

N Bream Bay News

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Police swoop on Ruakākā base of alleged crime syndicate

A tip-off from Customs and a six-month-long investigation by the newly established Northland District Police Organised Crime Unit has led to the arrest of members of what is alleged by Police to be a major crime syndicate whose key leaders; all members of the Headhunters Motorcycle Gang and the Mongrel Mob, were living in Ruakākā and Takahiwai

Police units from around Northland and Auckland swooped on six residential properties in Kepa Rd and Takahiwai at around 10am last Friday 12 November in a major operation involving the Police helicopter and numerous Customs and Police officers.

Search warrants also took place in Morningside, Rāwhiti, and Whananaki, as well as in Rotorua.

Eleven men aged between 27 and 56, and a 25-year-old woman were arrested.

Other charges include conspiring to import methamphetamine, MDMA (ecstasy) and pseudoephedrine, as well as participating in an organised crime group. Overall 17kg of methamphetamine, 5.44kg of MDMA and a kg of pseudoephedrine were seized, with a combined street value of \$8m. Police also seized around \$240,000 worth of assets, including a motorbike, boat and vehicles, under the Criminal Proceeds (Recovery) Act.

Nine of the 12 appeared in the Whangārei District Court on Saturday 13 November and to face a raft of serious drugs charges relating to the importation, man-

Continued on page 3.

Winner of the skateboarding competition



Eleven -year-old Monty Graham of Mangawhai won the under 12 years competition and was second in the under 18s section at the inaugural Ruakākā Skateboarding competition, which was finally held at the Peter Snell Rd skatepark on Saturday 6 November after several cancellations due to Covid 19 Level 3 restrictions and wet weather.

More skateboard competition pictures on page 9.



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BAYLEYS

EDITORIAL

Surprising how long it has taken to blow open the Ruakākā based drug syndicate

Ruakākā and Takahiwai have apparently been the epicenter of a crime syndicate importing drugs from overseas and distributing them throughout Northland. Many local people have suspected this was going on for some time. The most surprising thing is how long it has taken to blow it wide open. There is a certain fascination we have with these gangsters. They drive around in big black cars and. They throw money around and seemed (until last Friday) to have magical powers of avoiding Police detection. It's all very glamorous and entertaining until your child, who once held so much promise, becomes entangled in the web of drug dependency and criminality they are spinning.

I am shaking my head in disbelief at the woman who, attempting to evade the Police barricade at Te Hana, drove along the beach at Mangawhai and got her vehicle stuck in the sand right on the boundary of the wild life reserve. She had a dog in the car with her and right alongside where they both spent the night shorebirds, including fairy tern, which are on the brink of extinction are nesting. What was she thinking? I imagine she had some desperate human need. I feel this a bit myself. I haven't seen my three grandsons, who all live in Auckland for nearly four months. She probably didn't know about or see those tiny birds hunkering down to protect their eggs, amongst the shells in little scrapes in the sand.

I am a protester from way back. When I was 16-years-old I helped organise a march to protest against New Zealand's involvement in the Vietnam War in my home town of Dargaville. I joined the anti-apartheid marches and the Nuclear Free New Zealand movement. I believed passionately in all these causes. But these protests for personal freedoms so the Covid 19 virus can be spread far and wide – what are they about? The crazy things these people are saying – its like some dangerous , parasitic worm has got inside their brains. I find myself agreeing with Hone Harawira who on RNZ this morning described these protestors as *freedums*. If I were to take up another protest banner it would be to urge our government, governments around the world and people in general to take stronger action to halt climate change. This is the biggest and most important challenge of all. I wish these demanding *freedom* people would stop grabbing so much attention and wasting everyone's time.

After having to cancel the Ruakākā skateboard competition twice, once because we were in Level 3 Covid 19 lockdown and then because of the weather we finally got to hold it on Saturday 6 November. After all the fun events and activities that have had to be called off it was good to finally get something off the ground. We were treated to a fantastic display of skating expertise. I hope some of the local children took inspiration from this and will practice their tricks for the next competition. Who knows, one of them could become an Olympic champion.

Marilyn

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|---------|---------|---|
| 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
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AFTERNOON

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



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

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Not much support for Oruku Landing proposal at Ruakākā Have Your Say event

Lots of people turned up to the Whangārei District Council's "Have Your Say on the Oruku Landing evening on Monday night 8 November: so many in fact that there wasn't room to accommodate them all, along with Covid 19 social distancing requirements and all the councillors and staff on hand to jot down people's comments, in the upstairs lounge room of the Ruakākā Recreation Centre.

Around 20 people who hadn't realized they needed to pre register to attend held a separate meeting outside the front door of the centre with some Council staff remaining outside to answer their questions.

Peter Hope, one of those kept out of the meeting asked if it was correct that the Council had sold a parcel of land the Oruku conference centre would be built on four years ago for \$1.4 million and now was considering buying a portion of it back for \$10 million.

"What great business skills", he commented.

Upstairs at the main meeting Simon Weston, the WDC's General Manager of Infrastructure, was running through the pros and cons of the Oruku proposal. High on the pros list is that this is a one-off opportunity to secure \$60 million of central government funding.

He said the Government needed an answer from the Council about whether it was willing to take up the offer and commit to a further \$57 million by 30 November, which is why the consultation was so rushed.

He told the meeting the cost of building the centre had gone up by \$13.5 million in the latest set of estimates and the Council would need to underwrite the project against further price rises.

The planned structure for the Ruakākā consultation event was that after listening to Mr. Weston, attendees would have the opportunity to talk to WDC Councillors who were seated along one side of the room with two staff members each to help them record comments.

However, Chris Townsend said he would be interested to hear the views of other people in the audience and this is the main reason he had come to the meeting. Mr. Weston agreed to a question and answer session.

Barry Pyle said he would like to hear some opposing views. For example he wanted to learn more about an alternative proposal to convert the old Forum North building into a theatre.

Mr. Western said, "We wouldn't have the \$60million Government Funding to do this."

Mr. Pyle replied, "That's OK"

Mr. Townsend asked what the parking availability would be on the site.

Mr. Weston said there was not much space for a car park but perhaps a shuttle service could be arranged to bring people to the centre from the CBD.

Mr. Townsend also pointed out that the one off 6% rate increase would remain and be compounding on ongoing rate charges.

"We are not going to get a minus rates increase for the following year."

Warren Daniel, a long time secretary of the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers Association said he was concerned that expenditure on the Oruku Landing development would result in other projects listed in the Council's Long Term Plan having to be dropped.

Hamish Fryer asked how much money had been spent on the project so far.

Mr. Weston said the Council had put in \$1 million and the Government had matched

Police swoop on Ruakākā base of alleged crime syndicate



Pete's Towing made three trips to two Takahiwai addresses to collect a boat and a number of vehicles. Police have seized these items under the Proceeds of Crime Recovery Act.

ufacturing, and supply of methamphetamine.

They were remanded in custody and were granted interim name suppression

Between March 2020 and June 2021, Customs officers intercepted 15 separate air cargo or mail consignments and found drugs hidden in books, clothing and framed art.

Detective Inspector Bridget Doell of the Northland CIB (Criminal Investigations Branch) said the syndicate's offending spread across New Zealand

"Its members have allegedly tried to import, manufacture or on-sell drugs into the Northland market, which currently has some of the highest drug use per capita



Detective Senior Sergeant Kevan Verry, of the Northland Police Organised Crime Unit directed the operation

wastewater readings in New Zealand."

She said methamphetamine use is a major driver of crime across Northland and that "drug users are known to commit high volume crimes - such as car thefts, burglaries, and fraud - in a bid to fund their drug habits."

"Criminal groups hurt communities by exploiting people's drug addictions. They have little regard for the devastation or harm caused to vulnerable people in our community. Having a relative, friend, or neighbour who is addicted to methamphetamine doesn't just affect them, it affects everyone around them, and the impact is significant."

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BAYLEYS

LETTERS

Not a proper consultation

I thought I would give you my take on the meeting of the supposed public consultation on Monday.

In my opinion this was just box ticking for what seemed like the council had already decided on.

The meeting was headed by someone who failed to introduce himself or his role within the council. After showing a brief presentation which had misleading graphics for rates increases and missing expenses in there costing we were asked to share our thoughts with the councillors present to take away for consideration.

To begin with, a consultation is to consult and seek answers from experts. This was not what was planned. After some mild heated discussion the audience fired a lot of questions at the obvious gaping holes in all of the rushed planning of this proposal.

The lack of any evidence or case studies of current occupancy rates of existing facilities was startling. There was nothing put forward to show any demand for this white elephant, no guarantees on any expenses

with the rate payer bearing the brunt of any overruns, which in two weeks have already blown from 60m to 73m. Imagine what this will be in six months! All the while it was admitted this would not make a profit and continously suck on rate payers money.

Any previous reports showed strongly opposed to thus. Lack of parking being one of the major reasons. Also no iwi representation there makes me think they had not been consulted on this either.

What disappointed me the most was the silence from all the councillors present and our Mayor Sheryl Mai. It was quite atrocious and I think all present left there feeling very frustrated by this poorly organised and rushed proposal which will saddle rate payers, renters and businesses with increasing costs for years to come.

*Hamish Fryer
Waipā*

A new hospital would be a better project to spend \$120 million on

I agree with what was said in the editorial in the 4 November issue of the Bream Bay News about the Oruku Landing conference centre not being a priority for the Whangārei District.

My son recently had a stay in Whangārei Hospital after an accident and I was grateful for the care he received and impressed by the professionalism and dedication of the hospital staff who work under difficult conditions in that outdated building. If \$120 million of ratepayer and taxpayer money is to be spent on a project in

Whangārei then I think it should be spent on a new hospital.

I hope all those council officials who will work in that flash new Council building currently under construction never have to spend time or visit family members in that old Whangārei Hospital building.

*Ken Crawley
Waipā*

So much for respecting climate change

Despite the UN climate Change Conference in Glasgow and the threatened extinction of wildlife, Bream Bay College felled trees along its southern boundary, adjacent to the Ruakāka Wildlife Refuge on the weekend of November 6.

Whether or not the trees were native was not the point, as birds do not differentiate between species in their nesting season, which does not end until February. Perhaps even more significant, trees absorb carbon dioxide, i.e, green house gas and so their destruction increased the school's carbon footprint. So much for respecting climate change!

No wonder we have so much environmental destruction here in Ruakāka when we have a school that even

promotes it. What a terrible example to set to its students. As for possible re-planting, this is too late as according to climate scientists we have less than 10 year in which to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions if we are to have any chance of limiting global warming to an additional 1.5degrees Celsius. No that, it seems, Bream Bay College cares.

*Margaret B Hicks
Ruakāka*

*Bream Bay College Principal's response
on page 6.*



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Bream Bay Kindergarten stages a pop up art exhibition

Bream Bay Kindergarten held a pop up art exhibition on the lawn area alongside the centre last Wednesday 10 November.

Teacher Tania Shine said the children have been working towards this all year.

They made paintings, wire sculptures, clay models and prints and mobiles decorated with feathers to hang in trees.

All the artworks were based on flowers and included some very colourful still life drawings of Bird of Paradise blooms.

The children also made up bouquets to give to people in the Ruakaka shopping centre.

Tania explained that this year because of Covid 19 restrictions they were unable to hand their bouquets over personally so instead put them in a little cart with a notice inviting people to take one home.

The exhibition also included lists of answers the children had given to various questions. For example, to the question “what is the most important thing in the world?” children had given the answers: rain, mum and dad, tidying up, rainbows and tigers.



Abel Pearce, who is almost three, alongside his painting of a pohutukawa flower.

Not much support for Oruku Landing

Continued from page 3.

this with a further \$1 million to investigate the project.

Debbie Walters said she was angry that this much public money had been spent without any consultation. She felt there should be more information available.

“How is the average person who hasn’t looked into the background of this going to make a decision?”

Neil Troost said some people he knew who were planning to build a house had found the cost had gone up by 20% in the months it took to prepare for the build

“We have learned tonight that the cost of this project has gone up by \$13.5million. Is this price increase going to be out of date by 30 November?”

Jules Flight said, “If you don’t start work on projects like this than they don’t happen. He said he had some reservations about this particular project but his experiences living in other New Zealand cities had left him feeling that “Whangārei has been left behind. We need to take advantages of opportunities that will help Whangārei catch up with the rest of New Zealand.”

Stu Neil asked what benefit the Oruku Landing development would have for people living in Bream Bay. He said most of the benefits would go to those living in Whangārei and he asked how many conferences are being held in Whangārei and pointed out that the city already has a conference centre.

Submissions to the Whangārei District Council’s Oruku Landing Conference and Multi-Events Centre consultation close on Thursday 18 November.

You can make a submission on line at: www.wdc.govt.nz/haveyoursay

You can also fill in a submission form at the Council Service Centre in Takutai Place, Ruakākā or phone 430 4200 and a Council Service Centre attendee will take down your spoken submission.

The **BREAM BAY NEWS** is compiling a list of local community groups, which we will run on our website

We will have our first draft ready for people to check on Monday 22 November

If you would like your group to be included please email: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz with the relevant details and include the words: *online community directory* in the subject line.

Please note this directory is for local, not for profit, Bream Bay based community groups.

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LETTERS

Bream Bay College response

Bream Bay College Principal Wayne Buckland said the trees that were removed from the school boundary were wattle and acacia, which are weed species. Some had fallen over and were blocking the passage of the school mower.

Mr. Buckland said that the plan is to remove all the trees along that boundary to make way for a new fence. He explained that a high aluminum unclimbable fence, which would cost \$1 million, is to be built around the entire perimeter of the school to keep a special needs student safely inside. Once the fence is built a planting would be made along the border Mrs. Hicks is concerned about.

THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 2 December
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 24 November

A new exhibition acknowledges Tangata Whenua at the Waipu Scottish Migration Museum

There have been a number of gratifying developments at Waipu Museum over the past few months, but we are proud to announce two in particular.

Before any discussion of what has been happening it is important to understand the background to the current focus of the Museum and the historic story that it tells. The Museum was built in 1953 as a memorial to the original migrants and to house artefacts and the genealogy pertaining to the migration of almost 1000 Gaelic speaking Scots from Nova Scotia in the 1850s. The Museum was built in the style

of a highland croft and entirely funded by descendants of the Nova Scotian migration. They celebrated their history at a Centennial celebration in 1953 when the Museum was first opened and given the name "The House of Memories".

The original Nova Scotians had founded a successful farming and maritime community in Cape Breton following their departures from regions around the Scottish Highlands during the Highland Clearances. The community prospered for thirty years but was struck by the same potato famine that struck Ireland in the late 1840s. The story of their journeys and the eventual settling in Waipu is told in our Museum.

As part of the celebration of 150 years since the Nova Scotian arrival in Waipu an extension was built in 2003. Eventually, in 2008 a modern storytelling, world class exhibition was opened which focused on telling the story of the migration from Scotland and then on to Waipu and other associated settlements. The central theme is one of the high levels of cooperation that was part of their Highland culture which enabled them to survive against challenging odds. At the time of selecting this theme, the Museum Board saw that this held important messages for today's world.

To retain this focus on the migration story and in order to clarify its central theme our current Museum Board has consulted with key stakeholders and chosen to expand the name to Waipu Scottish Migration Museum. Our research suggests that today's museum visitors are more interested in specific local stories. The Matakohe Kauri Museum has a similar local focus as does the Masterton Wool Museum.

The second but no less significant news is that we are proud to have finally moved forward to acknowledge and include elements of the story of Tangata Whenua.



Patuharakeke whanau at the opening of the new exhibition: from left Donna Flowler, Luana Pirihi, Gina Murray, Shilane Shirkey and Ari Carrington.

This has been a long time coming. A small but important exhibition has been created at the entrance to the current museum exhibition.

Patuharakeke are descended from a number of tribal groups who over many years have had interests and connections with Waipu. Their marae is situated at Takahiwai.

Waipu has been intensively inhabited at different periods and there are many recognised Pā sites that have been notified in the area. Come and visit the new exhibition to find out more.

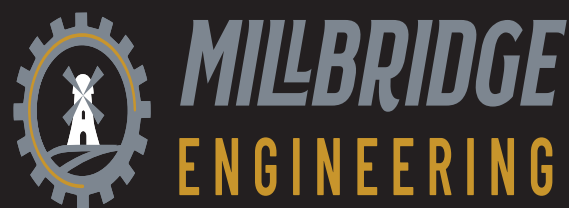
Recently a wonderful collection of taonga was gifted to Patuharakeke for display at the Museum. These taonga were gathered over generations by the Cullen family from their farm in Te Waionehu valley. The collection has been gifted by well-known and revered local artist/craftsman Lloyd Cullen.

The exhibition development was overseen by representatives of Patuharakeke with contributions from other hapū members and from Museum Volunteers. The wonderful skills used to fabricate the exhibition were provided by Bruce Hayes and Richard Cullen who have contributed their skills to a number of museum projects.

Due to the current Covid restrictions a small gathering attended a blessing for the exhibition, but when it is possible, we will be attributing to it the importance it holds for all of us, and we will hold a great celebration for all to share!

Eventually more great stories will be told both inside the museum and in the surrounding district. Opportunities abound for dedicated volunteers for they are the life blood of preserved heritage!

The Waipu Scottish Migration Museum Board



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Vaccinations at the Takahiwai League Club

Ngātiwai Trust Board in partnership with Patuharakeke Trust Board, Takahiwai Marae and Takahiwai League Club held a twilight pop up vaccination clinic at the Takahiwai League Club on Tuesday 2 November. Two Ngāti Hine Health Trust mobile vans fitted out as clinics were parked up alongside the clubhouse from 4pm to 7pm with nurses administering 37 vaccinations in those three hours.

Inside the clubhouse Junie Shelford was singing to entertain the people sitting out their post vaccination waiting times. There were tables stacked



Pictured: Tommy Pickering and Kim Reynolds of the Ngati Hine Health Trust and Barry Caldwell of the Ngatiwai Trust in front of one of the mobile vaccination clinics at the Takahiwai Marae

with bags of gifts including some rongoā Māori medicines for each person who received a vaccination and packs of hot hangi were being handed out. The names of vaccine recipients also went into a draw to win \$200 worth of petrol vouchers, a night for two at Oceans Resort in Tutukaka, \$200 worth of Soil & Sand Clothing or a UE Boom box.

Hūhana Lyndon, Raukura CEO of the Ngātiwai Trust Board said the Ngāti Hine Health Trust team had been working all day and had already delivered 80 vaccinations in Whangārei prior to coming to Takahiwai. She said the vaccination vans are travelling around

Northland doing their best to ensure people in hard to reach communities are protected against Covid 19. This vaccination event was a part of the Ngātiwai Trust Board campaign called 'Ngātiwai ki te hoe' which reaches out across the Ngātiwai tribal territories providing twilight vaccination events to dive deep into coastal communities and provide access to vaccination services. The Ngātiwai Team will be returning to the league club in three weeks time to provide a second round of vaccinations for those who had received their first dose there last week.

First fairy tern eggs of the season

The fairy tern nesting season 2021/2022 has begun. A fairy tern nest on the Waipū sandspit has two eggs and a single egg has been laid in a nest at Papakānui on the Kaipara.

Department of Conservation asks people to keep well away from taped off areas. Dogs should be kept out of the wildlife refuge – there is a sign on the beach just north of the campground to show where this begins. Recently DOC staff came across a vehicle with a woman and a dog inside parked at the entrance to the wildlife refuge at Mangawhai.

The woman had breached the COVID-19 Alert Level 3 border restriction to enter the area and had got

her vehicle stuck in the soft sand and had to stay overnight. She was escorted out of the reserve and police were notified. She will also be receiving a DOC infringement notice for breaching Northland reserves bylaws with a potential fine of \$800.

Craig Deal, DOC operations manager Whangārei, said, "It's concerning to see such a blatant breach of wildlife refuge and COVID-19 border rules, especially with the tara iti / fairy tern breeding season just starting."

With fewer than 40 birds remaining, the tara iti/fairy tern is teetering on the brink of extinction.

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The Ruakākā Skateboard competition



Olly Curran, aged 14 of Ngunuru in action. Olly won the under 18 year old section. Several thousand dollars of prizes, including skateboards and aports wear were donated by Cheapskates and Mega Surf of Whangārei.



Lucia Michell, aged 8 years of Waipū, pictured here with event organiser Sam Johns, was the best girl skater

Bird protection fence goes up



Steve Johnson and Xavier Watson took turns hammering in the posts while Luana Pirihi firmed up the sand around them. The 60 posts for the fence were donated by North Sawn Lumber.

Members of the Bream Bay Coastal Care group who look after the bird breeding area on the northern side of the Ruakākā Estuary were grateful for the help of the Patuharakeke Taio (Environmental) Unit in getting a bird protection fence in place. It usually takes the coastal care volunteers weeks to carry fence battens from the racecourse beach entrance down to the estuary.

This spring the group gained Whangarei District Council permission for Ari Carrington, Taio Unit manager to bring his Four wheel drive ute onto the beach to transport the posts and Ari along with Xavier Watson and Steve Johnson hammered the posts into the sand in the space of an hour.

Oyster catchers and dotterel breed at the estuary and it is a high tide roost for thousands of godwits which migrate here each summer from Alaska.

Bream Bay Coastal Care asks for the cooperation of beach walkers in keeping outside the fenced in area. Dotterel and oystercatchers lay their eggs in small scrapes in the sand. If the parent birds are disturbed and leave their nests for even quite short intervals the eggs can overheat killing the chick inside.

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POLICE REPORT

Man critically injured after crash at Mata

On Sunday 31 October at around 7pm there was a serious accident near Flyger Rd. on State Highway One when a car appears to have crossed the centre line and collided with a milk tanker. The driver of the car, a 63-year-old Whangārei man was transported by ambulance to Whangārei Hospital in a critical condition.

Bream Bay Police help with Far North road block

The Bream Bay Police team was deployed to Kaeo in the first week of November to help patrol the border imposed in the far north after cases of Covid 19 were discovered in Taipa. Whangareī Police were sent to Bream Bay to provide cover in the absence of our regular officers.

Concern over high number of drink driving incidents

- Police stopped a vehicle which was being driven erratically in Tamingi St., Ruakaka on Saturday 6 November. The driver was breath tested and returned a reading of 1009 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath more than four times over the legal limit. A 40 year old Ruakākā woman will be appearing in the Whangārei District Court on drink driving charges on 24 November.
- On 9 December at 3.30pm Police stopped an unregistered motorcycle on Peter Snell Rd. When breath tested the rider returned a reading of 600 mcg of alcohol per litre of breath. A 23 year old One Tree Point Man will be appearing in the Whangareī District Court on 1 December.
- On Sunday 7 November at 7.30pm Police pulled over a vehicle which was being driven erratically on Cove Rd. in Waipū. The driver was breath tested and returned a reading of 958mcg of alcohol per litre of breath and will be appearing in the Whangārei District Court on 24 November.

Senior Sergeant Simon Craig of the Bream Bay Police said he is very concerned at the high number of drink driving incidents over the past two weeks and he warns that his team will be making a special effort to keep drunk drivers off local roads in the lead up to Christmas.

Eighteen family harm incidents

In the fortnight Friday 29 October to Friday 12 November Bream Bay Police were called out to 18 family harm incidents.

Marsden Bay area at 90% first vaccinations

Vaccinations rates around the Bream Bay area are rising slowly. Marsden Bay (which includes Marsden Cove and One Tree Point) with 84% of its residents over the age of 12 fully vaccinated last week, and 90.9% with at least one vaccination shot, was the most highly vaccinated area in Northland. Ruakākā stood in second place with 74.8% of its people over the age of 12 fully vaccinated and 86% having had at least on shot. Last week 75.6% of the over 11 year old population of Waipū was fully vaccinated while 84.7% had received at least one shot. Of the people living in the electoral unit classed as Bream Bay: the rural area between Waipū and Ruakākā as well as Takahiwai, 72.3% of those eligible had received both vaccinations, while 83.2% had received at least one shot. In the Oakleigh/ Mangapai area 72.7% of the eligible population had received both vaccination shots, while 82.6% had received at least one vaccination.

A thank you gesture for the staff at the Bream Bay vaccination clinics

A local business (whose owners wish to remain anonymous) has shouted the staff at the Bream Bay and Marsden Cove Medical Centres lunch at the Land and Sea Café as a thank-you gesture for the hard work they have put in running vaccinations clinics. Practice Manager Kay Brittenden said, “It is hard to put into words the feelings this bought out in us. We are tired it has been a long hard 18 months and so the gesture is appreciated by all of us. “



Waka Kotahi wants to make intersections on State Highway 1 safer

Have your say about our proposed safety improvements at high-risk Waipu intersections



Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is proposing changes at four high-risk intersections. We want to hear from you about each of these options:

- SH1 at Uretiti Road
- SH1 at Rosythe Road and Nova Scotia Drive
- SH1 at Shoemaker Road
- SH1 at Millbrook Road and The Braigh

Have your say by going here (search ‘SH1 Whangārei to Wellsford NZTA’):
•<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/connecting-northland/sh1-whangare-i-to-wellsford/have-your-say/>

Feedback closes on 29 November 2021. Please have your say by this date and encourage your family members, friends and neighbours to do the same.

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Despite wet weather and Covid 19 restrictions the Ruakākā School Show Day goes ahead

By Julie Paton

Ruakaka Primary School overcame the double hurdles of wet weather and Covid-19 restrictions to forge ahead with their show day on 29 October. All inside show day traditional activities - flower decorations and art – went ahead on the scheduled date of 22 October but heavy rain meant the animal judging was postponed.

The school had also planned a Winter Wonderland Gala Day on 4 November with an ice-skating rink set up for four days but due to Covid-19 gathering restrictions, the fundraising gala was cancelled.

Calf Results: Leading Senior: 1st - Blake Slagter with Turbo 2nd - Aylee Kay with Treasure, 3rd - Jackson Guckert with Bunty

Leading Junior: 2nd - Emma Slagter with Tessa, 3rd - Jenna Daisley with Sparkles, 4th equal - Conner Miller with Rufus & Trelise Kampshof with Willow

Rearing Senior:: 1st - Aylee Kay with Treasure, 2nd - Blake Slagter with Turbo, 3rd equal - Jackson Guckert with Bunty & Ava Daisley with Bubbles

Rearing Junior:: 1st - Trelise Kampshof with Willow, 2nd - Jenna Daisley with Sparkles, 3rd - Chloe Slagter with Trelise, 4th - Emma Slagter with Tessa

Junior Champion Erceg Cup - Chloe Slagter with Trelise, Senior Champion Vet Centre - Blake Slagter with Turbo, Overall Leading Springfield Cup - Blake Slagter with Turbo, Overall Champion/Murry Cup - Blake Slagter with Turbo

Lamb: Sophia Jennings with Luna. 1st place for Leading Senior, Rearing Senior and Most Obvious Pet. Also received the Senior Champion: The National Bank Cup and Overall Champion Cup.



Aylee Kay and her calf Treasure at the Ruakaka School show day. held on October 29. Treasure and Aylee won first prize for rearing in the senior competition. Show day prize list and another photo on page

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|-----------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------------------|
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| Light Circuit Fitness class | Wednesday 11am to 12pm | | \$4 AnnMarie 0211693115 |
| Tai Chi | Monday 11am to 12pm | | \$3 Annette 4327897 |
| Zumba Gold | Tuesday 8am to 8.45 am | | \$5 Roz rozhzumba@gmail.com |
| Zumba Gold | Thursday 9.30am to 10.15am, starts 15 April 2021 | | \$5 Roz rozhzumba@gmail.com |
| Zumba Gold | Friday 8am to 8.45 am | | \$5 Roz rozhzumba@gmail.com |
| Aerial Yoga | Tuesday 6.30pm to 7.30pm, booking essential | | \$18 Barbara 0212998840 |
| Stretching classes | Thursdays 11am to 12pm | | \$5 Lu 4328941 |
| 60's up | 4th Friday of month 10am to 4pm | \$12 annually fee | Joy 021491887 |
| Music club | 1st Monday of month 7pm to 10pm | | \$2 Holly 021 842 060 |
| Karate | Thursday 4pm to 7pm | | Jurgen 0211256048 |
| Pilates | Tuesday 5.15pm to 6.15pm booking essential | \$12,concession(10x) | Barbara 0212998840 |
| Pilates | Thursday 8am to 9am booking essential | \$12,concession(10x) | Barbara 0212998840 |
| Zumba | Monday 8.45am to 9.45am | | \$7 Janine 021437840 |
| Zumba | Wednesday 5.45pm to 6.45pm | | \$7 Janine 021437840 |
| Zumba | Friday 4.45pm to 5.45pm | | \$7 Janine 021437840 |
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We are also home to Bream Bay Squash club and Bream Bay United Association Football club



Blake Slagter and Turbo

Waipū junior netball celebrates a successful season despite Covid 19 disruptions



Waipū netball trophy winners

Waipū Netball Club held their prizegiving at the Waipū Hotel on 31 October. The club’s four teams had a successful season, says club member Leah Donaldson, although due to COVID they were unable to finish the championship round finals. “Our intermediate team Blue, were looking like they were going to win both championship rounds which was a huge achievement as it was most of the girls first season playing seven-aside,” she says. “It was nice we could all get together and celebrate the season.” The biggest trophy haul went home with senior player Hayley Griffiths and coach Hayley Pyle says the youngster has an exciting and bright future in netball. “Hayley had an exceptional year with netball,” she says. “Her skill level, contribution to the club, outstanding leadership skills as captain and her recent umpiring qualifications made her a great candidate to receive the Player of the Year award. She also plays for the Waipū Senior woman’s team 2, so had a huge commitment in netball for Waipū. It is an honour to coach Hayley.”

Trophy winners:
Team Waipū Blue: Most Improved - Brooke Thompson, Most Commendable - Harmony Cordell-Hunt, Best Allrounder - Kyla Mansell, Players Player - Harmony Cordell-Hunt
Team Waipū Green: Most Improved - Sophie Pram/Millie Backhouse, Sportsmanship - Ashley Campbell, Allrounder - Adara Lunjevich, Players Player - Sophie Pram
Intermediate Player of the Year: Emily Stuart
Team Waipū Collegiate Black: Most Improved - Pippi Panui-Park, Best Allrounder - Bree Munford, Cup for Excellence - Erellyn Lunjevich, Players Player - Bree Munford
Team Waipū Collegiate Red: Most Improved - Stella Panui-Park, Sportsmanship - Lila McEvoy, Most Promising - Waiorangi Thompson, Players Player - Hayley Griffiths
Senior Player of the Year - Hayley Griffiths
Club Outstanding Contribution Trophy - Hayley Griffiths

Stick on mostaches to mark Movember at the Waipū Croquet Club



Lynne Stewart (left) Martin Albrect and Judy Grey dressed to mark Movember at last week’s Waipū croquet tournament

Movember, the month when we are encouraged to focus on and raise funds to help with men’s health was celebrated by some of the members of the Waipū Croquet Club who dressed in blue and wore stick-on moustaches at a tournament held on Wednesday 10 November. Players were out in force enjoying the spring sunshine at both the Croquet Club and the adjacent Waipū Bowling Club. Croquet has had a major resurgence in Waipū in recent years with club membership growing steadily and a new clubhouse built last year. Jean Tafa said croquet takes a lot of concentration and strategy and she goes home mentally exhausted after a game. Jean is a national croquet referee and she said at the national level the sport is now being dominated by young men with height and physical strength an advantage. “It’s not just an old women’s sport.” Asked why he enjoys a game of croquet Martin Albrect said he likes how the game allows him to be aggressive. “You can hit someone else’s ball.” Lynda Small said, “Croquet is a very good game for marital harmony. You can play out all your antagonism on the croquet lawn and then when you get home everything is sweet.”

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Budgeting Advice - Bruce Matheson - 432 0239

The Crossroads Trust (financial support) Peter Couper - 432 0524 or email lynettejones@xtra.co.nz

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| Sun 21 Nov | 9.49 | 2.5 | 9.58 | 2.4 |
| Mon 22 Nov | 10.26 | 2.5 | 10.35 | 2.4 |
| Tue 23 Nov | 11.03 | 2.5 | 11.14 | 2.3 |
| Wed 24 Nov | 11.42 | 2.5 | 11.54 | 2.3 |
| Thu 25 Nov | ~ | ~ | 12.23 | 2.4 |
| Fri 26 Nov | 12.37 | 2.3 | 1.07 | 2.4 |
| Sat 27 Nov | 1.23 | 2.2 | 1.54 | 2.4 |
| Sun 28 Nov | 2.14 | 2.2 | 2.45 | 2.4 |
| Mon 29 Nov | 3.10 | 2.2 | 3.39 | 2.4 |
| Tue 30 Nov | 4.10 | 2.2 | 4.34 | 2.4 |
| Wed 1 Dec | 5.12 | 2.3 | 5.30 | 2.5 |
| Thu 2 Dec | 6.12 | 2.5 | 6.26 | 2.6 |
| Fri 3 Dec | 7.10 | 2.6 | 7.22 | 2.6 |

WHAT'S ON
IN BREAM BAY

- **OTAMATEA QUILTERS' GROUP ANNUAL QUILT SHOW 2021 AT THE KAURI MUSEUM** to November 21. The Kauri Museum is open daily 9am - 5pm. 5 Church St. Matakohē.
- **THE MARSDEN COVE MARKET** Next on Sunday 21 November from 9am - 1pm. In the marquee at Marsden Cove
- **OTP ARTISAN MARKET** One Tree Point School field Fundraiser for Whangarei Hospital Children's Ward. Next on Sunday 27 November. 9 am to 1pm. Spaces available call Sue 021 530 153 or 09 432 8112. This market is dependent on Northland being at Covid 19 response level 2.
- **THE WAIPŪ SUNDAY MARKET** next on Sunday 12 December . 9am - 1pm in the Coronation Hall.
- **WAIPU STREET AND PARK MARKET** Sunday December 19th 9am - 2 pm . The Centre and the Coronation Hall & Caledonian Park Waipu "The Great XMAS Market in the Little Town" Over 150 Stalls of Crafts, Fashion, Art, Jewellery, Food, Novelties, and Produce Most products made by Northland artisans. Live Music - Food Trucks - Entertainment for all the family.
- **NEW EXHIBITION AT THE RED DOOR GALLERY.** New work by 60, mostly Northland, artists. Runs until the end of January. Gallery open Friday - Sunday 10am - 4pm. The gallery is in the old Waipū Fire Station on The Braigh.
- **WAIPŪ MUSEUM** 36, The Centre, Waipu. Open seven days 10am - 4pm . New Tangata Whenua exhibition
- **RUAKAKA CHRISTMAS PARADE** Saturday 18 December in the Ruakaka Village Green alongside the library. Starting at 10am.
- **WAIPU CHRITSMAS PARADE** Christmas Eve 24 December Starts outside the Pizza Barn at 7pm. Prizegiving afterwards in Caledonian Park.

Ogopogo Berries - grown in magical black peat soil at Takahiwai

It's a lovely sight all those rows of ripening berries at the Ogopogo Berry Garden in Takahiwai.

There are blueberries, strawberries - growing under the blueberry bushes, boysenberries - fruiting prolifically in a new section of the garden and tayberries, which Dean Odea, who set up the garden with his wife Kathleen Kort, says are his favourite. "They are sweet like a raspberries but more aromatic."

However, the vines are very thorny and after talking the job of pruning them last autumn he isn't planning to expand on the few trial vines he already has.

Dean and Kathleen purchased their block in Takahiwai Road five years ago. They fell in love with the property but first they needed to test the soil. Luckily they found it was ideal for growing blueberries.

Dean explained that although nearly all the flat land at One Tree Point and Ruakākā has peat soils some are too acidic to grow berries in.

They took over a bare block and have worked hard: designing a house and having it built as well as setting up the orchard and gardens.

Dean has a horticultural degree from Massey University and served his cadetship on a stone fruit orchard in Kauri near Hikurangi. He met Kathleen while travelling in Canada.

He says the rich black soils of Ogopogo are magic and in addition to the berry garden, which is roughly the size of a rugby field, they have planted out a large orchard and a vegetable garden.

The orchard has many varieties of citrus, macadamia nuts, bananas and a row of 50 feijoa trees with different varieties to extend the harvest. Apart for a few months of the year there is always some kind of fruit ripe in the orchard.

In the vegetable garden there are long rows of lush looking agria potatoes, way too many for a single household. Are they growing potatoes commercially as well?

Dean replies, "What is commercially? Whatever we have surplus ends up in our shop or market stall."

The Ogopogo shop is open each Friday afternoon from 3pm to 6pm. Jennifer Rodrigue of Belle Chevre Creamery brings along some of her cheeses and people arrive in droves. It doesn't take



Dean Odea and Kathleen Kort of Ogopogo Berries in their garden shop which is open on Friday afternoons from 3pm - 6pm.



Dean is planning to plant more boysenberries as vines planted in trial have grown well and are fruiting heavily.

long for the shop's fridge full of cardboard cartons of berries to empty out.

Dean and Kathleen enjoy this interaction with their customers who are usually very appreciative of the produce they have grown.

The name Ogopogo is the name of the Loch Ness like spirit that lives in the Okanagan Lake where Kathleen grew up in Canada.

"I wanted to bring a little bit of home with me to my new country", she said.

Ogopogo Berry Garden is a member of the Roving Rural Market co-operative of local growers and next month, on Friday 3 December from 3pm – 6pm, it will be hosting the monthly twilight market.

The Ogopogo Garden address is 58 Takahiwai Rd. A full list of vendors will be posted on the Roving Rural Market facebook page but last week included: a complete list of vendors on our Facebook page a week or so before th Belle Chevre Creamery, Left Fields, Chocolate Barn, Bleu Bespoke, Pinenut Bakery, Nutty for You and Tropical Bowl

The Roving Rural Market



Photo by Peter Grant

Tann Duangprasit and Greg Rathbun of Maungatapere Mushrooms at the 5 November Roving Rural Market held in Waipū

The last Roving Rural Market was a “gumboot market” held in rain showers alongside the Waipū Fire Station on Friday 5th November. Despite the damp conditions people flocked to buy the fresh produce. Through out the summer the market will be on the farms where the market products are grown and made. The next Roving Rural Market will be held on Friday 3 December from 3 - 6pm at Ogopogo Berry Gardens, 58 Takahiwai Rd.

New exhibition at the Red Door Gallery

Victoria Nicholas has a new exhibition in her Red Door Gallery which is in the old Waipū Fire Station on The Braigh with the work of 60 artists, mostly from Northland represented. Victoria said Covid 19 Lockdowns have resulted in lots of creative activity and there was no shortages of artworks for



Victoria at the opening of her new exhibition.

the exhibition, which will run to the end of January. The Red Door Gallery is open from Friday – Sunday from 10am – 4pm.

Pharmacy opening soon at Marsden Cove



Pharmacists Goldie and Warner Lin and pharmaceutical technician and retail manager Lisa Sangster

Warner Lin and Lisa Sangster are excited about setting up their new pharmacy at Marsden Cove.

“It’s good to be able to move in at last,” said Warner

There have been two months of delays due to Covid 19 hold ups but in the first week of December, if not earlier, they will be opening the doors to their first customers.

The new pharmacy is located alongside the Marsden Cove Medical Centre.

Warner’s wife Goldie, also a pharmacist, will work part time in the business.

Goldie said they wanted the décor to be modern to reflect the style of the surrounding development. As well as the shop, the dispensary behind the counter, an office and a staffroom there is a room for private patient consultations. Warner said this is the direction the pharmaceutical profession is moving in. There is also a temperature-controlled fridge, which can store vaccines.

A third business partner Jessal Patel, another pharmacist, is based in Auckland but he will be helping out in Marsden Cove from time to time.

Warner is originally from Taiwan. He gained his degree from Otago University in 2005. He and Goldie, who was born in Malaysia, met while they were both studying. They have two children: a daughter aged 13 and a ten-year-old son.

Warner worked as an intern at the Kamo Pharmacy then at a pharmacy in Auckland before returning to Whangārei in 2009 to work at the Maunu Pharmacy where he was made manager. Lisa, who is a pharmaceutical technician worked alongside him. Lisa will be managing the retail side of the new business.

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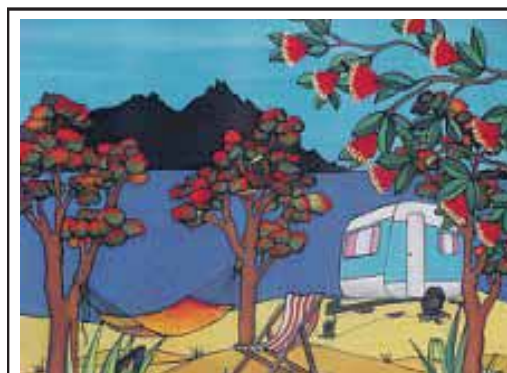
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One Tree Point School Field
(Fundraiser for OTP School PTA)
Sunday 5th December, 9am-1pm

We are taking bookings for stalls - \$20 each
Contact Corinne on 0226 188 982

**HOSTED by Jenni Carr of
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**AUCTIONS at 11am with
James Alexander**



Marsden Cove MARKET

Sunday 21 November
9am - 1pm

in the marquee at the
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One Tree Point School field
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Make contact with a Justice of the Peace (on any day) and make an appointment to have your documents completed.

Only current Association members are listed.



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The task is clearing weeds.

Morning tea provided.

The Ruakākā Dune Lake is accessed at the end of Tamure St. via a WDC right of way on the left.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



WORKING BEE

Saturday 27 November

From 9.30am.

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Bring loppers, spades, saws.

if you have a trailer please bring it along, to help take weeds and vegetation to the Uretiti Transfer Station"

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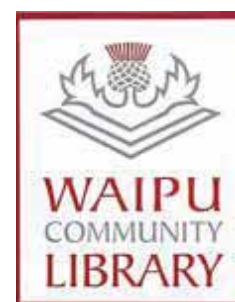
Encounter 223 Marsden Pt. Rd, Ruakaka, 10am.

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

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One Tree Point School Field
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Sunday 5th December, 9am-1pm

We are taking bookings for stalls - \$20 each
Contact Corinne on 0226 188 982

HOSTED by Jenni Carr of Smooth FM

AUCTIONS at 11am with James Alexander



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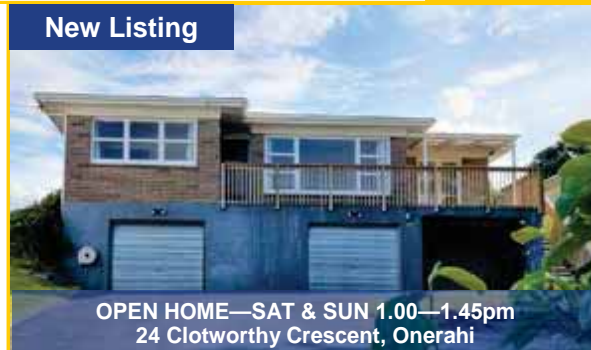
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