

# Maungaraki Views

OUR NEWS & VIEWS | MAUNGARAKI.CO.NZ | DEC & JAN 2023/24

## Christmas carols on the hill is back to spread holiday joy!

Yes, it's that time again folks! It's time to get the family together and enjoy a picnic on a warm summer evening. Maungaraki School's Home & School volunteers will be selling;

- Bacon Butties
- Sausage sizzle
- Home baking
- Chocolates
- Fizzy & water

This community carols night has been made possible by a small group of dedicated parents, thank you for your efforts. A special thanks to Maungaraki Auto Services, Cole Komarkowski - Ray White and Hutt City Council who have made this event possible by providing generous sponsorship. Thank you to everyone on behalf the Maungaraki Community. *Ed.*



MAUNGARAKI SCHOOL  
COMMUNITY CAROLS  
WITH NICK TANSLEY'S  
POPOP CHRISTMAS CARAVAN  
THURSDAY  
7TH DECEMBER  
6:15PM TO  
7:45PM  
COME ON DOWN WITH THE FAMILY, BRING A BLANKET & A PICNIC OR SEE WHAT'S ON OFFER FROM THE HOME & SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL THANKS TO  
MAS  
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Bring a picnic and blanket and enjoy the school Kapa Haka group and Xmas carols on the grass at Maungaraki School.



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# Mayor reassures community after two tragic deaths

Police have not released the names of the two people killed in Lower Hutt yesterday. A woman died in a hit-and-run in Naenae, while a man was shot by police after holding his partner hostage in Wainuiomata

Mayor Campbell Barry reassured the community that these separate incidents are rare and that police are working hard to resolve them

Investigations are ongoing, and police are seeking information on a stolen dark-grey Mazda 6 sedan involved in the hit-and-run. The woman involved in the Wainuiomata incident is safe. Wainuiomata Marae manager Lynda Olsen expressed community shock and a desire for non-lethal police responses. *Ed.*

# 3 burst pipes cuts water supply to 6 local streets

Water service has now been fully restored to Maungaraki streets Mulberry St, Hibiscus Gr, Chestnut Gr, Jacaranda Gr, Barberry Gr, Bushey Way and 1-120, 181 to 193 Dowse Drive and Magnolia Grove and Walnut Way.

Wellington Water crews were called to three burst water pipes in Maungaraki last night. 6 streets had to be cut off whilst repairs were carried out. 2 water tankers were on site to provide water to affected residents.

Please run a cold tap for a few minutes to clear any air pockets or cloudy water from your pipes before using hot taps, dishwashers and washing machines. Please do not run hot taps, to make sure your hot water cylinder doesn't run dry Thank you for your patience. *Ed.*

# Lower Hutt's water crisis will linger for years to come

Lower Hutt Mayor Campbell Barry stated that the city cannot afford to fix its failing infrastructure, with a backlog of 236 km of pipe needing renewal. The Wellington region's long-term plan allocates \$1.9 billion for the issue, but Wellington Water suggests this should be \$7.6 billion

This increase is unaffordable with current funding tools, leading to double-digit rate rises and councils reaching their debt caps. Barry emphasised the need for a new funding model and urgent government collaboration to avoid astronomical rate increases and address decades of under-investment.

**Infrastructure Costs:** The situation in Lower Hutt is dire, as it grapples with the inability to repair its failing infrastructure. A staggering 236 km of pipe urgently needs renewal, and the costs are spiralling out of control.

**Funding Shortfall:** The funding gap in the Wellington region is not just significant, it's alarming. The current plan of \$1.9 billion falls far short of the mark, with Wellington Water estimating a staggering \$7.6 billion is actually needed.

**Debt Limits and Rate Increases:** The current situation is not sustainable. Councils are rapidly approaching their debt limits and are considering double-digit rate increases. This is a clear sign that a new funding model is urgently needed.

**Call for New Funding Model:** Mayor Barry urges the government to collaborate on a new funding mechanism to spread costs over time.

**Urgency Needed:** Immediate action is required to avoid significant rate increases and address under-investment challenges, which could lead to water service outages. *Ed.*



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**Chris Bishop**  
List MP based in Hutt South

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Authorised by Chris Bishop, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.

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# South west & Interzone athletic results

Congratulations to all the Maungaraki School student athletes who competed at South West Zone Athletics and InterZone Athletics.

Maungaraki School had 26 children qualify for InterZone Athletics which is a higher than normal average so well done to everyone.

## InterZone results:

**Autumn Talamaivao** - 1st Year 7  
Girls Shotput

**Adam Larkin** - 1st Year 6  
Boys 800m

**Olivia Turner** - 2nd Year 8  
Girls Shotput & Discus

**Zara Zhang** - 2nd - Year 6  
Girls Quoit

**Jagger Lawn** - 2nd - Year 5 Boys  
Vortex

**Lucy Papps** - 3rd - Year 8  
Girls Discus

**Stella Gardner** - 4th - Year 6  
Girls 150m

**Xavier Knox** - 4th - Year 6  
Boys Vortex

**Olivia Turner** - 5th - Year 8  
Girls Vortex

**Mackenzie Gwerder** - 5th  
Year 8 Girls 800m

**Brody Milburn** - 5<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Boys  
800m

Well done to all of these amazing athletes who represented the school and themselves so well throughout both events. Tino pai!  
*Ed.*

If you would like to share any sports results, please email the views.

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