

Bream Bay News

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10 March 2022

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RATs distribution to local health centres chaotic

Last week if you wanted to get hold of some of those Rapid Antigen Tests to determine in a matter of minutes whether or not you had Covid 19, the nearest outlet was the Northland District Health Board's testing station in Kamo.

Karla Connew, Manager of the Waipu Medical Centre said, "We (the various health providers operating in Bream Bay) are trying to get a supply to distribute closer to home for local people but so far this hasn't happened."

Karla said the rules about who could have these tests and where they could pick them up from were changing daily.

The Bream Bay Medical Centre has a supply of RATs, however there are strict Ministry of Health guidelines around how they are used.

At the moment the centre is carrying out supervised tests on critical workers and household contacts only. Critical workers need to have a document that says they are a critical worker with information about the category they work in and the critical industry registration number of the company they work for.

Household contacts must have proof of either a text or e-mail showing the Ministry of Health has deemed them a household contact of a positive case.

Ki Ora Ngati Wai, which provides kaupapa Maori health services and holds a Wednesday morning clinic at the Bream Bay Community Support Trust, is hoping to have a supply of RATs test kits to hand out but had

Continued on page 3

District plan approval needed for Ruakākā Cemetery land purchase



Two weeks ago members of the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers Association were shown where the Whangārei District Council is planning to build a new cemetery by the land's owner Bruce Cann.

Continued on page 3.



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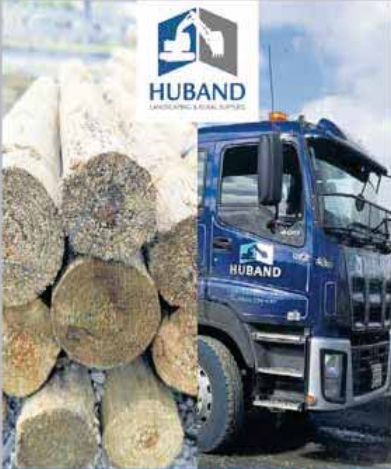
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EDITORIAL

I don't want to listen to your arguments but I will do your shopping

I have some late sunflowers coming out in my garden but instead of the happiness all those bright yellow faces normally give they remind me of what is happening in the Ukraine and bring sadness. I think of the elderly lady who went up to a fully armed Russian soldier putting some sunflower seeds in his pocket and telling him she hoped the seeds would grow from his corpse.

We are getting so much coverage of this war. We see the terrified mothers and young children fleeing over the border into Poland and the fathers waving goodbye to their children and heading back to Kyiv to fight. If all wars were reported as comprehensively would it make a difference? I am not sure. People tend to be wrapped up in their own little stories and just look away.

I had a number of people contact me last week upset about my editorial in the 24 February issue. They had all misread what I had said, believing or, choosing to believe, that I was suggesting Pfizer vaccine be sprayed over the encampment at Parliament.

One caller told me a child who was at the protest with his mother because she believed he could have an adverse reaction to the vaccine, could be killed by this helicopter spraying exercise. So I am now a would-be child murderer.

In fact, I was suggesting, tongue in cheek, that a rumour that this helicopter spraying could happen be circulated to encourage the protestors to disperse.

It would, of course, be ridiculous and ineffective to spray this good vaccine needed in people's arms from a helicopter. The way these people misunderstood what I was saying just backs up my point: they are not very good at separating out fact from fiction.

One emailer told me I was "nasty and cruel." I replied that if we allow the Covid 19 virus to run rampant in our communities many immune compromised people will die and our hospitals, medical centres and health professionals would become so overwhelmed that people who need their care for whatever reason would not be able to access it: pretty "nasty and cruel" in my opinion.

Another said I was a "disgusting individual" but didn't respond to my invitation to elaborate on this.

One man phoned seeming to want a conversation. I talked for a while, trying not to get too impatient. He has sent me a video to watch which, once I have this issue of the Bream Bay News away to the printer, I will look at and give him my thoughts on. He seemed sincere.

People who were at the encampment have now returned to our communities. How are we going to handle this? We know Covid 19 was present in the camp so some of these unvaccinated returnees might get sick.

I am pretty disgusted, like most people about what happened in the grounds of Parliament, the destruction, the threats to politicians and media and the violent attempt to force a policy change on our democratically elected Government but I have an offer. If you are sick and isolated give me a call. I don't want to get too close to you, I don't want to listen to your arguments but I will do your shopping.

Marilyn

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Omicron is here

On Tuesday 1 March Bream Bay College Principal Wayne Buckland sent out an email to say that at least 10 students were isolating at home with their families due to Omicron and that the school expected the number to increase. Julie Turner, Principal of Waipu Primary has tested positive for Covid 19 and is self-isolating. It is thought she came into contact with the Omicron virus while attending a funeral outside the district. So far there is just one other confirmed case at the school, with one of the children.

Two children at Ruakākā Primary have been confirmed as having caught the virus and three or four parents who have tested positive are staying home with their children.

Principal Marilyn Dunn said, "We have been very lucky in that none of our staff have needed to isolate so far but its early days."

Shirley Winters, Principal at One Tree Point School said there had been no cases at her school yet. We have all the health and safety measures in place but like everyone else we are just waiting for Omicron cases to start turning up." Covid 19 virus was detected in Ruakākā's wastewater for the first time this year on Friday 26 February. Covid 19 detection tests are not being carried out on Waipu's wastewater.

The virus was detected in Maungaturoto's wastewater on the week ending 19 February. It was not found in the sample taken in the week ending 26 February but was found again in the week ending 5 March.

Covid 19 virus has been found consistently in Mangawhai's wastewater with each fortnightly sample taken from 12 February to 5 March.

RATs distribution to local health centres - "quite chaotic"

Continued from page 1

not received these yet.

"We will let the trust know when these are available a spokesperson for the Ngati Wai medical team told the Bream Bay News last week.

Waipu Pharmacy has been designated as the distribution point for RATs in Waipu but pharmacist Brenda Wells said the pharmacy had not yet received a supply of the test kits. At present the pharmacy could only carry out supervised tests on unvaccinated people who needed to show a negative result to travel outside Northland.

Brenda said she was hoping for a supply by the end of last week. These would be available to critical workers and people living in households where someone has tested positive for Covid 19. People would need to go on line to place their orders but the website where they could do this was not yet up and running.

"Its all quite chaotic" Brenda said.

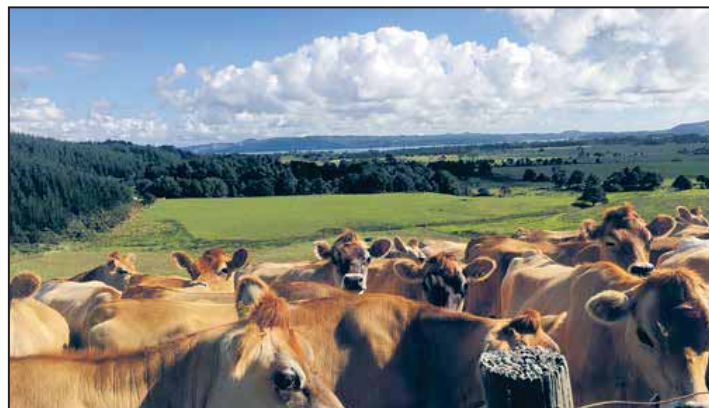
Warren Greene, the pharmacist at Orrs Bream Bay in Ruakākā said the store had purchased some RATS test, which went on sale last week, but these were snapped up pretty quickly. He was hopeful of another delivery this week.

Orrs Ruakaka will be another distribution place for Government issue RATS tests once they become available.

Warren said the problem is the information about where the distribution centres will be had been issued before there was enough supply and the systems of distribution were in place.

District plan approval needed for Ruakākā Cemetery land purchase

Continued from page 1



Jersey heifers are grazing on the site of the Ruakaka Cemetery

The site is accessed via a farm road just opposite the Bream Bay retirement village on One Tree Point Road. The Council has an agreement with the Cann family to purchase approximately 9 hectares of land at the top of the rise bordering onto a pine forest and with a view out across Whangārei Harbour, along with the road access

Mr. Cann told the group a cemetery was first discussed at a Ruakākā Resident and Ratepayers meeting in the 1980s when Ray and the late Mary Wassell informed the meeting the Patuharakeke Trust Board was getting requests from the relatives of deceased people to bury their loved one at the urupa alongside the Takahiwai Marae. Mrs. Wassell had explained that the Takahiwai urupa is a private family burial site and there is not enough space there to accommodate everyone in Ruakākā.

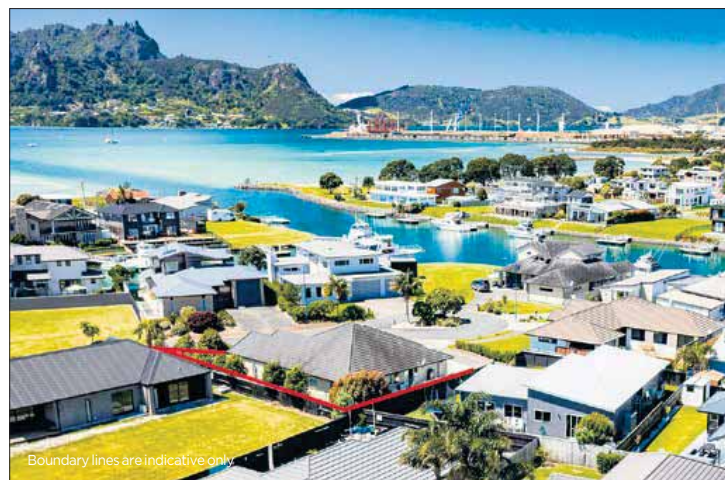
Mr. Cann said he had offered to gift the land to the Council on condition that people could be offered a discounted rate for burial. He said the Whangarei District Council charges around \$2,500 for a plot and he is aware, that on top of the many other expenses that come with a funeral, many people do not have the means to pay this much.

However the Council rejected this offer.

Sue Hodge, the Whangarei District Council's Parks and Recreation Manager said, "Council did consider the offer of discounted burials in lieu of the land being a gift but felt this would be difficult to manage into the future and instead opted to purchase the land at market rate with no restrictions or encumbrances on future Councils."

She confirmed the Council has a sale and purchase agreement with the Cann family.

"This is subject to getting District Plan approval to use the land for a cemetery. The District Plan designation process is underway."



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LETTERS

Reminded of how incomplete Maori histories remain

A response to the Letters to the Editor, Bream Bay News entitled, *Disappointed at lack of indigenous history* by Anjila Charriez, Auckland and *In Response* by Heather Jacobson, Chair Waipu Museum Board and Gina Murray, Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board Representative, Waipu Museum Board.

A perplexing consequence of fixing our eyes on an ideal New Zealand society is that the ideation may make the Indigenous Maori people of Te Parawhau hapu, for instance, sad. The more beautiful something is, the sadder the Indigenous peoples risk feeling, so that standing in front of the nominal exhibition of Patuharakeke hapu, to the exclusion of all other hapu, in Waipu Museum, Maori people may find ourselves not so far from tears.

Our sadness won't be of the searing kind but more like a blend of joy and melancholy: joy at the achievement we see before us, melancholy at an awareness of how seldom Maori, such as Te Parawhau hapu, are sufficiently blessed to encounter anything of its kind. The notional exhibition of Maori people's existence and contribution to the wealth and happiness of the Nova Scotian descendants throws into perspective the mediocrity that surrounds it. Te Parawhau, specifically and Maori, generally, are reminded of the way we would wish things always to be and of how incomplete our lives and histories remain in Waipu Museum and Aotearoa.

(Dr) Mere Kepa,
Takahiwi.

Lower walkway away from private homes more calming and serene

Just wanting to drop a note, that the lower walkway, parallel to the esplanade at One Tree Point has also been reinstated.

There is just a last bit of finishing up to do. It's also a great walkway, beautiful at high tide private, serene and relaxing. I walk it often and feel much more calm, rather than feeling awkward in front of some homes.

Any help to clear the last branches and debris would be appreciated.

Tony Decke
One Tree Point

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE VERY WELCOME

Email them to: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz
Drop them off at the Waipu or Ruakākā Lotto shops
Or post them to:
The Bream Bay News, 547 Mountfield Rd., RD2 Waipu,
Postcode 0582



356 Cove Road, Waipu 1+ 1 2 2 6+ 4,276 sqm ↗

So Much More than Meets the Eye - this property has 3 bedrooms available onsite - so space is not an issue. This property offers all of the above. It has a 274 sqm farm building that has been configured to have 1.5 bedrooms upstairs with a full ensuite and more. The views from this level are outstanding, showcasing Bream Bay, Whangarei Heads, and Hen & Chicken Island. The large downstairs space has been created to include an enormous lounge area, with a resident slate-based pool table, and spa pool. On the northern end is a full bathroom (bidet included) laundry, a spacious high roof garage/workshop, and a 3rd garage that will accommodate all those extra toys. Next to this area and attached to the main dwelling, is a full-length covered carport. There's even 3 Phase power if you need it. The eastern end is home to a covered conservatory that has a built-in bar and roll-down clear curtains with external access to the Pizza Oven and a large BBQ area. Entertaining has never been easier.

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View

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Malcolm Norton 021 783 533
malcolm.norton@raywhite.com

Carleen Still 021 148 9804
carleen.still@raywhite.com



OTP School children enjoy sailing lessons

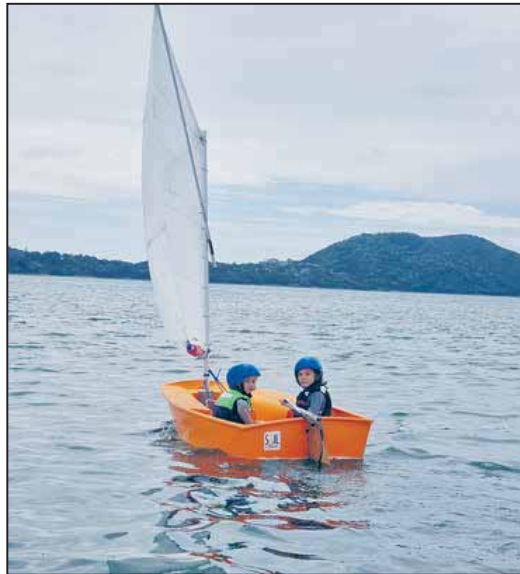
One Tree Point School's years 4-6 children were given the opportunity to try out sailing recently. Over the course of five days, 88 children were shown the rudiments of sailing by member of the Northland Sailing Club using the Marsden Bay Yacht Club's facilities.

Teacher Gemma Bradburn said, "The kids loved it and participated with enthusiasm. At the start we had some students express their apprehension but they all loved it once they were on the water. One of our students has even shared that he wants to be a famous sailor and plans to spend all the money in his college fund to buy his own sailboat!"

One Tree Point School Principal Shirley Winters said the school is very grateful to the Marsden Bay Yacht Club and the Northland Sailing Club for this opportunity.

"It was a wonderful start to the school year for the children. It was so good to be able to offer them this outdoor activity in our own neighbourhood. They all enjoyed it very much."

Overnight school camps have been cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions.



Elena Macarthy (left) and Piper Innes of One Tree Point Primary were confident enough to go out in a boat on their own

What do you want for Waipu's future?

The Whangarei District Council has launched what it calls a Placemaking programme in Waipu.

Already representatives from a range of Waipu community organisations have met with Council staff to learn about this programme and on Wednesday 23 March from 6.30pm to 8.30pm a community workshop will be held in the Waipu Presbyterian Hall.

The WDC website page on this process says: "Whangārei is growing and changing but there is a gap when it comes to understanding how this affects specific locations. A 'one size fits all' approach is not the best for our diverse District because each place is different. Communities have their own set of qualities, unique characteristics and people who make them special."

"If you live, work or play in Waipu or Parua Bay (which is also currently receiving the Placemaking programme treatment) we want to hear from you," said Strategic Planner Injoo Riehl.

"Working alongside Tangata Whenua / hapū, the community, interest groups and stakeholders is a key part of the success of these plans which have already

been completed in Tikipunga and Hikurangi and will be rolled out into other communities in years to come."

Injoo said the first step is to find out what matters most to the people in the Waipu/ Parua Bay communities, what they value about the place they live and what improvements they would like to see.

"From there we can look forward and start to think about and plan for the future, building on unique qualities and strengths of each area. Eventually this will evolve into a plan that will guide development into the future."

Injoo said the survey isn't just limited to people who live in Waipu.

"We also want to hear from people who regularly visit these areas to work, shop, visit friends and whānau or use the parks, sportsgrounds and other facilities in these areas."

To fill in the online survey form visit the webpage at www.wdc.govt.nz/Placemaking

The survey ends at 5pm on Wednesday 6 April.

The people of Ruakākā and Marsden Bay are scheduled to get their turn at Placemaking, in 2023.

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What's growing in the dunes?



Laura Shaft and Claire Heyns of the Northland Regional Council setting up a transect to study what plants are growing in the dunes at Uretiti

The Northland Regional Council is interested in learning more about the health or otherwise of our sand dune systems.

Last week Laura Shaft and Claire Heyns were at Uretiti setting up a transect line and listing the vegetation growing along it. They will return in a year's time to check if anything has changed.

The line begins at a point approximately 80metres inland and ends at the toe of the dune. Laura and Claire noted the plant species at each metre along the line. This data can then be used to give a snapshot of vegetation cover and species present.

Laura, who is the NRC's Coastcare Co-ordinator, said the vegetation just north of the Uretiti day visitor car park was surprisingly healthy and compared favourably with other studies done at Mair Rd., the Ruakākā Surf Lifesaving Club, near the Ruakākā Racecourse, the southern end of the Waipu sandspit and in front of the Waipu Cove Domain. Similar studies are being

conducted on other Northland beaches and, in fact, at various beaches around New Zealand. The information gleaned from these is available on a database on the Coastal Restoration Trust website. For information about Northland beaches go to: monitoring.coastalrestorationtrust.org.nz/survey-data/northland

The Ruakākā Racecourse site near the walkway to the beach shows some marked changes in surveys undertaken in 2017 when 49.4% of the dunes had no vegetation cover to 2020 after an illegal vehicle entrance there was blocked off and replaced by a defined walkway and native dune species were planted on the eroding dunes.

At Uretiti there was a mix of the native dune plants: muehlenbeckia complexa - pohuehue, coprosma acerosa - golden sand comprosma, ficinia nodosa - wiwi or knobbly club rush and calystegia soldenella - ni-hinihi - the pink flowering coastal morning glory growing just behind the fore dunes. Weed species noted included: wilding pine, gorse and iceplant.

There was healthy cover of the native sand binding grass spinifex growing in the foredunes and a related survey being carried out by the NRC with the Patuharakeke Taiao Unit and Northtec looking at fauna (insects and animals) has discovered the presence of katipo spiders, which hang their webs in the leaves of this plant.

Pukapuka Party cancelled

The Pukapuka Party, which was scheduled to take place on 26 March has been cancelled.

The Bream Bay Learning Community administrator Gladys Rowsell said it couldn't proceed under current Covid 19 restrictions.

The Pukapuka Party, held annually in Ruakākā, invites local schools, preschools and other organisations to set up fun educational activities for children and gives out prizes to those children who complete a set number. The event is free and hundreds of families come along with parents and grandparents joining in the games with the children.

Gladys is asking sponsors and participants if they would still like the party to go ahead later in the year.

Toy library closed until May

The Waipu Toy Library will be closed until the start of the second school term in early May.

Julie Malone, who runs the library, did intend to

open on Wednesday mornings but discovered that very few people attended, perhaps because of nervousness about the spread of the Omicron virus.

Julie said if anyone does want to borrow toys they can phone her 021 072 6 710 or 432 0388 and arrange a visit.

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Princes Road steps in the wrong place

The ladders across the rock wall and down to the water are in the wrong place says Ricky Timms, a resident of Princes Rd. in Ruakaka

The Whangarei District Council built a new rock revetment wall along the bank of the estuary at Princes Rd. last spring. An existing boat ramp at the northern end of the wall has been retained and two ladders giving access over the rocks into the water were installed part way along and at the southern end of the road. 'However Ricky points out that the parking and picnic area is at the northern end of the road and this is where the steps over the rocks should be.

The Council had assumed people using the picnic could access the water via the boat ramp but the seabed at the end of the boat ramp is quite rocky so this is not the ideal place to get into the water. In the past people have jumped in from the grassy bank but this is now impossible because of the rocks.

Ricky imagines, "A family could be sitting here having a picnic with their children playing in the water. If one of the children got into difficulties the rocks would prevent the adults getting in quickly to help. They would have to go back to the boat ramp."

He worries too that weeds are growing over the rocks and people might not be aware that they are there.

and he has other concerns about Princes Rd.

The blind corner and lack of a footpath make it dangerous for people walking, riding mobility scooters, wheeling pushchairs or carrying kayaks to



Ricky Timms has lots of ideas for improvements and safety measures in Prince's

get down to the water. He suggests a walking track from the takeaway shop at the top of the road.

He says there needs to be stricter enforcement of the no parking areas alongside the takeaway shop at the top of the hill and he would like to see speed humps put in to slow traffic. He has contacted the Whangārei District Council about his concerns

Council staff has told him that funding for street calming has already been allocated for the next three years and it is unlikely that Prince's Rd would qualify, as it is a no exit road.

The Council has acted on one of Ricky's suggestions however. He was worried about vehicles being driven at speed into the picnic area and doing wheelies in the dust there. A temporary fence has been erected along the edge of the reserve allowing a single entranceway in.

Waipu Lions donate towards Starship ICU unit

The Waipu Lions decided at their last meeting to donate \$10,000 towards a new Intensive Care Unit at Starship Hospital.

The Waipu Club's President Malcolm Norton said the Auckland's children's hospital's intensive care

capacity is under pressure. Fundraising for the new unit is an initiative by the Warkworth Lions which the Waipu club was happy to support. The single bed with lifesaving equipment such as a ventilator, monitors and syringe drivers will cost \$406,700.

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*Year ending 31 March 2021

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TAPPING INTO NORTHLAND'S RENEWABLE ENERGY POTENTIAL



There are big challenges ahead for the electricity sector to meet the Government's target of 100% renewable energy by 2030.

Top Energy and Northpower believe that Northland has a role in meeting this challenge by becoming New Zealand's first Renewable Energy Zone.

Your support is vital to make this happen.

KEEPING IT LOCAL

Northland is rich in untapped renewable energy potential. Electricity generation developers know this too.

Transpower, Top Energy and Northpower have received dozens of applications from generation developers totalling nearly two gigawatts of renewable generation - enough to power over 375,000 households.

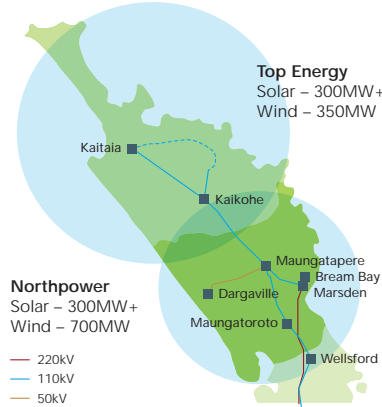
While the networks don't have the capacity to pick-up all this new generation, local network investments and upgrades could address this issue. However, the cost of these investments can be substantial and most likely require multiple parties to contribute to make it economic.

This is where a Northland Renewable Energy Zone pilot could help and why your support is important. **Power generated locally will be cheaper than power transported to the region from the south.**

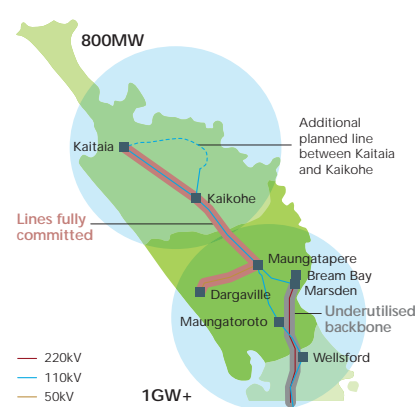
Transpower, the operator of the national grid, is working with Northpower and Top Energy to understand how to maximise the renewable potential of the region. This is part of Transpower's New Zealand wide consultation about how Renewable Energy Zones could enable development in electricity networks to support more renewable energy www.transpower.co.nz/REZ



Transmission and distribution network ownership in Northland



Estimated grid scale wind and solar resource availability. (Source: Transpower, Northpower and Top Energy)



Generation interest in Northland region and lines reaching capacity limit. (Source: Transpower, Northpower and Top Energy)

WHAT ARE RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONES?

Renewable Energy Zones are often located in regions abundant in renewable electricity resources, but may be some distance from electricity networks - making individual connections to get the power out costly and difficult.

It is cheaper for multiple generators, such as wind and solar farms, to co-locate in the same area and share connection costs to the national grid through a single connection.

This would attract more electricity generation developers, which would introduce more competition into the electricity wholesale market, with associated benefits for consumers.



WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT FOR NORTHLAND

Northland has some of the highest wholesale electricity prices in the country, partly because of our distance from electricity generation sources. Under a Renewable Energy Zone Northland could become a net-exporter of electricity, supplying excess energy to Auckland.

We want to maximise opportunities:

- that make power cheaper
- which stimulate the local economy and employment through infrastructure investment
- that improve the security and resilience of the local power supply

LET TRANSPOWER KNOW YOU SUPPORT A NORTHLAND RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONE

Consultation closes on 8 April. Get your feedback to Transpower and fill in the online form at: www.transpower.co.nz/REZ.

If there is enough support, Transpower expects to seek expressions of interest from generation developers later this year and will decide whether to go ahead with the Northland pilot.

This is just the first step. Any renewable energy projects in Northland will still need to go through the Councils' planning and consent process.



Kaiwaka to Whangārei

SERVICE OPERATES EVERY THURSDAY MORNING

9.00am	Departs	Kaiwaka Kaiwaka Hall
9.15am	Departs	Mangawhai Village Village Shops Bus Stop (by restrooms)
9.20am	Departs	Mangawhai Heads 1-Site
9.35am	Departs	Lings Beach Corner of Wairahi and Cove Roads
9.40am	Departs	Waipū Cove Beach Car park
9.50am	Departs	Waipū Monument Bus stop
10.10am	Departs	Ruakākā Peter Snell Road (opposite Takutai Place)
10.50am	Arrives	Whangārei Rose Street Bus Terminus

AFTERNOON

3.00pm	Departs	Whangārei Rose Street Bus Terminus
3.40pm	Departs	Ruakākā Peter Snell Road (opposite Takutai Place)
4.00pm	Departs	Waipū Monument Bus stop
4.10pm	Departs	Waipū Cove Beach Car park
4.15pm	Departs	Lings Beach Corner of Wairahi and Cove Roads
4.30pm	Departs	Mangawhai Heads 1-Site
4.35pm	Departs	Mangawhai Village Village Shops Bus Stop (by restrooms)
4.50pm	Arrives	Kaiwaka Kaiwaka Hall

ROUTE DETAILS

FARES | One Way | Return

Kaiwaka	\$7.00	\$10.00
Mangawhai	\$7.00	\$10.00
Mangawhai Heads	\$7.00	\$10.00
Lings Beach	\$7.00	\$10.00
Waipū Cove	\$6.00	\$8.00
Waipū	\$6.00	\$8.00
Ruakākā	\$5.00	\$7.00

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE PICKED UP ELSEWHERE ALONG THE ROUTE, PLEASE PHONE LEABOURN'S TO ARRANGE THIS ON THE WEDNESDAY BEFORE YOU WANT TO TRAVEL.

CITYLINK For travel within Whangārei see CityLink Whangārei timetable www.citylinkwhangarei.co.nz or get your timetable from the Rose Street office.

SUMMER BEACH BUS 2021/2022

BEACH BUS TO RUAKAKA BEACH Operating every Thursday from 23 December 2021 until 27 January 2022

FARES \$10.00 per person return trip.

11.15am	Departs	Whangārei Rose Street Bus Terminus
12.00pm	Arrives	Ruakākā Beach
2.00pm	Departs	Ruakākā Beach
2.45pm	Arrives	Whangārei Rose Street Bus Terminus

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Skateboard action

The Cheapskates skateboard tour of Northland came to Ruakaka and then Waipū on Saturday 26 February with the tour director Sam Johns spending the morning at the Ruakaka skatepark and moving to Waipū for the afternoon.

Sam gave a demonstration of his skills and then handed out prizes to local skaters with the best tricks. The tour will visit the Mangawhai Skatepark next Saturday 12 March at 11am.

Right: Kobi Collett, aged 11 of Mangawhai was judged the skater with the best tricks at Ruakākā. Here he is receiving his prize from skate tour organiser Sam Johns.



Sam Johns in action at the Ruakaka Skatepark.



Maui Shortland, aged 15 of Waipū, won the top prize at the Waipū skatepark



Safeman SafeFamily Men's Centre.

Safeman SafeFamily offers a safe place for men to talk privately without judgement and with complete confidentiality.

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- One to one counselling
- Drug and Alcohol support
- Anger management group sessions
- Supervisor for court ordered access
- Work brokers / help with employment opportunities.

No appointments are necessary we have an open door policy—if you need help or know someone that does just come on down to :

9 Takutai Place Ruakaka, we are right next door to Jimmys Barber Shop or i can be reached by phone 0211210763 Phil Paikaea .

Phone the BREAM BAY NEWS - 09 432 0209
or email: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz
if you know of something interesting going on in
Bream Bay.

Ruakākā's citizens of the year

Bruce and Gaye Cann were named jointly as Ruakākā Citizens of the year at a ceremony held at the Two Birds Café in the Ruakākā Town Centre on Friday afternoon 4 March.

Bruce has lived his entire life in Ruakākā and attended Ruakākā Primary and Waipu District High School.

Gaye (nee Carter) grew up in Springfield Valley and also attended Waipu District High School. They farmed on McCathie Road and One Tree Point Road firstly running a dairy herd and then dry stock. They had three children and supported the many groups they were involved in as



Bruce and Gaye Cann

they grew up.

Gaye was an inaugural committee Member of the Marsden Playcentre and served for many years on the Ruakākā Plunket Society.

When her daughters joined the Girl Guides, Gaye joined the local committee. She was Chairwoman of the Ruakākā Primary School PTA and was a member of the School Committee for a number of years. She was an active member of the Bream Bay Swimming Club, training as a swim coach and was a Learn to Swim instructor. She is a life member of this club. From its opening in 2013 until 2020 Gaye was a volunteer at the Waipu Hospice Shop.

Bruce was secretary and treasurer of the One Tree Point Gymnasium Club and Publicity Officer for the Marsden Play Centre. He took advantage of his father's position of local County Councillor to lobby for and gain possession of the disused One Tree Point Hall for the playcentre's use at its present site in McEwan Rd.

He is a member of Federated Farmers. He has been a member of the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers Association since its inception in 1964 and has held various executive positions including the post of treasurer for 17 years until 1920.

In the 1980s Bruce was part of the Association's steering committee that lobbied the NZ Electricity

Department for the initial grant that enabled the establishment of the Ruakākā Recreation Centre.

He has also been a committee Member of the Ruakākā Scout Group, a member of the Bream Bay College PTA, served a term as Chairman of the Bream Bay Swimming Club, was a member of the Marsden Jaycee Chapter and since the 1970s until the present day is a member of the Marsden Lions Club.

Warren Daniel, who nominated Gaye and Bruce for the citizenship award, said he found it very difficult to single out either as being more worthy than the other for the accolade.

Warren said, "Their service to Ruakākā has been exemplary and has largely gone unheeded. Their commitment to our community has been second to none." Other nominees for the award were:

- Alan McIntosh, a retired builder, who volunteers his skills to the Ruakākā Recreation Centre putting many hours of work into the current fire safety upgrade.
- Ali Davie, a full time intensive care nurse at Whangārei Hospital, who in her spare time is a volunteer Bream Bay St John ambulance officer.
- Lynne Stanaway who volunteers six days a week at the Ruakākā Library taking a frontline role throughout the Covid 19 pandemic.

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Wish For Fish charter, 24 Jan



Reach higher, grow stronger

In 2020 Northpine established a \$20,000 funding programme called Stronger Communities to help the people of Bream Bay.

Grants are made once every three months from applications received each quarter. The next round of grants closes on 16 May 2022 and will be announced in early June. Details and application forms are online.

March 2022 recipients:

Child Disability NZ (disability swing, Waipu Park)
Parafed Northland (Wish 4 Fish experiences for disabled people)
Bream Bay Community Arts Group (operating costs)
Bream Bay Swim Club (accommodation)

www.northpine.co.nz

NORTHPINE 
Growing stronger | communities

Finally at Bluff

Back in October 2018 the Bream Bay News ran a story about retiring auto electrician Geoff Spencer setting off on his 65th birthday to walk the length of New Zealand on Te Araroa – the Long Trail.

On Friday 25 February 2022 he completed the journey having walked 3,012 kilometres through forests, mountain passes, rivers, farmland and along beaches and roadsides.

He had planned to take five months out for the whole expedition but things didn't quite go to plan.

On 25 October 2018 after less than three weeks on the trail and having hiked from Cape Reinga to Bream Bay he called into the Bream Bay Medical Centre for a prescription for some heart medication. Earlier that year he had suffered a heart attack. Doctor Christian Wieser was alarmed at how thin he had become and even more concerned when he discovered a large lump in Geoff's stomach. He ordered a scan.

But it would take two weeks for an appointment and then another week to get back the result so Geoff kept walking. By Christmas 2018 however he had the news. He had lymphoma and would need to undergo a course of chemotherapy followed by radiation at Auckland Hospital.

In October 2019 with all that behind him and feeling well again, Geoff set off from Hamilton to pick up from where he had left off the previous year. It was hard going, as with most TA walkers starting at Cape Reinga in October, he was on his own without the camaraderie he had enjoyed in the first stage of the hike. On one memorable day just south of Te Kuiti the track for miles was overgrown with blackberry. At one point he fell amongst it and emerging out the other side covered in scratches and blood.

"At that moment I thought about giving up," he said. He kayaked down the Whanganui River with two ultra fit young German hikers who had caught him up by that stage but he couldn't stay with them for long. He encountered 40-kph winds at the top of the Tararua, which threatened to blow him off the ridges. He teamed up with some young people in the DoC huts there so had company from there to Wellington.

Everyone else on the trail was at least 20 years younger than Geoff and the young people gave him the trail name: OMG - Old Man Geoff.

He reached the capital in early December and decided to return home for Christmas.

On new years day 2020 he set off again catching the Bluebridge Ferry across Cook Strait and then a water taxi up to Ship Cove in the Queen Charlotte Sounds. After a week of easy walking in the sounds he was in the Richmond Ranges, which most TA walkers acknowledge as the most difficult section of the whole trail. It involves six days with no chance to resupply so a heavy pack with lots of food and endless steep climbs.

Having the Richmonds at his back Geoff gained in confidence and tackled Nelson Lakes, crossing the

Travers Saddle and the Waiau Pass with its steep descent.

But he got held up by the weather - with snowstorms and rain and finished his 2021 trek at Arthurs Pass in February. On January 17 2022 he set off again wearing his fourth pair of walking shoes, carrying his by now dilapidated pack and determined to finish at last. None of it was easy. He often wondered if he was getting too old to be climbing mountains and walking such long distances on a daily basis.

"Sore feet, knees, and hamstrings, cold all day" was his diary entry on day 28 of this year's section. There were lots of river crossings, long 35 kilometre days, steep climbs and descents, mud, long trails through tussock with no shelter from the sun, scree slopes, ill defined trails, rickety huts to shelter in at night, but once more, some good companionship.

The last day was a 34.5 km hike, most of it alongside State Highway One with trucks roaring past

Geoff said, "Truck drivers gave us a toot and the thumbs up. We arrived bedraggled and tired. Just a few tourists were there to congratulate us.

"This is what one of my fellow hikers described as Type 2 Fun – its not easy while you are doing it but it is something to reflect on and enjoy in retrospect. "I have wonderful memories – the vastness of this country, swimming in cold clear South Island rivers and mountain lakes, spectacular mountain top views and numerous encounters with local people in the places I passed through. Most of all I will remember the friendships made with other TA walkers."



A view of Lake Hawera from Breast Hill



"Knocked the buggar off" - Geoff on reaching Bluff

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Mo Pettit

21.11.51 - 29.12.22

A tribute by Jan Francis

Mo had lived in Waipu for 16 years and loved the village, the beach and the people. She was well known for her support of many things in the village but particularly the museum and Art'nTartan where she played a pivotal role as liaison with designers and models, and organised the logistical nightmare of the prejudging and other tasks with amazing precision and attention to detail. She particularly loved working with the children and their masks loving their frank descriptions which gave her many laughs.

Mo could turn her hand to anything from building, gardening, writing, opera singing, pianist, ukulele playing, to needlework to the extent that one of Jan's children in a teenage grump said "I wouldn't be surprised if she could fly"

She owned a Harley Davidson and cared deeply for animals supporting the Guide Dog Foundation and spoiling her cats.

In her working life she held positions as a kindergarten teacher, administrator, physiatric nurse, researcher at the University of Otago, coordinator of the summer programme at the University of Canterbury and finally as a company director with Jan in their own economic development and employment consultancy business.

Mo and Jan had many wonderful overseas holidays particularly loving Samoa, Tonga, Britain and Europe and meeting Mo's Welsh family. Latterly they enjoyed travelling with James and his family who live in London.

Mo was a great listener, tremendously patient and would always make time for her family and friends. She was incredibly positive and never complained about the many health challenges she faced throughout her life. She was an inspiration to us all with her strength and cheerfulness, her wry sense of humour and fun, her kindness and generosity - the woman with the fantastic collection of hats, needed after cancer surgery.

The grandchildren gave her immense pleasure and she loved them all fiercely.

She will be deeply missed by her partner of 32 years, Jan and the family who claimed her as theirs: James and Louise, Kathryn and Mark, Victoria and Clayton and as a beloved MaMo of Emily, Brydee, Ruby, Leo and Rico.

Lest you think she was perfect - she wasn't - but almost.

Moe mai ra, moe mai ra.



Mo Pettit



Rick Stolwerk Coastal South Councillor for Northland Regional Council

If you have any environmental, pest management control, maritime safety concerns or questions in relation to the following committees that I Chair in this Council term:

- Investment and Property,
- Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM)
- Road Transport Committee (RTC)

Please contact me by phone or email

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Saturday 26th March

7pm - Late

Entertainment by International Country Music Recording Artist

Carleen Still

Tickets - \$15 | Available from Club or Ray White Waipu

All proceeds to
Waipu Cycle &
Walk Way

**Community
Fundraiser**

MARSDEN POINT HIGH TIDES

	AM	PM		
Thu 10 Mar	1.44	2.4	2.01	2.3
Fri 11 Mar	2.33	2.3	2.48	2.3
Sat 12 Mar	3.27	2.3	3.41	2.2
Sun 13 Mar	4.27	2.2	4.39	2.2
Mon 14 Mar	5.26	2.3	5.39	2.2
Tue 15 Mar	6.20	2.3	6.36	2.3
Wed 16 Mar	7.09	2.4	7.27	2.4
Thu 17 Mar	7.53	2.5	8.14	2.5
Fri 18 Mar	8.35	2.6	8.58	2.6
Sat 19 Mar	9.17	2.7	9.42	2.6
Sun 20 Mar	10.00	2.7	10.26	2.7
Mon 21 Mar	10.43	2.8	11.11	2.7
Tue 22 Mar	11.28	1.8	11.58	2.7
Wed 23 Mar	~	~	12.15	2.7
Thu 24 Mar	12.47	2.7	1.05	2.6
Fri 25 Mar	1.41	2.6	1.58	2.6

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IN BREAM BAY**

- **CHEAPSKATES SKATEPARK TOUR** at the Mangawhai Skatepark . Saturday 12 March from 11am
- **THE WAIPŪ SUNDAY MARKET** next on Sunday 13 March, 9am - 1pm in the Coronation Hall.
- **MARSDEN COVE MARKET.** Next on Sunday 20 March in the marquee at Marsden Cove. 9am - 1pm..
- **COUNTRY MUSIC RECORDING ARTIST CARLEEN STILL** at the RAZZA, Waipu Saturday 26 March. 7pm until late. Proceeds to the Waipu to Waipu Cove Cycle and Walkway project. Tickets \$15 from the club or Ray Whites, Waipu.
- **OTP MARKET.** At OTP Primary school Sunday March 27 from 9am - 1pm. Call Sue 021 530 153 to book a stall. Profits donated to Whangārei Hospital children's ward.
- **WAIPŪ MUSEUM** 36, The Centre, Waipu. Open seven days 10am - 4pm . New Tangata Whenua exhibition.
- **THE RED DOOR GALLERY.** New work by 60, mostly Northland, artists. Runs until the end of January. Gallery open Friday - Sunday 10am - 4pm. The gallery is in the old Waipū Fire Station on The Braigh
- **THE KAURI MUSUEM,** 5 Church St., Matakohe. Open 9am-5pm every day except Christmas Day. www.kaurimuseum.com

Art on sale on Trade Me to raise funds for the Waipu to Waipu Cove Cycle and Walkway

Mixed media artist Claire Nicholls has donated a piece of her art for a Trade Me auction to help raise funds for the Waipu to Waipu Cove Cycle and Walkway.

The piece is a manta ray modeled in copper from an old water cylinder.

Claire said she is enjoying working in this metal as a break from her usual medium, which is clay.

"I started working in copper three or four years ago and am exploring what I can do with it."

She heats the copper with a blowtorch to make it malleable, bends it into shape and then plunges it into water. Chemicals are used to "spice up the colours."

It's not an easy process.

She needs to don protective clothing and a full respirator mask.

The piece Claire has donated for auction has a rich blue patina.

As well as making art on commission and for sale at markets and in local outlets, Claire runs workshops for children and adults, she organises the monthly Waipu Boutique Market with her friend Kate Mitchell and has a partner and two young sons aged seven and nine years, so it's a busy life.

While she was studying at the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) Claire won a commission to make a large concrete sculpture of Our Lady for the Stella Marie Catholic School in Silverdale. On the strength of this work she won a second commission for a statue of the The Ascension of Christ for St Johns Catholic Church in Orewa.

She would love to get back to creating more of these large works but at present, with just short pockets of time to work in, she concentrates on smaller pieces. Much of her art is inspired by nature. She makes ceramic leaves and shells and manta rays. There is a ceramic version of the copper ray, with a pattern pressed into its green wings. She is thinking about a series in large ceramic insects.

"There are lots of things I would like to get my teeth into."

Last year she purchased a kiln, which she says has made things a whole lot easier. Previously she was transporting all her own and her students work to a friend's kiln at Langs Beach, so all that loading and unloading in and out of her vehicle is a thing of the past.

Just as well as the popularity of her clay classes is "skyrocketing."

She currently runs three weekly after school art classes for children as well as a monthly class, a clay class for adults and two clay drop in sessions for adults.

"Since the lockdowns people have decided to get onto the things they have always wanted to try. I love taking those classes. Everyone can make something with clay."



Claire in her garden with the piece she has donated for auction to the Waipu Cycle and Walkway Group



The copper manta ray which is being auctioned on Trade Me to raise funds for the Waipu Cycle and Walkway

You don't have to be an artist. And there is no limit to where it can take you. You can make almost anything" To place a bid on Claire's copper manta ray search Trade Me under Art and look for Claire Nicholls The Waipu Cycle and Walkway Group is interested in hearing from other artists who may be willing to donate a piece of their work to raise funds to help complete the Waipu Cove to Waipu cycle/walkway project.

THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 24 March
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 16 March

Runner up at national croquet tournament

Jean Kent of Waipu Croquet Club was runner up in the recent NZ Women's Open Tournament played at Mt Maunganui on 19 and 20 February. After winning her way to the final, Jean played in a "best of three" matches for the title. With the score at one game each Jean came close to being the NZ champion but lost the last game to top ranked player Dallas Cooke of the Bay of Plenty, who has represented New Zealand on many occasions.

Northland was well represented with three other players, Gael Donnelly and Lyn White also from Waipu Club, and Lyn Rupapera from Kaitiaki.

Jean and her late husband Gary moved to Waipu in 2012



Jean Kemp with her runners up certificate

and joined the Croquet Club. Since then Jean has been an enthusiastic player and has actively promoted the game of croquet throughout Northland.

As the coach for Northland she encourages anyone who would like to "have a go" to contact her on 027 688 5985 for details of the nearest club.

Waipu tennis update

Plenty of players are enjoying Tuesday night tennis. Ladies night on Wednesday is still open for players to join and enjoy a hit of tennis and a bit of socialising.

The Waipu Raiders interclub team have come out fighting in 2022 with a good win over Kamo (4-2), a team much higher on the points table and Maunu (6-0). A strong Kerikeri team gave them a lesson in the third game.

Thursday's Sawmill event sees strong competition. Mid way through the competition McLeods and Sawmill teams have their noses in front half way through the competition. Team Donaldson are not far behind

Junior and Intermediate tennis continues on Saturday mornings. It is never too late to join. Club champs for this level will be held during March.

Prize giving will be held on Sunday 27 March. This is open to all club members and all Juniors and Intermediates will get a small reward for their efforts this season. Presentations will start at 4pm followed by a sausage sizzle. All adult, Intermediate and Junior players along with any parents are welcome. A number of trophies are for categories such as most improved so any one can win these awards.

Winter tennis will start once our competitions end. Winter is a good time to alter and practice new techniques. It is a good time to come along and start tennis too as there are less players taking part and more opportunity to hit tennis balls in a relaxed environment.



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REGISTER with BBUAFC for the 2022 football season!

You can register online at www.sporty.co.nz/bbu or join us at our registration day on Saturday 19th March, 9am – 12pm, upstairs at the Ruakaka Recreation Centre.

Season training starts on Thursday 31st March; junior/youth training is at 4pm and senior training is at 6pm (contact us if you are a senior and would like to join pre-season training which is underway now).

The first games of the competitive season are on Saturday 7th May.

During March, NZ Football is running a girls and women in football campaign. To tie in with this, BBUAFC is holding two girls only 'Introduction to Football' sessions. These free sessions are suitable for girls who have their 9th – 15th birthday in 2022 and have never played football before. There are two dates to choose from; 17th and 24th March. Register for these sessions at www.bbuafc.co.nz or by contacting us via our Facebook page by 15th March - prior registration is required so that we can plan the sessions to suit the numbers.

At the time of writing, New Zealand is at the red setting of the Covid-19 Protection Framework. Consistent with the gathering limits imposed by this framework and the guidelines provided by NZ Football, BBUAFC is currently operating a 'My Vaccine Pass' requirement. This means that all persons aged 12 years and 3 months and over must show a valid vaccine pass to attend all club events, including both training and games (whether participating, spectating or officiating). We will review this policy if changes in the CPF allow.

The club AGM is scheduled for Thursday 24th March, 5.30pm at Ruakaka Recreation Centre. Nominations for the club board, honorary and life memberships and for the positions of club President, Treasurer and Secretary are welcomed. Nominations can be submitted to bbuafc@gmail.com by 17th March.

REGISTER NOW

online at www.sporty.co.nz/bbu

or in person Sat 19th March

9am—12pm

Ruakaka Rec Centre

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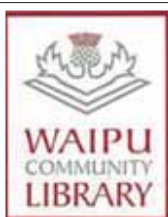
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THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 24 March
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 16 March

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Ruakaka, 10am.

Anglican 1st and 3rd Sundays - St Paul's
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Catholic Holy Family Church,
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the Word

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**NORTHPIKE COMMUNITY
LIAISON COMMITTEE**

This committee meets periodically to review the environmental performance of the Northpine timber manufacturing plant in Waipu, in consultation with representatives of the local councils. Any Waipu resident with concerns about the environmental effects of the Northpine plant should notify the Northpine office (432 1155). Concerns will be recorded, considered and subsequently reviewed by the liaison committee. The Independent chairperson of the liaison committee is Steve Goldthorpe 0274 849 764.

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