

**Inglewood Christmas Tree Project Brings New Life To A Local Relic**  
(Kevin Knowles)

Many hours of volunteer work have gone into restoring the old Christmas tree structure. An enduring relic that spent the last forty years attached to the back of the former Inglewood Borough Council shed, now home to Moratti Agri Contracting. Though much of its early history remains unclear, the tree has long been a familiar feature in the community. This year, the structure received a full rejuvenation. The old electrical lights were removed, the framework was strengthened by Buckthought Engineering, and a fresh coat of paint was applied. New solar-powered lights now bring the display to life, giving the tree a modern, energy-efficient glow.

The project was made possible through generous local support. Inglewood First Trust contributed \$200 towards paint, Burnings New Plymouth donated \$50 metres of solar lights. A practice 'light up' night was held at Nigel Smith's property to ensure everything operated smoothly ahead of installation. New Plymouth District Council also provided manpower and a bucket truck to stand the tree in its new home beside the Rugeley on Monday 1 December, all free of charge. Their assistance was greatly appreciated.

A gift to the community, members of the Lions have freely given their time and skills to refurbish the tree, driven by the hope of offering Inglewood a festive centrepiece to help brighten the Christmas season. The solar lights will automatically switch on at dusk and run for approximately six hours. With eight different functions, they will create a variety of lighting patterns throughout the evening. Inglewood Lions the team behind this project hopes that the Inglewood community enjoys this cheerful addition and that it helps spread Christmas spirit throughout the town.



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**Moa Mail**  
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The generosity that was shown at the Food Drive reminds us that the real heart of the holiday isn't in gifts or decorations, but in how we show up for one another. While some families celebrate easily and others face tougher times, our community continues to shine through acts of kindness, supporting local charities, checking on neighbours, and lending a hand where it's needed most. This weekend we will celebrate that spirit of our community at the Christmas Parade. Remember what makes this season meaningful, showing compassion and kindness, spending time instead of dollars and being part of a great community.

**A Season of Joy and Remembrance at Marino** (Lyn Swete)  
This fortnight has been filled with fun and excitement as we gear up for Christmas. On the 20<sup>th</sup>, we held a memorial service as we close up for the year. Marino has lost over the past 12 months. A heartfelt thank you to the community for giving up their time to lead this special service, it meant a great deal to our residents and staff. On the 25<sup>th</sup>, Mr Whippy made his much-anticipated visit, followed by a lively game of Bowls, staff versus residents. It was an afternoon full of laughter and friendly competition enjoyed by everyone. On the 26<sup>th</sup>, some residents attended the annual Lions Christmas Lunch. They thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with old friends and being part of this wonderful community event. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, St Patrick's School visited and gave a delightful performance for our residents, who really appreciated their singing and energy. We're looking forward to more visits from schools and day cares throughout the month. A big thank you to all our entertainers who have visited Marino, your music and performances bring so much joy and warmth!

**Upcoming Events:** Christmas Parade on 13<sup>th</sup> December - Volunteers are needed to help walk residents down to enjoy the festivities. Please contact me through the office if you're able to assist. Christmas Party on 17<sup>th</sup> December - Santa will be visiting, and we have some great entertainment and delicious food planned!

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**Issue 404**  
**Waitoriki School Grandparents Day** (Lisa Cadden)  
Wow! What a fantastic turnout (98%) for our grandparents/significant adults day. Our school was buzzing with excited tamariki and adults. We started the day with the children introducing their grandparents and then preparing to the grandparents telling us what their grandchildren liked at school and also what they themselves liked when they attended school. We then moved onto STEAM in which each person in their family group drew a self portrait of each other. They then had to create a frame with recyclable material. Please note we have noticed in our Waitoriki family that some of our adults are fantastic artists! There were a few nerves but everyone pushed through. The day ended with looking at their school work and then tamariki showing their grandparents round our mira, food forest and classrooms. From our Waitoriki family to yours, we hope you have a merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year and holiday.

**TET Stadium and Event Centre Night Market Success**  
The Christmas night market was another huge success. Raising nearly \$3000 from this event for the new TET Stadium changing rooms project. With over 65 vendors, more than 1000 people attending, Santa making the rounds and being able to enjoy a cocktail and some delicious food while listening to live music from Adrian Whelan. Thank you to all the vendors and everyone who came along to make this event so successful for the third year running.

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**Rural Leading the Way**  
By Barbara Kuriger MP for Taranaki-King Country

New Zealand is on the path to recovery. Yes, it's taking time and a fair bit of energy, but it is gaining momentum—tourism is growing, interest rates are dropping, and consumer and business confidence are at their highest levels in years. But it is rural New Zealand that remains the beating heart of the nation's economy—the backbone supporting New Zealand's prosperity. Dairy, meat, and horticulture exports continue to generate billions in revenue, underpinning the standard of living for millions of Kiwis. These sectors not only fuel export earnings but also create vital employment opportunities and sustain regional towns. In recent years, innovation has flourished on rural land. The integration of new technologies—precision agriculture, robotics, and data-driven management, as well as political support—has allowed farmers and growers to extract more value from every hectare. Rural New Zealand has demonstrated resilience in the face of global disruptions, weathering challenges such as the Trump tariffs and shifting international demand with remarkable adaptability. But rural New Zealand cannot afford complacency.

**Barbara Kuriger MP for Taranaki-King Country**

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There is still more to be done, of course. If New Zealand is to thrive, it must champion its rural heart—not only as a source of export dollars, but as a home for the people, innovation, and traditions that define us. The work isn't done, but the promise of rural New Zealand remains powerful and essential. So that's it, my final column for the year. My husband Louis and I, and my entire electorate team, wish you and yours a joyful and heartwarming Christmas. Here's to good health, happy memories, and a wonderful new year ahead. Merry Christmas!

**Inglewood Food Drive**  
The Inglewood Food Drive was another very successful night, with amazing generosity from the community. All the items collected will go a long way to help those in need in the community. So many volunteers of all ages came together to help with the Drive. Thank you to Harcourts for their excellent organisation and all those volunteers that turned up on Friday mornings with donations. It has been so many years that the Inglewood Community Food Bank has been running. Foodbank will be closed on Friday 28 December and Friday 2 January, otherwise open from 8.00am to 10.30am on Fridays at Forrestal Lodge on Carrington Street.

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**What's on and Coming Events**  
Please advise of your event: 7547003.moa@mail@inheo.com

**SACRED HEART PARISH MASS TIMES MOKAU**  
CHRISTMAS MASS Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 5.00pm

**WAITARA CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS**  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December Carol starts at 7.00pm Mass starts at 7.30pm

**INGLEWOOD CHRISTMAS DAY MASS**  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December Carol starts at 9.30am Mass starts at 10.00am

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**Ebenezer Baptist Church**  
Meeting Sundays 12.00pm in the Church building on Brown Street  
"For God so loved the world, that he gave only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life!"  
John 3:16

**Addressing the Haggs (Graeme Syme)**  
St Andrew's day this year was able to be celebrated on the actual day 30<sup>th</sup> November. It was well attended with visitors of Scottish heritage from Waitara, Bell Bush and Inglewood. It is a tribute to Scotland and Gordon Maxwell. It was written in 1786, and the title refers to the national dish of Scotland, haggis, which is a savoury pudding served with neeps and tatties. It was delicious.

**Kaimata Church Needs Your Help**  
(Robbie Inoué)

The committee for the War Memorial church in Kaimata needs your help. We are planning a very special ANZAC event next April and would like some information about these brave young local men who lost their lives in the war. Please contact Robbie at robbiein@ gmail.com

**Inglewood First Trust November IAS** (Vida Harinnes)  
There was a palpable sense of optimism at the November IAS gathering, held at Timber Works Inglewood. Contributing to this atmosphere was the inspiring presence of a young couple who had recently taken on the challenge of purchasing a long-established local business. Their commitment to carrying forward the tradition of fine craftsmanship so well known through the work of the Small Bros was both reassuring and energising for all in attendance. There was a good crowd and they listened attentively to Trevor Holland as he introduced his wife Caitlyn and spoke about his path into joinery. They purchased Small Bros about three months ago. This was a business that had become a cornerstone of Inglewood. What Trevor had admired about their approach was simple: no problem too small, no job too big, and always happy to help. Ever since Trevor's nana gave him a hammer he has been hooked on building things. His parents quickly learned that every piece of timber in the home including window frames was fair game for nails. Trevor on meeting Robert 45 years ago admired his workshop from the start and eventually Trevor asked Robert if he would train him as an apprentice, with the idea that he would buy the business when Robert was ready to hand over the reins, the proposal was accepted. Trevor is very happy that he has been learning the old school and proven joinery ways from Robert. Trevor commented that Robert is an incredible mentor and one of the best teachers he has ever had. He is still there every day lending his hand and sharing his 50 years of wisdom for which Trevor is incredibly grateful for. When people ask what he is to do there the answer is "Everything".

**Unichem Christmas & New Year Hours**  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
8.30AM - 3.30PM

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**We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**  
We will be closed from 12pm Tuesday 23 December 2025 and reopen Wednesday 24 December 2025  
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**Harcourts Inglewood**  
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**Inglewood, 3628 Mountain Rd**  
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• 1500 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms  
• Modern kitchen, updated bathroom, open plan  
• Gasoline undercover, swimming pool

**Engmont Village, 1138 Junction Rd**  
1,012 sq m | 4 | 1 | 1  
Buyer Enquiry Form 06002000  
• 1700 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms  
• Open plan living, study/work, office space  
• Woodburner, single garage, swimming pool

**Inglewood, La Carrington St**  
511.93 sq m | 4 | 1 | 1  
Buyer Enquiry Form 06002000  
• Near new built 2021, 3 bedrooms, ensuite  
• Open plan living, study/work, office space  
• Excellent outdoor entertaining, 32m2 garden

**Inglewood, 33 James Street**  
1,028 sq m | 4 | 1 | 1  
Buyer Enquiry Form 06002000  
• 1515 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms  
• Open plan living, study/work, office space  
• Swimming pool, double garage

**Inglewood, 43 Lincoln East Rd**  
1,507 sq m | 4 | 1 | 1  
• 4 bedrooms, 2 modern bathrooms, 60sq garage  
• Hardwood floors, open space & workshop area  
• Basement size double garage, workshop, office

**Inglewood, 88B Rewa Street**  
1,218 sq m | 4 | 1 | 1  
Buyer Enquiry Form 06002000  
• 1515, 1500 sq m, 4 bedrooms + office  
• Modern kitchen, open space & workshop area  
• Swimming area, office, office, off-road parking