

Bream Bay News

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Water restrictions apply in Bream Bay as well as the rest of Whangarei District

The water restrictions, which have been put in place in Whangarei also apply to Bream Bay. For people on the Council's reticulated water supply, sprinklers and garden irrigators cannot be used and businesses cannot take water from the mains for construction purposes or water their gardens and lawns.

The Whangarei District Council's Water Services Manager Andrew Venmore said, while the Wilson's Dam at 69% was not as low as the Whau Valley Dam which is at 60%, it was less confusing to place the restriction across the whole district and because of the national importance of some of the industries in Bream Bay and their dependence on water he felt it was wise to be careful about water use in this area.

He had been in touch with some of the biggest water users such as the Marsden Point Refinery. Most of the refinery's water use is for its cooling system and is needed for the safe operation of the plant but the company is attempting to save water on its domestic usage.

Although not as low as the Whau Valley Dam, the Wilson's Dam is the lowest it has ever been at this time of the year. It usually doesn't reach the level it is now until April. The water in the Ruakaka River has fallen to the level at which the Council is no longer permitted to draw from it. The Council is still able to take water from the Ahuroa River in Waipu.

Mr. Venmore said there would need to be significant rain before the restrictions are lifted.

Learning to grow, cook and eat vegetables at Ruakaka School



Soul Pene – Hita and K'dencee Tali-Miru holding up two big pumpkins, the largest weighing in at 15-kilo, grown in the Ruakaka School garden under the expertise of Garden to Table Teacher Aaron Therkleson.

Vegetables that you have grown yourself taste extra good as children at Ruakaka Primary discovered when they harvested and then roasted a big pumpkin from the school's vegetable garden. The pumpkin was baked and served up with yoghurt and spice and the children lined up their helpings.

Ruakaka Primary has a garden to Table Programme overseen by Aaron Therkleson. This year with the help of the children he grew a crop of big blue Jarrahdale pumpkins, which are particularly tasty. In the school garden there are also many different varieties of beans and sweet corn including one plant bearing a bright pink cob. The children are learning about flowers and seeds and how you can cross-pollinate to grow new varieties.



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EDITORIAL

The drought has highlighted the plight of the Ruakaka Dune Lake

Did everyone get the rain on Friday afternoon? After all those hot dry days it seemed like a miracle. We measured 13mm in our rain gauge. Enough to freshen things up a bit and put a few thousand litres of water into our tanks but not enough to reach the roots of the trees. Last time I looked at a long-range weather forecast there was more rain predicted this weekend so fingers crossed.

The drought has highlighted the plight of the Ruakaka Dune Lake, which has all but dried up. The lakebed at the northern end is completely dry and the people who brought property there eight years ago when they could enjoy a view of the lake with ducks and swans floating on it are now looking at a field of weeds. It can't even be called a wetland as silt run off from the surrounding properties has lifted the lake bed to such an extent that not even wetland plants are growing there and when it does rain heavily water floods our of the former lake onto the road.

I can remember objections from environmentalists (I have to admit Margaret Hicks who I don't always agree with, was shouting the loudest) at the time the subdivision gained consent predicting the lake would suffer if storm water run off from the subdivision was funneled into it without first passing through a settling pond or some kind of filtration system. This seems to be exactly what has happened. Conditions to protect the integrity of the lake should have been placed on the developer before sign off from the Council and now, if this situation is to be righted, it will be the

ratepayers who foot the bill.

My week of attempting not to buy any plastic wasn't entirely successful. The biggest transgression was the plastic tape around the bundles of Bream Bay News papers when they arrive from the printer. The papers are done up in bundles of 100 and there are 6,700 of them, so quite a bit of plastic tape.

Otherwise I think I did pretty well.

At the supermarket I bought a whole cabbage rather than a half, as the half was wrapped in glad wrap. We have been eating a lot of coleslaw. I said 'no thank you' to butter on my muffin at the café as the butter comes in a little plastic capsule. I looked for fruit that didn't have plastic stickers on it. This can be hard to find. I bought milk in a glass bottle from the Waipu butcher and meat wrapped in brown paper. I bought whole oranges rather than orange juice to avoid the plastic bottle. I went to the Eco store in Whangarei and bought a packet of stainless steel clothes pegs. They should last forever.

I picked up a pre-ordered pair of sunglasses with plastic frames. I should have looked in the bag they came in as it contained a complimentary plastic bottle of lens cleaner, which I could have refused.

Yesterday there was quite a lot washed up on the beach along the high tide mark – bottle tops, bits of plastic rope, lots of those terrible baby wipes, a clothes peg, a plastic sun visor off some one's hat. Avoiding plastic is not easy. It is so pervasive in our day-to-day lives.

Marilyn

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THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

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

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Massive fire in Ruakaka dunes

Photo by Dave Hayes

A massive fire ripped through the dunes north of the Ruakaka Surf Lifesaving Club on Monday afternoon 24 February, threatening houses along Bream Bay Drive and the Ruakaka Beach Holiday Park and leaving a large swathe of blackened vegetation.

Three helicopters were deployed to dump seawater onto the flames and fire crews from both Ruakaka and Waipu attended.

One firefighter was carried off the dunes on a stretcher and was treated by St. John Ambulance staff.

Bream Bay Drive was blocked to traffic but sightseers turned up to watch the action from vantage points at Ruakaka beach and on friend's verandahs.

Local resident Dave Hayes said he heard the sirens going off at around 1pm and saw the smoke in the dunes. He took his camera and headed down to Bream Bay Drive. He said the fire appeared to be burning in three separate locations.

Other people who has seen the fire in its early stages also said it had begun in three places, which would seem to indicate it had been deliberately lit. Lu Cummings who was watching from her home nearby said it was amazing how quickly the flames took hold and the fire grew.

By around 5pm the fire was out but a team of firefighters stayed at the scene throughout the night ready to deal with any flare ups.

The fire was located within the Ruakaka Wildlife Refuge but did not reach the estuary edge where a pair of oystercatcher chicks have yet to fledge. Most of the oyster catchers and dotted chicks hatched in nests in the refuge this summer have already flown their nests.

Contrary to a report on TV1 on Monday evening the survival of the New Zealand Fairy Tern is not likely to be threatened by the fire as this bird has not nested at the Ruakaka Estuary for at least 20 years.



The fire got perilously close to the Ruakaka Beach Holiday Park before being doused by helicopters dumping sea water on the blaze,

Seven fairy tern fledglings

Seven fairy tern chicks are expected to fledge this summer, which is a considerable improvement on the 2018/2019 breeding season when there were only two.

With fewer than 40 adult birds, the tara iti/fairy tern is critically endangered and despite intensive management has teetered on the brink of extinction since the 1970s. The settled weather during the season resulted in fewer nest losses than last season and overall the birds finished laying earlier.

Biodiversity ranger Ayla Wiles said, "The major challenges this year have been the loss of at least one of the parents of two chicks at Te Arai and the subsequent loss of one of those chicks; the loss of a fertile egg to a rat at Waipu, and the desertion of a chick by its parents half way through the dependency period at Mangawhai."

"We have also had higher incidences of compliance issues causing disturbance to the birds. Common problems have been dogs and horses in DOC administered reserves and wildlife refuges vehicles, drones, low flying paragliders, jet skis, fizz boats, and aircraft causing disturbance as well as small fires threatening the nest sites.



Three helicopters were deployed to dump seawater on the blaze

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The Ruakaka Summer Festival



Charlotte Knox, aged 6 years, has a pony ride on Chopper led by Nicky Robinson



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The Ruakaka Summer Festival on Saturday 15 February was held to mark a 30 year anniversary for the Ruakaka Music Club which meets in the Ruakaka Recreation Centre at 7pm - 10pm on the first Monday of each month. Members of the club entertained throughout the day from the back of a curtain-sider truck supplied for the event by Match Transport.

Celtic Band Twisty Willow also took a turn on the stage as did the Ruakaka School kapahaka group. There were stalls, a display by the Ruakaka Fire Brigade and pony rides.



Betty Campbell (on the right) is kept company by her friend Lynda Clapham as she sells colourful flowers fashioned by her husband from scallop shells at her stall

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“Ruakaka, as usual, is well down WDC’s priority list”

The Whangarei District Council will attempt to secure central government funding from the Tourism Infrastructure Fund for a new changing room and toilets at Ruakaka beach alongside the surf lifesaving club.

Despite suggestions in April and May of 2019 by the Councils Infrastructure Manager Simon Weston and Bream Bay Ward Councillor Shelley Deeming that the TIF was a good fit for the proposed new facility and a request by the Ruakaka Parish Residents and Ratepayers Association that an application for the changing rooms and toilet be made to the fund, no application for this purpose was made to the last round in August from which a large grant of \$781,000 was allocated to the WDC for an upgrade to Whangarei’s Quarry Gardens access and car parking and \$1,670,000 for an upgrade in the Whangarei Town Basin.

The next TIF funding round opens on March and closes on March 31. The Council’s Parks and Reserves Manager Sue Hodge said the Council has set aside funds to meet a proportion of the project costs, which is one of the conditions of the fund. She advised there would only be one TIF round this year. As the general election is scheduled for 19 September, this could be the last opportunity to secure an allocation from this fund.

In the meantime the Council has put unisex signs outside the existing two-cubicle toilet as a solution to queuing outside. One man reported he had counted 25 women waiting outside the women’s toilet and that he had helped the situation by suggesting the women use the men’s toilet while he stood guard at the door.

Sue Hodge offered to find out why the application didn’t go ahead last August and came back with the reply, “We didn’t apply in August as we had a number of other projects we were working on and we didn’t have time to investigate the Ruakaka project to ensure we had the level of detail the TIF fund requires.

Councillor Shelley Deeming said she had understood that application had been made and agreed that this summer again demonstrated “an urgent need for better facilities in this area.

“The queues of users were so long particularly for the female toilet that locals attached unisex signs to the tiny toilets for which people expressed immense gratitude. With the surf competitions and many other national events based around the surf club appropriate facilities are vital both for human decency and to save degradation of environment.”

Warren Daniel, secretary of the Ruakaka Parish Residents and Ratepayers Association and staunch advocate for Ruakaka said, Ruakaka, is as usual, well down WDC’s priority list despite the beach hosting major Surf Life-saving carnivals and Beach Volley Ball tournaments. Without those events, up to 500 people, including 150 swimmers in the water are often at the beach at any one time during the peak holiday season- still we miss out! So much for WDC tourist promotion!

“I suppose we will have to await the outcome of the March Application. At least WDC have set their portion of the funding aside.”

The Tourism Infrastructure fund is part of the Provincial Growth Fund. RuakakaA document setting out the priorities for round five states,

“The TIF can provide financial support for local visitor-related public infrastructure where tourism growth (domestic and international) is placing pressure on, or potential growth is constrained by, existing infrastructure and where the local community is unable to respond in a timely way without assistance.” There are numerous examples of monies allocated from this fund to providing and upgrading public toilets at various rural locations around New Zealand.

\$22,500 profit from the Car and Bike Show

The Waipu Car and Bike Show made a total profit of \$22,500 for the Waipu Lions, \$15,000 of which will go to the Waipu Fire Brigade with the remainder divided up between various groups which assisted with the running of the event, including the Bream Bay swimming club and Bream Bay College.

Chief organizers Ron and Karen Cave estimate around 3,000 people visited the show, around the same number

as last year but said it was hard to judge accurately as children under the age of 12 had free entry and there were discounted family pass tickets.

The price of general entry went up from \$5 to \$10 this year, which accounted for the increased profit (last year the event raised \$18,000). This year, however, car and bike exhibitors (one person per entry) were not charged to get in.

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New Conservative Party leader coming to Waipu

The New Conservative Party is getting an early march on the competition to win your votes in the 2020 general election scheduled for 19 September. The party leader Leighton Baker will hold a public meeting in Waipu at 50 The Centre on Saturday 7 March.

Meeting to form Waipu CLP focus group

A meeting to form a focus group and appoint a facilitator to work on a project (or projects) in Waipu under the Whangarei District Council's Community Led Projects Fund has been set for Tuesday 3 March at 6.30pm in the Waipu Presbyterian Church Hall.

The Council has offered the Waipu community a grant of \$100,000 to develop and carry out a project in the town.

At a previous meeting on 15 October representatives of 18 different Waipu community groups turned up. The council's Community Development advisor Jacki Cooper said that the chosen project (or projects) be as inclusive of as wide a representation of local people as possible.

The Waipu Bowling Club celebrates 100 years

The Waipu Outdoor Bowling Club will celebrate 100 years this weekend.

The Club is holding a formal function at 2pm this Friday 28 February. With current members, past executive members, current sponsors and advertisers, special guests including representative from Bowls New Zealand and our local Councillors all invited. An invitation playing day will follow on Saturday 29th with approximately 120 players. Spectators are welcome.



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The Ruakaka Dune Lake is drying up

The Ruakaka Dune Lake has all but dried up. The people who bought property in Dune Lake Place beside a beautiful clear water lake now live beside a dried up lake bed with raupo still growing at its edges but weeds in the centre.

Alan Jones said eight years ago when he built his house he could launch a dingy just across the road from his property and he could watch ducks, swans and eels in the water.

There is still water in the lake to the south beside a revegetation project undertaken by the Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust on Department of Conservation land but to the north alongside the residential subdivision it has dried out.

Some residents blame the Ruakaka Racecourse irrigation for the falling lake level. The Racecourse has resource consent to draw water from an aquifer but not directly from the lake. No research has been done to establish where the lake's groundwater connections are and it is unknown if this aquifer also feeds into the lake.

Several years ago Lisa Forrester, Biodiversity Manager of the Northland Regional Council advised Dune Lake Place residents, "As a community you may be able look for some funding to get some hydrogeological research done which may help understand the lakes water budget and sources better.

We have been doing some of this work in our outstanding lakes but unfortunately this work is costly and we are unable to extend this to lakes which are not highly ranked."

Alan says he has figures to show how much the lake level drops when the racecourse has its irrigation system turned on. The Ruakaka Racecourse consent allows it to take 50,800 cubic metres a year from the aquifer and no more than 508 cubic metres in a 24 hour period or 2,888 cubic metres in a week.

Another problem is stormwater from the surrounding subdivision is funneled directly into the lake without any filtration system to trap silt.

New houses being built in the area are now required to have some kind of filtration on their stormwater outlets which makes Alan question why the Council doesn't have the same requirement on its own stormwater outflows into the lake.

He points out how the stormwater pipes are clogged up with silt and how the lake bed has risen to such an extent that when heavy rain falls it overflows flooding the road.



Alan Jones standing in the middle of the lake bed where eight years ago he could row his dingy

He has a thick dossier documenting all his dealings with the Department of Conservation, The Northland Regional Council and the Whangarei District Council. He rings the Whangarei District Council at least once a week about the problem asking them to come and clear out the weeds and silt.

He also wants them to clear away the raupo at the lakes edges as well as he says when it dies off in the winter it adds to the problem and the dry vegetation is a fire hazard.

While the Ruakaka Dune Lake might not have a high ranking with the NRC it does, however, have status as a "Significant Indigenous Wetland" and a resource consent is required before any vegetation is cleared from it.

Lisa said that any shallow nutrient rich lake will infill to a wetland and offered advice about planting around the margins of the lake with native plants that don't drop leaves. She said that any clearing of raupo would need to be done carefully and through an NRC consent.

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A bit choppy at this year's Snake Bank Challenge



Quinn McClelland aged 11 of Ruakaka gets his boat set up for the afternoons sailing racing.

The number of paddle craft was smaller than in recent years at this year's Snake Bank Challenge held on Saturday 15 February. In fact one paddler pulled out before reaching the start line saying she was exhausted just trying to keep her craft near the line in the 10 minutes before the gun went off. Conditions improved for the afternoons sail race with good numbers of both adult and junior sailors taking part



Andrew Wright, who was the first short course paddler home did well to keep his wave ski upright in the choppy conditions at this year's Snake Bank Challenge. In fact he did capsize once when his hat blew off and he reached to retrieve it.



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POLICE REPORT

Langs Beach death may have been a medical event

An 81-year-old man died in shallow water at Langs Beach on Friday 21 February. It is unclear at this stage if drowning or a medical event caused the death.

Charged with assaulting Police and resisting arrest

A 21-year-old Ruakaka man has been charged with assaulting police and resisting arrest after he drove through a Police checkpoint on One Tree Point Rd. at around 8.30pm on Thursday 13 February. The young man drove into the Marsden City subdivision with Police in pursuit. At the end of Roosevelt Rd. he got out of his car and attempted to flee on foot. He was taken to hospital for observation after he was hit by the Police car.

Burglaries

- On 11 February approximately \$3,000 worth of dive gear was stolen from a property in St. Anne's Rd in Waipu Cove.
- On 13 February a red, Ford diesel tractor with a transport tray was stolen from a property in Millbrook Rd., Waipu. The burglar or burglars needed to enter through two gates to reach the tractor.
- On 14 February a 10-foot aluminum Fryan dinghy was stolen from a holiday bach on One Tree Point Rd.
- On 14 February a person was disturbed in a boat shed at the waters edge on One Tree Point Rd. The offender made off with two paddleboards.
- On 15 February a Total Span Shed on State Highway One was broken into. Copper piping was stolen from a bathroom in a small living quarters at one end of the shed which left water gushing from the pipes and flooding the property. Copper and brass ornaments were also taken from the living area.
- On 18 February a trailer load of topsoil was stolen from a property under construction in State Hopper Drive at the Marsden Cove marina.
- On 18 February \$800 worth of truck batteries were stolen from a house removal yard in Marsden Point Rd.
- On 19 February a gas bottle and a coffee machine were taken from a house in Manaia View Rd., One Tree Point.

13 Family harm incidents

Six family harm incidents in the Ruakaka area were reported to Police in the period 10 February to 24 February.

Over the same period there were 2 family harm incidents reported in Waipu and 5 from Maungaturoto. Sergeant Pennington said these were mostly verbal arguments and no arrests were made.

Warnings issued to truck drivers

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Team has been active and running checks on trucks in the Bream Bay area. Over the fortnight from 10 February to 24 February it warned three truck drivers for log book offences and another for exceeding the mileage on his paid up road user charges.

Two power pole crashes on the same day

On Tuesday 11 February there were two separate accidents involving vehicles crashing into power poles.

The first occurred on Mountfield Rd. at around 8am when a young man driving a work van failed to take a corner approximately metres from the Mountfield Rd./Applecross Rd. corner.

The van ended up on its side in a paddock and the power pole was knocked over interrupting the power supply to homes and businesses in the immediate vicinity. Not for too long though. By 1pm that day Northpower had replaced the pole and restored the supply. The young driver, the sole occupant of the

Fire outside Maungaturoto Police Station

There was a fire in a planter box between the Maungaturoto Police Station and a takeaway shop at 4pm on Wednesday 19 February. The flames were put out before the fire brigade arrived by a couple of off duty volunteer firemen who happened to be in the vicinity. Sergeant Neil Pennington thinks it is likely the fire was caused by a stray cigarette butt and asks people to be careful given the very dry conditions.

Drink Drivers

- On 12 February a 48-year-old Mangapai woman was stopped while driving in Ngatoka Rd. in Mangapai. She returned a breath alcohol level of 568 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath, more than double the 250mcg limit.
- On 18 February a 38-year-old local woman returned a 596mcg breath alcohol level after being stopped by Police while driving on Peter Snell Rd. in the Ruakaka Village. Both women will be appearing in the Whangarei District Court on drink driving charges.

Fallen power lines spark grass fire

Also on 11 February in the early afternoon a car ran into a power pole at the intersection of Marsden Point Rd. and Rama Rd. The driver was on a lunch break from his job at Marsden Point and as he turned the corner his accelerator stuck and his vehicle veered left and hit the power pole. He was not injured in the crash. However power lines dropped to the ground and sparked causing a fire to spread quickly over parched grassland west of the intersection. The Waipu and Ruakaka Fire Brigades put the blaze out and stayed at the site until around 6pm to quench any flare ups.

Crashes

- On 13 February there was a two-vehicle collision at Maungaturoto when a truck travelling south changed lanes to go around road works at the same time as a car was attempting to overtake it.
- On 21 February at 5.30am a 16-year-old man appears to have fallen asleep at the wheel driving south on State Highway One and crashed into a ditch. He was not seriously injured.
- On 14 February at 10.45am a log truck heading north with no logs on board and its trailer stacked on the tray slipped into a ditch on Springfield Rd. after the driver took evasive action to avoid a car which had come around a corner on the wrong side of the road.

Petrol Drive off

On 15 February a person drove away from the Oakleigh Service Station without paying for \$65 worth of diesel


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Linn Lorkin at Blacksheep Farm

Linn Lorkin, singer, pianist and actress, is coming to Waipu. She will be performing her "Hey Piano Bar Lady", an autobiographical cabaret style jazz musical telling the story of her early life from Tokoroa, through Copenhagen and Italy and to her rise as a leading piano bar player in New York in the late 70's to the mid 80s at a house concert at Black Sheep Farm on Sunday 5 April from 2pm.

Aaron Coddell will accompany her on double bass and after the show there will be the opportunity to meet both Linn and Aaron over light refreshments.

"I've wanted to get Linn Lorkin here for years and finally plucked up the courage to ask her", said Lisa Uphof of Blacksheep Farm. She is hoping to get a "great audience" for the show.

Tickets cost \$45 and can be purchased online at www.blacksheepfarm.co.nz or by phoning (09) 432 0435. There will be no door sales



Linn Lorkin

Anika Moa at the Waipu Easter Carnival

Singer and entertainer Anika Moa will be performing with her acoustic guitar at the Waipu Easter Carnival, which will be held on Saturday, 11th April in the Waipu Caledonian Park. Also appearing on stage are local Jazz musicians 'Basin City Big Band,' and the Steel Band from Bream Bay College- 'The Panimals' Carnival Marketing and Entertainment Coordinator Emma McLean said, "Having someone with the talent and caliber of Anika Moa performing will add an even greater dynamic to the Waipu Primary School fundraiser and the committee is hoping to see record crowds at the event."



Anika Moa

The Waipu Easter Carnival will be held in conjunction with the Waipu street market and will run from 9am until 2pm. The Carnival is in its twelfth year and is run by volunteers including: parents, grandparents, teachers, children and helpers from the community running the entertainment, food stalls and sideshows. Organisers say there has been a real focus this year on creating "a fun village vibe", with free entertainment, games to play for the price of \$1, food on sale, stalls and tractor rides.

"Waipu Easter Carnival is one of the last events on the summer calendar and we are really aiming to capture the essence of summer holidays and relaxed family fun."

Entry will be by koha (donation).

Emma said, "As always local businesses have been extremely supportive."

Anyone else who would like to contribute can contact the carnival team at: waipucarnival@gmail.com. Local people willing to volunteer to help out for a few hours over Easter weekend should also make contact using the same email address.

More information on this year's Carnival can be found at www.waipucarnival.com or by searching on



Pukapuka Party

Saturday 14th March 2020

10am - 2pm

Come and join the fun at
Ruakaka Recreation Centre Fields
off Takutai Place

Free Fun Activities

For children 0-16 years

Free Sausage Sizzle

For participating children

Prizes and Giveaways

For any enquiries contact

Gladys Rowsell 027 293 8938

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Take a Kid Fishing

The Waipu Boat and Fishing Club's annual Take a Kid Fishing day will be held on Sunday 29 March from 10am -1pm at the clubhouse at 100 Nova Scotia Drive.

The event is open to all children 13 years and under. There is a \$2 entry fee and prizes for all.

Children need to be accompanied by an adult. Club members will be present but they are likely to be busy cooking sausages and organizing the prizes.

Club member Ash Russell remembers when his children took part in the first Waipu Take a Kid Fishing day 20 years ago. The Take a Kid Fishing initiative came from fishing guru Bill Hohepa and in its early years in Waipu children were taken out in boats. These days the fishing is done along the riverbank and from the pontoon alongside the clubhouse.



Fishing along the riverbank at last years Take a Kid Fishing day.

Camp Waipu Cove

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Bookings essential ph 09 432 0410 or make a booking at our office.

Phone 432 0410
 869 Cove Rd., Waipu
www.campwaipucove.com

Free fun activities for kids at Pukapuka Party

The fifth annual Pukapuka Party will be held on Saturday 14 March from 10am – 2pm on the Ruakaka Recreation Centre Fields in Takutai Place.

Organiser Gladys Rowsell said this year the party will follow the model of previous years with free educational activities for children who get stamps on a “passport” for every activity completed. Once they have collected five stamps in the case of the smaller children and eight for the older ones they can go to ‘passport control’ and to be given a prize package.

Local schools and early education centres as well as community groups set up gazebos with the various activities.

There is also a hotly contested inter-school quiz.

Gladys said her bedroom has stacks of books that will be given away at the party.

She said she enjoys meeting local children and thinks the annual event is having a positive impact on their enthusiasm for learning. She and daughter Wendy also hold swap – a - book days in Ruakaka and Waipu each school holiday and invite children to submit reviews on the books they have read.

“To begin with we would only get around half a dozen reviews and now we get around 20 or 30.”

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*New enrolments to Educare Bream Bay or Educare One Tree Point from 11/02/20 to 30/04/20 are eligible for their first 3 months free. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Not eligible for tamariki already enrolled in an Educare centre.



Waipu Presbyterian Parish

Contacts:

Minister - Tom Waight - 432 0534

Mainly Music - Sharon Smith - 432 1050

Toy Library - Julie Malone - 432 0388

Church Hall Hire - Cally James 432 0534

Family Welfare & Foodbank:

Co-ordinator - Helen Matheson - 432 0239

Budgeting Advice - Bruce Matheson - 432 0239

The Crossroads Trust (financial support) Peter

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

Sunday Services

Ruakaka - Camellia Ave - 8.45am

Waipu - 50 The Centre - 10.15am

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Bird watching tourism - a new industry for Bream Bay



Steve Martinovic and his boat Sumo

Bird watching is a big industry in North America and now it is taking off in Bream Bay.

As an alternative to fishing charters Steve Martinovich takes bird watchers out to the deep ocean to look at pelagic birds species.

Earlier this month Steve took out a tour group travelling the country with Wrybil tours. The group comprised: a couple from Belgium and six people from the UK as well as tour guide Save Saville and Jojo Doyle, a seabird enthusiast who isn't on the tour but has booked in for this outing. Bream Bay News reporter Marilyn Cox was invited along as well.

This was the second day of the tour group's bird watching adventure. The previous evening they had been out after dark to watch kiwi on the lawn at Marsden Cross near Kerikeri. It had been a successful night out with five kiwi spotted.

Sav said on a previous occasion with another group they had heard kiwi calling but none came into view. Watching wildlife can be a bit unpredictable like that.

After the trip out from Marsden Bay they were heading to Miranda where shorebirds would be the focus of their attention.

But his trip on board Steve's boat Sumo is to look at seabirds, in particular, pelagic (open sea) birds. Sav said New Zealanders don't appreciate what we have. New Zealand is the seabird mecca of the world and out in the Hauraki Gulf there are seabirds that are not present anywhere else.

The crowning excitement would be to see a new Zealand Storm Petrel, a tiny bird just the size of a sparrow black with white under its wings which was thought to be extinct until it was rediscovered in 2003, 100 years after its previous last sighting. It could be identified by matching its photograph to three specimens in European museums - in the British Natural History Museum and two in the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris. Its only known breeding place is Hauturu (Little Barrier Island) so a sighting is a possibility but unfortunately not on this trip.

The boat edges out of the Marsden Cove Marina and out toward Bream head. It calls in to a pied shag colony along the shore. Chick rearing is over for the year but the big untidy nests remain in the pohutukawa trees. Sav points out the juveniles, now as large as the adults but with t speckled plumage

There is a white fronted tern colony on Frenchman's Island, which is worth a closer look.

BREAM BAY SPORTS AWARDS

Awards Evening

Friday March 6th 2020

6:30pm | Celtic Barn, Waipu

11

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RUAKAKA PARISH RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Ruakaka Parish Residents and Ratepayers Association will be on Tuesday 10 March at 7pm in the Ruakaka Recreation Centre, Takutai Place, Ruakaka. If you have a topic you wish to bring to the meeting please email the association's secretary Warren Daniel 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Mr. Daniel's email address is: wjddaniel39@gmail.com

WAIPU RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Waipu Residents and Ratepayers Association will be held on Wednesday 25 March starting at 7.30pm in St Peters Church, Nova Scotia Drive. All welcome

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As Sumo edges in the birders raise their binoculars and take photographs but what they have really come to see today are seabirds and Steve takes Sumo out beyond the Hen and Chicks

Always watchful, Sav points out a little blue penguin bobbing in the water and Steve turns the boat and follows its progress.

Little fluttering shearwaters come into view over the waves and Buller's Petrels tilting and tipping the waves with their wings, flying effortlessly faster than the boat. White-faced storm petrels come alongside. They dance across the water on their webbed feet.

Since moving to the Coromandel Jojo, originally from North America, has developed an interest and some expertise in New Zealand pelagic bird species. She comes across bodies of petrels and shearwaters washed up on the beach and identifies and records what she finds. She has a notepad and pencil and throughout the entire eight-hour trip jots down the number and species of every bird she spots.

Jojo is helping to compile the New Zealand Bird Atlas an ambitious five-year project which has divided the entire territory of NZ into 10 square kilometre plots.

The project aims to have a bird check list filled out four times a year (once for each season) in each of those plots and invites people to register on the NZ Bird Atlas website and to start counting and registering the birds they see.

Steve tries throwing out burley. The first location around the site of the Niagara ship wreck, where on other days birds have flocked doesn't work today and he tries several more locations before he finds a spot where birds arrive in any numbers

Black petrels swoop in close diving and feasting. They chase away the smaller shearwaters and storm petrels and dive under the water for the burley. They come up for more and shake droplets of water off their feathers. Black petrels migrate to South America in the winter returning each summer to nest in burrows on Hauturu and Great Barrier Islands. Once chicks fledge they remain at sea for four to five years before returning to within metres the spot where they first came out of their burrows and viewed the world. They form breeding pairs and remain together throughout their breeding lives. The male and female birds take turns at incubating the eggs and both feed the chicks.

Birders love to be able to add rare species to the list of birds they have seen. Jojo says it gets quite competitive and is a lot of fun.

As Sumo heads home a in the late afternoon Sav has his binoculars out searching for the Pycroft Petrel. This little grey and white petrel with a speedy, weaving flight is rarely seen as it forages far out to sea. It nests on a few offshore islands on the north east coast of



The boat swings in for a close look at a shag colony in pohutukawa.



New Zealand, the Hen and Chickens being some of these. Sav hopes to spot a parent bird heading back to feed its chick after a day's fishing.

Steve has eight bird watching exhibitions already booked for next summer. He thinks people arriving on the cruise ships might be interested. He is enjoying the change from fishing and learning more about the birds that he has seen on all those fishing trips.



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Northpine has recently launched a new \$20,000 funding programme, called **Stronger Communities**, to help the people of Bream Bay.

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Activities at the Ruakaka Recreation Centre

Activity	Day and Time	Cost	Contact
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Light Circuit Fitness class	Monday 10am to 11am		\$4 AnnMarie 021693115
Light Circuit Fitness class	Wednesday 11am to 12pm		\$3 AnnMarie 021693115
Tai Chi	Monday 11am to 12pm		\$2 Annette 4327897
Chi Kung	Wednesday 9am to 10am		\$8 Alice 02102480569
Aerial Yoga	Tuesday 6.30pm to 7.30pm booking essential		\$18 Barbara 0212998840
Stretching classes	Thursdays 11am to 12pm		\$3 Lu 4328941
Karate	Thursdays 4pm to 7.00pm		\$5 Pam 4320760
60's up	4th Friday of month 10am to 4pm	\$10 annually fee	Robbie 4327329
Music club	1st Monday of month 7pm to 10pm		\$2 Holly 021 842 060
Squash casual	Weekdays-booking essential 8am to 1pm	\$5 ph	Rec Centre 4327982
Pilates	Tuesday 5.15pm to 6.15pm booking essential	\$12.concession(10x)	Barbara 0212998840
Pilates	Thursday 8am to 9am booking essential	\$12.concession(10x)	Barbara 0212998840
Cardio Drumming	Friday 8am-10am		\$10 Nadya 027860334

We are also home to Bream Bay Squash club and Bream Bay United Association Football club

Ian Ross Waugh

17 May 1934 – 5 February 2020

A long time Marsden Bay resident Ian Waugh died in Whangarei earlier this month.

Ian and Alison Waugh lived on One Tree Point where the entrance to the Marsden Point Marina is now located for 34 years after shifting there in 1972 when Ian got a job as security guard at the oil refinery.

Alison also worked at the refinery as an Occupational Health Nurse.

Alison and Ian were early members of the Bream Bay 60s Up group with Alison serving as president for four years and Ian very involved in the petanque group.

Ian was a life member of the Auckland Police Pipe Band. One of his reasons for moving to Whangarei was to join the pipe band there but he found his shift work at the refinery was incompatible with band practice. However he kept up his piping and on New Year's Eve would lead a band of 12 pipers and drummers in parade down One Tree Point Rd. from his home to the Harbour Lights Motel.

Alison remembers how people would come out of their homes to greet the band and neighbours would be "first footing" one another.

Ian's family were of Scottish descent. He was born in Ngaruawahia but moved with his family to Hamilton as a young child and began his piping career as a member of the Hamilton band.



Ian in his full regalia as a piper for Auckland Police Pipe Band.

His first job was as a grocery boy. He worked with his father as a plumber for a while and then took on a job as a delivery driver for Huttons and then for General Foods.

After selling their home in Marsden Bay to Hoppers for the marina development the Waughs found they were unable to afford another house in the area and moved to the Whau Valley in Whangarei and then to Kamo. Ian had been unwell for the past four years.

Ian and Alison had been married for 57 years. They have two daughters, four surviving grandchildren and eight surviving great-grandchildren.

Six nominations for Ruakaka Citizen of the Year Award

There are six nominations for the seventh annual Ruakaka Citizen of the Year Award. Who these are will be revealed at an awards ceremony to be held at Two Birds Café at the Ruakaka Towncentre on Friday 13 March at 2pm.

The awards are organized by the Ruakaka Library and Library Committee Chairwoman Essie Leech said local people are invited to "come along and support these people who have done so much for our district over the years."

Afternoon tea will be served.

The Bream Bay Ladies Singing Group invites new members

The group meets each Wednesday at 1pm in St. Peter's Anglican Church in Waipu, taking a break over the school holidays.

Singer Wendy Boyd said, "We would love to have more ladies who love to sing join our little group."

"This is a fun time. A little music knowledge would be helpful. But not necessary. Just the pleasure of singing in a group with some harmonies added."

"We do a concert at Ranburn Rest Home, usually twice a year which is very much appreciated and enjoyed by all."

The charge is \$3.00 a session, just to cover a few small costs. Anyone interested, please contact Wendy Boyd Ph: 432 1447.

BREAM BAY

Link

Operates every Thursday from 1st August 2019

MORNING

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

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

AFTERNOON

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



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Waipu	\$6.00	\$8.00
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What's On in Bream Bay

• **THE BREAM BAY SPORTS AWARDS.** Friday 6 March in the Waipu Celtic Barn. With guest speaker Grant Fox. Tickets \$50 (includes dinner and complimentary drink) available on the Bream Bay Sports Awards website. No door sales

• **CONCERT BY BOXWOOD NZ** with support from Culture Ireland and Heritage Canada. Saturday March 7th, 7.30pm at the Waipu Presbyterian Church.

• **WAIPU BOUTIQUE SUNDAY MARKET** next on Sunday 8 March in the Waipu Coronation Hall from 9am - 1pm

• **PUKAPUKA PARTY** Saturday 14 March from 10am - 2pm at the Ruakaka Recreation Centre Fields. Free fun activities for children aged 0 to 16

• **MARSDEN COVE MARKET** Next on Sunday 15 March. In the marquee at the Marsden Cove Marina. From 9am to 1pm

• **THE GRADUATE CHOIR** Free concert in the Waipu Coronation Hall on Saturday 21 March at 1pm. Tickets from Waipu Hammer Hardware or Waipu Tickets@gmail.com

• **TAKE A KID FISHING DAY** At the Waipu Boat and Fishing Club. Sunday 29 March from 10am - 1pm. \$2 entry fee. Open to all children 13 years and under.

• **LINN LORKIN IN HEY PIANO LADY** at Black Sheep Farm on Sunday 5 April at 2pm. Tickets \$45 includes refreshments afterwards. Ph: 09 432 0435 or book at :www.blacksheepfarm.co.nz No door sales.

• **WAIPU EASTER CARNIVAL** Saturday 11 April in the Waipu Caledonian Park. Food stalls and side shows. Entertainment by Anika Moa, The Basin City Big Band and The Panimals. Entry by Koha

• **CLASSICS AT THE COVE** Sunday 12 April from 2pm - 5pm. At Tahamoana Angora Goat Farm, 566 Cove Rd., Waipu. Opera and musical theatre classics. Tickets \$25 from Eventfinda, Waipu Hammer Hardware or at the gate. Singer Ridge Ponini is returning to sing with Sarah Kent Whittles. The Dream Girls and The Windchimes from Waipu, Whangarei Youth Choir, and Opera North Chorus accompanied by Mirabella Uphoff and Delwyn Rusk.

MARSDEN POINT TIDES

	AM		PM	
Thu 27 Feb	11.09	2.6	11.25	2.5
Fri 28 Feb	11.44	2.6	~	~
Sat 29 Feb	12.02	2.5	12.21	2.5
Sun 1 March	12.41	2.4	12.59	2.5
Mon 2 March	1.23	2.4	1.41	2.4
Tue 3 March	2.09	2.3	2.27	2.4
Wed 4 March	3.02	2.3	3.19	2.3
Thu 5 March	4.01	2.3	4.18	2.3
Fri 6 March	5.04	2.4	5.22	2.4
Sat 7 March	6.05	2.5	6.26	2.5
Sun 8 March	7.04	2.6	7.26	2.5
Mon 9 March	7.58	2.8	8.23	2.7
Tue 10 March	8.51	2.9	9.17	2.8
Wed 11 March	9.42	3.0	9.09	2.9
Thu 12 March	10.32	3.0	11.00	2.9
Fri 13 March	11.21	3.0	11.51	2.9

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of the Bream Bay News
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12 March
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Wednesday
4 March

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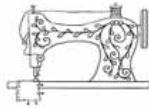
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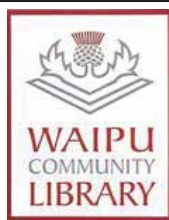
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THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

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

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WAIPU RUGBY SQUASH CLUB

JUNIOR RUGBY RALLY 2020



Thursday 5 March or Thursday 12 March
5.00—6.00pm, upstairs in the clubroom

Grades available in the Whangarei competition:

JMB = U6 Ripa, U7 Ripa, U8, U9, U10, U11, U12, U13
IMB = U14, U16, U18 (Northland wide)

- All Waipu 2019 players have been sent a Sporty re-registration email for the 2020 season. If you haven't received this email (check your junk box) txt the mobile below with player name and an email address.
- If you have re-registered online or you have signed up at the Bream Bay College Rally Day you must still attend a Waipu Rally day to receive further information, pay fees and order a Waipu Training T-shirt (new design for 2020).
- All new players to this club must bring along a photocopy of proof of age eg passport or birth certificate.

Contact: Lisa Jones 0211630237 Email: waipurugbysquashclub@gmail.com

THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 12 March
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 4 March

PUBLIC NOTICES



Bream Bay Medical Centre Ltd.

Monday - Friday: 8.30am - 5pm

Saturdays: 9am - 12pm

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

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

MEETING TO FORM COMMUNITY LED PROJECT FOCUS GROUP

People interested in volunteering to become active members of a project group to work on the Waipu Community Led Project are invited to a meeting in the Waipu Presbyterian Hall on Tuesday 3 March at 6.30pm. Please note this is not a meeting to discuss specific project ideas.

THE FUTURE OF BANKING What will you do when banks stop processing cheques?

Cheques have become a thing of the past & Internet banking will be the future!!
This is your chance to listen & ask questions

Come to our - Open Meeting

Guest Speaker - Westpac Bank, Ruakaka.

1pm - Thursday 12th March 2020

Bream Bay Community Trust

Takutai Place, Ruakaka.

Hosts - SeniorNet Bream Bay

Admission - Public \$2

(Members - small plate).

Afternoon tea provided

Raffle tickets \$2.

BREAM BAY SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

Presbyterian Camellia Ave, Ruakaka:
8.45am. The Centre, Waipu: 10.15am.

Prayer Service: 7pm

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

Anglican 1st and 3rd Sundays - St Paul's Ruakaka 2nd and 4th Sundays - St Peter's Waipu, 5th Sunday - St Nicholas Mission to Seafarers'. Marsden Point All services start at 9.30am.

Catholic Holy Family Church, Ruakaka, 10.30am. Mass

Lifepoint. 300 One Tree Point Rd, 10.30am.

Bream Bay Community Support Trust

Takutai Place, Ruakaka Phone 09 432 7197

- Free medical clinic each Wednesday 9am - 12noon.
- Free budgeting service by appointment - 432 7197 .
- Narcotics Anon Wednesdays 6.30-730pm

The Bream Bay Community Trust offers:

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

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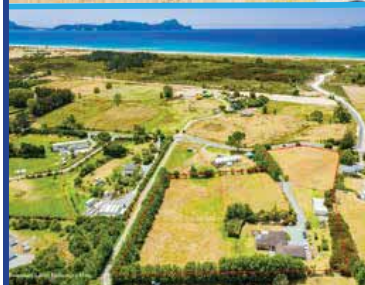
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WPU 11202

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