

### ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

On ANZAC Day 2025, Ōtorohanga District was proudly represented at commemorative services by our Deputy Mayor Annette Williams and Council delegates, who attended on behalf of our community to honour the memory of those who served.

ANZAC Day is a time for reflection — a moment to pause and remember the courage, sacrifice, and unity of all who fought, served, and supported at home and abroad.

Standing shoulder to shoulder with other representatives, our delegation laid a wreath and took part in a moving ceremony that echoed the values of remembrance, respect, and resilience that continue to shape our nation.

Their presence reflects the deep appreciation our district holds for the generations of New Zealanders and Australians who gave so much so that we could live in peace.



### CELEBRATING LOCAL SUCCESS

A proud moment was captured recently as we acknowledged the lasting impact of the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) Community Employment Programme (CEP) in our district.

Delivered locally through the Ōtorohanga Employment Hub—led by Elle Freestone funded by Ōtorohanga District Council through MTFJ—the programme has achieved an incredible milestone: 400 youth and local jobseekers have been supported into sustainable employment since November 2020.

One of the shining examples of this success is the partnership with Ōtorohanga Timber Company (ŌTC). Since January 2021, over 100 locals have been employed through the MTFJ CEP at ŌTC, with many progressing onto new career paths after gaining skills and experience. Currently, the company employs 34 full-time staff, including 10 new hires in just the past few months, starting from as young as 16 years old.

This achievement is the result of a collective effort. As the whakataukī says:

*“Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari kē he toa takitini”*

Success is not the work of an individual, but the work of many.

The programme’s success is a testament to strong community collaboration—our rangatahi, local employers, support networks, and the backing of the Ōtorohanga District Council, which has championed this kaupapa from the beginning.

With over 80 local employers having now worked with the Employment Hub, this is a story of what happens when community, council, and business come together with purpose.

Key to this success has been building meaningful partnerships with business. The support and leadership of Mayor Max Baxter has also been instrumental in maintaining momentum for this initiative. His advocacy for rangatahi and people of the Ōtorohanga district continues to weave a brighter future for the rohe.

### UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Kāwhia Community Board	Thursday 5 June 4.00 pm
Risk and Assurance Committee	Monday 9 June 10.00 am
Ōtorohanga Community Board	Monday 9 June 4.00 pm
Council Extra-Ordinary	Tuesday 10 June 10.00 am
Elected Member Workshops	Tuesday 10 June 11.00 am
Chief Executive’s Review Committee	Tuesday 17 June 10.00 am
Council	Tuesday 24 June 10.00 am

### WHAT’S ON AT THE LIBRARY?



#### Terrific Tales

Our Winter Reading Challenge “Terrific Tales” is running from 1 June - 31 August 2025.

Pop in and pick up a Terrific Tales postcard from the Ōtorohanga District Library, Kawhia War Memorial Library or Waitomo District Library.

Complete three challenges of your choice from your postcard, return it back to the library and post it in the entry box to win cool prizes.

This is open to all ages from 0-101.



#### ‘APPY hour



#### Using Libby

Wednesday 11 June  
2.00am - 3.00pm

Want to learn how to use Libby?

This one hour session will take you through a basic “how to”, from downloading the app to your device, signing in, and using it.

#### ‘APPY hour



#### Using BorrowBox

Wednesday 11 June  
10.30 - 11.30am

Want to learn how to use BorrowBox?

This one hour session will take you through a basic “how to”, from downloading the app to your device, signing in, and using it.

To register phone (07) 873 7175, email [library@otodc.govt.nz](mailto:library@otodc.govt.nz), or message us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/otolib](https://www.facebook.com/otolib)

### ŌTOROHANGA WELCOMES 16 NEW CITIZENS

Ōtorohanga District had the honour of welcoming 16 new citizens at two recent citizenship ceremonies, marking another proud moment in our district’s journey as a multicultural community.

Held in our Council Chambers, the ceremonies were filled with warmth and celebration as whānau and friends gathered to support and welcome our newest citizens. Each individual stood to take the oath or affirmation of allegiance, officially becoming part of the Aotearoa whānau.

Citizenship ceremonies are a significant milestone, recognising not only a legal status but the beginning of a new chapter rooted in belonging, opportunity, and shared values.

We are proud to stand alongside our new citizens as they embrace life in Ōtorohanga. Nau mai, haere mai — welcome home!



### WIN! 5x \$100 GROCERY GIFT CARDS

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What motivates you or stops you being active? Tell us and be in to WIN!

Sport Waikato and Ōtorohanga District Council are partnering on a survey aimed at finding out how active we are – or aren’t, and where we go to be active!

We need to hear from everyone aged 18+ or those who have left school, whether you spend your days running marathons or chilling on the couch.

The information will help us to understand the activity levels and barriers of the people in our district, and help to ensure play, active recreation and sport is more accessible, exciting and inclusive!

Take the 5 minute short survey and be in to WIN grocery gift cards <https://shorturl.at/TPcDK>



TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O  
ŌTOROHANGA  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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