

## **Z MANU WORLD CHAMPS MEDIA COVERAGE**

Generated December - March 24/25 by These Guys I Know.

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# The Guardian

A decade of making a difference



Popping a manau: New Zealand's unique water jumping obsession

[LINK](#)

# The Guardian

Int ▾

Popping a manu: New Zealand searches for dive-bombing champion - video



The country's best will showcase New Zealand's unique water diving obsession at the Z Manu World Champs in Auckland on Saturday. A manu is a diving technique similar to a bomb, developed by Māori and Pasifika communities, which has become a national pastime. Jumpers launch into the air, then twist themselves into a v-shape before they hit the surface, forcing water upwards in a huge splash. The aim of a manu is to create the highest splash

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# The New Zealand Herald

## Mother-daughter showdown at Manu qualifier in Māngere



NZ Herald

13 Jan, 2025 09:03 AM ⌚ 2 mins to read

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Fa'atupuinati Berking is making a big splash on the Z Manu competition as she competes in the finals in March. Photo / Ant Farac

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## Young manu maestro ready to 'pop' in title defence

 Matthew Dallas | [Manurewa Standard](#)

January 25, 2025

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The manu by Ella

VIDEO CREDIT: WARWICK SMITH

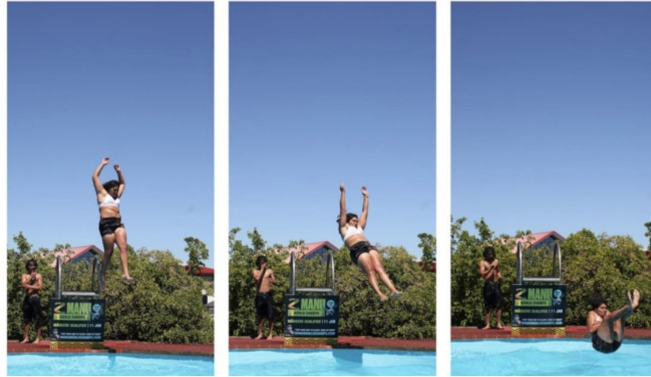
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# NewstalkZB

## Tatiana Raumati leads Māngere's charge in Z Manu World Champs qualifier

NEWS NATIONAL

Fri, 10 Jan 2025, 9:45am



Tatiana Raumati practising her manu technique. Photo / Ant Farac

[LINK](#)

# Stuff



← BACK

## WATCH: The manu by Ella

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SPORT / TE AO MAORI

# Morning Report Essentials for Monday 27 January 2025

From **Morning Report**, 10:00 am on 27 January 2025

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Morning Report 27 January 2025  
Morning Report Essentials for Monday 27 January 2025



On today's episode, the mayor of Kaipara is expecting the clean-up from the destructive Mangawhai storm to be a big job, oral hearings for the Treaty Principles Bill begin just after 8am on Monday, in Canterbury, a person was freed from the wreckage of a campervan on Sunday night, after a tree fell on the vehicle, dive bombers hit the water in the capital over the weekend when the Z Manu World Champs held their Wellington Super Qualifier event, this year's Australian Open has been the talk of the sporting world - and not just for the tennis, and we cross the Tasman to get the latest from Kerry-Anne Walsh.

[LINK](#)



# SPINOFF

## The brief but wonderful history of the Z Manu World Champs



Liam Rātana  
Atea editor

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# The Post | TE UPOKO O TE IKA

## Former All Black shows his splash ahead of manu bomb competition

Frances Chin | The Post

January 9, 2025

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Former All Black pops a Manu

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# The New Zealand Herald

Home / Kahu

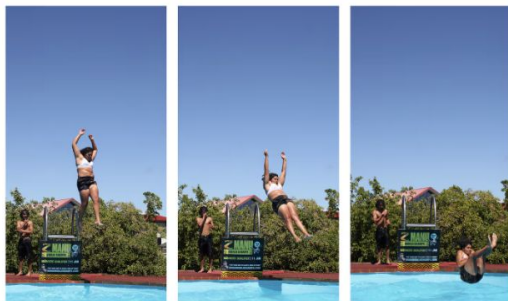
## Tatiana Raumati leads Māngere's charge in Z Manu World Champs qualifier



NZ Herald

10 Jan, 2025 08:24 AM ⌚ 4 mins to read

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Tatiana Raumati practising her manu technique. Photo / Ant Farac

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# Waiimea



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## Weekly

## Manus splash into Nayland Pool

The Z Manu qualifiers are splashing into Nayland Pool this Saturday.

Entry is free for the four qualifying divisions - kids (8-12-year-olds), youths (13-17), adults (18+) and freestyle

- which is open to all ages, with bombs ranging from the gorilla, cannonball, staple and the coffin.

Competition starts at 11.30am and will run through until late afternoon. The judges will be

looking for the best dive and the highest splash and the top male and female qualifiers will receive return airfares to Auckland for the Z Manu finals on 1 March with \$40,000 in prize money at stake.

[LINK](#)

## Northland news in brief: Manu World Champs back

nzme

6 Nov, 2024 05:00 AM ⌚ 3 mins to read

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The Manu World Championships will return for a second year with including one in Whangārei.

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Hamilton  
City Council  
Te kaunihera o Kirikiriroa

## Celebrate the art of popping Manus



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# WAIKATO TIMES

TE REO O WAIKATO

## Manu bombers make a splash at Waterworld

 Madeleine Powers | WAIKATO TIMES

February 3, 2025

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Eli Stevens does his best manu.  
MARK TAYLOR

[LINK](#)

# The Waikato Local

Te Pūtahi

Hamilton | Matamata | Morrinsville | Te Aroha | Putaruru | Tirau

Wednesday, January 29, 2025



## Bombs away!

The 2025 Z Manu World Champs super qualifier hits Hamilton this weekend.

PHOTO: JACQUES CHIFFRE

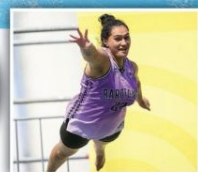
### The mighty manu returns

Hamilton's Waterworld hosts a super qualifier this weekend for the return of summer's mighty manu competition.

The Z Manu World Champs is all about celebrating this beloved Kiwi pastime – the manu (or dive bombs) perfected at wharves, pools, and secret spots throughout the country.

The Z Manu World Champs event is looking to find 20 finalists across both the manu and freestyle divisions who will go head-to-head at the Grand Final in Tamaki Makaurau, Auckland in March.

And the Waikato has pedigree when it comes to the manu.



Leo Jahraz, far left, Peto is aiming for a gold medal performance.

Waikato manu champ Faith Sorby, left.

MARK TANTRUM

Event Director Scott Rice said Waikato was home to some "incredible manu talent", so the Waikato qualifier is across two days to allow as many competitors as possible to make their splash. "I'm expecting more than 1000 people to attend, given the confidence that

presence at the March 1st Rio "Waikato produced so Hamilton got for last year in the adult Jahraz Peto final, placing division.

"Leo has a reputation for a gold medal at this time."

This year's eight cities, to compete in

There are a manu division, bum-first entry style division who want to

The organisers unique street manu demonstrate movement the other he offers a smooth these techniques

Rice said, "pastime in Kiwi up watching with the skill families and

"However, a huge role is allowing the focus on categories – over

"There are ings in the World Champ official plate serious prize \$40,000 in cash

"Last year's petting, training, expecting so many qualifiers are

So what's mainly, it's – but also the shape of a V-shape.



## Defending world champ nets spot at manu grand final

 Matthew Dallas | [Manu](#) Standard

January 27, 2025

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Defending manu champ makes a splash at Wellington qualifier

VIDEO CREDIT: SUPPLIED

[LINK](#)

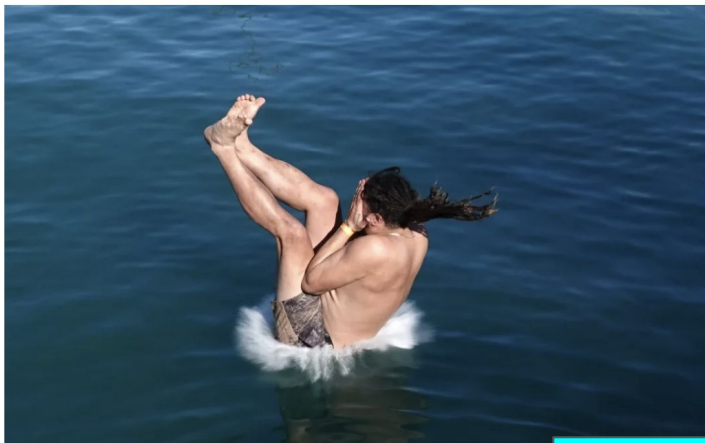


NEW ZEALAND / RECREATION

## Hundreds to hit the water at Manu World Championships

6:33 am today

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The Post **HON POST**

## Making a splash at manu champs

Wellington, New Zealand · Palmerston North · Piri Weepu · Greater Auckland  
27 Jan 2025 Frances Chin

The capital's most talented dive bombers showed off their skills over the weekend, with 14 manu bomb specialists selected to head to the national competition.

The Z Manu World Champs held their Wellington Super Qualifier over the weekend at the Wel-

lington Regional Aquatic Centre.

Also called a dive bomb, the manu is a particular kind of dive, named for the distinctive bird shape the diver's out-stretched arms make.

About 165 hopefuls took part in the two-day event, founder

Scott Rice said.

The weekend had been an enjoyable one, he said, with former All Black Piri Weepu and his whānau joining in the fun on Saturday.

Weepu is an ambassador for the Z Manu World Champs and,

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## Z Manu World Champs makes a splash in the capital

Frances Chin | The Post

January 26, 2025

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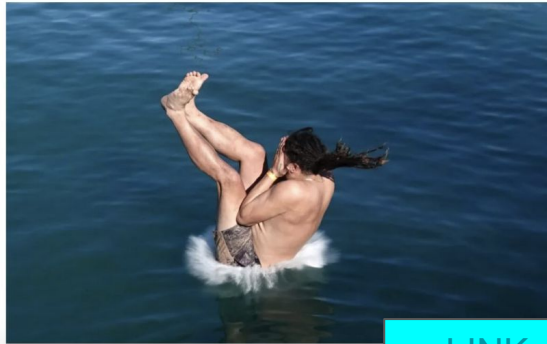
Hector Aranui takes a leap from the 3 metre board as part of the Wellington Super Qualifier Z Manu World  
BRUCE MACKAY / THE POST

[LINK](#)

## Hundreds To Hit The Water At Manu World Championships

January 25, 2025

Article - RNZ



A water polo competition in Russell in 2004. Photo: NZTA/Philippa Grant

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## News in brief: Sorby family dominates Northland qualifiers for 2025 Z Manu World Champs

nzme

23 Jan, 2025 06:00 AM ⌚ 3 mins to read

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Faith Sorby, pictured, who came second in last year's grand final division in Whangārel.

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 tekarere



# The New Zealand Herald

## Auckland's Viaduct hosts 'super qualifiers' for Z Manu World Championships ahead of grand final



NZ Herald

15 Feb, 2025 07:56 PM 4 mins to read

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NOW PLAYING • Seven-metre custom Manu platform installed in Viaduct Harbour

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# The New Zealand Herald

## Kea Kids News: Pipiwai manu prodigies compete to see who is heading to Auckland

17 Feb, 2025 05:00 AM

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Reporter/Manu Champ Brooklyn is at the Toka in Pipiwai, where the Manu Competition 2025 is in full swing. Brooklyn took her division in 2024, but who will dominate this year?

Kea Kids News: Pipiwai manu prodigies compete to see who is heading to Auckland



Nivahā Rikihana-Tales is stoked after winning the youth male category at the World Manu Champs in Auckland.

But one of our judges was the ultimate Manu Champ for 2024.

[LINK](#)

## Z Manu World Champs lands in Auckland with a splash

 By Times Team

February 17, 2025



Listen to this article now  
Powered by **Trinity Audio**



00:00 02:39



More than 1000 competitors have taken the plunge at the Z Manu competition in New Zealand. Photo supplied

[LINK](#)

# The New Zealand Herald

## Watch: Auckland policeman, Vincent Kahui, makes a splash in Z Manu World Champs



By **Nazaryth Bernard**

Multimedia Journalist · NZ Herald · 23 Feb, 2025 09:16 PM · 2 mins to read

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**NOW PLAYING** - Policeman makes a splash in Manu World Champs

Constable Vincent Kahui makes a splash in the Z Manu World Champs qualifiers in Auckland.

[LINK](#)

# Stuff

## The difference between a 'coffin' and a 'manu' - and how to pop a proper one

Paddy Gower

February 21, 2025 · 05:00am

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Paddy Gower learns the difference between a 'coffin' and a 'manu'

[LINK](#)

# THE PRESS | TE MATATIKA

## Manu off to pop a manu at the national manu championships

Rachael Kelly | [SouthlandTimes](#)

February 19, 2025

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Manu off to the national manu championships

LINK



The Hauraki Breakfast

The Hauraki Breakfast

Sucking Off A Cyclone - The Radio Show



THE  
**HAURAKI  
BREAKFAST**  
PODCAST

19:02



1:09:40



[LINK](#)

# The New Zealand Herald

## Lord of the Rings actor Bruce Hopkins continues charity tradition with 69 backflips for 69 years of life



By Mitchell Hageman

Multimedia Journalist - NZ Herald · 26 Feb, 2025 12:17 PM · 4 mins to read

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# Seven Sharp

**Seven Sharp – Friday 28 Feb**

25 days left to view

Join Hilary Barry, Jeremy Wells and the team for a fresh perspective on today's stories.





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Breakfast

LIVE  
AUCKLAND

ACTOR BRUCE HOPKINS FLIPS FOR CHARITY

breakfast LIVED OUT • MORE ON 1NEWS.CO.NZ • BREAKFAST@TVNZ.CO.NZ • 8:55 M

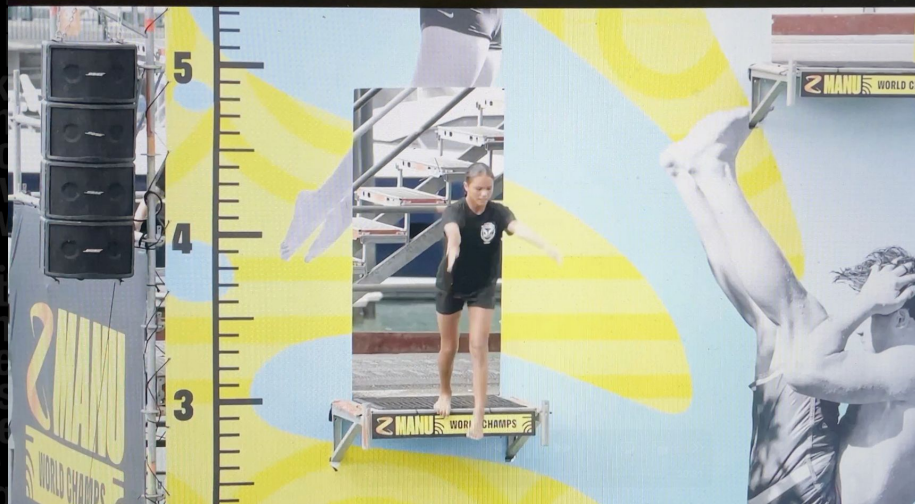
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# Seven Sharp

**Seven Sharp – Monday 3 Mar**

19 days left to view

Join Hilary Barry, Jeremy Wells and the team for a fresh perspective on today's stories.





## Mount Maunganui's Kady Kanohi shines at Z Manu World Champs



By **Ayla Yeoman**

Reporter · SunLive · 10 Mar, 2025 11:00 AM · 2 mins to read

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NOW PLAYING · Your 2025 Z Manu World Champions are crowned!

Reporter Eden is at the Z Manu World Champs, where New Zealand's best manua superstars are battling it out in the Grand Finals. Who will take the top prizes this year?

LINK

## Bombs away at manu world champs

 Carly Gooch | THE PRESS

February 9, 2025

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Over 100 splash-ready participants entered the Manu World Championships qualifier at Jellie Park in Christchurch on Saturday.

PAUL SCHWOERER / THE PRESS

[LINK](#)

# Wainuiomata news

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

**Ginny Andersen**

Labour List MP

Wainuiomata

Level 118 Queen Street

26 Auckland

[@ginnyandersonnz](#)



Labour

Wednesday February 5, 2025



Today 14-21



Thursday 14-23



Friday 15-21



Saturday 17-23

Phone: (04) 587 1660

# Manu winner



By Frank Neill

Wainuiomata's Zerenity Mill Simpson made the biggest splash in the feriale

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# Te Awamutu COUNCIL

FREE

It's a real local newspaper

FEBRUARY 6, 2025



329 Benson Road, Te Awamutu  
P: 07 870 1091  
E: teawamutu@flooringxttra.co.nz

## Tapping into Waipā

By Chris Gardner and Mary Anne Gill

Waipā's northern neighbours are working the council in an apparent effort to get the local authority to join their water services company.

Discussions were held behind closed doors in Te Awamutu yesterday (Wednesday) between Hamilton, Waikato and Waipā districts and were believed to have included a sweeter deal around water meters and the growth issues the three of them face.

The public excluded workshop comes as merger debate among Waikato's 12 local authorities – fuelled by the need to sort out their water arrangements – has been rekindled. If Waipā went with Hamilton and Waikato over water, organisations like Waikato Chamber of Commerce – which argues council amalgamations should be dominating this local body election year – would ramp up the pressure.

News of the water meeting came as a surprise to Otorohanga and Waitema mayors Max Baxter and John Robertson who both said it was critical to have Waipā in the Waikato Water Done Well deal with them, Matamata-Piako, South Waikato, Thames-Coromandel and Taupō.

Waipā agreed to a non-binding head of agreement with the rural councils in November.

Waitema and Otorohanga councils are already facing ratepayer revolt over double digit rate increases and Robertson is in the "it's time to merge" camp.

"It no longer makes any sense for our two King Country councils to duplicate administration and pass costs onto ratepayers the way we do," he said.

Baxter said there was "a real need" for Waipā to be in the water mix.

"If Waipā left that would change the whole dynamic and would be to the detriment of Waikato Water Done Well," Baxter said. "It's just a whole new discussion."

Baxter said he also understood the need to

explore all options.

"It would be poor form if they didn't investigate opportunities."

His views on a merger with Waitema are no secret – he wants Otorohanga to look north towards Waipā.

Robertson said Waipā district was "really important" to the Waikato Water Done Well proposal. "It's the biggest council in terms of population," he said.

An estimated 62,700 people live in Waipā – a quarter of the 257,000 residents in the regional proposal.

With population comes the ability to collect rates to fund capital projects.

"I am very keen to see all seven councils that have signed up to stay in the group," said Robertson.

"If we can do that then the option is very feasible. I have no reason to believe that Waipā won't stay with us because we can make a great option."

Both Waipā and Waikato installed meters eight years ago while Hamilton water usage is included in general rates. The News understands Hamilton would need to commit to a targeted city only rate to pay for their installation.

O'Keegan said "this decision will likely be the biggest one our elected members will face as a council. It will impact Waipā for many generations to come."

Under Local Water Done Well legislation, all councils are required to produce a water services delivery plan by September – the month before local body elections – ensuring future delivery is financially sustainable and meets quality standards.

Hamilton mayor Paula Saultage said the city had always been open about being prepared to have discussions with Waikato local authorities, particularly Waipā as it was a neighbour.

Waikato Water Done Well adviser and former Matamata-Piako District Council chief executive Don McLeod said it was difficult to

speculate on the outcome of yesterday's talks. "We are getting to the point where decisions have to be made."

Financial modelling was underway that would help councils – and their ratepayers – decide on the matter, he said.

## Haven makes a splash

Haven Komene learned to dive bomb with his older cousin at Arapuni on the Waikato River and he put that experience to good use at the Manu world champs superqualifier in Hamilton on the weekend.

Komene's 2m best splash though was well short of Marley Waaka-Te Amo who won the adult male category with a huge 12m splash.

But it's not about winning for Kihikihi's Haven, who was competing for the second year in an event where the aim is make the biggest splash possible.

"It's just fun for me. It was a good day and the whanau were really supportive, messaging 'good on you mate' and stuff. So yeah, I'll keep fine-tuning and be back next year for sure."

Waterworld in Hamilton was the place to be for the 22-sponsored manua event which saw the highest participation of the season so far and more females competing than ever.

There were 10 qualifiers across eight cities and then four super qualifiers in



Wellington, Hamilton and two in Auckland where the grand final will be held on March 1.

I got used to heights jumping along the Waikato River as a kid and I still just really like the feeling.

of being mid-air," Komene said. "It's kind of been a lifelong passion and I like to pull over and manna whenever and wherever I can. Raglan, Taupo... I kind of go around collecting manna spots."

LINK

# Tō Tātou Pōneke

## Our Wellington

25-26 Jan

### World Manu Champs

The Z Manu World Champs are coming to Pōneke Wellington, featuring a SUPER QUALIFIER event at Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre.

Website: [manuworldchamps.com](http://manuworldchamps.com)

[LINK](#)

# AUCKLAND FOR KIDS

## Z World Manu Champs



Karanga Plaza

15  
FEB

Ages: All Ages

Type: Free, Sports

Where: Central Auckland

Tags: Auckland City Centre Events and Activities



[LINK](#)

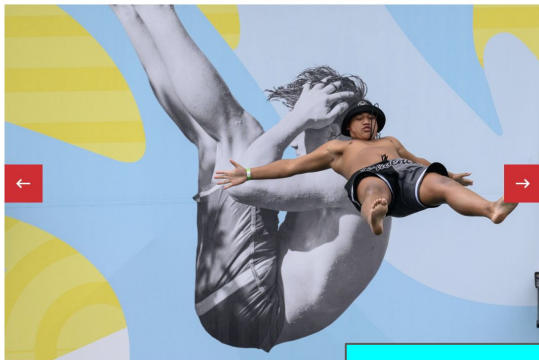


# OUR Auckland

TŌ TĀTOU TĀMAKI MAKĀURAU

## Z Manu World Champs

Super Qualifiers and Push Play Sessions



[LINK](#)



## Manu world champs

From **Summer Weekends**, 9:05 am on 11 January 2025

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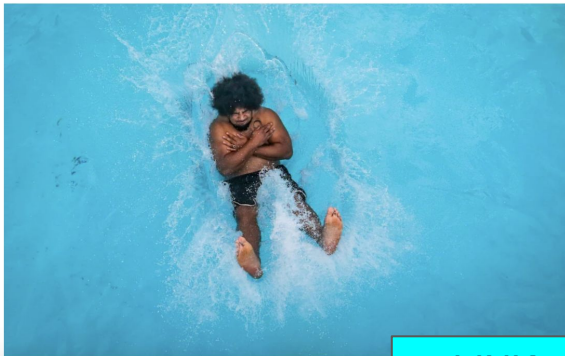


**Summer Weekends** · 11 January 2025  
Manu world champs

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This audio is not downloadable due to copyright restrictions.

All eyes will be on the size of the splash at the 'Z Manu world champs' qualifiers at Auckland's Mangere pools today. Organisers of the event are expecting a couple of thousand people to turn up - to either strut their stuff or rate the bombs from the poolside. Official event judge, emcee for the day and all-round Manu enthusiast Toko Manuel joins Susana to talk about the home of the manu and what he'll be looking out for today.



[LINK](#)



Tauranga Moana Manu Champs becomes official world qualifying event



Get ready for the Moana Manu

For the official rights, into the 2025.

City De Tauranga up and stage.

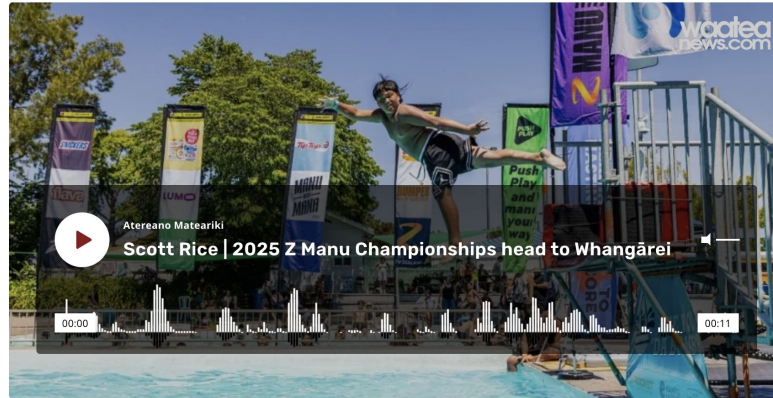
“Tauranga partner world c

“With the new things

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**waatea**  
news.com

## 2025 Z Manu Championships head to Whangārei

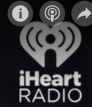


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# OmnyStudio

The All Sport Breakfast

Scott Rice: Z Manu World Champs



**The  
All Sport  
Breakfast  
with D'Arcy  
Waldegrave.**

00:06



06:37

**Scott Rice: Z Manu  
World Champs**

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Published Dec 21, 2024, 5:10 PM

[LINK](#)

# Regional News

Issue 235  
January 14, 2025

## 36 News

### Soaked and stoked



Make a splash this summer at the Z Manu World Championships! With the Wellington super qualifier round slipping and sliding into Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre in Kilbirnie on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of January, this nationwide dive-bombing championship is for the young and young at heart.

Over 2000 participants took part in last year's inaugural championship event. Legends were made, champions crowned, and fun abounded. Famous faces joined the fun, including former All Blacks captain Sean Fitzpatrick and rugby legend Piri Weepu [pictured] who will return in 2025.

"Last year, we were literally testing the waters," organiser Scott Rice says. "We saw the widespread love for manu across the country, and we proved that even those who've never popped a manu can enjoy the

atmosphere while witnessing the incredible skill of 'manu athletes' from around the nation".

Manu techniques are perfected at wharves, pools, and secret spots across Aotearoa, only coming into the limelight once a year. The judges panel will use Manutech at the Wellington super qualifiers and grand finals in Auckland on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March. This software records each jump on film, so that each splash height can be carefully calculated before receiving a score.

This year's categories include pakeke/adult for those 18 and over, rangatahi/youth for those between 13 and 17, tamariki/kids open to 10 to 12-year-olds, and an eight-plus freestyle section.

Get soaked and stoked for the 2025 Z Manu

[LINK](#)

# Stuff



The finals of the Z Manu Champs will be a highlight of the Moana Auckland festival.  
DJ MILLS / WAIKATO TIMES

**Z Manu World Champs, February 15 to March 1**

[LINK](#)



**AA**



[LINK](#)



## Key events at Waterworld:

- Tolbecs Ear Clinic, free pop-up ear clinic sessions will be available on Wednesday 8 January, Wednesday 15 January and Wednesday 22 January at Waterworld.
- Z Manu World Champs will be held at Waterworld on Saturday 1 February and Sunday 2 February. There will be limited lane space available with around 250 people expected to attend the event.
- Swimming Waikato Summer Meet is happening on Saturday 22 February and Sunday 23 February at Waterworld. There will be no lane space available, with swimmers asked to please use Gallagher Aquatic Centre.

[LINK](#)



# WAIKATO TIMES

TE REO O WAIKATO

## Bombing purist reveals the signs of a great manū

 Jo Lines-MacKenzie | WAIKATO TIMES

December 20, 2024

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Haha Te Haha says top bombers 'have spent hours and hours over our lifetimes perfecting our craft'. SUPPLIED

[LINK](#)

# THE PRESS | TE MATATIKA

## Making a splash

December 23, 2024

Share



A textbook splash from a competitor at the 2025 Z Manu World Champs at Nayland Pool in Nelson on Saturday.  
BRADEN FASTIER / NELSON MAIL

Refined technique has impressed both judges and an avid crowd at the Nelson official qualifier for the 2025 Z Manu World Champs at Nayland Pool on Saturday.

[LINK](#)



regions | manu

## Manu world champs off to ‘fantastic’ start with qualifiers in three regions

Thursday 26 December 2024 • By Riria Dalton-Reedy



One competitor throws a manu wave to the crowd at the Hastings Manu Champs. Photo / Facebook.

[LINK](#)

# NewstalkZB

HOME • ON AIR • THE ALL SPORT BREAKFAST • AUDIO

## Scott Rice: Z Manu World Champs returning

ON AIR | THE ALL SPORT BREAKFAST

Sat, 21 Dec 2024, 4:59pm

iHeart  
**Scott Rice: Z Manu World Champs - The All Sport Breakfast**  
The All Sport Breakfast

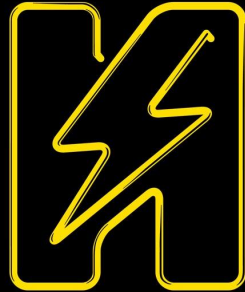


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Hawke's Bay  
**TODAY**

SPORTS  
**TODAY**

## BOMB'S AWAY

Competitors will show off their skills at the Heretaunga Hastings Manu Comp tomorrow

Sports

13 Dec 2024 Jack Riddell

Epic bombs and huge splashes are expected in Hawke's Bay this weekend with the return of the Heretaunga Hastings Manu



### BOMB'S AWAY

**A competitor at the 2023 Hastings District Council Manu Competition prepares for splash down.**

Comp.

Tomorrow at the Havelock

[LINK](#)

# The New Zealand Herald

## Heretaunga Hastings Manu Comp dazzles at Havelock North pool

Hawkes Bay Today

18 Dec, 2024 01:10 PM ⌚ 2 mins to read

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NOW PLAYING - Manu World Champs in Auckland

The Manu World Champs were held on February 24, 2024, in Auckland's Viaduct Harbour.

[LINK](#)



6 Wednesday 18 December 2024

News

## Calling all dive bombers in the splash for cash

STEPHEN STUART

Having convinced Z Mamo organisers to let Nelson stage a qualifier for the World Championship, Nayland Pool lifeguard Scott White reckons they have the local talent to bomb with the best.

After having to try and qualify from Christchurch last year, Nelson has now joined that province as the only South Island centre to send divers to compete with qualifiers from eight North Island pools.

"I wrote to the organisers and said you can't call them world champs unless you have beaten my boys. So they agreed to give us a qualifying event," says the 2024 New Zealand Lifeguard of the Year.

"The main is part of our heritage, whether it was from wharves or bridges. It is a real Kiwi thing," declares the 42-year-old known as 'Papa Mamo'.

Once Nayland Pool was confirmed, the complex has been swamped with bombers trying to fine tune their techniques on a daily basis ahead of this Satur-



2024 Lifeguard of the Year, Scott White, has gained more national recognition for Nayland Pool. Photo: Stephen Stuart.

day's splash down. Entry is free for the four qualifying divisions – kids (8-12 year-olds), youths (13-17), adults (18+) and freestyle, with each competitor getting two jumps from the three metre platform.

The freestyle is open to all ages with bombs ranging from the gorilla, cannonball, staple and the coffin.

Competition starts at 11.30am and will run through until late afternoon.

The judging panel will be looking for the best dive and the highest splash.

The top male and female quali-

fiers will receive return airfares to Auckland for the Z Mamo finals on 1 March with \$40,000 in prize money at stake.

Scott has seen enough of the top local bombers to rate three or four them as serious national contenders.

"They could go all the way. They are really supportive, a bit like snowboarders. They just want each other to do well!"

He's expected to pull off a couple of back flips himself.

"No pressure. It's fun and I love doing it," concludes the former triathlete who's still very competitive in the pool.



Axton Ford preparing for this weekend's Z Mamo qualifier at Nayland Pool. Photo: Supplied.

LINK

# HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Creativity shines at Heretaunga Hastings Manu Comp

A scorching hot weekend proved the perfect backdrop to another successful Heretaunga Hastings Manu Comp at Havelock North Village Pool on Saturday [December 14].

The third year the event has been run in Hastings, entry numbers continued to grow with about 100 competitors showing off their skills and vying for a spot at the Z Manu World Champs in Auckland next year.

Hastings mayor Sandra Hazlehurst said it was a fantastic day for both the competitors and spectators, with about 500 people enjoying a special day at the pool.

"This is such a cool event that's been going from strength to strength each year. Three years ago then-Flaxmere councillor Peleti Oli had the vision to create a local competition for manu enthusiasts.

"It was a great success in that first year, and was soon followed by the creation of



[LINK](#)



## Register now for the 2025 Manu World Champs



Dive into the excitement as the Z Manu World Champs is hitting Waterworld with a super qualifier round on Saturday 1 February and Sunday 2 February 2025.

A massive \$40,000 worth of prizes are up for grab for the biggest splash and best technique.

[LINK](#)

# PMN

LIVE NOW



SUMMER

## 'I can't pop a manu'

As part of the PMN Summer Series, reporter Matt Manukuo shares his biggest downfall when in the water.



A competitor at the Manu World Champs in 2024. Photo/Manu World Champs.



Matt Manukuo

OPINION: I'm 23 years old, a Pacific Islander, and can't pop a manu.

LINK



# INSIDE GOVERNMENT

News, Information and Events for the New Zealand Public Service

NEWS

## Heated competition at Hastings Manu Comp

16/12/2024



[LINK](#)



## Measuring the manu

From **Afternoons**, 1:15 pm on 17 December 2024

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Afternoons 17 December 2024  
Measuring the manu

11 Player



It's summer and that means it's manu season.

The 'Z' Manu World Champs qualifiers are underway and for the first time, finalists will be judged on the boom or 'pop' of their manu or bomb.

Last year the inaugural 'Z' Manu world champs were held, and this year's qualifiers are now underway.



Supreme champion Kree Smith, of Northland's Wainui Valley, hits the water at Russell's

[LINK](#)



NEW ZEALAND / LIFE AND SOCIETY

## Hastings prepares for big splash as manu masters head to competition

8:49 am on 2 December 2023

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Lauren Crimp, Reporter  
lauren.crimp@rnz.co.nz



[LINK](#)

## SCOOP Culture

Those who want the best of big-city convenience as well as fun at the water will love *Moana Auckland*, New Zealand's Ocean Festival, which is back for a second year kicking off on Auckland Anniversary Day. From 27 January, the six-week festival amplifies the region's love affair with the water through family-friendly events like the *Auckland Anniversary Day Regatta*, *Mermaid Parade* and *Six60 Grassroots Tour City Edition* at the Base Spaces, Wynyard Point. *The Z **Manu** World Champs* finals will be a highlight - this celebration of a favourite kiwi pastime shows off 130 of the best **manu** (dive bomb) athletes, as they vie for the biggest splash and most creative style.

[LINK](#)



# HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Heretaunga Hastings Manu Comp set to make a splash

It's a quintessential Kiwi water activity, and this weekend Havelock North Village Pool is once again poised to welcome people to the annual Heretaunga Hastings Manu Comp.

And this year, the stakes are even higher for keen competitors who will get the opportunity to qualify for a spot in the Z Manu World Champs.

This is the third year that the event has been held in Hastings, but it's the first time enthusiasts will have the opportunity to compete for the ultimate Manu crown.

Z Manu World Champs director Scott Rice said he was thrilled to be bringing the competition to the region.

"We're so excited to work with Hastings District Council and the Havelock North Village Pool to stage one of our 10 Z Manu World Champs qualifying events around Aoteaora.

"We've heard there is some really strong Manu and bombing talent in Heretaunga, so the competition will be fierce for the eight Grand Final spots being awarded. Good luck to everyone participating!"



[LINK](#)

# Hawke's Bay TODAY

## Hawke's Bay's best bomb: Hastings Manu Comp set for splashy return



By **Jack Riddell**

Multimedia journalist - Hawke's Bay Today · 11 Dec, 2024 02:01 PM · 2 mins to read

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# BAY BUZZ

## Hastings to host Z Manu World Champs Qualifier

Can you make a BIG splash ... with style?



Heretaunga, Hastings will hold an official qualifier for the second Z Manu World Championships. Last year's inaugural event saw more than 2000 Manu athletes compete from around the country.

Hastings has a fine tradition in the art of the manu (aka dive bomb) and is said to have its own flavour which is lots of air then into a nice-shaped tuck! Hastings first World Champs qualifier will be held at Havelock North Village Pool on Saturday, 14 December.

[LINK](#)

## All about the splash at the Z Manu Champs Tauranga



By Tom Eley

Multimedia journalist · Bay of Plenty Times · 8 Dec, 2024 12:50 PM · 3 mins to read

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The Z Manu World Champs are getting bigger and better, and the Z Manu World Champs came to Tauranga for the first time on December 7. Photo / Dean Purcell

[LINK](#)

SunLive - The Bay's news first



### Manu champs jump off Tauranga waterfront



[LINK](#)

95.8FM

THE BREEZE



focus



**THE Z MANU WORLD CHAMPS KICKS OFF THIS SATURDAY WITH THE FIRST OFFICIAL QUALIFYING EVENT IN TAURANGA**

by Focus | December 3, 2024

The Z Manu World Champs kicks off this Saturday with the first official qualifying event in Tauranga. For the first time, the annual Tauranga Moana bombing competition has been named an official qualifying event for the 2025 Z Manu World Champs and winners will be fast-tracked into the Z Manu World Champs grand final in Auckland, on 1st March 2025. Here they will showcase their Manu skills alongside winners from qualifiers around the country. There are 10 qualifying events for the Z Manu World Champs, across 8 regions.

City Development and Partnerships General Manager Gareth Wallis says the annual Tauranga Moana Manu Champs is always a popular event and this year we're stepping it up another notch, giving our local community the chance to compete on the world stage.

"Tauranga Waterfront is the place to be this summer, and having the opportunity to partner with Z Manu World Champs to expand our annual bomb competition into a world qualifier is a perfect way to kick off a bus

LINK



## HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Heretaunga Hastings Manu comp

Mark your calendars for the Hastings Manu Comp 2024 on Saturday, 14 December at Havelock North Village Pool, an official qualifier for the NZ Manu World Champs. Show off your best manu and freestyle bomb skills, or just come and watch! The pool opens at 10am, with the competition starting at 11am, on the 1.5 metre jump platform.

With age divisions from eight-years-old, there's fun for all, and it's free!

Bring a picnic, enjoy the day, try a jump between heats or battle the inflatable obstacle course. Pre-register or find out more on the [Aquatics Hastings website](#).

[LINK](#)



Home > What's On

## Z Manu World Champs is back this Summer!

Tuesday, 29 October 2024, 6:42AM



[LINK](#)

# Tauranga Moana Manu Champs Becomes Official World Qualifying Event

November 11, 2024

Press Release – Tauranga City Council



Tauranga Moana Manu Champs set to bring crowds to Tauranga  
(Photo/Supplied)

LINK

# WHAT'S ON TAURANGA

## Tauranga Moana Manu Champs

FAMILY AND KIDS

ACTIVITY

SHOW



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Newsbeat

## Tauranga Moana Manu Champs becomes official world qualifying event

Get ready to dust off your togs and perfect those bombs, as this year's Tauranga Moana Manu Champs is set to make a bigger splash than ever before.



[LINK](#)



THE TIMES

## MANU CHAMPS GO BIG

Tauranga earns world qualifier status

Greater Auckland · Tauranga · Tauranga City Council

21 Nov 2024



The Tauranga Moana Manu Champs .

Get ready to dust off your togs and perfect those bombs because this year's Tauranga Moana Manu Champs is set to make a bigger splash than ever before.

For the first time, the annual Tauranga Moana bombing competition has been named an official qualifying event for the 2025 Z Manu World Champs.

Along with local bragging rights, the winners in both the manu and freestyle jumping divisions will be fast-tracked into the Z Manu World Champs grand final in Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland, on March 1.



[LINK](#)

# Auckland.Scoop

SCOOP INDEPENDENT NEWS

## Moana Auckland Festival Sets Sail For 2025

November 11, 2024

Press Release - Taktaki Auckland Unlimited



Manu World Champs (Photo/Supplied)

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# INSIDE GOVERNMENT

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## Moana Auckland Festival sets sail for 2025

11/11/2024



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## Far North news in brief: Manu world champs; growth feedback sought and GR8X fish auction

Northern Advocate

7 Nov, 2024 05:00 AM ⌚ 3 mins to read

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Far North mayor Moko Tapania reckons the best exponents of 'the manu' come from the Far North.

LINK

## Far North news in brief: Manu world champs; growth feedback sought and GR8X fish auction

Northern Advocate

7 Nov, 2024 05:00 AM 3 mins to read

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Entertainment | Manu

# The Manu: a generational Kiwi tradition, a way of life

Tuesday 19 November 2024 • By Riria Dalton-Reedy



The manu bomb - a classic Kiwi pastime and nationwide phenomenon - is more than just a splash, it's a way of life, according to manu ambassador Hads Te Huia (Ngāti Maniapoto).

"It's generational - my uncle taught me alongside my cousin"

[LINK](#)

## Tauranga Moana Manu Champs Becomes Official World Qualifying Event

Monday, 11 November 2024, 2:57 pm

Press Release: [Tauranga City Council](#)



Get ready to dust off your togs and perfect those bombs, as this year's Tauranga Moana Manu Champs is set to make a bigger splash than ever before.

For the first time, the annual Tauranga Moana bombing competition has been named an official qualifying event for the 2025 Z Manu World Champs. Along with local bragging rights, the winners in both the Manu and Freestyle jumping divisions will be fast-tracked into the Z Manu World Champs grand final in Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland, on 1 March 2025.

City Development and Partnerships General Manager Gareth Wallis says the annual Tauranga Moana Manu Champs is always a popular event and this year we're stepping it up another notch, giving our local community the chance to compete on the world stage.

"Tauranga Waterfront is the place to be this summer, and having the opportunity to partner with Z Manu World Champs to expand our annual bomb competition into a world qualifier is a perfect way to kick off a busy summer in the city centre.

"With the Northern Waterfront transformation now complete, people will be able to enjoy the new green space, basketball court and boardwalk while checking out all the exciting things on offer at the Tauranga Moana Manu Champs", says Gareth.

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SCOOP PRO

Owner and Event Director for Z Manu World Champs, Scott Rice, says they saw how much local talent was at the Tauranga Moana bomb competition last year and wanted to get amongst the fun for another epic event.

"Tauranga Moana will be our first official qualifying event for the Z Manu World Champs 2025 and a perfect way to kick off another summer of Manu. Bring the whānau

along, challenge your friends and make a splash, you never know who the next Manu World Champ might be."

Taking place on Saturday, 7 December 2024, the free family event organised by Tauranga City Council in partnership with Z Manu World Champs will be one you won't want to miss with free fades, free sausage sizzle, music, giveaways and lots more.

The competition is open to people aged 8 and older and is free to enter. There are limited numbers in each gender and age category, so people are encouraged to register online and get there early on the day to secure a spot.

Where: Public wharf, Tauranga Southern Waterfront  
When: Saturday, 7 December 2024, 10.30am - 4.30pm

Find out more information and register your spot for the Tauranga Moana Manu Champs at [whatsontauranga.co.nz/manuchamps](https://whatsontauranga.co.nz/manuchamps).

[LINK](#)

# Bay of Plenty Times

## Tauranga Moana Manu Champs a world qualifier for the 2025 Manu World Champs

SunLive

19 Nov, 2024 08:54 AM  3 mins to read

Get ready to dust off your togs and perfect those bombs because this year's Tauranga Moana Manu Champs is set to make a bigger splash than ever before.

For the first time, the annual Tauranga Moana bombing competition has been named an official qualifying event for the 2025 Z Manu World Champs.

Along with local bragging rights, the winners in both the manu and freestyle jumping divisions will be fast-tracked into the Z Manu World Champs grand final in Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland, on March 1.

Tauranga City Council city development and partnerships general manager Gareth Wallis said the annual Tauranga Moana Manu Champs was always a popular event and this year they were stepping it up another notch, giving locals the chance to compete on the world stage.

"Tauranga Waterfront is the place to be this summer and having the opportunity to partner with Z Manu World Champs to expand our annual bomb competition into a world qualifier is a perfect way to kick off a busy summer in the city centre.

"With the Northern Waterfront transformation now complete, people will be able to enjoy the new green space, basketball court and boardwalk while checking out all the exciting things on offer at the Tauranga Moana Manu Champs."

Z Manu World Champs owner and event director Scott Rice said they saw how much local talent was at the Tauranga Moana bomb competition last year and wanted to get amongst the fun for another epic event.

"Tauranga Moana will be our first official qualifying event for the Z Manu World Champs 2025 and a perfect way to kick off another summer of manu.

"Bring the whānau along, challenge your friends and make a splash, you never know who the next manu world champ might be."

Taking place on December 7, the free family event organised by Tauranga City Council in partnership with Z Manu World Champs will be one you won't want to miss with free fades, free sausage sizzle, music, giveaways and lots more.

The competition is open to people aged 8 and older and is free to enter.

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[LINK](https://whatsontauranga.co.nz/manuchamps)



## Tauranga Moana Manu Champs a world qualifier



The Tauranga Moana Manu Champs is a popular event in Tauranga. Supplied photo.

Get ready to dust off your togs and perfect those bombs because this year's Tauranga Moana Manu Champs is set to make a bigger splash than ever before.

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[LINK](#)

## CAMPAIGNS

### Z Manu World Champs are back for 2024!

By STOPPRESS TEAM — November 6, 2024 0 Comments



Scott Rice credits a solid team of supporting sponsors with the event's success and ability to return for the second year, particularly Z Energy who return as naming rights sponsor. Supported by Water Safety New Zealand and Sport New Zealand, the event encourages safe, high-spirited competition and welcomes all New Zealanders to experience the Manu's splash-filled spectacle. Other sponsors include Auckland Unlimited, Original Kiwi Dip, Frank Energy, Tip Top, Bluebird, Snickers, Burger King, Bumper, NZME and Lumo.




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## Z Manu World Champs 2025: More qualifiers, new division in Hamilton

Waikato Herald

7 Nov, 2024 10:00 AM ⌚ 2 mins to read

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Waterworld will once again host the Z Manu World Champs Hamilton

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## Manu World Championships to expand in 2025 with 10 summer qualifiers nationwide



By **Tom Rose**

Digital Producer & Editorial Assistant - NZ Herald · 5 Nov, 2024 02:00 PM · 4 mins to read

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The Z Manu World Champs is getting bigger this summer with more qualifiers being held across the motu ahead of the Grand Final in Auckland. Photo / Dean Purcell

**Pop the right manu and you could bring home a world champion title, bragging rights, and a share of a \$40,000 prize pool.**

After last summer saw the debut of [the Z Manu World Championships](#), the one-of-a-kind competition will return in its second iteration with new cities on board, more prize money up for grabs, and cutting-edge technology introduced to determine the winners.

The manu is said to be a New Zealand invention and is one of Kiwis' favourite things to do around the water. The unique bomb technique requires one's body to form a distinct V-shape so the bum and lower back hit the water first, before the arms and legs are immediately extended back out to create a deafening clap and a soaring splash.

With over 2000 people competing across the motu last year, including [former All Blacks captain Sean Fitzpatrick](#) and [retired rugby star Piri Weepu](#), the unique contest is being opened up to a wider range of participants, with organisers working with communities to set up qualifiers for the grand final in some of the country's smaller cities.

While last year's competition required many participants to travel long journeys to make the official qualifying rounds held in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Hamilton, five more regional cities have pledged to run their own for the upcoming world championships.

LINK



National | Manu

## Manu champs back with \$40,000 in cash and prizes up for grabs

Wednesday 6 November 2024 • By [Natasha Hill](#)



[LINK](#)

October 31, 2024

## Z Manu Championships return bigger for 2025



[LINK](#)

# The New Zealand Herald

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## Wharepapa Reirson plans to make an even bigger splash at Manu World Champs



NZ Herald

8 Nov, 2024 08:10 AM 3 mins to read

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[Wharepapa Reirson plans to make an even bigger splash at Manu World Champs](#)



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AT MANU CHAMPS

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Sir Sam Neill joins fight for wool industry's survival 14-15

## 'I LED THEM INTO DISASTER'

Crash survivor loses limbs, while driver charged with being at the wheel on meth

Jeremy Capper is the sole survivor of a group of friends on gravel and seeing the car overthrown. **Crash on meth**

Herald on Sunday, March 2, 2025

4 News

**Mark 'the man' minister**

Senior Government minister Mark Mitchell 'dive-bombed' into Auckland's Viaduct Harbour fully clothed at the 2 Manu Grand Finals yesterday.

The Minister of Sports and Recreation made a surprise leap from the floating platform.

The popularity of Manu has turned it into a phenomenon, with big social media followings, sharing pictures, and videos, and bragging rights about the spectacular height and sounds the splashes create.

The minister said: "I loved having a go and getting to go old-timey." And Mitchell gave the event glowing reviews.

"What a fantastic event the Manu World Champs is. It is so quintessentially Kiwi."

Mitchell, also the Minister of Education, lauded Constable Vincent Kahu for his jump last week, crediting him with creating a new style of Manu.

Sports stars also participated yesterday, including world champion swimmer Lewis Claremont. Other legend Piri Weepu and Lishon Abert Jones of the Warriors.

## Outrage at university AI tutors

Raphael Franks and Benjamin Plummer

"The university should not have ever allowed this to happen."

But the University of Auckland (UoA) says the assertion that students in the course don't have a say in human teaching them is "incorrect" and AI tutors will not replace in-person teaching.

The popular digital marketing course, led by a respected leader in AI education, includes AI-driven tutors as supplementary learning tools as supplementary learning tools.

This award-winning use of technology has undergone rigorous testing to provide engaging, feedback and ensure they are not "Complete bust" - one student enrolled in the course said.

"Why am I paying the same amount for the course as all of my other courses when I don't even have a say in it?"

Students receive highly interactive two-hour tutorials in person every week.

The spokesperson said AI skills were essential for marketing graduates and the teaching team was intentionally incorporating AI in this course because "proficiency with these tools has become a non-negotiable requirement in the marketplace."

"Across the University of Auckland, students are gaining hands-on experience with AI in various disciplines, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to thrive in a digital world."

Business School has a strong reputation for innovative teaching and learning methods and is embedding AI tools across multiple courses. The teaching team that developed the AI-driven for AI innovations in teaching and learning with a recent award at the prestigious QS Reimagine Education Awards.

Dozens of students taking the course had been discussing the change on social media.

"AI is constantly improving places on the internet," the student said. "How am I supposed to learn logic for a test when the AI will barely know what it's supposed to know?"

Course information sent to students said: "Since we have no formal lectures, it is important that you are prepared for weekly sessions by completing that weekly work using one of the AI tutors which goes all in on AI so you can get the most out of it."

COMMUNICATIONS & PR  
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## Jeannie Milne: From Competitive Swimming to the Manu World Champs Grand Final

Natalie Wilson writes on former New Zealand representative swimmer Jeannie Milne's journey to the Manu World Champs.



[LINK](#)



NEW ZEALAND

# Manu World Champs crowns winner in Auckland

12:36 pm on 3 March 2025

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Morning Report

@NZMorningReport

Morningreport@rnz.co.nz



William Fraser won the Manu World Champs Freestyle men's division. Photo: @ZachQuin



# The New Zealand Herald

## Z Manu Grand Finals: Sports Minister Mark Mitchell does bomb fully clothed in Auckland's Viaduct Harbour



NZ Herald

1 Mar, 2025 06:22 PM ⌚ 3 mins to read

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NOW PLAYING - Manu World Champs Finals

The best of the best dive for the overall Z Manu title at Karanga Plaza, on Auckland's Viaduct Harbour.


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# WAIKATO TIMES

TE REO O WAIKATO

## Bombs away - Hamilton girls win big at manu champs

 Matthew Martin | WAIKATO TIMES

March 2, 2025

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Hamilton's Aila McQueen won the kids female manu title at the national champs in Auckland.

ZACH QUIN

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COMPETITION / LEISURE

# Manu World Champs: Splashing to victory

From **Saturday Morning**, 7:56 am on 1 March 2025

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Crowds at the Manu World Champs competition in 2025. Photo: Supplied / Scott Rice

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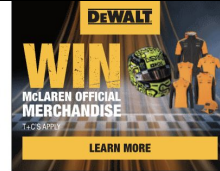
# The New Zealand Herald

## Manu World Champs Finals

1 Mar, 2025 04:41 PM

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The best of the best dive for the overall Z Manu title at Karanga Plaza, on Auckland's Viaduct Harbour.



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The best of the best dive for the overall Z Manu title at Karanga Plaza, on Auckland's Viaduct Harbour.

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# The New Zealand Herald

## Kea Kids News: Manu World Champs competitors make a splash for their spot in the finals

4 Mar, 2025 05:00 AM

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Reporter Te Rongopal is at the Z Manu Auckland Super Qualifier, where manu masters are battling it out to see who will head to the Grand Final



NOW PLAYING • Kea Kids News: Manu World Champs competitors make a splash for their spot in the finals

Reporter Te Rongopal is at the Z Manu Auckland Super Qualifier, where manu masters are battling it out to see who will head to the Grand Final

[LINK](#)



Young man talent makes waves at manu champs



Mount Maunganui's Kadyn Kanohi, 12, on his way to winning a bronze medal at the Z Manu World Champs in Auckland. Photo / Blinkshot  
Photography - Zach Quin, Z Manu

[LINK](#)