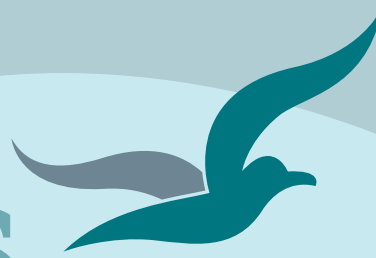


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Meeting to discuss concerns over housing development

At a rough count, 60 people turned up to a Ruakākā community meeting to discuss the proposed Kainga Ora 50 home development planned for Tamingi St., Peter Snell Rd., and Tiki Place. It was a warm evening so people did well to sit it out

The consensus of the meeting seemed to be that people did not oppose the development outright but were concerned about its density and the effect on their "close knit community" of all those new homes.

Mandi Brown said it was hard for people who had lived in the same homes for 42 years to learn that their house would now be demolished. The homes meant a lot to them. They had raised children and grandchildren in them and held tangi for family members.

She was concerned that the proposed new houses had no space for children to play in and would not have garages.

Mandi said, "We lost three people last year and village residents were

Frightened about what the new development would bring."

She said some private house owners have put their homes on the market and are moving away. There were three homicides in the village in 2023. Two infants were killed at their home in Peter Snell Rd. in May and 24-year-old Teina Pickering was found dead in the same street on the morning of 12 October.

Mandi said she had received online criticism from people outside Ruakākā who had told her it was selfish

Continued on page 12

The biggest ever Waipu Car Show

Photo by Wes Bycroft



The Waipu Lions Car and Bike Show held in the Caledonian Park on Sunday 4 February was "by far" the biggest show ever.

Waipu Lions member Malcolm Norton club members who had worked at the show were all "totally exhausted on Monday. I went home afterwards after helping to count up the proceeds and went straight to bed."

Over 850 vehicles and 250 motorbikes turned up to take part in the show.

It was a bit embarrassing Malcolm said as we ran

out of numbers and People's Choice voting cards.

"There was enough space in the park but only just. If it gets much bigger we will have to consider pre-registration."

Spectator attendance was also up on previous years with a long queue forming at the front entrance gate to the park.

The final tally of how much money the show made has not been finalized but Malcolm expects this too will be a record. This year the main recipient of the proceeds will be the Northland Rescue Helicopter.

More photos on page 7



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Coastal South Councillor for
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EDITORIAL

White sands and an old man's welcoming features in the contours of Mount Manaia

It was quite a sight the cruise ship Regatta coming into berth at Northport this morning (Sunday 4 October) just as the sun rose over Bream Head. As cruise ships go the Regatta is a small one but, nevertheless, with her multi storied rows of cabins she loomed large as she came into the harbour.

This is the first cruise ship to come into our port and extensive arrangements were in place to make sure the visit went smoothly.

Luckily the weather co-operated. If the windy conditions of yesterday had persisted then the ship may have simply bypassed us on her way to the Bay of Islands.

I had a brief conversation with the ship's Italian captain Giulio Ressa and I asked him what his initial impressions of Marsden Point were. He said he had first noticed the white sands of our beaches and as he came past Manaia he saw in the contours of the mountain the features of an old man welcoming him.

I am reminded once again that markets, art centres and museums are all very well but our most important assets, what our visitors value most, are the natural features of this place and we need to put more effort into restoring and caring for these things.

Justice for Teina

I have been trying to find out if there have been any developments in the Police investigation of the death of 24-year-old Teina Pickering in Ruakākā Village on 12 October last year.

The young man's body was found in the street in the early hours of the morning. Residents reported the sound of a vehicle driving away at speed.

I never met Teina Pickering but I have a son of around the same age and I feel deeply the tragedy of this young man's death.

I think it is important that we establish how and why he died and hold the people responsible to account. It's not just a matter for the Police. Justice is something the whole community should be asking for. If anyone is withholding information I think you should come forward. We need to understand how and why this happened in order to try to prevent it ever happening again.

I have been phoning and emailing back and forth between the media departments of the Police and the Ministry of Justice but not getting terribly far. As far as I can make out, the two men who were arrested shortly after Teina's death are being held on firearms charges and, in the case of Ethan Hokai also on resisting arrest and assaulting a police officer. Mr. Hokai has been convicted on these charges and is waiting to be sentenced while the other man, who has name suppression, will appear in court next month. That's all I know.

Marilyn

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First Cruise Ship to arrive at Northport

The first scheduled cruise ship to come into Northport arrived in Whangārei Harbour just as the sun rose over North Head on Sunday 4 February.

Waiting to greet her were members of the hapu Patuharakeke, kapa-haka performers from Bream Bay College and a line up of politicians including: Vince Cocurullo, Mayor of Whangārei, in his mayoral robes and chain, Whangārei MP Shane Reti, who said he had predicted many years ago that if the Hundertwasser Centre was built the ships would come, and the Minister of Tourism, Matt Doocoy, who with a similar hair style to Christopher Luxon imagined that the ship's passengers watching from balconies above would be texting home to say the Prime Minister of New Zealand had turned up to welcome them. At the end of the formalities plaques were exchanged between the Regatta crew and Northport representatives: a photograph MS Regatta from her crew and from Northport a picture of the port set on a rimu plaque sourced from an old school desk at One Tree Point school. Jon Moore, CEO of Northport, told the Bream Bay News this is a tradition when a ship makes a first visit to a port.

Meanwhile behind the seated officials cruise ship passengers filed down the gangplank to board waiting buses transporting them to a variety of destinations including the Whangārei Town Basin and the Matakoho and Waipu Museums. The Regatta departed for the Bay of Islands at 8pm on the same day.

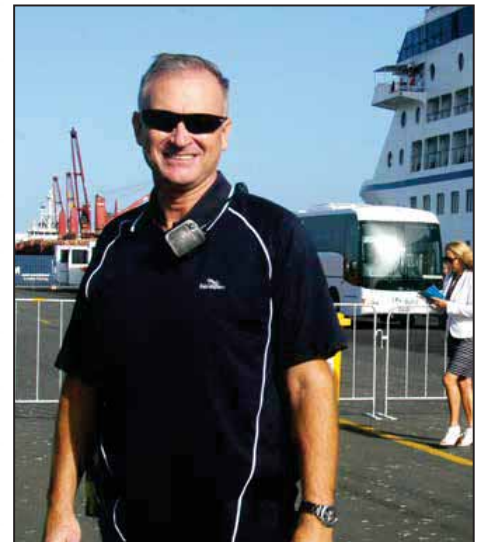
This was the first of three cruise ship visits scheduled for Northport this summer. Another five are booked for the 2024/2025 season and a further three in early 2026.



Oceania Cruises' MS Regatta comes into Northport with 601 passengers and 398 crew on board



Captain Giulio Ressa has picked up the fern leaf peace emblem in response to a wero (challenge) as he disembarked from his ship. He is flanked by Mayor of Whangārei Vince Cocurullo and Aprihama Edwards of Ngati Wai, who guided him through the ceremony



Ken Andrews, Northport Cruise Ship Manager had a busy morning ensuring invited guests as well as the passengers and crew of the Regatta, got safely in and out of the port.

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LETTERS

Better bins please

Anyone who has been in Waipu over any busy weekend will vouch for the poor design of the rubbish bins in the town. While they may appear functional it soon becomes obvious that they are not well designed. It does not take too many items for the opening to become clogged and people are understandably not eager to put their hands in to push the overflow down into the tapering depths of the bin. The matching recycling receptacle on the other side fares no better.

Consequently (as you can see) the bins overflow and the rubbish and recycling fall into a mess at the feet of the bins.

One solution could be these four bins that other Councils provide.



One Waipu's poorly designed rubbish bins

Or perhaps go 'high tech' and install four solar powered self-compacting bins as one can see in Mangawhai?

Will the Whangarei District Council take action?

Perhaps the soon-to-be-released Long Term Plan is an opportunity for them to fix this rubbish situation for Waipu?

*Richard Cole
Waipu*



Rubbish and recycling bins in New Plymouth

Objectors should have their hands deep in their pockets again

Just a correction to your article on the Gateway service centre. The land between Ranburn and the fire station that Coralie and I went through the resource consent process with was not 'rural production' land as Councillor Ken Couper is reported as having said. It was in fact 85% living one zone (housing) with the other 15% being the business three zone that we needed for the planned project. Prior to that it had been a site of commercial activity as the local sale yards and show grounds for decades and then as part of Ranburn single men's village for the refinery expansion. I'm not sure that a horse paddock counts as rural production.

When Councillor Couper was chair of the Waipu Centennial Trust Board, he objected on their behalf to our proposed development on the grounds that it would have a negative impact (and I quote)

"The impact on the vibrancy of the Waipu village main street"

"Waipu is included in the WDC long term structure plan as an historic village. We believe the proposal compromises the stated aims of this long term plan"

"Village character - the museum plays a large part in developing the character and atmosphere of the village. This proposal does neither".

That small group who battled to stop our sympathetically designed, small addition to the fabric of Waipu should have their hands deep in their pockets again to mount a similarly funded defence of the village to prevent a new town springing up on the other side of the highway.

Now that really would have a negative impact.

*Bruce Roberts
Waipu*

Recycling changes from 1 February

Lids, caps, bottletops and spray cans are now excluded from Council's red recycling bin collection, following government recycling rules that came in on 1 February.

We will still be collecting rinsed 1, 2 and 5 plastic bottles and containers and tins

in the red crate and of course, glass in the blue crate.

Aerosol cans often still contain flammable or poisonous gases and other chemicals that can escape when the cans are crushed. Very few recycling plants in New Zealand are set up to manage the fumes and risk of fire.

Small lids are being excluded because they are often too small for recycling plant machines to sort. From a health and safety point of view, leaving lids on bottles or containers also traps liquids or food and that contaminates the recycling.



Your red bin is for type 1, 2 and 5 clean plastics, tins and cans

Remove lids and place in general rubbish

To search items and see which bins they should go in, or any other options just go to our website at www.wdc.govt.nz/disposalguide

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

THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 22 February

The deadline for all copy is 4pm on

Wednesday 14 February

Sunflowers amongst the maize

Craig and Ann-Maree Roberts have a nice display of sunflowers in the maize paddocks along their State Highway One boundary fence just south of Waipu. The flowers are catching the eye of passers by and drawing attention to a sign advertising subdivision lots at the rear of the paddocks. Craig said marketing was the reason for planting the flowers and, what's more, it seems to be working with lots of enquiries coming in. The sunflowers are edible by cattle and will be harvested along with the maize and go into the feed stack.

A big eight-row planter was used to get the sunflowers and maize crop planted simultaneously, with the eighth feeder bucket filled with sunflower seeds.



Sunflowers blooming amongst the maize crop on Ann-Marie and Craig Roberts farm alongside State Highway one just north of the turn off into Waipu make a beguiling sight for travellers arriving in Northland.

A good year to be a farmer

There's a lot that can go wrong with a maize crop but this summer the plants are tall and deep green and it looks like a good harvest coming up. This is in sharp contrast to last summer when maize paddocks were under water for much of the season with the crop stunted and yellowing. Graham Hargreaves has planted his usual 35 hectares in maize. There have been a few challenges. He planted early and about half his seed was lost in a cold wet spell of spring weather. There was also some rodent and bird damage and up on his runoff half way up Helmsdale Rd. wild pigs swam across the river and dug up and gobbled the seed.

"They say corn seed is like cocaine for pigs" he said. They can smell it in the ground and find it irresistible. He had to replant about half his maize fields. The price of the seed was covered by the seed supply company's insurance but the other expenses were borne by the farm.

The replacement seed has done well and providing the fall armyworm doesn't arrive or the big storm forecaster Ken Ring has predicted doesn't come about, there should be a good harvest.

Last week crop assessors were looking through the maize plantings to check for pests. A tiny parasitic wasp has been introduced to combat the army worm so hopefully this is having an effect.

Mr. Hargreaves said spraying for the caterpillars will also kill off the wasp so he will have a tricky decision if the assessors tell him he needs to do this. There is also a withholding period before you can harvest after insecticide has been applied so sometimes you need to make a decision to harvest early before there is too much damage.

"In Northland we always need to be ready for floods in the winter and droughts in the summer. But so far this year the weather has been good. There is plenty of grass and we have good crops of silage. This year it's good to be a farmer and we can make up for some of the damage caused last summer.

Graham is still making repairs after the destruction of Cyclone Gabrielle which brought down many trees and fences.

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An update on Meridian's Ruakākā Energy Park



A drone photograph supplied by Meridian of the four hectare site at the intersection of Rama Rd. and Port Marsden Highway in Marsden Point where a battery storage system capable of storing 100 megawatts of electricity, enough to supply the whole of Northland's 60,000 homes with two hours of electricity on the coldest night of the year.

Chris More, Head of Renewable Construction, with Meridian Energy has provided an update on the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) under construction at the intersection of Port Marsden Highway and Rama Rd. in Marsden Point. He said, "Construction works continue onsite, mostly focussed on the equipment foundations and buildings, and the installation of underground ducts". "The first two shipments of 18 batteries each (out of 80 in total) are currently in transit from the manufacturer in China, and are due to start arriving in early February. Up to 30 people are usually working onsite comprising teams from Meridian, United Civil and Arco Group. Mr. More said the onsite installation and commissioning

of the batteries and associated equipment will begin soon and then we will see teams from Northpower, Saft, the battery supplier and Mackay Electrical teams will be working onsite.

Meridian has also purchased a nearby farm where it is proposing to build a 170ha solar farm. Mr. More reiterated this would produce roughly 120MW of electricity, "providing a significant and reliable power supply in Northland and reducing the reliance on electricity generated from other parts of the country." He said this part of the Ruakākā Energy Park project is still in the consenting phase, and Meridian hopes to provide more information in a few months time.

Nova Scotia Road upgrade part of the Road to Zero programme due to fatal crash there in 2022

A major safety upgrade is underway on Nova Scotia Rd. in Waipu. The construction company Ventia has the contract to widen the road's shoulders, lay down some new high skid resistance pavement, install safety barriers and upgrade the drainage.

All going well, the drainage work will be completed prior to the Brynderwyn closure on 26 February.

The remaining work will be completed when the section of State Highway One over the Brynderwyns re-opens in early May.

The total agreed project cost (as of January 31, 2024) is \$540,754.28. The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) has subsidised about 53% of this equal to

\$286,599.77.

Nova Scotia Rd. will form part of the Brynderwyn bypass route.

There is also a plan for a roundabout to be installed at the Nova Scotia Rd./ SH1 intersection, which will also channel extra traffic along the road.

However Peter Phung of the Northland Transportation Alliance said the NZTA funding comes under under a "Low Cost Low Risk Road to Zero programme 2021-2022", and "is a localized safety treatment due to a fatal crash that happened in early 2022", and is separate from the roundabout project.



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At the Waipu Lions biggest ever Car and Bike show



Rita Eastell of Kumeu had a frock, picnic blanket and luggage to match the colours of her 1957 Buick Roadmaster



Angela and Graham Hargreaves of Waipu with their 2008 Grand Turismo Maserati



Terry Dawson of Mangawhai with his 1930 Model A Ford, which he and his wife Claudia have owned for 43 years. These days he only brings it out of the garage on fine days for special occasions as it takes a lot of work to clean.



Rene Latham of Auckland on his 1942 Indian 4 cylinder took the prize for best American bike



Peter and Lynn Jordon of Whenuapai with their V8 powered 1951 Citroen Light 15



Phil Latham of Ruawai with his 1964 Ford Thunderbird, which he purchased in 2009. Phil said he uses the car as much as he can and doesn't worry too much about keeping it spotlessly clean.

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Improvements made to the Mair Rd. beach access sand ladder



Department of Conservation staff and Ruakaka Resident and Ratepayer members meet to discuss the Mair Rd sand ladder from left Whangarei Operations Manager Matiu Mataira, Grant Brown and Peter Hope of the Ruakaka Residents and Ratepayers Association, Senior DOC Ranger Mathew Hemara, Robyn Armstrong of Ruakaka Residents and Ratepayers and Senior Ranger Anh Nguyen

Department of Conservation senior staff met with members of the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers Association on Thursday afternoon 25 January to discuss the Mair Rd beach access.

A sand ladder with steps made of half round posts bolted to two lengths of heavy chain had been installed down over the dunes just prior to Christmas to replace a set of wooden stairs smashed by Cyclone Gabrielle in February 2023.

Members of the RRRA had complained to DOC that the sand ladder was not fit for purpose as it was difficult for many people to climb up it over the steep dune face. Furthermore, sand was eroding from underneath, leaving the half rounds exposed and likely to cause someone to trip.

Prior to the meeting, some improvements to the sand ladder had been made. The ladder had been lengthened to go all the way to the beach and the gaps under the half rounds had been filled with sand.

Peter Hope, of the RRRA, while agreeing the adjustments to the sand ladder were a big improvement but easier to use asked said the stairs had been installed by the Marsden Oil Refinery and he asked if it would be possible for the community to rebuild another set of stairs.

However, DOC's Head of Operations in Wangārei, Matiu Mataira said storms like Cyclone Gabrielle are likely to become more frequent and a wooden structure would be unlikely to remain in place for any length of time. Senior Ranger Anh Nguyen explained that a sand ladder is a floating structure and can adjust to the shape of the dunes.

Community liaison officer Matthew Hemara

said a sand ladder at Pataua Bay had survived Cyclone Gabrielle and over time had become stabilised with vegetation holding the sand under it in place.

Mr. Hope asked if the DOC staff thought the ladder was suitable for everybody to use. He said while reasonably fit people could negotiate it, it might be difficult for mothers carrying children or older people.

However, Mr. Mataira said DOC can't make all its tracks accessible to everyone there were other beach access points along the length of Bream Bay which are easier for people with walking difficulties to use.

Robyn Armstrong (RRRA0) pointed out that the beach at Mair Rd already excludes some people as she can't take her grandchildren there because of the vehicles driving on the beach.

Mr. Hope said that motorbikes would be able to get up and down the sand ladder but Mr. Mataira asked, if there weren't many other places along the stretch of coast between Mair Rd and Ruakākā where motorbikes already illegally criss cross the dunes.

Grant Brown of the RRRA asked if the Department of Conservation would carry any liability if someone got injured on the sand ladder.

Mr. Mataira said a sign could be erected warning people that a reasonable level of fitness is needed to use the ladder. He said his rangers would carry out regular checks on how well the sand ladder was performing.

Mr. Brown pointed out that the barrier blocking off where the stairway used to be is very flimsy and unsafe and Mr. Mataira said a new barrier would be built further back from the cliff face and some broken bollards which were placed to prevent vehicles driving to the edge of the dune face would be replaced. He said although funding was tight he would see if he could find the resources for some upgrade work on the Mair Rd. beach park.

Car stickers to help make Ruakākā people feel better



Keith Levy in the Ruakākā Towncentre selling his *I Love Ruakākā* car stickers

Keith Levy has had a batch of these *I Love Ruakākā* car stickers printed up at his own expense, and is selling them around the town for \$2 a piece.

He says for the most part sales are going well and, seeing the sticker displayed on his own vehicle people ask where they can get hold of one.

Keith said with some of the terrible events such as murders and stabbings, which occurred in 2023 in the Ruakākā Village, he wanted to do something to make

everyone feel a bit better.

So what does he love about Ruakākā?

“The people and the beaches”, he replied.

“There are some beautiful souls living here, particularly the people at the Bream Bay Community Support Trust.”

He initially had 100 car stickers printed but if the demand is there, will print another batch.

Waipu Cove Surf Lifesavers rescue family from cave

A family of three became trapped by the high tide in the cave between Ding Bay and Lings Beach on Monday afternoon 22 January. They managed to call for help using a cellphone and were rescued by the Waipu Cove Surf lifesavers who arrived in an inflatable rescue boat.

Surf lifesavers Rick Stolwerk and Torrin Linkhorm entered the cave with rescue tubes. They swam a woman and a young girl aged about 10 year to the IRB which transported them to shore. Then

they reentered the cave to rescue the father who they towed to shore with the aid of a rescue tube. Mr. Stolwerk who was involved in the rescue of a dog from the same cave last year, said this was a much more dangerous situation.

“The waves were lapping up the walls of the cave and the three were clinging to its sides.”

The Waipu Fire Brigade was first on the scene and was preparing to lower ropes to the family in the cave below when the surf lifesavers arrived.



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Waipu Boat and Fishing Club 11 Family friendly event 11:00am - 1:00pm Fishing at the club. Some children rods and bait supplied. 100 Nova Scotia Drive ☎ Linda 027 370 9991	Bream Bay Cricket Club 15 Skills stations with game of cricket after. Primary age (Y1 - Y6) from 4:30pm Bream Bay College field (behind gym). ☎ Dean 021 191 5769	Hold Down Brazilian Jiu Jitsu 15 Ages 4 - 7 3:30pm Ages 8 - 13 4:15pm Adults 13+ 5:30pm Fundamental movements & games. 3 Princes St, Ruakākā. ☎ Rebecca 027 7799654	Marsden Yacht and Boat Club 16/23 Adults and accompanied children 8+ years of age 5:00pm - 9:00 pm Marsden Cove Marina ☎ Helen 021 077 2332	Waipu Bowling Club 17 Coaching and a few games for beginners. Wear flat soled shoes. Ages 16+ from 10:00am 4A South Road, Waipu ☎ Bruce 021 068 2511

SAT	SAT	SAT / TUES	SUN	MON
One Tree Point Bowling Club 17 Coaching followed by a game of Bowls. All ages from 10+ years from 10:00am 35 Pyle Road West, One Tree Point ☎ Angela 027 4267 435	Bream Bay Boxing and Fitness 17 All welcome to give box-fit a go. Boxing incorporated into cardio exercises. from 10:30am 3 Princes St, Ruakākā. ☎ Terry 022 317 9865	OTP Pickle Ball 17/20 Introduction to Pickleball for adults. Bats & balls provided. from 8:30am Public Tennis Courts, Endeavour Place, OTP ☎ Doug 022 064 9294	Waipu Cove Surf Club 18 Ages 4 - 13 (nippers) Ages 14+ (lifeguard) from 10:00am Surf safety, swimming, beach games. 901 Cove Road, Waipu Cove ☎ Kath 021 554 401	Bream Bay Swimming Club 19 8-10 years & 11-13 years 4:00pm - 5:30pm Fun 'water open day' with skills and drills. Bring goggles. Bream Bay College Pool ☎ Fran 021 081 737 62

TUES	WED	SAT	SUN	THU
Cove Walking Crew 20 All welcome. One hour (or less) beach walk. 9:00am Meet in reserve opp. Cove Café, Waipu Cove ☎ Lynette 021 170 7550	Waipu Netball Club 21 Boys and girls. 5 years+ from 5:30pm Circuit-based fun netball activities. Waipu Celtic Barn ☎ Hollie 021 105 4633,	Waipu Croquet Club 24 Family friendly event 9:00am - 12:00pm Equipment supplied. Wear soft sole shoes. Caledonian Park, next to Bowling Club. ☎ Lyn 027 725 0205	Bream Bay Tramping Club 25 All ages and fitness levels able to hike for 3-4 hours in forest. from 8:30am Wilson's Dam, Sail Rock Road, Ruakākā. ☎ Richard 027 6427886	Waipu Pickle Ball 29 For any adults. Watch a game, then play! 5:30pm - 7:30pm Celtic Barn, Caledonian Park, Waipu ☎ Dawn 021 614 809

MARCH

FRI	MON	TUES	SAT	TUES
Marsden Yacht and Boat Club 1/8 Adults and accompanied children 8+ years of age 5:00pm - 9:00 pm Marsden Cove Marina ☎ Helen 021 077 2332	Bream Bay Tramping Club 4 see above for details EVERY WED in FEB/MARCH Marsden Ladies Badminton Drop in and have a go. All ages. from 9.30am Church Hall, Tamingi Street, Ruakākā ☎ Rhondda 021 167 2971	Cove Walking Crew 5 see above for details	Bream Bay Football Club 9 Fun 'football skills' alongside mini games. All ages 5 - adults. 10:00am - 12:00pm Ruakaka Sports Grounds, Takutai Place ☎ Andrea 021 120 3633	Ruakaka Indoor Bowls 19/26 Introduction to indoor bowls. All welcome. from 10:00am St Pauls Church Hall. corner Tamingi St and Karawai St, Ruakākā. ☎ Sue 021 850 286

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Bream Bay News



Police Report

Waipu man in court on a charge of presenting a firearm

A man has been charged following an incident at a rural Waipu property on Tuesday afternoon 30 January 2024.

The incident occurred between two men known to each other after 3.15pm.

During the interaction a firearm was presented by one man before the other left in his vehicle.

Police responded to the address and arrested a 65-year-old man.

He has been charged with presenting a firearm and will appear in the Whangārei District Court this week.

Police kept busy with family harm call outs

Over the past two weeks the time of Bream Bay police officers has been taken up predominantly with family harm incidents. In the 12 days Monday 22 January to Saturday 3 February attended nine family harm incidents in Ruakākā, two in Waipu and three in Maungaturoto.

Five mental health crises call outs

There were also a number of mental health crises incidents: four in Ruakākā and one in Waipu. In all these incidents Police attendance was sufficient to de-escalate the various situations and the people involved have been referred to partner agencies.

Truck crash in Paparoa

On Tuesday 23 January there was a truck crash in Paparoa. No other vehicle was involved and no-one was injured.

Truck crash in Waipu

On Friday 2 February there was a single vehicle crash in Waipu involving a truck. No-one was injured.

Drowning victim named

Police have released the name of a man who drowned after getting into difficulty at Ruakākā Beach on January 18. He was Robert Vaughan Allison, aged 72, from Milford.

Investigation into Ruakākā homicide “ongoing”

The body of 24 year old Teina Pickering was discovered in Peter Snell road in the early hours of Thursday 12 October.

Two men were arrested and remanded in custody shortly afterwards. They were charged with a range of offences but none of these in direct relation to the death of Mr. Pickering.

Ethan Hokai has now been found guilty of assaulting a police officer, possession of a knife in a public place and possession of two shotgun cartridges. He awaits sentencing on these convictions. On his arrest in October Police said further charges were likely but none appear to have been laid as yet.

The second man, has name suppression, and is charged with possession of a firearm. He is due to appear in the Whangārei District Court on 26 March.

Questions put to the NZ Police media services by the Bream Bay News confirmed the inquiry is ongoing but that the police “are unable to go into any detail about it at this time.”

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Work on Kainga Ora development going ahead as planned

In response to questions about the Ruakākā Village development going ahead despite a review of Kainga Ora operations, Jeff Murray, the agency's Northland Regional Director said, "Work on the proposed redevelopment is progressing as planned."

He said, "Our first priority was to share the draft proposal with the community, which we did late last year, at a series of well-attended, local engagement events."

"The team are now finalising plans and working through the required resource consent application, which will be lodged with Whangārei District Council in the coming months for their decision."

He said, "Kainga Ora has very high standards for our new homes and is proud to have a reputation for delivering well-designed, safe, quality homes."

And he gave assurances, "While the proposal would see people living closer together than previously, we know this style of living works when done well, and I can assure the community that considerable expertise has gone into these plans."

He said he is happy to meet with individuals or groups from the community that have questions or concerns regarding our proposal.

Meeting to discuss concerns over Kāinga Ora development

Continued from page 1.

to oppose a development that would provide homes for people who needed them but her priority is to look after people who already live in the village.

Ella Armstrong asked who would get the new homes. She said it would be important to make sure they went to people who already lived in the area.

She told the meeting a group of local people had got together and formed an action group around this issue. She invited others to join and said a range of skills are needed. She felt it was important to have a good line of communication with Kainga Ora and to get accurate information to share with village residents about the development.

Some wondered if the coalition government would halt the development, pointing out that the Minister of Housing Chris Bishop had raised concerns about Kainga Ora's debt level and that former Prime Minister Bill English had been appointed to lead an inquiry into the housing agency's efficiency.

Val Baxter said she had returned to her home in Ruakākā Village after looking after her elderly mother in Whangārei. She had hoped this would be her "forever home" but for 18 months had had to put up with unruly Kāinga Ora tenants in a house nearby. She had twice been attacked by their dogs and on numerous occasions had been woken in the early hours by screaming and people running around half dressed in the street shouting abuse at one another. On one occasion she thought she heard a series of gunshots and in the morning discovered that every window in the kāinga ora house had been smashed along with the windows of vehicles parked in the driveway. It had taken 18 months for the housing agency to move these troublesome tenants on and she was concerned that all the extra tenancies available in the new development would bring more trouble into the village.

Tui Roman raised the issue of aging sewer pipes in the village and wondered if the system would cope with the 50 new homes.

People also asked if local schools and the Bream Bay Police would be able to handle all the new people who would live in the development

However, Mark Domican said it would be better "not to go outside the square" and to concentrate on the development itself, looking at issues such as the density of the homes, the lack of garages, whether or not pets would be allowed."

And Councillor Phil Halse said part of the reason for the decision to put this development in Ruakākā was the infrastructure: water supply and wastewater capacity, was taken care of.

He said there is a need for affordable housing in Ruakākā so people can move here to work in the area's industries. He said it has been a long held rule of thumb that houses shouldn't cost more than seven times a household annual income.

"All those million dollar houses down at One Tree Point are out of reach of many working families."

Three brigades battle fire on Ruakākā's Lakeside Industrial Park



Fire crews from Ruakākā, Waipu and Whangārei spent several hours battling a fire on the Lakeside Industrial Park in Ruakaka on Friday afternoon 2 February. The fire took hold in vegetation and spread to engulf several vehicles and a nearby shed. Black smoke billowed high into the air and could be viewed from the beach at Uretiti.

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Activity	Day and Time	Cost	Contact
Fit for life Ruakaka class	Monday 10am to 11am		\$5 AnnMarie 0211693115
Fit for life Ruakaka class	Wednesday 11am to 12pm		\$5 AnnMarie 0211693115
Preschool gymnastic classes	Thursday 2pm - 2.45pm	\$10 per session	Nadine 029 776 7754
Recreational gymnastics	Thursday 3pm - 3.45pm, 4pm - 4.45pm for 5-8 years	\$15 per session	Nadine 029 776 7754
Recreational gymnastics	Thursday 5pm - 6pm for 8 years +	\$15 per session	Nadine 029 776 7754
Zumba Gold	Tuesday 9am to 9.45 am		\$7 Roz.rozhumba@gmail.com
Zumba Gold	Thursday 9.30am to 10.15am		\$7 Roz.rozhumba@gmail.com
Stretching classes	Thursdays 11am to 12pm		\$5 Lu 4328941
60's up	4th Friday of month 10am to 4pm	\$12 annually fee	Joy 021491887
petanque or indoor bowling	Wednesday 1pm to 4pm		Sue 021850286
Music club	1st Monday of month 7pm to 10pm		\$5 Fulco 0274718428
Zumba	Monday 8.45am to 9.45am		\$8 Janine 021437840
Zumba	Wednesday 8.45pm to 9.45pm		\$8 Janine 021437840
Zumba	Friday 4.45pm to 5.45pm		\$8 Janine 021437840
casual gym	Monday to Friday 8am to 2pm	\$2 per day	Christine 4327962
casual Squash	Monday to Friday 8am to 1pm	\$5 per hour	Christine 4327962

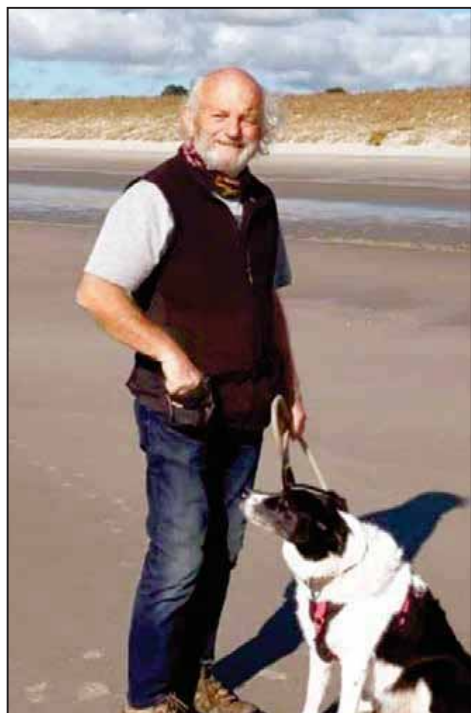
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going on in Bream Bay.

Keith Bishop

16 February 1948 – 8 January 2024

By Sue Foster
The Waipu Lions



Keith Bishop on the beach at Waipu with his dog Felicity

Waipu lost one of its hard - working volunteers earlier this month with the death of Keith Bishop. Keith was active in Lions where he was the administration officer and was largely responsible for the publication of the Bream Bay telephone directory for the last four years. He was also active in the Bridge Club as well as in the Scottish Dancing Association. Keith was born in Gloucestershire, and raised in Spalding Lincolnshire, where he was Head Boy at the local high school. Following a gap year in Spain and three years at university studying Portuguese and history he became a project manager for a variety of companies whose work involved setting up and developing oil refineries.

He first worked on a con-

tract for the Air Force in Saudi Arabia, where he met his wife Ann who was working there as a nurse. After completing his masters degree in science back in England, his work took him to Portugal and the Haigh in Holland, where the model for the Marsden Point Refinery was built.

During this time Keith and Ann had three children – each born in a different country – Rebecca in England, Emma in Portugal, and Alexander in Holland. Eventually, he was appointed to New Zealand so he and Ann with three children on board arrived in this country where Keith set about helping with the establishment of the Marsden Point Refinery.

Once the refinery was up and running, his job was done, but he and his family liked New Zealand so they decided to stay. They moved to Auckland where Keith worked initially for Fletchers, but gradually, as he came to know the area, he moved into self-employment as a project manager, while at the same time he and Ann ran a Bed and Breakfast at Karekare.

He set himself the goal of walking all the tracks in the Waitakeres, a goal that was almost achieved had it not been for kauri die-back disease and the tracks being closed.

His other great interest was motorbikes, and at the time of his death he was a proud owner of a Royal Enfield.

Volunteering his time and skills had long been a part of Keith's life. In Auckland he was a Rotarian, he chaired AIM (Adults in Motion – a support organiza-

tion for young people with disabilities), he helped train people to work on School Boards when Tomorrow's Schools came into being, and helped in the organization of HUGS (Helping Understand Grief through Suicide) started by his friend Diane Hay. When he settled in Waipu 8 years ago he immediately got involved in the Waipu Lions through his friends from refinery days, Robert and Idabelle Webb. Idabelle had been Keith's secretary at the refinery and Robert was his sponsor in Lions. He also loved Scottish dancing, and served as treasurer and secretary in that organization. He enjoyed playing bridge, and walking his dog, Felicity who was devoted to Keith.

Keith was always keen to get involved. He was able to work alongside people in all walks of life and his death has certainly left a hole in the lives of many in Waipu. We will miss him.

Keith is survived by his wife Ann and their three children.

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

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

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

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

ROUTE DESCRIPTION
Kaiwaka/Mangawhai Road, Molesworth Road, Mangawhai Heads Road, Cove Road, The Centre Waipu, Nova Scotia Drive, SH1, Marsden Point Road, Peter Snell Road, Marsden Point Road, SH15A, SH1, Otaka Road, Maunu Road, Walton Street, Rose Street Bus Terminal.

If you would like to be picked up elsewhere along the route, please phone Leabourn's to arrange this on the Wednesday before you want to travel.

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National women's golf croquet tournament to be held in Waipu



The Northland team, which won the Northland/Auckland challenge in a close fought competition decided by a count back of total hoops scored. From left: Mike Cuff (Kensington), Jean Kent (Waipu), Trevor Johnson (Kensington), Gina Chan (Whangarei), Tracey Kastelan (Kerikeri), Lynne Stewart (Waipu), Lyness Kerr (Kaitaia), absent George Smith (Kaitaia).

The Waipu Croquet Club is having an exciting season. The Auckland VS Northland challenge was held at the Waipu club on 12 December and on 2 and 3 March it will be the venue for the Croquet New Zealand's Golf Croquet Women's Invitation three day tournament with 10 of the top ranked New Zealand women players

invited to play. Waipu's Jean Kent is amongst these players.

Spectators are encouraged to come and watch. Access to the grounds are via the Caledonian Park, off St Mary's Rd, Waipu.

MARSDEN POINT HIGH TIDES

	AM		PM	
Thu 8 Feb	6.50	2.5	7.01	2.4
Fri 9 Feb	7.46	2.6	8.01	2.6
Sat 10 Feb	8.39	2.8	8.57	2.7
Sun 11 Feb	9.30	2.9	9.51	2.8
Mon 12 Feb	10.20	2.9	10.42	2.8
Tue 13 Feb	11.10	3.0	11.33	2.8
Wed 14 Feb	11.59	2.9	~	~
Thu 15 Feb	12.24	2.8	12.49	2.8
Fri 16 Feb	1.16	2.7	1.39	2.7
Sat 17 Feb	2.11	2.6	2.32	2.6
Sun 18 Feb	3.09	2.5	3.28	2.4
Mon 19 Feb	4.11	2.4	4.28	2.3
Tue 20 Feb	5.15	2.4	5.31	2.3
Wed 21 Feb	6.15	2.4	6.31	2.3
Thu 22 Feb	7.09	2.4	7.26	2.3
Fri 23 Feb	7.58	2.5	8.15	2.4

College pool remains open for public use on weekends

Now that school has resumed the Bream Bay College swimming pool is closed to the public during the week. For the remainder of the first term, however it will remain open on weekends from

10am to 5pm. Lifeguards will be in attendance and entrance is by a gold coin donation. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The last day of term one is Friday 12 April



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Family Welfare & Foodbank:

Co-ordinator - Helen Matheson - 432 0239

Budgeting Advice - Bruce Matheson - 432 0239

The Crossroads Trust (financial support)

Lyn Jones - stevolyn@gmail.com

Sunday Services

Ruakaka - Camellia Ave - 8.45am

Waipu - 50 The Centre - 10.15am

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Stand up Paddle Board Championship Competition coming to Marsden Cove

The New Zealand Stand up Paddle Board Championships are planned for Marsden Cove and one Tree Point from Friday 12 April to Sunday 24 April with Sprint racing in the Marsden Cove marina on Friday 12, Technical Course racing also in the marina on Saturday 13 and long distance racing from the Marsden Bay Yacht and Boat Club on Sunday 14. There will be two classes of competitors: an elite fleet with some of the top racers from NZ and the south Pacific and a challenger fleet for everyone else, with classes for each age group. In this class racing will take place in user-friendly conditions. Bill Dawes of New Zealand Stand up Paddleboarding (NZSUP) said any reasonably competent paddler

should be able to take part in the Challenger events and he urges Bream Bay paddle boarders to take part. He said with the exception of the long distance race on Sunday the two fleets won't be on the water at the same time.

"People will be able to come along and have some fun in the Challenger class and then watch the experts in action."

He said, in particular, the technical racing event is exciting to watch with some sharp turns and lots of crashes and tip ups.

This is the first time Marsden Cove has been the venue for this event. Apart from 2019 when it was held in Waitangi it has always been staged in Auckland.

WHAT'S ON IN BREAM BAY

• **BREAM BAY SPORTS TRUST GIVE IT A GO FESTIVAL** From Saturday 10 February to Sunday 10 March. Calendar of events will be published soon with local sports clubs inviting people to try a new sport.

• **WAIPU BOUTIQUE SUNDAY MARKET** Next on Sunday 11

February From 9am to 1pm in the Coronation Hall

• **ONE TREE POINT ARTISAN MARKET** Next on Sunday 18 February 9am - 1pm. One Tree Point School quadrant and field. Fundraising for Whangārei Hospital Children's Ward.

• **ABBA HEAVEN** New Zealand Abba tribute band at the Marsden Yacht and Boat Club on February 24 at 2pm. Tickets \$35 included finger food. Cash bar. Phone 027235 9623 to book or email peter@bassbass.co.nz

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

• **PUKAPUKA PARTY** on Saturday 16 March 2024 at Bream Bay College Grounds. Free activities for children by the Bream Bay Learning Community. Prizes and giveaways.

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

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

A hole in one for Hanna

The congratulatory message for Hanna Carrington left on the Waipu Golf Club facebook page went on and on (82 in total) after she achieved a remarkable Hole in One on the 7th hole on 13 January 2024. Hanna, who is an accomplished flax weaver, a celebrated cook and a keen fisher said she has been enjoying spending time on the golf course this summer.



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0274 707 607**SOCIAL SERVICES****Safeman Safe family Men's Centre**

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

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

The services we provide are as follows:

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

No appointments are necessary, we have an open door policeu - if you need help or know someone that does just come on down to: **9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā**. We are right next door to Jimmy's Barber Shop or I can be reached by phone 021 121 0763 - Phil Paikea**RAWLEIGH'S PRODUCTS** Independent dealer. Ointments back in stock. Phone Susan McRae 027 227 2291.**WILTSHIRE SHEEP**
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It is an effective place to advertise**THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE**of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 22February
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 14 February**Waipu Boarding Cattery**Excellent care and accommodation
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Bream Bay Community Support Trust

Takutai Place, Ruakaka Phone: 09 432 7197

Services we provide:

- Registered Social Workers
- Family Support Workers
- Youth Workers
- 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 26 Jan -Cuppa and chat with Whittakers Funeral Home

Friday 2 Feb - Guest speaker Nature vs Nurture.

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

www.bbtrust.org.nz

PUBLIC NOTICES

Iain Robertson, Celto, Direct Tech

This notice is to inform you that all abandoned property located in Millbrook Rd, Waipu, will be sold as per the NZ Property Law act 2008. Property being sold under this act is one 40ft container home and one old truck. Property being sold will be to defray all expenses owed and will be advertised no sooner than the 14th February 2024.



Takahiwi 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.



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Waipu Senior Netball Club Inc AGM

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

NORTHPIKE COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

This committee meets periodically to review the environmental performance of the Northpine timber manufacturing plant in Waipu, in consultation with representatives of the local councils. Any Waipu resident with concerns about the environmental effects of the Northpine plant should notify the Northpine office (432 1155). Concerns will be recorded, considered and subsequently reviewed by the liaison committee. The Independent chairperson of the liaison committee is Steve Goldthorpe 0274 849 764.

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PUBLIC NOTICES



Bream Bay Medical Centre Ltd.

Ruakaka Town Centre, Ruakaka

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

We will be closed from 3pm to 5pm on Thursday 22 February 2024 for staff training.

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.

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Ruakaka

Paea Paki 09 432 8262/021 149 1625
Darrell Trigg 09 432 7256/021 332 901
Ken Orr 09 432 8215
Wayne Buckland 022 644 5376.

One Tree Point

Jules Flight 0274 777 210
Sir John Goulter 021 612 442
MM Jolley 027 415 9486
Ian Bogue 0274 300 418
Grant Brown 027 248 7126

Waipu

Trevor Vaile 021335 075
Doug Scott 027 229 9752
Ken Couper 027 292 0524
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.

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OPEN HOME—Saturday & Sunday 1.00—1.45pm
7 Olney Court, One Tree Point

OPEN HOME—SUNDAY 12.00—12.45pm
21 Tamure Place, Ruakaka

OPEN HOME—SUNDAY 12.00—12.30pm
5 Kōwi Lakes Drive, One Tree Point