

## Bob and Briya bring balance

The two new names on the OCA management committee following the AGM last month have a lot in common – in spite of the age difference.

Bob Smith is 75 and Briya Poa is 17.

Both love the outdoors – Bob does a lot of walking and is still a soccer referee, and Briya lists his pastimes as hunting, fishing, diving and horse-riding.

Bob says he is an 'ideas person', has already come up with ideas for the development of Onerahi, and used to help run a youth club in the UK, using an old shop which was turned in to a community centre. He has been in New Zealand for five years, and was on the Baroldswick Town Council in Lancashire for over 30 years. He is returning to the OCA committee after two years off.

Briya has lived in Onerahi for 12 years, and thinks it's a 'pretty awesome' place but still close enough to Whangarei to be able to go to the movies.

A student at Whangarei Boys High, he is doing health, computer studies, English, tourism and Maori art – and he wants to be a police officer.

“I want to try and get the boys on the right track,” he smiles, “and sort out the drugs and the vandalism.”

Both attended their first management committee meeting on July 4th. “I was surprised at how much they go into things,” said Briya.

Both are interested in the idea of setting up a youth centre in Onerahi, so they will both be on the project group the OCA has set up to look into the possibilities for such a centre.