation  
A genuine alternative to Liposuction -  
without the surgery!

Day Spa . Beauty Therapy . Skincare

Treatments from \$75.00

**No Pain - No Downtime - Affordable!**

Now located at the Okara Shopping Centre  
Corner Port Road + Okara Drive,  
Whangarei

Phone 09 430 7377  
[www.personaspa.co](http://www.personaspa.co)





## NURTURING nature

AN INVITED ARTICLE FROM  
NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL  
CHAIRMAN **BILL SHEPHERD**

**Yet another drought and challenging** economic conditions mean Northland farmers have been through some difficult times recently, making this month's Ballance Farm Environment Awards (BFEA) a welcome opportunity to recognise and celebrate local successes in the agricultural industry.

Now in their 11th year in Northland, the BFEAs recognise and celebrate good farming practices that promote sustainable land management.

Northland Regional Council has been a partner of the awards since they started here in 2006 and, as a dairy farmer myself, I am personally and professionally supportive of them.

Encouraging sustainable land management is a key council goal, as is reinforcing the crucial message that profitability does not need to come at the expense of our environment.

The BFEAs are unlike most other events. Rather than seeking major prizes, its participants are seizing an opportunity to share their experiences and expertise with the wider farming community. The awards also provide a valuable platform for entrants to showcase their innovative ideas and sustainable solutions to hurdles they encounter within their farming businesses.

Ingenuity in farming is, often by necessity, surprisingly common and farmers here have a proud tradition of discovering solutions by innovation and thinking outside the square.



## meet the FINALISTS

Entrants typically come from a range of industries – including beef, dairy, nursery, viticulture, horticulture and forestry. This year is no exception.

Finalists have already been through the judging process and as this article was written they were eagerly waiting to find out who will be this year's Supreme Award Winner at the BFEAs dinner in Paihia on Wednesday 22 March.

The night will feature eight national awards and one regional award – the Northland Regional Council Water Quality Enhancement Award – recognising excellence in sustainable farming practices.

The regional council is proud of its role as both an environmental guardian and an advocate for sustainable growth. Our staff and councillors put a considerable amount of time and effort on behalf of ratepayers supporting the awards programme and are happy to do so as we can learn from entrants, too.

Past winners and entrants have gone on to achieve great things in the agricultural sector and have showcased Northland as a region. ●

The 2017 Ballance Farm Environment Awards will be held on **Wednesday 22 March** at the Copthorne Hotel and Resort, Paihia. For more information about the awards or to book your ticket, visit [www.nzfetrust.org.nz](http://www.nzfetrust.org.nz)



### **BRETT & DENISE LARMER, HIKURANGI**

**Business Type:** Dairy Farm

**Total Area:** 212ha

**Stock:** 300-330

**Replacement Stock:** 80-90

**Crops:** Green Feed Maize



### **ALAN & HELEN THOMPSON, LD FAMILY INVESTMENTS, KERIKERI**

**Business Type:** Horticulture and Viticulture

**Total Area:** 55ha

**Production:** Wine, kiwifruit, lemons, melons and pasture. **Stock:** 30 yearling heifers, 6,000-8,000 bottles of wine

**Staff:** 23-30 permanent, >150 seasonal



### **STEPHEN WADE, LYNWOOD AVOCADO NURSERY, WHANGAREI**

**Business Type:** Horticulture and Nursery

**Total Area:** 13ha

**Trees:** 40,000 clonal avocado trees

**Replacement Stock:** 100,000 seedlings

**Staff:** 20



### **BRYCE & ANETA LUPTON AND PETER & PRUE VINCENT, WHITE ROCK HILLS LTD, MAUNGATUROTO**

**Business Type:** Sheep & Beef Farm

**Total Area:** 392.5ha

**Sheep:** 3,450 **Beef:** 453

**New Plantings:** 2,600 native plants



### **MARTIN PLOWMAN, JULIAN PETERS & STEPHEN RUNDLE, MARPLOW NOMINEES LTD, AHIPARA**

**Business Type:** Beef Farm

**Total Area:** 489ha **Stock:** 546

**Planting:** 50ha pines. **New Plantings:** 11,500 natives **Other:** Honey



## SPECIAL RATES for new Under-2 enrolments

- **Open from 7am-5:30pm**
- **Experienced, enthusiastic educators**
- **Excellent child-teacher ratios**
- **Casual enrolments welcome with flexible hours**

11 Hunt St, Whangarei | Phone 09 430 7378

Email [smithsccc@xtra.co.nz](mailto:smithsccc@xtra.co.nz)

[www.smithsccc.co.nz](http://www.smithsccc.co.nz)



### TESTIMONIAL

"My children were so happy and excited to go to Smiths City, they would ask to go at the weekend!"  
– Parent







FORMER RADIO NORTHLAND HOST **ALF ROSE** SURPRISES HIS OLD MATE JOHN MARKBY 'LIVE' ON THE AIR – TO MARK JOHN'S 30 YEARS ON RADIO HERE



#### IMAGES

**Far left:** John Markby and Alf Rose, 'kings of the cornflakes' from October 1986.

**Left:** 30 years later, Alf catches up with John and More FM partner 'Flash' Gordon.

**It could've been a DeLorean, but** in real time I'm a passenger in a late-model Japanese car that doesn't sport gull-wing doors but does have an onboard computer offering morose motoring tips in economical sentences. It's Monday 3 October 2016 and it's been years since I was last in Whangarei.

As the car stops behind a small queue my eyes follow the curve to behold Whangarei's new bridge, Te Matau a Pohe. The bridge relaxes to reveal its fish-hook styled counterweights. After a broadcasting career spanning 37 years, all I can offer is one awe-struck word: WOW!

Moments later we're at 'the tip', as I knew Pohe Island in 'pre-recycling' days. I recall outrage at having to pay to use a

public landfill that seemed hazardously close to Whangarei's best natural assets. When full to overflowing, the tip was levelled to create playing fields. I would have preferred an entertainment venue.

Earlier this morning, More FM Ops Manager, Bryn Ingham, had briefed me on the 'Markby 30 Years On Air In Northland' show. (John has been told I can't make it here in person.) Bryn has reminded me to introduce myself aloud to the audience "because hugs don't work very well on radio".

He is right. As I enter the studio, John freezes as the station lapses into stunned silence and all I can remember are Bryn's words of wisdom. I say my name aloud before giving John a big hug,

while suppressing strong emotions and worrying about too much 'dead-air'.

John Markby QSM has been 'on the air' for 37 years. He has been kingpin of Northland breakfast radio for the last 30 of them. I didn't ask him, but I know the royal seal of approval holds a special place in John's heart because it originated from the community he happily serves – more accolade than achievement.

The Markby & Rose Breakfast Show on Radio Northland (1ZN) consumed John's first decade here, 1986-96. I hope that my role as co-host was influential in the polished performance we still hear from him today. He and I learned many lessons together in those early years.

He is not, however, in control today;

his More FM radio partner of the last 15 years, Angela 'Flash' Gordon, is producing the show, while a fellow curiously called 'Toast' is driving the desk. They're creating riveting live radio with passion.

Our first show together, on Monday 3 October 1986, began with a vague goal of 'making fun, informative radio'.

When we won a Pater Award for Best Breakfast Show in Australasia two years later, our focus changed – to how radio could help *shape* our community rather than just reflect it.

We began a persistent campaign to help change the name of the province from North Auckland to Northland. There was heated debate on it for several years but the result proved we could do more than just inform and entertain. In a sense, John helped put Northland on the map!

Exactly 30 years after it all began for him here, John and I enjoy a dinner evening at what used to be called Reva's, I note Whangarei's big changes as Steely Dan's great song 'Cousin Dupree' pops into my head: 'Honey, how you've grown ...'

That amazing new bridge, a Town Basin full of families, boardwalks, sculptures, a world-class art centre on the drawing board, and OMG I love what you're doing with the Brynderwyns! It's like Whangarei grew up when I had my back turned!

All you need now is an entertainment centre. I know where you could put it, too – there used to be a rubbish tip there. ●

## Avoca celebrates 70 YEARS of growth in Northland

**If you've ever noticed the grass is greener** on many Northland farms, there's a good chance it's down to Avoca. The Northland lime and fertiliser company has been helping farmers and horticulturalists grow healthy crops and livestock for the last 70 years.

Now the company is celebrating a growth spurt of its own, with the recent acquisition of a fourth limeworks in Wellsford. The Wellsford depot completes Avoca's already extensive Northland network, enabling the company to supply customers anywhere in the region with top quality agricultural lime and fertiliser, as well as expert advice.

Managing Director of Avoca, Bryce Manderson, took over the running of the company from his father in 2010. He puts much of the recent success of the business

Avoca reps **Terry Nicolle**, **Briar Philcox** and **Tony Johnston** are happy to offer Avoca customers sound advice, based on decades of practical industry experience.

down to their Sales Consultants, who all come from strong agricultural and horticultural backgrounds. For farmers and orchardists in Northland, this translates to sound, practical advice with the benefit of on-the-ground experience from people who have worked in the industry - in many cases for decades.

Based in the Far North, Avoca rep Terry Nicolle has over 30 years' experience in beef farming, and is committed to helping Northland farmers get the most from their fertiliser budget. Briar Philcox is Avoca's horticulture expert, with a keen interest in organics and biological farming. Rounding off the team of Avoca reps, Tony Johnston boasts eight years' technical

experience in the agriculture and horticulture sectors.

As a team, Avoca are proud to offer Northland farmers high quality products, at competitive prices, with the added benefit of good old-fashioned Northland service - the kind Jim Manderson made his name on 70 years ago when he first started the company.

Of course, some things have changed in the last 70 years, like Avoca's ability to offer state-of-the-art soil testing to determine exactly what each farm's soil needs. While their custom fertiliser and lime blends allow farmers and orchardists to save time and money on transport and

application, by delivering everything their soil needs in one hit. And now it's nearly time to start applying fertiliser to paddocks, it's a good time to consider this long-standing Northland company as a viable alternative to the 'big two' fertiliser brands.

**You can meet the Avoca reps and be in to win \$1,000 worth of fertiliser by visiting Avoca at the Northland Field Days in Dargaville, stand #245, from 2-4 March 2017**







# mad MOB

**BARRY COOPER** LOOKS FORWARD EVERY YEAR TO A SPECIAL WEEKEND AWAY WITH A MAD MOB OF MATES

### Our MATES ONE BASE competition

involves four boats, with three anglers on each. Skippers are Ross Vickers (7.5 metre Hardtop Laser Craft), Warren Courtney (6.1 Surtees Bar Crusher), Greg Guy (6 metre Circa) and yours truly in our 5.5 Surtees Workmate. The mad mob includes local identities Bryce Manderson, Graeme Kerr, 'Johnboy' Peterson and former NZ cricketer Andrew Jones.

We assemble on a Thursday night, using Friday for practice and to get a feed to take home, as competition day only allows for five fish per boat.



The rules are simple; there's a prize for the heaviest snapper and a prize for the boat with the heaviest total of five.

On the Friday night we run an auction where you can bid on who you think will catch the biggest fish and for the boat you think will catch the top five. This is an hilarious night, the bidding gets very competitive, and the pool is rather large and well worth winning!

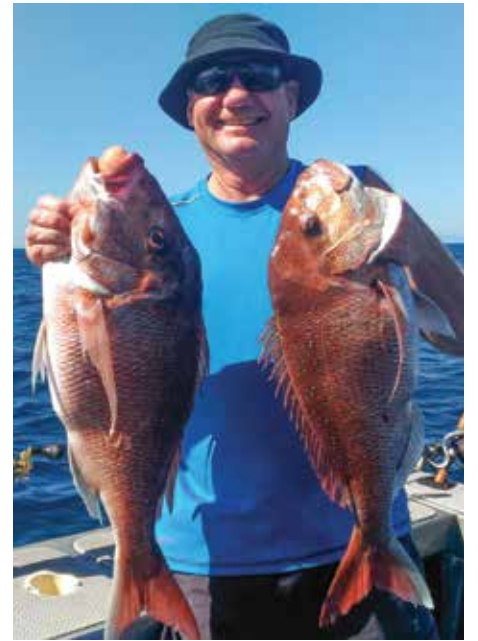
Saturday dawned fine but windy; it's a shotgun start at 8am and we all need to be back in by 4pm. Johnboy fired the gun and four excited crews were off and gone!

One place I know is 14 metres deep and we decided to anchor and burley up there, stray-lining pillys back over some foul ground. We caught a couple of nice snapper, then a kahawai, so I said to the boys "Watch this." I took the gills and

guts out of it and put it on as my bait, cast it out, and as it was sinking it got smashed! WOW, what a run. It took off like a steam train. After a couple of minutes I had turned him; it had the nod of a big snapper. The boys were very excited, repeatedly asking "how big? how big?" I just said if I could land it we would be hard to beat in the comp!

After a 10 minute battle up it came, an absolute beauty. Jonesey grabbed the net and slipped it under a very impressive snapper. We had done it! Lots of laughter and excitement and a very contented skipper.

We continued to fish that spot for another hour but felt we had caught the big one from there, so up-anchored and headed out to the 40-metre mark to drift, catching some beautiful fish.



Once back on land there was lots of banter and questions, everyone feeling confident. Time for the weigh in!!

Roscoe was up first. Their biggest was 6.5kg; their top five a solid 26kg. Greg's biggest was 7.2kg, top five an impressive 27kg. Then us. My big boy weighed in at 11.5kg (woohoo!) and our top five weighed 35kg. Awesome. No way we could be beaten for top 5, surely!

Warren Courtney was last up. His biggest was 8.2kg, but their top five weighed in at 35.3kg. We had been pipped by just 300 grams; they had been drifting out wide and deserved their win.

There were two very happy crews (two not so happy), a great time was had that night, and after the big clean up in the morning we all headed back home. Can't wait till next year! ●



### DR SHANE RETI MP FOR WHANGAREI

105 Lower Cameron Street, Whangarei  
09 438 9992 | [Shane.Reti@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Shane.Reti@parliament.govt.nz)

Authorised by Dr Shane Reti MP, 105 Lower Cameron St, Whangarei



## COLLIER & JONES

### Denture Care



#### NEW DENTURES

Whatever your needs are in the way of dentures, talk to us!

#### OLD DENTURES

Relined | Repaired | Cleaned

**114 Bank Street, Whangarei**  
(Opp Jimmy Jacks)  
**Phone 438 8076**

FREE EXAMINATION • NO OBLIGATION • QUALITY ASSURED • EFTPOS AVAILABLE • WINZ QUOTES



## MARSDEN COVE MARINA

30min from Whangarei | 10min from State Highway 1 at Ruakaka roundabout

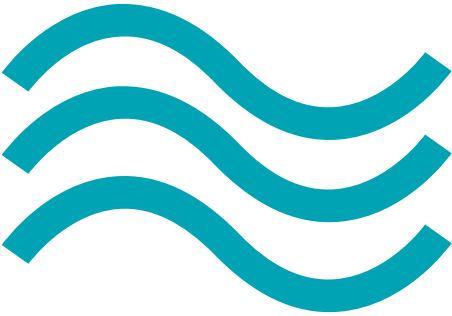
- Berthing for vessels 10m to 44m
- Boat ramp
- Boat services & chandlery
- Bait
- Fishing charters
- Fishing club
- Café / bar
- General store
- 24/7 fuel
- Electric Vehicle (EV) charging
- Hair & beauty salon
- Arts and crafts gallery

Phone: 09 432 7740 or 021 540 888 | Email: [info@marsdencovemarina.co.nz](mailto:info@marsdencovemarina.co.nz)  
[www.marsdencovemarina.co.nz](http://www.marsdencovemarina.co.nz)

Nearby swimming beaches, campgrounds & children's play areas.







# SECRET is in the RIDE

**PAUL DUNN** OF MARINE NORTH EXPLAINS THE QUALITIES THAT MAKE HAINES HUNTER SUCH A DESIRABLE BRAND OF BOAT

**Few boat manufacturers here in** New Zealand have the kind of reputation enjoyed by Haines Hunter. Envious, desirable ... their name is seen as a premium brand right across the industry.

Their fibreglass-hulled 'Deep V design' boats are exceptionally well built, tried and proven over many years. The famous adage 'if it's not broke, don't fix it' certainly applies in this case – the fundamental design of a Haines Hunter boat hasn't changed a great deal over recent years. Proof of this is the fact that over 2000 SF535 Haines Hunters have been built in New Zealand.

Don't say it too loud but the name originated in Australia – John Haines founded Haines Hunter in Brisbane in the early 1970s; its Kiwi operation has evolved from boats initially being made 'under license' to the parent company, to an outright purchase of Haines Hunter NZ Ltd in 1984 by Sea Craft Ltd, led by Yeoman ('Sandy') Sands.

Sea Craft set about expanding and developing the Haines Hunter range – using their expert design skills and familiarity with the 'new fibreglass' technology of the day – to suit the New Zealand market. And the rest, as they say, is history.

The Haines Hunter philosophy of boatbuilding is critical to their success. It's about taking care and having great pride in your work.



Each fibreglass hull is hand-laid. In a 'production-line' world where quantity too often overwhelms quality, the approach taken by Haines Hunter at their Auckland factory is the exact opposite.

When a hull comes out of its mould, one staff member is assigned to take responsibility for that particular boat – right through to completion of all the detailing and finishing. It's a very clever and very successful approach; not only does it encourage craftsmanship to the fullest extent possible, it instills the love and pride of building a boat to a very high standard.

Haines Hunter is now reaping the rewards of Sea Craft's much earlier investment in a 400ha native and exotic forestry block; it allows them to exercise quality control on wood that is selectively milled and chosen for their boats.

I said earlier that the design and construction changes in Haines Hunter



boats have been relatively minor in recent years – a case of refinement because their products are already tried and proven. Truly world class.

We have customers now who started with young families in the SF535 – perfect for sports like water skiing, towing a tube/biscuit, etc.

As the kids grow up, the family will 'move up' into a SF600 or a Hard Top – not only bigger, but stronger and more powerful, so very suitable as the family trips get longer and range further afield.

You may be a 'hard core' fisherman on your own, or a big boating family more interested in exploring and just having fun.

Marine North has been selling Haines Hunter's exceptionally well-designed and constructed boats for over 20 years. Their reputation for manufacturing boats that are safe, strong, comfortable and reliable is totally well deserved.

As they say, the secret is in the ride. ●

**SPECIFICATIONS**  
**HAINES HUNTER SF600**

**Construction:** Hand-laid fibreglass

**LOA:** 6.6m

**Ext. beam:** 2.24m

**Length on trailer:** 7.68m

**Width on trailer:** 2.43m

**Height on trailer (apx):** 2.20m

**Dry hull weight:** 870kg

**Standard towing weight:** 1500kg (apx)

**Deadrise:** 21°

**Engine:** Yamaha 150hp four stroke

**Recommended hp:** 115-175hp

**Fuel capacity:** 165 litres (underfloor)



**IMAGES**  
**Top right:** Haines Hunter SF535. Over 2000 of them have been built in NZ.  
**Left:** The interior of the SF545.  
**Below:** The SF545 is just under 6m in overall length. Hand-laid GRP hull, PVC foam core deck, heavy duty brass keel strip and plenty of cockpit space.





# ≈ Marine North ≈

boats are our passion too!

50 Kioreroa Road, Whangarei  
Ph 09 438 8927 | Email: [team@marinenorth.co.nz](mailto:team@marinenorth.co.nz)  
[www.marinorth.co.nz](http://www.marinorth.co.nz)



© 2014 Marine North Ltd. All rights reserved. [www.marinorth.co.nz](http://www.marinorth.co.nz)





# THE BOOTLEGGERS CAR

**DAVID MUIR** VISITS THE PACKARD MOTOR MUSEUM AND DISCOVERS ... TREASURE

**Behind every relic of a bygone age** there's a story. Never more so than with old cars. But inevitably, some old cars have stories so stretched, so wonderful, that they verge on legend.

Sitting amongst some 300 other vehicles in a warehouse complex in Maungatapere is such a car. It's called the Bootlegger's Car – a 1919 Packard Opera Coupe.

The term 'bootlegging' can be used in connection with any illicitly made, smuggled or sold goods. It originated in the seventeenth century, from the ease with which small items such as guns, knives, or flasks of booze could be concealed in the wide tops of high cavalry boots.



**IMAGES:** David Muir

**Top left:** Interior of the Sport Phaeton.

**Top centre:** The 1925 Packard Sport Phaeton Series 236.

**Top right:** Bootleggers' Twin Six (V12)

**Above:** The Bootleggers Car, a 1919 Packard Opera Coupe.

In this story it applies to alcoholic beverages, as prohibited by the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution between 1920 and 1933. In short, organised crime used large, powerful cars to transport illegal liquor – and this is one of those cars.

The legend goes that this particular Packard had an extra copper tank fitted under the chassis. Hidden by the Judkins-built bodywork, this was how the bad guys transported their bootleg grog during Prohibition. When being chased by the police along a gravel road in Vermont, the surge of alcohol in the hidden tank caused the driver to lose control – perhaps combined with the fact that this car has no front wheel brakes – and the car crashed. The baddies were jailed and the State of Vermont confiscated the Packard. The damage sustained was repaired in the late 1930s, and then it went into storage, eventually ending up in the collection of the Packard Motor Museum, here in Whangarei district.

So – a great old car, one of only eight surviving in the world, from just 15 ever built. Technically, it's a Packard Twin Six. It has a 6.95 litre V12 engine, rated at what would be considered these days a very modest 90 brake horse power. What's more, at 98 years old, it still starts easily.

One of the great things about the Packard Motor Museum is that the Bootleggers Car is not the only star attraction. Surpassing it in sheer beauty and elegance is the 'poster car', a beautifully restored 1925 Packard Sport Phaeton Series 236.

This car has so many superlatives applied to it – for two reasons.

First, it has a long wheelbase, at 136 inches (3454mm). To put that into perspective, a modern Holden Commodore has a wheelbase of 2915mm. Even the BMW Series 7 'limousines' used by our Government Ministers measure less at only 3210mm. Being long, the Packard looks more slender.

Secondly, the Sport Phaeton was deliberately built with a lower radiator and cowl than most other cars in the mid-1920s, further enhancing its visual appeal.

Hidden under the long hood sits a 358 cubic inch (5.8 litre) straight-eight engine, producing 85 brake horse power.

Subsequently, this model of Packard has come to epitomise the emergence of automobile design as an art form.

The Sport Phaeton is long, tapered, sleek. With a sumptuous interior.

If the opportunity to ride around the block in this car were offered, no-one is ever going to decline. The Phaeton is simply that good-looking. But sorry, it's not available for joyriding. The only way to get up close is to visit the Packard Motor Museum in the Old Dairy Factory, Maungatapere, S.H. 14. It's open Wednesday through Saturday. ●

**Whangarei Festival of Motorsport:**  
15-30 April 2017

> **Rev Up Whangarei:** 22-23 April  
whangareirodandcustomclub.co.nz  
or via Facebook

> **International Rally of Whangarei:**  
28-30 April  
www.rallyofwhangarei.co.nz



Start Living The Dream

Your home of  
pre-loved,  
low km Harleys  
in Whangarei.

Specialist  
Harley technician  
on site.



111 Cameron St, Whangarei

Phone 09 4381183

**www.shawmotorcycles.co.nz**



## Tyrepower

### We'll safety – check your tyres for FREE while you relax ...



Tyres | Alignments | Mags | Batteries

Ph 09 438 0992 | Lower Cameron St, Whangarei

info@tyrepower.net.nz | www.tyrepower.co.nz

Winner, Westpac Northland Business Excellence Awards 2016



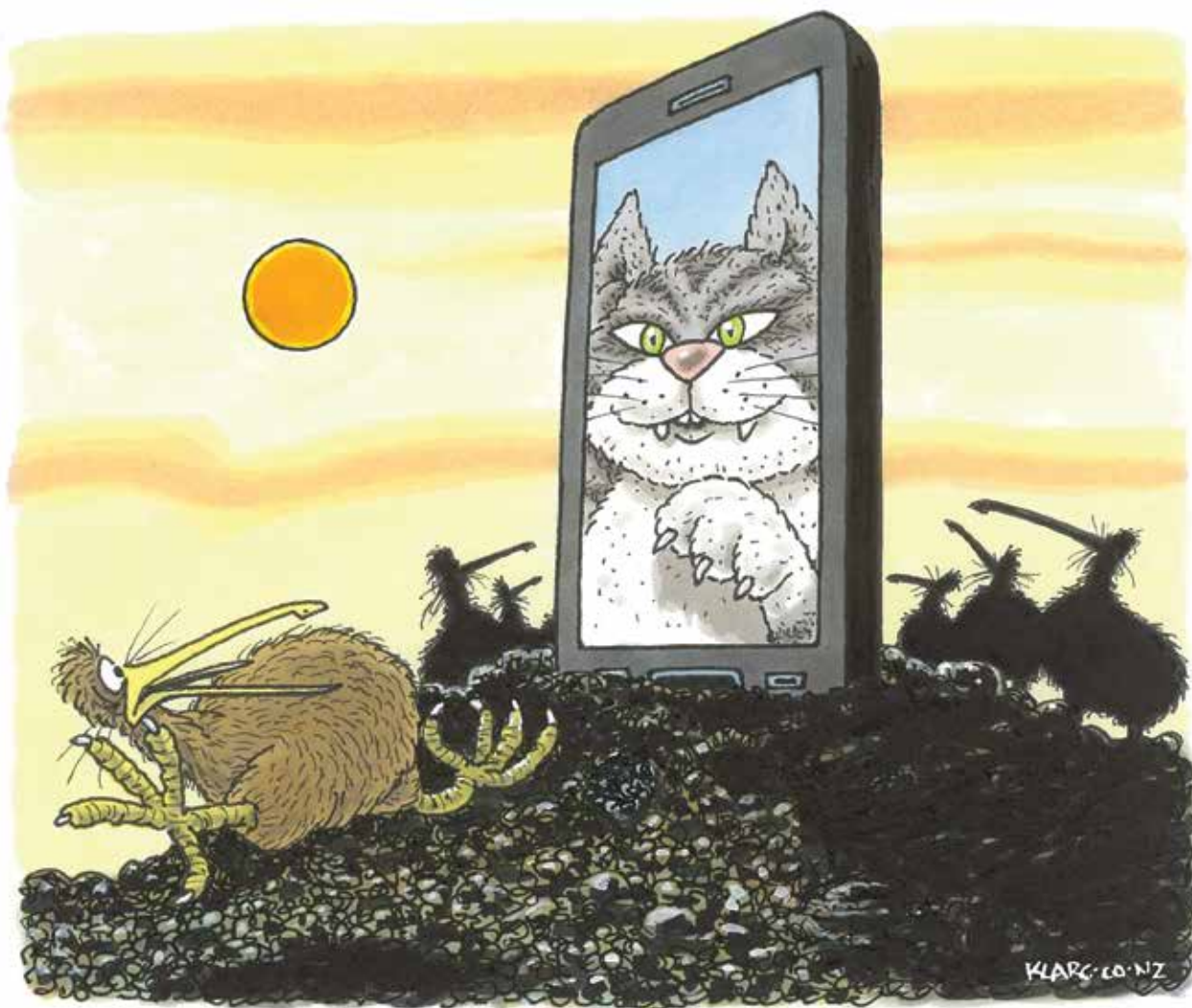


Airconditioned • Comfy chairs • Coffee, mags, papers



# tmi

## too much information



**LAURENCE CLARK** FUMES ABOUT THE ADVANTAGES OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY

### I know what I don't want for Xmas.

More technology. At the moment I'm waiting for "one of the team" at a merchant bank to answer my phone call. I've been waiting about half an hour.

Long waits have coincided with the introduction of a particularly annoying automated voice that keeps reassuring me that the team is "still working hard to help" while I keep waiting. Every now and again, it tells me how convenient it is to do internet banking. One time, my phone battery went flat, so I had to charge it up and start waiting all over again.

I can't be bothered with the hassle of internet banking, especially since I only need to make the odd transaction, which is easily done on the phone. And it's nice to know there's at least one other human being involved in looking after my bank account. Just how safe is internet banking anyway? Scammers

just keep getting smarter and smarter.

And how safe are mobile phones? Those things can burst into flames in your pocket. Habitually reaching for a phone in your pocket is a lot like reaching for a packet of cigarettes. Perhaps mobile phones should have health warnings on them. Maybe graphic images of gangrenous ears. Then there's 'footpath and road rage' when distracted users bump into each other.

I first started getting nervous about computers when I saw *2001: A Space Odyssey* as a teenager. Now I'm starting to hate being online – but every time my laptop crashes I feel lost without it.

I don't mind being called a Luddite though. Actually, the Luddites got a really bad rap. They didn't crazily hate technology at all. They would

have loved it if they didn't have to lose their jobs to make way for it.

It could well be said that the prehistoric discovery of how to light a fire was the beginning of technology; and I'm pretty sure Luddites were partial to a bit of cooked food.

Anyway, we Baby Boomers can't possibly be Luddites. It was us who pioneered mobile music and information gadgets with the gobsmackingly revolutionary Transistor Radio. Didn't our lives suddenly change when these became cheap enough to buy?

Before Transistor Radios there were only fairly fragile valve radios, which the whole family listened to. They definitely weren't mobile. Transistor Radios got us moving, twisting and

shouting. And we could listen to them whenever and wherever we liked.

Away from our parents' prying ears!

Pirate radio stations played songs till all hours, and the lyrics of those songs seemed to be sending us messages. Like an early form of Facebook, except we couldn't reply. Singers were urging us to throw off the chains of conformity, to love life and be ourselves. But The Sixties is another story.

Boomers persevered with mobile TVs, mobile record players and stereophonic boomboxes, right through to the Internet and Social Media.

But this Boomer's over it now! Not to mention all the information about each one of us available online; much more than I'd personally ever want to know.

Still no answer from said merchant bank. I joined because it wasn't like the other banks. I used to be proud of being a customer but now I'm embarrassed telling people how long I have to wait on the phone. And I wish there was more variety in the background music.

Damn! The blimmin' phone battery just went flat again. ●

NOW I'M STARTING TO **HATE BEING ONLINE** – BUT EVERY TIME MY LAPTOP CRASHES I FEEL **LOST WITHOUT IT.**



## Jump on board the Okara loop!

Find timetable and route information at [www.citylinkwhangarei.co.nz](http://www.citylinkwhangarei.co.nz)

Monday – Friday between 9am and 3pm  
Saturday between 9am and 1pm  
Not available Sundays or Public Holidays



**CITYlink** WHANGAREI 0800 002 004

**NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL**





## *Northland's Premier Coastal Destination*

Many people are already living the dream life at Marsden Cove. The bustling marine village includes retail shops, café, and more.

Newly released Stage 5, non-canal and waterfront sites are available for pre-sale now.

Don't miss your opportunity to live the ultimate waterfront lifestyle. Contact our friendly sales staff today!

**Non-Canal Sites from: \$300,000**

**Waterfront Sites from: \$580,000**

PH: (09) 432 8379 | [WWW.MARSDENCOVE.CO.NZ](http://WWW.MARSDENCOVE.CO.NZ)