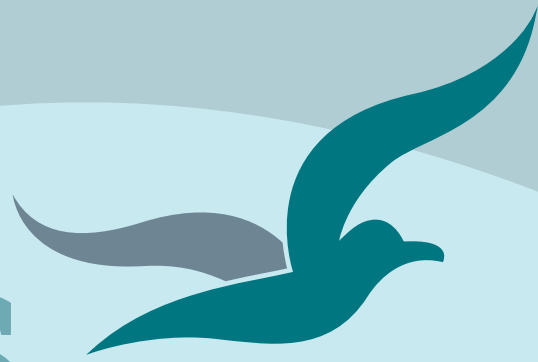


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## Doctor consultation subsidies not keeping pace with inflation

The price of a consultation at the Bream Bay Medical Centre has gone up for enrolled patients over the age of 17 who don't hold community services card from \$19.50 a visit to \$29.50. For those with a community services card the price will be \$19.50, for adolescents between the ages of 14 and 17 it is \$13 and consultations are free for children under the age of 14 years.

Practice Manager Kay Brittenden explains that this is because; while Government subsidies have gone up each year they have not kept up with inflation. For example this year's subsidy increased by 4% whereas the consumer price index rose by 5.8%. Kay said under both the previous and the current governments the subsidy levels have not been keeping up with the costs of running the practice.

A quick check around other medical practices in the Whangārei District reveals that while the West End centre fees remain at \$19.50 at the Kamo Centre the standard fee for an enrolled patient aged 18 years and over without a community services card is \$50 and at the Bush Rd Centre this is \$58. Kay points out that community medical centres have closed because they are not able to make a profit.

Whereas many medical centres find it hard to recruit doctors the Bream Bay Medical Centre currently employs 13 with a new doctor due to start work here next year.

Other practice managers ask Kay if she is paying big wages but she puts her recruitment success down to having built a team where everyone works to "their best skill set."

She said that the number one concern for doctors is the care of their patients and they like to know that while they are not at work there will be other doctors who can step in to care for them. A situation where doctors have to work long hours to ensure patients receive adequate care is not sustainable.

Allowing for flexibility is another way to attract and keep staff. Some are parents of young children and they can arrange to start late and finish early if they need to be at home and are able to work at night on their paperwork if this suits them. The practice employs five health care assistants who can help patient's through the door and onto a bed to see a nurse or doctor

Kay said it also helps that Bream Bay has some good beaches and is less than two hours away from Auckland.

## Stars in their Eyes in Waipu



Photo by Peter Grant

Bernice Clum as Katy Perry on stage at the Stars in their Eyes show in Waipu "s Coronation Hall on Saturday night 3 August.

More pictures and article on page 10



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## EDITORIAL

# Every four years the Olympic Games bring hope to the world

I am enjoying watching some of the Olympic events. My favourites are the endurance events, the 10,000 metre races, and the triathlon and, still to come, the marathon.

It was thrilling to see those three Ethiopian runners out in front for almost the whole distance in the men's 10,000 race, and then Uganda's Joshua Cheptegei storming through at the end to set a new Olympic record of 26m 43.16 seconds. I was cheering for the Ethiopians impressed by their teamwork and their ability to keep up that cracking pace. I pleased that one of their number, Berihu Aregawi, took out the silver medal. I recommend watching this race on You Tube if you missed it as it happened. It will confirm your belief in the strength of the human spirit.

Every four years when the Olympics come around they give the whole world hope. How much better to be pitting yourself against people of other races, cultures and countries in sport and marveling at the wonderful achievements and abilities of people from around the world, than to be killing one another and destroying homes and communities in war? Reading through the Waipu Placemaking Plan, I can't help feeling a bit irritated. All very well to come up with all these aspirational ideas, I think, but it's going to take years of commitment, hard work and lots of money to get all these proposals over the line.

It has taken over ten years to build the, still not complete, Waipu to Waipu Cove Cycle and Walkway and there have been many obstacles to overcome to get it to where it is today. It has involved hard work and dedication by a group of strong, community minded people who possess a variety of useful skills.

All those aspirational ideas in the Waipu Placemaking Plan will only come about if there are enough people like the members and supporters of the Waipu to Waipu Cove Cycle and Walkway Group willing to pick up the battens and run with them.

Now the Council is inviting people to participate in another blue sky planning exercise: something called its Future Development Strategy, which Councillor Phil Halse explained to me, is planning 30 to 50 years ahead.

I understand these types of exercises, like many of the seemingly nonsensical activities of the Whangārei District Council, are Central Government requirements. I concede there may be some purpose in making all these long term aspirational plans but count me out. Dreaming up an idealised future is perhaps fun for some people - a bit like playing God, but ultimately its a waste of time and likely to lead to disappointment when it doesn't materialise. Personally I prefer to put my efforts into a few concrete, achievable projects.

*Marilyn*

## Winter & Spring deals

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# Only a matter of time before oil in hull of the sunken WW2 mail ship Niagara leaks into the sea

It is only a matter of time before the hull of the Royal Mail Ship Niagara sunk off Bream Head north west of the Mokohinau Islands in 1940 by a German mine, cracks and the 3,000 tones of bilge oil it holds spills into the sea, Geoff Crawford Chairman of the Northland Regional Council, said at the Waipu Residents and Ratepayers Association Annual General Meeting on Wednesday night 31 July. Mr. Crawford said with the Poor Knights Marine Reserve nearby this was a major risk to Northland's environment and he was seeking \$10million from the central Government to remove the oil from the ships hull.

Asked how this could be done he explained that the idea is to cover the 125 metre long shipwreck with a curtain anchored to the seabed and then to punch a hole in the ship's hull to release the oil. This would float upwards but be contained underneath the curtain from where it could be pumped onto a barge. RMS Niagara was a transpacific steam ocean liner, Royal Mail Ship and refrigerated cargo ship. Her regular route was between Sydney and Vancouver via Auckland, Suva and Honolulu. On 19 June 1940 she had just left Auckland for Vancouver via Suva when she hit a German mine off Bream Head.

The German raider HKS Orion laid a total of 228 mines in the approaches to the Hauraki Gulf on the night of 13/14 June 1940. The shell of one of these mines is on display at the entrance to the Ruakākā Beach Holiday Park.

All 136 passengers and 203 crew on board the Niagara at the time made it to the lifeboats. The secret cargo of 590 bars of gold and half the New Zealand Army's small-arms ammunition sank with the ship. The gold, valued at NZ\$230 million in 2016 dollars, was salvaged in 1942.

David Lourie a WRRRA committee member suggested that Germany should be asked to help with the expense of removing the oil from the ship since it was a German mine that that had created this situation.

# Plastic hearts strewn over the beach at Ruakākā

Alex Henderson (left) and Sarah George carefully picked up lots of golden heart shaped 'confetti' in the sand on the beach in front of the Ruakākā Village. Sarah was walking on the beach on Friday 26 July when she noticed these glittering pieces of plastic strewn along the beach and rapidly being blown further and getting covered by sand. Worried that the tide would come in and wash them into the sea, she sent me a message to Cheryl Laurie of Bream Bay Coastal Care who went down to help pick them up. Alex Henderson just happened to come down for a walk so she swung into action too.

Cheryl reported last week there are still bits appearing and being covered up again. She said, "Please people, if you are having a beach party, or wedding photos, don't throw glitter or plastic confetti around. It will break down into microplastic, make its way into the sea and into fishes stomachs and eventually their flesh. Is that what you want to feed to your babies?"

Alex Henderson and Sarah George picked up hundreds of plastic hearts from the beach before they got washed away in the tide



# What will happen to the Waipu Police house?

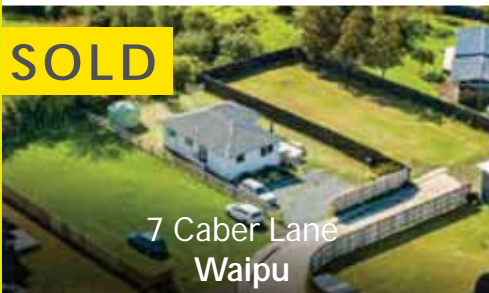
The issue of the Waipu Police house is once again in the spotlight. Waipu's former resident Police officer Martin Geddes told the Waipu Residents and Ratepayers Association at its Annual General Meeting last week that he had now retired and moved out of the house. Mr. Geddes said he just wanted to let the community know that the house was now considered surplus to Police requirements and likely to be sold. He believes it is desirable to have a resident Police Officer in Waipu and having a Police house could help to ensure this continued. Although there are currently two Police officers assigned to the town, both live elsewhere. Mr. Geddes said, "They are both good guys and they do a good job" but believes resident officer has a better

chance of understanding and knowing the community. Mr. Geddes said, the house needs considerable repairs and whoever takes it would have to be ready for this expense. Under Government regulations the house needs to be offered to other government departments before it is put on the open market. The land the house, along with the police station and the Post Office (now the Pizza Barn) stands on was purchased by the Reverend Norman McLeod on 19 January 1864. In 1874 the land was conveyed from the McLeod family to The Queen. Richard Cole the WRRRA Chairman said he would look into the circumstances of the Crown acquiring the Police house land.

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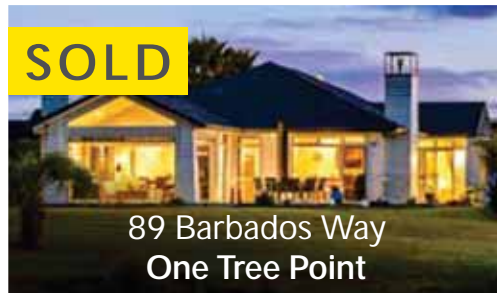
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## Protecting and developing our infrastructure



We've adopted our Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024-34, which gives us the blueprint for managing growth in the Whangārei District. We're now able to get on with repairing essential infrastructure around our District.

Planning and construction will be happening over the next three years. We all know Whangārei District is growing fast, Infometrics puts our Whangārei population at 101,900 for 2023, and is anticipating our population will grow to 118,407 in the next 10 years. My own calculations put us much higher than that – I predict our population will reach 139,037 within the next 10 years (especially when the four-laning happens!). With this growth comes infrastructure and planning challenges for essentials like wastewater, stormwater, drinking water, roading, rubbish and recycling, footpaths, parks, public toilets, sportsgrounds and libraries.

Wastewater systems (sewage and grey water) are one of our first considerations when considering growth. Our wastewater systems currently collect, treat, and dispose of wastewater from more than 25,000 households and businesses. The wastewater system itself is made up of infrastructure including 700km of pipes, manholes, more than 150 pump stations and nine treatment plants.

When wastewater systems are not operating as designed, we can face problems like:

- contamination of the environment and public health risks with things like sewer overflows (especially in extreme weather events)
- sewage overflows into our harbours and beaches
- constant need to 'patch up' our aging pipeline networks
- inability to develop new areas for growth
- possible failures in the network

In this first year of the LTP, our wastewater team will be continuing to investigate, fault-find and plan for growth, while still delivering our usual maintenance programme and much-needed major upgrades in some areas.

Parua Bay has already been identified as an area where there are wastewater issues. When it rains heavily, our wastewater systems struggle to cope. This could mean that rainwater downpipes are connected to wastewater traps (or the traps are in areas that flood) or infrastructure has degraded (cracked pipes), or both. We will be out speaking to residents in Parua Bay about their wastewater concerns, so we can build a detailed map of problem spots. In the meantime, please check that your downpipes are not going into the wastewater system.

In the Bream Bay area, we've committed to the upgrade and expansion of the Ruakākā Wastewater Treatment Plant to keep pace with growth. The damage to the community's wastewater system in Kepa Road is currently under investigation, as that infrastructure has degraded far earlier than expected. While the exact cause is unknown, the damage may have been worsened by chemicals or other abrasive materials being put straight into our waste system. Once we've repaired or replaced all those damaged pipes (estimated to cost more than \$3M), we'll be helping our communities understand what can and can't be flushed into our wastewater systems.

The LTP is all about getting our District's core infrastructure up to standard, while planning for future growth. Now we need your help in deciding where and how that growth should happen. Our Future Development

Strategy (FDS) is open for consultation until the beginning of September, we need to know what's important to you as we plan for our future.

Both the FDS and LTP are on our website. We would love your help in protecting and developing our District's infrastructure.

Find the draft Future Development Strategy at : [www.wdc.govt.nz/Future](http://www.wdc.govt.nz/Future)

## LETTERS

### Roading issues in Northland.

On your 4th of July edition of the Bream Bay News questions were asked about the future of our Road management and the move away from the Northland Transport Alliance.

This Alliance was formed with great expectations and willingness on behalf of councils of Northland to provide better roads for Northlanders. Sadly, the improvements and expectations needed have not developed as promised. This NTA (Northland Transport Alliance) model was up for review after the first seven Years. This was carried out.

Outside of Council, ( Two reviews) Industry led and Independent, Specialist Consultants were brought in to track the history and delivery of the services of the NTA matched against the criteria set out on establishment, and make recommendations on changes needed throughout their investigations. Councils then acted on those recommendations.

This has worked out to say Bigger is not always the best.

The councils then had workshops and briefing on their findings and each council determined to take back the roading services in house. (not just WDC) Our Whangārei District Council is comfortable with this, and we will work with the other councils in shared services that benefit those councils if required.

The NTA model moved away from the accountability desired from our funders being our citizens and we councillors are responsible for your rate funding and Government subsidies . Our focus is to deliver the best roading network we can afford, while keeping an eye on delivery through accountability, improved contracts, performance, and the dollars spend on the road itself.

We will always make our contractors staff and workplaces as safe as we can. However, we continually hear from you with questions like, why have so many cones been put out? and why are they out while there are no workers on site.? We are endeavouring to bring this back into balance.

Our focus is to spend as much as we can on services that will improve our roading networks. That is better drainage, clearing culverts before heavy rain events, metalling in the right conditions, letting contracts earlier, and providing contracts to contractors that will encourage a team approach and provide the accountability we all desire.

Phil Halse

Bream Bay Ward Councillor

Deputy Mayor and Deputy Chairman of the WDC Infrastructure Committee.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE VERY WELCOME

Email them to: [breambaynews@xtra.co.nz](mailto: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

## From the Bream Bay News of 50 years ago

August 1974

### Strict regulations delay the establishment of the Ruakaka Racecourse

Bulldozers should be rolling over the new racecourse at Ruakākā, however, permission to go ahead from the Catchment Board is awaited.

The regulations are strict and as well as drainage must take into consideration erosion protection of the coastline and no construction will be allowed within five chains of the mean high water mark.

The parking area for cars will be along the beach front area, with good road access and for public use all the year round, except on Race Days. According to the Architect the new Race Course will be one of the finest in New Zealand when it is fully developed. Certainly a better and more beautiful situation would be difficult to find.

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# Caulerpa is coming closer

The invasive seaweed caulerpa has been found on the western shore of Great Barrier Island at Parua Bay, Kawau Island and Waiheke Island so it is not far from the shores of Bream Bay, Northland Regional Council Chairman Geoff Crawford told the Waipu Residents and Ratepayers Association.

He said the weed is the kykuyu of the sea as it spreads rapidly and can grow from fragments boat anchors and chains, nets, dive and fishing gear, and crayfish pots. It had been present in the Bay of Islands for around three years before it was discovered.

Caulerpa grows about 10 centimetres tall and sends out horizontal creeping roots across the sea floor. Its rapid dense growth can smother plants and animals living under it. Some cockle beds on Great Barrier have died after being smothered by the



Caulerpa washed up on a beach in the Bay of Islands

pest seaweed. Fish are impacted as they are prevented from feeding on crabs and other animals on the sea floor.

Caulerpa grows in sea water up to 40 metres deep and where the water temperature averages above 15 degrees so is not likely to spread southwards.

Mr. Crawford has been a competitive diver and has seen the effects of caulerpa infestations in the Mediterranean where fish numbers and species have become limited. He had gone to Wellington with Ngapuhi leaders to request government funding to combat the spread of caulerpa.

A government \$1 million grant had been used to purchase and under water tractor and a mechanical dredge

sweeper to clear the weed from areas of the Bay of Islands.

Mr. Crawford told the meeting the NRC is now looking at how the weed can be killed on board the dredge and dumped back into the sea to make the operation more cost efficient.

Caulerpa doesn't survive for long on ocean beaches where wave action washes it ashore where it does not survive. However the MPI and the Northland Regional Council are interested to hear about its spread and if you think you spot exotic caulerpa in an area where it's not known to exist – take a close-up photo, note the location, and report it to Biosecurity NZ:

- Freephone 0800 80 99 66

# Ruakākā clinic without a full time dentist due to nationwide shortage

There is a nationwide shortage of dentists and after advertising for five months the Ruakākā Gentle Dental clinic's owner Seena Gopi has been unable to find a qualified person to take on a permanent full time position in Ruakaka.

Seena, who is a dentist, will work at the clinic each Monday and another dentist Karan Sun, who is based in Auckland, will work there each Thursday.

In addition dental hygienist Gerrie Westrupp will work there on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Gerrie has worked in the dental industry for more than 26 years. She believes good oral health is important for people's general health and she is able to screen for potential gum disease and other problems that need attention.



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**THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE**  
 of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 22 August  
 The deadline for all copy is 4pm on  
 Wednesday 14 August

## Stuart Fraser Sim

23 January 1932 to 25 July 2024

Fraser Sim in his kilt and playing his bagpipes at the head of the pipe band as it marched up the main street of Waipu or standing with his pipes at the ready on the balcony at the Waipu Rugby Club has been a familiar sight in Waipu over the past 20 plus years.

Fraser had spent a lot of time in Waipu as a child at the boarding house of his McKenzie relatives in the Braigh, and returned to live here in 2003.

At that time the Waipu Pipe Band consisted of just five or six members who would meet irregularly. Fraser, with his son Bruce, also a piper, set about putting this to rights and built the band up to be strong enough to compete in the national pipe band competition.

Fraser, with an eye to the future, started giving piping lessons to children at Waipu Primary and then at Bream Bay College. He would spend two or three days a week at the schools and purchased chanters for the children to practice on.

He was active in the Caledonian Society and for a few years was the society's Chief.

He started the tradition of piping at Waipu Rugby Club matches, pumping up his pipes whenever Waipu scored a try and for years he organised the Celidh on the evening of the Waipu Highland Games, reciting Robbie Burns "Ode to the Haggis".

Megan his daughter can remember the awful smell as he cooked the haggis in his kitchen in preparation for this event.

Fraser was a pupil at Waipu Primary for a time and he learned to play the bagpipes as a child in Waipu. However, his father worked as a manager for dairy companies around the north and the family shifted around with his various positions. In his teenage years Fraser lived in Whangārei and attended Whangārei Boys High School. He did well and won a place at the Royal Military College of Duntroon in Australia. After four years he graduated as an officer.

He married Merna on 15 December 1956 at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Whangārei. The pair had met while they were still at high school – Merna at Whangārei Girls.

Fraser's first overseas posting was to Malaysia with the Royal NZ Armoured Corp. during what was known as the Malayan Emergency.

With her first child Bruce just a baby, Merna stayed behind with her parents on their farm in Maunu.



Fraser Sim

Fraser went on to attend the prestigious Camberley Royal Military College for senior officers in England. Following this he was posted to Singapore and then Malaysia as Defence Attaché. He had become fluent in the Malay language and remained in Malaysia for three and half years. His home has many mementos of his and Merna's time in that country. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel at the age of 55.

He and Merna lived in Auckland for a few years helping a son Grant with a coffee shop in Queen St. and working at various jobs to keep himself busy before moving back to Waipu.

He relished spending time with his grandchildren and was the main caregiver for Merna who died in 2022.

He enjoyed the company of his friends in the Caledonian Society, getting together for a spot of whisky drinking on Thursday evenings at what they dubbed their "spiritual meetings."

Fraser is survived by his four children and their spouses: Bruce and Michelle, Grant and Alison, Corinne and Aland and Megan and Stephen and his six grandchildren: Rhiannon, Lachlan, Corban, Daniel, Ceili and Emer

As seen on Grand Designs 2019

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# Waipu Placemaker Plan suggests the Whangārei District Council should Work with and support tangata whenua to purchase land for the establishment of a marae in Waipu

The Waipu Placemaking Plan has been adopted by the Whangārei District Council and is available on the Council’s website on the page titled Waipu Placemaking Plan 2024.

The plan covers Waipu, Waipu Cove and Langs Beach but is centered on Waipu Village.

The document has some interesting statistics, mostly taken from the last available census data and applying to Waipu Village, Waipu Cove, Langs Beach and the rural area south of Waipu.

- The median personal income of people living in Waipu in 2018 was \$28,100, which is 3% above the district average of \$27,500 for the same year.
- Where people can identify as more than one ethnicity 92% of the people living in Waipu identified as European, 14% as Māori, 2% as Pasifika and 4% as Asian, Melanesian or other
- The population of the Waipu area has grown steadily from 1,845 in 2006 to an estimated 3,352 in 2023
- The median age in Waipu is 53 years above the median age in the whole Whangārei District, which is 41 years.
- 42% of the population of Waipu is not in the workforce, 39% is in full time employment, 16% are employed part time and 3% are unemployed.

It contains a chapter as an “overview of the Māori History of Waipu 1838 – 1860 concluding: The Māori history of the place precedes the arrival of the European settlers and has been guarded by Tangata Whenua whose descendants remain to this day the kaitiaki stewards of

the land. The community is more familiar with the Nova Scotian - Scottish history and heritage, however, there is growing interest and intention to raise awareness of the local Māori history and uplift Māori identity.

It lists some actions to be taken to help this process.

- Work with and support tangata whenua to purchase and establish a Māori cultural centre intended as: A hapū-led place where healthcare services, education and legal services are provided. A place to gather and/or hold events to support the development and enhancement of Māori wellbeing outcomes.
- Work with and support tangata whenua to purchase land for the establishment of a Marae in Waipu
- Consider local Māori history, tikanga and te reo Māori names when submitting proposals for street/road names at resource consent stage.
- Council will facilitate information for community-led initiatives to re-name Waipu streets/roads with names in te reo Māori and guided by tikanga.

It points out that Waipu village is susceptible to flood risk, particularly the areas near the waterways that pass through and surround the village and that Waipu Cove and Langs Beach are susceptible to coastal flooding and land instability that threatens private property and service infrastructure.

It says “Sea level change could result in continued permanent loss of land through coastal erosion, tidal inundation, and storm damage, all of which are already being experienced. Sea level change will impact the iconic

beaches and cliffs, along the coast, parts of Cove Road, the community coastal walkway, as well as water supply, stormwater and wastewater networks, the river and estuary” and lists as a “future opportunity- “The development of a Climate Change Community Adaption Plan is necessary to ensure our coastal settlement are more climate resilient.”

It states “Planning for growth in Waipu needs to consider using urban land currently zoned for development before expanding into highly productive land.”

There are currently two commercial development applications before the council requesting resource consents to build truck stops, fuel supply stations and commercial centres on the western side of State Highway One at Waipu, which already challenge this proclamation.

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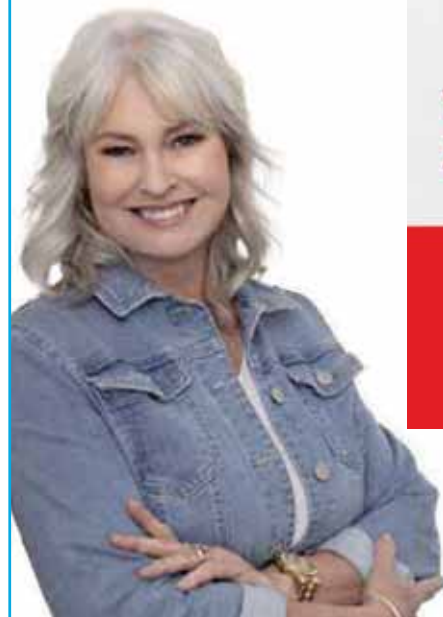
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## Peter Yovich - still working at his trade as a welder and boilermaker at the grand old age of 84

At the grand old age of 84, Peter Yovich is still working at his trade as a boilermaker and welder.

Most week days he heads to the Paton farm workshop where he keeps his tools Peter puts in just a few hours each day with a bench to lean on to steady himself. He mends and builds metal gates and calf pens.

Peter spent his childhood holidays on an uncle's farm at Purua near Pipiwai and enjoyed the outdoor life there, milking cows and hunting goats, so much that he moved to the farm for three years moving back to his parents home in Whangārei for high school.

What he remembers most about his school days at Whangārei Boys High School was the mischief he and his friends would get up to. One day they found a French letter on the footpath near the tuck shop and Peter suggested they place it in the middle of their teacher Mr. Becketts' desk. Mr. Beckett strode into the classroom with a pile of books and when he

spotted this item, quickly slammed his pile of books down on top of it, which made Peter who had been sure to get a front row seat laugh out loud. Peter got sent to the Principal and asked why he was there he told him "Mr. Beckett is so funny sir, I just can't help laughing."

The Principal must have had some sympathy with this view as he dismissed Peter without any punishment. At the age of 16 years Peter started his apprenticeship with Whangārei Engineering based in Walton St. but after three months of in his words "walking around doing nothing" his brother Ivan suggested he move to the company Kiwi Engineering where Ivan already worked. Peter served out his apprenticeship there and during that time worked on many of district's landmark buildings such as Whangārei Hospital, the Glassworks where the Okara Park supermarket is now located, the expansion of the Maungaturoto Dairy Factory.

Once sent to fix a problem with some sticking meat rails the company had installed at the abattoir, which once occupied the site where the store Harvey Normans now stands, the ladder Peter was standing on slipped from under him and he and the metal grinder he was using landed in a heap on the floor. When he reported what had happened his boss said, "I hope my grinder is alright."

Having finished his apprenticeship Peter got a job with Downers and worked on the metal framework for the workshop and storerooms at the Marsden Point Refinery.

A big job he was involved in was the construction of the Port Road slipway.

A lot happened on that project. Twice a wall they were building collapsed under the pressure of water as the tide built up.



Peter Yovich at the welding bench in the Paton farm workshop

"The engineer who designed it should have been shot", said Peter.

On another occasion a big crane overturned with some narrow escapes for those working on the site.

There was much less regard for health and safety procedures in those days. Peter has a photo of himself and two of his workmates standing on a pallet strung up in the air on a crane with wheelbarrows full of cement ready to tip down the top of a big pipe – not a safety harness in sight.

In 1964 Peter married Esther Pivac and moved to Ruakākā. He took a year out from his trade and became a truck driver "for a bit of a change" before returning to work for Downers, helping with the replacement of a dolphin mooring pile at the Marsden Point Refinery which had been damaged by a tanker crashing into it. He worked on the Marsden A Power station but left after a three months, feed up with all the union stoppages which made it difficult to get a full week's wages which made things difficult for a man with a family to support.

He got a job with the company Dominion Services and went back to work at the refinery where he stayed for around seven years until his brother-in-law Dick Pivac suggested he set up an engineering workshop on this farm in Rosythe Rd. to do work for local farms.

Over the years Peter has helped to build many cowsheds around the district as well as carried out many repairs to farm equipment and infrastructure.

He closed his workshop in 2005 and moved his gear to the Paton farm.

If all this sounds like a lot, it is only part of what Peter has contributed to the Bream Bay area. He has also been heavily involved in voluntary work.

He served with the Ruakākā Fire Brigade for 32-years and was Fire Chief for nine years.



He was a member of the Waipu Golf Club committee and was overseer of the greens.

He helped to run the Bream Bay Athletics Club travelling to many athletics meets with local youngsters along with his own three children.

Peter still lives in Ruakākā. His wife Esther has been in a care home for the past two-and-a-half years. He often finds himself turning to talk to her and then remembering she is no longer there beside him.

Before her illness Esther and Peter went on many overseas trips together visiting relatives in many parts of the world including family members in their ancestral home in what is now Croatia. Their eldest daughter Gaylene who worked for various airlines was able to help them get discounted and sometimes free flights. Looking back over his long career Peter said, although he didn't think too much about it at the time and just followed his brother into the welding and boilermaker trade, he has gained a lot of satisfaction from this work and it is a source of pride to see the buildings, bridges and other structures around the Whangārei District, which he helped to build.

He is grateful to the Paton family for allowing him to continue to work. He said the Patons have helped him in "every way possible."

Barry Paton is quick to reply that this goes both ways and Peter continues to be a valued asset to the farming operation.



Above: Peter leafing through some old photo albums and reminiscing on his long career.



Left: Swinging high in the air, Peter, in the centre with two of his workmates. Their task was to pour concrete from the barrows into a hollow pipe which can be seen to the right of the photo. Note there are no safety harnesses in sight.



Below right: Peter as a young man with a full head of hair on the job for Downers on the Port Rd. slipway.

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# Stars In their Eyes in Waipu

Words and photographs by Peter Grant

Waipu pulled another really impressive show out of the bag over the first weekend of August 2 and 3: Stars In Your Eyes based on the British 90's TV series with members of the public impersonating showbiz stars.

Waipu's production team headed by Juanita McGoldrick enlisted professional singing coach and seasoned performer Emma Couper as the creative director.

Nineteen people auditioned with sixteen selected for the show and three months of rehearsals. "It was a lot of fun but really hard work," said the youngest contestant seventeen year old Emer Lea.

Each performer was introduced to the audience via a short video where they spoke to the camera from their homes, describing their lives, work, family members and recreational pursuits. They stated why they were participating Stars in Their Eyes and what attracted them to the singing star they were transforming into for the show.

The MC, Glen Waru, a professional actor, pulled it all together through sixteen stylish videos and passionate performances from Elvis Presley to Katy Perry. Most of the contestants were Waipu locals, the youngest still at Bream Bay College the oldest a retiree. Pulse dance troupe supported some of the singers along with professional lights, sound production and stage, mimicking the original TV show.

All of the performances were impressive, quite a few were next level.

"We were blown away" said Scott Brown, one of three judges.

"It was very tricky to pick a winner."

The production crew's choice was Tane Aperahama who gave a blinding impression of Ray Charles. Runner up was Bernice Clum who gave a roaring performance as Katy Perry. Overall winner was Chris Townshend for his Freddy Mercury performance, he had it all, the voice, the look, the moves and the full on sexy strut.

The evening climaxed with the Mega Mix Finale show casing the whole cast through a medley of songs from the musical Grease. The roof of the Coronation Hall raised as the crowd went wild with delight.

"We did really want to build a team that wasn't just about who was going to win," said Juanita, "it was about getting on stage and having a really good time. Most of them had never performed on stage before, so beating their fear of performing was a big win. It was incredible!"

The show raised more than \$10,000 for the Waipu Lions.

The event was sponsored by ; Bayleys, Lin Norris, Cirfit Belltech – Sound, LSL-Entertainment Lighting, Industry Waipu, Waipu Electricial and Security Dave Klum . Video, Coastal Construction , Mike Whittaker Mortgages, Waipu Central Cafe, Mountfield Quarry, Jenkins Contracting, Bream Bay Glass, MVB Electricial, Harcourts Waipu, Northpine Waipu Hotel



Overall winner was Chris Townshend as Freddy Mercury



The production crew's choice: Tane Aperahama as Ray Charles pictured here with MC Glen Waru.



The whole cast joined in the finale performing a medley of songs from the musical Grease

# Dashing into the mid-winter sea



It was a lovely sunny winter's day and at a quick count there were around 70 people who joined the dash into the sea at the Waipu Cove Surf Lifesaving Club's annual midwinter swim on Sunday 28 July with staying in the water for a surprisingly long time. Prizes were handed out for the best costumes



This colourful group from the Whangārei Heads Ocean Swimmers, perhaps a bit more acclimatized then most to cold water, took out many of the best dressed spot prizes for their imaginative outfits. The mermaids are from left: Debbi Waldin, Linda Sossenheimer, Didi Skinnerand Lorraine Jenkins with Dori Gillming -dressed as a "Tartan Turtle" on the sand in front..

The are taking part in a fundraising effort called the Big Swim with participants aiming to swim a joint 15,000 - roughly the length of New Zealand's entire coastline, raising funds for the Coastguard in sponsorship in the process.

**Phone the BREAM BAY NEWS - 027 432 0070**  
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**if you know of something interesting going on in Bream Bay.**

MARSDEN POINT HIGH TIDES				
	AM		PM	
Thu 8 August	10.03	2.4	10.20	2.6
Fri 9 August	10.41	2.4	10.56	2.5
Sat 10 August	11.19	2.4	11.33	2.5
Sun 11 August	~	~	12.00	2.3
Mon 12 August	12.12	2.4	12.44	2.3
Tue 13 August	12.55	2.3	1.33	2.3
Wed 14 August	1.42	2.3	2.27	2.2
Thu 15 August	2.34	2.2	3.27	2.2
Fri 16 August	3.33	2.2	4.28	2.3
Sat 17 August	4.34	2.3	5.26	2.4
Sun 18 August	5.36	2.4	6.20	2.5
Mon 19 August	6.34	2.5	7.12	2.7
Tue 20 August	7.30	2.6	8.01	2.8
Wed 21 August	8.22	2.7	8.50	2.9
Thu 22 August	9.13	2.8	9.39	2.9
Fri 23 August	10.03	2.8	10.28	2.9

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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.

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Kevin Wigmore sent in this great shot of the sunrise over Bream Head on Friday morning 1 August. Kevin said, "I got quite excited this morning as I watched the sun starting to come up and for the first time since winter this side of Bream Head...just! So I quickly took a few photos. It's been some 3 months since we have seen the sunrise over Bream Bay and it's a great sign that summer is coming!"

### Waipu Tennis Club Report

An enthusiastic group of 15-20 people have been playing regularly on Tuesday night throughout the winter honing their tennis skills. It is time for the summer season to get under way soon and time for the rest of you to come out of hibernation and join us.

Nick Wiles, Chris Miller plus life members Greg Miller and Paul Ramsay have been involved with the Northland Masters team over the winter months. Rep matches were played with Lower Northland with a narrow win to retain the Timperley Cup and North Harbour. Unfortunately, Harbour beat us narrowly and took the cup home with them.

The summer tennis season starts in Waipu at 6pm on Tuesday evenings throughout September with some come and try nights. If you are keen to play, make sure you come along and let the match committee know you are keen to commit to regular Tuesday play. We cater for all levels in our club competition and you don't have to be an expert! If you want to start earlier, provided it is not raining winter tennis continues on Tuesday nights at 6pm until then.

After these nights' players will be put in graded teams up until Christmas for our pre-Christmas competition This competition will start in early October. Juniors and Intermediates will start in Term 4.

The club AGM will be held on Tuesday August 27 at 5pm followed by social tennis. Be great to see some new faces on the committee to guide us into the future.



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# The Bream Bay College Ball



Amber Arden and Flynn Mclean walk up the red carpet into the school auditorium to the cheers of the school's staff and head students lining both sides of the entrance,



Proud father Jacob Ashby drove his daughter Rangiwai to the ball in his truck.



Joel Bradley-Green and Hayoung Kang arriving at the ball



Deputy Principal Mark Bayer welcomed each student as they arrived. Here he opens the car door for Trisha Bautista

It was a cold winter's night on Friday 26 July when Bream Bay College held its annual senior ball but that didn't deter the enthusiasm of all the young people arriving dressed to the nines. .

Deputy Principal Mark Bayer, a teacher many students past and present have high affection for, greeted each as they arrived, figuring out how to open the passenger doors on the variety of classic cars, hot rods and trucks that pulled up.

A red carpet was laid at the entrance to the school auditorium with teachers and head students lined up on each side of the entrance to greet students as they arrived. The auditorium was decorated inside with many twinkling yellow lights. The theme this year was A Midsummer Nights Dream, ironic considering the temperature outside but no doubt the atmosphere inside was warm as the dancing began.

## KAIWAKA KNITTING GROUP NEEDS YARN FOR KNITTING FOR GARMENTS FOR WHANGAREI HOSPITAL PATIENTS



We are running out of yarn to knit. Do you have wool, synthetic, cotton or any yarn tucked away that you will never use and could give to us?

We are a small group who meet every second Tuesday of the month at 10am at the Archie Bull Hall in Kaiwaka. We knit various items for the children in Ward 2 and dialysis patients at Whangārei Hospital. Although we have had generous amounts of yarn already we need more in any quantities Should you be able to help please phone Gale 09 431 4827 or leave donations at the Apple Basket on SH1 at Kaiwaka.



**Marsden Yacht and Boat Club Inc.**

PO Box 9, Ruakaka, 0151

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50th Anniversary News Release June 2024

**“We Are 50”**

Marsden Yacht and Boat Club will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday at the Clubhouse on Sunday, 27 October, 2024 (Labour Weekend).

The programme will include sailing, a “Happy Hour” and a dinner.

We welcome all members, ex-members plus their families join us to celebrate our achievements and the milestones from the past.

Our beginnings were modest – progressing from sailing off the beach at Marsden Point (where Northport now exists) to our present status – a well-established Club at One Tree Point with our own Clubhouse and fleet of rescue and sailing dinghy craft.

Join us to celebrate our achievements and to reminisce about our past history – the Races won (and lost), the Tutukaka Race Ups and Downs, the cruising stories, etc., etc. Remember past members and the happy social occasions.

Please pass the news of this upcoming event to any members of your family who once sailed with the Club.

We would appreciate any photos, etc., that would be of interest

To register your interest please contact the Club via either:

e:mail to: [secretary.mybc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.mybc@gmail.com), postal to PO Box 9, Ruakaka, 0151, or by phone/text to Warren Daniel Cell 0275327268/ Home (09) 4327268.

**Tartan tournament a good day for the Waipu Bridge Club**



Club President, Peter Owen with tournament winners Tracey Lewis, left, and Liz Clayden and below posing with two more local winners Glenys Borrow and Kim Thomas



Locals Kim Thomas, Glenys Barrow, Tracey Lewis and Liz Clayden scooped the pool at the Bream Bay Bridge Tartan Tournament held in Waipu last month. Nineteen tables of players from the Bream Bay Bridge Club and the Royle Epsom Bridge club in Auckland (who were co-hosts), together with guests from Whangārei, Mangawhai and elsewhere sat down to a day of bridge in the Waipu Coronation Hall.

After morning tea piper Margo Finlayson announced the tournament opening and play began.

When play was over there was more entertainment from the Flaming Ukes while the scores were assessed and the players enjoyed a glass of mulled wine.

Raffle winners were announced and prizes handed out with the tournament raising \$1,728 for local charity.

The Bream Bay Bridge Tournament has been an annual event for thirteen years. Club convenor Margaret Tapper said, “We are a friendly club and new members are always welcome.”

Contact information is on the Bream Bay Bridge Club website or phone the club secretary Heather Harmes -027 636 5796

**EVERY THURSDAY**

**BREAM BAY**

**Link** ←

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](http://www.citylinkwhangarei.co.nz) or get your timetable from the Rose Street office.*

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

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Waipu	\$6.00	\$8.00
Ruakākā	\$5.00	\$7.00

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

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

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# “I will see you on the beach” - Ivy Lee told her customer before she shut the door on her Waipu Cove dairy last week



Ivy Lee and her daughter seven-year-old Michaela

“I’ll see you on the beach not in the shop” Ivy Lee has been telling the customers who called into her Waipu Cove Dairy in the final week before she closed shop on Tuesday 30 July.

Ivy has been running the business for eight years and wants more family time with her seven-year-old daughter Michaela.

Ivy grew up a fourth generation Chinese in Malaysia and speaks five different languages, including Mandarin, Cantonese, Malay and English.

She has made a lot of friends with local people over those years and is highly regarded by her regular customers.

“It’s a good community with nice people”, she said.

She has enjoyed watching children who may have first come into the store as tiny babies grow and she has employed local teenagers to help in the shop and to look after Michaela.

Keeping the shelves well stocked has been hard work and required high outings. The block of land the shop is situated on is up for sale so Ivy took the decision to close her business. She is uncertain if another operator will take over.

She and her husband and daughter have been living at the back of the dairy but have now found a new home in Ruakākā. They will retain their ties with Waipu however, as Michaela will continue to attend Waipu Primary.

She said Michaela has a lot of energy and needs more of her mother’s attention.

The little girl is very bright and Ivy has taught her how to scan items people bring to the counter to purchase and to calculate the correct change to take from the till for cash sales.

## Waipu Lions Senior Citizens Lunch

There are still places at the table for the Waipu Lions Senior Citizens lunch which will be held in the Waipu Coronation Hall on Sunday 25th August. The doors will open at 12 noon with lunch served at 1pm.

There will be a hot roast lunch and dessert served as well as non-alcoholic punch. If you would like to attend RSVP to Sharon Carroll on 027 265 3227 for catering numbers.

Sharon said there is no set age for who qualifies as a senior citizen - “We don’t ask ages and we don’t stipulate an age restriction. We just want people to come and connect.

“If someone feels they fit a senior bracket then that’s all good for us.”

## WHAT’S ON IN BREAM BAY

- **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS** 10:30am-12 noon every Friday in the hall at the Bream Bay Community Trust in Takutai Place, Ruakākā. Light refreshments available.
- **WAIPU BOUTIQUE SUNDAY MARKET** Next on Sunday 11 August. From 9am to 1pm in the Coronation Hall.
- **ABBA TRIBUTE** Waipu Citizens and Services Club. Saturday 31 August 7.30pm. Tickets from the club.
- **MEGAN JOHNSTON** Saturday 17 August at 7pm at the Waipu Citizens and Services Club. Tickets \$40 from C&S Club includes dinner and dessert. Raffles, music dancing, best dressed prizes.
- **ONE TREE POINT ARTISAN MARKET** Next on Sunday 18 August 9am - 1pm. One Tree Point School quadrant and field. Fundraising for Whangārei Hospital Children’s Ward.
- **POP QUIZ AT THE RAZZA** Fundraiser for Bream Bay College Year 8 camp. Wed 21 August 6.30pm. Teams of 6. \$15pp. To book phone/text 021 782 662 or email razzakitchen@hotmail.co.nz
- **COMMUNITY PUBLIC BINGO** Last Wednesday in each month. Waipu Citizens and Services Club. Club open to public. Calling starts 7.30 pm. Restaurant open 5.30 pm. All Welcome. Next on Wednesday 28 August.
- **BREAM BAY MUSIC GROUP** All welcome every first Monday of the month from 7.00pm at Ruakaka Recreation Centre. 9 Takutai Place, Ruakaka, 0116. Contact; Ross, Mob; 027 441 0584
- **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., Matakōhe. See more at [www.kaurimuseum.com](http://www.kaurimuseum.com)

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The services we provide are as follows:  
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• 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

**Bream Bay Community Support Trust**  
  
Takutai Place, Ruakaka Phone: 09 432 7197  
**Services we provide:**  
• Registered Social Workers  
• Family Support Workers  
• Youth Workers  
• Youth Holiday Programme  
• Counsellors  
• Community Connectors (Connecting community to various services)  
• Free Whanau Ora Medical Clinic with Ki A Ora Ngatiwai. Wednesday mornings 10am-12noon, by appointment only phone 09 435 4586  
• Free Budgeting Service –fortnighly on Thursdays 10am-1pm, by appointment  
• Mana Wahine Ki Wahine Toa & Ha Tane groups  
• Community Gardens behind our main building please help yourself  
• Pataka Kai/ Food Pantry located outside our reception door.  
Follow us on social media - Facebook and Instagram for updates on what is happening here during the week.  
www.bbtrust.org.nz

**THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE**  
of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 22 August  
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on Wednesday 14 August

**Local people read THE BREAM BAY NEWS**  
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**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**AGM**  
**Waipu Business & Community Incorporated**  
 K/A Promote Waipu  
 Our AGM will be held on

**Sunday 18th August 2024 at 3.00pm**  
**At the Waipu Croquet Club,**  
 Caledonian Park, Waipu

Our community are warmly invited, light refreshments will be provided.

For further information and apologies please contact.  
 Penny Reynders secretary@promotewaipu.co.nz

**BREAM BAY SPORTS TRUST AGM**  
 Monday 12 August at 5.30pm  
 In the Waipu Boat and Fishing Club  
 Nova Scotia Rd., Waipu

**AGM**  
**MenzShed Waipu Inc.**  
 10am Tuesday  
 20th August 2024  
 At the MenzShed Building  
 Waipu Heritage Precinct  
 41 Halifax Drive, Waipu  
 (menzshedwaipu@gmail.com)



**Bream Bay Medical Centre Ltd.**  
**Ruakākā Town Centre, Ruakākā**  
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**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

**Effective from 12 August 2024**  
**Increase in the price of consultations**

**This is due to changes in Government funding**  
**Please note that these changes will allow us to provide quality health services to you**

**Those people who have a community services card will be charged discounted fees.**

**Ph: 432 8060**  
**New patients welcome**



**Ruakaka Surf Lifesaving Patrol AGM**

**Saturday 10 August 2024**  
**5.30pm Meeting**

RSVP to  
 ruakakasurfpatrol@gmail.com  
 Nominations and expressions of interest to  
 ruakakasurfpatrol@gmail.com  
 By 5pm 24th July 2024

Ruakaka Surf Club  
 Ruakaka Beach Road, Ruakaka

**Waipu Cove Reserve Board AGM**  
 will be held on Tuesday  
 27th August at 6pm  
 in the All-Weather Room at Camp Waipu Cove.  
 Contact details are:  
 Camp Waipu Cove,  
 869 Cove Road,  
 Waipu Cove,  
 09 4320410.

**AGM**  
**Waipu Mountain Bike Club Inc.**  
 Date: Saturday 7th September  
 Time: 3pm  
 Location: Waipu boat & fishing club  
 Nova Scotia Drive

**The AGM for the Whangārei Coastguard**  
 will be held on  
 Saturday 7 September 2024  
 at the Marsden Bay Yacht Club.  
 One Tree Point Road, One Tree Point,  
 starting at 5 pm.

**WAIPU TENNIS CLUBS AGM**  
 Tuesday the 27th of August at 5pm  
 At the Tennis Club, 9 St Marys Rd., Waipu

**NORTHPINE 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.

**MARKETS**



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 Fundraiser for Whangarei Hospital Children's Ward

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 Kate | 021 064 5698  
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**Or email - seniornetbb@gmail.com**  
**Course venue: Learning Centre, 7 Keka Road, Ruakaka**

**BREAM BAY SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES**

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

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

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


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

**Lifepoint.** 300 OTP Rd, 10.30am.

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