

Bream Bay News

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9 September 2021

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Mobile home dwellers evicted from Uretiti campground

People living in mobile homes were evicted from the Department of Conservation Uretiti Campground when Level 4 lockdown rules were placed over the whole country on Tuesday evening 17 August.

These mobile home dwellers, some of who are long term residents of the campground, dispersed to sites around Bream Bay and further afield.

Some made desperate phone calls to the Ruakākā Beach Holiday Park, where manager Ann – Marie Abel told them, if their vehicles were self contained and they could get to the Ruakākā campground by 9pm on the evening of Tuesday 17 August, when she would be closing the gate, they could spend the weeks of lockdown there.

Ann- Marie said last week there were around 28 mobile homes in the Holiday Park, the occupants of each keeping to their own bubble. She said she continues to get phone calls from people asking if they can come to the camp from various locations in Northland, Auckland, Hamilton and beyond but has told them all that until lockdown conditions are lifted, the camp is closed to all but the people already there.

Some of the Uretiti mobile home owners, it seems, didn't make it to the Ruakākā Campground in time or perhaps are unable to comply with the self-containment rule. Bream Bay News has reports of two mobile homes turning up at the Waipū Caves, another sitting it out at the Ruakākā Beach freedom camping site and still another parked up on vacant land in the Ruakākā village.

Closing Department of Conservation campsites and

Continued on page 3

What we do in Lockdown

Photo by Nadine Clement



Eight-year-old Eliza McGlone enjoyed dressing up for a Covid Concert with her singing teacher Emma Couper

What we do in Lockdown story on page 7



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EDITORIAL

Eviction of mobile home dwellers makes no sense

I live close to the Department of Conservation's Uretiti camping ground and sometimes have stopped to talk to people over the fence as I walk along the public track down to the beach. I have met many people who live full time in mobile homes. There was a retired woman at the camp last summer who had lost her home in Auckland in a leaky house dispute and now lives in a little van travelling around different campgrounds. There are couples and single people sometimes in expensive custom-built motorhomes and sometimes in simple vans or caravans. Most are retired although some work at jobs remotely or intermittently.

Many have made the choice to give up on houses and mortgages for this life on the road. Others have fallen on hard times as a result of marriage break ups or some other misfortune.

This lifestyle wouldn't suit me. I like having a bit of dirt to plant tomatoes in but I salute the mobile home dwellers. These are people solving their own accommodation problems. They are resilient, self-reliant individuals who don't expect the Government to provide for them. Mobile home living is one answer to the housing crises

The Uretiti campground has a full time manager living on site. It has a hot shower, there are toilets, rubbish collections, and recycling bins. Best of all it is right alongside our magnificent Bream Bay Beach. The camp itself has plenty of space and the people who live there have formed what appears to be a cheerful, supportive community. It would seem like a good place to sit out a Covid 19 Lockdown except for the fact that it is administered by the Department of Conservation.

On the evening of 17 August when the Level 4, Lockdown was announced the Whangarei Office of the DOC, following instructions from its head office, decreed that people who had been living in the camp had until midday of the following day to get out. With other nearby campgrounds closing their gates there were few options available to them. It must have been a stressful situation.

While our Prime Minister repeatedly exhorts all of us to "be kind" the government's own Department of Conservation seems to have no care or concern for New Zealand's large mobile home community.

These evictions made no sense either in terms of containing the virus. If someone within the Uretiti camp had been infected with the virus it could have spread to who knows where.

If there is a next time, and fingers crossed there won't be, I hope the DOC Whangarei office will reconsider this policy and ask its Uretiti camp manager to lock the gates to all new comers, send home the people who have homes to go to and then form a contained, safe and secure bubble with its community of permanent mobile home dwellers who remain.

Marilyn

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Mobile home dwellers evicted from Uretiti campground

Continued from page 1.



The locked gate at the Department of Conservation's Uretiti campground

huts for Covid 19 Lockdown Level 4 is a nation wide policy but we asked the Department if it would not have made more sense to invite all those already in residence at Uretiti, which has a permanent manager living on site, to stay put, forming a camp wide bubble while closing the gate to any newcomers.

We suggested that, as well as causing considerable stress to the mobile home dwellers who, with other campgrounds locking their gates, had just half a day to find somewhere else to park their vehicles for the duration of the lockdown, evicting all these people does not make much sense in terms of containing the Covid 19 virus.

Craig Neal, operations manager for the Department of Conservation in Whangarei, said all DOC campgrounds and huts are closed under Level 4 conditions and people who are staying in these places would have known they needed to move on as this in the terms and conditions when they made a booking, as well as on the confirmation email.

He said the Uretiti mobile home residents were given until midday the day after the announcement of the move to Alert Level 4 to make their arrangements and vacate their sites.

He added that "In a very limited number of cases, regional operations were allowing some people to remain onsite if they had nowhere else to go and moving them on would compromise public health and safety but these cases were exceptions and anyone in this situation was required to follow all other rules under Alert Level 4, including maintaining bubbles and social distancing."

This leniency however doesn't seem to have been afforded to the Uretiti campers as he went on to say - "Following the above points, the long-term residents at Uretiti were asked to move on. The public Ruakākā Campground remained open and we understand a number of the long term residents moved there."



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Drop them off at the Waipu or Ruakaka Lotto shops
Or post them to:
The Bream Bay News, 547 Mountfield Rd., RD2 Waipu,
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Calving almost complete

There are hundreds of new calves on farms around Bream Bay with farm staff kept busy taking care of the newborns.

Jared Halse, who farms in Ruakākā and Mata, was coming to the end of calving last week with just 30 cows of his herd of 350 still to give birth.

He said warmer temperatures had helped the process and, until wet weather struck at the end of August, conditions hadn't been as wet and muddy as they have in previous years.

The Covid 19 lockdown hadn't affected him too much although it was a bit strange not seeing people around. "But it's a pretty busy time for us" so not too much time to socialize anyway.

The next job, with Spring having, arrived is to get ready for the mating season with the Artificial Insemination technician due to arrive in a few weeks time. Calving is also coming to the end on Simon Couper's Waipū farm with only around 5% of his 540 strong herd still to calve. Simon has a wintering barn where the cows spend the night, which helps if the weather gets wet and cold, but the cows still need dry paddocks to go onto during the day.

Simon said, although calving starts in mid July and runs through August, finishing in early September,



Calves being reared on Bruce and Julie Paton's Ruakākā farm

the rainfall through the whole of winter affects the outcome as heavy rainfall in June means the ground is too wet and heavy for a comfortable calving season. The heavy rain and flooding at the end of August made things difficult but fine spring weather last weekend was helping to dry the ground out.

A hundred calves, which are being reared as herd replacements, are all doing well.

LETTERS

REDG joining forces with Northchamber

The last few months have been incredibly hectic for REDG the area's Economic Development Group. We have been working through options to join forces with Northchamber to help our local business people make the most of the amazing range of services offered to chamber members. We are nearly at the end of the planning and discussing and are now ready to begin the rebranding process. In the past REDG held a meeting once a month during the day to update members on what was happening. The world has changed and life for many of us, when not in lockdown, runs at an incredibly busy pace. In place of the meetings we will be working with the chamber to bring you regular Business after Five get-togethers with amazingly resourceful speakers who will provide those present with opportunities to enhance their business activities. We will also from time to time do a mailout probably in the form of a newsletter. Better still a local board will be developed made up of representatives of various business / industry groups within our area. Each board member will have a group of business's who they will feed back

information to in terms of what the board is working on with strategic planning.

Throughout this planning and rebranding process we have not stopped working on projects relating to planning and development within our area. The current group which is made up of a number of the previous steering group and some new talent brought in to help with the rebranding structure, we have also been working with our MP Dr Emily Henderson and Kain-ga Ora to bring discussion on how to develop some affordable housing initiative for our area.

If you run a business in our area and want to be kept informed as to how this project is growing and developing but are not part of our email list please contact the following people and get your email on our list. janine@mmg.co.nz
Jan.Anderson@bayleys.co.nz

*Janine Abernethy
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A hundred vaccinations a day at Marsden Cove Clinic

People are lining up for vaccinations at the Marsden Cove clinic of the Bream Bay Medical Centre at the rate of around 100 a day.

Practice Manager Kay Brittenden said the idea behind using the Marsden Cove Clinic exclusively for vaccinations was “to keep well people separate from the not so well people.”

“We are operating as a GP practice from Bream Bay Medical Centre but it is not business as usual as we are only seeing people when it is essential.

“Whether at level 3 or 4 the rules are the same: we still need to distance - we still need to wear masks, we still need to limit contact. We will still have someone on the front door at both practices. If people present with flu like symptoms they won’t be allowed in the building. The first point of contact with our clinical team if not well is on the phone. A clinical decision will be made from there e.g. a script, need to be seen etc. If its an emergency, then it is the same as it has always been, dial 111 and ask for an ambulance.”

We are also doing covid tests from Bream Bay Medical Centre for our enrolled patients if they have flu like symptoms - again people need to ring and go through the triage process before this can happen. We plan to keep covid out and so testing is done on an appointment only basis.

Karen Chapman, who owns the practice with her husband Doctor John Chapman, set up the Marsden Cove clinic for vaccinations, with chairs spaced two metres apart around the waiting room and markings on the footpath to space people waiting outside.

Kay said, “We have many staff members working

along side Karen at the clinic. I have a great team here that work hard and we are all still smiling.

“ I think some of the unsung heroes are my admin team they are the ones fielding the extra phone calls.”

Kay said she has heard talk of vaccines running low due to high demand but so far the medical centre has received all the vaccines it has ordered. She presumes that Auckland and Northland would be a priority “due to current circumstances.”

“Our aim from the beginning has been not a dose wasted and we haven’t so far.

“From each vial we can draw up 5, 6 or 7 doses and so on any given day we may have spare doses over and above our bookings and so we run a list of people who we can call in at short notice so that we don’t waste any doses.

Kay said, “I have been asked many times if there are any side effects - Everyone is different but the feedback I have had has been – ‘my arm was a bit sore



People queuing up outside the Marsden Cove Clinic for vaccinations

but no worse than a flu jab’ – ‘I felt really tired for a couple of days’ – ‘I had a headache for a day etc.’. Some of these have been with the first vaccination, some with the second.

“I have been asked should I have it - I can’t answer that for anyone but the talk has been - people will either have the jab or get the virus - that is our future I think.”

Provincial Growth Fund hothouse project hasn’t progressed very far yet

The proposal to build a giant tomato hot house somewhere in Marsden Point hasn’t progressed very far since an announcement was made last September that Rohe Produce Ltd had been granted a \$14 million loan from the Provincial Growth Fund for this project.

Last week Managing Director Greg Prendergast told the Bream Bay News that negotiations had not yet been completed with the owner of the land he planned to build the 8.9-hectare hothouse and packing shed on.

He also said because of the world wide disruption caused by Covid 19 there are problems with

bringing materials needed for the project from overseas.

The proposed Marsden Point hothouse would grow tomatoes for the winter domestic market reducing New Zealand’s reliance on imported tomatoes from Australia.

Mr. Prendergast envisaged there would be around 200 construction jobs while the build was in progress and then 110 permanent jobs for the tomato growing operation.

There would also be opportunities for young people interested in horticulture as a career.



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Police checkpoint

Photo by Peter Grant



The Whāngarei police checkpoint between on Waipū Cove Rd. at Bream Bay Tail Rd. This photo was taken in heavy rain on Tuesday 31 August. The Police were maintaining the checkpoint 24/7 turning back just under 10% of the vehicles they stopped because travel was deemed to be non essential.



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POLICE REPORT

Bream bay Police have been kept busy enforcing Covid 19 Lockdown regulations and over the weeks of Lockdown Levels 3 and 4 issued a total of 71 infringement notices, prosecutions or warnings to people breaching the rules. These included people out for a drive for no legitimate reason and to some holding parties.

Included in this number are three anti lockdown protesters who held up signs saying “I do not consent” on SH 1 opposite the truck stop at Uretiti in the pouring rain on Thursday 26 August. Protestor Joanna Bagley said “The government and mainstream media are not telling both sides of the story, There are effective and safe treatments for Covid like Ivermectin”

Ivermectin is a drug used to de-worm livestock. Medsafe – New Zealand’s medicines safety authority, has warned,

“Ivermectin is not approved for use in New Zealand to treat Covid-19. There is no clear evidence that it is effective in treating the virus, and it may cause serious harm in some people.”

Fewer family harm incidents

Senior Sergeant Simon Craig said, in general, there has been good compliance with the lockdown rules in Bream Bay. Police have been regularly visiting the Ruakākā Fresh Choice supermarket but there have been no problems here.

In contrast to Whangārei, where there has been an increase in family harm, there were only six incidents in Bream Bay throughout the whole lockdown period.

Thefts from building sites at Marsden Cove

There have, however, been a series of thefts from building sites in the Marsden Cove area where burglars have taken advantage of the abandoned sites during the lockdown. When tradesmen were able to return to their jobs in Level 3, they discovered the thefts. Police have gathered forensic evidence, which they hope will help them find those responsible.

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What people did over the weeks of lockdown

Photo by Nadine Clement

BERYL WILCOX, a resident of Saorsa Village found the lockdown a bit lonely.

Everyone in the village stayed inside their own units most of the time and the Saorsa hall, where residents get together for shared activities, was closed for the duration. Beryl said she hadn't been for a walk into Waipū as she is uncomfortable wearing a mask. To stretch her legs and for a break from sitting in her chair she goes for a walk around the Saorsa village each afternoon saying hello to others who are out and about while being careful to keep her distance.

The residents of the **RANBURN RESTHOME** have been busy with their entry in the Art'n Tartan wearable art competition in October. The nature of the entry is a closely guarded secret but there has been some heated discussion about its design.

While lots of skyping is going on activities co-ordinator Angela Stolwerk said

"We are all missing our visitors"

Relatives and friends of residents are unable to visit in person and volunteer groups such as Canine Friends – people who bring friendly dogs into the home for the residents to meet – can't come in either.

"We have to find our own entertainment for our weekly Happy Hour entertainment", said Angela.

In normal times a live performer comes in.

"We are trying to keep to our usual routines as much as possible," Angela said.

"We do gardening and still have our movies and ice-cream afternoons."

THE TRIST FAMILY of Waipū Cove: Anton and Lucy and their children Samantha and George held a Master chef competition with each taking turns to cook a meal for the family and then holding a vote as to which meal was the best. No one was allowed to vote for themselves.

Anton said everyone was ready for school to open up again but he commented that Bream Bay College had been providing good support to its students for their online learning

THE GRANT FAMILY: Peter and Alice and their two children Olive and Rueben, who are in separate bubbles in Wellington got together over the internet to play Scattogories. Peter explained its "a fun word game where the team come up with ten categories, like transport or cities, then using a random letter generator on the net everyone one has to name something starting with that letter for each category over a two minute time frame.

"You get 2 points if no one else has the same answer,

1 point if they do and 3 points if you get come up with a double word answer starting with the chosen letter, like Tennis Trainer."

SARAH SIMPERINGHAM of Ruakākā said, "This lockdown seems to be not as stressful as the first as we knew what to expect and everything wasn't such a new experience for the children."

Sarah's children attend Ruakākā school bilingual unit, which quickly sent out school learning packs and was well organised with activities and chrome books or iPads for online learning.

Sarah said contact between teachers and parents has been excellent.

"My little guy goes to Bream Bay Kindergarten whose staff have also made phone calls, texts and emails to see how the children are and given activities that can be done at home exploring, hut making etc.

She has taught her children how to play knuckle bones and the family has also been venturing out to the local beach daily using the entrance near the former power station.

"We have noticed a lot of non-village residents are down there walking dogs exercising etc., which is lovely but for all the dog poo! Just a little more respect for our environment even when no one is looking would be appreciated"

"Apart from that bring on level 2."

JENNY MCINTOSH of One Tree Point has had a lot on her plate over the past three weeks. She is a solo mother with four school age children whose home learning she has had to supervise, all the while, working from home as a team leader for Bream Bay EduCare.

To begin with the EduCare Centre conducted a daily 20 minute zoom meeting and continues this three times a week for children to follow from their bubbles. Last week 16 children, whose parents work in essential services were cared for in two separate groups at the Ruakākā Centre, while another 45 children remained at home. Jenny is unable to go to work in person, as her mother Kathy Harris lives in a flat adjoined to her house. Kathy is undergoing chemotherapy so cannot be put at risk.

Instead Jenny works from home in a support role compiling the weekly reports the centre sends out to parents and caregivers and generally catching up on paper work.

She has also been doing a lot of gardening, propagating seeds and landscaping their back yard with her two daughters Her oldest girl, 14-year-old Ayla, a gifted artist, has been working on an oil painting.



13-year-old Joel McGlone made a chess board

Her two boys have been playing a lot of PlayStation. She said they both have a lot of energy and go down to a local park but all the play equipment there has signs on it saying it can't be used. Instead the boys improvise sword fights using sticks.

Kathy spends her time with jigsaws and crossword puzzles with her youngest granddaughter jumping in to help now and then. Jenny and Kathy also have a project knitting squares which they plan to sew together to form a woolen blanket.

For singer **EMMA COUPER** lockdown is particularly difficult. Singing is one activity that just can't happen while there is the slightest chance of Covid 19 being around. Emma is the musical director for Opera North and this is the time they all get together to rehearse. She is also missing her young singing students.

She needs to prepare them for the singing competitions, which are scheduled to still go ahead.

Last week she organised a zoom meeting and invited all her young singers to get dressed up for a Covid Concert.

Gymnastics teacher **NADINE CLEMENT** is unable to conduct classes Her daughter Eliza is doing some strengthening and agility exercises but for the most part gymnasts need to practice on gym equipment. Nadine's 13-year-old son Joel has been enjoying his online classes at Bream Bay College and has also been making a chessboard. Eliza also enjoyed dressing up for the Covid Concert.



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Maisie Panoho's award winning Hae Hae asthma inhaler



Maisie with her prize winning child friendly asthma inhaler, Hae Hae

Maisie Panoho of Waipū has won first prize in the James Dyson Award for innovative product design.

Maisie has recently completed a Bachelor of Industrial Design with honours from Massey University in Wellington.

Her prize winning design is a child friendly asthma inhaler she has named Hae Hae. Maisie said she has many friends and family members who suffer with asthma.

"Its terrifying when you see your sibling or a friend go through an asthma attack." She was aware there is nothing designed specifically for children on the market.

Hae Hae has trigger wings that are easy for both adults and children to operate, and these can be folded away when not in use. It is shaped to fit easily into small hands. When it is turned on it displays information about how much life is left in its battery, how much medicine is available and how long it needs to be shaken before use. The mouthpiece is more secure than on other inhaler models and the canister is locked in place with keyhole access at the back that opens when the device is running low on medicine.

Even the name Hae Hae, a play on the word inhaler, was chosen with children in mind: because it sounds "cute and friendly".

The reknown scientist and inventor Sir Ray Avery was one of the competition judges and commented "Hae Hae is a game-changing design that could save lives." He said, "New Zealand has the highest rate of asthma in the developed world, and this could really help children be more engaged with taking their medicine.

"Maisie has thought about this issue, realised there was nothing on the market and designed a clever solution that has been executed well. It's a clinical problem that has a worldwide application and could easily be produced and rolled out globally to benefit children everywhere."

Although she had a clear idea about what she wanted to achieve with her design, Maisie said it was not easy to develop as the prototypes needed to be tested on children, and this is very difficult and complicated to arrange.

She plans to use her \$3,900 prize money to make further improvements to her design, making the device more portable and engaging for children.

Maisie is a former student of Bream Bay College, where her favourite subject was art. She also attended Waipū Primary and currently is living back in Waipū with her partner.

Art'nTartan rescheduled

The Art'nTartan Shows will now be held on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th November providing we are in Level 1. Everyone who purchased tickets can be assured that they will be able to have them exchanged for tickets for the rescheduled shows. The live preliminary judging for the contest will take place on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th October in the Celtic Barn depending upon us being in Level 2 of the Covid 19 lockdown restrictions.

The Museum and organizing team are hoping that everything goes as planned and can assure everyone that they are working as hard as possible to make the event happen this year

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Our Northland - Tō Tātou Taitokerau

Stories and updates on the great work happening around the region to help our environment, economy and people thrive. Brought to you by Northland Regional Council.

Strategy lays out commitment to climate action

We're doing our part to tackle 'our generation's biggest challenge' with a newly adopted strategy – Ngā Taumata o te Moana – to address the causes and impacts of climate change.

The strategy lays out our commitment to climate action, envisaging a region that's resilient in a changing climate, and transitions 'proactively and equitably' to a thriving net-zero emissions society before 2050.

Amy Macdonald, Chair of our Climate Change Working Party, says the strategy acknowledges the urgent need for change, and the significant role council plays in addressing climate change to protect current and future generations.

She says in Northland, the effects of climate change will increasingly disrupt our water, land, ecosystems, people and economy.

"The climate crisis is our generation's biggest challenge, and this decade is crucial – we must respond by transforming how our society and economy operate. Our society needs to reach net zero emissions by 2050, and we also need to adapt to the impacts of climate change and restore our valuable carbon-storing ecosystems."

To achieve that, we must all take ownership of this issue and work together in partnership, "to support resilience and a transition that is tika (correct and fair)".

Many of council's existing activities – such as freshwater management, Civil Defence and flood



protection – already address issues created by climate change.

Council recognises the need to work more collaboratively and in partnership with tangata whenua, communities and stakeholders to deliver a wider programme to target climate change initiatives, and in doing so embed climate responses more deliberately across the organisation.

Council is framing its response to the climate crisis in terms of three pou: adaptation, reducing emissions, and removing carbon.

Adaptation involves building the resilience of communities and natural systems so they can weather the current impacts, and the significant future effects, of climate change including drought, coastal hazards, sea level rise and flooding

Reducing emissions is a challenging issue for Northland. Overall, roughly 80 percent of the

region's emissions come mainly from agriculture and manufacturing; the balance come from transport, services and homes. Northland faces an additional challenge in that its contribution to national emissions is disproportionate due to the presence of high-emitting industry, including the Marsden Pt oil refinery and Portland cement works.

The council says while emissions reductions are a priority, efforts are also needed to start cleaning up existing carbon pollution.

"Council will encourage activities that help remove carbon from the atmosphere by enhancing natural processes that capture and store carbon, such as growing trees and protecting wetlands, while achieving other benefits such as improved biodiversity."

The 24-page strategy can be found at www.nrc.govt.nz/climatechange

Whangārei Urban Awa programme exceeds expectations

A joint three-year programme which aims to improve water quality in four of Whangārei's key urban river catchments is exceeding expectations.

The 'Whangārei Urban Awa' project is a collaboration between Northland Regional Council and Ministry for the Environment targeting water quality in the Kirikiri, Lower Hatea, Raumanga and Waiarohia catchments.

The project aims to improve water quality through a combination of stock exclusion fencing, riparian planting and land management advice to eligible landowners and its backers are thrilled with progress to date.

The project has already seen 7.4km of fencing across 10 properties and 1300 square metres of riparian planting completed.

COVID-19

Council services under alert levels

Alert level 3 and 4

If it can be done online, by phone or by email, then we're here to help!

But no pest trap sales, farm visits or face-to-face meetings.

Our essential services like emergency management and flood monitoring continue throughout.

Alert level 2

Most normal services are available, though with some restrictions.

Find out more: www.nrc.govt.nz/covid19



Emergency services funding allocated

A rescue helicopter trust and surf lifesavers are among six recipients from our latest round of Emergency Services Fund grants.

The council, through its Long Term Plan process, has decided to continue with the Emergency Services Fund (ESF) for the next three financial years.

Ratepayers contribute about \$12 each a year, creating a fund (the ESF) to support organisations whose primary purpose is to save lives that are in immediate or critical danger, in the Northland region.

For each of the following three financial years the emergency services rate raises an estimated actual collection of \$982,000. (Of this, \$10,000 will go towards emergency services related promotion and community engagement, leaving \$972,000 per year available to allocate.)

As part of the Long Term Plan process, council held a workshop in June to hear presentations from emergency service providers and discuss how the ESF should be allocated for the next three financial years.

Based on the presentations and discussion at the workshop, the following allocations have since been confirmed:

- » **Northland Emergency Services Trust** - \$535,000 annually to support the provision of helicopter rescue and ambulance services and necessary helicopter upgrades.
- » **Surf Life Saving Northern Region** - \$224,000 annually to provide professional lifeguard services in six key Northland locations during the peak holiday period.
- » **St John Northern Region** - \$90,000 annually to support and train volunteers to participate in their life-saving services.
- » **Coastguard Northern Region** - \$84,000 annually to support their ongoing life-saving maritime rescue services in Northland.
- » **Far North & Northland Land Search and Rescue** - \$30,000 jointly annually towards purchasing life-saving equipment and training for volunteers.
- » **Far North Radio and Sea Rescue** - \$9000 annually to support the radio service, in particular its continued search and rescue and emergency response.

10 new Enviroschools Early Childhood Centres sought

The backers of the popular Enviroschools programme are on the hunt for 10 early childhood centres (ECE) keen to join the Enviroschools fold. Northland Regional Council introduced the popular programme to Northland in 2004 and there are now more than 130 schools, kindergartens and early childhood centres in the programme region wide. Despite their young age, ECE tamariki are growing and planting kai and native trees, managing their waste via composting, worm farming and chickens and are controlling pests. They're also taking home key sustainability messages and skills and changing practices within the whanau. More information on the wider Enviroschools programme in Northland is available from: www.nrc.govt.nz/enviroschools



Find your future

Students, teachers and careers advisors from seven secondary schools attended 'Find your future', an interactive careers event for Year 10 - 13 students destined for tertiary study. The early August event saw participants take part in interactive workshops run by inspiring industry professionals from Northland's primary industries.

They enabled students to explore career possibilities in Northland's professional primary industries, discover where a tertiary qualification can take you, take part in practical sessions and visit a professional workplace.

Workshop leaders included representatives from Northland Regional Council's marine and pest plant staff, Rabobank, seed producer Pioneer and Ballance Agri-Nutrients with participants able to visit NIWA's Northland Marine Research Centre or Loca Avocado, where viticulture and agriculture partner with horticulture.



Passionate about wetlands

Hands-on experiences in environmental education outside the classroom; a time to learn how everything is connected, inter-related and dependent on everything else.

That was the aim of a recent visit by Whangarei Intermediate (WIS) students to the privately-owned Dragonfly Springs Wetland Sanctuary, a restored wetland replicating the natural swamp that existed on the Onerahi shoreline centuries ago.

Owner Jeremy Busck is passionate about the six hectare wetlands and educating others and opened the sanctuary to about 58 WIS students recently.

WIS is concentrating on the environment this year. Studying the wetlands is a part of that, along with what we can do, and need to do, to restore and maintain our natural ecosystems.

Contact your local councillor at www.nrc.govt.nz/councillors



Forty five years coaching youngsters to reach their potential in the pool

By Julie Paton

For many youngsters, the memory of their first swimming lessons will be vivid. And if you were a young Bream Bay swimmer in the past 21 years those memories will probably include Richard Dunkerton, or Mr D as he is known by most.

Richard and his wife Lee bought Tiana's Swim School with daughter Tiana and her husband Tony in 2000 and moved down from Doubtless Bay.

"Tiana arrived at home (Tokerau Beach) saying she'd found this place and wanted to buy it off (then-owner) Jackie Clark," says Richard. "I said yes, I'll help you teach but I'm not going to coach - well that lasted about a year."

Since then, as well as teaching possibly thousands of Bream Bay youngsters how to reach the other end of the pool, Richard has coached hundreds more to reach their potential in the pool competing regionally and through to the top levels of national competition – as he did in the Bay of Islands for many years after accidentally falling into the role of coach 45 years ago. Last month Richard turned 80 but Covid-19 restrictions put paid to any celebration. Reaching this milestone birthday doesn't mean he plans to stop coaching. "I still have goals," he says. "I'm looking ahead at 2022...2023 and hope I'm looking at 2024. I'm slowing down. But my goal is to get up in the morning and start again. It's kept me going."

His goal for swimmers has always been to increase their focus levels, developing a lifelong skill to help them whatever path in life they choose. "Even if it was just by 5% a year, it would give them something they could take forward."

Swimming kept him going during difficult times especially in 2013 when Lee, his wife of almost 50 years, passed away. Determined not to let his top swimmers down, he was back poolside within a few days to keep them on track. Time with family is vital to him and he is delighted to have all three of his daughters and their families living close by in Ruakaka.

Richard has received numerous coaching awards over the years and is a life member of Bream Bay and Bay of Islands Swimming Clubs, and Swimming Northland. In 2016 Swimming New Zealand recognised his achievements with a national Honours Award.

But for him, it's all about the swimmers.

He reels off the names and times of swimmers from years ago, remembering personal best times, records and achievements of swimmers who may not even remember these facts themselves.

Richard believes swimming, especially at the top level, teaches self-discipline and a great work ethic, pointing out how many of his swimmers have gone on to do well at school and their careers. As a coach, he sees his role as a leader, rather than a disciplinarian. "The older swimmers aren't there for fun – they might be there for the company, they form great bonds, but they know what they need to do." Those swimming bonds formed between swimming sets can last a lifetime – he talks about a reunion of his Bay of Islands swimmers several years ago. "In five minutes, it was like they were all back in the pool again, yacking away, and you couldn't get a word in edgewise."

Although swimming took over his adult life, it didn't feature much in Richard's early years. Born in Auckland, he returned with his mother to her hometown of Whanganui when his father headed off to serve in Italy during the war. Richard grew up there, the third of eight children, playing cricket and rugby, but not swimming. "I was never scared of the water," he says,



Mr D with a triumphant 20 swimmer Bream Bay team after winning the Northland wide Lion's Trophy Relay

"I could jump off the low diving board before I could swim, and I liked going to the baths, but I couldn't swim, I was useless."

Leaving school at 16, his first job was stoking a fire for four weeks on land being cleared of scrub for farming and he spent most of the next few years working on farms in the Mangaweka and Ruahine Ranges areas. At 21 worked with his father for three years on a Fletchers and Downer Construction project to create a building product half the weight of concrete using pumice, an endeavour that ultimately didn't work out and Richard returned to farming.

His friend Steve met a girl called Dale in Palmerston North and Richard drove Steve's family to the

city for the wedding. The bride's sister Lee was also at the wedding and that was where Richard first met his future wife. Fijian-born Lee's family left riot-torn Suva in the late 1950s to settle in New Zealand.

Steve and Dale bought a milk run in Kawakawa, and before long Lee and all her family were living in Northland. Richard moved north too and took a job working in the stockyards at Affco in Moerewa.

He and Lee married in 1965, shortly after Richard joined the Post Office and Telephone Exchange. Daughter Tiana arrived in 1966 and as Richard was promoted through the

Post Office ranks, daughters Carmen and then Liane arrived. Promotions meant moving to other regions and after a stint in Maungaturoto and more than two years in Morrinsville, Richard was asked to apply for a post in Wellington. "Lee said 'You'll be going by yourself,'" he says. "We'd spent the last couple of years driving to Opua once a month to see her parents. So I gave up that idea and we went into business in Kawakawa." They ran a fruit shop, gift shop and book exchange shop as well as agencies for dry cleaning, watch repairs and ticket booking, and with three daughters, life was busy.

In 1975, nine-year-old Tiana decided to take up swimming, following in her competitive swimmer



Mr D presents young swimmer Mahko Linton with a trophy at Bream Bay Swimming Club's prizegiving in May this year



Lee, Tiana, Richard, Liane and Carmen at Bay of Islands Club Championships prize giving around 1977

mother's wake. Racing nights were on Fridays, but this was late-night shopping night and Richard could never watch her swim. One Friday night as he headed to the dinner table, her swimming teacher, Myra Larkin, called to say he really should come and see his daughter swim as she was doing so well.

Soon after walking in the club's door, Richard found himself the president of the Bay of Islands Swimming Club, with an immediate problem – the American yachtsman and former swimmer who had coached the club's swimmers for the past couple of seasons couldn't get back into the country. Some of the club's swimmers were doing well and Myra Larkin asked Richard if he'd consider coaching them. "I said I don't know anything about swimming, but I could get them fit."

"That's all I knew how to do, was work them," he says. But at the same time, he wanted to get up to speed and help the youngsters keep improving. "Myra was amazing, she helped me – and I read books as fast as I could acquire them, just trying to keep up with the progress the kids were making."

Before long he had swimmers competing at the National Age Group Championships, and soon more than just competing, winning medals. "It was a pretty great time for the swim club," he says. "But it was full-on. I don't know how I managed."

While running his businesses he was on the Northland Swimming management committee, the Bay of Islands swimming club committee, he officiated poolside and he kept coaching the swimmers.

Some of the best times he remembers were trips to the South Island, with Northland teams taking on the best swimmers from Southland, Otago and Canterbury.

But eventually the workload took a toll on his health, and he stepped back, "retiring" to Tokerau Beach with Lee, and reducing his workload. But it wasn't long before the swimming club asked him to come back and he spent a further year as president and helping them right the club before again attempting to retire. Within a few months, Tiana came along with her swim school proposal, and they were off to Ruakaka.

Although determined not to coach, it wasn't long before he could see the potential in some of the Bream Bay swimmers, like Sarah Morgan and Haylee Jensen. He started up a squad, and once again began producing champion results and taking teams of swimmers

to national meets up and down the country as they moved through the ranks and continues to do so, with the last meet being Division II national championships in Dunedin where his swimmers raked in a haul of medals.

He's kept the records of all his swimmers through his years, their times, and the training programmes he's run, dating right back to his first squad in 1976. Daughters Tiana, Carmen, and Liane each have their own books charting their swimming careers.

Looking back on his time poolside, he has just one regret: that he didn't just focus on the coaching. "The only thing I think I should have done is stay away from officialdom and club roles and focused on coaching," he says. "If I started again, I would

give away all the other areas except coaching and teaching."

What has kept him going – and continues to keep him poolside – is helping swimmers achieve their goals and have those "magic moments". "I enjoy seeing something happen that you are trying to get – all of a sudden it happens, and they are away. Watching their face when it happens."

"They become your children, especially the ones you have had for a while. You never really forget them – you forget what they look like, they change and grow up – but when you hear their name again, you remember."

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The Zonta Club of Mangawhai is once again offering a *Second Chance for Women Study Award*.

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Awardees mostly use their award to assist with the final year in their studies.

Application forms can be requested by texting Sheryl on 027 478 2540 with your name, email address and 2nd Chance Study Award.

Applications close Friday 17 September 2021

This award is made possible because of the generosity of the local community at Zonta fundraising events such as our Mid-Winter Ball and quiz nights.

ABOUT ZONTA

Zonta International empowers women worldwide through service and advocacy.

We welcome new members.

Locally, the Zonta Club of Mangawhai meet twice monthly - a dinner meeting and a committee meeting.

We raise funds to support a variety of projects locally, nationally and internationally.

We work with other local and national organisations and provide international aid to projects that help women overcome barriers to equal education, health care, legal rights, and employment.

For further information go to www.zonta.org

Bream Bay Collegiate hockey team wins back the Greenwood Shield



The Bream Bay Collegiate hockey team after winning back the Greenwood Shield at the Wellsford interschool tournament in August.

The Bream Bay Collegiate hockey team were in fine form in August, winning the Greenwood Shield interschool tournament in Wellsford after losing it to Mahurangi College last year. This year the team won all their games in the competition, beating Otamatea High School 1-0, Rodney College 7-0 and Mahurangi 4-3. Coach Bruce Paton was pleased for his players, saying they all played really well as a team. He said they were in good form heading into this year’s North Island Collegiate Mixed Tournament which was scheduled to be held in Whangarei the first week of September. But for the second year in a row Covid-19 interfered and the tournament was cancelled.

“They’ve been doing well in the collegiate competition and we are not losing any players next season so hopefully we will have another crack at it next year and do quite well,” says Bruce. Bream Bay were runners-up at the 2019 North Island Mixed Tournament.

Cricket season approaching fast

Now that spring is here, the cricket season is approaching fast. Bream Bay Cricket Club are looking for both senior and junior players of all abilities for teams. The start date for the seniors in Reserve Grade is 9 October, while the junior and college grades get under way on 30 October. The seniors play in a 40-over competition up to Christmas with limited over and T20 competitions in the New Year, while juniors have a range of options depending on their age and experience from Supersmash fun short games with a soft ball, through to a Saturday competition. Practices will be held at the Bream Bay College wickets, with practice days yet to be confirmed. If you would like to give cricket a go, or get your children into it, email breambaycricketclub@gmail.com or message the Bream Bay Cricket Club facebook page.



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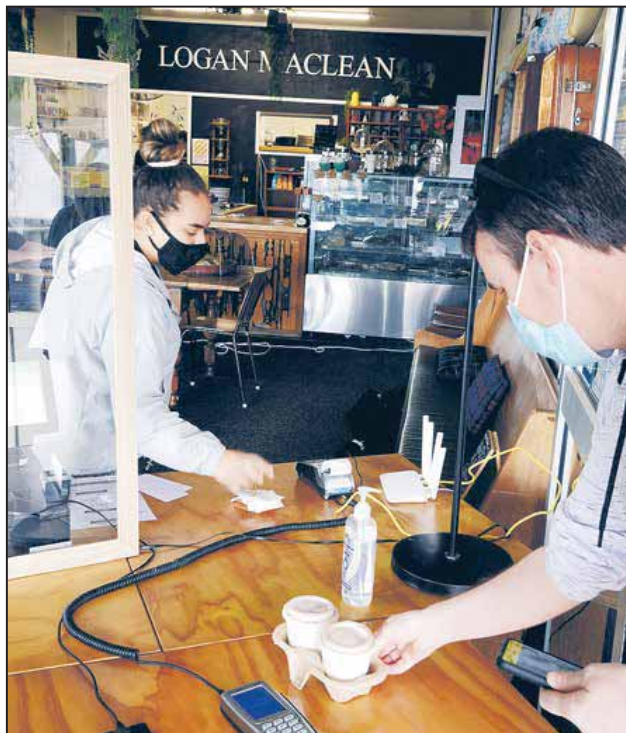
Forced holiday for Café owners

By Peter Grant

The level four lockdown saw busy local café Logan MacLean grind to a halt. "We can't trade, like all cafes in the country we've got no business" said co-owner Murray lane. While the government subsidies paid the wages they didn't cover all the other bills of the business, they were effectively losing money over the lockdown period.

Murray was quite philosophical "Worry doesn't solve anything No use worry about it, you've just got to take it in your stride and see what happens. The silver lining for us" Murray and his wife Tania, "we don't get holidays but this is a sort of holiday although we can't go anywhere but we get to sleep in and do stuff around the house that we normally have time to do."

Last lockdown we had a steady increase for Logan MacLean to higher levels of trade than pre lockdown. Once again they will be adapting their menu to be more take away friendly with Breaky Muffins, Toasted sandwiches, Tania's super salads and their infamous Vegan Burgers.



Bream Bay Ambulance medic Lyndon Reed gets his "life saving" coffee the first morning Logan MacLean reopened for take away service under level three restrictions.

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- **FUNDRAISING CONCERT** by Bream Bay College music students. At Land and Sea Cafe. \$20 entry. Postponed due to Covid 19 Lockdown. New date to be set . .
- **THE WAIPŪ SUNDAY MARKET** next on Sunday 12 September . 9am - 1pm in the Coronation Hall. This will depend on Covid 19 lockdown level dropping to level 2 and on rules around numbers at gatherings under Level 2. Stall holders and customers are likely to be required to wear masks and sign in.
- **THE MARSDEN COVE MARKET** Next on Sunday 19 September from 9am - 1pm. In the big marquee at Marsden Cove. Dependent on Lockdown levels as above.
- **ART 'N TARTAN WEARABLE ART AWARDS 2021.** Waipu Celtic Barn Rescheduled to 12 & 13th November 2021. Tickets now on sale at the museum or on eventfinda
- **WAIPŪ MUSEUM** 36, The Centre, Waipu. Open seven days 10am - 4pm . CLOSED AT PRESENT.
- **KAURI MUSEUM.** Open daily 9am - 5pm. 5 Church St. Matakoho. Current exhibition Portraits of Our People An exhibition of portraits from the past, the present and the future, featuring Kaipara residents, made by Kaipara people. www.kaurimuseum.com. CLOSED AT PRESENT.

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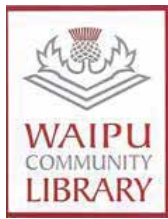
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RUAKAKA A BRIEF HISTORY

Copies \$25 Available from Ruakaka Stationery & Gifts in the Ruakaka Towncentre
Ph: 432 8104
or from Sue Tisdall Ph. 4328112

LIBRARY HOURS



Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 10am - 1pm.
Tuesday 10am - 4pm.



RUAKAKA COMMUNITY LIBRARY
Takutai Place, Ruakaka 432 8406
Mon - Fri 9:30am-3:30pm
Sat 9am-1pm

JP Service available Saturdays 10am - 11am.

LOCAL PEOPLE READ THE BREAM BAY NEWS IT IS AN EFFECTIVE PLACE TO ADVERTISE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Bream Bay Community Patrol

Working with the Police to reduce crime in the Bream Bay area.

To inquire about joining, contact Senior Constable Martin Geddes
Waipu Police Station – 432 4030



WAIPU
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MARSDEN POINT TIDES

	AM		PM	
Thu 9 Sept	9.02	2.7	9.21	2.8
Fri 10 Sept	9.48	2.7	10.06	2.8
Sat 11 Sept	10.35	2.7	10.53	2.7
Sun 12 Sept	11.25	2.7	11.43	2.7
Mon 13 Sept	~	~	12.17	2.6
Tue 14 Sept	12.35	2.6	1.14	2.5
Wed 15 Sept	1.32	2.5	2.17	2.5
Thu 16 Sept	2.35	2.4	3.23	2.5
Fri 17 Sept	3.41	2.4	4.27	2.5
Sat 18 Sept	4.48	2.4	5.27	2.5
Sun 19 Sept	5.49	2.4	6.21	2.6
Mon 20 Sept	6.45	2.5	7.11	2.6
Tue 21 Sept	7.35	2.5	7.56	2.7
Wed 22 Sept	8.20	2.6	8.39	2.6
Thu 23 Sept	9.02	2.6	9.19	2.6
Fri 24 Sept	9.42	2.6	9.57	2.6

FOR CHILDREN

MAINLY MUSIC

Mainly Music is on each Wednesday at 10.00am in the Waipu Presbyterian Church Hall All welcome

TOY LIBRARY

In the Waipu Presbyterian Church Hall. All families and Grandparents welcome.
Wednesdays after Mainly Music 11am to 1pm.
Contact Lynnette 432 0441 & Julie 432 0388 or 021 072 6710

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Costs \$5 for up to 20 words and 20c for each additional word.
Boxed, classified adverts measuring approx 4cm sq adverts cost \$15 plus GST
Phone your advert through to 432 - 0209 email it to: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz
Post to: Bream Bay News, RD 2 Waipu 0582 or leave it with payment at *The Waipu Post Shop* or *the Ruakaka Gift and Lotto Shop*

THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 23 September
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on Wednesday 15 September

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SITUATIONS VACANT

BREAM BAY NEWS DELIVERY PERSON needed for the Marsden Cove area. Please phone or text 027 432 0070

PUBLIC NOTICES



**RUAKAKA
MEMORIAL HALL**

AGM
7pm on Monday 20th September 2021
at the Hall, Sandford Road.
All welcome

WAIPU GYMNASTICS has had its facebook page hacked and has been forced to set up a new page.
The address for the new page is:
<https://www.facebook.com/Waipugymnastic>
Please note: there is no S on the end of gymnastic

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE



Justices of the Peace

Ruakaka	
Ms AP Paki	09 432 8262/021 149 1625
Darrell Trigg	09 432 7256/021 332 901
Ken Orr	09 432 8215
JM Archibald	021 227 4355
Wayne Buckland	09 432 8226 Ext 703
PH Goonan	021 824 825
One Tree Point	
Jules Flight	09 432 8336/0274 777 210
Sir John Goulter	09 432 7868/021 612 442
MM Jolley	027 415 9486
Ian Bogue	0274 300418
Waipu	
Trevor Vaile	09 432 0400
Mr. L.M. Hitchens	022 656 4055
Mr. D.A. Scott	09 929 9729/027229 9752
Ken Couper	027 292 0524

Make contact with a Justice of the Peace (on any day) and make an appointment to have your documents completed.
Only current Association members are listed.

THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 23 September
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 15 September

PUBLIC NOTICES



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



**Monday - Friday: 8.30am - 5pm
Saturdays: 9am - 12pm**
**Marsden Cove Medical Centre
1A Ngawaka Lane, One Tree Point**

Monday - Friday: 8.30am - 5pm
Please advise at time of booking if you require an extended consultation.

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\$1.00

WAIPU BOWLING CLUB

4A South Rd.

Outdoor bowls, an activity for all ages.

**Opening Day Sunday
19th September at 1.30pm.**
New members are very welcome

**Have a Go Day Saturday
2nd October**

Call in anytime between 10am and 3pm
Bowls, coaching and
lots of encouragement provided
Please wear flat soled shoes/jandals

Enquires to Ventry Reid 432 0325



**Bream Bay
Community
Support Trust**

Takutai Place, Ruakaka Phone 09 432 7197

SERVICES WE PROVIDE:

- Social workers
 - Family violence support workers
 - Youth services - youth workers
 - Youth hang out space
 - Schooling - family liaison
 - Community Connector
 - Driver mentor programme
- Free Kia Ora Ngatiwai medical clinic each Wednesday 9am - 12noon by appointment
 - Free budgeting service by appointment - 432 7197 .
 - Narcotics Anon Wednesdays 6.30-730pm

Workbridge, which helps people realise their potential and find employment will be at the Bream Bay Community Trust every Tuesday.
Phone 432 7197 to book an appointment.

WAIPU RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Waipu Residents and Ratepayers Association will be held on Wednesday 28 September at 7pm, the Waipu Residents and Ratepayers will be hosting a public meeting with guest speaker Jon Pheloung of Waka Kotahi who is interested to hear local people's views on possible safety improvements on State Highway One from the Port Marsden Highway to Waipū Gorge Rd.
All Welcome

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.

BREAM BAY SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

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

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

Lifepoint. 300 OTP Rd, 10.30am.

2021 WAIPU MUSEUM

ART N TARTAN

WEARABLE ART AWARDS



Rescheduled to 12 & 13th November 2021.

Tickets now available at eventfinda.co.nz

The Waipu Museum Wearable Art Awards is an opportunity to celebrate our diverse, vibrant and very creative community and join us together in unity.

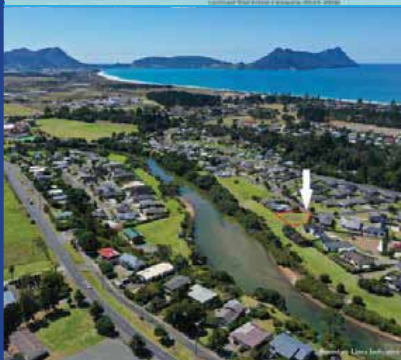
The Wearable Art Awards give us the opportunity to celebrate the descendants of the Scots who migrated via Nova Scotia and landed on these shores from 1853 as proudly told in the Waipu Museum, as well as the Tangata Whenua (first people of this land – Aotearoa) and the many other peoples who have now chosen to settle in this beautiful region and call it home.

We welcome entrants from all over New Zealand and elsewhere who would like to take part in our wonderful, vibrant event.

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