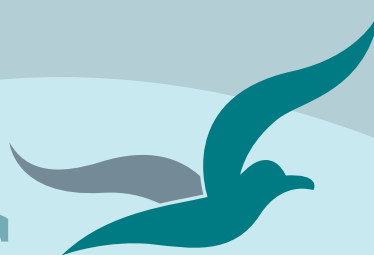


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Mayoral candidate debate gets heated at Waipu *Meet the Candidates* evening

It got a bit argumentative between some of the Whangārei District Council Mayoral candidates at the Waipu Meet the Candidates evening on Wednesday night 13 August held in the Waipu Presbyterian Hall.

Brad Flower said the Council needed to work as a team and pointed out that the current Whangārei District Council term had been fractious. He said one of the mayoral candidates had been ordered out of the Council Chamber by another of the candidates.

He was referring to an incident where while debating whether the Whangārei District Council should take legal action to avoid a Government mandate to place fluoride in Whangārei's town supply water Councillor Couper had been ordered out of the chamber by Mayor Vince Cocurullo when he refused to stop his line of questioning on the fluoride debate. When Councillor Couper refused to vacate his seat saying he would have to be physically removed the Mayor closed the meeting for ten minutes and security guards were called in. When Councillor Couper explained his reasons for taking a stand on the fluoride issue Mayor Cocurullo called out "Tell the truth Ken."

Councillor Couper, acknowledged Mayor Cocurullo was good at performing the civic duties of mayor – "he likes to dress up and go to events" but said he fell short when it came to diplomacy.

"This year our Mayor had been in the process of takin

After a long wet winter Spring is not far away



This photograph was sent to the Bream Bay News by Kevin Wigmore of Ruakaka, who said that when he can see the sun rising above Bream Head he knows Spring is on the way.

Mr. Wigmore said, "We have been waiting for this for over several months now - the sun now appearing on the Bream Bay horizon. So lovely to see in spite of the recent cold southerly winds! Spring and Summer are coming and what a difference it makes to see that sun now on the horizon - whoppee!"

Continued on page 7



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Candidate NRC Coastal South

Authorised by: R Stolwerk, 22 Lang Road, WAIPU

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EDITORIAL

Do we need a four-lane highway?

There have been a few suggestions lately – notably by Whangārei District Council Mayoral candidate Brad Flower and in the letters page of this issue of the Bream Bay News that perhaps we don't need a four lane highway between the Brynderwyn Hill and Whangārei, we just need a better road.

After driving up to Whangārei and back yesterday I am inclined to agree. The road is not that bad. In many places it is already three lanes wide. If we do need four lanes, couldn't the extra width be built alongside the existing highway.

The only time I have struck a hold up on the way up to Whangārei is when there has been an accident or when road works are underway.

There are a few rough patches, which get worse after heavy rain, and I always feel more secure where there is a clear division between northbound and southbound traffic so the road could do with some improvements.

The motorway extension will cost billions of dollars at a time when our public health system is in desperate need of funding and we have hundreds of people in the Whangārei District (and all around New Zealand) who are living through this very wet winter without shelter.

The proposed corridor from the Brynderwyn Hills to Whangārei runs westward of the current road and would cut through some productive dairy farms. Many lifestyle block and home owners are now feeling uncertain about their future after receiving letters from NZTA informing them that their land is in the corridor under consideration for the new highway.

What's more, safety improvements planned for the Brynderwyn to Whangārei highway (including more centre lane fencing and a roundabout at the Nova Scotia Drive/SH1 Intersection) have been put on hold in order to focus resources on the proposed new motorway, which is likely to be decades away.

I have to admit enjoy that northern gateway extension from Puhoi to Warkworth. It's a dream to drive that road after the tortuous narrow winding section of highway it replaced.

Coming off that beautiful motorway onto State Highway One heading north is a bit of a shock. I always take a deep breath and tell myself it is only 20 kilometres to Wellsford. It seems a lot longer. So, yes, I support the extension of the motorway this far.

The southern side of SH1 over the Brynderwyns, despite all the work to stabilise it, still looks a bit shaky in places. Perhaps, as I heard Mr. Flower suggest, we could upgrade the Oakleigh/ Paparoa Road so there is a viable alternative when the big slips come down.

For years now Northland politicians have been chanting, "build the four lane highway" as a kind of mantra. I am not convinced that this would be a fix-all solution to our economic and social woes.

When Transport Minister Chris Bishop was asked by Jack Tame on Sunday morning's TV1 Q & A programme a few weeks ago if there was a measurement that would show the cost to benefit ratio of the proposed multi billion dollar investment in the motorway into Northland, he stuck his forefinger in the air as if to say "who knows, it depends which way the wind blows".

A better investment might be in education. If we could instill in young people that they have a part to play in society and teach them real skills that will be recognized and useful in improving their own lives and the wellbeing of our communities, this could make a difference. We should look at ways to

attract and keep great teachers in our schools and tertiary institutions.

How ridiculous that we have highly motivated young people who have trained as nurses and then we can't offer them jobs because of cuts to the health budget!

When we have hundreds of people without shelter in the Whangārei District alone and a waiting list of thousands for public housing in Northland, it is a tragedy that young people who are skilled up in the building trades are leaving for Australia because our Government has pulled the plug on so many Kainga Ora housing projects.

Marilyn

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Full house for Oceans documentary

Photos by Lyn and Peter Davies



A crowd of 230 people attended the screening of David Attenborough's Ocean documentary at Waipu Primary by the Bream Bay Guardians

"We have a full house!" announced Mary Sinclair of the Bream Bay Guardians and one of the organisers of a showing of the David Attenborough documentary Ocean, which was held in the Waipu Primary School hall on Saturday afternoon 9 August.

The documentary showing was preceded by a protest against the McCallum Brothers Limited proposal to apply for consent to mine sand in Bream Bay under the Fast Track Legislation passed by the Coalition Government in 2024.

Two hundred and thirty people attended the event, which was moved to the school hall when it was discovered the Coronation Hall the original venue doesn't have Wi-Fi

The documentary, for those who haven't seen it yet, describes how important the ocean with its vast reserves of carbon absorbing plankton, sea grass fields is to the health of the planet. It shows the devastating effects of seabed trawling when huge chains are dragged along the seafloor capturing and destroying everything in their path. The grey deserts left behind by these trawlers were contrasted with the rich and colourful diversity of an unscarred seabed.

The David Attenborough team gave the Bream Bay Guardians group permission to download the documentary and wished the group well in its efforts to stop the Bream Bay sand mining proposal.

Following the documentary Bream Bay Guardians' spokesman Malcolm Morrison described the McCallum Brothers barge as being 68 metres long and 25 metres wide with a trailing suction dredge to suck up sand "just like a vacuum cleaner".

He showed a graphic of Bream Bay with the rectangular area off Ruakākā

Beach where the dredge would be operating. He said McCallum Brothers claim this is beyond the depth of closure area where sand washes out from the sand dunes in storms sits in an underwater ledge of shore and comes back in with the tides to rebuild the dune system.

But Mr. Morrison disputes this saying McCallums have a problem as their dredge can't operate in the shipping land just east of this area and can't operate in the deeper water further seaward.

He warned that he expects The McCallum Brothers application could be lodged within the next six weeks.

INTERGENERATIONAL EQUITY, INTERGENERATIONAL INEQUITY, or INTERGENERATIONAL DEBT?

By 2029, Council debt is projected to rise over 100% from the 2024 levels of \$213 million to around \$450 million.

Most of this money will go towards "hard" assets such as infrastructure, land, buildings and investment properties etc.

Council documents refer to these assets as

"intergenerational equity".

Equity is usually categorised as that part of an asset that has no borrowings, charges or mortgage over it.

However, any debt, especially if it becomes a substantial burden on future generations and cannot or is not repaid, is referred to as

"intergenerational inequity".

In more simplistic language, this should actually be referred to as

"intergenerational debt".

Our children will pay for this. Every cent counts and I want to see proper transparent auditing of where exactly council borrowings are apportioned so that we can control this issue better.



A protest against sand mining in Bream Bay was held on the school field before the documentary screening began



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No cure for that post viral cough

A persistent cough driving you and your family mad? Well, you're not alone.

Many people of all ages suffer from a dry and unproductive cough straight after suffering from a cold, flu or chest infection. Your cold may have cleared up, but your airways could still be irritated. And the worst is that cold drinks and cold air can set you off into a coughing frenzy.



The bad news is that this annoying cough - which is known by some as the 100 day cough - can last anywhere between three to eight weeks. In addition, antibiotics won't work because the cough is generally a result of a recent viral infection. Sometimes the coughing fits can be so violent they cause hiccups or vomiting.

So what causes this cough?

- A post nasal drip: Mucus running down the back of your nose, and onto the back of your throat is quite common after a cold or flu. Sometimes the virus sensitises the throat so much that the dripping really irritates the throat and causes reflex coughing. This often occurs at night when you are lying in bed.
- Cold air: Breathing through the mouth when the throat is sensitive can cause coughing - especially when you are out in the icy winter air.
- Inflammation of the upper airways: Colds and flu cause sore throats and inflamed tonsils and upper respiratory tracts which can take some time to return to normal.
- Asthma: Asthmatics are generally more sensitive to the effects of colds and flu, which can set off asthma symptoms. This will mean that asthmatics need to start their "rescue action plan".

The good news is that you can treat the symptoms. Do this by:

- drinking honey drinks to soothe the throat
- sucking lozenges (demulcents) to stimulate saliva production that in turn coats the throat to help protect it
- taking appropriate cough suppressants
- keeping the air around you warm and reasonably dry. You can do this by wearing a scarf over your mouth and nose to help warm air up before it gets to your throat. Very dry air can make the cough worse, so try and breathe through your nose which helps moisten the air and reduce the irritation factor.

There is no formal cure for this cough but boosting your immune system, and sticking to a healthy lifestyle, can help prevent you from getting a cold which in turn leads to the cough.

In some cases, a cough can be the cause of other underlying problems like food allergies, medicine side-effects, an ear, nose or throat problem, or something more serious. If the cough gets worse or has not improved in a few weeks always consult your community pharmacist or GP.

LETTERS

Hard Times

As if in a Charles Dickens' script, we live during HARD TIMES. Over one hundred thousand New Zealanders are homeless, unemployment has edged up over six per cent, many small businesses are struggling, and several food banks have reported running out of supplies. Many of the next generation find it impossible to buy a first home, unless they are lucky enough to dip into the Bank of Mum and Dad. So nearly two hundred years after Dickens penned his illuminating novel, it is evident that here in New Zealand, the Hard Times are very unevenly distributed. Meanwhile our government has slashed thousands of its own workforce, while simultaneously cutting many core services. The faltering health sector staggers from one crisis to the next: waiting lists for operations and first appointments seem as long as ever, while independently-thinking doctors and practitioners have been progressively marginalised. A recent draft report noted that there were fifteen hundred specialists short in the mental health field, but the final report craftily omitted this statistic. Perhaps most serious of all is that emergency services are clearly no longer coping. A recent Stuff article reported the case of a woman whose husband took her to Waikato ED because no ambulance was available, and she waited ten hours before being attended by a doctor.

However some services are being expanded, presumably with a boost to our national productivity. The diplomatic corps has opened a new mission in Papua New Guinea, spending on prisons has gone up, and as evidenced by the proliferation of orange cones, spending on our highways has increased. The final cost of the Puhoi-Warkworth extension was 1.05 billion dollars, that is 58.33 million dollars per kilometre, and 1.078 billion in today's dollars when we account for a year's inflation.

Coincidentally, the Puhoi-Warkworth link is virtually the same length as the proposed new expressway segment from the north Brynderwyn foothill (Durham Road) to the One Tree Point roundabout on Highway 1, so presumably this segment of the proposed new expressway will also cost over one billion dollars as well. Given that at least two new bridges will be required, a possible part relocation of the Marsden Point fuel line, swamp areas to be circuitously avoided, or built over, not to mention the ruining of the viability of dozens of farms and lifestyle blocks, it is quite likely there will be 'unforeseen' hikes in the cost of this proposed section.

There is however, a notable difference between the two stretches of highway. As Northland travellers know well, traffic through Wellsford and Warkworth in the past has often ground down to a tortuous crawl, as if in the metropolis in rush hour, whereas the existing road from north Brynderwyn to the OTP roundabout is relatively new, fast and sweeping, with several passing lanes (with the potential to be widened easily into four lanes), and notably, no traffic lights, nor towns to impede progress.

Many local folk are rightly questioning the value they get from their rates. But for most of us, the rates are a small fraction of the combined rate and taxation payment. Wellington decision-makers are now compelling a costly (and rate funded) upgrade of local water systems (the hangover from the late Three Waters binge). For Northland councils, this compulsion includes the addition of fluoride, which many studies (and basic common sense) link to an increased rate of fractures.

Given the apathy of the major parties to the cost of their own grandiose projects, do we have to wait for election year for the minor parties to build discussion round the most appropriate way to spend a billion dollars, which by default, is soon to be allocated to an expressway, part of which is completely unnecessary.

Are the only options more diplomats? More prisons? More fluoride? More Skyhawks?

Might even the extra billion dollars be better value if allocated to our dysfunctional health system? Or merely allocated to upgrading existing roads?

Does the government have any remaining cost/benefit analysts who can objectively evaluate the value of spending between different groups in our community? And would they actually be listened to?

Ian Duffield
Waipu

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME

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something interesting
going on in Bream Bay.

The Last Song production team hands over a big cheque to Linking Hands



The musical *The Last Song* which played to full houses for six nights in late July and early August in the Waipu Coronation Hall raised a staggering \$42,000 for Linking Hands, the free health service whose volunteers drive people to medical appointments. This big cheque was presented to Linking Hands Waipu representatives from left, Jossie Turner, Jayne King and Helen George on Tuesday afternoon who gasped in surprise when they saw the amount written

on the cheque. There to present the cheque was show director Blair Strang, and members of the production team: Juanita McGoldrick, Steve Jones, Paula Alexander and Catherine Jenkins. The money will be used to purchase a new vehicle, possibly a hybrid, for the Waipu branch of the service, which operates throughout Bream Bay, Mangawhai and Maungaturoto.

Vote with numbers for the WDC but with a tick for your favourite NRC candidate

The Whangārei District Council is using the Single Transferable Voting system in this year's election. Under this system you list election candidates in the order of preference with numbers rather than ticks beside their names.

How successful candidates are chosen is a bit complicated but best illustrated by a diagram on the Ministry of Internal Affairs website. Suffice to say it's likely to take a bit longer this year to get election results.

If not one or not enough candidates to fill available vacancies get clear majorities with the number 1 beside their name or names then preference votes are added into the mix.

You don't need to number all the candidates. If there is someone you really don't think should be Mayor or in Council, don't give him or her a number at all as even a number 3 or 4 might help his/her chance of getting into office.

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LETTERS

We have become a country where everyone wants everything and more than we can afford

I have not written a letter to the Editor for some time but I am prompted by your editorial in the 7 August edition.

The comparison between your former flatmate and those seeking to curb self-indulgent council spending is invalid. To not recognise that council spending needs to be reined in is even worse.

We have become a country where everyone wants everything and more than we can afford. Like it or not, money, as in "cost benefit," should be part of every government decision whether national or local. We need councilors who understand this and can prioritise which public assets to spend on rather than a grandiose office building, a non-sensical fluoride challenge, thinking that water facilities are a council asset rather than a community essential service where the most efficient means of service should be the only criteria, etc etc.

If you live beyond your means, whether a household, business, or government body, eventually you will go bankrupt.

Returning to the premise of your editorial, libraries and sports fields are essential for human development; cycle and walk ways are things to be desired but not essential. If these can be self-funded great. Just put away the begging bowl. In Bream Bay we are blessed with a beautiful beach suitable for all activities including dogs and horses. Happiness comes from enjoying what you have, not what you wish for.

Steve Scott
Ruakākā,

Two Kākā in Ruakākā

On the morning of Saturday, 26th of July something extraordinary happened. My dad saw a Kākā and ran to my room with me hot on his heels. Then he opened the window and we could hear the Kākā screeching. My mum came into the room and shut the window after she heard it. I opened up the window after she left. I heard the Kākā again, but this time it was coming closer.

Suddenly I saw two Kākā glide past my window. I ran into the hall to the door and got some jandels on. My dad came out too. We held our breath and looked around, we saw it in the tree. Then it flew past us. The other one was right behind it. They landed on another tree. We saw one Kākā shuffling in the tree. After that they took off and flew away.

William Bucherer, Aged 8
Ruakākā Beach

Maybe some others in the community have seen these two birds too. We have seen them round for the last couple of weeks (just this morning too). I have lived here for almost 9 years and never seen Kākā in the area before. Which I thought was a bit sad given our Ruakākā place name. So this is good news. I have attached a photo and a picture drawn by William. I also have some short videos.

William's Dad, Evan Bucherer



William's kaka picture

Ken Couper

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Early morning kayak ends in tragedy

What should have been a pleasant morning's exercise kayaking on the Ruakākā River turned to tragedy for a local father of three.

A search for 29-year-old Mathew George Taylor began after he failed to return from a morning kayak on Monday 11 August.

His body was discovered by members of the Ruakākā Surf Lifesaving Club around 5pm alongside the Princes Rd. boat ramp. His upturned kayak was found nearby. His death has been referred to the coroner.

Out of respect for the dead man a rāhui was placed on the Ruakākā Estuary by the Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust board until Thursday 14 August.

Sergeant Simon Craig, Officer in Charge at the Bream Bay Police Station, said Mr. Taylor's partner and family members are struggling to come to terms with their loss.

Mayoral candidates debate gets heated at Waipu *Meet the Candidates evening* Continued from page 1

the Government to court at the same time as we are looking for a "regional deal." Mayor Cocurullo said he was acting on the wishes of the community and the evidence for the benefits or otherwise of fluoridation in drinking water was inconclusive.

Mr. Flower said there had been massive rates increases for Waipu people over the past six years including a 59% rates increase this year alone and "where was the advocacy?" from Councillor Couper.

As a trained civil engineer with 35 years experience working in infrastructure, governance and leadership he said he has the skills needed to lead the council.

Another candidate Councillor Marie Olsen supported a back to basics approach to Council spending. She said rates should be kept affordable and the Council should concentrate on essential services rather than be spending money on "nice to haves".

She said it would be possible to save \$10 million annually with this approach.

Fiona Green said as Mayor she would shut down the Whangārei District Council for two days while she spoke to all the councillors and then serve the Council's DCEO with a one page business plan. She later left the meeting abruptly seeming to take offence at something one of her opposing candidates had said.

Karl Gordon stood to thank all the candidates for standing for election. He said that while candidates always promised to lower the rates they always just kept going up. He said that the Council role was not just about infrastructure but that it also has a social role to play.

Councillor Couper said he supported the Council's funding of City Safe and had support for this from the Minister of Police Mark Mitchell.

A member of the audience asked why the rates on his Waipu property had gone up 80% over the past six years while rates in other parts of the district had only gone up by 60%.

Councillor Couper said this was a result of property values going up and he was keen to see an increase in the rates subsidy for people who could not afford this rise. Mr. Flower said the rating structure needed to move away from being based solely on land value

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LETTERS

Heartfelt thanks to you all



The cast and crew of The Last Song musical production which raised \$42,000 for Linking Hands in Waipu

The production team of The Last Song just want to take a moment to say a big, heartfelt thank you to all the incredible people who made the play possible.

First off—our fearless director, Blair Strang. Thank you for your vision, your leadership, and for steering the ship with such heart. You made this journey unforgettable. Alys Hughes – thank you for your fabulous dance choreography. Kate Louise-Elliot – for writing an awesome play and for granting us the rights to put it on.

Lenore Potier, Amber Scott and Chrissy Were, your costumes, makeup and hair dressing brought the characters to life. Thank you for your creativity and attention to detail—you truly made the cast shine.

A massive shoutout to all our backstage crew—everyone who scanned tickets, ushers, moved sets, decorated the hall, set up and packed up, but especially the team that volunteered to run the tech – Paula Poloniati and Bruce Roberts – all of you are the glue that held the production together. We literally couldn't have done it without you.

To Glenn Border and Tim Bell for supplying the lighting and sound, they gave generous discounts towards the production costs.

To the Waipu Lions Club, Louise Wickham and Judy Guy who run the Bar and the Kitchen over the 6 nights. Dave Klum – who did the Shane video and has put a video together of the show to enable all of the cast to be able to watch the show themselves. This video was made possible by some locals who agreed to fund the discounted cost of doing this so a special thanks to: Warren McLean, Paul Jensen (Fresha Valley Milk), James Alexander (Ray White) and John Lang.

And now, to our incredible cast—what a group. They poured their hearts into their roles, brought their characters to life, and told the story with such honesty, emotion and humour. Every rehearsal, every line, every moment on stage—they gave it their all.

They didn't just perform—they connected with the audience, with each other, and with the purpose behind this show: raising funds and awareness for Linking Hands. That's what has made this more than just a play. It has become something meaningful. A donation of \$42,000 which will enable Linking Hands to purchase a new car for the Waipu area.

So to every cast member, every crew member, every volunteer—thank you. You've been generous, passionate, and absolutely brilliant. Everybody is so proud of what we've created together.

And finally a huge thank you to all of our audience members who purchased tickets to the show. Without an audience the show would be nothing and there would have been no donation to give to Linking Hands. So a massive thanks to you all.

Cast: Emma Couper, Neil Troost, Alisa Dodds, Chris Townshend, Jenni Carr, Amber Scott, Lizzie Carroll-Thom, Aleesha O'Brian, Kasey Carr, Stacey Hollis, Paul Carr, Gary Loughnan, Christian Dally, Johnny Fetelika, Jeannie McKee, Milena Zampa and Kylie Reynolds.

*Heartfelt Thanks from -
 Juanita McGoldrick, Steve Jones, Catherine Jenkins
 and Paula Alexander
 The Last Song Production Team*

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

Candidates for the Bream Bay Ward answer questions at the Ruakākā meeting

Political meetings can be quite entertaining. At question at the Ruakaka Meet the Candidates meeting, Peter Hope of the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers Association was in charge of the roving mike. Mark Rasmussen as is his habit leapt to his feet before any one else and asked the Bream Bay ward candidates who believed in climate change and Mr. Hope congratulated him on the short, sharpness of his question as usually he has some long preamble explaining that he is an energy engineer and then attempts to disprove

The answers to Mr. Rasmussen's question were as follows:

- Paul Grace – “I don't believe in climate change.”
- Ken Couper – “We (the Council) are bound by legislation” which says we need to take climate change into account.
- Dave Baldwin – “It's a lot of bollocks”
- Mathew Yovich – We are bound by legislation.
- Simon Schuster – There is no harm in looking at alternatives out there.
- Shilane Shirkey – There is climate change coming. I have a daughter so am concerned about the world we will be leaving for our children.

A question put by the lady with the glorious pink hair – Jette de Jong – What is your attitude to the Maori wards?”

- Paul Grace – We have a referendum on this issue and I am going to keep the way I intend to vote private
- Ken Couper – The two (current) Maori ward councillors have made a valuable contribution. I support Maori wards.
- Dave Baldwin – They need to go. After observing Council meetings, I think the Maori ward councillors are quite capable of standing on their own two feet”
- Mathew Yovich – I don't support them.
- Simon Schuster who is the Principal of Maungakarama School said, “we are always looking for more Maori representation on school boards. I don't see a problem with Maori Wards only an advantage, so, yes I support them. At the Waipu meeting Mr. Schuster said



Simon Schuster takes his turn to speak at the Ruakākā Meet the Candidates Evening

he would resign from his headmaster's job if he wins election to concentrate on Council work.

- Shilane Shirkey – Being half Maori I support Māori wards 100 percent.

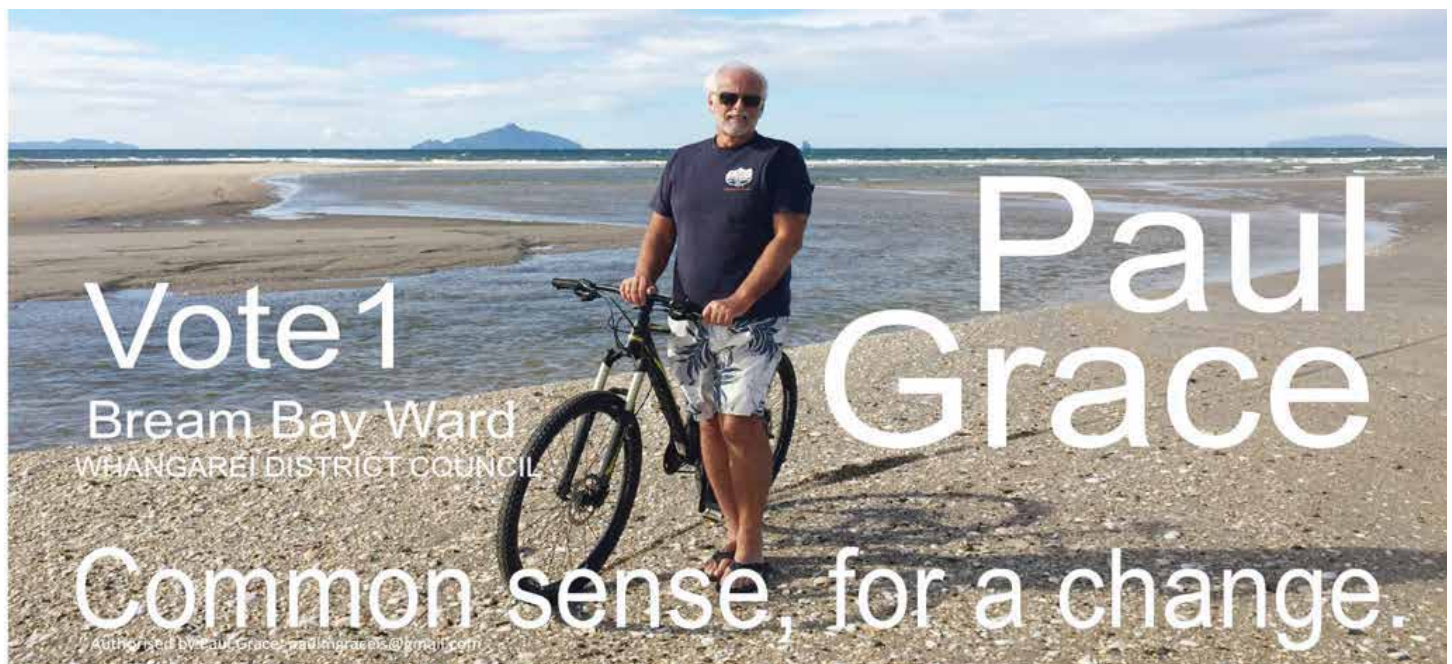
Does the Council have a role in addressing the growing problem of homelessness in the District?

- Ken Couper – This is not a core Council activity. The rise in homelessness is concerning situation but if we make rate cuts as many people are demanding support for wellbeing projects will go.
- Matthew Yovich - This is definitely a central government rather than a local government issue.
- Simon Schuster – I think homelessness needs to be a concern for us all. It is not necessarily a Whangarei

District Council responsibility but there may be ways the Council can support homeless advocacy groups to provide shelters and rehabilitate people.

- Shilane Shirkey said she had met a homeless man that day and while she didn't believe “under the legislation” this was an issue for local government, on a personal level, she would do what she could.

All six Bream Bay ward candidates supported a forensic audit of the Council and said they were opposed to the McCallum Brothers proposal to dredge for sand in Bream Bay.



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Paul
Grace

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Authorised by Paul Grace: paul.grace@breambay.nz

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Project Bellbird launched in Waipu

Rat traps are being handed out to residents of Waipu township in a bid to bring native birds such as the bellbird back to the towns parks and gardens.

The Piroa Conservation Trust has launched Project Bellbird, which is asking the town's residents to trap predators in their gardens.

Korimako - bellbirds disappeared from Northland mainland in the 1860s but are slowly making their way back into areas where there is effective predator control. Some have been heard and seen recently in the Brynderwyn ranges.

Project Bellbird leader Graeme Giles said with a bit more encouragement they might venture down into the village.

Bellbirds were once commonly seen throughout New Zealand. Captain James Cook on his first trip to New Zealand in 1769 described their song as being "like small bells most exquisitely tuned".

Rats, particularly ship rats, which climb trees are known to predate on bellbirds and are regarded as a likely cause of their decline.

Trappers will be asked to record and share catch information. PCT will also supply and service



possum traps where these are needed. Waipu residents who would like to join the project can email: projectbellbird@piroaconservationtrust.org.nz

Bellbirds are nectar feeders but also eat fruit and feed their young with insects. Planting nectar producing trees such as kowhai, or puriri which can flower year round are another way encourage the return of the bellbird.

When will the community get a chance to put forward its views on \$2.8 million Council land in Waipu

When will the community get a chance to put forward its views on the development of 4.65-hectare block of land between Argyle St and South Rd.?

The answer is not for some time.

The Whangārei District Council bought this land for the sum of \$2.8 million last year, using unbudgeted funding from Council debt.

The block was purchased from a developer who had already gained resource consent for a 31-lot residential development.

The Council plan is to sell off the southern part of the block to defer some of the cost of the land purchase.

Asked if there were any prospective buyers in the wings, the Council's Development Relationships Manager John Bent said marketing had not begun yet. Mr. Bent said the focus at present is to investigate what it would cost to build the road connection between South Rd. and Argyle St.

The southern portion of the land destined for residential subdivision is currently being grazed by cattle while the northern section adjacent to the Waipu Bowling Club is being mown by the contractor City Care. The Waipu Lions got the job of removing the old farm fencing to make mowing easier. It is also available for passive recreation.

As to the long term use of this new publically owned, Council administered land in Waipu Mr. Bent said there were two things to remember: it's a blank canvas and there is no budget for any development.

He said at some stage the public of Waipu would be invited to put forward ideas on what this land could be used for and these views would be considered by the Council.

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The next issue of the Bream Bay News will be published on Thursday 4 September
Deadline is 5pm on Wednesday 27 August

Brad Flower For Mayor

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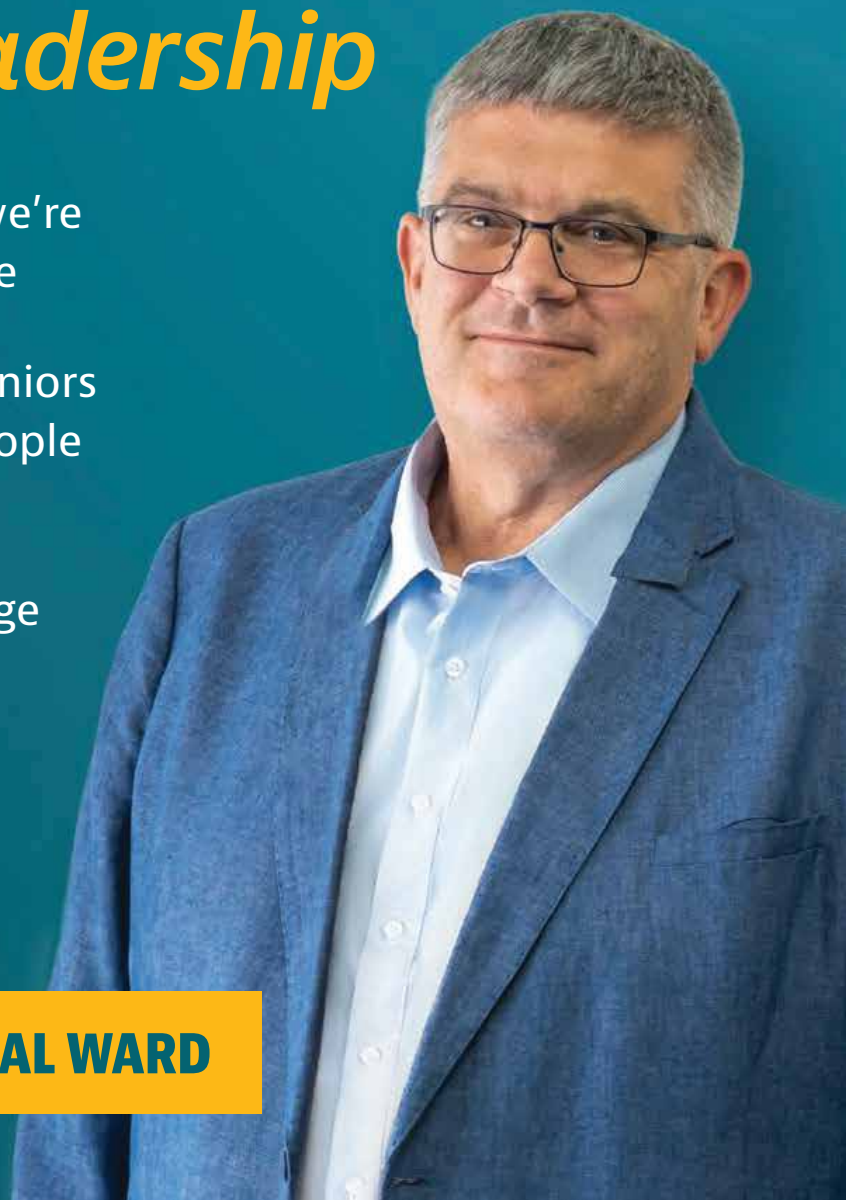
- ✓ Creating a place we're proud to call home
- ✓ Supporting our seniors and our young people
- ✓ Careful financial planning to manage rates rises

1

MAYOR

1

URBAN GENERAL WARD



MARSDEN POINT HIGH TIDES

	AM		PM	
Thu 21 August	5.21	2.4	6.01	2.6
Fri 22 August	6.22	2.4	6.54	2.6
Sat 23 August	7.16	2.5	7.42	2.7
Sun 24 August	8.05	2.5	8.27	2.7
Mon 25 August	8.50	2.6	9.09	2.7
Tue 26 August	9.32	2.5	9.48	2.6
Wed 27 August	10.12	2.5	10.26	2.6
Thu 28 August	10.51	2.5	11.03	2.5
Fri 29 August	11.31	2.4	11.41	2.4
Sat 30 August	~	~	12.13	2.3
Sun 31 August	12.22	2.3	12.59	2.3
Mon 1 Sept	1.06	2.2	1.51	2.2
Tue 2 Sept	1.57	2.2	2.49	2.2
Wed 3 Sept	2.54	2.1	3.30	2.2
Thu 4 Sept	3.55	2.2	4.47	2.3
Fri 5 Sept	4.55	2.2	5.39	2.4



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Candidates for the Southern Coastal Ward of the Northland Regional Council

There are three contenders for this position.



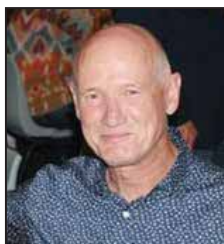
Rick Stolwerk

The incumbent Rick Stolwerk is standing for a fourth three year term on the Northland Regional Council.

He is proud that the NRC was able to limit its rate rise in its 2025/2026 annual plan to 3.9%, the second lowest rise of any regional council in New Zealand.

He says the main purpose of the Northland Regional Council is environmental protection. He is strongly opposed to the Fast Track sand mining proposal for Bream Bay and told the meeting that if the consent is granted NRC ratepayers would need to pay for the monitoring of the consent conditions.

Rick is the NRC's representative on the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Committee, chair of the Whangārei Public Transport Working Party, a member of the NRC's sub committee on audit risk and investment and a member of the NRC's Natural Resources Working Party.



John Hunt

John Hunt said at the Waipu Meet the Candidates evening he was "vehemently opposed to sand mining in Bream Bay and believed it would be an environmental disaster. He said Bream Bay was a most remarkable stretch of water.

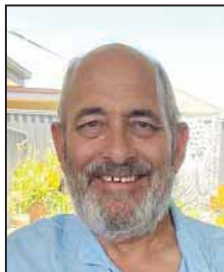
Mr. Hunt lives in Mangawhai. He is the Chief Executive Officer of North Harbour Basketball and in this role has helped talented young people gain scholarships in the USA. He is the treasurer of the Waipu Tennis Club.

He said the NRC is "addicted to spending" and needs to have more accountability to its ratepayers.

If he is elected he will call for a rates freeze for the next three years.

He said despite staffing costs going up by 15% over the past six years, 15 solicitors and a number of consultants were employed on the NRC's 2025/1026 annual report doing work that should have been achieved by its staff.

McCallum Brothers sand mining proposal



Robert Goodhue

Robert Goodhue introduced himself as a watchmaker and as someone proud to have a "solid trade". At the Ruakākā meeting he drew a laugh from the audience by telling us he had prepared a speech using Chat GBT but this was in his back pocket and he wasn't going to bore us by reading it.

He said the southern coastal ward of the NRC encompasses the most important industrial areas of Northland including: Port Whangarei, Portland, Ruakākā and Marsden Point.

He wants to see improvements in infrastructure to support our local industries.

"The manufacturing sector needs support. We are losing everything."

He said roads need to be improved "so the kids can get to school on time".

At the Ruakākā meeting on Tuesday 12 August he appeared to back the McCallum Brothers Bream Bay Sand mining quoting from the McCallums website – that sand is needed for development and that barging sand into Auckland is a more environmentally friendly option than carting it on trucks. However the next night at the Waipu meeting he claimed he had not actually said he was in support of the sand mining and that "we need to protect our coastal environment."

From the Bream Bay News August 1975 issue

A NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN WAIPU is showing signs of activity with Somners Ltd. opening sections in the old Show Grounds.

At first 24 sections will be available, with another 48 in a later development.

All will have underground services,

The project is in the initial stages but is creating interest in Waipu..

THE OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND at the Waipu Playcentre is well under way and much enjoyed by the children. Many willing hands have made this possible with special mention of Mrs. S Neal and her committee for a wonderful job done. It is something to be proud of and for present and future children to enjoy.

Ruakākā Library Committee surprise departing security guard with a thank you morning tea



Ruakākā Library Chairwoman Sharon booth with security guard Janene Comp-

Security guard Janene Compton has been posted at the entrance to the Ruakākā Council Service Centre and library almost every day for the past fifteen months. Last Friday the Ruakākā library committee gave her a surprise morning tea as with the installment of security screens at the service desk counter she is no longer needed.

Sharon Booth, library committee chairwoman, said Janene has had a welcoming smile and occasionally a hug for many of the library patrons and will be missed. Janene herself was in tears as the morning tea was completely unexpected. "I have never had anyone do this for me," she said.

When Sharon phoned Northern District Security to ask Janene's manager about the morning tea proposal he was also surprised and commented that this might be the first time anyone had said "thank you" for the security service.

A security guard was deemed necessary after a woman who was disgruntled by Council enforcement of its dog control bylaws threatened service centre staff that she would return with a gun.

Asked if she had needed to deal with any angry aggressive people in the fifteen months, Janene said there had been "one or two". She said, "People are just frustrated and they need somewhere to vent."

She said she had worked with elderly people in the past but changed career paths because "I needed to know that I had a back bone."

The Bream Bay News has asked the Whangārei District Council how much this 15 month security guard presence has cost.

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Vince Cocurullo

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Approved by Vince Cocurullo, 40 Otaka Rd, Whangārei

A Real Vision for Whangārei

SPORTS TALK

Lisa Jones, Sports Liaison Officer for the Bream Bay Sports Trust, put some questions to hockey player Kortez Hita-Duval

GETTING STARTED

When did you first start playing your sport?
When I was eight years old.

What made you choose this sport over others?
My sister played hockey at the time. Everything in our house is a competition and I was determined to be better than her.

Did someone encourage or inspire you to play?
Although it was a competition I only played because of my sister did. She will always be my biggest inspiration.

How do you balance school, sport and other activities?
It's a lot to manage having hockey between 4-6 days a week but I've got the best support crew to help me stay balanced and on top of everything.

ON THE FIELD

What is your favourite position or role to play?
I like playing either freeman or fullback because I like to be able to visualise the whole game.

What's been your biggest game or moment so far?
Playing in the NZ U18 Heritage Team against Queensland last December. It was an amazing experience.

How do you handle nerves before a competition?
I call my sister; she always knows how to get my head into the right place. It's usually just us talking about random stuff or making jokes; getting my mind off it.

What do you love most about being part of your team?
It's another family, we love being and playing along side one another

CHALLENGES AND GROWTH

What's the hardest part about your sport?
Just like any other sport, I think it's a mental game. If your mind isn't in the right place it's hard to guarantee a good game and definitely you need fitness.

Have you ever had a setback or injury? How did you deal with it?
YES!!! I am currently in the middle of one. It takes a big mental effort not being able to do the thing that makes you your happiest self but sometimes your body needs a rest.



Kortez Hita-Duval on action on the hockey court

What's something you're really proud of improving in?
Probably communication, I used to be very timid, barely said a peep on the field. Now you wouldn't be able to get me to be quiet.

How do you stay focused when things get tough?
I like to think back to my "why and who." Why am I doing this? Who am I doing this for?

OFF THE FIELD

What do you like to do when you're not training or competing?
I like to stay active, whether that be going on a walk or on adventures with my friends.

Who's your biggest supporter or role model?
My biggest supporters are mum and dad. They are always pushing me to go beyond the stars.

Do you have any pre-game rituals or hype songs?
To eat any form of potato. Every time when I've eaten some sort of potato before hand, it's been the best game that I've played and without eating potatoes, I've played some pretty questionable ones.

What's something fun or unexpected about your team?
We keep in close contact when we're on off-season, which I think is cool and we do lots of team bonding activities both on and off-season.

LOOKING AHEAD

What are your goals for the next season or year?
I would love to make the Canterbury NHC team and the Future Black Sticks Camp.

Would you like to play your sport after high school?
I would like to. It'll just be about balance between hockey and university.

How has sport helped you grow as a person?
The biggest thing would be confidence. This plays a massive role in my position as a player and it carries over into the person that I am off the field as well.

What advice would you give to younger players just starting out?
Time, patience, hard work and determination will take you a long way.

Monthly Waipu and Ruakākā Resident and Ratepayer group meetings

THE RUAKĀKĀ RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

The Ruakākā Parish Residents and Ratepayers Association meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the new Ruakākā Recreation Centre building in Peter Snell Rd
Secretary Grant Brown::
grantandpam55@xtra.co.nz

THE WAIPU RIDING RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

The Waipu Residents and Ratepayers Association meets at 7pm on the last Wednesday of each month in St Peters Church, Nova Scotia Rd. Waipu.
Please email: waipurra@gmail.com
if you would like to attend a meeting and address the committee members.

What better place for a morning workout



Carol Puckey tries out one of the gym machines installed along the beachfront alongside the surf lifesaving club at Waipu Cove

What a great view while you do a morning workout! Says Anton Trist manager at Camp Waipu Cove!

He is talking about the eight pieces of outdoor gym equipment installed on the grass public domain area on the seaward side of the surf club.

There are six different machines funded by Camp Waipu Cove and another two which are wheelchair friendly, which were funded by the Surf Lifesaving Club. The idea was put forward by Gordon French of the Waipu Cove Surf Lifesaving Club who had seen outdoor gym equipment at beaches in Australia. He said the machines are all pretty robust with a ten year guarantee and made of galvanised steel

They are set back a bit from the beach so as not to be visible from the sand.

Anton wants to let people know that the machines area available for all to use and are not just for those staying at the camp.

He said with a concreted path from the carpark to the boat ramp, two beach wheelchairs available at the surf club and a wheelchair accessible cabin at the camp Waipu Cove is now a very wheelchair friendly place.



The Waipu Cove Surf Lifesaving Club purchased two additional wheelchair accessible machines

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Mangawhai Village (Village Shops Bus Stop Outside Bennetts)	9:15
Mangawhai Heads (The Club)	9:20
Langs Beach (Corner of Wairahi and Cove Roads)	9:35
Waipu Cove (Opposite Beach Car park)	9:40
Waipu (Vet Centre Bus Stop)	9:50
Ruakākā (Peter Snell Road - opposite Takutai Place)	10:10
Arrive Whangārei (Rose Street Bus Terminus)	10:50

Whangārei to Bream Bay (Afternoon - PM)

THURSDAY ONLY

Depart Whangārei (Rose Street Bus Terminus)	3:00
Ruakākā (Peter Snell Road - opposite Takutai Place)	3:40
Waipu (Vet Centre Bus Stop)	4:00
Waipu Cove (Opposite Beach Car park)	4:10
Langs Beach (Corner of Wairahi and Cove Roads)	4:15
Mangawhai Heads (The Club)	4:30
Mangawhai Village (Village Shops Bus Stop Opposite Bennetts)	4:35
Arrive Kaiwaka (Bus stop below St Paul's Church)	4:50

Fares	ONE WAY	RETURN
Kaiwaka	\$7.50	\$11.00
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WHAT'S ON IN BREAM BAY

- **WAIPU LIONS SENIOR CITIZENS MID YEAR CHRISTMAS LUNCH** Sunday 24 August at the Waipu Coronation Hall. Doors open at 12 noon. Lunch served at 1pm. Phone Irened 021 101 9502 to book a spot
- **CASSINO EVENING GANGSTERS AND MOLLS AT THE RAZZA** Saturday 30 August . 7pm -9.30pm. Prizes for best dressed gangsters and molls. Tickets - \$20
- **RUAKAKA RACES** Next on Wednesday 3 September.. Gates open 11am. Lion Red Pubs and Clubs Punters Challenge.
- **WHANGAREI CHORAL SOCIETY** singing Folk Songs To be followed by Afternoon Tea. Sunday 21 September, 2.00pm. St. Peter's Anglican Church, Nova Scotia Drive, WaipuDoor sales only. FOTO members \$5; Adults \$10; Children (13 and under) free. All proceeds to the organ fund.
- **BREAM BAY MUSIC GROUP** First Monday of every month starting at 7pm At the new Rec Centre in Peter Snell Road, RuakakaContact Ross or Fulco on 0274 410 584
- **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS** Fridays 10.30 -12noon, Bream Bay Community Trust Hall, Takutai Place, Ruakākā coming up:
 - **COMMUNITY BINGO** every last Wednesday each month (except December) Every one welcome. Raffles, restaurant and Bar open from 5 pm. Calling starts at 7.30 pm 15 games and 2 jackpots open to the public. At the Waipu Citizens and Services Club
- **WAIPU MUSEUM** 36, The Centre, Waipu. Open seven days 10am- 4pm
- **THE KAURI MUSEUM.** The Kauri Museum is open 9am-5pm every day

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SOCIAL SERVICES

Safeman Safe family Men's Centre

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

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

The services we provide are as follows:

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

No appointments are necessary, we have an open door police - 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 –fortnightly 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

WANTED

OLD NEWSPAPER Copies of the Bream Bay News, Advocate, Herald, Leader, Weekend Lifestyler, or Mangawhai Focus for recycling as erosion control. Waipu Lions fundraiser. Phone Dave Bell 09 432 0861.

THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 21 August
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 13 August

SOCIAL SERVICES



Not sure? Ask us!

We provide free, confidential and independent information and advice to help you understand your rights and responsibilities.

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EMPLOYMENT

WANTED Someone to take care of Classic Vehicle collection. If you are good with electrics EVEN BETTER, but good old school mechanics and common sense needed. Great working conditions. Part time or full time. Hours to suit you. Phone Dave 021 947 710 or 432 0011.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

WAIPU MOUNTAIN BIKE CLUB AGM

20 September 2025 at 3pm
Venue - The Waipu Boat Club
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.

THE 2025 WAIPU COVE RESERVE BOARD AGM

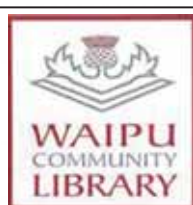
will be held on Tuesday 2nd September at 6pm in the All-Weather Room at Camp Waipu Cove.
Contact details are Camp Waipu Cove,
869 Cove Road, Waipu Cove, 09 4320410.

LIBRARY HOURS



RUAKAKA COMMUNITY LIBRARY
Takutai Place, Ruakaka
432 8406
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Marsden Bay Garden Club



Monthly Meetings held
3rd Thursday of the
month.
ALL WELCOME
1:00 pm – Ruakākā Hall
– Sandford Rd
Contact – Secretary –
0210515581

PUBLIC NOTICES



Bream Bay Medical Centre Ltd.
Ruakākā Town Centre, Ruakākā

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

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

Monday - Friday: 8.45am - 5pm

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

New patients welcome

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WAIPU TENNIS CLUB AGM

Sunday 24th
of August at 5pm
At the Clubhouse
9 St Marys Rd., Waipu



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
will be held in the Senior Citizens' Hall,
Fagan Place, Mangawhai Heads,
on Sunday 14 September, 2025 at 2pm.

Presentation of the annual reports and election
of the committee,
will be followed by:

Guest speaker, Surenya Hilton, will share her
observations of Fairy Tern activities in the Kai-
para Harbour

All welcome
Enquiries to: info@fairytern.org.nz



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Course venue: Learning Centre,
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THE WAIPU COVE RESERVE BOARD is
seeking expressions of interest from individuals
interested in being appointed as a Community
Liaison Sub-committee member.

The purpose of the sub-committee is to build
strong relationships between the Reserve Board
and the local community, helping to foster col-
laboration, engagement and understandings.
This sub-committee will be made up of selected
board members and appointed members of the
local community.

The subcommittee will serve as a forum for
community input on matters relating to reserve
use, development, and community communica-
tions.
For further information please email:
waipucoverserveboard@gmail.com.
Expressions of interest close 1st September
2025.

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 Kar-
awai St, Ruakaka 1st and 3rd Sundays
9.30am
ST. PETER'S CHURCH, 8 Nova Sco-
tia 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, 10am.

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- Fabulous indoor and outdoor flow
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- Double glazing and heat pump
- Walking distance to Waipu township

Roger King 0277 555 001

Harcourts Waipu | 7 The Centre, Waipu | 09 432 4000
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Harcourts Waipu

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Mob: 021 317 775

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Offers Over \$985,000 | [#4253](http://bbrealty.co.nz)
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Price \$865,000 | [#4191](http://bbrealty.co.nz)
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CALLING ALL NEW HOMEOWNERS DREAMING OF COASTAL LIVING!
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Set Date Sale 4/9/25 | [#4256](http://bbrealty.co.nz)
FRANCIE STOKES
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21 CAMELLIA AVENUE, RUAKAKA

OPEN HOME—12.00—12.30PM
11 BERMUDA PLACE, ONE TREE POINT

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12 SEAVIEW ROAD, RUAKAKA