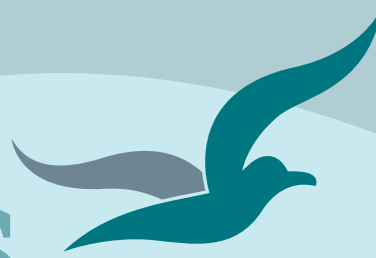


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Bus carrying 20 school children and two adults crashed into the median strip barrier coming down the northern side of the Brynderwyns

The driver of a school bus carrying 20 children and two adults on the steep northern side of the Brynderwyn Hill on State Highway One lost control of the bus and crashed into the median strip wire fence barrier on Tuesday morning 25 March,

Police received a driving complaint and the bus was pulled over at Uretiti. The 70-year-old driver was spoken to and was fined for "failing to stay within a lane". The children from Waitakere School in West Auckland were travelling to the Marsden Bay Christian Camp. They sat with their lunch boxes for over an hour on the grassed area alongside the Police weigh station waiting for a replacement driver and another bus to take them on to their camp.

Sergeant Simon Craig of the Bream Bay Police said, "The central median barrier saved the day again. It worked a treat that's for sure. This could have been nasty."

Bright ideas at the Bream Bay Combined Arts Group exhibition and Have a Go day



Maggie Wistrand admiring the drift wood totems decorated with colourful ceramic pieces at the Bream Bay Combined Arts group exhibition.

More pictures on page 14



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- Chair of the Whangarei Public Transport Working Party - NRC/WDC
- A member of the Northland Regional Council's Sub Committee - Audit, Risk and Investment
- NRC representative on the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Committee
- A member of the Northland Regional Council's Biodiversity & Biosecurity and the Natural Resources Working Party

Please contact me by phone or email

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EDITORIAL

Thank goodness for those median strip wire barriers

Thank goodness for that central median barrier wire fence separating northbound and southbound traffic on the steep northern slope of the Brynderwyn!

On Tuesday 26 March a bus carrying 20 school children and two adults on their way to the Marsden Bay Christian Camp crashed into that barrier when the driver lost control of the vehicle. It is still a bit unclear if this was a driver fault or a mechanical one. The Police are looking into both possibilities.

The point I want to make though is that humans, even the best of us, sometimes make mistakes. Mechanical faults can occur in even well maintained vehicles. A bus full of school children crossing the centre line while coming down the Brynderwyn Hill could have had very tragic consequences.

Those median barrier fences have their detractors. When they first went up there were described as "cheese cutters" with claims they would be lethal for motorbike riders. I haven't heard any examples of fatalities or serious injuries to bikers caused by those wire fences. I have, however, heard of numerous instances of serious injury and lives being saved by their presence.

When I phone through for a fortnightly Bream Bay Police report Sergeant Simon Craig frequently comments how the median strip fence prevented a serious accident.

His comments on this latest save were "The central medium barrier saved the day again. It worked a treat for sure. It could have been very nasty."

I have been given several more examples of recent saves by those central median barriers.

- Several weeks ago a woman while trying to swat a wasp in her car drove into the barrier at Ruakākā. The car was a write off but the woman attributes the barrier to saving her life.

- A driver was seen weaving over the highway but on colliding with one of those centre lane bendy plastic posts, appeared to regain consciousness and pulled over to the side of the road.

A safety programme to install more of those fences on the state highway between Waipu and the Brynderwyn Hill has been paused with all NZTA resources going instead towards the building of the much talked about four-lane highway. So how is that going?

I checked to see if there were any updates on the New Zealand Transport Agency Northern Gateway web page. Nothing had changed since the last time I looked around Christmas time.

NZTA is in the process of securing land for the Puhoi to Wellsford section of the highway and is still investigating options for the Te Hana to Port Marsden and Port Marsden to Whangārei sections. Searching for further information I clicked on a link for frequently asked questions only to find this message: "Sorry, it seems you were trying to access a page that doesn't exist."

Ten years ago NZTA was actively looking at options for a bypass around the Brynderwyn - so no movement there.

It took 13 years and, by some reports, over a billion dollars to build the 18.5 kilometre strip of four lane highway between Puhoi and Warkworth. There will be many more distracted, tired, reckless, drug or alcohol impaired and unwell drivers on that 55.4km strip of state highway between Whangārei and the Brynderwyns before we get those four lanes. There will also be tire blowouts and skids and steering failures. Lets hope they all occur on the sections of road where we already have safety barriers.

Marilyn

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Waipu Lions donate \$34,000 to the Northland Rescue Helicopter Service



Waipu Lions Chairman Graham Goodall, left, and car show chief organiser Ron Cave hand the big over to representatives of the Northland Emergency Services Trust

The Waipu Lions handed over \$34,000, the bulk of the proceeds from the big Waipu Car and Bike Show, to the Northern Rescue Helicopter Trust at the Lions dinner meeting at the RAZZA on Wednesday night.

Jan Hewitt, marketing Manager for Northland Emergency Services Trust said this donation combined with the \$31,500 donated to NEST from the 2024 Car and Bike Show was a big boost to the services fundraising efforts.

She said the Government paid 80 to 85% of the emergency helicopter's operating costs but this left around \$1.5 million needed in sponsorship and fundraising.

She said the \$34,000 would go towards the purchase of three FLIR heat imaging cameras which a paramedic accompanying her said would be a big help in searching for people in the ocean, particularly at night. He said it was difficult to find someone in the sea in

the dark. A person in the water below might just look like the white foam of a wave but the FLIR camera would pin point heat coming from the person in the water.

The donation would also go towards the purchase of a new ventilator. The new machine is intuitive and able to react to the patient's requirement for air. At the moment the machines on the helicopters need to be pumped by hand.

Last year the rescue helicopter crew were called out to 68 times to incidents in the Bream Bay and Mangawhai areas.

The gross return from the Car and Bike show held on Sunday 9 February in the Waipu Caledonian Park was \$47,000 with \$2,500 going to the Waipu Fire Brigade and \$1500 to the Bream Bay Swim Club both of which helped out on the day.

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Or post them to: The Bream Bay News, 547 Mountfield Rd., RD2 Waipu, Postcode 0582

LETTERS

A morning walk in One Tree Point When “the pleasure becomes a curse”

An important poem by Colin Coultts

Breakfast is done, the morning ritual begins with a walk
 The dog is eager to stretch his legs, meet others and talk
 In the middle of OTP we live, so lots of footpaths to traverse
 Within 5 minutes from home, the pleasure becomes a curse
 Trying to dodge the broken, uneven concrete, no fun
 If the view you enjoy, beware you will trip, as we have done
 OTP has lots of walkers, trying to keep themselves fit
 I have not met one who hasn't met with a trip
 Most people who have met this fate and lost some skin
 Have called the council, but they appear busy, you just can't win
 The last contractor I saw attempting a patch up once more
 A bucket of cold mix he spread all around, botch ups galore
 It seems that squirts of white paint, uneven concrete will fix
 Next thing you know, the council will have paths of bricks
 If these dangers on a sports field were found to appear
 ACC would cry out in great alarm, but apparently not here
 Maybe the Mayor a trip could take, with cloak and chain in tow
 If with a concrete mixer, our paths to repair, you just never know
 If this matter wasn't so serious, you would have to laugh
 Perhaps the council don't care, or they have no staff



Just one example of the uneven footpaths, which are tripping people up around One Tree Point.

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Did decades of sand extraction cause erosion of the Mangawhai Sandspit?

Mangawhai's sandspit is under severe threat, with a new aerial survey revealing over 400,000 tonnes of sand have disappeared—raising fears of a catastrophic breach at the spit's narrowest point.

Local residents and environmental advocates in Bream Bay are pointing to decades of sand mining as the primary cause, accusing Auckland Council of failing to monitor the activity or enforce conditions.

The first in-depth LIDAR aerial survey of the area revealed that more than 26,000 truckloads of sand have vanished from Mangawhai in just six years.

Auckland-based mining company McCallum Brothers has submitted a Fast Track application to extract 8.45 million cubic metres of sand over the next 35 years.

Coastal processes expert and Bream Bay resident Andre La Bonte said, "The sand miners will argue that there's no proof offshore mining has caused erosion of the Mangawhai sandspit and Pakiri shoreline. But their argument isn't backed by any significant New Zealand data, and it is strongly contradicted by overseas research. Now, most importantly, the latest Mangawhai spit LIDAR surveys confirm an alarming rate of sand loss."

Environmental groups believe sand has been shifted from Mangawhai to Pakiri to offset decades of extraction, weakening Mangawhai's coastal defences.

Malcolm Morrison of the Bream Bay Guardians was critical of Auckland Council's inaction.

"The buck stops with Auckland Council. It ignored expert advice; it did not follow up on breaches or chose not to prosecute McCallum's for them. Callum McCallum said that as part of the consent conditions, the Council had specific access to McCallum's dredges to

observe what was happening but never did. At the very least, it should be monitoring sand transport in this region as their own senior coastal officers recommended but they haven't bothered."

Mangawhai resident Ken Rayward said McCallum's most damaging dredging occurred after storms.

"McCallum's practice cuts off the lifeline that Nature provides, where this sand should be returned to the beach. It disrupts the natural cyclical process and creates further beach erosion."

Dr Valentina Spanu, an international geomorphologist, said, "The same situation happened at an urban beach in the city of Cagliari, Italy except only 2 million and not the 8.5 million cubic metres McCallum's want to take, was extracted over 46 years. Legal and illegal extraction was limited but inaction by the authorities and a lack of monitoring caused huge environmental destruction."

The Bream Bay Guardians have filed an official request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) to demand answers from Auckland Council.

"Evidence has been presented showing that sand mining would lead to massive coastal erosion and the loss of the Mangawhai sandspit," Morrison said. "That scenario has now played out exactly as predicted."

Asked when the McCallum Bream Bay sand mining application will be lodged, DEO Callum McCallum said finalising reports for the application is taking longer than expected "as we endeavour to cover off any issues as they arise."

Work on Ruakākā to Marsden Cove shared pathway about to begin

The Bream Bay Shared Path group has been given the green light by Deputy Mayor Phil Halse to start work on a trail linking Marsden Cove Marina with the Ruakaka Town Centre.

Councillor Halse has informed the group that there is money in the Long Term Plan to begin work on the section of the trail along Marsden Point Rd. and then along McEwen Rd to the entrance of the Hermpac property.

Negotiations are underway with Hermpac and Marsden Maritime Holdings to secure easements over their land to take the trail to the Marina. Grant Brown of the Shared Path Group said they are confident these will be forthcoming later in the year.

He said the group intended to engage Hansen Developments for this first stage of the project with Grant Brown and Darrell Trigg as Project Managers.

All going to plan work is expected to begin this month.



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LETTERS

A pile of sand 15,000 feet high under the sea off the top of Northland

I am told the Waikato River once flowed up the East Coast and ended at the Parry Channel off Whangārei Heads.

We know that the Waikato River was diverted by land movements at Henuera near the head of the current Karapiro Dam from where it flowed into the Firth of Thames. Evidence can still be seen of the old riverbed at Henuera. This tells me that the bulk of natural sand supply for the East Coast has been cut off at Henuera. Mining sand on the East Coast now means we are harvesting an irreplaceable resource. Evidence of this can be seen at Helena Bay where sand has been stripped for commercial purposes. Some natural recovery will happen at the expense of other areas.

Harvesting of sand on Northland's East Coast I believe must stop. It is hard to imagine much natural increase of sand on Northland's West Coast either. The various hydro dams must be collecting any natural flow of sand down the Waikato River and commercial harvesting of sand at Mercer will further deprive the West Coast.

However there is a pile of sand 15,000 feet high under the sea off the top of Northland that nobody is touching. This can be seen on NZ marine charts. I would like to know why such could not be harvested by a couple of really big barges bringing in great surges of sand to Auckland and other ports. This could be offered at one price ex barge and slightly more if stockpiled locally. Sand should not be harvested from Bream Bay or anywhere else on Northland's coastline except from this massive pile.

Joy Bonham
 Marsden Point

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Scenic helicopter rides on offer at this year's Waipu Easter Carnival

19 April, the date of the Waipu Primary Easter Carnival in the Caledonian Park is coming up fast and Dee Field, who is sharing the role of Carnival Co-coordinator this year with Sarah Tesniere, says setting up the event is now "kind of my natural habitat."

Dee first got involved in the carnival in 2020. Allowing for one year out because of Covid 19 restrictions, this is her fourth year of helping to run the event. The carnival itself is in its seventeenth year.

Dee said each year is different with new people getting involved and bringing new ideas and new skills.

An exciting addition to the programme this time is scenic helicopter rides. Another new offering is a pamper zone with massage, eyebrow shaping and eye lash tinting.

There will be more activities for older kids such as a dunk tank, climbing wall and axe throwing and there will be more food stalls. Asked if it was hard to find enough – Dee said, "Not at all. Everyone wants to be at the Easter Fair we had to cut off applications ages ago".

There will be all day free entertainment on the main stage and many free or low cost activities for children.

To start with the organising team was concerned about finding enough parent volunteers as Easter falls in the school holidays when families often go away but the roster is now looking pretty good. The upside is that the school holidays are likely to bring more visitors to Waipu.

To keep the focus in the Caledonian Park this year there will be no market stalls in the street.

Dee said, "It just got so congested there. We will see how it goes and if people don't like it we can change it back next year."

Asked if she had prior experience as an event organizer, Dee said she had none at all.

"I am just an organised sort of person and that seems to be skill enough."

Her talents in this area have been noticed and she was invited by Promote Waipu to become the group's secretary.

Proceeds from the Carnival will go towards school resources, playground upgrades, property projects, and the purchase of Chrome books. Previous Carnivals have funded the structured literacy programme, new chairs and a stage for the school hall and scooter tracks

Entry to the Carnival will be by koha or gold coin donation only. The Carnival runs from 9am until 2pm.



Dee Field, left and Sarah Tesniere, getting ready for the Waipu Easter Carnival

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Monthly Resident and Ratepayer group meetings

THE RUAKAKĀ RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

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THE WAIPU RIDING RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

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Please email: waipurra@gmail.com if you would like to attend a meeting and address the committee members.

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Takahiwai Marae hosts children from Auckland’s Richmond Rd. School



Some of the Richmond Rd. children at Takahiwai Marae. Jade Reuben, who initiated the visit, is seated in front

Children from Richmond Rd. School in Grey Lynn were hosted at Takahiwai Marae last week along with their teachers and parents.

The 40 children are all pupils in the school’s total immersion Māori language unit - Te Whānau Whāriki, but, as they live in Auckland City, many had not experienced a stay on a marae. Included were a group of little five year olds whose parents came along with them.

Ten-year-old Jade Reuben, who is the great granddaughter of Crete Milner of Takahiwai, instigated the visit. Jade lives in Auckland and is one of the tamariki in Richmond Rd. School’s Te Whānau Whāriki. She and her mother Kasie Smith frequently visit whanau at Takahiwai so Jade wanted to share this experience with her school friends.

The Patuharakeke Taiao Unit with Ari Carrington and Hollie Kereopa spent a day with the children showing them a set of whale bones and challenging them to set them in the correct order. The children were given bones to polish smooth, to make porotiti discs, which can be strung on twin cords to produce a humming music when spun.

They learnt about the life cycle of tuna and the importance of looking after waterways.

Some of the uncles even went out at night to catch tuna for a hakari (feast) the children prepared for their parents who were invited to visit on Thursday evening. Parents and teachers expressed their gratitude to their marae hosts, saying they had all been well looked after.

An afternoon tea to show the community’s appreciation for Ron and Kay Dixon’s decades of volunteer work in Waipu

Waipu 2000 is hosting an afternoon tea on behalf of the citizens of Waipu to thank Ron and Kay Dixon for all the volunteer work they have contributed to the wellbeing of the town.

Kay was a founding member of the Waipu 2000 Trust, which was established in 1993. Kay and Ron were among the stalwarts who continued to work voluntarily over many years first to establish the trust and then to carry out its work.

Kay worked voluntarily alongside Waipu’s caretaker Alan Nordich emptying rubbish bins and tidying up the town’s parks and gardens

Ron was a longtime member of both the Waipu Lions and the Waipu Fire Brigade and assisted Kay with

many of her Waipu clean up projects.

Kay and Ron helped to run the Waipu Lions aluminum can collection for Kidney Kids, which provides support to children with kidney disease and their families.

The Dixons recently moved to Whangārei .

The afternoon tea will be held on 30 April at 2.30pm in the foyer of the Celtic Barn. It is open to all members of the Waipu Community and providing an opportunity to show appreciation for the many years of volunteer work by Ron and Kay.

To assist with catering please email an RSVP to waipu2000trust@gmail.com



Police Report

Spate of burglaries of building sites

There was a series of burglaries of building sites in One Tree Point and Ruakākā between 27 and 29 March. Thieves targeted, vehicle batteries, fuel and tools. Sergeant Simon Craig, Officer in Charge at the Bream Bay Police Station said the burglaries seem to be part of quite an organised operation. Police are following up on some forensic evidence. The burglaries have all taken place in the evening or over the weekend and Sergeant Craig advises tradesmen not to leave their tools on building sites overnight. One builder is counting himself lucky having packed up all his tools for a job at home as he left work on Friday. The site was burgled the following weekend and he would have likely lost the lot.

Ute stolen from Marsden Bay address

A white Ford Utility vehicle with a double cab and with the number plate CEN111. was stolen from an address in Finch St., Marsden Bay on Thursday 27 March

Trailers targeted by thieves

Trailers have recently been stolen from Mangawhai and Portland and Sergeant Simon Craig warns that these need to be kept secure. He said trailers are popular targets for thieves, as compared to vehicles, which have numbers stamped into their chassis, it is relatively easy to disguise the identity of a stolen trailer.

Just one drunk driver

At 8.30pm on Wednesday 26 March a vehicle was pulled over by Police on Marsden point Rd. The driver a 40-year-old Ruakākā man returned a breath test reading of 475 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath – 223 micrograms over the legal limit. He will be appearing in the Whangārei District Court on a drink driving charge.

Ten family harm incidents

Police attended 10 family harm incidents over the fortnight Friday 21 March to Friday 4 April. This number is down on family harm incidents attended over the past few months.

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Waipu Lions fund Spirit of New Zealand adventure

“We jumped into the sea at 6am each morning. It was freezing but I got used to it and came to enjoy it”, Year 11 Bream Bay College student Harmony Cordell-Hunt told the Waipu Lions last week .

Harmony was guest speaker at the Lions monthly dinner meeting and came along to say thank you for the group’s sponsorship for a voyage on board the Spirit of New Zealand sailing ship last September.

She told how she had overcome her “slight fear of heights” to climb up the ships mast, had made new friends and had become more confident about meeting new people.

The voyage left Auckland on 10 September, which happened to be Harmony’s 15th birthday. This was the first time she had spent a birthday away from her family. Her mother had tipped off the crew about this and Harmony was surprised by a birthday cake made by the ship’s head cook.

Harmony’s younger sister Shiloh is scheduled to take a voyage on the sailing ship in October along with nine other students from Bream Bay College.



Harmony Cordell - Hunt celebrated her 15th birthday on board the Spirit of New Zealand

The Waipu ANZAC Parade

The Waipu ANZAC service will follow the same schedule as in previous years.

Those wishing to march need to gather on South Rd at 10.40am with the march up the main street of Waipu to the War Memorial starting at 10.50am.

The service at the car park behind the memorial begins at 11am.

The bill for traffic management with atd to derail the iconic parade a couple of years ago is being paid by the Whanarei District Council.

The will also be a short Dawn Service at the Military Services section of the Waipu Cemetery in Cove Rd at 6.28am consisting of a recitation of the Ode to the Fallen and half masting of the New Zealand flag.

How age friendly is our district?

The Whangārei District Council is conducting a survey of people over the age of 55 years to find out how Age Friendly the district is.

The survey asks questions about housing, social participation, health services, accessibility, public transport and financial security.

It can be completed on line, in person by filling in a survey form at one of the Council Service Centres, including the one in Takutai Place Ruakākā, by post of by email. The survey takes around 15 minutes to complete and the closing date is 5pm on Monday 28 April.

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A 10.7% general rates increase proposed in WDC 2025/2026 Annual Plan

Consultation opened this month on the Whangārei District Council's annual plan and on its proposals for future water management under the Coalition Governments Water Done Well rules.

The Council is proposing a new targeted rate for stormwater.

It is also proposing to lower the Uniform Annual General charge, which would have the effect of reducing the rates burden for lower value property owners while raising it on properties of higher value.

Another proposal is to provide "contestable business grants" to owners of business zoned land currently used for farming. This would be funded by an additional 1.2% rates increase for ratepayers in the Commercial, Industrial and Rural sectors.

The draft budget contains a 10.7% general rates increase for the 2025/2026 year in line with the 7.5% in the Council's 2024 -2034 long Term Plan plus inflation.

WDC's water management proposals also up for consultation

The Whangārei District Council has also adopted its water management proposals for consultation.

While the Coalition Government has scrapped the previous Governments Three Waters plans which would have seen water management across New Zealand consolidated under four and then ten publicly owned entities it seems there is still pressure on Councils to work more collaboratively on their water management.

The Whangārei District Council's Infrastructure Committee Chairman Simon Reid said Council's plan for future water management is due to go to the Government in September.

He said, "We have investigated several options and brought two of the preferred options to the public to consider.

"Our preferred option is to have an in-house business unit and to increase our collaboration with Northland councils."

Under this option the delivery of water services would remain within Council as a business unit, rather than being established as a new organisation. The business unit would be responsible to the elected Council members and ultimately the ratepayers.

"The alternate option would be a Northland Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) with Kaipara District Council and Far North District Council (drinking water and wastewater only).

"While this option would continue to provide a high level of service delivery, Whangārei District could end up cross-subsidising water costs for the rest of Northland, and the CCO could carry higher amounts of debt.

"Either way we know change is coming. We have been fortunate to have had a very high quality level of service for water in our district as a result of multiple decades of thoughtful management and governance, and I expect that to continue."

More information on both the 2025 - 2026 annual plan and on the Council's plans for future water management can be found at: www.wdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay.

Submissions on both are due in by 5pm on 2 May 2025.

Graffiti and vandalism costly for ratepayers

Bream Bay currently has some very active graffiti vandals.

Signs along Marsden Point Rd have been spray painted as was the Police shelter at the Uretiti weigh station, where the mess was quickly painted over.

Graham Boulton, acting Chairman of Waipu 2,000, is particularly annoyed at damage to furniture newly installed in the Waihoihoi Park and to the Waipu public toilet block. Both of these are the result of efforts made by Waipu 2,000 volunteers.

Informed of the problem Whangārei District Mayor Vince Cocurullo said graffiti is rife throughout the district. He said the Council spends around \$400,000 each year getting rid of it and a total of around \$1 million on vandalism repairs.

Ruakākā Recreation Centre Committee asks for \$3.2 million from WDC to build a new sports gymnasium

The Ruakākā Recreation Centre committee is asking the Whangārei District Council for a \$3.5 million investment towards Stage 2 of what it terms the "multi use indoor sports arena."

The committee claims that a \$3.5 million investment from the Council would leverage grants from "central government and other agencies."

The proposed sports arena would be located in Peter Snell Rd near the new recreation centre building. It would have two full sized basketball courts and be available for a wide range of indoor sports including: netball, badminton, basketball, volleyball, futsal and indoor soccer.

In a letter addressed to the Whangārei District Council the Recreation Centre Committee makes the suggestion that the Council could purchase the old Recreation Centre building in Takutai Place which could then become dedicated club rooms for the field sports which use the Ruakaka sports fields.. This money could then go towards the proposed new indoor sports facility.

Rain brings relief to local fire brigades

The recent rain will have come as a relief to our local fire brigades. The dry hot conditions over the past few months made for worrying times. Ruakākā Fire Chief Warren Marshall said there have been some big fires in the far north, which have been difficult to put out but so far nothing of a large scale in Bream Bay.

On 25 March the Ruakākā Brigade was called out around 8.45pm to a back yard rubbish fire. Backyard fires are currently banned across the whole of the Northland Region with no word yet that this ban has been lifted.

On 27 March the Ruakākā Brigade was called to a fire in One Tree Point when a fish smoker positioned close to a house caught alight.

Luckily the householder had a hose at the ready to put the fire out before it spread to the house.

Another concern of the Brigade is that people on rural properties make sure that a water source is available to put out a fire. This can be a full tank or a nearby dam.

"Otherwise we have to wait for tankers to arrive before we can get to work", Warren said.

Over the past fortnight the Ruakākā Brigade has also been called on to provide cover in Whangārei when the Whangārei Brigade has been called out to fires or road accidents.



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27 Camellia Ave, Ruakaka - 8:45am

50 The Centre, Waipu - 10:15 am

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Meridian Energy board approves \$227 budget for the 130MW Ruakākā solar farm. Construction is expected to begin later this year



The location of the soon to be built Meridian Energy solar farm

The Meridian board approved the \$227 million budget to build a 130MW solar farm at Ruakākā last month. The contract for the build has been awarded to renewable energy experts Ethical Power and construction is expected to begin later this year with early site works likely to get under way over the next two months. Some adjustments were made to the original plans in consultation with the Forest and Bird Society. An additional 10ha of existing wetland will be retained bring the total area of protected existing wetland to 18ha. In addition a new native habitat area of around 11.7ha will be created on site 3 (alongside Marsden Point Rd.) including a new 5ha wetland to provide habitats for bird species such as bittern and dabchick. The new wetland will help cleanse stormwater before it flows into the Ruakākā River.

MARSDEN POINT HIGH TIDES				
	AM		PM	
Thu 10 April	5.42	2.5	6.10	2.4
Fri 11 April	6.28	2.5	6.57	2.5
Sat 12 April	7.10	2.5	7.39	2.5
Sun 13 April	7.49	2.5	8.18	2.6
Mon 14 April	8.26	2.5	8.55	2.6
Tue 15 April	9.01	2.5	9.31	2.6
Wed 16 April	9.37	2.5	10.07	2.5
Thu 17 April	10.15	2.5	10.45	2.5
Fri 18 April	10.54	2.4	11.26	2.5
Sat 19 April	11.36	2.4	~	~
Sun 20 April	12.11	2.4	12.23	2.3
Mon 21 April	1.10	2.4	1.14	2.3
Tue 22 April	1.56	2.4	2.11	2.3
Wed 23 April	2.54	2.4	3.13	2.3
Thu 24 April	3.52	2.5	4.17	2.4

Battery Energy Storage System expected to be completed this month.

Construction of the battery energy storage system (BESS) at the corner of State Highway 15 and Rama Rd. is expected to be completed this month. Testing and commissioning has been underway for some time and the bulk of the work including the battery equipment, the switching station, interconnect-

ing cables and associated ancillary plant is essentially complete. The final stages of civil works are underway including finishing an access road carparking areas, road lighting and a stormwater retention pond

Anglican Parish—Bream Bay

Maundy Thursday - St Peter's, Waipu 7.00pm
with Foot-Washing and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday – 10.00am (begin at Waipū Presbyterian)
2.00pm—St Paul's Ruakaka

Easter Sunday St Paul's Ruakaka – 9.30 am
St Peter's Waipu - 11.00am

Lifepoint Church, 300 One Tree Point Road

Good Friday: Between 9.30 -11.00am
A Walk Through Easter Experience

Resurrection Sunday - 10.00am

Encounter Christian Centre, 223 Marsden Point Road
Easter Sunday 10.00am Easter

Easter Services, Bream Bay

"He is not here, He is Risen." Luke 24:6

Waipu Presbyterian Church, 50 the Centre
Good Friday Service -10.00am
Finishing at St Peter's Anglican
(a short walk in between)

Easter Sunday Breakfast/Brunch—9.30am (in Hall)
Easter Celebration Service - 10.15am

Holy Family Catholic Church, Peter Snell Road,
Easter Sunday 10.30am - Celebration

Have a go exhibition at the Bream Bay Community Art Cottage



Look who turned up and tried his hand at a watercolour painting. Lucky he wasn't wearing the Mayoral robes, which may have got a bit paint splattered.

Last Sunday 6 April, The Bream Bay Combined Arts Group invited people to come along to its Arts Cottage in Lakeside Park Rd., Ruakākā to try some of the arts and crafts carried out in its weekly classes. All materials were supplied and art group members were available offering help and advice.

The event was part of Creative Northland's April Art Beat Festival. Regular sessions at the Art Cottage include: felting, knitting, spinning in a Wednesday morning fibre art group, painting on Tuesday mornings and potters on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and Tuesday and Thursday nights.

The group is currently canvassing interest in a photography group. If this is something you would like to be part of please phone the secretary Donna Russell 021 130 2028 or email: bbcombinedartsgroup@gmail.com



Potter Vicki Bennett at work making a family of ceramic frogs



Margaretha Wilson modelling a beautiful merino and possum wool shawl she made at the Art Group's Wednesday morning fibre sessions attended by spinners, felters and knitters.



Children took up the opportunity to try rock painting, pottery and needle felting. Pictured above: Rhys Drinnan, aged 9, making a felt stick man, Judah Klum -10 with his Pickle Man and Ryan Drinnan - 11 made a chicken and a variety of vegetables. Felting expert Anne Coutts showed them how to stab the felting with a needle telling the boys it was a good way to take out frustrations.

**Phone the BREAM BAY NEWS 027 432 0070
or email: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz
if you know of something interesting
going on in Bream Bay.**

It wasn't vandals - it was the Council



Lucina Cummings of the Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust thought vandals were responsible for the removal of the signs at the Bream Bay Drive entrance to the Ruakākā Wildlife Refuge and at the northern end of the beach in front of the Ruakākā Beach Domain.

Lucina Cummings of the Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust thought vandals had once again destroyed signs at Ruakākā Beach entrances and was astonished to find that the man who took the signs down was in fact a contractor doing work on Whangārei District Council orders.

The signs showed a map and gave detailed instructions where dogs are allowed and not allowed. The contractor told Lu the rules for dog control had changed and the signs are no longer accurate. When Lu asked him when new signs would go up he said there was no money in the budget for replacements. Lu's husband Spencer asked why Council staff could not have just tweaked the old sign with a marker pen. Lu who looks after the bird nesting sites in the wildlife refuge said the signs are needed as when she approaches people taking their dogs into the refuge they frequently won't believe this is a dog free area until they see the sign.

From the map on the Whangārei District Council website the section of beach from the Paradise Shores access to the Ruakākā Estuary is now a dog free area. Ann Midson Communications Manager with the WDC said "A new bylaw was adopted by Council last year, meaning that many of the existing signs needed to be updated with fresh information.

We also adopted a more "directive approach" to many of our signs, to make things simpler and more straightforward for dog owners.

"The simpler signs have been installed at between 90 and 100 locations across the District, at the places where people with dogs access recreational areas, including those around the sign mentioned in this story.

"This particular sign is more detailed and needs to be redesigned and updated and that will be coordinated by Council working with NRC and DoC.

WHAT'S ON IN BREAM BAY

- **WAIPU BOUTIQUE SUNDAY MARKET** Next on Sunday 13 April From 9am to 1pm in the Coronation Hall
- **RUAKAKA FIRE BRIGADE CLASSIC AND CUSTOM CAR SHOW** 13 April in the Marsden Bay Christian Camp - 89A One Tree Point Road. From 10am to 2pm. Funds raised go towards purchase of a new emergency response 4wd vehicle.
- **WAIPU EASTER CARNIVAL** Easter Saturday 19 April 9am - 2pm in the Waipu Caledonian Park.
- **ONE TREE POINT ARTISAN MARKET** Next on Sunday 20 April- 9am - 1pm. One Tree Point School quadrant and field. Fundraising for Whangārei Hospital Children's Ward.
- **BREAM BAY MUSIC GROUP** First Monday of every month starting at 7pm At the new Rec Centre in Peter Snell Road, Ruakaka Contact Ross or Fulco on 0274 410 584
- **COMMUNITY BIMGO** every last Wednesday each month (except December) Every one welcome Raffles Restaurant and Bar open from 5 pm Calling starts at 7.30 pm 15 games and 2 jackpots open to the public
- **WAIPU MUSEUM** 36, The Centre, Waipu. Open seven days 10am-4pm

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

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

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

FARES

	One Way	Return
Kaiwaka	\$7.00	\$10.00
Mangawhai	\$7.00	\$10.00
Mangawhai Heads	\$7.00	\$10.00
Langs Beach	\$7.00	\$10.00
Waipu Cove	\$6.00	\$8.00
Waipu	\$6.00	\$8.00
Ruakākā	\$5.00	\$7.00

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

Kaiwaka/Mangawhai Road, Molesworth Road, Mangawhai Heads Road, Cove Road, The Centre Waipu, Nova Scotia Drive, SH1, Marsden Point Road, Peter Snell Road, Marsden Point Road, SH15A, SH1, Otaika Road, Maunu Road, Walton Street, Rose Street Bus Terminal.

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.

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From the files of The Bream Bay News

In the April 1975 edition.

New gymnasium and changing rooms at Bream Bay College available for local clubs to use on application

The Principal Mr. Aston reports that the new gymnasium and changing rooms at the college have been completed. The Board of Governors is keen to see use made of these facilities by local organisations. If you are interested please make a written application to Mr. Aston on behalf of your club. If you would care to inspect the facilities before making your application, please phone Bream Bay College 519 for an appointment.

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Tax Accounting Business support

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Robb MacKinlay 027 540 7859
robb@breambaytax.nz www.breambaytax.nz

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Bream Bay's first local hydraulic hose service




021 308 358 breambayengineering@gmail.com

FOR SALE

AEG DOUBLE WALL OVEN. Been in storage for some time. Clean, in good condition. \$100. Ph. 021 143 8749

HAY Conventional bales. Baleage rounds. All top quality. Ph. 027 432 0351

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RAWLEIGH'S PRODUCTS
 Independent dealer.
 Ointments
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 Phone Susan McRae
 027 227 2291.

WATER TANKS
 09 431 2211
 sales@absolute
 concrete.co.nz

Local people read THE BREAM BAY NEWS
It is an effective place to advertise

2nds Shadowclad ungrooved ply
 2440x1200
 \$99.00
 Scooters Plywood
 Ph no. 09 438 6565

WANTED

OLD NEWSPAPER Copies of the Bream Bay News, Advocate, Herald, Leader, Weekend Lifestyler, or Mangawhai Focus for recycling as erosion control. Waipu Lions fundraiser. Phone Dave Bell 09 432 0861.

MARKETS

Handmade & Homegrown
ARTS | CRAFTS | FOOD

WAIPU Boutique Market
 SUNDAY

Sunday 13 April
 9:00am - 1:00pm
 Waipu Coronation Hall

Claire | 021 272 2294
 Kate | 021 064 5698
 www.waipumarket.co.nz

O.T.P ARTISAN MARKET

Fundraiser for Whangarei Hospital Children's Ward
 Third Sunday every month
 97 One Tree Point Road
 Spaces Available Phone 021 530 153

SOCIAL SERVICES

Safeman Safe family Men's Centre

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

We are peer led and professionally supported and offer a range of services and support for men and their families.

The services we provide are as follows:

- Advocacy Navigator
- Court support
- FGC Support
- Probation Community Service Provider
- Legal Advice
- Marriage Celebrant
- House and property blessing
- 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 policee - if you need help or know someone that does just come on down to: **9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā.** We are right next door to Jimmy's Barber Shop or I can be reached by phone 021 121 0763 - Phil Paikea

SOCIAL SERVICES



Not sure? Ask us!

We provide free, confidential and independent information and advice to help you understand your rights and responsibilities.

Contact us for assistance.
 09 438 8046 • whangarei@cab.org.nz

www.cab.org.nz



LINKING HANDS
 Health Shuttle

Phone
(09) 431 8969

BREAM BAY ANGLICAN FOODBANK

If you would like assistance or know someone that does, perhaps we can help
 Please phone Liz
022 582 5734?

SERVICES OFFERED

QUALITY PAINTER
 Residential and Commercial
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 Paint, stain,oil
 Ph. Tony 021 196 2949

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Costs \$5.50 for up to 20 words and 20c for each additional word.

Boxed, classified adverts cost \$16.50 gst .inc. Phone your advert through to 027452 0070 email it to breambaynews@xtra.co.nz Post it to: Bream Bay News, RD 2 Waipu 0582 or leave it with payment at: The Waipu Post Shop or the Ruakākā Gift and Lotto Shop

JD LAWN CARE SERVICES

Lawn mowing, Weed spraying, Water blasting, surface cleaning of driveways, paths and patios, Hedge trimming, Section clearing, tree pruning, wood chipping and more.

PH. 021 063 7907

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE



Justices of the Peace

Ruakākā

Paea Paki	021 149 1625
Darrell Trigg	09 432 7256/021 332 901
Ken Orr	09 432 8215
Wayne Buckland	022 644 5376.

One Tree Point

Jules Flight	0274 777 210
Sir John Goulter	021 612 442
MM Jolley	027 415 9486
Ian Bogue	0274 300 418
Grant Brown	027 248 7126
Sharon Carroll	0272653227

Waipu

Trevor Vaile	021335 075
Doug Scott	027 229 9752
Ken Couper	027 292 0524
Angela Stolwerk	021 823 966
Chris Martin	027 367 2947
Mary Abercrombie	021 598467

Make contact with a Justice of the Peace (on any day) and make an appointment to have your documents completed.
A service desk also operates 10am to 11am on Saturdays in the Ruakākā Library.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Marsden Bay Garden Club



Monthly Meetings held
3rd Thursday of the month.
ALL WELCOME
1:00 pm – Ruakākā Hall – Sandford Rd
Contact – Secretary – 0210515581

KW SINGERS PRACTISE

At Ranburn Care Home.
Tuesdays
1.15 - 2.45.
An un auditioned community choir
Anne Connolly - Munt
0274847576



Bream Bay Medical Centre Ltd.
Ruakākā Town Centre, Ruakākā

Monday - Friday: 8.45 am - 5pm
Saturdays: 9am - 12pm

Marsden Cove Medical Centre
1A Ngawaka Lane, One Tree Point


Monday - Friday: 8.45am - 5pm

Please advise at time of booking if you require an extended consultation

Flu vaccines have arrived.
Ring and make an appointment
We also have Covid vaccination clinics
Please phone to make a booking

New patients welcome
Ph: 432 8060


VOLUNTERS NEEDED



Bream Bay Community Patrol

Working with the Police to reduce crime in the Bream Bay area.

To inquire about joining, contact Senior Constable Jordan White
Waipu Police Station – 432 4030




Please, don't be shy to seek our help

We are volunteers, our friendly tutors are available at SeniorNet Bream Bay for Apple, Microsoft and Android Desktops, Laptops, Phones, Tablets, Cameras
Learn on your device, we supply manuals/notes

Please contact: Learning Centre:
09 432 7692
Or email - seniornetbb@gmail.com

Course venue: Learning Centre,
7 Kepa Road, Ruakaka

NORTHPINE 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.

FOR HIRE


SHIPPING CONTAINERS

20ft Shipping Containers, hire offsite \$180 per month + GST + Del, minimum 3 months,
Ph 0212722739 / 021432701


THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

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

LIBRARY HOURS



RUAKAKA COMMUNITY LIBRARY
Takutai Place, Ruakaka
432 8406
Mon - Fri 9:30am-3:30pm
Sat 9am-1pm
JP Service available
Saturdays 10am - 11am.



Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 10am - 1pm.
Tuesday 10am - 4pm.
Phone 432 0375

BREAM BAY SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

Presbyterian Camellia Ave, Ruakaka: 8.45am. The Centre, Waipu: 10.15am. Prayer Service: 7pm

Encounter 223 Marsden Pt. Rd, Ruakaka, 10am.

Anglican - ST PAUL's Church, 25 Karawai St, Ruakaka 1st and 3rd Sundays 9.30am
ST. PETER'S CHURCH, 8 Nova Scotia Dr., Waipu 2nd and 4th Sundays, 09.30am


Catholic Holy Family Church, Ruakaka, 10.30am. Mass or Liturgy of the Word

Lifepoint. 300 OTP Rd, 10am.

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Harcourts Waipu



10 The Braigh, Waipu WAI2688
\$995,000

- Grand 3-bedroom lady built in the 1890's
- Expansive 1412m2 section – subdivision potential
- Timeless character and modern functionality
- 80m2 Total Span shed with an additional 30m2 mezzanine floor plus separate storage shed
- Fully fenced with oodles of parking
- Gardener's paradise. 500m walk to Waipu

Lyndie Mullins 021 101 6389



9 Three Rivers Lane, Waipu WAI2769
\$1,015,000

- Never lived in, brand new – be the first in!!
- Modern 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home
- BGC Weatherboard and Duragroove cladding
- 10-Year Master Build guarantee
- Low maintenance, 424m2 section
- Double glazing and double garage
- Short stroll to Waipu village

Christine Tierney 027 488 1883



3 Seascapes Crescent, Waipu WAI2752
\$1,125,000

- 3-bedrm/2-bathrm home on 2012m2 site
- Spacious and exquisitely presented
- Fabulous indoor and outdoor flow
- Beautifully landscaped and planted grounds
- Double garage and standalone single garage
- Short walk to the water's edge
- Follow the cycle walkway to Waipu village

Judy Guy 027 221 5623

Harcourts Waipu | 7 The Centre, Waipu | 09 432 4000
Harcourts Real Estate Ltd (Incorporated) Agents REAA 2008





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info@bbrealty.co.nz



<p>New Listing!</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">OPEN HOME—SUNDAY 11.00—11.45am 122B Bream Bay Drive, Ruakaka</p>	<p>LOCATION-LIFESTYLE LIKE NO OTHER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 188m2 Unit • 3 Bedrooms • 3 Bathrooms • Huge Garage • Shared Swimming pool • Sea Views <p style="text-align: center;">Set Date Sale 24/4/25 #4234 FIONA SOUTHRN MNZM Mob: 021 317 775</p>	<p>New Listing!</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">OPEN HOME—SUNDAY 11.00—11.30am 88B Marsden Point Road, Ruakaka</p>	<p>‘RIVERSLEA’</p> <p>Situated up a long drive, on approx 1600m2, this property needs to be seen to be believed. Stunning panoramic views from a reserve-like back lawn. Original wood inside and out, high ceilings and extra-large bedrooms enhance the character of this 1950's cottage.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Set Date Sale 1/5/25 #4233 FRANCIE STOKES Mob: 022 656 0165</p>
<p>New Listing!</p> 	<p>THE POWER OF TWO</p> <p>Set on a compact corner section, this modern 2-bedroom home is a sun trap. Easy care grounds, open plan living and both a conservatory and paved, archgola covered BBQ area. Walking distance to Waipu Township.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Viewing by appointment. Price \$899,000 #4232 JANINE GOLDSMITH AREINZ Mob: 021 432 793</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">OPEN HOME—SUNDAY 1.30—2.00pm 61 Peter Snell Road, Ruakaka</p>	<p>SWEET SURPRISE @ THE BEACH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to Ruakaka surf beach • 3 bedroom plus • 2 bathrooms • 667m2 flat section • Opportunity to work from home <p style="text-align: center;">Price \$645,000 Negotiable #4231 FIONA SOUTHRN MNZM Mob: 021 317 775</p>
	<p>SPECIAL DEAL —GIVE ME A CALL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section in The Landing awaiting your new build! • North facing, opposite the park and partially fenced. <p style="text-align: center;">Price \$329,000 #4159 JOANNE DEWSON AREINZ Mob: 021 780 622</p>		<p>HIGH STANDARDS ON STACE HOPPER</p> <p>Quality finish in a spacious, light home with large open plan living and kitchen plus scullery. Impressive gabled roofing inside and continuing outside to the entertainment area. This single level property is supreme family living, 4 double bedrooms, separate laundry & XL storage space.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Price \$1,175,000 #4209 FRANCIE STOKES Mob: 022 656 0165</p>