

Bream Bay News

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Campground managers report their busiest summer ever



Ann-Marie Abel, manager of the Ruakākā Beach Holiday Park and her daughter Nikayla Abel beside the No Vacancy sign outside the camp office

Peak holiday season is always busy in Bream Bay but this season is even busier than usual as anyone who has had to hunt for a carpark at the Ruakākā towncentre or waited for ages for a gap in the steady stream of traffic before pulling out onto State Highway One may have already concluded.

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The winning sandcastle

Photo by Julie Paton



Winners of the children's sandcastle competition at the Waipu Surf Lifesaving Club's Beach Day held on Sunday 3 January. Pictured with their crocodile creation (back from left): Boyd Archibald, Campbell Gallagher, Pippa Duff; (front from left) Tom Kilpatrick, Tui Archibald, Oliver Gallagher (in the crocodile's jaws), Kaelah Duff, Charlotte Kilpatrick. The children faced some tough competition with a record number of sandcastles this year.

More on the Waipū Surf Lifesaving Beach Day on page 3



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EDITORIAL

It must be Ruakākā's turn for that \$100,000 Community Led Fund offer from the Council

It must be Ruakākā's turn soon to get that \$100,000 Community Led Fund offer from the Whangarei District Council. I am wondering what project the people of Ruakākā might pick.

In its Long Term Plan the Council has set aside funds to offer its various communities a grant for a project chosen by their members. .

I have been a member of the Waipū Community Led Project team from the outset and it has been quite a process. I was a bit impatient at first about the extensive public consultation procedures we went through before choosing what had seemed to me to be obviously the best idea, right from the start. But there are some very smart people in this group and I have learned a lot

Community consultation can sometimes just be quite cynical but this group led by two of its younger members is setting the standard for inclusiveness and transparency. One of the aims of Community Led Projects is to unite diverse members of each community in a common purpose. The Waipū River Walk project has done this. We are a united team.

It's easy to see how in the wrong hands such a scheme could get way off track but along with the \$100,000 comes a Council employed Community Development Advisor. Jackie Cooper who works with the Waipū group has been great, standing back from the selection process but present at every meeting to offer support and advice. I was impressed when she turned up on a Saturday morning to join a walk around the proposed trail.

Running such a project in Ruakākā might be a bit more challenging. First you would need to establish the boundaries. Is Takahiwai part of Ruakākā or is this a community in itself? Perhaps the separate settlements of Ruakākā should each have their own Community Led Projects. The people in Ruakākā Village, for example, might come up with a good way to spend \$100,000— perhaps establish a big community orchard and garden. On the other hand, a project that would unite Ruakākā's diverse settlements might be the best plan. To achieve this the selection process would need to be a careful one.

I had occasion to call into the Bream Bay College swimming pool enclosure at the end of the last school term of 2020 and thought it was looking a bit shabby. I believe this pool was built as a community project around 50 years ago. Ann Hines was a member of the swimming pool committee of that time and she remembers holding bottle drives and book sales to raise the funds. Ann is adamant that this pool should belong to the whole community. I am wondering if an upgrade, perhaps with some solar heating so it can be used for more months of the year might, be a good Ruakākā unifying project.

The pool is already used for training by the Bream Bay Swimming Club, so to this extent, does continue to have a community function. However, this use could be broadened. Negotiation with the Bream Bay College Board of Trustees would be necessary from the outset to get an agreement that once the work is complete the pool can be used outside of school hours by groups such as the Over 60s Club, aqua aerobics classes, preschoolers with their parents etc. Maybe people interested in fitness training might want to claim a few set hours each week to swim lengths. Just an idea to throw into the mix. I am sure the people of Ruakākā will come up with many more. Time to put your thinking caps on.

Marilyn

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Campground managers report busiest summer ever

Continued from page 1

Ann - Marie Abel manager of the Ruakākā Beach holiday Park said in the fourteen years she has managed the park, this summer is the busiest and she and her staff have had to turn more people away than ever before.

The campground, the biggest in Bream Bay, has 350 camping sites and nine cabins and has been fully booked every night since Boxing Day.

"We usually have one or two spaces available when people turn up but this year there is nothing. We had a call from Camp Waipū Cove to see if we could take their overflow but we are just completely full. We have to tell people to go to Whangarei and try to find somewhere to stay up there.

Ann-Marie said despite the crowds the camp has been peaceful.

"It's lovely really. We were a bit concerned about the lack of overseas visitors who usually arrive towards the end of summer when the local holidaymakers have gone back to work. If it carries on like this for a bit longer, we will be fine."

Anton Trist, manager at Camp Waipū has a similar story to tell. This camp with its 250 camp sites and 9 cabins is fully booked for the whole of January.

Anton said the camp is looking forward to a busier than normal shoulder period through February, March and April.

"With schools going back slightly later this year and Auckland anniversary weekend on 1 February, it is extending our busy period out a little bit."

Anton said it is "great to see a resurgence in camping and seeing so many happy families enjoying our piece of paradise!"

The Uretiti Department of Conservation camp has been at or over capacity since New Year's Day. The camp can officially hold 1,000 people but a glitch on the Department of Conservation booking website meant that more campers turned up on the night of 1 January and the camp managers found room for them.

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if you know of something interesting
going on in Bream Bay.**

Record numbers of swimmers and sandcastles at Waipū beach day



First male swimmer was David Martin in 41.02 minutes. He is being congratulated by Waipū Surf Club life member Ian Godfrey.

A fine calm morning brought a record number of swimmers down to the beach early on Sunday morning 3 January to dive into the ocean for Waipū Surf Life Saving Club's annual Lang's Beach to Waipū Cove swim. Last year 50 swimmers swam the 3km course, this year numbers were up to 77.

Life member Ian Godfrey says the increase posed a few issues for the club to ensure they kept swimmers safe. "It takes a bit of effort by us, counting them in and out of the water and have enough people out there watching them."

The first swimmer across the line was David Martin in 41.02 minutes while the final swimmer reached the finish line in just under two hours.

Godfrey says the increase in numbers at Waipū's annual Club Day could be due to the event becoming more widely known. "We could probably throw Covid in as well, there are more people around."

The 10km pub to club run also proved popular with 52 runners and 28 walkers competing. Godfrey said several runners entered that morning on the spur of the moment and once at the club, needed to ask around for a ride back to the Waipū Pub to collect their cars.

Club captain Kath Manning says it was an awesome day and she was impressed by the turnout. "It just seems to get bigger and bigger each year," she says. "The Big Dig was huge, I don't know if we've ever had one quite as big." Most children managed to find an iceblock stick to exchange for a prize, with just three children missing out and needing a consolation prize.

The fun beach events also proved popular, with a record number of sandcastles. Hungry hippos, dolphins, turtles, cars and octopuses jostled for position on the sand. In the tug of war, the kids team beat the adults and the girls won against the boys. Manning says the egg throw was particularly hilarious. "We used free range eggs and they had really hard shells, so people were hurling them from a huge distance – eventually they got smashed and quite a few people were egged."

At 7pm just as surf club members were packing up after their huge day, an emergency call came in for a kayaker in distress near Uretiti. A crew raced to launch the IRB to stage a rescue but within five minutes a call came in to say the kayaker was out of danger and the rescue was called off.



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LETTERS

Are our NRC and WDC representatives up to banning vehicles on the beach?

These rubbish bins are spaced along the beach between South Shore, and Brighton in Christchurch.

You may notice the lack of vehicles - they are banned. This could be Bream Bay beach - on your watch - if you have the empathy/courage.

On Jessie Mulligan's National Radio morning show yesterday David Lourie talked about Bream Bay beach and the plight of endangered birds by dogs and vehicles.

Over the last seven years I have enjoyed a morning walk along Uretiti beach from the road access to the Golf Club and back.

There were several pairs of dotterels in nesting plumage there, now there are none. There are, however, a lot more vehicles - as David has pointed out.

As for some irresponsible dog owners! I have been threatened on the beach and in the village of Waipu, to the extent of reporting one individual to the Police. Our elected local government representatives Ken



Rubbish bins and no vehicles on Christchurch Beach

Couper and Rick Stolwerk could do something about this. Are they up to the challenge?

Kua mutu nga paku korero, atu, kia koe.

Ka kite ano

Robert Webb
Waipu

In support of Maori wards

Under the Local Government Act of 2001 Councils are required to facilitate Maori participation in local authority decision-making, and legislation allows for the formation of Maori wards as a means of doing this. So contrary to the opinions of previous correspondents, the formation of Maori wards is indeed within the scope of Council's concerns and responsibilities.

I don't know if the formation of Maori wards is the best way to foster greater Maori representation. However I do know that the current system is not doing well. Maori are routinely under-represented in local government all over the country, and markedly so in Northland. The "exceptional individual" argument is routinely rolled out to justify the status quo, but as with women and Board rooms, it would be better if people of equal mediocrity can get elected, and even better if the system supported people with different values and perspectives to come together for the good

of all. Maori wards have been a feature of national politics for 150 years and I don't see that they have destroyed our democracy. Rather they have contributed to more representative governance of our country. Who knows what local governance will look like in 50 years? Perhaps they won't work and we will try something else. What I do know is that if we don't try something different nothing will change.

Seven territorial authorities have voted to establish Maori wards ahead of the 2022 election, three of these being our own Whangarei and Kaipara District Councils and the Northern Regional Council. Six authorities have previously voted in favour of Maori wards. It looks like an idea for its time, so why are there so few? Unfortunately the bar for effective resistance is very low, and the resistance is well organised. With

Continued on Page 6.



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The many uses of seaweed

There were a few gasps around the Waipū Cove Surf Lifesaving Club when Scientist Dr. Serean Adams of the Cawthron Institute of Nelson said the institute was attempting to find out how to grow feathery red seaweed, which has been shown to reduce methane emissions when fed to cattle.

For the past ten years or so large amounts of smelly seaweed, usually red in colour has been washing up which from time to time washes up on the beach at Waipū Cove.

The red seaweed asparagopsis, in particular, has been shown to lower methane emissions from burping when fed to cattle, sheep or deer and could be a helpful tool in reducing carbon emissions from dairy and beef farms. The challenge though is to grow it in sufficient quantities so it could be harvested profitably.

Dr. Adams said she had searched unsuccessfully for a plant form of the seaweed in the Marlborough Sounds but had then found some on the beach during her annual holiday at Waipū Cove.

Dr. Adams was invited by Northland Regional Councillor Rick Stolwerk to give a talk in the Waipū Cove Surf Lifesaving Club on the last day of her holiday last Monday.

She talked about some of the uses for seaweed and current research being put into the compounds it contains and the uses it can be put to.

There are over 800 known varieties in New Zealand

waters and a potential to develop a range of products.

It is used for fertilizer and for horticulture pest solutions. A seaweed solution has been found to be helpful in controlling the disease PSA in kiwifruit.

Seaweed is a nutritious food. Dr. Adams She showed a satellite picture of seaweed farms in South



Dr. Serean Adams

Korea and wondered if this kind of development would be tolerated around New Zealand.

Seaweed can be used to suppress waves and it works to remove nitrogen from the sea. Seaweed farming can work in conjunction with mussel farming with the seaweed cleaning up the water around the racks of mussels. The Crown research institute Scion is investigating how cellulose from seaweed can be used to replace plastics.

None of this solves the Waipū Cove problem though. Dr. Adams said excess nutrients in the water were a likely cause but said the source of these would need to be identified before preventative action could be taken.

Public meeting on Ruakākā satellite station

Staff from Great South, the company looking at building a satellite ground station in Sandford Rd., Ruakākā, will hold a public meeting with staff present to answer questions at the Bream Bay Community Trust, 9 Takutai Place on Tuesday 19 January at 7pm. Great South is Southland's development agency, akin to the Northland Regional Council agency Northland Inc. Great South Space Operations already has satellite communications ground stations located between Invercargill and Bluff and works with small satellite launching companies such as New Zealand's own Rocket Lab to provide ground communication services. A satellite belonging to the University of Auckland was sent into space aboard a Rocket Lab spacecraft in November. The satellite has a probe on board which is now communicating with Great South's Awarua station sending back information helpful in predicting where earthquakes might occur. In a flier sent to Sandford Rd. residents the company explained its desire to establish a station in Northland saying that this would maximize its opportunity to harvest data from satellites as they pass overhead.

The residents were sent an artists impression of what the station would look like showing a pattern of dome like structures spaced interspersed with satellite discs, around the edge of several paddocks.

People living near the site have concerns about the proposed station's effects on the outlook from their homes and a possible drop in their property values because of perceived adverse health effects from the station. A public meeting on the issue was held in December resulting in Ruakākā Primary withdrawing a letter of support it had provided to Great South. Chantelle Subritsky, who is Strategic Project Advisor for Great South, gave assurances that the station would not pose any health risks.

She said the site had not yet been purchased, as investigations into its suitability were ongoing. In its favour the Sandford Rd. site is flat land close to the Ruakākā towncentre and close to Whangarei where there is likely to be a pool of people with the skills needed to maintain and operate the station. The willingness of local people to have the station established in their location would be another factor to consider.

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LETTERS

In support of Maori wards*Continued from Page 4.*

just 5% of local residents' signatures anyone can force a public referendum, and such referenda are likely to be successful simply because there are more Pakeha than Maori. No other ward can be subject to a referendum and decided in this way. Frank Newman (17/12/20) thinks a popular vote "gives voice to those who would otherwise remain silent and returns power to the people". What he really means is "Pakeha people", and it must be noted that given the inequality of representation Pakeha people are hardly a silent voice. I hope we can support our Councils' decisions to form Maori wards. I hope we can look to the needs of our young Maori people and promote a system of representation they can identify with. I hope we can recognise the need for more diverse understandings of, and solutions to, the issues our communities face. I hope we can stop talking about divisiveness, and instead talk about reconciliation and moving forward together. A greater say for Maori in local governance will not cure all ills, but it would be one good step forward. Contrary to previous correspondents I am happy to say that I trusted Ken Couper with my vote for precisely this kind of issue. This is exactly what I want my elected representative to do - make thoughtful, nuanced, progressive decisions that recognise that the electoral playing field is not level, and seek to promote the well-being of all members of our community.

Helen Frances
Waipu

Huge crowds at Ruakākā Beach*Photo by Kevin Wigmore*

There were huge crowds of holiday makers at the Ruakaka Beach on New Year's Eve

Maori wards are discriminatory

The Northland Regional Council, Whangarei District Council and Kaipara District Council have voted to introduce Maori Wards.

Clear-thinking people in Northland should be able to see the proposal for what it is and shows up Councilors who are short on ability and stumbling into a racist, paternalistic option with a faulty and misguided view of legislative requirements. This thinking has no place in our egalitarian society and the three Northland Councils' obsession with granting special privileges to one section of the community over all others is divisive and it is insulting to all Maori suggesting they are incapable of achieving without patronage. We now see the Minister for Local Government Nanaia Mahuta wants to remove provisions allowing petitioners who called for public referendums to establish Maori Wards.

Mahuta seems to think that freedom of speech and democracy are not good for our communities. Hitler, Stalin, Pol Pot, Mugabe, Kim Jong-un, and other tyrants would agree with Mahuta and how successful they destroyed their people and countries. New Zealanders want one set of rules for everyone regardless of who our ancestors were. It looks that our country's commitment to democracy and citizen equality has now become a charade.

Mike Lally
Te Puke

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THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 28 January
 The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
 Wednesday 20 January r

Council approves Waipū River Walk

The Waipū River Walk proposal won unanimous approval from the Whangarei District Council after the team leading the project made a presentation to the Council's Community Development Committee in December.

The project team wore Waipū River Walk T-shirts, and described the process it had followed in choosing this particular project.

Mayor Sheryl Mai said if the success of Whangarei's Hatea loop walk was any indication she was sure the Waipū River Walk would prove



Members of the Waipū Community Led project team were in a celebratory mood when Whangarei District Councillors gave unanimous approval to their plan to establish a public walkway alongside the Waihoi River.

popular. She said she liked the way the Waipū team was planning to incorporate some of the other suggestions it had received such as an adventure playground for pre-school children into the walk.

With funds now available work on establishing the approximate three-kilometre loop trail from the Waihoi Park following the river to Nova Scotia Rd and back through The Centre can begin.

The Whangarei District Council is offering each

of its communities in turn the sum of \$100,000 for a project chosen by that community. One of the aims of Community Led Projects is to strengthen and unify communities.

Members of the Waipū River Walk team celebrating the success of their presentation to the Whangarei District Council's Community Development Committee.

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Tuesday 6 January was a hot cloudless morning. There's a row of around 20 surf kayaks lined up on the wet sand and nearby a big circle of around 30 youngsters from the Bethells Beach and Mangawhai surf lifesaving clubs running through some training drills. The beach is packed.

Down at the estuary members of the Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust and The Northern Branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society are keeping vigil.

They have fenced off the shorebird nesting areas on the sandspit and in the dunes directly south of the estuary where dotterel and oystercatcher chicks scuttle around while the parent birds keep watch calling anxiously when their little ones stray to far away. This year there is a bumper crop of babies – 12 dotterel and seven oystercatcher chicks, with several more nests with eggs still to hatch. With so many people on the beach the chicks' survival through to fledging is full of hazards.

Bev Woods of the Forest and Bird Protections Society said, "We can keep guard all day but it's what happens after we leave that we worry about." Yesterday she had to explain to the Bethells Beach contingent why they could not haul their kayaks up onto the sandspit. Bev pointed out all the little chicks and when they understood the situation the young surf lifesavers and their instructors agreed to exercise further up the beach.

This morning there is a vehicle left just above the tide line. Water covers the floor and there is a pile of vaping paraphernalia on the front seat. Lu Cummings of Bream Bay Coastal Care gets on the phone to the Northland Regional Council's environmental hot line. She also tries the Police and the Department of Conservation – anyone she can think off to get that vehicle off the beach before the tide comes in again at it begins leaking toxins into the sea.

Two young men belatedly arrive with a replacement battery. It doesn't make much difference though as the car's electrics have been dunked in salt water. It's not a good morning for those two young men. In addition to the likely write off of their vehicle, possible sanctions and a fine from the Whangarei District Council for driving into a vehicle free zone and the cost of having the vehicle towed off the beach, they are facing the sharp end of Lu's tongue.

"This is a wildlife refuge. You are breaking the law driving here. There are little chicks running around. You could run them over. Didn't you see the signs?"

One young man replies he is sorry. He didn't see any signs and he is doing his best to move his vehicle off the beach. They carry on tinkering hopelessly with their car. A cloud of vapour envelops them – perhaps this helps to get through a stressful situation.

There is a pile of charred wood still smoldering in the sand and empty alcohol bottles strewn around nearby. Wooden posts are missing from the bird protection fencing. Lu recognizes an end of one post in the remains of the fire.

Sue Jolly (Bream Bay Coastal Care) has an armful of warratahs to replace the missing posts. Posts



Lu Cummings and Sue Jolly of the Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust get to work on a regular task of resetting the protective fencing at the Ruakākā Estuary.

being pulled out and burned on beach fires is a regular occurrence so she comes prepared.

Bev heads off a couple out for a morning walk who are trekking onto the sandspit. They don't seem to notice the distress of the oystercatcher parents.

There is a fence preventing walkers going up into the dunes, leaving a narrow walking strip around the estuary. Without people regularly treading it down the dune vegetation: grey-green spinifex and golden pingaoa is looking healthy. With the deep cool waters of the estuary alongside it's a glorious place. But don't linger there too long.

Lu points out how the chicks run down to the waters edge for a drink. Sea birds have built in desalination systems and can handle drinking salt water. They also forage for food at the water's edge. Lu asks people who look like they are settling in at the estuary edge– "How would you like to go all day without eating or drinking?" She points out one family of dotterel.

"Those chicks are just like kids. There are three of them and one is the naughty one. The mother calls and two go running but this one stays down by the water. The mother sits up there in the spinifex and calls and calls and finally he runs back up there."

"That poor oyster catcher up there on the edge of the dune is a grief stricken", says Sue. "She has lost two sets of eggs, one got covered by sand in a storm and the second just didn't hatch."

If oystercatcher eggs are left exposed to the sun for just a few minutes the chick inside overheats and dies – another reason people need to keep their distance.

Lu thinks some of the additional breeding pairs of dotterel at the Ruakākā estuary this year might be from the Marsden Point Refinery's success in protecting the nesting site adjacent to the refinery complex.

Last year only two oystercatcher and one dotterel chick survived at Ruakākā. This season's chicks still have a while to go before their wings are

strong enough to carry them away from danger.

"One dog through here at night and that could be the end", said Sue.

Still, fingers crossed, this will be a good shorebird summer.

I asked Robbie Jones of Forest and Bird why; so far at least, this is shaping up as a successful season.

Robbie said she thinks that the Coastal Care volunteers have learned over the years where the protective fencing for the nesting areas needs to be. The long hours put in by the volunteers is also making a difference. Another factor Robbie says is "good bird parents."

She has watched oystercatcher dive bombing on intruders and dotterel parents chase away gulls much bigger than themselves. It's tragic when through some thoughtless human action all their efforts are in vain.



Robbie Jones settles in for a morning's vigil at the Ruakākā Estuary.

Children light candles to symbolise the Christ Child Jesus as the light of the world



Tessa Botha lighting a candle held by Waipū Presbyterian Minister Tom Waight

The Candlelight Carol Service at the Waipū Presbyterian church on 20 December was great reports Kevin Wigmore who took this photograph. The singers leading the service were Grant Murray (local) and powerful singer Ainsli Eaton from Auckland along with Waipū's minister Tom Waight.

The service finished with a lighting of candles by the younger children of the parish symbolising the child Jesus as the "Light of the World".



POLICE REPORT

More than double usual number of family harm incidents

With more people than usual in the area Bream Bay Police have been called out to more than double the usual number of family harm incidents. In the fortnight 28 December to 11 January they had attended 25 such incidents.

Ruakaka man in custody on firearms charges

On 8 January Bream Bay Police executed a search warrant at a house in the Ruakākā Village area to find a sawn down 22 rifle and ammunition. As a result a 48-year-old Ruakākā man has been arrested on firearms charges. He has been remanded in custody to appear in the Whangarei District Court on 25 January.

Vandalism at OTP School

On 29 December Police were called to a burglary scene at One Tree Point School. A significant amount of damage had been done with faeces smeared on the walls and paint tipped over the carpet. Police are following active lines of inquiry.

Late model Volvo in Ruakākā Estuary

A late model Volvo had to be towed out of the Ruakākā estuary on Saturday 2 January. The car had entered the beach at Rama Rd. The driver had intended to drive to Tip Rd. and attempted to take the car through the estuary where the water was several metres deep.

Vehicle flips on Brynderwyns

On 1 January at 4.40pm a vehicle lost control on the

Brynderwyns and flipped into the grass verge. No one was injured.

Motorcyclist lucky to escape injury when bike slides across centre line on SH1, Waipū.

On 2 January a motorcyclist lost control on State Highway One at Waipū and was lucky to escape serious injury when his bike slid across the centre line to be run over by a southbound vehicle.

Vehicle hits Brynderwyn centre barrier

On 3 January at 11pm there was a single car crash on the Brynderwyn Hill where a vehicle hit the centre barrier. No one was hurt.

Brake failure tips tractor into ditch

On 29 December at 6pm a tractor and trailer ended up in the ditch on Ormiston Rd. after a mechanical fault with the tractor's braking mechanism, which caused the trailer to jack knife. No one was hurt in the accident.

Local man taken into custody after registering high breath alcohol level

A 47-year-old local man was placed in custody awaiting a court appearance on Monday 11 January after he returned a breath alcohol level of 580 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath when Police stopped him on Cove Rd., Waipū on 8 January. The legal limit for drivers 20 years and over is 250mcgs.

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	AM		PM	
Thu 14 Jan	9.18	2.8	9.34	2.6
Fri 15 Jan	10.07	2.8	10.24	2.6
Sat 16 Jan	10.54	2.8	11.10	2.6
Sun 17 Jan	11.39	2.7	11.55	2.5
Mon 18 Jan	~	~	12.22	2.6
Tue 19 Jan	12.39	2.4	1.05	2.6
Wed 20 Jan	1.23	2.4	1.48	2.5
Thu 21 Jan	2.10	2.3	2.31	2.3
Fri 22 Jan	2.59	2.2	3.18	2.3
Sat 23 Jan	3.54	2.2	4.07	2.3
Sun 24 Jan	4.51	2.2	5.00	2.2
Mon 25 Jan	5.48	2.2	5.54	2.2
Tue 26 Jan	6.41	2.3	6.47	2.3
Wed 27 Jan	7.30	2.2	7.38	2.3
Thu 28 Jan	8.15	2.5	8.27	2.4
Fri 29 Jan	8.59	2.6	9.14	2.5

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As seen on Grand Designs 2019

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Waipū Festival pronounced a success

The Waipū Community Festival held on the first day of 2021 in place of the Highland Games was pronounced a success by its organisers who said it was great to see the town's numerous organisations such as the primary school, the Caledonians Society and the Business and Community Association working together on a common project. The festival was held alongside a market organised by Judy and Graham Boulton of the Business and Community Association. He said people had been very generous putting \$5 and \$10 notes into the donation buckets and he was confident

of covering costs with funds to spare.

The Highland Games were called off this year due to the uncertainties caused by the Covid 19 virus and the difficulties of bringing international competitors to New Zealand.



Taj Robinson, aged 13, of Mangawhai proved the strength of his throw at the Waipū Festival Smash Palace stall. The festival provided many fun activities for children including three legged, egg and spoon and sack races.

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Despite there being no Highland Games piping events, including the Helen McGregor Memorial Piping Competition in the Celtic Barn on New Year's Eve, went ahead as per usual as organiser Bain McGregor was concerned that a year in abeyance could damage Waipū's reputation for holding premier competitions. Without gate takings at the games, however, Bain needed to find sponsorship for the competitions and local individuals and businesses came to the rescue.

The sponsors of the Waipū piping competition from left: Alan Gray, Bain McGregor (holding a portrait of his late wife Helen), Catherine McKenzie, Des McLean, Wayne Sandford and Terry Dent. Another sponsor, Craig Bucknell of Waipū Motors, was not present when this photograph was taken.



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Jazz festival at Waipu Cove this weekend

Debi and Dave Brown, who host the annual Classics at the Cove concert on their angora goat farm at Cove Rd. Waipu, are trying something new and will be holding a jazz festival on their property on Sunday 17 January.

Debi said the festival was suggested by the young pianist Mirabella Uphof who starred at the recent Classics at the Cove concert. The proposal has taken off with Nairobi Trio, The Little Band, The Red Arrows Dixie Jazz band, Joe Carbery Trio, The Basin City Big Band, Thelonious Punk, Maura Flower, SMB, Maggie Cocco and Mirabella



Mirabella Uphof

Uphof and the Panimals all in the lineup.

The gates will open at 11.30am and the concert will run until 10pm. A day pass will cost \$35 and can be used to come and go throughout the day. For children under the age of 14 the price is just \$8. Tickets will be available from eventfinda, or at the gate from 11.30 am if you pay by cash or eftpos or you can contact Debi on 021324707. Handsome Frog cafe' food truck will be on site, There is ample off road parking, wheelchair access, shade and a seating area around a natural amphitheater.

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Christmas Parades



The pipe band leads the parade out of Takutai Place



The Coastguard Pirate entry took first prize at the Ruakākā parade



Marsden Playcentre came second



The Ruakaka Surf Lifesaving Club won third prize

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Photos by Tessa Paton

Parade MC Neil Troost lets the man in red, on the parade's final float, have a word at the Waipu parade



Kayla Carter aboard the first-placed Waipu Surf Life Saving Club float



Waipu Playcentre families on their Sustainable Farming float which won the Environmentally Sustainable prize

First place (\$1000) at the Waipu parade went to the Waipu Surf Life Saving Club. Second (\$500) to Circool Circus and third (\$350) to a visiting Falun Gong troupe. The Environmentally Friendly (\$300) went to Waipu Playcentre and the best club/community group entry (\$300), to the Waipu Boat and Fishing Club

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WHAT'S ON IN BREAM BAY

- **THE MARSDEN COVE MARKET** Next on Sunday 17 January from 9am - 1pm. In the big marquee at Marsden Cove.
- **JAZZ FESTIVAL** at Tahamoana Farm, Waipu Cove Sunday 17 January 11.30am to 10pm. All day pass - \$35, children under 14 years - \$8. Tickets from eventfinda, at the gate (cash or eftpos) or phone Debi 021 324 707.
- **SNAKE BANK REGATTA 2021** Paddle and sail challenge. Saturday February 6 from 10am. Paddle race starts at 11.30am. Sail race from 1pm. Entry \$25. A Marsden Yacht and Boat Club event.
- **WAIPU CAR AND BIKE SHOW** Sunday February 7. Caledonian Park, Waipū. \$10 entry. Children under 12 free. Family pass \$30. Hundreds of cars and bikes on display plus stalls, entertainment and best dressed prizes. Held in association with the Waipu Lions. This year's proceeds go to the Waihoi Park development.
- **THE WAIPU SUNDAY MARKET** next on Sunday 14 February. 9am - 1pm in the Coronation Hall
- **THE BREAM BAY SPORTS AWARDS.** Friday 19 March in the Waipu Celtic Barn. With guest speaker former Silver Ferns captain Bernice Mene. Tickets available on the Bream Bay Sports Trust website.
- **WAIPU MUSEUM** 36, The Centre, Waipu. Open seven days 10am - 4pm
- **KAURI MUSEUM.** Open daily 9am - 5pm. 5 Church St. Matakōhe. Current exhibitions: Heritage Decorations Display: 1 December - 5 January 2021, Creating with Kauri - Contemporary jewellery exhibition: Finishes 28 February 2021, Up in Smoke: A collection of old world pipes, tins, cases and associated items.

Waipu Presbyterian Parish

Contacts:

Minister - Tom Waight - 432 0534
Mainly Music - Sharon Smith - 432 1050
Toy Library - Julie Malone - 432 0388
Church Hall Hire - Cally James 432 0534

Family Welfare & Foodbank:

Co-ordinator - Helen Matheson - 432 0239

Budgeting Advice - Bruce Matheson - 432 0239

The Crossroads Trust (financial support) Peter

Couper - 432 0524 or email lynettejones@xtra.co.nz

Sunday Services

Ruakaka - Camellia Ave - 8.45am

Waipu - 50 The Centre - 10.15am

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Bumper crowd at the races



Jockey Craig Grylls riding 3-year-old filly *Spine Tingle*, trained by Christ Gibbs at Ruakākā, after winning the Northland Business Systems 1400 metre race, one of his five race wins at the Ruakākā race day

A bumper crowd attended the Family Fun Race Day at the Ruakākā track on Thursday 7 January. Due to multiple Covid 19 caused cancellations it has been just over a year since the Whangarei Racing Club hosted a race meeting and Club President Bill Cogan said it was great to see such a big crowd enjoying the day with lots of children participating in the fun activities arranged to keep them entertained." An assortment of local voluntary groups helped to manage the day and Mr. Colgan extended his gratitude to: the Mid Western Lions, the Marsden Lions, Pulse Dance Group, Bream Bay St Johns, Ruakākā Surf Club, Bream Bay College and Tauraroa Area School.

A bucket collection for the Ruakākā Surf Club raised \$2,200.

Mr. Colgan said the racing "had some good sized fields and a number of very competitive finishes

"It was good to see local trainers Chris Gibbs and the Rae Racing Stables have success". But "the star of the day was visiting jockey Craig Grylls. Certainly in a first for me Craig flew his two seater plane up, landed on the back straight, parked up in the unused 1000 metre chute and then went on to ride five winners!"

The next scheduled Ruakākā race day is on Wednesday April 14, with further races scheduled for May 5, June 19 and July 3 and 17

BREAM BAY Link

Operates every Thursday from 1st August 2019

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



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Kaiwaka	\$7.00	\$10.00
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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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Quilt raffle winners

The Bream Bay Coastal Care raffle with first and second prizes two handmade quilts donated by the Marsden Material Girls quiltmakers, was drawn by Bream Bay Ward Councillor and Justice of the Peace Ken Couper on Saturday 2 January. 1st prize (full sized quilt) went to Mandt Sunlight of Whangārei, second prize (a cot sized quilt) to Jan Fancis of Waipū, third prize (a basket of goodies) to John Cox of Taipa and bonus prize (a Christmas Cake) to Steve Browning of Waipu.



Bream Bay Coastal Care members Lu Cummings (left) and Yvonne Jackson with Councillor Ken Couper at the raffle draw.

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Tomatoes for the neighbourhood



Don Rollo and some of his tomato plants

People living at the southern end of Peter Snell Rd. in the Ruakākā Village are being well supplied with tomatoes this summer thanks to the efforts of 82-year-old Don Rollo.

Don has planted more than 80 tomato plants around the house he shares with his stepdaughter and her family. Tomato plants heavy with fruit at various stages of ripeness run the full length of the fence on the northern boundary of his property which is adjacent to a pedestrian right of way. In fact his neighbours have named the walkway "Tomato Alley" and Don doesn't mind if they pick a few to nibble on in passing.

There are many varieties to choose from including acid free, cherry, a black tomato and heirloom types. Don likes to mix them up.

He grew many of them from seed or by striking cuttings but was also given plants by the Bream Bay Community Trust and others who learned about his tomato-growing mission.

All these tomatoes take some watering. In order not to waste water Don collects rainfall from the roof of his house in a barrel and carries it in buckets. The section is very sandy so it has taken a lot of effort to build up some good growing topsoil. As well as supplying his family Don hands tomatoes out to his neighbours.

He is also growing watermelons, courgettes, cucumber, strawberries and pumpkins and has a collection of fruit trees. His aim is to have fresh fruit of one kind or another available to pick all year around. He is currently watching some big bunches of grapes turn black. The bunches are protected from birds by netting and Don is hoping they will be ripe by the time school starts up again, so his grandchildren can take a bunch each in their lunchboxes.

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Activities at the Ruakaka Recreation Centre			
Activity	Day and Time	Cost	Contact
Bream Bay Music & Play	Tuesday 9.30am to 11.30am	gold coin	Deirdre 0211761760
Light Circuit Fitness class	Monday 10am to 11am		\$3 AnnMarie 0211693115
Light Circuit Fitness class	Wednesday 11am to 12pm		\$3 AnnMarie 0211693115
Tai Chi	Monday 11am to 12pm		\$2 Annette 4327897
Chi Kung	Wednesday 9am to 10am		\$8 Alice 02102480569
Aerial Yoga	Tuesday 6.30pm to 7.30pm, booking essential		\$18 Barbara 0212998840
Stretching classes	Thursdays 11am to 12pm		\$3 Lu 4328941
Karate	Thursdays 4pm to 7.00pm		\$5 Pam 4320760
60's up	4th Friday of month 10am to 4pm	\$12 annually fee	Joy 021491887
Music club	1st Monday of month 7pm to 10pm		\$2 Holly 021 842 060
Squash casual	Weekdays-booking essential 8am to 5pm	\$5 p/h	Rec Centre 4327962
Pilates	Tuesday 5.15pm to 6.15pm booking essential	\$12, concession (10x)	Barbara 0212998840
Pilates	Thursday 8am to 9am booking essential	\$12, concession (10x)	Barbara 0212998840
Zumba	Monday 8.45am to 9.45am		\$6 Janine 021437840
Zumba	Wednesday 5.45pm to 6.45pm		\$6 Janine 021437840
Zumba	Friday 4.30pm to 5.30pm		\$6 Janine 021437840
Cardio Drumming	Friday 9am-10am		\$10 Nadya 0278660334

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Deadline for next issue - Wednesday 20 January

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Email: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz

Post copy to : Bream Bay News, RD 2, Waipu

Email: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz

or leave it at the Waipu or Ruakaka Post and Lotto Shops

FOUND

14 CARAT GOLD RING found on sandy land behind the houses end of Bream Bay drive subdivision on the way to the beach. Unusual setting. Contact Julie 027 2591 469 with a description

STERLING SILVER RING with diamond like stones found in front of ice cream cart by Bach Cafe. Contact Julie 027 2591 469 with a description

FOR SALE**WATER TANKS**

09 431 2211

sales@absoluteconcrete.co.nz

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WANTED TO RENT LONGTERM GRANNY FLAT rental with a view. Required by caring, careful, honest working 54 yr old single women. Prefer rent to include power, water, internet. Ex references available. Ph Michelle 021 026 66196

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.

SITUATIONS VACANT

BREAM BAY NEWS DELIVERY PEOPLE NEEDED to deliver the Bream Bay News twice a month in Waipū and Ruakaka. Earn money while you exercise. Please phone or text Marilyn 027 432 0070.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**Bream Bay Community Patrol**

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

To inquire about joining, contact Senior Constable Martin Geddes
Waipu Police Station - 432 4030

**MARKETS****Fundraiser for Whangarei Hospital Children's Ward**

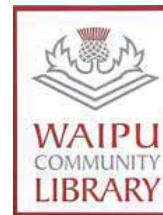
One Tree Point School (Field and Hall)
Sunday 24th January, 9 am-1 pm

Spaces available Call Sue on
021 530 153 or 09 432 8112
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Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday &
Saturday 10am - 1pm.
Tuesday 10am - 4pm.

**Justices of the Peace****Ruakaka**

Ms AP Paki 09 432 8262/021 149 1625
Darrell Trigg 09 432 7256/021 332 901
Ken Orr 09 432 8215
JM Archibald 021 227 4355
Wayne Buckland 09 432 8226 Ext 703
PH Goonan 021 824 825

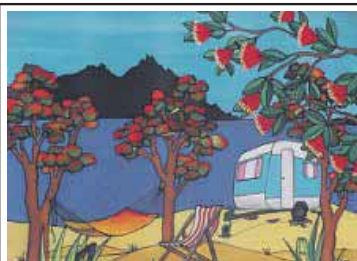
One Tree Point

Jules Flight 09 432 8336/0274 777 210
Sir John Goulter 09 432 7868/021 612 442
MM Jolley 027 415 9486

Waipu

Trevor Vaile 09 432 0400
Mr. L.M. Hitchens 022 656 4055
Mr. D.A. Scott 09 929 9729
or 027229 9752
Ken Couper 027 292 0524
Angela Stolwerk 021 823 966

Make contact with a Justice of the Peace (on any day) and make an appointment to have your documents completed.

**Marsden Cove MARKET**

SUNDAY 17 JANUARY
9AM -1PM

in the marquee at the
Marsden Cove Marina

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WE NEED YOUR HELP**WE'RE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

who can help older people with Android phones and tablets, SeniorNet Bream Bay would love to hear from you. Like to know more? Call **432 7692** to leave your details Or email - seniornetbb@gmail.com



Volunteers needed
Saturday and Sunday 9am - 1pm
And for occasional weekdays
Donated goods welcome
Phone 432 1342 for pickups.

THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 28 January
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 20 January

PUBLIC NOTICES

Please note: The venue for this meeting has changed.
It will now be held in the
Ruakākā Recreation Centre

Proposed Ruakākā Satellite Ground Station PUBLIC MEETING

7pm, Tuesday 19 January 2021
Bream Bay Trust Building, 9 Takutai Place,
Ruakākā

*Great South staff will be present to provide
information and answer questions*

TUESDAY 19 JANUARY

GREAT SOUTH
Southland Regional Development Agency



Bream Bay Medical Centre Ltd.

Monday - Friday: 8.30am - 5pm
Saturdays: 9am - 12pm

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

Marsden Point Road, Ruakaka Town Centre, Ruakaka
Ph: 432 8060 Fax: 432 8230

PARENT HELPLINE

**Available
from
9am - 9pm
7 days a
week.**

0800 568 856

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 1st and 3rd Sundays - St Paul's
Ruakaka 2nd and 4th Sundays - St Peter's
Waipu. All services start at 9.30am.

Catholic Holy Family Church,
Ruakaka, 10.30am. Mass

Lifepoint. 300 OTP Rd, 10.30am.

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someone that does,
perhaps we can help
Please phone Janet 433 0045
Or Anoek 021 141 3409

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.



Bream Bay Community Support Trust

Takutai Place, Ruakaka Phone 09 432 7197

- **Free medical clinic each Wednesday 9am - 12noon.**
- **Free budgeting service by appointment - 432 7197 .**
- **Narcotics Anon Wednesdays 6.30-7.30pm**

The Bream Bay Community Trust offers:

- **A Family Centred support team.**
- **Family violence Intervention advocacy**
- **Advice and referrals to other agencies and relevant support services.**



Workbridge, which helps people realise their potential and find employment will be at the Bream Bay Community Trust every Tuesday. Phone 432 7197 to book an appointment.

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HOT ALERT

Welcoming in 2021 - 10 properties "Under Contract" in the first 10 days of the New Year!

Have you been watching the rising market with anticipation? Want to know what your property could be worth? Lets have a chat!

Sandy and Yana have the experience to give you an accurate as possible, market appraisal, at no cost to you, plus they have a extensive database of people looking for their next property.

Team McKenzie work hard at making the sales process as stress free as it can be and are with you every step of the way. Fantastic references will back up the good work that goes into every sale.

Happy New Year To All

COAST & COUNTRY SALES LTD MREINZ LICENSED REA 2008

Selling Bream Bay

Waipu Real Estate

NEW LISTING



SUMMER AT WAIPU COVE
 Set Date of Sale 4pm 9th February (unless sold prior)

- This nearly new, 2 storey, contemporary home has fantastic indoor, outdoor flow.
- Upstairs are 3 bedrooms, with the main bedroom
- Downstairs is a fourth bedroom with ensuite, perfect for the extended family, a teenagers' retreat or even an Air BnB.
- The double garage is expansive with room to accommodate a tractor and 2 cars! Plenty of off-street parking for the boat.
- Take a short stroll through the reserve to a long stretch of white sand and safe swimming patrolled by the Waipu Cove Surf Club.
- Minutes walk to the local dairy and the awe some Cove Café.

Judy Guy 027 221 5623 **WPU11294**

NEW LISTING



SPLENDID LIFESTYLE WITH WATER ACCESS
 Set Date of Sale 4pm 11th February (unless sold prior)

- Rare opportunity to acquire a lifestyle block along Cove Rd, Waipu
- Lot 5 is 3.7ha (approx.), Lot 4 is 4.19ha (approx.) – both north facing
- An exclusive estate of grand proportions in a unique position with walkway to access the estuary
- Enjoy swimming, kayaking, paddle boarding or at low tide head over to Waipu Cove Beach for surf casting and surfing

Mindful of the location and its surrounding environment much thought has been applied to achieve a detailed & integrated development.

Lyndie Mullins 021 101 6389
WPU11297 & WPU11299

The Centre, Waipu www.waipurealestate.co.nz 09 432 4000



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