

'I'm throwing my hat in the ring'



As good as his word: **ROGER FOWLER** about to throw his hat "in the ring" at a Samoa Atia'e meeting where he spoke about RAM's election campaign

"I'm throwing my hat in the ring!" Roger Fowler told over 100 Mangere people on 16 August at the Manukau City launch of RAM's election campaign. The Learning Centre manager gave the same message at a meeting of Samoa Atia'e.

Fowler is one of three RAM (Residents Action Movement) candidates standing for the Auckland Regional Council in Manukau City.

RAM is contesting 27 seats for the Auckland Regional Council, the region's three Health Boards and Auckland City Council.

"RAM has a plan to combat climate chaos and the flooding of Pacific Islands. Free buses and trains will get us out of

our cars, cut traffic gridlock and put money in our pockets," Fowler said.

"We want a region where home rates are cut because big business is made to pay its way. The well-being of our people and our planet must come before corporate greed."

In the 2004 election, RAM got a massive 87,000 votes for the Auckland Regional Council. RAM candidate Robyn Hughes was elected to the Regional Council for Manukau City.

In the postal ballot election starting this 21st September, Hughes will be a local RAM candidate for the Regional Council alongside Roger Fowler and RAM organiser Grant Morgan.

Local **RAM** candidates



ROBYN HUGHES, RAM councillor on the Auckland Regional Council, and **GRANT MORGAN**, RAM organiser, are standing for the Regional Council (Manukau Electorate) and Counties Manukau District Health Board. Both live in Mangere Bridge.



JANICE ROBERTS, a social worker at Middlemore Hospital, is a RAM candidate for the Counties Manukau District Health Board. Janice is a lifelong resident of Mangere.

RAM billboards are talk of the town



The fence billboards of RAM (Residents Action Movement) have become the talk of the town. Rather than displaying the name and photo of a particular candidate in the council elections, each billboard carries a hard-hitting "message" directed to grassroots people.

Our Voices

MANGERE EAST COMMUNITY CENTRE
372 Massey Rd. 275 6161. www.MangereEastCommunity.org.nz. September 2007.

New paper, revamped centre for residents of Mangere & nearby

Roger Fowler, manager of the Mangere East Community Learning Centre, has launched this grassroots community paper to keep you "informed and involved in issues impacting our community".

He said "Our Voices" would be happy to "open its pages to a broad range of local residents and community groups". If you have news and views for future issues of the paper, email mangere.east.access@paradise.net.nz or ring 275 6161.

Fowler also announced plans for the Learning Centre, the Mangere Peoples Centre and Samoa Atia'e to combine as the Mangere East Community Centre.

Their Massey Road buildings will soon get a colour facelift and bold signage, followed by a covered walkway and improved access. A community information centre and cafe is planned as the new entrance to the complex.

"These exciting changes will raise the profile of the centre to better serve the surrounding community," Fowler said.

The concept received a warm response at the Mangere Community Board in August.

The buildings are tucked behind the new Mangere East Library, and many people in the area are unaware of the range of quality services that are available. The Learning Centre offers

free classes in English (ESOL), literacy, numeracy, Maori language, Cook Island culture, positive parenting programmes, driving, first aid and fitness courses.

The Peoples Centre is a low-cost medical clinic and dental service.

Samoa Atia'e runs language classes and services for the Samoan community.

See the middle pages for a full schedule of services currently offered at the Massey Road centre.

The new centre will have its own website: www.MangereEastCommunity.org.nz.

"This is a brilliant step forward for residents of Mangere East and nearby," said Fowler. "Our community is really going to benefit."



From left: **TASI LAUESE JP**, coordinator of Samoa Atia'e, **MAHAVEER JAIN**, Mangere Peoples Centre doctor, and **ROGER FOWLER**, manager of Mangere East Community Learning Centre.

WHAT'S ON AT THE MANGERE EAST COMMUNITY CENTRE

Free or low-cost Community Education Classes

Come along to Mangere East Community Centre for these free or low-cost courses in a friendly place:

- **English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL):** Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.00am-10.30am (*level 1*), and 10.40am-12.10pm (*beginners*).
- **Adult Literacy & Numeracy:** FREE help with reading & writing & numbers with MIT tutors: Mon, Weds, & Fri from 9am-12pm.
- **Te Reo (Maori language, waiata & protocols for beginners):** Mondays from 6pm to 8.30pm. FREE.
- **Driving License Theory:** Mondays & Tuesdays from 6pm-8pm for up to 3 weeks. FREE tuition. \$30 materials. Test fee extra.
- **Tai Chi – low impact movement:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm – 2pm. FREE.
- **Line Dancing for Health:** Tuesdays from 6pm.
- **Women's Health & Fitness:** Mondays 6 - 7pm – Low impact movement: have fun & get fit!
- **St John (Ambulance) Youth Division:** 6pm Tuesdays (Contact Leslie Ph: 278-2225) New members welcome.



The Community Centre's friendly ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) course. The Mangere East Community Learning Centre won the 2007 Innovative Provider of the Year Award during Adult Learners Week.

- **Before & After School Care, Homework Centre, and Holiday Programmes:** Low fees. CYF approved-WINZ/OSCAR fee subsidy available. FREE BUS to & from local schools.
- **Positive Parenting Skills:** Fridays 10am-2.30pm, or Mondays 6pm -8pm. Four FREE SKIP sessions with Ohomairangi Trust, for parents of children under 5 yrs. Ring Fola: 275-6161. Enjoy your kids – be a great parent!
- **Organic Gardening:** with Framework on Tuesdays from 11am. Contact Te Kohinga 2763732.
- **First Aid:** Saturdays 8am-4pm, low cost (\$75) two day

certificated course – no written tests. One day refresher classes also. OSH & Ministry of Education approved, NZQA standards. Coffee/tea provided-bring lunch. Enrol now for next course on Saturday 22 & 29 September.

- **Cook Island Culture Group:** 6pm Thursdays 'Te Vaka O Maui' - Contact Niko Ph: 278-9671) New members welcome.

Mangere People's Centre

- Low-cost medical services Monday to Friday.
- Low-cost dental care two days each week.
- Phone 275 6111 for an appointment.

- **Supplementary Schooling programme:** encourages parents' active participation in their children's learning. Wednesdays 6pm. Contact 'Rise Up' - Sita 021-1491772.
- **Setting up a Home Recording Studio:** Wednesdays & Fridays 6pm to 8pm. Enrol now for the next course.
- **'Incredible Years' Parenting Programme:** supporting parents with children with challenging behaviours (2-10yrs) Thursdays 9.30am – 12.30pm. 12 week course. Contact Calmar 2704473 (Special Education, Ministry of Education).

How to contact Community Centre

- 372 Massey Rd (behind Mangere East Library). Parking via Manukau City Soccer Club entrance, Walter Massey Park.
- 275 6161 or 021 2999 491.
- mangere.east.access@paradise.net.nz
- www.MangereEastCommunity.org.nz

SAMOA ATIA'E

Samoa Atia'e aims to provide opportunities for people in Mangere to have a safe environment as well as contributing to the development of a knowledgeable and well informed community.

Programmes currently operating include:

- **Achievement through Pasifika language: Using the Samoan language to help Year 1-4 students improve their reading and writing in English.**
- **Faafaletui: Matai get together and share their stories, culture and language. Speeches at the matai level, Faalupega etc.**
- **Story telling project: Tala faafagogo.**
- **Supporting youths at risk.**
- **Offering Samoan for beginners.**
- **Support for students studying Samoan at all levels.**

Make contact with:
FAIMAI TUIMAUGA
Phone: 2700 684 ex 839
Email: faimai@pec.ac.nz

Mangere East Family Service Centre



PETER SYKES, director of the Mangere East Family Service Centre, supports the creation of the Mangere East Community Centre.

The main office of the Family Service Centre is 16 Ferguson St, off Massey Rd. Their phone number is 256 0810. There you will find an early childhood centre. And yes, it does offer free hours!

Also on offer is support for families with 4-5 year old children, plus parenting programmes. And the centre has family support workers who help you with advice on benefits, courts, schools and police.

Feel welcome to call in and talk to the happy faces.

Candidate from Community Centre

TASI LAUESE, coordinator of Samoa Atia'e, is a candidate for the Mangere Community Board election coming up soon. He is standing on the Labour ticket which advocates public ownership & control of our water and opposes 'user pays' for essential services such as libraries, pools and rubbish collection.