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22 FEBRUARY 2024

A healthy dune is money in the bank against the next storm

Beach and dune recovery from the severe coastal erosion caused by the massive sea swells generated by Cyclone Gabrielle could take decades according to Professor Murray Ford coastal geomorphologist at Auckland University.

What's more he thinks recovery is uncertain given accelerating rates of sea level rise and potential for further erosion over winter when the coast is exposed to stormier conditions.

He said that as well as eroding the dunes the cyclone lowered the beach levels increasing the susceptibility of to further erosion.

Northland Regional Council's Coastal Biodiversity Advisor and Coast Care Coordinator Laura Shaft is interested in how the type of vegetation present on and behind the dune influences its recovery. I Her NRC coastal science team carries out ongoing transect studies at various coastal sites around Northland including along Bream Bay looking at vegetation cover and measuring dune profile.

Laura found the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle and the other storms of summer 2022/2023 varied considerably around Bream Bay, with Bream Tail providing protection to the more southern sites and the areas in the middle of the bay experiencing most erosion. At Waipū Cove the dune toe retreat varied between 2metres and 5metres. By contrast, the retreat of the dune near the Ruakākā Surf Club was up to 12.5metres and up to Continued on page 8

Have a Go Sports Festival in full swing



kiarn Cherrington, aged 12, had a successful day catching yellow eyed mullet from the riverbank at the Waipu Boat and Fishing Club's Have a Go Sports Festival event.

The first event in the Bream Bay Sports Trust Have a Go Sports Festival was family friendly fishing at the Waipu Boat and Fishing Club's base in Nova Scotia Rd. from 11am to 1pm on Sunday 11 February. Fishing club members cut up bait, untangled lines, weighed in fish and cooked barbeques sausages for the dozen or so children who turned up.

The festival runs for a month until Tuesday 19 March with indoor bowls, football, croquet, tramping, walking, pickle ball and sailing amongst the events still to come. More photos on page 7

See the full calendar of Have a Go opportunities on page 10.

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22 February 2024

Cyclone Gabrielle one year on

Last week was the one-year anniversary of Cyclone Gabrielle (Valentines Day 2023, and what a Valentines Day present it was!). Over the past week, we have seen various articles and media releases talking



about the loss of life and the damage caused to New Zealand, and many of us are still dealing with our own issues caused by Cyclone Gabrielle and subsequent extreme weather.

Dome Valley, the Brynderwyns and the Mangamukas are three sections of State Highway One in Northland that were severed, stopping businesses, creating traffic issues, and increasing the costs for transportation of goods. Subsequent reports have found the Brynderwyns 58-day closures cost Northland a minimum of approx. \$2M a day, a total of almost \$115M, and due to long-term underfunding, the damage to the two bypass routes (Cove Road, and Paparoa-Oakleigh) also came to almost \$110M.

One year on and the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) Waka Kotahi have been working on all three sections of the State Highway, along with providing additional funding to fix up both Cove Road and Paparoa-Oakleigh Road. If you have travelled over the Brynderwyns lately you would have seen the contractors forcing the traffic to drive slowly, reducing the road to one lane, and even transporting fill and doing construction work so that they are ready for next week's \$61M closure for 9 weeks, which will give this section of SH1 a life extension of another 5 years. This will be the last big repair work on the Brynderwyns till the completion of the four-lane expressway!

Meanwhile, the cruise ship season has started for Northland, with Whangārei's first official cruise ship (docked at Marsden Point on 4 February) being hugely successful. Many of the Whangārei hot spots, like the Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Maori Art Gallery, Kiwi North Museum, Kiwi House and Heritage Park, Quarry Gardens, and the Whangārei waterfront, received some needed income injections, and those away from the city benefited too, like the SH12 Kauri Museum and Waipu Museum.

Northland has so much to offer the world, from our beautiful natural landscapes, native bush scenes and our history, to our innovative and creative communities; this is what attracts visitors and keeps them coming back for more. There are a lot of events planned for Whangārei over the next few months, from Street Sprints to Artbeat, International Rugby and Food and Wine Festivals – our city has a lot going on! This is why I love Whangārei, where else can you go in the world and see what we have at our doorstep every day.

Of course, a vibrant, healthy city needs good foundations. When I became Mayor of Whangārei, I said we needed to focus on our infrastructure, as I believe we need good foundations to grow from. With the Three Waters bill being overturned last week, control has been given back to the people to have a say over how Whangārei grows. Our long term strategic planning helps shape this growth, and with increased construction costs, insurances, and our Districts high growth, it is more important than ever for you to get involved. Consultation will begin in late March for a month, get ready to have your say.

Vince Cocurullo Mayor, Whangārei District Council

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EDITORIAL

The simple pleasure of riding a bicycle

On the beach this morning there was: a woman jogging along with a dog and what I thought was another big white dog but on closer inspection turned out to be a small pony. There was a couple enjoying a beach ride on matching e-bikes, a man sending a drone far out over the waves to drop his weighted and baited fishing line, a young woman emerging from the sea like a mermaid, a deeply tanned woman with a mop of white curls picking up plastic rubbish and wondering how to dispose of it as the Uretiti Camp Ground no longer provides a rubbish collection, a black oyster catcher foraging at the water's edge. On the horizon out at sea there were three ships waiting to come into port. All along the beach new sand dunes are forming at the base of the steep cliff face calved out by Cyclone Gabrielle and all the other storms of last summer. Lots of tyre tracks broke up the smooth perfection of the sand and likely are impeding the dune recovery cycle.

I went for a walk to think about what to write in this editorial but there were so many interesting things to look at I got a bit distracted.

Back at my computer I find an email message from Geoff, my husband who set out on the month long Tour Aotearoa bike ride from Cape Reinga to the Bluff at 7am this morning. It wasn't exactly a message from him but some kind of AI generated tracking of how he is progressing along 90 Mile Beach - the magic of technology! I imagine him pedaling along that long shadeless stretch of sand. I hope he has applied lots of sunscreen and has the back of his neck covered under his bike helmet.

Bicycles and cycling are front-of-mind for me at present and a thought came to me this morning watching that happy cycling couple that a cycle ride along Bream Bay might be an activity to offer visitors arriving on cruise ships. The Captain of the Regatta, the first cruise ship to be welcomed to Northport, told me the first thing he noticed coming into the harbour was our long while sandy beach. Hiring out bikes, supplying picnic lunches and shade umbrellas at a given point along the beach might be a lucrative business opportunity for some enterprising person.

I am trying to think of how we can complete the final middle section of the Waipu to Waipu Cove trail. It's no use looking to NZ Transport. The Minister of Transport Simeon Brown has ordered NZTA to push the pause button on all its cycle way projects. Our local Council tends to only fund projects which get subsidized from the Government so we are unlikely to get any help from this source either. In addition I am not sure how will we get started on the much-needed safe shared path trail between Marsden Cove and the Ruakākā Shopping Centre?

I have been avoiding riding on Nova Scotia Rd. over the summer because of the heavy traffic there, which will only get worse when State Highway One over the Brynderwyns closes next week. It would have been good if the spend on repairs and upgrades of the bypass routes could have included forming a safe walking and cycle trail alongside this road. This could also have been another opportunity to finish the Waipu to Waipu Cove trail. I did send a letter via Councillor Phil Halse to the Northland Transportation Alliance about this but I don't expect the suggestion will get picked up anytime soon.

Another section of road that needs to have a safe cycle lane alongside is the short, less than a kilometre long, piece of State Highway One between Marsden Point Road and Marsden Point Rd. Many cyclists from Ruakākā and One Tree Point like to come up Doctors Hill Rd. to access the quieter country roads west of the highway. The central barriers, which have been put in place on the highway, leave less room for cyclists making it extremely dangerous to ride here. There is ample space on the roadside for a cycle lane. It shouldn't be an expensive problem to fix. Next Sunday 25 February from 9.30am to 2pm, Bike Northland will be at the Marsden Cove Marina to celebrate cyclists and cycling. There will be tips on basic bike maintenance, bike riding, how to set up your bike to suit your individual body shape and size and the opportunity to climb on board a log truck to see where the blind spots are for its driver.

I like this quote from J.F. Kennedy published underneath a photograph of a cute little girl with her tiny pink bike in a book by New Zealand cycling gurus The Kennett Brothers. "Nothing compares to the simple pleasure of riding a bike."

This rings true for me when on a late summer morning I ride my bike along Shoemaker Rd. into Waipu past fields of maize and happily grazing cattle. I imagine the many people who come cycling past our gate, those I see on the Waipu Cycle Trail or on those who brave the treacherous roadsides around Ruakākā and One Tree Point share this sentiment.

Marilym

Vet centre, now an independent, privately owned practice

This month The Vet Centre, with its five branches in Waipu, Ruak $\bar{a}k\bar{a}$, Maungaturoto, Ruawai and Mangawhai, is entering a new era

The business that has been run by Otamatea Veterinary Club for 64 years, has now been handed over to four veterinarians who are working within the Vet Centre. From February 2024, The Vet Centre has changed hands to new owners to become an independently owned, private practice.

The Vet Centre was started in 1960 as the Otamatea Veterinary Club, founded by local farmers to encourage and attract veterinarians to the area and provide services to their farming businesses. This was a very common model at the time and hugely successful. However, the local demographic, along with farming operations has changed in the last 60+ years, and it was considered time to transition to a new business model with an owner/manager structure. The Otamatea Veterinary Club will remain functional and provide sponsorship and funding opportunities to the community.

The four veterinarians have worked in the practice for many years. Dr. Emily Buswell started as a new graduate 10+ years ago and has made her mark in both the Mangawhai and Waipu clinics. Dr. Thomas Traill also started as a new graduate veterinarian, then worked in Palmerston North for a few years before returning to The Vet Centre Maungaturoto and Ruawai clinics. Dr. Andy David moved to the Mangawhai clinic three years ago and is a very experienced and respected small animal surgeon. And lastly, Dr. Sarah Briggs, who has been working with the dairy cows of Waipu for five years now.

They have entered into a collaborative relationship with Franklin Veterinary Services Ltd, an ex-veterinary club turned independent practice that has grown to become one of the most successful in the Waikato/Auckland/ Hauraki region, to provide back-office support to the team to enable the clinical shareholders to focus on being veterinarians.



Kallum Green (Tech), Liam Bawden (Vet), Janine Hazelwood (Customer service), Amy Fryer (Nurse), Sarah Briggs (Vet + owner), Kate Logan (Nurse), Maddy Shepherd (Customer service), Emily Buswell (Vet + owner), Aimie Sands (Nurse), Ellie Green (Vet), Sue Crow (Vet), Kylie Shepherd (Customer service).

School rolls at the start of 2024

Ruakākā Primary had 309 children enrolled on Friday 9 February, which is a slight drop from its roll 315 at the start of 2023.

Waipu Primary began the year with 235 children enrolled down by five on its 2023 start of year roll of 240 children.

One Tree Point School started the year with 190 children, eight more than it had at the beginning

of 2023.

Bream Bay College had just over 600 students enrolled at the end of last week, which is up from 572 students on the roll at the beginning of March 2023. In total there were 1,334 children and young people enrolled at Bream Bay's four school last week which is just 25 more than were enrolled at the start of 2023. The big residential developments in Waipu, One Tree Point and Ruakaka haven't resulted in a huge increase in the number of children and young people attending our four schools.

Counillor Phil Halse made the point at a recent community meeting on the proposed 50 new homes Kainga Ora development in the Ruakākā Village.

He said most young families and young working people can't afford those million dollar plus homes being built in One Tree Point



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Athletes foot

Is the skin between your toes peeling? Do your feet have a rather whiffy aroma? If so, you may well have athletes foot.

perts are divided as to whether athletes foot

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Although

(Tinea pedis) is worse during the heat of summer - or the cold winter months when your feet are couped up in shoes all day - either way this condition can spread like wildfire through your household unless treated immediately.

Athlete's foot is caused by a group of fungi called dermatophyte fungi that grow in warm moist environments and can cause infection in the skin. It spreads easily through direct skin-to-skin contact or indirectly through contact with infected surfaces - like sharing towels, shoes and bath mats. It can also be caught by walking barefoot in warm damp areas like communal showers, gyms, swimming pools or changing rooms. Secondary infection can occur if skin is split, bleeding, or blistered.

Athlete's foot commonly affects the skin between the toes - particularly between the fourth and small toe. The skin may appear soft, white and peeling but can also be red, itchy and scaly. It can also sometimes spread to the sole of the foot where it appears dry, cracked and scaly. Other symptoms include itching, burning, stinging, small blisters, fissures (splitting) and bleeding.

The good news is that athletes foot is easily treated by using creams and powders.

Antifungal creams work by preventing fungi from multiplying (fungi-static), or by killing fungi directly (fungi-cidal). Fungi-static antifungal creams need to be applied for approximately two weeks after the infection has cleared, while fungi-cidal antifungal creams can be stopped once the infection has cleared.

Antifungal powders are good for dusting in shoes or socks to kill residual fungal spores and prevent reoccurrence, while corticosteroid creams help reduce itch and inflammation. Corticosteroid creams must be applied sparingly and used strictly according to product recommendations and the advice from your community pharmacist.

It is a good idea to talk to your community pharmacist for advice on using these products. Some products contain both an antifungal and a corticosteroid so you will need to ensure treatment is not duplicated.

Your community pharmacist can also advise you on making lifestyle changes so that you can minimise the risk of getting athletes foot in the future.

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LETTERS

Sand ladder - an adaptive solution in a dynamic coastal environment



DOC staff met with Ruakaka Residents and Ratepayers Associaition members to discuss the Mair Rd sand ladder

I am writing in response to the recent letter Janet Woodward (Bream Bay News 25/1/24) expressing concerns about the accessibility and safety of the sand ladder access to the beach at Mair Road, particularly for elderly and young individuals. While I understand and empathize with these concerns, I would like to provide some clarifications and updates regarding the actions taken by the Department of Conservation (DOC) in response to the feedback received.

Firstly, I want to acknowledge that the DOC values public feedback and takes it seriously. Following discussions with the Ruakākā Ratepayers Association, we took proactive measures to address some of the issues raised. Specifically, we shortened the steps and added more steps to allow for better sand dispersion and a more manageable gradient. These adjustments have already had some positive feedback from the public, indicating an improvement in accessibility and safety.

However, it is important to acknowledge that while these modifications have enhanced the sand ladder's usability for many, it may not cater to the needs of all individuals and it's essential to recognize that the sand ladder serves as an adaptive solution in a dynamic coastal environment. Coastal areas face constant challenges, including weather events, coastal erosion, and slope instability, which can impact the performance and safety of structures like the sand ladder. Additionally, we will install safety signage to alert users about steep steps and potential hazards. There are alternative beach access points that are more suitable for a wider range of users, especially those requiring additional facilities such as public toilets.

I want to emphasize that the DOC is dedicated to conservation efforts, including the preservation of coastal ecosystems. Limiting the number of beach access points and divesting non-resilient structures aligns with our commitment to coastal care and sustainability.

While the sand ladder at Mair Road may not be a perfect solution for all beachgoers, it represents our ongoing efforts to balance accessibility, safety, and environmental conservation. We appreciate the community's engagement and feedback, which inform our decisions and actions. As we continue to navigate the complexities of coastal management, we remain open to constructive dialogue and collaborative solutions.

Joel Lauterbach

Operations Manager | Whangarei District | Northern North Island Department of Conservation | Te Papa Atawhai

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE VERY **WELCOME**

Email them to: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz Drop them off at the Waipū or Ruakākā Lotto shops Or post them to: The Bream Bay News, 547 Mountfield Rd., RD2 Waipu, Postcode 0582

Reunited with the watch he lost sixty years ago

Doug Barge was reunited with a watch he lost almost 60 years ago last week thanks to some detective work by Neil Troost and Sonya Mrsich of Waipu.

Neil and Kathy Troost purchased a property at the end of Ferry Rd., in Waipu last year. Neil was clearing away some elaeagnus from a fence line just above the Ahuroa River when his ten-year-old son Flynn who was helping clambered down the bank to play at the water's edge. Within a minute Flynn called out that he had found a watch. Flynn said it was sitting on a rock just above the waterline. Neil thinks they must have been dislodged it while clearing the vegetation. Intrigued, he set about solving the mystery of how it had come to be there.

The property had once been the dairy farm of Paul and Sonia Mrsich so he sent a photo to their son Vince who said the watch was not his.

A couple of weeks later Sonya called in to visit and Neil showed her the watch.

She gave it "a bit of a spit and a polish" and uncovered the engraving D.W.B 1953 on the back.

Around 1953 the farm had been owned by the Bowmar family, so Neil and Sonya thought they were on to something. However, Sonya phoned that afternoon with another lead. She said Doug and Jean Barge worked for her and Paul for a few years in the mid sixties. She had found an old phone book and established Doug's middle initial is W.

Neil got in touch with Jean using the Messenger App and it turned out that Doug remembered losing the watch in August of 1965 when he was clearing gorse along the riverbank.

Doug said he had followed his father's practice of taking his watch off his wrist and wrapped it in his handkerchief when he was doing physical work.

The watch was given to Doug by his father when he started at Whangārei Boys High School in 1953. He said the watch was a Swiss make and had been purchased from the shop of Bill Maurier in Rathbone St., Whangārei.

Doug said he had enjoyed working for Sonya and Paul who had encouraged him to take on his family's farm at Maunu. Doug and Jean lived there for 20 years before selling the farm to the Whangarei District Council to become the Barge Park showgrounds.

They purchased a farm at Maungatapere, which was taken on by their eldest son. Alongside running the farm Doug volunteered at the Whangārei Museum, working the bullock team and supervising Periodic Detention workers sent there. There were eight



Ten-year-old Flynn Troost gave Doug Barge back a watch he found amongst mud and rocks at the edge of the Ahuroa River. Doug had lost the watch 60 years earlier while clearing gorse at the river's edge.

bullocks in a team Doug would lift the heavy yokes to harness them up: with the two leaders in front the two biggest animals next in line and two learner bullocks at the rear.

Doug said he enjoyed his visit back to the Ferry Rd. farm and was astounded by all the houses that have been built along the street.

Doug and Jean now live at Whananaki North. He expects the story of the lost and found watch will become part of family folklore and the watch itself will be handed down to his children and grandchildren,.

Right: After a bit of "spit and polish" the inititails D.W.B could be deciphered on the back of the watch .





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Good samaratans from the Ruakākā Beach Holiday Park help repair vandalised trail markers



Joe Southwood, a groundsman at the Ruakākā Beach Holiday Park helps put a marker post back after vandals pulled out posts and smashed signs on the tracks at the Ruakākā estuary

Over night on Sunday 11 and Monday 12 February some extensive vandalism occurred to the track signs and marker posts at the Ruakākā Wildlife Refuge. Posts were pulled out of the ground and signs were smashed.

Bream Bay Coastal Care volunteers built the track between the estuary and the surf beach with funding for materials from The Pacific Development and Conservation Trust, which was established in 1989 with money from the French government in recognition of events surrounding the destruction of the Greenpeace vessel, Rainbow Warrior on 10 July 1985.

The track steers walkers away from the shorebird nesting area on the estuary and keeps people from

walking over fragile dune vegetation.

Since a fire in 2020 the trust has carried out weed control and replanting in that area to ensure the natural vegetation cover has grown back.

Lu Cummings a committee member of the local coastal conservation trust said, "The whole summer has been really, really good. There had been no vandalism and people had followed the signs and kept out of the bird nesting area. But just now, more or less at the end of the holiday season someone decided to do this nasty thing."

She is unsure if the damage was done by local people or visitors and is grateful to the "good Samaritans" from the Ruak $\bar{a}k\bar{a}$ Beach Holiday Park, who helped with the repairs.

Police Report

Summoned to appear in court for driving whilst forbidden

A 43-year-old man from Auckland summoned to appear in court for driving whilst forbidden after being stopped on Marsden Point Road on 6 February.

Three-car collision in Maungaturoto

On 10 of February a three-vehicle collision occurred on Hurndall Street East in Maungaturoto. There were no serious injuries.

Six family harm incidents

Over the fortnight Saturday 3 February to Saturday 17 February Bream Bay Police attended six family harm incidents. Four of these were in Ruakākā, one was in Waipu and one was in Maungaturoto.

Three mental health crises call outs

Over the same period they were called out to three mental health crises events one each in Ruakākā, Waipu and Maungaturoto. In all three cases Police attendance was sufficient to calm the situation and the person involved has been referred to partner agencies.

North Island IRB Championships at Waipu Cove



With 75 crews from clubs around the North Island competing and flying their flags it was a colourful scene on at Waipu Cove on Sunday 11 February, the second day into Surf Lifesaving New Zealand's North Island Inflatable Rescue Boat Championships. This is the second consecutive year the event has been held here and Surf Lifesaving NZ will be looking for another beach to hold next year's competition in order to spread it around. Two Bream Bay crews to feature on the results boards were the Waipu Cove women's under 23 years team of Emily Stolwerk, Leayah Buxton, and Ava Pullan which came second in both the Mass and Assembly rescue competitions, and the Ruakākā Men's Masters team of Jason Toovey, Fletcher Pool and Shaun Green, second in the Single Rescue and Assembly Rescue events.



The Waikanae under 19 men's team of Hamish, Swann, Taron Wilson and Matahari Richards on its way to winning the under 19s Single Rescue final





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of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 7 March The deadline for all copy is 4pm on Friday 28 February

A healthy dune is money in the bank against the next storm Continued from page 1.



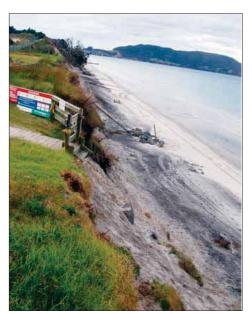
Dunes at Uretiti in recovery mode one year after the big cyclone

17metres at Uretiti. While there was less erosion at Marsden Point/Mair Rd. the impact there was greater as the dunes were already very steep, weedy, less wellvegetated and very narrow in places.

North of Waipu Cove, at Uretiti and at Ruakākā south of the surf club where there is a wide band of native dune binding vegetation: spinifex and pingao, although the cyclone in February 2023 took out many metres of dune and cut out steep sand banks, the tops of those banks are now collapsing and bringing down with them tendrils of pingao and spinifex which have taken root and are spreading out to capture sand.

By contrast, at Mair Rd., where the back dune vegetation is predominantly kikuyu, this natural dune building process cannot occur.

Laura explained in her Coastal News report following the cyclone, "On most east coast beaches eroded sand is not lost to the system but rather forms a bar offshore. After storm erosion sand moves back onshore and rebuilds the beach. Over time dune plants trap the sand blowing back over the dune, gradually rebuilding it. This dune rebuilding process can take some time and is dependent on weather condition. Vegetation will not stop storm erosion but having a good cover of the right species is crucial to dune building, putting money in the bank before the next storm."



A steep sand cliff remains at Mair Rd where dune recovery is heavily compromised by weeds



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From Cape Reinga to the Bluff by bicycle while raising funds for The Cancer Society



Geoff Spencer with his bike packed and ready to join the Tour Aotea ride from Cape Reinga to the Bluff

Geoff Spencer is heading off again. Five and a half years ago he set out to walk the length of New Zealand on the Te Araroa Trail. His plans to walk the 3,000 kilometres in a single five month stretch were interrupted however ,when he was diagnosed several weeks in with lymphoma.

He carried on walking between tests, making it to Hamilton before he came back to Northland to undergo six rounds of chemotherapy followed by radiation treatment in Auckland when he made good use of the Cancer Society's Domain Lodge. He went back to where he left the trail the following spring and finally made it to The Bluff on 25 February 2022.

This time around he is making the journey by bicycle and set out with 95 other cyclists at 7am on Sunday 18 February. A further group of around another 90 cyclists set off the follosing day on Monday 19 February. The ride is expected to take 30 days.

Asked about why he feels compelled to make these arduous journeys, Geoff said, he has always enjoyed these kinds of adventures. As a young man he cycle toured around Europe. He has competed in the NZ Ironman competition and in numerous triathlons, half marathons, marathons and cycle rides. Now aged 70, he says all this exercise is a form of health and well-being insurance.

Also he enjoys travelling and meeting people but says "these days we all should be thinking about the amount of carbon emissions we cause," so travelling by bike fits his current thinking.

Out of gratitude to the Cancer Society and the availability of Domain Lodge for Northland's cancer patients Geoff is using his ride to raise funds for this charity.

If you would like to sponsor his effort please make a donation to:https://www.youcanforcancer.org.nz/ geoffspencerstouraotearoa

You can follow his progress on the link:

https://touraotearoa2024.maprogress. com?bib=G%20A%20S

And he will be posting regularly throughout his ride on his Facebook page.

Reporting in at the end of this first day, a 110 km ride most of it on 90 Mile Beach, Geoff said the ride had been a hard one and he was exhausted. However he was looking forward to heading inland towards the Hokianga Harbour the next day and was hopeful this would be a bit easier.





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22 February 2024



Playing Princess in Japan



Jade celebrating her arrival at Disneyland in Tokyo

Draft Council Long Term Plan due out next month

The Whangārei District Council's draft Long Term Plan for 2024-2034 is expected to be available for public comment next month and the signs indicate we can expect a sizeable rates rise. In September 2023 Mayor Vince Cocurullo sounded a warning, "We know our roads aren't up to scratch, that we need to manage growth, be able to provide surrounding infrastructure for developments like the hospital upgrade and provide better access to parks and sports facilities. We also have core infrastructure to maintain and renew, and we want Whangārei to be resilient in the face of future weather events."

He said, "This all needs to be adequately funded, and if we are spending more than we bring in, then it becomes unsustainable."

He said Whangārei has some of the lowest rates in the country, which means his council is "feeling the pinch more than others".

In last year's annual plan Whangārei District Councillors voted to lower a proposed 10.9% rate rise to a 7.9% increase.

District Councils around New Zealand are grappling with high interest rates and inflation as well as growing infrastructure costs and many are proposing some hefty rates rises.

Hamilton City Council has consulted on a proposed 25.5% rates rise. In Wellington a rates rise between 15and 20% is expected and the Christchurch Council is proposing a 13.3% rates rise.

Playing a princess for a job is the dream of many young girls – a dream that has come true for one ex-Bream Bay College student. Jade Taiaroa, who grew up in Waipu, has won a contract with Tokyo Disney Resorts to dance and perform the role, of not only one well-known fictional heroines but four!

She left for Japan in January and will be in training and rehearsal for her debut on the 1 April 2024 where she will dance in five of Tokyo Disney Resorts resident shows.

Landing the 15-month contract was pure hard work, said Jade. After completing a diploma in Dance and Performing arts at the Brent St. Studio in Australia, she practised and exercised conscientiously. She attended audition after audition, "sometimes making it to the final only to be then cut at the last minute", she said. She persevered, looking on each audition as a job interview and helping her to figure out what the dance companies were looking for. At the same time she made sure she 'stayed relevant' to the industry by attending open classes and keeping fit.

Then, after endless 'job interviews' with a range of different organisations, Tokyo Disney picked her to play four heroines for their Tokyo Disney Resorts which includes DisneySea and Disneyland. Her contract runs for 15-months. The first three months will involve intensive training and rehearsals. Not only will she have to understand the stories and characters she will play, but she has to learn the history of the Disney organisation, and to sing in Japanese.

Jade is no stranger to determination and hard work. Even getting her diploma had its difficulties. Halfway through her studies Covid erupted, and Jade came home to Waipu until 'things opened up' again both here and in Australia.

She was quarantined for two weeks each way.

"I couldn't lose my fitness so I had to practise my dancing in the hotel room – it was a real challenge. But the plus side was getting all the theory and my assignments done," she said.

Jade's advice to other young girls wanting to fulfill their dance dreams is to. 'Keep dancing – don't give up too soon. At 22 I am the youngest in the cast, but some professional dancers don't get contracts until their late 20s"



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Professor Susan Crowther PhD Tel: 022 310 1978 E: drsusan.crowther@gmail.com

Have a Go Sports Festival in full swing



Grayson Cherrington, aged seven, shows the fish his brother Kiarn caught to Waipu Boat and Fishing Club Secretary Linda Glibbery at the club's have a Go Family Friendly day held on Sunday 11 February

Restricted fire season: no fire without a permit

Most of Northland and the Auckland region as well as parts of the northern Waikato are now in a restricted fire season. This means no open-air fires can be legally lit unless a fire permit has been applied for and approved by Fire and Emergency.

Parts of the Far North and the Hauraki Gulf islands are under a stricter prohibited fire season, which means a total ban on all fires.

Fire and Emergency Regional Manager for Northland and Auckland Ron Devlin said the high westerly winds are already causing "spike days" to occur in Northland where the fire danger is hitting the highest level of "extreme".

"There is a major risk in our Te Tai Tokerau Northland District of a fire occurring that will be very difficult to control," he said.

It is forecast that in February to March, we will have forty per cent less rain than normal with a greater wind speed which means the fire danger will be above normal.

Mr. Devlin said, "As we have seen with recent fires, it takes a large number of our fire brigades, many of whom are volunteer, with supporting resources and aircraft to contain and control wildfires."

The most recent large wildfire in Northland was in March 2023 near Cape Reinga. It took eight days to extinguish at a cost of more than \$1.5 million. The fire near Waiharara in 2021/2022 burnt for 50 days at a cost of more than \$10 million.

"It's these sorts of fires which we are trying to avoid by implementing a restricted fire season now," Ron Devlin said.

He asks anyone considering lighting a fire to first visit <u>www.checkitsalright.</u> nz to establish the current fire season status to see if they can light a fire. The restricted fire season remains until further notice.



Hold Down Brazilian Jiu Jitsu head coach Jonathan Woodhead gives some tips to Phoenix Riley and Ruden Hodson, both aged nine years, at the Bream Bay club's Have a Go session at its Princes Rd. base on Thursday afternoon 15 February.



Blaise Glass, aged nine, proved to be a hard hitting batsman when he came along to the Bream Bay Cricket Clubs introductory *Have a Go* lesson at Bream Bay College on Thursday afternoon 15 February.

Top of the Rock challenge

With the Brynderwyns closed it will be harder for Bream Bay people to get to this event on Sunday 17 March but if you like a fitness challenge the Top of the Rock event run provides options for walking or running 5km or 10km, and a free children's bike event.

The long run/walk route takes participants around two lakes, across farmland to the summit of the highest hill on Anderson's farm off Baldrock Road, which gives views over the surrounding countryside.

The annual event was named *Top of the Rock* due to the original route reaching the top of Baldrock mountain where access is no longer permitted. The new route provides more elevated, and further reaching views, particularly to the east

Free overnight camping at the venue will be provided, the swimming pool will be open and there will be music as well as food and drink stalls so non participants can also enjoy themselve.

Funds raised this year will go towards replacing the Kaiwaka gymnasium and fitness centre roofs and upgrading its security.

To enter visit the Kaiwaka Sports Association Website: www.kaiwakasport. co.nz

Bream Bay Cricket Club wins Northland Reserve Grade one day competition



The victorious Bream Bay Cricket Reserve Team

Bream Bay Cricket Club convincingly won the Northland Cricket Reserve Grade one day final with a convincing seven wicket win over Tikipunga at the Cobham Oval on Sunday 4 February.

This is the second year in a row Bream Bay has taken the Northland wide title, which is contested by teams from Wellsford to Kaitaia.

Bream Bay won the toss and sent Tikipunga in to

bat. Vaisakh Bijukumar and Anton Trist managed to bowl Tikipunga out for 61 in the 25th over . Tikipunga fought back bowling out Bream Bay's top three batters for 40. However Caleb Karl and Anton Trist took the run score up to 63 in the 15 over sealing the win.

The team is now focused on the 50/40 two day Declaration competition.

Waipu Tennis Club – Tournament Success

By Paul Ramsay

The summer months are time for tennis tournaments and some of our members have been out and about playing in these. Two Gold medals to Wendy Jambor at the NZ Masters in the 40-45 age group. In the combined doubles she was partnered by ex Waipu member Andrew Ramsay. Wendy also won the women's doubles. Peri Woods, Neil Baudinet and Gordon McKay also competed well in their various age groups.

Closer to home James Donaldson and Paul Jobin were runners up in the Men's B grade at the Janet Agnew Carnival Doubles Tournament. Ben Donaldson was 4th in the Men's A grade. On the Sunday Ben and Wendy Jambor won the combines. Bart Peters and Christine Den Hartogh competed in the mixed doubles. Wendy also won the Northland Women's doubles closed tournament

The Kaitaia Open tournament was held in early January and it was good to see Ben Donaldson and Wendy Jambor win the combines competition up there. Wendy and her partner (Dominque Zivkovich-Brady) were runners up in the women's doubles as well.

almost perfect day with little wind and hot, sunny conditions. Waipu past and present players dominated the Men's A grade with Andrew and Paul Ramsay winning and Peri Woods and Sam Bishop as runners up. Men's B competition was won by Leon Rossbotham and Carl Maria from the doubtless Bay area with Henry Morunga (Kaitaia) and Yann Gublin (Waipu) runners up. Women's A doubles was won by Judy Hill (Whangarei) and Yvie Butterworth (Doubtless Bay). Runners up were Waipu members Melissa Wong and Pauline Fudge. Maria Konigs and Cathy Disbury from Bream Tail won the Women's B competition with Waipu members Leanne Govorko and Karen Wright as runners up.

Interclub is just starting up again and with most matches accounted for Waipu Go

sition and Waipu Silver 6th. In th B grade Waipu Bronze are 4th

Welcome along to all the new people joining us on Tuesday nights. There is always room for more. Remember to check our Facebook page for what is going on at the club.



MARSDEN POINT HIGH TIDES

	AM		PM	
Thu 22 Feb	7.09	2.4	7.26	2.3
Fri 23 Feb	7.58	2.5	8.15	2.4
Sat 24 Feb	8.14	2.5	8.58	2.4
Sun 25 Feb	9.20	2.5	9.38	2.5
Mon 26 Feb	9.56	2.6	10.15	2.5
Tue 27 Feb	10.30	2.6	10.50	2.5
Wed 28 Feb	11.04	2.6	11.26	2.5
Thu 29 Feb	11.39	2.5	~	~
Fri 1 March	12.03	2.5	12.16	2.5
Sat 2 March	12.43	2.4	12.55	2.4
Sun 3 March	1.26	2.4	1.38	2.4
Mon 4 March	2.15	2.3	2.27	2.4
Tue 5 March	3.11	2.3	3.23	2.3
Wed 6 March	4.15	2.3	4.26	2.3
Thu 7 March	5.21	2.4	5.34	2.4
Fri 8 March	6.23	2.5	6.40	2.5

Weeding Wednesdays

Help Bream Bay Coastal Care Keep Ruakaka Wildlife Refuge free of invasive weeds

Meet at 8.30am.each Wednesday at the Bream Bay Drive entrance (on left past Oasis store and before the motel)

Weeding for just two hours



Our One Set Wonder doubles tournament had an



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 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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Training sessions for women who interested in joining the Women's Menzshed

Following on from the success of the Women's Group, which was set up in the Waipu Menzshed last year a series of introductory training sessions is being offered to women who would like to join the woodwork group.

Introductory sessions will be held on Wednesday mornings (9-11am) on 21 February, 28 February, 6 March, 13 March

The sessions will explain the workshop safety rules and the safe way to use the tools and machinery at the Menzshed. Attending all of these four sessions is a requirement before joining the regular women's group, which runs on Friday mornings at 9–11.30am

- The goals of the group are to:
- Teach women about building tools, how they are used and what they can achieve;
- Create a community of women connected to each other with a sense of purpose;
- · Provide an opportunity for women to give their time and energy to a beneficial community project.

The Friday team makes items for the community, such as predator boxes, trellises, garden obelisks. (Please note that there is no opportunity for personal projects during this time.)

The trainee group is limited to a maximum of eight and open to women over the age of 16 years.

Co-ordinator Rica Dearman said, "Being fit and fairly strong is helpful in using all the different pieces of machinery. If you are interested, please email me at ricadearman@gmail.com

Funds sought to build a new Waipu Menzshed base

The Waipu Menzshed now has a formal lease arrangement with the Whangārei District Council for a building site on the grass car park land between Saorsa Retirement Village and The Braigh and is applying for grants to build a shed on the site to relocate their club to.

The Menzshed was given until May this year to move out of the old Masonic Lodge building, part of the Waipu Museum's Heritage precinct. The group has over 50 members and meets each Tuesday to make wooden boxes for predator control traps, build and repair furniture for local charitable organisations, make garden trellis out of off cuts to name some of their activities. The Menzshed organization is also concerned with supporting men's health.

Menzshed Chairman Gordon Walker said now the lease has been signed the club can actively apply for grants. However, he thinks it very unlikely they will have the new building up and running by May. He is hopeful that the Museum Committee, when it sees the progress under way, will extend the time frame before they need to vacate the lodge building.

The Menzshed estimate of the amount of funding needed is \$150,000, although this could change depending on regulations they need to comply with for a public building.

The Whangārei District Council has plans to upgrade the car park, which Gordon is hoping will happen sooner rather than later to save the Menzshed the expense of building a driveway.



Bring your bikes to the Marsden Cove Market

Bike Northland is holding an event focused on bicycles and bicycle riding at Marsden Cove on Sunday 25 February from 9.30am to 2pm, alongside the Marsden Cove Market.

People are invited to "Pedal to the Market" where they will find help with basic bike maintenance, activities to improve their cycling skills and guidance on how to set up their bikes for a more comfortable ride.

Neweya Transport is supplying a big log truck and the Share the Road team will be running Blindzone workshops giving people an opportunity to see the road from a truck driver's perspective.

A valet service will be offered so cyclists can attend the workshops or look around the market knowing their bicycles are being looked after.

Awen Page, Operations Manager for Bike Northland, said "We have a wealth of knowledge about fixing bikes, checking your set up or just sharing ideas about where to ride. No question is too foolish.

"And If you haven't brought your bike, you are still welcome to participate or come over for a chat."

Members of the Shared Path group will be there gathering support for their proposal for a safe shared path for cyclists and walkers between Marsden Cove and the Ruak $\bar{a}k\bar{a}$ Towncentre.

Regular reeling in Waipu

Regular monthly reeling in the Waipu Coronation Hall has begun and will take place on every second Friday night of the month from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Wes Bycroft of Celtic Band Twisty Twisty Willow said prior to COVID this was a regular monthly occurrence in the Piping Hall in Whangārei to target the teenage to 40 year olds. Wes said,

Wes said, "It built up quite well until COVID put a stop".

The monthly gathering has now shifted to Waipu 's Coronation Hall, which has air-conditioning and a sprung floor.

Wes "The hope was the group built up in Whangārei would transfer and this seems to happened. On February 9th night over 35 reelers turned up, which has encouraged the organisers to keep it running.

WHAT'S ON IN BREAM BAY

• **BREAM BAY SPORTS TRUST** *GIVE IT A GO* **FESTIVAL** From Saturday 10 February to Sunday 10 March See calendar page 10.

• MARSDEN COVE MARKET Next on Sunday 25 February 9.30 -2pm at the Marsden Cove Marina

• **PEDAL TO THE MARKET** Sunday 25 February at the Marsden Cove Marina. 9.30am - 2pm Bike Northland invites people to bring their bikes to the marina for advice on basic bike maintenance, cycling skills and a chance to climb on board a log trucka and see the road from a truck driver's perspective.

• **REELING DANCING IN WAIPU CORONATION HALL** Every second Friday of the month, 7.30 to 9.30pm. \$5.00, under 12-year-olds free. All ages and families welcome. Lively dancing to Scottish jigs and reels. Easy to pick up. Bring water bottle, something cold and small to share for supper. Air conditioned hall. Next night: Friday 8 March.

• WAIPU BOUTIQUE SUNDAY MARKET Next on Sunday 10 March From 9am to 1pm in the Coronation Hall

• ONE TREE POINT ARTISAN MARKET Next on Sunday 17 March. 9am - 1pm. One Tree Point School quadrant and field. Fundraising for Whangārei Hospital Children's Ward.

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

• THE KAURI MUSUEM. . The Kauri Museum is open 9am-5pm every day except Christmas Day. 5 Church St., Matakohe. See more at www.kaurimuseum.com

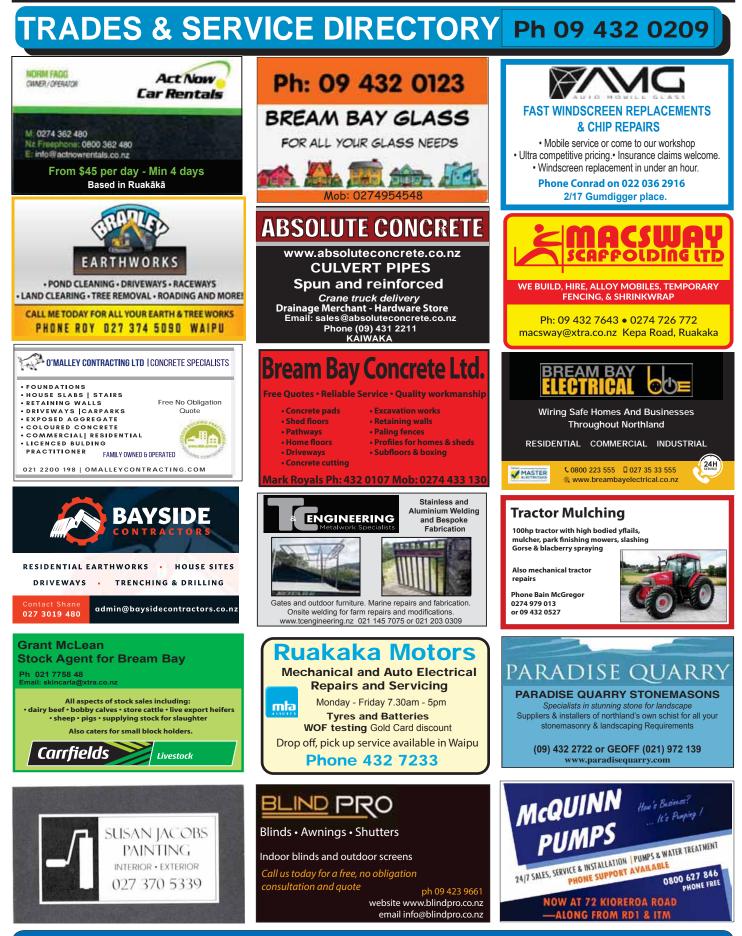
Phone the BREAM BAY NEWS 027 432 0070 or email:breambaynews@xtra.co.nz if you know of something interesting going on in Bream Bay.

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Deadline for next issue - Wednesday 28 February

22 February 2024



Deadline for next issue - Wednesday 28 February



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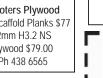
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Safeman Safe family Men's Centre

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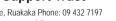
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No appointments are necessary, we have an open door policeu - if you need help or know someone that does just come on down to: 9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā. We are right next door to Jimmy's Barber Shop or I can be reached by phone 021 121 0763 - Phil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

Bream Bay Community Support Trust



- Youth Hangout Space (watch this space...)
- Community Connectors
- (Connecting community to various services)

• Free Whanau Ora Medical Clinic with Ki A Ora Ngatiwai. Wednesday mornings 10am-12noon, by appointment only phone 09 435 4586

• Free Budgeting Service - Tuesdays 10am-12pm by appointment

- Mana Wahine Ki Wahine Toa, women's group
- Ha Tane men's group

• Listening Ear - need to talk? Mon-Fri 9am-4pm no appointments necessary, cuppa and a listening ear available

Waitata Sessions 12:30pm every Wednesday, in our hall, come along for a sing along. . Last Session for 2023 Wednesday 20th December

Community Connections 10:30am-12pm every Friday in our hall. Hot soup and cuppa available. The purpose of these sessions is for the community to get together and partake in different activities together, getting to know one another, sharing talents/ hobbies/passions creating connections in the community, building friendships. The session topics are driven by interests of participants.

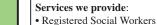
- Friday 23rd Feb Indoor Bowls
- Friday 1st March Waiata Session
- Friday 8th Mar Sea Week Activity
- Friday 15th March Learner Ukulele

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

www.bbtrust.org..nz



Takutai Place, Ruakaka Phone: 09 432 7197



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PUBLIC NOTICES



Takahiwai Rugby League

Applications are now being received for coaches for the following grades in 2024: Under 6s, 8s, 10s, 18s. The coach's position for the Senior Men's Premier Grade is also available.

Come join this club and share your skills and experience with our Rugby League community.

Applications can be sent to: Hoolies68@xtra.co.nz.

with technology

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Angela Stolwerk	021 823 966
Chris Martin	027 367 2947

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

Waipu Senior Netball Club Inc

AGM 28th February, 6pm Logan Maclean Cafe, Waipu ALL WELCOME

CENTRE

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Sat 9am-1pm JP Service available Saturdays 10am - 11am

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Bream Bay Medical Centre Ltd.

Ruakākā Town Centre, Ruakākā Monday - Eriday: 8 45 am - 5pm



Monday - Friday: 8.45 am - 5pm Saturdays: 9am - 12pm

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

Monday - Friday: 8.45am - 5pm

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

Ph: 432 8060

New patients welcome

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 - All services at ST PAUL's Church, 25 Karawai St, Ruakaka 9.30am until further notice.

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

Lifepoint. 300 OTP Rd,10.30am.

MARKETS



THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 7 March The deadline for all copy is 4pm on Wednesday 28 February





OPEN HOME—SUNDAY 1.00—1.30pm 13 Kamahi Place, One Tree Point

four bedroom, two bathroom, two living area, entertainers' home. Spacious & functional galley kitchen. Open plan living, dining area that spills out to a private courtyard. Location is so central to all of our coastal amenities Price \$849,000 | bbrealty.co.nz #4177 JANINE GOLDSMITH AREINZ Mob: 021 432 793

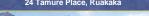
LOCATION & OPPORTUNITY

This home is awaiting your creative touch. 3-bedrooms + study, 2-bathrooms, open plan living & dining area. Step out onto the spacious back yard & add some gardens if you choose. Situated on a flat section and within walking distance to the Harbour, café and day care.

Now \$829,000 | bbrealty.co.nz #4174 FIONA SOUTHORN MNZM Mob: 021 317 775









and two bathrooms, plenty of open plan living with sunny decks to the North and West. Backing on to the River Esplanade Reserve, such an easy flat walk to our Ruakaka Shopping Hub and all amenities. Price \$815,000 | bbrealty.co.nz #4175 JANINE GOLDSMITH AREINZ Mob: 021 432 793

4HA BLOCK NEAR THE SEA A rare find in a sought-after location. Sandy, black peat soil and currently maintained by way of maize planting and stock grazing, this land is a flat rectangular

shape. Wide road frontage and exposure on One Tree Point Road lends itself to lifestyle possibilities. bbrealty.co.nz #4163 Price \$699.000 + GST (if any) **FRANCIE STOKES** Mob: 022 656 0165