

Covid 19 in Ruakākā

Ruakākā Towncentre businesses were scrambling to find staff on Monday 25 January when those who had been at work at the times when the 56-year-old woman who tested positive with Covid 19 visited last week. The woman who lives locally had become ill a week after leaving managed isolation at Auckland's Pullman Hotel. She had returned two negative test results while in isolation and is believed to have caught the virus from a person also staying at the Pullman who tested positive on day three of their stay with the South African strain of the disease which genome testing has shown to be identical to that of the Northland January case.

Ruakākā Fresh Choice was closed on Monday 25 January for a clean. The woman had visited the supermarket at 3.03pm on Thursday 14 January and at 11.10am on Saturday16 January. All the staff who had been at work at these times were undergoing testing for the virus and isolating at home until they received negative results. Grant Egan one of the store's owner/operators said he hoped to re-open on Monday afternoon but this was dependent on finding enough staff. Mr. Egan said he was waiting for more information before making decisions about how the supermarket would operate over the next few weeks. He said those staff forced to stay home would be looked after.

Ruakākā butcher Steve Boobyer had also closed shop as his staff also needed to self isolate until they received negative test results. The woman had visited Bream Bay Butchery on Saturday 16 January at 11.02am. He was heading to the shop to give it a good clean out when the Bream Bay News phoned him on Monday morning. He said his staff would receive full pay while they were self isolating.

Dina Bahkta of the Ruakākā General Store was busy *Continued on page 8.* 

# Waipū Jazz festival draws a big crowd

Photo by Tessa Paton



People enjoying the setting and the music at the jazz festival held at the Waipū Cove angora goat farm of Debi and David Brown on Sunday 17 January.

Story and another photo on page 11.



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is published by Bream Bay News Ltd. Address : RD 2, Waipu Phone: (09) 432 0209 Mobile: 027 432 0070 Editor : Marilyn Cox, Accounts : Susan McRae Advertising design :and website maintenance Megan Lea Printed by Horton Media



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## Solvent recycling seemed like a good idea

Brian Smith, the man who set up the abandoned and highly problematic solvent recycling plant in the duneland behind Ruakākā Beach, is probably the most unpopular person in Bream Bay right now.

The cleanup of all those leaking drums of unlabeled and highly toxic solvents will cost ratepayers and taxpayers in the vicinity of \$3million. What's more those drums have sat there unattended, deteriorating and leaking their contents for five years.

In 2015 after receiving a complaint that solvents had been dumped on land near the plant, the Northland Regional Council conducted tests and found levels of various chlorinated solvents and industrial chemicals The NRC took a successful prosecution against Mr. Smith and his company Sustainable Solvents Ltd. to the Environment Court. They were fined and ordered to clean up the property.

I think it was 2009 when Mr. Smith invited me to come and view his new state of the art solvent distilling unit, which he explained would take in used solvents from industries and clean them up for reuse. Solvents are used to produce a wide range of everyday items including: paint, magazines, newspapers and packaging, pharmaceuticals and cleaning products. Recycling this stuff seemed like a good idea at the time. So what went wrong?

To be fair to Mr. Smith, the facts are a bit murky around how many of those undocumented drums and plastic barrels are his responsibility and how many belong to the company Solvent Service NZ Ltd. which operated the plant for a time around 2015 before a deal to purchase the business went sour.



Where ever the bulk of the blame lies there is now one unholy mess to sort. The Whangarei District Council has brought in the company InterGroup to undertake the task and, for good measure, a company called GHD to oversee the whole operation.

The bill from all this I would imagine is going to be a lot bigger than if Mr. Smith and Solvent Services NZ had just got to work and done the job themselves. The clean up is also taking quite a long time. Despite the contract to InterGroup being let in August, as of last Thursday 21 January, not a single leaky barrel or drum had been removed. On Thursday with the wind blowing from the south there was a distinct chemical smell in the air.

Ironically back in 2008 Brian Smith called out the Whangarei District Council for depositing thousands of cubic metres of bio-sludge (solid matter recovered from sewage treatment) at the old Pohe Island landfill close to Whangarei Harbour and not far from the city centre. He claimed at the time this had nothing to do with sour grapes due to the Council not awarding a contract to dispose of the sludge and other organic material to his Ruakākā composting company. You have to wonder if the Council's invitation to media representatives to stand at the boundary fence and gaze in horror at those rickety stacks of solvent barrels was payback for this embarrassing incident.

This is not the first time a situation like the Ruakākā solvent dump has arisen here. Some years ago I was invited by a share milking dairy farmer to visit a property in Mata. The share-milker said some of his cows had become sick and he had discovered that there was flock-mud (the crushed up remains of motor vehicles) buried under the pasture. The farm's owner had been involved in a scheme to dispose of flock mud in the Mountfield Quarry. There had been public objections to this and eventually the NRC had ordered this highly toxic material to the Red Vale landfill site north of Auckland. It appeared that to save costs they had instead buried some of it on the Mata farm. I collected a bucket of dark grey slurry dotted with bits of brightly coloured plastic and took it up to the Northland Regional Council. The landowner was ordered to remove the flock mud to a secure landfill, which he did. My share-milker informant sent me photos of trucks transporting the material off the farm. No prosecutions were laid.

So it is good to learn that the Whangarei District Council is sharpening up on its resource consent monitoring. The Council has hired extra staff for this purpose and has conducted an audit of all its current consents to work out which ones need to be watched more carefully.

We do need to be wary. Northland's proximity to New Zealand's largest city brings us many commercial advantages but can also be a liability and we need to guard against this region being seen as a convenient, cheap and no-questions- asked place to dispose of Auckland's problems. Marilyn

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## 28 January 2021 Media invited to visit abandoned solvent recycling plant

The Whangarei District Council invited local media representatives to a "one-off" visit of the abandoned Ruakākā solvent recycling plant last week.

Journalists from a number of organization including the Bream Bay News, RNZ, Stuff, local radio station Smooth FM and the Northern Advocate were told to wear hard hats, eye protection, fluro jackets and steel cap boots, long pants and long sleeve shirts on the visit. What we should have been told to bring was filterbreathing equipment as the wind was blowing in the direction of our approach from the nor-east and there was a foul smell emitting from the hundreds of decaying drums of unspecified solvents. Staff of InterGroup and GHD, the companies contracted to carry out and oversee the clean up were carrying monitors and assured us the level of air contamination was safe but the smell indicated otherwise.

A brief history; in 2009 Brian Smith who was already operating a composting business at the seaward end of Alis Boyle Drive off Marsden Point Rd. invested in a solvent cleaning distilling plant and began trucking up used solvents, mostly from Auckland industries.

He obtained a resource consent from the Whangarei District Council which allowed for a quantity of solvents to be stored at that location and he laid down a concrete pad as a precaution against leaching into the surrounding sand dunes.

Six years later a man who had been employed to operate the plant contacted the Bream Bay News to say that the plant was having problems and as it was unable to keep up with demand Mr. Smith was illegally dumping solvents into surrounding duneland.

Subsequent investigations by the Northland Regional Council discovered chlorinated solvents and industrial chemicals typically used in printing and paint industries in soils and groundwater around the plant. Mr. Smith pleaded guilty to charges at the Environment Court. He was ordered to pay a fine and to clean up the site.

While all this was happening Mr. Smith was in negotiation to sell the business to Solvents NZ Ltd. Manus Pretorius a director of this company said Mr. Smith had not fulfilled the terms of the sale agreement which stipulated that the site should be cleaned up and the sale did not proceed.

Mr. Smith has said that while he takes responsibility for some of the solvents stockpiled the bulk was left there by Solvents NZ, which operated the plant for a short period.

Simon Weston, Whangarei District Council's Works and Services Manager said around 700,000 litres of solvent and 300 litres of contaminated bund water will need to be removed.



Containers of unlabelled solvent at the abandoned Ruakākā solvent recycling plant

Danny Fitzgerald, an engineer overseeing the clean up on behalf of GHD said as the containers are either not labeled or labeled incorrectly, tests need to be carried out on each of them to deteimine where the substance inside should be disposed of. Unchlorinated solvents can be disposed of at a facility in Christchurch while chlorinated solvents, the more dangerous of the two, need to be sent to Australia. The bilge water is being taken to an InterGroup facility in Auckland

A contract to clean up the site was granted to InterGroup by the Whangarei District Council in August and runs for two years.

Tanker loads of bilge water have been removed but as yet none of the decomposing plastic or metal containers containing solvents have been taken from the site. Why has this taken so long?

Mr. Weston said, "This has been a very difficult case with efforts by agencies WDC, NRC, MfE and Worksafe to get the owners and operators to clean up the site and operate within the conditions of their resource consent for several years. Even after the successful NRC prosecution the operators did not sort out the problems.

Last year the Whangarei District Council obtained a court order allowing it to take over the clean up but Mr. Weston said this order was challenged by some of the former plant operators.

He said the allocation of costs estimated at around \$3 million would be negotiated between WDC, NRC, Worksafe and the Ministry for the Environment

and it was very likely that further charges will be laid against Mr. Smith's companies Sustainable Solvents Limited and Sustainable Solvents Group Limited as well as Solvent Services NZ Limited once the clean up is complete.

The solvent recycling machinery, which Mr. Smith purchased from Germany in 2009 has been removed from the site. A Stuff news report said a piece of plant of this type was advertised on Trade Me just over a year ago for an asking price of \$200,000.

The report quoted a Trade Me advert posted by "Smiffy of Whangarei", which stated that the solvent recycling business was a lucrative one paying \$275 for the treatment and disposal of each barrel and that before it was shut down the business was turning over \$50,000 a month. Asked about this advert Mr. Smith said he did not want to comment as his family was already under a lot of stress and he did not want to add to this.

In response to this expensive disaster the Whangarei District Council has doubled the staff in its resource consent monitoring team from two to four. It has undertaken an audit of all its existing consents and has established a regular inspection regime for those of high risk.



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## LETTERS

#### Food banks now a fact of life

Once again we are both humbled and grateful for the tremendous generosity shown by Ruakaka and Bream Bay residents for our small local foodbank at St Pauls. Food banks unfortunately are now a fact of life and a lifesaver for many.

Due to your donations we were able this year to make and deliver additional surprise Christmas parcels to several previous recipients.

If you were one of the kindly souls who donated either goods or money to our street stall outside Orrs Pharmacy, or put items in the trolley or collection boxes at Fresh Choice supermarket we thank you, and Grant and Michelle for facilitating these. Special thanks go to classes 7b and 7d at Bream Bay College led by Mrs Foster and team for donating a trolley full of goodies. It's always gratifying when young people support our cause and see the need to support others.

Thank you Marilyn for printing our advert for free. Small organisations such as ours often struggle for support but not this year.

To you all, a massive thank you.

Janet and Anoek St Paul's Anglican Food Bank



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#### Kia Ora Bream Bay

Happy New Year to all, 2020 was certainly an interesting and challenging year in many ways, for us here at St John Bream Bay, team responded to a total of 1,308 incidents, the bulk of these were in the Bream Bay area but we also responded out of our area many times to assist our neighbouring colleagues and on a few occasions even made it to Dargaville!.

Our dedicated team of volunteers are always working hard, whether it be on the frontline or behind the scene assisting in the administration and running of the station and facilities. We have been working to increase public access to life-saving equipment and have placed several AED's (Automated External Defibrillators) in lockbox's around the area. Our latest addition is in the Waipu Heritage Precinct outside the old Masonic Lodge building, which is the home of Menzshed Waipu, Neville Ruebe from Menzshed has kindly organised and installed this for us and it is now available 24/7. When an ambulance is called, and a defibrillator is available nearby our Emergency Call Handlers will provide instructions to access. These devices are very simple to use, we also provide free training at the Ruakaka Ambulance Station with our 3 Steps for Life programme which teaches CPR and AED use and these free sessions are held 10am – 11am every third Saturday of each month. Register your attendance by email to Station54@stjohn.org.nz.

At this time of year our ambulance officers see many car crashes that could have been avoided by driving to the conditions, taking regular breaks and not being distracted. Make sure you keep watching your mirrors for emergency vehicles travelling under lights and sirens, pull over and slow down to let them pass.

I hope everyone has had some time to relax over the holidays. Don't forget to look after yourself, your friends and family. Remember, Free health advice is available from registered nurses, 24/7 through the Healthline number, 0800 611 116. In an emergency, always call 111. Ngā mihi

Lyndon Reed - Bream Bay Station Manager



## Putting their necks on the block

#### Great South representatives explain their satellite ground station proposal

"If the value of our properties drops because of this satellite station will Great South reimburse us?" was a question from the floor at the public meeting on the proposed Ruakaka satellite ground station on Tuesday night 19 January.

"No sir, we will not", was the swift reply from Graham Budd, Chief Executive Officer of the Southland Development Agency behind this venture.

Great South has a conditional offer to purchase land in Sandford Rd. Ruakākā to establish a ground station, which would gather data from low orbit satellites as they pass overhead. The company had arranged the meeting,attended by approximately 150 people, to explain its position and address concerns of Ruakākā people, particularly those living in and around Sandford Rd.

Steve Canny, Great South's Strategic Project General Manager said that data collected in this way had a multitude of uses and many of the services we now rely on such as GPS maps, personal locaters, weather forecasting and earthquake monitoring depend on them.

Great South already operates a satellite station at Awarua, near Invercargill. As satellites pass overhead the receiver discs here have an eight-minute window to collect data. A complimentary station in Northland would double that capacity. Mr. Canny said there was demand from a number of Great South Customers for a Northland station and if they did not establish one it was likely someone else, possibly an overseas investor would.

An early interjector asked what kind of information the satellites would be conveying and if there were any military interests involved?

Mr. Budd gave assurances that Great South's customers were all commercial interests and that no foreign nations or their military used their ground station. He said national interests generally operated their own satellite stations.

"We don't need them and they don't need us."

Roy Taylor of Sandford Rd. asked why the station would be established in such a highly populated area. He said that Sandford Rd. although it has a rural production zoning is essentially a residential area with many subdivisions and lifestyle blocks and just one farm still remaining. He said there was ample vacant commercial land in Ruakākā and suggested the station should be established there.

Mr. Canny explained that the station needed to be on flat land with a clear line of site and that large buildings, as tend to be built on industrial land would undermine its operation. Nearby industry using high amounts of electricity would also pose problems.

Warren Daniel, Secretary of the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers Association pointed out that the chosen site was in fact at the base of a hill and Mr. Budd agreed that this was not ideal. But he said it was very difficult in Northland to find any suitable flat land particularly land that is currently up for sale.

He said other factors in favour of the Sandford Rd site were its proximity to Whangarei "where world-class companies such as McKay Electrical are based" who have the ability to assist with the building and operation of the station.

Asked about potential health risks, Robin McNeill Great South's Space Operations Manager said there are no proven health risks and that there is more risk in living near electricity pylons. He said as the receptor discs are pointed skyward radio signals passing between them and satellites would have no effect on the ground.

Several people said they were excited by the opportunities the development of this high technology centre would bring to the young people of this area.

One man expressing this view was asked if he lived in Sandford Rd. His partner seated alongside with their two young children said they lived in the Ruakākā Village.

"So why not have the satellite station there?' she was asked.

Jenny Sarjeant accused Great South of being secretive and was annoyed that local iwi had been notified before Sandford Rd. residents. She said launching the public consultation process before Christmas when everyone is preoccupied had been calculated to avoid public scrutiny.

Mr. Budd asked her what she thought had happened over the holiday period.

"We were on holiday like everyone else."

He said Great South has been in discussion with the Whangarei District Council but has yet to apply for resource consent.

Asked if this would be a publicly notified resource consent process with local residents able to make submissions Mayor Sheryl Mai said a decision on this would be based on advice from Whangarei District Council planners.

Sandford Rd resident Ron Halliday said he had concerns about the station but thanked the Great South representatives for arranging the meeting to listen to the views of local people and for "coming here and putting your necks on the block."

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# Volley Ball at Ruakākā Beach



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## Acid reflux

Acid reflux is known by a number of names including GORD (gastro oesophageal reflux disease), reflux, dyspepsia and heartburn. This condition is caused by what happens to your food and drink after you have eaten.

When you eat or drink anything, gravity and muscles allow the food to travel down the tube-like oesophagus to the stomach.

Once in the stomach, the contents are normally prevented from going back upwards again by a valve or sphincter at the join between these two parts of the digestive system.

When this valve becomes loose or is prevented from tightening around the top of the stomach the stomach contents can travel back up the oesophagus to the mouth again. This results in an acid taste in the mouth from the stomach acids, and vomit from the partially digested food and fluids.

Certain foods, medicines and medical conditions can make this worse, either temporarily or permanently, and may result in damage to the oesophagus if not treated effectively.

People at risk of acid reflux may find that smoking, alcohol, rich or spicy food may aggravate this condition. It is not uncommon for pregnant women to develop acid reflux as the size of the baby may put pressure on the stomach and not allow the usual amount of food or liquid to be taken in. Other causes of acid reflux include hiatus hernia, and being overweight or stressed. Medications for blood pressure, asthma, depression and insomnia may also worsen or cause acid reflux.

Symptoms of acid reflux, apart from the metallic or acid taste in the mouth and occasional small amounts of vomit described earlier may include tightness or burning in the chest, feelings of nausea, difficulty swallowing and a persistent cough.

Often the condition is worse at night, when lying down, or after a large, rich or spicy meal, or when feeling tired or stressed.

As some of the symptoms of acid reflux may also be symptoms of more serious conditions it is important to seek help whenever any of these symptoms occur. Your community pharmacist will be able to help with determining if you are suffering from a serious condition requiring prompt referral to your doctor, or with treatment or advice to help you treat, manage, prevent or lessen the effects of this condition which can cause severe discomfort and distress to those suffering from it.

It is not uncommon for patients with severe symptoms of heartburn to confuse the symptoms of their acid reflux with angina, or chest pain, so if you or anyone around you complains of sudden severe crushing pain in their chest or arm then do not delay and call the ambulance immediately.

For those that already have acid reflux, it is very important that they use effective treatment as damage to the oesophagus can cause other more serious conditions if not treated effectively. It is best not to put up with stomach discomfort, but to seek help and advice from your community pharmacist, who has many treatments available for purchase over the counter to manage this condition.

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Kayla Allison Carnie and Rosie Larkin representing North Harbour on the left and Leah Robinson and Charlotte Haycock of Canterbury on the right contest the Under 19 years Women's provincial team title.

Ruakākā Beach hosted both the provincial and national volleyball championships last week. After the success of last summers national competition organizer Dave Miller said he decided to move the provincial competition which was previously held at Mount Maunganui to Ruakākā. These were held from Tuesday 19 to Thursday 21 with local people invited to join in a casual games on Friday.

The New Zealand Championship games were held over the weekend. Sixty four teams representing : Northland, North Harbour, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Taranaki, Tasman and Canterbury took part in the provincial competitions while 54 teams, including the Beach Ferns (the top national women's team) and the Beach Blacks (the top men's team) contested the nationals. Former Silver Ferns star Anna Scarlett, also a top volley baller aiming for a place in the NZ women's Olympic team, was one of the contestants.





Living and selling the Bream Bay dream



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# Lots of activity in the grounds of Bream Bay College

There has been a lot of activity in the grounds of Bream Bay College over the holiday break.

The student welfare building and Year 13 common room have been moved to make way for a new block of classrooms for Year 7 and 8 students and an outdoor area in the centre of the school is being concreted in readiness for a big shade canopy to be installed. The welfare and common



Laying concrete for the new shade canopy

room buildings are now situated between the administration block and the football field.

The canopy is being built with some of the money in a \$316,000 grant provided to the school in the schools infrastructure investment package to the tune of \$693 per student announced by the Government in December 2019.

Bream Bay College surveyed students to see what they thought the money should be spent on. The canopy was one of the suggestions.

Other suggestions, which have already been implemented, were: drinking fountains at the basketball courts and the Whare and fencing around the basketball courts. Students also requested air conditioning in classrooms and this has been installed in all but five classrooms with the school waiting on its next installment of roll growth funding to get the job completed.

The only major requested item not built or under construction is a covered walkway from the school entrance to the Whare.

Bream Bay College Principal Wayne Buckland said he hoped work could begin on the new classrooms and some new science laboratories before the end of the year.

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# Covid 19 in Ruakākā

Continued from page 1.

cancelling orders on Monday morning as her store is closed until further notice. She said the Covid 19 case appeared to have only made a brief visit to the store at 11.08am on Saturday 16 January as two minutes later she had signed in with the Covid 19 tracer app at FreshChoice. Nevertheless, they were taking no chances as her husband Ravi had undergone triple bypass heart surgery and his catching the virus could be fatal. The shop's staff were all taking Covid 19 tests and were self-isolating until the results came through. Orrs Pharmacy, Ruakākā remained open but was operating with a skeleton staff as those who had been in the store when the woman visited at 11.21 on Friday 22 January were undergoing tests and self -isolating at home.

There were big queues at the Covid 19 testing station at the Marsden Point Refinery visitor centre on Monday. Janet Pram of Ruakākā said she had waited in line for three hours from 8.45am. Cars had stretched from the refinery all the way down to Marsden Bay Drive.

The Refinery Testing station will now be open daily until Friday 29 from 9am to 4pm. A "pop up" testing station has been set up in Mangawhai Domain on Monday afternoon running from 12 noon to 6pm and then on Tuesday 26 from 8.30am – 4.30pm and on Wednesday 27 January from 8.30am to 4.30pm. The Ngati Wai mobile testing clinic will be at the Bream Bay Community Trust in Takutai Place Ruakākā on Wednesday from 10am to 4pm. People should drive into the carpark and remain in their vehicles for the nurse to come to them.

At the televised 1pm Covid 19 briefing on Monday, Dr. Ashley Bloomfield, Chief Executive of the Ministry of Health urged people who did not have symptoms or were not at any of the listed locations at the time the woman visited (the full list is on the Ministry of Health website) to stand aside for those who really needed to be tested.

Advice on how and when to seek a Covid 19 test is available from Healthline 0800 358 5453.

Dr. Bloomfield said it was encouraging that two close associates of the woman – her partner and hairdresser, had both returned negative results and said as the woman is not suffering respiratory symptoms such as a runny nose and coughing she may not be as infectious as she might otherwise be. He praised the woman for her assiduous use of the Covid 19 tracer app, which had allowed the Ministry of Health to quickly identify all the businesses she had visited. He urged everyone to get this along with Bluetooth enabling loaded onto their mobile phones and to be diligent about its use.



# Reach higher, grow stronger

Last year Northpine launched a \$20,000 funding programme called Stronger Communities to help the people of Bream Bay.

Grants are made once every three months from applications received each quarter. Applications for the next round of grants close on 16 February and will be announced in early March.

Go to our website to find out more and to download an Application Form.

**2020 recipients:** Waipu Lions Club, Waipu Centennial Trust Board, Northland Masters Golf, Bream Bay Combined Arts Group, Waipu Caledonian Society. Bream Bay Swim Club.

www.northpine.co.nz



#### 28 January 2021

#### 28 January 2021

# Shayne Wassell is Rugby League NZ Volunteer of 2020



Ani Cherrington of NZ Rugby League visited theTakahiwai Club last month to present Shane Wassell with the trophy for the NZ Rugby League Volunteer of the Year. Pictured with Shayne are his four children, from left: Terry, Koha, Shayne Jnr and William. Shayne credits his children as the inspiration for all the volunteer work he does for his club and for Northland Rugby League.

Shayne Wassell of Takahiwai was recognized by New Zealand Rugby League as the Rugby League's 2020 Volunteer of the Year.

He was presented with the award at the Takahiwai Club on 10 December, an event that was filmed and televised by Sky Sport so that Shayne's aunty in Australia was able to watch.

Shayne, who had previously been named as September's stand-out volunteer was nominated by Ari Carrington who said, ""His smile and huge sense of humour are well noticed throughout Northland. As well as being very welcoming and supportive to new parents and players he is consistently there to support them along their rugby league journey."

Shayne is a solo parent with four children, which you would expect would keep him busy enough.

On top of this he was born with a congenital condition known as *Teachers Collon Syndrome* (named after the scientist who identified it). He has had mulitiple surgeries to correct some of the effects of this condition and wears a hearing device, which allows him to sense vibrations through the bones in his head, without which he would be completely deaf. He is blind in one eye after a nerve was accidently cut during one operation. He bears no grudges about this just shrugging and saying "accidents happen." He is grateful for all the medical interventions he has been given, the cost of which would have amounted to over a million dollars. He has been offered further surgery but says he is happy as he is.

Like many in Takahiwai Shayne has a long family history with the club. He himself played as a young man, his parents were club supporters and his grandfather was a player.

Shayne is a regular at the Takahiwai fields, helping to set up before games, running the BBQ, mending fences and goal posts and welcoming in new families.

He helps in fundraising drives, the most recent selling trailer loads of firewood. He likes to see the young players doing some of the work themselves, believing it is important to show them that, even if their families can't afford the expense, there are ways they can earn money for team trips away.

He coaches both the girls and boys league teams at Ruakākā Primary

And he has been working to establish a Northland all girl 9-12 years team team so that girls who enjoy the game can continue playing over the age of 12 years. He explains that girls can play in mixed teams up to this age and there are many girls who are good tacklers and fast runners playing in Takahiwai junior teams.

Shayne credits his children as his motivation for all his volunteer work.

All four play for Takahiwai. His two oldest sons Shayne and Terry also play in national Maori age group teams.

But it is other people's children as well, he is working so hard for.

He talks about how rewarding it is to see the pride young people gain by playing their part in a team and knowing they have done their best in a game.

Recently two of his sons have also been playing rugby for Waipū and Shayne has been on the BBQ there as well.



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	AM		PM	
Thu 28 Jan	8.15	2.5	8.27	2.4
Fri 29 Jan	8.59	2.6	9.14	2.5
Sat 30 Jan	9.43	2.7	10.01	2.6
Sun 31Jan	10.27	2.7	10.47	2.6
Mon 1 Feb	11.12	2.8	11.34	2.6
Tue 2 Feb	11.58	2.8	~	$\sim$
Wed 3 Feb	12.22	2.6	12.45	2.8
Thu 4 Feb	1.12	2.6	1.34	2.7
Fri 5 Feb	2.07	2.6	2.26	2.6
Sat 6 Feb	3.05	2.5	3.23	2.6
Sun 7 Feb	4.09	2.5	4.24	2.5
Mon 8 Feb	5.14	2.5	5.28	2.5
Tue 9 Feb	6.17	2.5	6.32	2.5
Wed 10 Feb	7.16	2.6	7.32	2.5
Thu 11 Feb	8.10	2.7	8.28	2.5
Fri 12 Feb	9.00	2.7	9.18	2.6

### THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 11 February The deadline for all copy is 4pm on Wednesday 3 February





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# Recognised for his work teaching fire awareness to young people

Terry Baylis of Ruakākā was recently awarded a Fire and Emergency Te Hiku Celebrating Success Community Enrichment award..

For the past 20 years Terry has been involved in the Fire Awareness Intervention Programme, which teaches youngsters with a propensity to light fires about the consequences of their actions.

He says this is very rewarding. He works with young people throughout Northland who have been referred by the Youth Court, Police Youth Aid, via Family Group Conferences, St John, schools, churches and a number of other agencies. He meets the young person and their family.

"I sit down and have a real good talk with them. I listen to what they have to say and what the parents have to say. You have to have a good friendly rapport with the young person. If they sense you are angry or disapproving its all over."

Terry finds there are quite a few reasons for the fire lighting including: "peer pressure, fantasy and family issues." He leaves the young person with a workbook. Two or three weeks later he returns and, if the set work has been completed, issues a certificate to say the young person has completed the Fire Awareness Programme. The identity of those he works with is kept strictly confidential.

Terry's involvement with the Ruakākā Brigade stretches back 45 years. He is one of 16 peer support people for Northland firemen and women who sometimes have to deal with traumatic situations. The immediate families of fire fighters can also access this service.

"They can call us and we will sit down and listen."

He works with fire risk management, installing fire alarms and talking to people about the need to keep ac-



Terry with his award.

cess onto their properties clear so a fire truck can get to them if one is needed. He has the job of keeping an eye on health and safety issues around the station and provides operational support in the form of data input. He also takes part in brigade fundraising and community events.

This is the third time Terry's community service has been recognized. He was named Ruakākā Library's Citizen of the Year in 2018 and in 2011 he won a Kiwibank Local Hero award.

He says he is well aware of many other local people who do a lot of good work and is humbled by the awards he has been granted.

## January a busy month for Bream Bay St. John

January is always a busy month for Bream Bay's St. John staff and volunteers and this month is no exception. From 1 January up until midnight 17 January there had already been 88 callouts.

Station Manager Lyndon Reed said medical callouts have been topping the charts with chest pain being the most common complaint, followed by breathing problems, abdominal pain and seizures or convulsions. Trauma injuries have been down in numbers, which Lyndon said was good to see. He said the station did not get any extra staff to cope with the extra workload. "We continue to have our paid staff during the day from 7am to 7pm and then from 7pm to 7am the station is

staffed by volunteers if they are available.

when there is no crew available (or they are already committed to an incident) the closest available resource is sent. Lyndon said volunteer staff are trained to various levels from First Responders to Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedic and effectively don't differ from paid staff.

"Our volunteers have been doing great. So far this month we have only been stood down twice due to no overnight crew and the roster for the rest of the month looks really great with only two more shifts to cover." In a typical month there might be six to nine nights when the station is left without an ambulance crew.

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# Waipū Jazz festival draws 550



The Nairobi Trio on stage at the Waipū Cove jazz festival

The jazz festival held at Dave and Debi Brown's Waipū Cove farm on Sunday 17 January was so successful that Dave and Debi are already planning another concert. Debi said around 550 people turned up with 53 performers, 20 helpers and an audience of 480.

Bream Bay College steel pan band, the Panimals that reformed for the occasion was particularly well received, as was Whangarei based singer, songwriter Maggie Cocco. The Nairobi Trio was impressed with the venue and keen to return as were many of the other performers.

Debi said sound engineer James Franklin did "a stirling job" and made recordings of some of the acts and as night fell lighting in the trees and on the stage looked magical.

Debi is already in the throes of organizing a jazz/blues evening with Cousin Alice and Maggie Cocco and another act still to be chosen for her birthday on Saturday 20 March.

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# Waipū Car and Bike show back

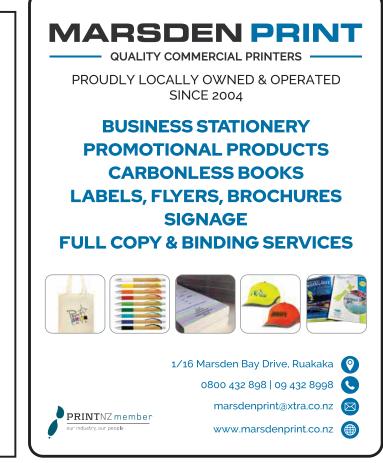


The Waipū Car and Bike Show is on again. For the fifth year the Waipu Lions are inviting car and bike enthusiasts to polish up their pride and joy to display in the Caledonian Park. This year the show will be held on Sunday 7 February from 10am -2pm.

Entry price is \$10, children under 13 years can get in for free and a family pass costs \$10. The event is run by the Waipū Lions with this year's proceeds going towards the youth activity zone planned for the Waihoihoi Park.

Last year the show attracted over 600 car and truck entries and over 150 bikes and organizer Ron Cave said he expects around the same numbers this year. There are 11 category prizes for cars including: Best Vintage, Best Hot Rod, Best American, European, British, Australian and Japanese and best commercial vehicle and five for bikes. There are also prizes for the best dressed including a new best dressed man prize this year and a prize for the best overall display.

There will be stalls and entertainment so if the sun shines, it should be yet another good day in Waipū.



# HAT'S ON IN BREAM BAY

terian Church Hall. Thursday 28 January at 7.30pm. Door sales \$20. Cash only.

• WAIPŪ STREET AND PARK MARKET Waipu Centre and Caledonian Park. Anniversary Weekend. Sunday 31 January 9am -2pm.

• 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.

• WAIPŪ 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 displayplus stalls, entertainement and best dressed prizes. Held in associations witht he Waipu Lions.

• THE WAIPU SUNDAY MARKET next on Sunday 14 February. 9am - 1pm in the Coronation Hall • THE MARSDEN COVE MARKET Next on Sunday 21 February from 9am - 1pm. In the big marquee at Marsden Cove

• POLYTROPOS Celtic music at the Waipū Presby- • EXHIBITION BY BREAM BAY COMBINED ARTS GROUP. At the Art Cottage, Lakeside Park, Ruakākā. Saturday and Sunday 20, 21 February 10am -3pm. Art on sale. Eftpos available.

> • JAZZ/BLUES EVENING with Cousin Alice and Maggie Cocco. Saturday 20 March at Cove Rd., Waipu. Ph. Debi 021 324 707

> • GRADUATE CHOIR Free concert in the Waipū Coronation Hall on Saturday 27 February at 1pm.

> • 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. Matakohe. Current exhibitions: Creating with Kauri - Contemporary jewellery exhibition: Finishes 28 February 2021, Up in Smoke: A collection of old world pipes, tins, cases and associated items.





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# Soap with Waipū flavours



Blue rinse for white horses - Allie slices up a new soap she has made with a blue rinse mixed in. This is a special soap for animals she has made with a white horse belonging to a friend in mind

Allie Digweed of Waipu has set up a new business making hand crafted soaps. She got inspired when she learned about soap making in order to teach how the lye or caustic soda reacts with oil to a Year 7 class at Bream Bay College where she is the horticulture teacher.

How is the business going?

So far so good. She has them in a range of shops around Bream Bay and Mangawhai. She has a room in her home dedicated to soap making with moulds, a shelf with bottles of essential oils, a soap cutting machine and rows of various coloured and scented soaps drying. You can smell the scents of those oils wafting out of the window at her front door.

When she gets home from the college she mixes up a batch. Her house has a basement and the plan is to move the operation to this larger space. Once here she may host visits by interested groups.

The soaps are all made with plant based oils and have biodegradable cardboard wrappers. She calls her business the New Zealand Soap Collective. Collective because she uses products made by artisan produces. For example she has made some uniquely Waipu soaps– *lavender essential oil and Waipu macadamia nut* for example or *orange essential oil, turmeric and Waipu honey*.

There is even a soap containing McLeods Waipu Longboarder Lager and another with Feoh Expresso.

Allie has signed up for a business mentor who happens to be Ron Davidson who also lives in Waipu. The long-term business plan is to make soaps special to different regions of New Zealand. Allie was travelling to Queenstown last month to see if there was any potential there. Another idea is to make some specialist soap to sell in Ohakune.out of carrots.



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# Bream Bay swimmers bring home a haul of medals from Northland distance champs



Bream Bay's swimmers at the Dargaville pool after competing in the Northland Long Distance Age Group Championships (from left) Samantha Dutton, Fidel Poulson, Lawrence Reade, Henry Ludbrook, Ryan Andrews, Ariella Ripohau, Kiera Carroll, Rebecca Reade, Emilia Finer, Sophie Broughton, Florence Venner

Bream Bay swimmers made the most of their final meet of 2020, the Northland Age Group Long Distance Championships held in Dargaville.

Forty-two swimmers from nine Northland and Auckland clubs took the plunge, swimming either 400m, 800m or 1500m.

Of Bream Bay's 13 swimmers, five won gold medals, three won silver and three bronze while ten swimmers improved their times in their chosen events.

Gold medal winners: Emilia Finer (16 & over women's 1500m free); Henry Ludbrook (16 and over men's 800m free); Fidel Poulson (15 year men's 800m free); Lawrence Reade (14-15 year men's 1500m free); Ariella Ripohau (14 year women's 800m free)

Silver medal winners: Ryan Andrews (16 & over men's 800m free); Carson Pleiman (10-11 year men's 400m free); Rebecca Reade (16 & over women's 1500m free)

Bronze medal winners: Samantha Dutton (16 & over women's 800m free); Andy Pleiman (14 year men's 800m free); Florence Venner (14 year women's 800m free)

# Takahiwai to host national Under 20 games

The Takahiwai League Club will host two games in the National under 20s competition at its grounds in McEwan Rd, One Tree Point on 7 and 14 March Both games will be the Northland team playing against representative teams from Auckland. The games will be televised on Sky Sport.

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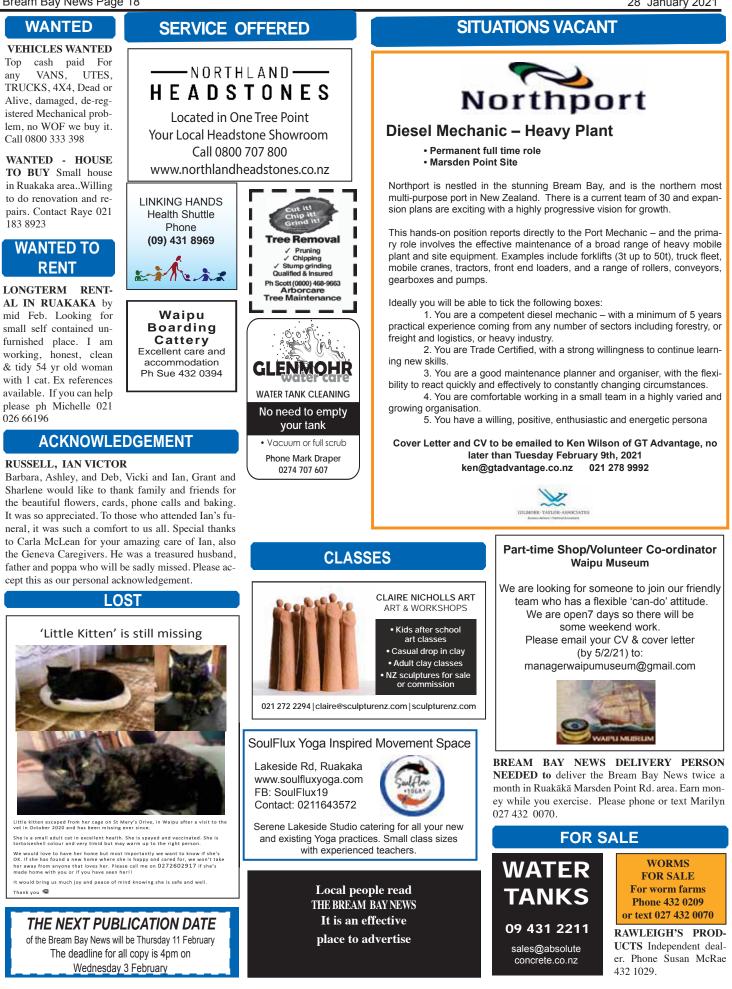
# Deadline for next issue - Wednesday 20 January



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## PUBLIC NOTICES

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