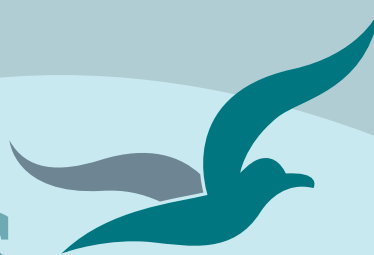


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Back dune sites proposed interim solution for Ruakākā wastewater disposal

Simon Charles, the Whangārei District Council's Waste and Drainage Manager, was at the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers Annual General Meeting last Tuesday 13 May 2025 to explain options for a stopgap measure to deal with Ruakākā's wastewater while a longer term solution likely to be an ocean outfall is built.

Mr. Charles explained that while some big, already consented developments are able to go ahead, the Whangārei District Council cannot consent any new development application because of constraints on both the wastewater treatment plant and disposal field.

Mr. Charles said the Council had been working on an arrangement with the Marsden Point Refinery where 2,000 cubic metres of treated wastewater a day would be taken by the refinery to use at the plant. The refinery closure in 2021 had brought forward the need for a new plant and disposal upgrade as this additional disposal capacity no longer existed.

The Council was granted resource consent for an ocean outfall in 2012 with an expiry date of 2027 and there is \$85 million in the Long Term Plan to build this. However the outfall and the upgrade of the treatment plant are not expected to be completed until 2030 and one of the consent conditions is that options for land-based disposal be explored before the outfall

Continued on page 5.

Distinguished Gentlemen and a few venerable ladies take a ride around Ruakākā



Some of the dapper motorbike riders at the first ever Whangārei Distinguished Gentlemen's Ride line up in front of the DGR banner outside the Ruakākā Recreation Centre on Sunday morning 18 May. The event drew 65 entries and raised \$14,410 in sponsorship for the Movember Men's health support movement. The ride took a circuit from Ruakākā out to One Tree Point and back, calling in at the Bream Bay Village in One Tree Point Road where residents had collected \$1,000 for the cause.

More pictures of the Distinguished Gentlemen's Ride in Ruakākā on page 8.



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EDITORIAL

Men's mental health - that's a big subject



Sunrise Sunday morning 18 May 2025 -

The Distinguished Gentlemen's Ride held in Ruakākā and One Tree Point this morning, Sunday 18 May, raised money for the Movember movement, which invests in 'mental health and suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer'. Presumably that is "research into and prevention of" those last two.

Men's mental health - that's a big subject. Most of us know of men young and old who are struggling to lead constructive, happy lives. If you have a brother, father, partner, son or grandson in a low state it can be frightening as we are only too aware how sometimes these struggles end in tragedy.

"Everyone had a smile on their face" commented John Pearce, one of the local organisers at the end of this morning's Distinguished Gentlemen's ride, so perhaps the event in itself has done a little bit for mental health. It seems unlikely though that the proud owners of those shiny machines, many of them restored and maintained by the skills of the distinguished gentlemen and women themselves, suffer too much on that score.

But I frequently hear about young men sitting at home alone on their computers late into the night. These young ones sometimes develop a phobia about going out and mixing with other people. The communities they find on line can be very toxic and they can become very deluded and detached from society. I think this is a problem of epidemic proportions. I meet despairing mothers who tell me there is very little help available. What a waste for our society to have so many young ones falling into this state of despair!

I know there can never be a single answer but perhaps a few older men with the time and patience to get alongside some of these young people to try to understand them and lead them into a more constructive frame of mind could help. I know that sometimes it can just take one person to recognize a young person's potential to make a lasting difference in their life.

Here is an inexpensive suggestion to help everyone with their mental health. Get up early and look at the sunrise. See if you can coax those young depressives out of bed. Use every kind of persuasive pressure you have at your disposal. Today, Sunday 18 May, has turned into a drizzly, dull, bleak sort of day but at 7.30am this morning the rising sun painted the clouds orange. For a brief ten minutes the sky was on fire. I took the photo above on my phone. The memory of that moment is enough to buoy me through this dark afternoon.

It was interesting to read in the May 1975 edition of the Bream Bay News that back then local St. John volunteers were offering a free service to people who needed home nursing care. With some big holes in our public health system perhaps communities will have to develop their own support systems once again. It would be difficult to find enough volunteer nurses in today's economic climate though. With the high cost of living, soaring rentals or big mortgages people need to work long hours just to make ends meet and who would have the time to put in all those volunteer hours.

Marilyn

The Marsden Lions Charity Golf Tournament

The Marsden Lions held their annual charity golf tournament on a beautiful sunny Friday morning last week.

In its 15th year the tournament remains popular with 95 individuals signing up for this year's event. Lion Maree Gutry said this is around the limit of the number of people the event can cater for.

Over the years the tournament has raised over \$150,000 for the Northland Rescue Helicopter Service, The Ruakākā Fire Brigade, Bream Bay St. John and the Ruakākā Surf Lifesaving Club.



Closest to the pin winner Simon Hornby Sponsored by FUSO - received \$500 with another \$500 going to the Lions fundraising effort.

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The Marsden Lions team: Keith Harris, Janet Tucker, Gladys Rowsell, Craig Nisbit, Kevin Phillips, Margaret Marincovich, Maree Gutry, Lee Stanbridge and Dennis Smith.

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How to prepare for the flu season

With autumn upon us it means winter is fast approaching - shorter days, cold weather and unfortunately, the flu season.

The flu viruses that circulate can change from year to year. Completely new flu viruses can emerge and cause global pandemics - like the influenza (H1N1) pandemic of 2009.



The official flu season runs from May to September, and although anyone can get the flu, it doesn't mean you will definitely get it every year. People who are fit and well are better able to ward off the flu. If you eat a balanced diet, exercise regularly and get enough sleep, your body will be in good shape to fight back against any invading flu virus.

So, how do you get the flu? The flu is a viral infection passed from person to person via infected droplets commonly spread by sneezing and coughing.

Symptoms of flu include:

- a fever greater or equal to 38°C
- at least one respiratory symptom, like a cough, sore throat, or runny nose
- rapid onset with at least one systemic symptom, like a headache, aches and pains, sweats or chills, or fatigue.

Flu symptoms are severe and are not to be confused with cold symptoms - with the flu you often don't have the energy to get out of bed.

Some people are more at risk of getting the flu than others. The Ministry of Health has identified that the following groups are at higher risk of developing complications from flu viruses and are therefore eligible for a free flu vaccine. They include those who:

- are pregnant
- are significantly overweight
- use asthma preventers
- have diabetes
- are aged 65 years or over
- have heart disease
- have kidney problems
- have a serious medical condition, like cancer.

If you are unlucky enough to get the flu, you should stop the spread of flu germs by:

- staying in bed and not going to work or school
- covering your mouth when you cough and sneeze
- regularly washing your hands and drying them thoroughly
- avoiding crowded settings.

This may all sound like doom and gloom, but flu prevention is better than cure. Help prevent flu by:

- washing your hands thoroughly and often and avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth
- eating a balanced diet with fruit and vegetables rich in vitamin C
- getting enough sleep
- reducing your stress levels
- getting regular exercise.

And remember that flu can cause serious complications, like pneumonia, which can be deadly. So look after your health - it is your most cherished possession

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LETTERS

To the person who helped himself to my mobile phone and wallet

To the person who helped himself to my mobile phone/wallet from my car whilst I was doing volunteer work at the Waipu Museum Heritage Precinct.

Yes, my car was unlocked, because I was going back and forth getting tools etc. for the work I was doing. I wonder if you have ever done any voluntary work, or any work.

Anyway, I cancelled all my cards immediately so that you could not use them. The disruption to my life has been considerable. My phone, which was an older model, held all my contacts. People I have known for many years or have met and kept in contact with, now gone.

I have had to pay for a new phone and fees to replace the cards you took and probably threw away when you realised they were worthless.

If this letter pricks any conscience you may have, perhaps you would consider dropping the phone in at the Waipu Museum. No questions asked.

*Ted Hart
Waipu*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME

Email them to: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz

Drop them off at the Waipū or Ruakākā Lotto shops

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

Easter Carnival makes \$50,000 for Waipu Primary School

Waipu Primary School's Easter Carnival made a profit of just under \$50,000, which one of the chief organisers Dee Field said she was "pretty stoked with", considering so many people are watching their budgets. Around 6,000 people came through the gates on the day.

The funds will be spent on a playground makeover at the school as well as other big ticket projects that are not funded by the Ministry of Education.

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What's happening with the Ruakākā Cemetery?

"What's happening with the Ruakaka Cemetery?" was a question put to Whangarei District Councillors Phil Halse and Ken Couper at the Ruakaka Residents and Ratepayers Annual General Meeting on Tuesday evening 13 May.

Councillor Couper replied that the hold up had been around the route the proposed rail spur from Oakleigh to Marsden Point would take and a subdivision and land exchange is needed between the Whangārei District Council and NZ Rail to secure the rail easement.

He believed the subdivision had just been approved.

Louis Rattray the Council's Parks Manager told the Bream Bay News, "Yes a land deal with Kiwi Rail

has impacted the time line but this was resolved in recent weeks allowing for concept planning and engineering estimates to be progressed. We aim to have concept design, staging plan and engineering plan completed by end of June and budget is available in the 2025/26 financial year to commence preparing the site."

The sum of \$970,000 was allocated in the WDC's Parks budget for development of Cemetery over the years 2024 – 2031. A block of land off One Tree Point Rd. opposite the Marsden City subdivision has been purchased by the council for the cemetery.

Back dune sites proposed interim solution for Ruakākā wastewater disposal

Continued from page 1.

is built.

In the interim the Council is looking at two options to dispose of treated wastewater into dunes adjacent to the treatment plant, which is situated north of the Ruakākā Towncentre.

The first is to use a previously consented area adjacent to the plant. However, the consent for disposal here expired in 2018 so the Council would need to go back to the Northland Regional Council to have this renewed and obtain a new concession from the Department of Conservation, which administers the land.

The second option is to use land the Council owns in Rama Rd. This would require building infrastructure to get the wastewater to this site.

Asked how clean the treated wastewater discharged

to these sites would be or the dunes Mr. Charles said it would be treated to the same standard that is currently permitted. The new treatment plant would not be up and running by the time these new disposal fields come into use.

In reply to a question from the floor Mr. Charles said the ocean outflow pipe would run 3.5 kilometres out into the bay.

Asked about the level of treatment for the wastewater before disposal, he said this would be to a higher standard than at the Whangārei wastewater plant in Kioreora Rd. where the treated wastewater is said to be drinkable although it doesn't meet strict drinking water standards..

Feedback on the interim solution to discharge treated wastewater into the Ruakākā dunes closed on 20 May.

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THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 5 June!

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Weed control in the Bream Bay dunes

The first of a series of weed attack work days was held in the Ruakākā duneland just south of Paradise Shores on Wednesday 26 April.

The Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust has been granted \$23,000 by the Northland Regional Council Climate Resilience fund and is using this money to purchase equipment and provide training to members of the Patuharakeke Taioa group in weed control methods to use in the plethora of weeds that grow in the Bream Bay coastline Department of Conservation reserves.

Under the guidance of weed control expert Mike Ulrich of ReNative the group will tackle a variety of weeds growing at four different locations along the Department of Conservation's Bream Bay coastal land.

Last months target was a big infestation of Australian Golden wattle just south of the Paradise Shores subdivision in Ruakākā. The method as taught by Mr. Ulrich is called drill and fill. Using a battery powered drill a hole is made into the woody trunk of the trees and herbicide is injected into this.

The members of the weed control team have been fitted out with work aprons, spray guns, drills and thick



Weed control team: Shay Clyde, Riko Brown and Teatirau Minary

gloves.

The Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust has a long held vision to restore Bream Bay's duneland to its natural state with a sequence of native coastal vegetation between the back dunes and the beach. The trust has agreed work plans with the DOC allowing it to carry out work at various sites on Conservation land.

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Police Report

Lucky to recover \$80,000 taken by a scammer

An eighty-year-old local woman was lucky to recover \$80,000 stolen from her bank accounts after a scammer who claimed to be from Spark phoned her. The scammer told her he would upgrade the security on her device and asked her to log into her various bank accounts. The woman believed she was receiving good security advice but after the call became suspicious and, checking her accounts, discovered \$80,000 had been stolen in a number of withdrawals. She immediately phoned her bank, which was able to put a stop to the transactions and recover her money. Senior Sergeant Simon Craig warns that Spark or your bank will never ask for your account numbers over the phone. If you receive a call you are not sure about, hang up and phone the bank to check. The woman who almost lost her savings in this incident was misled into thinking the call was from a New Zealand number but Sergeant Craig said it was almost certainly from someone overseas as scammers are able to set up a phone number that appears to be from NZ.

Theft from Museum carpark

On 10 May a wallet and phone were taken from a car parked in the Waipu museum carpark while the owner was carrying out volunteer work at the museum. The man had left the vehicle unlocked as he was coming back and forth to collect tools from his car.

Eight family harm incidents

Bream Bay Police dealt with eight family harm incidents in the fortnight 5 May to 19 May. This is just over half the number of family harm call outs in the previous fortnight.

Car driven into median barrier on Brynderwyns

On 12 May at 2pm a vehicle was driven into the median barrier on SH1 on the northern side of the Brynderwyn Hill. The barrier fence and the vehicle were badly damaged but the occupants of the car were unhurt. The driver, a Whangārei man, had recently arrived back from overseas but denied falling asleep at the wheel. He has been charged with careless driving.

Drink Drivers

- On 17 May at 8.30pm a vehicle was stopped by Police on State Highway One at Mata. The driver was breath tested and returned a reading of 376 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath. The 35-year-old Whangārei man was issued with an infringement notice.
- On 16 May a vehicle was stopped by Police on State Highway One at Waipu. The driver, a 24-year-old Ruakākā man, returned a reading of 971 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath. He will be appearing in the Whangārei District Court on a drink driving charge.
- On 10 May at 7.30pm a vehicle was stopped by Police on State Highway one at Ruakākā. The driver returned a reading of 375 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath and the driver, a 44-year-old Auckland man, was issued with an infringement notice.

Car written off after crashing into a ditch

On 13 May there was a single vehicle crash on State Highway One near the Shoemaker Road intersection when a vehicle was driven into a roadside ditch. The vehicle was written off but the driver was unhurt.

Navigation Safety Bylaw Review would remove ban on kiteboards in our estuaries

A review of the Northland Regional Council's Navigation Safety Bylaw includes a proposal to remove a clause, which bans wind powered board sports from the Waipu and Ruakākā Estuaries. The explanation for this proposed change is that the clause was included by council in 2017 after concerns were raised about impacts on roosting birds in these areas. However, navigation safety bylaws are made for the purpose of maritime safety – it's not considered the appropriate legal mechanism for managing wildlife.

The Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust the trust campaigned long and hard to get the ban in place as kite boarders swooping above nesting and roosting shore birds appeared to the birds as giant predators and frightened them off their nests and feeding sites.

However, kiteboarders commonly travel at speeds greater than 14 knots and no vessel is permitted to travel over 5 knots within 200 metres of the shore, so removing this ban might not make much difference.

Other proposed changes are a requirement that two forms of communication equipment be carried on vessels and removing a lifejacket exemption on board vessels under 6-metres when travelling to and from the shore..

The Navigation Safety Bylaw review can be seen in full on the Northland Regional Council website. Online submissions are encouraged to reduce costs and these must be sent in by 5pm on Friday 30 May.

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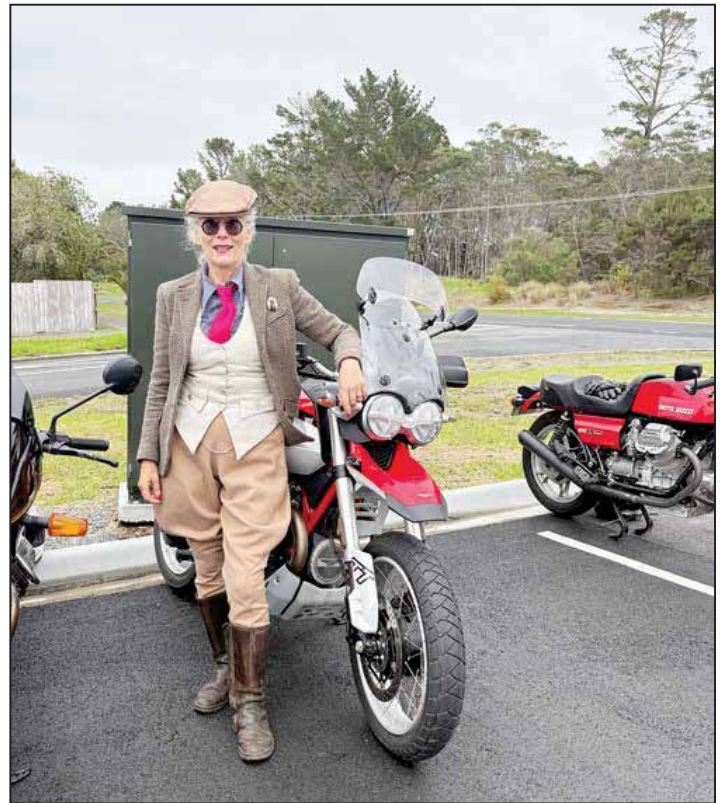
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Distinguished Gentlemen's Ride brought smiles to many faces



Ludwig Eilers of Titirangi won the prize for the best bike with his beautifully restored 1938 BSA M20. Although he lives in Auckland Mr. Eilers, who is a telecommunications engineer frequently visits Northland and chose to ride in the Whangarei ride rather than the one held in Auckland.



Jacqui Madelin of Russell was judged the best dressed woman. She rode down from Russell on her big late model 2025 Moto Guzzi

The Distinguished Gentlemen's Ride originated in Australia and has spread around the world. The Ruakākā based Whangārei ride has the distinction of being the 1,000th location to be registered with the DGR organisation. What's more the Ruakākā ride raised more in sponsorship per rider than any other centre around New Zealand.

The Whangārei ride, held on Sunday 18 May, raised \$14,410 in sponsorship more per rider than did any other centre in New Zealand. The funds will go to the Movement which supports men's physical and mental health.

John Pearce, a long time DGR enthusiast who helped to bring the event to Ruakākā said there would definitely be a repeat next year.

"Everyone had a smile on their face, so that has to be good."



The riders head off from the Recreation Centre. The sky was dark and rain threatened but held off long enough for them to complete the circuit with a few stop offs on the way and all those dapper suits managed to stay dry..

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if you know of something interesting going on
in Bream Bay

A Bounty of Bananas

Forget about hothouse tomatoes, that scheme went west when the refinery shut down. Bananas could be Bream Bay's newest up and coming industry. Aaron Millar has been quietly working away at promoting banana cultivation in Bream Bay and beyond for the past four years.

He calls his business Tallyman Bananas. He has established a commercial plantation alongside the Waipu River and has an experimental plot where he grows a selection of banana varieties in Rosythe Rd.

Aaron left his job as a barman at the Waipu Golf Club and set up his own business creating food gardens for Bream Bay landowners. His gardens were bountiful and he would be given boxes of vegetables to take home but became a problem

"My wife would cook them up f and I would have to eat them."

He likes fruit much better.

The Rosythe Rd property owners commissioned Aaron to establish a food forest on their land and then were happy when this became an experimental banana farm.

It's like a tropical forest in there with big yellow Mexican sunflowers in bloom on this late autumn morning. There are red chillies, a grape vine, tomatoes and parsley and a red tamarillo laden with fruit thriving in there but mostly there are bananas. Giant bunches of green fruit hang high up in the trees and massive crimson flowers droop down

Aaron explains - The teardrop shaped flower buds are from the Ladyfinger variety whereas a type called Mona Lisa or a new variety Gold Finger - a cross between Cavendish - the supermarket type of banana and ladyfinger - have a more heart shaped flowers.

The trunks of the banana palms are massive, which Aaron says is what is needed for the palms to produce big bunches of fruit.

He says to grow good bananas the palms need to be feed. He picks up what he can from local sources. He got hold of some expired fish food from the NIWA kingfish farm, which really gave the trees in one particular corner of the plantation a boost. He plants the palms in circles with household and garden waste as well as leaves and trimmed branches from the banana trees piled up in the middle. He applies an MPK fertilizer. In particular, banana palms are hungry for potassium and, as yet, Aaron has not found a local source of wood ash, which he could use as an organic alternative.

Purchasing land in Bream Bay is a dream beyond his reach but Aaron says growing crops on other people's land has helped him learn how bananas grow in different locations with different soil types.

He supplies food boxes with bunches of bananas, sometimes providing four types in one box "so people can try them all out and decide which one they like. Tallyman bananas travel far and wide. Aaron has a regular customer in Taupo. Banana flowers are sold to Country Kitchen caterers who use them in fresh salads.

Aaron wishes Bream Bay people would appreciate the local product more. The short fat ladyfinger, gold finger and Mona Lisa bananas are much tastier than the



Tallyman Aaron Millar in his banana grove

big Cavendish bananas found in supermarkets.

He doesn't make a heap of money but he gets by. He does a lot of bartering swapping plants and fruit for meat, vegetables and eggs.

While he is not wealthy in money terms Aaron says he is rich in plants.

A dozen banana pups might spring from a fallen branch and he replants the strongest of these to expand his plantation.

He also collects and sells pineapples with around 3,000 plants at his home. Soon there will be Ruakākā grown pink pineapples to add to those fruit and vegetable boxes.



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Ruakākā Energy Park will bring more resilience to Northland's electricity supply

The new Battery Energy Storage System and soon to be built 160 hectare solar farm will provide more resilience for the electricity supply into Northland, Robert Batters, project manager for the Meridian Energy solar farm project told attendees at the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers Annual General meeting on Tuesday evening 13 May.

The solar farm will consist of 250,000 solar panels and cover 160 hectares of land over three sites. The panels will be two and a half metres off the ground so as to be above any flooding.

He said work would begin in August with earthworks expected to begin in October. As the land is very flat this will not be extensive.

"We expect to have it fully commissioned in 2027."

The solar farm will produce up to 230GWh of energy per annum, enough to power over half of Northland's homes in an average year.

Solar energy will be conveyed to the switching station located at the BESS site, via several inverter stations and a 33kV connection, prior to injection into the national grid at Transpower's Bream Bay substation.

The substation location at Marsden Point was a big incentive to site the solar farm here.

There will be a security fence around the sites and planting to screen the site from neighbouring properties and the road. Cables connecting the solar farm to the battery storage system would be underground which would reduce the need for maintenance.

The panels would be shipped in from China, with the close proximity to Northport a big advantage. Mr. Batters described the difficulties of having to transport solar panels on trucks through Auckland to other projects he has worked on.

Sarah Simperingham asked what benefits the Energy Park would bring for local people.

Mr. Batters said Meridian had a policy of employing local people where ever possible.

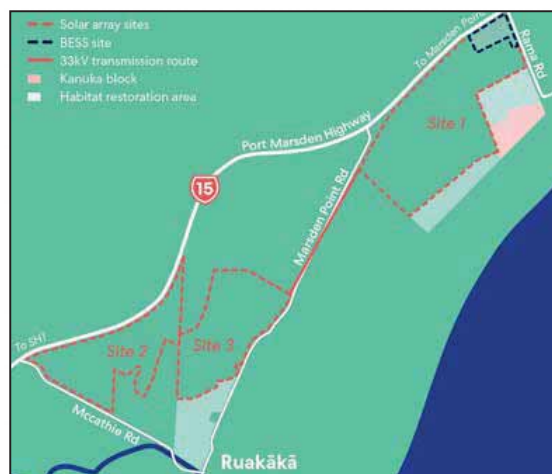
There would be jobs during the construction phase but when the plant is operational only a minimal number of staff would be needed. However solar farm construction is a growing industry and skills learned on the Ruakākā job could be taken to other projects.

Mr. Batters told the meeting how Meridian operates a Power Up fund in the communities it operates, offering grants to local initiatives.

A panel, which would include local representatives would consider applications.

Councillor Phil Halse asked if the grants would be ring fenced for the local area and Mr. Batters replied it would be up to the panel to decide how wide the application area would be.

Mike Wilson, project manager for the BESS battery station at the intersection of Rama Rd. and Port Marsden Highway told the meeting final commissioning process for this plant is underway and an official



The three sites where the Ruakākā solar farm will be built

opening ceremony was planned for 23 May.

The Ruakaka BESS has storage capacity of 200MWh, enough to power around 60,000 average households during winter for two hours. It will be connected directly to Transpower's Bream Bay substation at 33kV and will be able to supply electricity to Northland at times when demand is high which is when electricity is at its most expensive.

Waipu winter FESTIVAL

JUNE

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\$10pp	SUN	FREE	TUES	FREE	FRI	FREE	SAT	\$25pp	SAT
Wānanga Raranga Weaving workshop with well known Patuharakeke weaver Hanna Carrington. 10 people max. 12:00pm - 3:00pm To book email: hannapirihicarrington@gmail.com	8	10 Waipu Museum Knitting & Sewing for fun 6 - 10 years old. All materials provided. Bookings essential. 3.15pm - 4.45pm Waipu Scottish Migration Museum Waipu Heritage Precinct, Heritage School, 41 Halifax Drive Ph: Waipu Museum 09 432 0746	13 The Great Debate Topic: Langs Beach is part of Waipu. 6.30pm - 8.00pm Waipu Hotel, South Rd See promotewaipu.co.nz/events	14 Vet Centre Pet Parade Meet outside the Pizza Barn or line the street to watch. Ends at Vet Centre w/ Prizegiving & BBQ. 10:00am Cove Rd to Waipu Vet Centre Janine 021 232 3381 for more info	14 Country Music Barn Dance Grab your cowgirl / boy gear and come learn to line dance with Kamo Line Dancing Club. 7.30pm - 10.30pm Coronation Hall, Waipu Tickets: promotewaipu.co.nz/events				
FREE	SUN	\$200 team	SUN	FREE	TUES	FREE	WED	\$60pp	FRI
Shortbread Competition The famous shortbread challenge is on! 11:00am - 12:00pm Prizegiving: 3:00pm Waipu Fire Station Contact: Grant on 027 509 1837	15	15 Hammer Hardware 18 Hole Ambrose Teams of 4, includes buffet meal. 9.30am - Tee off Waipu Golf Club Contact: shop@waipugolf.co.nz	17 Waipu Museum Knitting & Sewing for fun 6 - 10 years old. All materials provided. Bookings essential. 3.15pm - 4.45pm Waipu Scottish Migration Museum Waipu Heritage Precinct, Heritage School, 41 Halifax Drive Ph: Waipu Museum 09 432 0746	18 Matariki Celebrations Hosted by Bream Bay College. Kapahaka performances by local schools. Bream Bay College student market and food stalls. 1.30pm - 5.30pm Bream Bay College, Ruakākā	20 Play with Clay Session 2: Glazing The second of a two series workshop for adults. \$60 for both workshops. 5.30pm - 7.00pm Black Shed Art Collective Bookings: claire@sculpturenz.com				

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“I’ve got more social life now than I’ve ever had.”

Making the decision to move into a retirement village was easy for Summerset Mount Denby resident, Sharon Powell, but it’s the community of new-found friendships that have reinvigorated her social life.

“I’ve got more social life now than I’ve ever had. When my husband was alive, we were very social. But after he passed, it was harder for me to go out. Here there’s things happening every day,” said Sharon.

“I walk every morning with my next door neighbour, and there’s a group of us who get together for special birthdays or events, we take turns hosting, and all go along and have a few drinks. When I go away, one of my neighbour’s waters my garden. Another neighbour had recently picked a whole lot of plums, so he bought plums over along with some quince jam he had made. People do little things like that.”

At the suggestion of late night parties, Sharon couldn’t help but laugh, “you’ve been talking to my neighbours” she chortled. “I can’t say enough how friendly everyone is around here. It’s lovely having really good next door neighbours.”

New friends and a new home aren’t the only new things in Sharon’s life. Since moving into the village, she’s also tried new activities for the first time. “I play pétanque, which I’d never played in my life before, but I play that now, and I’ve played indoor bowls a few times, and been to bingo, which I’d never done before either. There’s been a lot of firsts for me here, it’s been great.”

Village living has also given Sharon freedom from maintaining her home. “I had a large property for 32-years, my husband and I used to maintain it together, but after he passed it got to the stage where it was just getting far too much for me. Now I don’t have to worry about water blasting my concrete or anything. You don’t really realise until you shift somewhere like this, just how much you do in your own home. It’s a bit of an eye opener. You think, oh I don’t have to do that anymore.”

Bringing sentimental items along for the move ensures Sharon feels right at home. “When I came back to sign all the papers I said to the village manager, Kat, ‘I’m feeling quite sad because I’ve got a water feature my husband gave me many years ago and it needs power. I’ve had a look and there’s no outside power points’ and Kat said, ‘we can sort that out for you.’ Within a few weeks of shifting in, I had the power point and my water feature going.”

“I can’t stress enough how helpful and friendly the staff have been, they went over and above for me.”

If you’d like to know more about the Summerset life, pop into Summerset Mount Denby, or visit summerset.co.nz/whangarei

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Waipu Rugby Club plays host to teams from around Northland



Waipu's Under 18s head off an Otamatea charge.

MARSDEN POINT HIGH TIDES

	AM		PM	
Thu 22 May	2.24	2.3	2.49	2.4
Fri 23 May	3.20	2.6	3.52	2.5
Sat 24 May	4.17	2.6	4.54	2.6
Sun 25 May	5.13	2.7	5.53	2.7
Mon 26 May	6.10	2.7	6.50	2.8
Tue 27 May	7.06	2.8	7.44	2.9
Wed 28 May	8.01	2.8	8.37	2.9
Thu 29 May	8.55	2.7	9.29	2.9
Fri 30 May	9.49	2.7	10.20	2.9
Sat 31 May	10.42	2.6	11.12	2.8
Sun 1 June	11.34	2.5	~	~
Mon 2 June	12.04	2.7	12.27	2.5
Tue 3 June	12.56	2.6	1.21	2.4
Wed 4 June	1.48	2.6	2.17	2.3
Thu 5 June	2.39	2.4	3.14	2.3
Fri 6 June	3.30	2.4	4.10	2.3

Waipu Rugby hosted a home day on Saturday 10 May with all 12 of its junior teams meeting their opponents in the Caledonian Park.

The day began at 8.30am with the junior ripper rugby games for under 5s and under 7s.

The final game was played between the up and coming Waipu under-18-team against Otamatea. The teams looked fairly evenly matched in the first half but Waipu pulled away strongly in the second and came out on top 36 -12.

Earlier Waipu's Under 14 team had achieved a resounding 72 -0 victory against Ruawai.

Junior Club Co-coordinator Kara Cunis said Waipu's Under 14s team has been together for a long time and is looking strong.

She said, the under 18s is also a "really good squad this year."

Club President Ryan Hall said it was a "brilliant day" and Kara had worked incredibly hard to get

it organised. Teams came from "all over" and included: Ruawai, Onerahi, Horahora, Manaia, Mangakahia, Kamo and Otamatea.

Waipu's under 12s took the opportunity to fundraise for a planned trip to a national tournament in Taupo in September.

Ryan said, "It was good that the weather played its part. Walking around and seeing all those supporters I felt the club is in good heart."

"Our teenage teams, our Under 14s and Under 18s are looking pretty sharp. We now just have to build towards a senior squad."

The Waipu Under 18s had another resounding win in a home game last Saturday 17 May beating Old Boys Marist 59 -0.

At round six the team sits at the top of the table with 26 points, ahead of Kaikohe on 24 and Kaitia on 23.

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Reidyn Turanga makes a charge for the line for his Waipu Cyclones team in an under 7s game ripper rugby game against Mangakahi



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From the files of The Bream Bay News of 50 years ago

From the May 1975 Edition

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

It has come to my notice that a good majority of the general public do not realize that the Marsden Combined St. John Ambulance Division provide an entirely free Home Nursing Service. Such nursing includes the elderly and patients released from hospital who may be in need of having a dressing changed etc. Anyone needing further information about this service can ring me at RUK 566 or Mrs E. Dresser at RUK 499. I would also like to point out that Brigade members give their time for both nursing and general Ambulance duties on a 100% voluntary basis.

D. Storey
Officer in Charge.

Coastal care trees chopped down for a hut



Bream Bay Coastal Care volunteers were startled to see that some of the kanuka trees they planted a few years ago along the stream at the southern end of the Paradise Shores subdivision had been chopped down and used to make a frame for a hut.

They were even more startled to see a fireplace set up with a ring of stones and some kindling gathered inside this structure.

Sue Jolly and Lu Cummings want whoever did the damage to understand that these kanuka trees were planted to help restore the native vegetation on this Department of Conservation land. In particular they were concerned that some of the chopped down trees were alongside the stream leaving the banks prone to erosion.

They ask whoever chopped down the trees and built the hut to contact them so they can explain the ongoing work to reestablish back dune forest here and perhaps to help out at a few working bees.



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**james
alexander** **RayWhite**

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Field and Flow Pilates	Midnight Musings	Whangarei District Council
Hammer Hardware Waipu	SmoothFM	



ARTISAN JUNCTION

POP UP ART SALE



KING'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND
SATURDAY 31ST MAY + SUNDAY 1 JUNE
9.00 AM – 2.00 PM

Marsden Bay Christian Camp Hall
89a One Tree Point Road, OTP
One Tree Point

There will be original paintings in various mediums. Other genres include Kiwiana products, bespoke jewellery, sculptor, ceramics, outdoor art, scarves, greeting cards, cushions and much, much more.

Parking on site - Refreshments – Eftpos -
Free admission

A Kings Birthday pop up art sale at the Marsden Bay Christian Camp



Artisan Junction was formed in 2024 when three art loving ladies Maree Gutry, Margaret Marincovich and Helen Sumbler had a vision – to provide a platform to enable the bringing together local artisans to share and sell their work.

A successful inaugural event was held in July, 2024, at the Marsden Yacht and Boat Club and then a pre Christmas sale also a big success. Buoyed by positive feedback from artists and visitors alike, Artisan Junction now plans to hold bi-annual events.

A larger venue was sourced – the Christian Camp, at 89a One Tree Point which has a large hall and an extensive outdoor area. At the Kings Birthday art sale will include pastels, watercolour, oil, acrylic, reverse painting on glass, outdoor art, photography, ceramics, sculpture, steel sculpture and jewellery. Admission is free, the venue offers plenty of parking and refreshments will be available.

Left: A piece by Jenny Foster. It's a real coat and hat dipped in concrete and painted.

WHAT'S ON IN BREAM BAY

- **ARTISAN JUNCTION POPUP ART SALE** Kings Birthday Weekend Saturday 31 May & Sunday 1 June. 9am to 2pm. At the Marsden Bay Christian Camp, 89a One Tree Point Rd. Free entry.
- **STREET AND PARK MARKET SUNDAY 1 JUNE 9AM - 2PM.** 140 plus stalls. At The Centre, Waipu, the Celtic Barn and the Caledonian Park.
- **CARLEEN STILL AND KYLIE AUSTIN** at the Waipu citizens and Services Club. Saturday 7 June at 7pm. Tickets \$20. Fundraiser for the Waipu Fire Brigade.
- **CELTIC HARMONY PIPE BAND CONCERT**, Saturday June 28, 7pm, Celtic Barn, Waipu. Full backing band, singers, dancers. Tickets: trybooking and Harcourts Waipu plus door sales. Light supper. Contact Jill Mutch 0274821967
- **BREAM BAY MUSIC GROUP** First Monday of every month starting at 7pm At the new Rec Centre in Peter Snell Road, Ruakaka Contact Ross or Fulco on 0274 410 584

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS Fridays 10.30 -12noon, Bream Bay Community Trust Hall, Takutai Place, Ruakaka coming up: . 23 May Youth week- Celebrating our rangitahi. 30 May Matariki crafts Kono weaving, 6 June - Matariki crafts - star weaving.

• **COMMUNITY BINGO** every last Wednesday each month (except December) Every one welcome. Raffles, restaurant and Bar open from 5 pm Calling starts at 7.30 pm 15 games and 2 jackpots open to the public. At the Waipu Citizens and Services Club

• **WAIPU MUSEUM** 36, The Centre, Waipu. Open seven days 10am- 4pm

• **THE KAURI MUSEUM.** The Kauri Museum is open 9am-5pm every day

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BREAM BAY

Link

EVERY THURSDAY

MORNING

Time	Departs	Destination
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	Ruakaka Peter Snell Road (opposite Takutai Place)
10.50am	Arrives	Whangarei Rose Street Bus Terminus

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

AFTERNOON

Time	Departs	Destination
3.00pm	Departs	Whangarei Rose Street Bus Terminus
3.40pm	Departs	Ruakaka 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
Ruakaka	\$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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THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE
of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 5 June
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 28 May

FREE**A BROWN SHAVER
COCKEREL**

He was supposed to be a hen. Perhaps someone would like to try breeding laying hens to supply us lifestyle blockers..

Phone Marilyn
027 432 0070

**SOCIAL SERVICES****Safeman Safe family
Men's Centre**

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

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

The services we provide are as follows:

- Advocacy Navigator
- Court support
- FGC Support
- Probation Community Service Provider
- Legal Advice
- Marriage Celebrant
- House and property blessing
- One to one counselling
- Drug and Alcohol support
- Anger management group sessions
- Supervisor for court ordered access
- Work brokers/ help with employment opportunities.

No appointments are necessary, we have an open door policeu - if you need help or know someone that does just come on down to: **9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā**. We are right next door to Jimmy's Barber Shop or I can be reached by phone
021 121 0763 - Phil Paieka

**Bream Bay Community
Support Trust**

Takutai Place, Ruakaka Phone: 09 432 7197

Services we provide:

- Registered Social Workers
- Family Support Workers
- Youth Workers
- Youth Holiday Programme
- Counsellors
- Community Connectors (Connecting community to various services)
- Free Whanau Ora Medical Clinic with Ki A Ora Ngatiwai. Wednesday mornings 10am-12noon, by appointment only phone 09 435 4586
- Free Budgeting Service - fortnightly on Thursdays 10am-1pm, by appointment
- Mana Wahine Ki Wahine Toa & Ha Tane groups
- Community Gardens behind our main building please help yourself
- Pataka Kai/ Food Pantry located outside our reception door.

Follow us on social media - Facebook and Instagram for updates on what is happening here during the week.

www.bbtrust.org.nz

SOCIAL SERVICES**Not sure? Ask us!**

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AGM

of the Waipu Coronation Hall
to be held on the 11 June at 7pm.
In the hall

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

Monday - Friday: 8.45am - 5pm

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

New patients welcome

Ph: 432 8060



Ruakaka Recreation Centre

Special General Meeting

Topic: updating current constitution to comply
with the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022

Date: 30th of May 2025 at 6.30pm

Place: Ruakaka Recreation Centre
3 Peter Snell Road Ruakaka

For more information please contact Christine on
4327962 (8am – 2pm). Everyone is welcome.

MARSDEN YACHT
AND BOAT CLUB,
ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING

25th May, 12.00pm,
At the Club House
BBQ Lunch and
Prize Giving.



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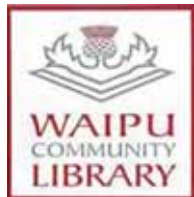
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Make contact with a Justice of the Peace
(on any day) and make an appointment to have
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A service desk also operates 10am to 11am on
Saturdays in the Ruakākā Library.

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Costs \$5.50 for up to 20 words and 20c
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Phone your advert through to 027452 0070
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or leave it with payment at: The Waipu Post Shop
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BREAM BAY SUNDAY
CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

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

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

Lifepoint. 300 OTP Rd, 10am.

FOR SALE



22 CULLEN ROAD, WAIPU COVE

- Large, private, four bedroom, home, with office, open plan living plus additional formal dining and lounge areas
- Internal access to double garage
- Separate spacious American style barn
- Heated, saltwater swimming pool

Price: Deadline Private Treaty (Unless Sold Prior)



14 ST ANNE ROAD, WAIPU COVE

- Private and very peaceful, three split level, four bedroom home with office
- Great natural light through-out
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WAI2779

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- Attractive, polished wooden floors
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Judy Guy 027 221 5623



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\$1,140,000

WAI2764

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- 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom modern home
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- Take the safe cycleway to Waipu village
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Christine Tierney 027 488 1883



10 The Braigh, Waipu
\$995,000

WAI2688

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

Lyndie Mullins 021 101 6389

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

Harcourts Waipu



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Asking Price \$1,150,000 | bbrealty.co.nz #4237

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68 Stace Hopper Drive, One Tree Point

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New Listing!



KICK BACK

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TENDER - Closes 4.30pm, 3rd June 2025 (prior offers considered) | bbrealty.co.nz #4236

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OPEN HOME—SUNDAY 11.00—11.45am | 29 Bream Bay Drive, Ruakaka

