

In this edition of YOUR news

- **More Ups Than Downs?**
- **Upcoming Workshops & Events**
- **Past Events**
- **Ingage Saturday Programme**
- **Gibbs Farm Fundraiser For Whānau Āwhina Plunket - 20th November**
- **Latest Information From Business.govt.nz**

More Ups Than Downs?

Kia ora tatou,

Following the disappointing Gross Domestic Product (GDP) figures released by Stats NZ last month which showed a drop of 0.9%, there has been some positive news to begin this month, with a 0.2% increase in the number of filled jobs nationally, some of which has been attributed to a net increase in Auckland. Additionally, in preparation for the Reserve Bank Of New Zealand's (RBNZ) Official Cash Rate (OCR) announcement, the major banks had already reduced some of their home loan rates.

The latest reduction of 50 basis points in the OCR which now sits at 2.5% shows some positive intent by the RBNZ to try and support economic growth, whilst at the same time trying to keep inflation under control and in more good news, some economists are predicting that there might be a further reduction in the OCR next month. All of this will hopefully mean more people with more money to put back into the economy in the not-too-distant future.

Whilst all of the above are positive signs, there is still a need for caution as the latest NZIER Quarterly Survey Of Business Opinion (QSBO) has shown a drop in business confidence in the September quarter. A number of firms have reported a decline in business, with other areas of concern highlighted in the survey identifying that some businesses are still reducing their staffing levels, whilst others are planning to reduce investment in plant, machinery and buildings. These trends will unfortunately continue to have a negative effect on economic growth at least in the short term.

I hope that in the coming weeks and months the economic ups can start to outweigh the downs and those members that need it can start to enjoy an increase in cashflow to help achieve economic stability and sustainability in these ongoing turbulent times.

Ngā mihi mahana,

KEVIN O'LEARY

General Manager

Upcoming Workshops & Events

Graphic for Inorganic Collection event. It features a collection of household items like a sofa, desk, and chairs. Text includes: 'Help reduce landfill, protect the environment and save money!', 'Only \$49^{plus GST} per m³ collected', '* Minimum charge of \$49 plus GST applies', 'Abilities Group', and 'Business North Harbour'. A vertical banner on the left says '13TH TO 17TH OCTOBER 2025 INORGANIC COLLECTION REUSABLES // E-WASTE // GENERAL INORGANIC'. The bottom URL is 'BUSINESSNH.ORG.NZ/INORGANICCOLLECTION'.

Inorganic Collection

Monday, 13th October - Friday, 17th October 2025

We have now confirmed the collection dates for our next Inorganic collection for all members. From Monday 13th October 2025 any inorganic items you require to be collected need to be available for collection by Abilities Group. The items will be collected progressively across the week to Friday 17th October. Refer to our website for more details and to register for a collection:

www.businessnh.org.nz/inorganiccollection

Graphic for Boss' Day event. It features a large 'BOSS' text with '老板节 DAY' below it. Text includes: 'Asian Business Collective', 'Oct 17 Fri | 05:30 pm | 55 Café', '55 Corinthian Drive, Albany, Auckland', 'Business North Harbour', and 'RSM Assurance/Tax/Consulting'. There is an illustration of a boss's chair.

Asian Business Collective | Boss' Day 2025

Friday, 17th October 2025, 5:30pm - 7:00pm

55 Cafe - 55 Corinthian Dr, Albany

Mandarin Event

Teachers have Teachers' Day, nurses have Nurses' Day, workers have Labour Day... But bosses? They worry every day, take on all the responsibility, and rarely get a day off. Boss' Day is here to appreciate them, respect them, and celebrate them.

Join us at Business North Harbour's First Boss' Day for guest talks, interactive sessions, lucky draws, and networking with fellow business leaders.

Sign up now and celebrate the people who keep it all running!

[Register Here](#)

Graphic for AGM 2025. It features a large 'AGM 2025' text. Text includes: 'Business North Harbour', 'THURSDAY 23 OCTOBER 2025 | 4.30PM', 'BUSINESS NORTH HARBOUR OFFICES', 'LEVEL 1, 322 ROSEDALE ROAD, ROSEDALE', and 'ATTENDEES ARE WELCOME TO ARRIVE FROM 4:15PM'. The background shows a group of people in a meeting.

The 2025 Business North Harbour Annual General Meeting will take place on Thursday 23rd October at the offices of Business North Harbour commencing at 4:30pm.

Please RSVP via email to Kevin O'Leary (General Manager) kevin@businessnh.org.nz.

Business North Harbour

BUSINESS LUNCH

RT HON CHRIS HIPKINS
& HON CARMEL SEPULONI

Labour's vision for the economy

FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER | 12.00–2.30pm
NATIONAL HOCKEY CENTRE

 Labour



Business Lunch: Rt Hon Chris Hipkins & Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Friday, 07th November 2025, 12:00pm - 2.30pm

Presented by Rt Hon Chris Hipkins, Leader of the Labour Party & Joined by Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party

Join Leader of the Labour Party Rt Hon Chris Hipkins, to hear Labour's vision for building an economy that works for businesses and communities alike. Chris will speak to Labour's priorities for tackling the economic challenges facing us – and how good jobs that pay enough, healthcare you can rely on, and warm, affordable homes can form the foundation of a strong economy for all New Zealanders.

[Register Here](#)

Spark

Business Hub Auckland North

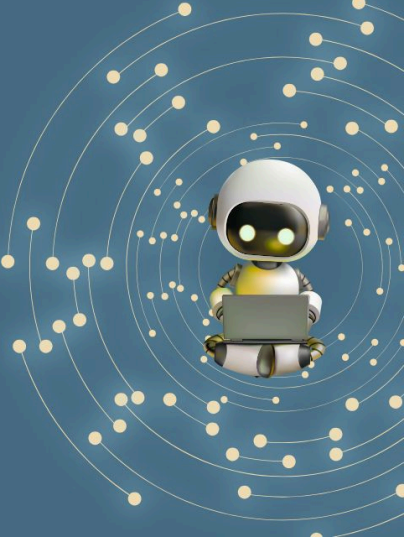


Business North Harbour

NEW ZEALAND AI

Friday | 14 Nov 2025 | 1.00pm

AI for Business Conference:
Understand It.
Use It.
Grow With It.



AI for Business Conference
Friday, 14th November 2025, 1:00pm
North Harbour Stadium

With AI rapidly reshaping the business landscape—and the launch of New Zealand’s first National AI Strategy—the timing couldn’t be better. In response to overwhelming member demand, Business North Harbour is proud to present its very first action-packed half-day AI conference, designed to empower local businesses to harness the power of AI and lead with confidence into the future.

What to Expect:

- Inspiring Keynotes from renowned thought leaders including **AI Tech Hall of Famer Greg Cross** (*Eighty.20.AI*, *Soul Machines*), **Justin Flitter** (*New Zealand.AI*) and more exciting names to be announced.
- A **1-hour hands-on Workshop** focused on real-world applications of AI.
- **Panel Discussion** with industry experts
- **AI in Action:** Live demos and interactive tech zones to experience the AI tools shaping the future of business
- Networking Opportunities

Whether you’re just starting to explore AI or ready to integrate it into your strategy, this event will offer practical insights, tools, and inspiration to help you take the next step confidently.

[Register Here](#)



Hong Kong New Zealand Business Association Annual Golf Day 2025 – BNH Member Invite
Friday, 10th October 2025, 11:00 AM from tee 1.
North Shore Golf Club

HKNZBA have extended an invite to all BNH Members to join them for a friendly golf tournament. It will be a 4-ball team Ambrose format. The event will be wrapped up at the bar where attendees can enjoy drinks and network with each other.

[Register Here](#)



TE KUNENGA
KI PŪREHUROA
MASSEY
UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND

TE KURA
WHAI PAKIHU
MASSEY
BUSINESS SCHOOL

Massey Business School’s Actionable Insights Series presents: The promise and perils of high-performance work systems

What really drives a high-performing workforce—and what risks should you watch out for? Join [Professor Jarrod Haar](#), sharing the latest insights from his annual New Zealand workforce survey, and [Anna Campbell](#), an experienced executive and company director, as they unpack both the benefits and the hidden downsides of high-performance work environments.

Actionable Insights events offer you the best of both worlds: cutting-edge research and hard-won lessons from the boardroom.

What you’ll take away:

- Why HR practices work best as integrated systems, not one-offs
- How to evaluate your current practices and budget for impact
- A practical approach to phasing in new, high-value initiatives
- Why long-term commitment matters more than quick wins
- How effective HR doesn’t have to cost the earth

Date and time:

Thursday, 30th October 2025 from 5.00 to 6:30 PM

Venue:

Innovation Complex, Massey University, Albany Campus – Room IC1.07

Register here: [MBS Actionable Insights – Massey University](#).

Connect, network, and gain insights from top leaders:

Anna Campbell



Professor Jarrod Haar



GOLF
DAY 2025



Enjoy a great afternoon at Pupuke Golf Course with on course refreshments, a light lunch and catering afterwards. Grab your boss, round up your colleagues or friends and swing into summer with Harbour Sport. This year's event will be played in an ambrose format, ensuring a relaxed and enjoyable experience for all participants.

**23 OCTOBER
2025**

REGISTER NOW
\$460 PER TEAM

PUPUKE GOLF CLUB

12.30PM MEET
1PM TEE OFF

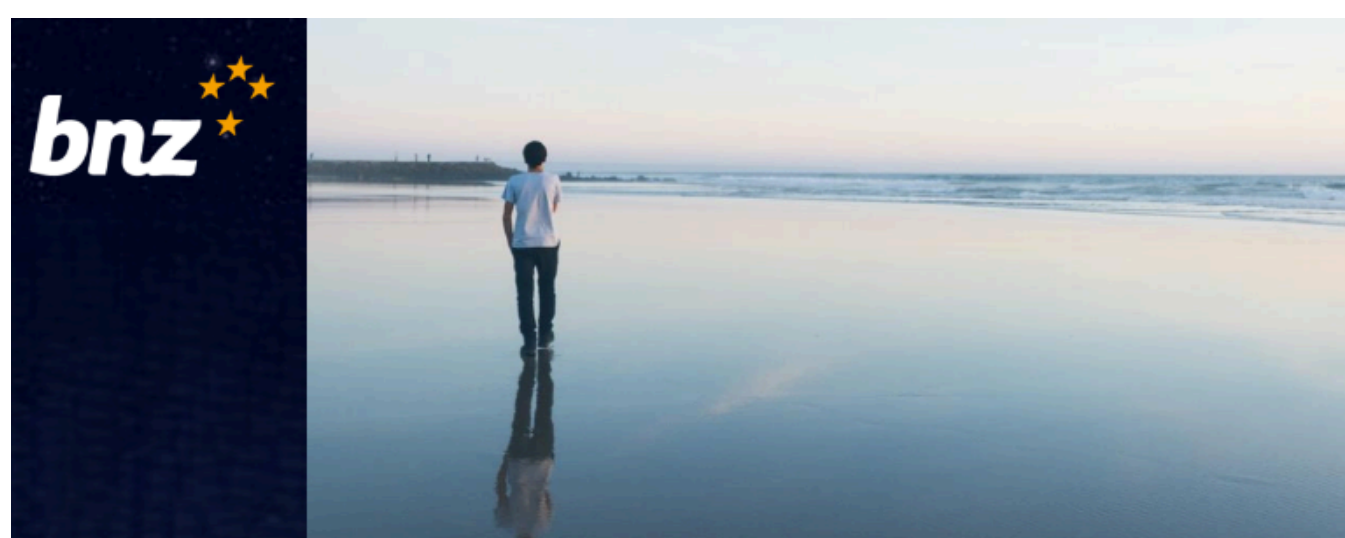


SCAN HERE



**CONTACT ANTH@HARBOURSPORT.CO.NZ
FOR MORE INFO!**

Register Here



Wairau Networking Night

Wednesday 05th November 2025, 4.30pm – 6:00pm

BNZ 4 Link Drive, Wairau Park

RSVP: Please [click here](#) to RSVP by 20th October

BNZ is delighted to invite you to join our community networking night event at BNZ Link Drive branch. Come along to learn how BNZ can support your personal and business banking needs, and it provides an opportunity for local customers/business owners/stakeholders to network.

Our banking experts are available for:

- Home and business finances
- Daily banking enquiries
- Private investment & insurances
- Payment support enquiries
- Feedback from our community

Past Events



An Afternoon with Sir John Kirwan: Mental Health & Resilience

3rd October 2025 – National Hockey Stadium

Over 180 business owners and employees gathered for a sold-out Business North Harbour lunch with Sir John Kirwan (JK) – the perfect lead-up to Mental Health Awareness Week. JK’s powerful, heartfelt talk explored his personal journey through anxiety and depression, sharing insights that continue to inspire Kiwis to prioritise mental wellbeing.

Through stories and humour, he reminded attendees to focus on the *Six Pillars of Wellbeing* — Chill, Do, Move, Connect, Enjoy, and Express Gratitude — and to “Do One Thing” each day for themselves or others. A truly uplifting and thought-provoking afternoon.

For more information about this event, [click here](#)

Engage Saturday Programme



Activities To Support the Ingage Saturday Programme

The Ingage Saturday Programme has been running since 2018, by Immerse Charitable Trust (self-funding through charities, grants & donations) in supporting tamariki and rangatahi (children & young people) in the care of Oranga Tamariki (Auckland Region). Our mission is to provide “therapy wrapped in fun” a safe, activity-based environment based on the North Shore (Albany) where children from hard places can heal, connect and thrive. Find more details of the programme and how it helps young people [here](#) and if you can provide an activity to support the young people on the programme please contact george.elisara@immerse.nz

Gibbs Farm Fundraiser For Whānau Āwhina Plunket - 20th November



Gibbs Farm is a world-renowned, privately owned sculpture park and farm located in the Kaipara Harbour, featuring a vast collection of large-scale, site-specific artworks. This fundraiser supports Plunket's vital community services in Auckland. Don't miss out. [purchase your tickets today!](#)

Latest Information From Business.govt.nz



The business.govt.nz and other Government sources provide the latest information for businesses.

If you have any questions or need support please contact the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)'s phone line for small businesses: Freephone **0800 424 946**

Thank you to our 2025-2026 PLATINUM PARTNERS

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KOROWAI TAKITINI

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Business Hub
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VANGUARD
SECURITY

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