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Ruapehu Bulletin

8 December 2021,
Vol 37, No 1892

P: 06 385 8532 E: ads@ruapehubulletin.co.nz



First disc golf tee off P2



Lions visit Tangiwai P5



RAL share holders meet P7



St John wants better numbers P16

Waimarino RDC staff 100% vaxed – and proud to be so

The local council's Ohakune office staff are 100% vaccinated – and proud of it – but are disappointed that some people believe that this is not the case.

They are concerned at a headline in last week's Ruapehu Bulletin (1 December) that was illustrated with a picture of the Ohakune offices.

Ruapehu District Council chief executive Clive Manley said that staff were upset that the use of the headline with the photo may suggest to some people that Council's Ohakune office staff were unvaccinated when the exact opposite was true.

"All of Council's Ohakune and Raetihi office staff are vaccinated and are proud of it.

"They feel strongly that they have shown leadership by being vaccinated and ensuring that the Ohakune and Raetihi offices and libraries are a safe space and want the community to know this," he said.

Mr Manley added that that Council was continuing to strongly urge any remaining vaccine hesitant staff to get vaccinated and was hopeful more will do so.

"All Council offices, libraries and other services are open and proof of vaccine status is not required. However, the Covid-19 safety mitigations of wearing a face covering, maintaining 1m distancing, adhering to capacity limits and use of contact tracing are being strictly enforced."

Ruapehu kapa haka online



Orautoha School's kapa haka group put their heart and soul into their annual Ruapehu Culture Festival performance – this year shared online and over social media. More photos captured by Liz Brooker from Tōi Communications are on Page 2.

Raetihi vax rates among lowest, but improving

Raetihi has just 57% of its population fully vaccinated, with 74% having had at least one dose. These figures were as at Wednesday 1 December.

The rate is almost the lowest in the country. Out of over 2000 SA2 units – roughly equating to 'suburbs' or small towns – only eight in the whole of New Zealand have lower fully vaccinated rates than Raetihi.

The lowest fully vaccination rate SA2 unit in New Zealand is 'Kawerau Industrial', with

just 38% fully vaccinated.

However, there is good news – with the numbers turning up for vaccinations improving.

"Demand has increased and we will increase our capacity," says Ruapehu Health Clinic lead Tracy Mitchell.

"We are slowly and steadily increasing the numbers of vaccinations at the clinic," she told the *Bulletin*.

"We are proud of that as a practice."

In other areas of the southern Ruapehu District, vaccination rates are higher.

Of the southern Ruapehu District, National Park tops the list with 91% having had at least one dose and 84% fully vaccinated.

In Ohakune, 81% of the population is fully vaccinated and 89% have had at least one dose.

Waiouru has 90% at least one dose and 79% fully vaccinated.



ALTOGETHER READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

At Bayleys we are deeply grateful to our national network of clients and customers for their continued support through an unsettled year, and we look forward to giving you something to cheer about as we head towards a somewhat different, but altogether better holiday season.

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Kapa haka online

Ruapehu Primary Schools have not been able to gather for the annual Ruapehu Culture Festival this year – but that hasn't stopped them practicing, perfecting then performing their best showing for the video camera. Each school's video will then be posted on social media. Pictured are some of the photos from Orautoha School and Raetihi School, captured by Liz Brooker from Tōi Communications.



COVID 19 confirmed in Whanganui

By Moana Ellis, Local Democracy Reporter
The Whanganui District Health Board has confirmed its first case of COVID-19 – a visitor to the area.

Yesterday, WDHB advised that there have been no further confirmed positive cases.

All close contacts have been followed up, where indicated received tests and are isolating while they wait for results. No further locations of interest have been added.

The DHB says the COVID positive case is well and self-isolating in “one of the prepared Supervised Isolation Quarantine (SIQ) facilities” under the supervision of the SIQ team and the medical officer.

The person, who recently travelled out of the region, has been compliant with all COVID-19 tracing requirements and is cooperating with Public Health, the DHB said.

A statement from the DHB just before 7pm on Saturday said confirmation of the case was received by Public Health who advised the Whanganui DHB, and from there all COVID-19 protocols have been actioned.

“Public Health is currently undertaking a health assessment and starting the contact tracing process, they currently see the risk as low.”

Whanganui DHB acting chief executive Graham Dyer

immediately assured the region that the event had been well prepared for.

“We are all working hard to minimise the risk to the community,” he said.

“We cannot stress enough, we have planned and prepared for this. We are ready and set up to be working through the situation. There is no need for panic.

“It’s time to reach out to your whānau and friends, check in with your support networks and remember the basic things you can do to protect your whānau and yourself.

“The best thing you can do for yourself and your whānau right now is if you are not vaccinated to get in and get it done, maintain handwashing, social distancing and mask wearing. Check the locations of interest and if you’re concerned at all or have any symptoms ring Healthline 0800 611 116 to check if you need to be tested.”

The CBAC testing station will run extended hours from 8am to 3pm at Whanganui Hospital for those who require testing. The hours will be increased if required.

Vaccinations will be available at 24 clinics throughout the DHB region over the next five days, including Whanganui, Raetihi, Waiouru, Taihape, Marton and Bulls.

“Vaccination is still our best defence,” the DHB said.

Help with vax passports

People who need help getting their Covid-19 Vaccine Passports can get it from the Whanganui District Health Board.

“With summer approaching and reports that some of our community are struggling to get their Covid Vaccine Passports, our Covid-19 Response Team have offered to produce your Vaccine Passports, reports Rhonda Morris from WDHB.

Those needing help can call 0800 888 479 or email

Covid19@wdhb.org.nz.

You’ll need to provide your full name, date of birth or NHI number, which will be on any prescription medicines or WDHB test results.

“If you don’t have a mobile phone or email we can post these out to you – we just need your postal address.

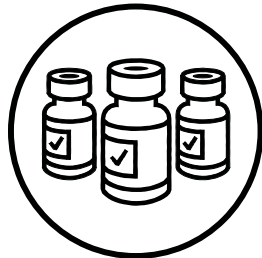
“Without an email address we will post a paper version to you. Posting will take longer to arrive.”



James Bell tries out the first of nine disc golf ‘holes’ set up at the Mangawhero reserve in Ohakune. The disc target is moved from the Carrot Park, with eight more to come from the supplier in Auckland. James Bell says all the permissions needed for the course have come in and it will develop in the coming weeks. Inset: the proposed course.

Protect against COVID-19

WAIMARINO Vaccination Clinics



Wednesday 15th December 12pm - 6:30pm

The Centre, 14 Seddon Street, Raetihi

BOOK NOW! You can book now by calling:

0800 28 29 26

or going online to:
BookMyVaccine.nz

or Ngāti Rangī:
0800 N RANGI

Or just walk on in!



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RAETIHI CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL



**Saturday
11 December**



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Competition - create a poster for the 2022 carnival



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Masks encouraged

The Centre, Seddon Street entrance only from 9am

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KINGS BAR & RESTAURANT

3 Rimu St Ohakune Junction Ph: 06 385 8648
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Whanganui one of only five DHBs yet to reach 90% vaccination

By Moana Ellis, Local Democracy Reporter

Only five district health boards around the country have yet to reach the 90% target for first doses of the Covid-19 vaccination – one of them is Whanganui.

Fifteen of the country's 20 DHBs are reporting reaching the 90% first-dose vaccination target, but as of Thursday the Northland, Lakes, Tairāwhiti, West Coast and Whanganui District Health Boards were all at between 85% and 89%. The West Coast needs only another 366 vaccinations to reach the target.

In the Whanganui District Health Board area, the first-dose uptake is 88%, with 1360 vaccinations needed to get to 90%.

The first-dose uptake by Māori in the region is 78%, with 1647 vaccinations needed to reach the government target. The Pasifika community needs only 92 first doses.

However, an iwi leader says that while high vac-



ination rates are the best protection for vulnerable communities, families must also put plans in place for tamariki under the age of 12. Under 12s are not yet eligible for vaccination but are now among those contracting Covid-19.

Ngā Tāngati Tiaki o Whanganui chair Sheena Maru says many whānau were seeing the closure of schools for the holidays as providing some protection for tamariki.

"That's the thing that we've got to talk about. We need whānau to be able to

put plans in place to protect those under 12. What I'm saying is have the conversations to put together whānau plans [around] who is going to take care of [people] if someone gets sick.

"Soon it will be the holiday period and our tamariki [won't be] going to kura, so you kind of have that layer of protection. I know for a fact that lots of people are just looking forward to being at home in the rohe and moving themselves away from some of this anxious time."

Community and Emergency Services

Alzheimers Whanganui Inc
For support phone 06-345 8833
Email: admin@alzheimerswhanganui.org.nz

Budget Advice
Phone or text Noeline 027-259-5285, or phone 06-385-3253 and leave a message.

Cancer Society Whanganui
06 348 7402 or Kerri Dewson-Pratt 022 196 7355

Child, Adolescent and Sexual Health Nurse
06-385-5019

Child Youth and Family Service
0508-326 459 or 06-965-3539

Churches
Anglican, 06-385-4957. Baptist, a/h 06-385-3100. Catholic, 06-385-8858 or 027 606 5186. Gospel Chapel, 06-385-8453. Presbyterian, 06-388-0675 or 06-385-8708. Waiouru – duty chaplain 06-387-5599 ext 7031 or 021-493-692

Civil Defence
Andrew Chambers 07 895 8188, 021 247 7340

CLAW community free legal advice
Whanganui 06-348-8288

Disability Resources Centre (Whanganui)
Vivienne Bird, 0800-789-654

Doctors: In an emergency call 111
Ruapehu Health Ltd 06-385-4211

Information Centres
Ohakune 06-385-8427, Raetihi 06-385-4805

IRD appointments
06-901-6162

Ngati Rangī Community Health Centre
06-385-9580

Plunket Society
Plunket Nurses 06-385-8265, Car Seats 06-385-5019

Police and Search & Rescue Emergency, call 111
Ohakune 06-385-0100, Raetihi 06-385-4002, Waiouru 06-387-6884, Military Police 0800-50-11-22

Red Cross
Shelagh Buck 06-385-8610

Rotary, Raetihi - Ohakune
027-344-5669

Ruapehu REAP
0800-00-REAP (0800-00-7327)

Ruapehu Maori Wardens
Rangi Bristol 027-442-4593

St John
In an emergency call 111

Taumarunui Counselling Services
For confidential counselling in Waimarino phone 07-895-6393

Victim Support Contact Centre
0800 842 846

Waimarino Cancer Society
Co-ordinator 06-385-3404, 0204-080-4905

Waimarino Health Care Centre
Raetihi 06-385-5019

Women's Refuge
0800-800-4-refuge 0800-4-733-84

Waimarino Community Toy Library
027 728 2413 leave a message (turned on open days only)

Waimarino-Waiouru Community Board
John 'Luigi' Hotter, 06-385-8193; Allan Whale, 06-385-9139; Cynthia Dowsett 06-385-8086. RDC reps Rabbit Nottage, 021 111 6514, Vivienne Hoeta 022-65-88-320, Janelle Hinch 022 385 8683.

Other ward councillors Elijah Pue 027 740 6253

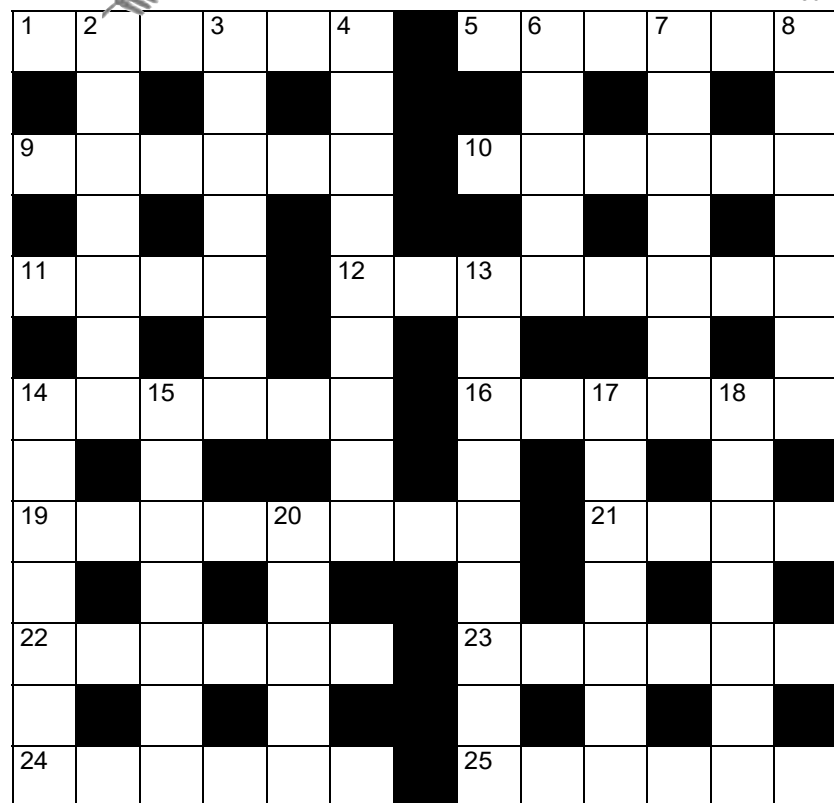
National Park Community Board
Board members: Simon O'Neill 021-661-159; Peter Zimmer 027 479 1926; Mark Bolten 021 191 5385; Clark McCarthy 027 475 0561. RDC rep, Murray Wilson 07-892-2774.

Taumarunui/Ohura Ward Committee
07-893-8575; Graeme Cosford, 07-895-7572; Karen Ngatai, 07-896-6658; Kim Wheeler 027-229-1527; Adie Doyle 027-495-3308; Robyn Gram 027 389 1912; Lyn Neeson 07 895 7803

Ruapehu Mayor
Don Cameron, 021 202 7629

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THE CROSSWORD 1861



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Across

- High pitched cry (6)
- Prohibit (6)
- Strategy (6)
- Debauch (6)
- Used to be (4)
- Suburb in Christchurch and Auckland (8)
- Native bird, some of whose coloured feathers are used by fly fishers and for Maori cloaks (6)
- Downfall (6)
- Adult, elder (8)
- Greeting (colloq) (4)
- Fondness (6)
- Citrus fruit produced in Northland and Gisborne areas (6)
- Fabric-colouring method (3-3)
- 'Chiefly' native tree (6)

Down

- The ___: iconic New Zealand hotel which opened in 1929 (7)
- Drastic (7)
- Mess around (4,5)
- Bulb used in cooking (5)
- Type of rice (7)
- Bishop's territory (7)
- Someone who doesn't fit in (3,3,3)
- New Zealand term for a drop score (7)
- Hand joint (7)
- Settler (7)
- Lurch (7)
- Madden (5)

Previous solution

Across: 1. Dress, 4. Duller, 9. Warrior, 10. Dated, 11. Lull, 12. Marquee, 13. Ute, 14. Stun, 16. Reef, 18. Hum, 20. Asinine, 21. User, 24. Grass, 25. Sunnies, 26. Parody, 27. Witty.

Down: 1. Dawdle, 2. Enrol, 3. Swig, 5. Underarm, 6. Lettuce, 7. Redden, 8. Prime, 13. Unbiased, 15. Thin air, 17. Hang-up, 18. Heist, 19. Trusty, 22. Skint, 23. Knew.

Letters

'Pro-choice' hijack

I write in response to the headline (Page 3, *Ruapehu Bulletin* 1 December) 'RDC flags risk of losing pro-choice staff' by Moana Ellis, Local Democracy Reporter.

The term 'pro-choice' is more normally associated with a woman's choice whether or not to terminate a pregnancy. It is a term that has become inflammatory in the realms of pro- or anti-abortion.

To see the term hijacked to be part of anti-vaccination campaign just does not make sense; an abortion is a very personal choice and does not impact on the wider community, whereas to not vaccinate has much wider implications for the individual and the community.

Getting vaccinated is not just a choice we make for ourselves; we do it to protect other people in our families and communities as well as ourselves.

As e.wiseman@observer.co.uk comments: "looking at those protesters using borrowed rhetoric, exploiting pro-choice politics in order to defend the right to get their families sick, that anger rose in me...."

I acknowledge that the reporter merely quoted chief executive Clive Manley using the term, but it was headlined as well.

I respectfully ask your democracy reporter, and the chief executive of RDC to refrain from using this term in their speech, and future press releases around the broad topic of the current pandemic.

Deb Owen

Raetihi Swimming Baths

What about giving Ohakune Pool the hot spa facilities and putting in an exercise pool at Raetihi?

There is a perfect area north of the children's pool where this could be located.

It would need to be a bit warmer than the main pool but not too much and would add greatly to the enjoyment of many who want to exercise without going for long strenuous walks.

A good source of funding for community swimming pools is the Todd Family Foundation.

They have given generously to swimming pools in Rotorua and New Plymouth.

Anthea Hatfield

What's on round Ruapehu

Raetihi Christmas Carnival 11 December
Raetihi Country Market 11 December

Ski, Board & Bike
Cnr Ayr St & Goldfinch St, Ohakune
06-385-8433, tcbskiandboard.co.nz



Please email: ads@rupahebulletin.co.nz or call 06 385 8532 or if you have something to add to this column.



ISSN 1170-1676 (print)
ISSN 1178-7406 (online)

Published by Ruapehu Media Ltd

Phone (06) 385 8532

Ruapehu's only locally owned weekly community newspaper. Established 1983.

Reaching homes every Wednesday in Ohakune, National Park, Raetihi, Waiouru and surrounding rural areas.

Publishing Editor: Robert Milne – robert@rupahebulletin.co.nz
Advertising Rep: Jude Chevin – ads@rupahebulletin.co.nz

Printed by Stuff Printers, Petone

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Boosted power fund supports 25 groups

Sponsorship for community groups from a King Country electricity company received a one-off boost from \$10,000 to \$20,000, enabling more organisations to secure support this year.

The Lines Company's fund was contested by 42 community groups and projects who applied for funding in October.

The second and final funding round for the year, prioritised projects and groups with high visibility, that benefit local communities, energy efficiency-related projects, and initiatives that reach many people and improve the lives of those living within the TLC network.

"We see one of our key roles as getting in behind our community and supporting projects and groups which benefit local people", said chief

executive Sean Horgan.

"This round we felt it important we invested more due to Covid, so we increased the fund to \$20,000, enabling us to double the number of organisations we can help.

"We had some tough choices to make ... there are some pretty amazing people doing some equally amazing things in the community."

Among the organisations to receive \$1000 is Land Search & Rescue NZ whose community-based volunteer members will benefit from having access to better headlamp-type torches.

Group support officer Peter Zimmer was thrilled with the funding saying, "the good news made my day."

"The funding received will be used to buy

torches which are a valuable tool for search and rescue operations."

Among the 25 successful applicants, spread across the King Country from Otorohanga to Ohakune, were:

- Friends of the Timber Trail – solar panel installation at Ongarue, \$1000
- Hamilton Tomo Group – Cave SAR Training Tower, \$1000
- Land Search & Rescue NZ – search and rescue equipment, \$1000
- Ohakune School - Kahui Ako, Equine Therapy, \$2000
- Ohakune Squash Rackets Club – heat pump installation, \$500
- Owango Alive – World Rivers Day, \$500

- Ruapehu Quiltmakers – community quilts programme, \$500
- Taumarunui Women's Refuge & Support Centre – community office, \$1000.

Waitomo Energy Services Customer Trust (WESCT) Trustee William Oliver said the Trust was highly supportive of TLC's focus on community sponsorship.

The funding programme also supports the Maru Energy Trust. Combined, TLC are on track to invest \$400,000 in community-focused programmes this year.

TLC's next funding round will be early next year, with applications opening on 1 March and closing on 31 March 2022. The application form is at: www.thelinescompany.co.nz/sponsorship/

Lions roll to Tangiwai

A group of southern North Island Lions rolled into Ohakune on Saturday – most of them on motorcycles – on their way to visit the Tangiwai Memorial site, stopping at the Lions Den in Arawa Street.

Local Lions fed and watered the visiting Lions.

The members from around District 202D took part in the trip to visit the Memorial where many lost their lives on 24 December 1953 due to the bridge being washed away and the train crashed into the river.

The group met in Whanganui and made their way up

the Parapara Highway to Ohakune.

"The Ruapehu Lions put on a fabulous meal and hosted us in their Lion's Den. Thanks to Rene, Fred and the team involved, it was a great event. We quickly felt at home due to your warm hospitality," said Tobias Hipp, from Hawera.

At the Memorial Site local Lion and railways enthusiast Bob Norling gave "a very thorough tour and shared his vast knowledge".

Lions clubs from around the district contributed to the development of the memorial site.



Lions and their BMW motorcycles at the Ruapehu Lions Den. Below: Local Lion Bob Norling explains the history of the Tangiwai Rail Disaster. Photos: Toby Hipp.



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Ruapehu skiers block RAL sell-off

Plans to allow parts of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts to be put up for sale have been put on hold (see story, 1 December *Ruapehu Bulletin*) after a group of long-term skiers checked the books and put together a different analysis of the financial state of the company.

Ruapehu Alpine Lifts advised shareholders on 8 November that there was a problem, saying lenders ANZ and MBIE were putting the squeeze on. Board chair Geoff Taylor said Covid lockdowns had hit profits, and Tūroa needed new lifts.

The company was calling a special meeting for 26 November, was asking investors to vote to approve a new structure that could allow it to raise \$30 million by selling 50 per cent of the company to the private sector.

"There are two streams of work – the first is the company restructure to put us in the position to raise new capital, and the second is to raise new capital," Taylor said.

There were few details, but shareholders were urged to sign off on the first stream, to facilitate the second.

"This first step simply creates a 'New Entity' that will be 100 percent owned by RAL," he said, and all RAL's business assets and liabilities would transfer into that new entity.

"If, at a later date, we then have an offer to invest in the new entity we will then go through a separate and normal process of seeking shareholder approval."

Shareholder descendants

There are several thousand RAL shareholders, including descendants of 1950s ski enthusiasts who lent the then new RAL money to put in lifts.

There are no dividends to shareholders – all profits are reinvested in the ski fields. And shares don't increase in value.

Fifty five percent of the shares are owned through the RAL Trust, which was created in 1983 specifically to "preserve the Company's integrity for future generations".

The whole point of the trust shareholding, with its four trustees, is "to prevent any individual, group of individuals or organisation being able to action a hostile takeover of the company," according to the Mt Ruapehu website.

Father and son ski enthusiasts David and Robert Krebs studied the books after the RAL message.

David Krebs' grandparents were among the many "clubbies" who bought shares and debentures in RAL in the early 1950s to help set up the first chairlifts. David skied from the age of eight, became a shareholder in RAL and later invested in life passes for his three children.

"I think if you ask most shareholders of RAL, they will say they are in it to grow a community asset for future generations," he told Newsroom.

RAL have sold life passes at various times to raise money for improvements and including to pay for Tūroa Ski Area in 2000.

"My dad is a passionate skier, he believed in the crowd funding model for the benefit of all skiers. I hope to one day purchase my own son a life pass to continue to support the model that has made RAL what it is today."

David is a retired accountant; Robert is a business analyst working for an accounting firm in Australia. They first started looking at the numbers

in July when they first heard about a possible RAL corporate restructure from a shareholder update.

"I grabbed the last few years of financial statements and spent some weekends whipping through them. People were saying RAL was on the verge of insolvency, and I wanted to put some financial analysis together to check whether it really was essential for RAL to be sold off."

His calculations suggested it wasn't.

"I felt it came down to a simple problem of liquidity management with the ANZ bank loan. I believed there were alternative options available."

\$20 million write-down

He also queries a \$20 million write-down of the book value of RAL's Tūroa assets in the latest financial statements, which he says wasn't clearly explained, and made the company look in a worse state than it actually was.

"Overall, RAL's cash balance is improving," Kreps says. Operating ebitda (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation) rose from \$1.9 million in the 2018 financial year to \$3.2 million in 2019 and \$7.2 million in 2020.

"Ironically RAL has never been placed under so much stress by the ANZ bank, despite having a stronger cash position, stronger asset base, and significantly improved operating ebitda."

Another thing that worried Krebs and other shareholders about moving to a private sector model was there was historical evidence it just doesn't work.

You just needed to compare two companies operating on Mt Ruapehu – RAL and Tūroa ski field, he says.

Tūroa was opened in 1978 by Alex Harvey Industries. In 1986 the company listed on the stock exchange as NZ Skifields, and four years after that was privatised in a corporate takeover from Turoa Holdings. It went into receivership in 2000 and was bought by RAL.

Corporate model unsuccessful

"Corporate business models have not been successful – the average financial viability for the Tūroa for-profit companies was 7.3 years. The not-for-profit model has lasted 68 years and counting."

Krebs believes in the best case scenario, moving to a corporate model would see big increases in the cost of skiing on the mountain. In the worst case, the facilities could become increasingly run down and even close altogether.

"In the Whakapapa model, shareholders don't get a dividend, so that's why there is money to invest. But if equity investors are going to put \$30 million, they are going to want that back and a return.

Krebs says he and David collaborated with other concerned shareholders and together they produced a 40-page report into RAL's financial position. This analysis – and a five-page summary – were finished just about the same time as RAL announced the special shareholder resolution and vote on the new corporate structure.

With less than three weeks before the vote, concerned shareholders and life pass owners started circulating the report – including to the four trustees, whose total 55 percent stake makes them a lynchpin of the deal.

Elizabeth Smith is a shareholder, life pass owner and lives near the ski fields, so she can go up when-



A special general meeting planned for 26 November became an update for shareholders, explaining the current financial situation.

ever she has time. She is also one of the members of the Mt Ruapehu Shareholders Facebook page, and has watched numbers on the page grow from very few three weeks ago, to more than 270 now.

"We were just a quiet group of people that got together a couple of years ago around the gondola project at Whakapapa," Smith says. "Now it's growing exponentially by the day."

Opposition

Smith says since the report came out, opposition has also come from the various ski and snowboarding clubs that use the mountain. She points out a post on the Rangitira Alpine Sports Club Facebook group, acknowledging club president Jason Platt and other shareholders and clubs.

Just before the proposed special general meeting, the Board said they would postpone the meeting.

Trustees were cautious about saying much to Newsroom, and would not comment on the issues raised in the alternative assessment.

"Trustees need more information before they can vote," says John Parker, a former chair of the Port of Tauranga. "A lot more information."

The same story from Jo Bouchier, a "crazy keen skier" who's been going to Mt Ruapehu since the 1970s, and was a volunteer mountain host for 12

of them. "We don't have enough information, so we have not resolved how we will vote," she says, adding that even controlling 55 percent of the shareholding as they do, the trustees hadn't got any more details about the proposals than anyone else.

"We have the same information – or non-information – as any other shareholder."

The company is planning a series of face-to-face stakeholder meetings in Wellington, Ohakune, Hamilton and Auckland once people are able to travel next year, Taylor said.

"Post these meetings it remains the directors' intention to recommend a restructure of RAL's constitution and corporate form to enable the company to source new capital to fund its future growth/investment plans.

"It should be noted that no new capital has presented itself at this point and one of the challenges for any interested parties remains the corporate form and constitution."

Editor's note: this article is an abridged version of the Newsroom article by Nikki Mandow, Business Editor.

A follow-up podcast is also on the Radio New Zealand website: "Struggle at the ski fields", posted on 3 December.



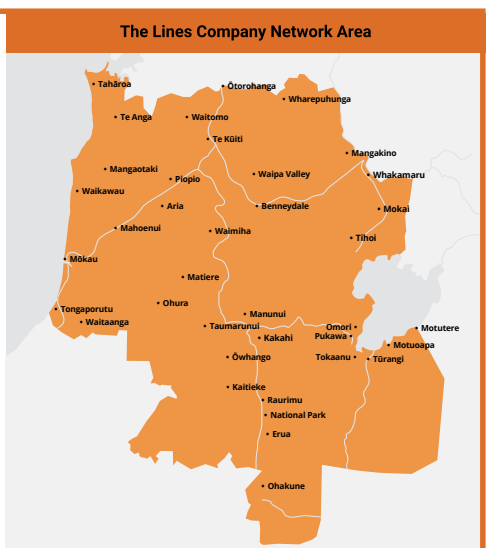
The update meeting ended with a question and answer session, where shareholders could ask about the finances and ownership proposal.

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NEW LISTING



Ohakune 31b Tainui Street

Serenity in the sun

Embrace a contemporary lifestyle, with this stylish, fully renovated property. Convenience is key here with three spacious bedrooms, a light and modern kitchen, polished Matai flooring and an open plan living area that flows effortlessly out to a generous deck with stunning views of Mount Ruapehu. This sun-soaked space is perfect for a morning coffee, or an apres-ski drink and will be the scene of many al fresco gatherings.

bayleys.co.nz/2900437

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Ohakune 9 Totara Street

Sitting pretty

Located in picturesque Turoa Village, this chalet has maintained the original character and flair. With beautiful views of Mount Ruapehu, and backing onto a reserve, there are stunning views from every angle. Enjoy the serenity of this private and secluded spot that is surrounded by nature, trees and open spaces. The interior of the chalet has been updated with modern furnishings and new carpet whilst maintaining the character of an Ohakune Chalet.

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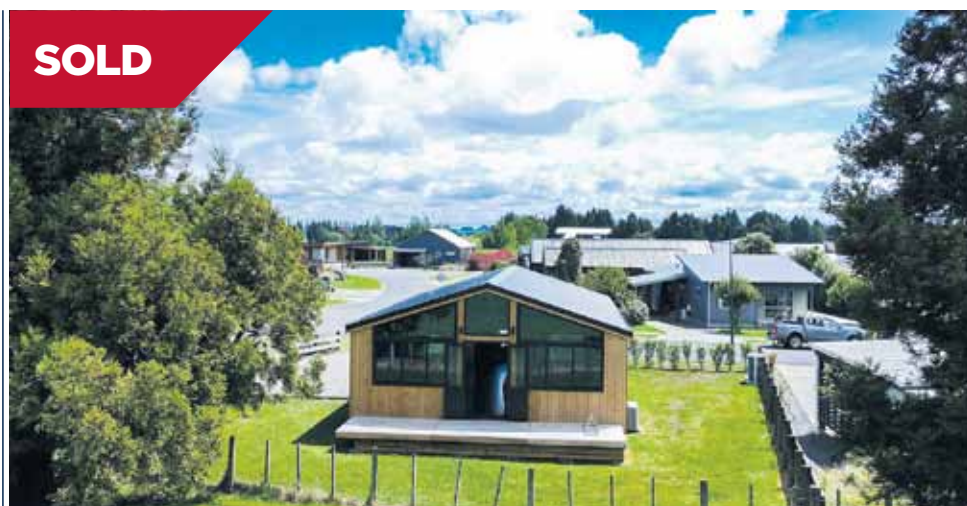
A growing investment and lifestyle

This is a unique opportunity to acquire a thriving, essential service, hydroponic home and income business. Awawhiti Cress is one of only a few commercial suppliers and distributors of watercress and has a large customer base throughout the central North Island supplying restaurants, hotels, lodges and food retailers. Having gone through recent expansion including the addition of a new tunnel house in 2020, doubling production capacity, the timing is right to acquire this growing business!

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Jordan Davis 027 882 0421
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Ohakune 45 Snowmass Drive

Style on Snowmass

Welcome to this modern, well-equipped designer home for permanent living or as a holiday home. This high-quality and nearly new home is located on popular Snowmass Drive, close to the Carrot Park and within walking distance to Ohakune township.

Situated on an easy-care 520sqm (more or less) section - the maintenance is a breeze and the hedging along the road frontage will provide privacy in the future.

The three bedrooms all have built-in storage and the master comes complete with an ensuite.

bayleys.co.nz/2900429

3 2

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SOLD



Rangataua 16 Tau Street

Do up or develop?

This fantastic property offers a range of options. The home has character and those who love a bit of 'reno' will be able to see the fantastic potential to create a beautiful home. Located in peaceful Rangataua, just a five minutes drive from Ohakune, this home comprises three large bedrooms, an open plan kitchen/living area with an open fire, newly renovated bathroom, sheds galore for storage or wood, a garden and sports equipment.

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For Sale
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Ohakune Old Coach Road Eatery and Wine Bar

Prime location

Are you looking for an opportunity to own and operate your own cafe in a popular tourist destination? Purchase this established Ohakune business that has security of tenure and rights to renewal.

Situated at the busy Junction Apres Ski area, you are within walking distance from the train station and the start of the Mountain Road which takes you up to the Turoa Ski Field. Appealing to both vehicle and foot traffic, you can make the most of this tourism hotspot all year round.

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For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty

(unless sold prior)
 3pm, Mon 13 Dec 2021
Olivia Stewart 021148 6044
olivia.stewart@bayleys.co.nz
Jordan Davis 027 882 0421
jordan.davis@bayleys.co.nz
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National Park 41 Carroll Street

Be quick for this one

You really have the best of both worlds here, in a location that offers so much on your doorstep. Situated in the heart of National Park Village, this immaculate four bedroom home set on a large 923sqm (more or less) yard, is an exciting opportunity for any outdoor enthusiasts. Whether it is skiing, hiking, fishing, hunting or mountain biking that is your passion, this home is the perfect base for adventures year-round.

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Taihape 11 Linnet Street

Live on Linnet

Are you looking for a first home that you can make your own? Or perhaps an investment you can add value to? This grand old lady has the charm, the character, and the convenience - all she needs is some love.

Set on the corner of Linnet Street and Turoa Street, on a compact fully fenced section, this property offers timeless character features inside and out. Step inside from the wraparound veranda and be greeted by a wide hallway with high ceilings.

bayleys.co.nz/2900430

3 1 1

For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty
 (will not be sold prior)
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sophie.taplin@bayleys.co.nz
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NEW LISTING



Ohakune 24 Willow Lane

Welcome to Willow

Here is your chance to escape from the city and create an idyllic lifestyle for yourself in the year-round destination of Ohakune.

This elevated two-bedroom home on Willow Lane is set on a sloping section overlooking the quiet Willow Lane cul-de-sac and is the perfect lock-up and leave property or a compact and cosy permanent home.

With new modern furnishings throughout, there is nothing for you to do but move in and enjoy. The open plan living/dining area has two balconies, perfectly positioned to capture as much sun as possible.

bayleys.co.nz/2900436

2 1 1

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Raetihi 36a Ameku Road

Unique opportunity to live 'the good life'

A rare find in Raetihi, this peaceful and private haven will impress those looking to move to a sustainable lifestyle property with opportunities to create your very own paradise. Set on 3.62ha (approx 9 acres) this bespoke, handcrafted three-bedroom home built in 2001 has many amazing features that will impress the discerning buyer.

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Waiouru 31 State Highway 1

Vacant retail

This is an excellently situated retail shop ready for new tenants, possibly to be operated as food retail or general retail.

Located next to Subway and also the stop-off point for the Intercity bus service, it represents prime space with good customer parking. It occupies 104sqm (more or less) of floor area, comprising open retail area and kitchen. There is a staff bathroom facility as well.

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Ohakune 25a Lee Street

Isn't she love-lee?

This 1,815sqm (more or less) section is situated on popular Lee Street, mid-way between the Ohakune Township and the Junction Apres Ski area.

Well located within walking distance to the stunning Mangawhero River and Mangawhero River walks, this section has been recently cleared and is ready for you to make your move.

Utilise the existing proposed subdivision plan as an investment option to split the land into three, or build new or relocate an existing dwelling. With no covenants the choice is yours.

bayleys.co.nz/2900426

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Covid vaccinations available at general practices

Vaccinations against Covid-19 are free and available at general practice clinics including at Raetihi, as well as at the regular pop-up clinics, advises the Whanganui Regional Health Network.

The Clinic says appointments are not necessary, but they do prefer that people check that they have time available before you call in.

Vaccination clinics are run on Tuesdays from 4-6pm.

"Let us know you're coming so we can be prepared," says clinic lead Tracy Mitchell, "so we can keep an eye on numbers."

People can phone the clinic or write on Messenger on Facebook.

"Being in a community means doing our part, so when you protect yourself, you are protecting others," says WRHN Karen Veldhoen, communications & technology coordinator.

"It's okay to be unsure about getting the COVID vaccine and having concerns. Finding the reason that makes it right for you can take time," says Ms Veldhoen.

She says comments from Kiwis who have decided to get vaccinated include the following:

"I want to be here for my whānau, mokopuna, and not pass the virus on to our kaumātua."

"Getting vaccinated is a normal part of taking care of ourselves, so we can look after our whānau and communities."

"Our tipuna adapted to challenges and so can we."

Along with pop-up vaccination clinics happening around the Whanganui region, many general practices are now also offering the vaccine to their patients.

"They are there to listen to you, discuss your concerns and provide credible infor-

mation, so that you can make an informed decision for you and your whānau," says Ms Veldhoen.

"Once all your questions have been answered and if you decide to have the vaccination, they will be there to support you through the vaccination process too."

Vaccinations are free and available to everyone aged 12 years and over.

"It is very important to have both doses, which gives you approximately 95% protection against severe Covid-19, making you less likely to end up in hospital seriously unwell."

"It takes two weeks after the first dose to build up some immunity and five weeks in total before you have full protection."

"Once fully protected it is a lot harder for the virus to spread between people, which is very important as restrictions start to lift and we get back to doing the things we love."

Ms Veldhoen says that vaccination is only one tool in our kete to reduce the risk of Covid-19 spreading.

"As a community we all still need to continue taking extra safety measures, staying home and away from others when we are unwell, getting a test when we are sick and isolating until we have the result, wearing a mask, social distancing and washing our hands regularly."

"If you want to know more about Covid-19 vaccinations and the process, check out these credible websites www.karawhina.govt.nz and www.covid19.govt.nz."

More information on how to care for yourself or a whānau member in the community that has COVID-19, is at <https://www.healthnavigator.org.nz/health-a-z/c/covid-19/>

Architects check on Ohakune projects

The Carrot Park, Ohakune's town revitalisation and other town projects got the once-over from a group of visiting architects on the weekend.

Local architectural designer Richard Milne organised the visit of regional members of Architectural Designers New Zealand.

"The event went very well with speakers on the Friday night including Dave Scott and Peggy Frew on the Carrot Adventure park, Christine Hickman on the Ohakune town

revitalisation, Pauline Welch on Council's involvement and support for town projects," said Richard Milne.

"The response was very positive with those attending gaining an insight into what is happening in Ohakune."

"Saturday morning saw us at the Carrot Park for a guided walk through by Dave Scott and then a talk by Greg and Christine Hickman on the Brewery and associated spaces in the Ohakune Cinema area."



Architects from around the region at the Ohakune Carrot Adventure Park, one of the local projects they checked out on the weekend. Photo supplied.

Park hut wardens to be vaxed: DOC

Hut wardens and campground staff at DOC facilities will not be employed unless they are fully vaccinated.

DOC health and safety director Harry Maher said new wardens and campground hosts will have to provide proof of vaccination before starting work, including volunteers.

"They're not required to be currently vaccinated to apply for these roles, however, any offer made will be conditional on their acceptance to be vaccinated as soon as they can," Maher said. "If this isn't undertaken within a suitable time frame once eligible, their employment will be terminated."

It's expected this will affect about 50 workers. Existing unvaccinated staff may be redeployed to other roles,

depending on the risk to the public. Staff who are either laid-off or resign may be offered paid or unpaid leave while they find other work. Maher said DOC wasn't aware of any staff who had chosen to leave their job due to the mandate.

Meanwhile, DOC said hut users wouldn't be required to be vaccinated under the new traffic light alert level system. Under the system, access to bars, restaurants, events and gyms is restricted to people with vaccine certificates at the higher alert levels.

Mahe said "(although) there is no requirement for hut users to be vaccinated", people are strongly encouraged to be double vaccinated before using huts or campsites.



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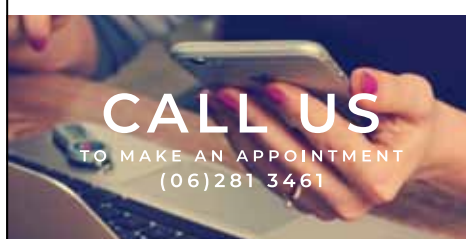
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• VICE PRESIDENT
• 3 X COMMITTEE
All nominations for office are to be lodged with the Secretary/Manager by the close of business on 7th December 2021

MAYOR in WAIMARINO
Mayor Don Cameron is available to meet residents and ratepayers to talk about any issues or concerns at Ruapehu District Council offices in either Ohakune or Raetihi.
Arrangements can be made for people who are unable to travel to either office. To organise an appointment please call either Ohakune (06 385 8364) or Raetihi (06 385 4447).

Need old newspapers for your garden, packing or firefighting?
We have lots here at the Bulletin office, 45 Clyde St, Ohakune
Come in and grab a bundle!

SITUATIONS VACANT

KAIAWHI-PASTORAL CARE AWHIWHENUA
We are looking for a Kaiawhi – Pastoral Care and Program Oversight, to manage our Awhiwhenua residential whare.

Awhiwhenua is a three-year apprenticeship programme focussing on Agriculture and Apiculture, based at Te Pā Station, Karioi, Ohakune. The residential whare is set up to accommodate the year one taura (students).

The successful applicant will be in charge of caring, nurturing, supporting, and guiding taura in their first year while living in the Awhiwhenua residential whare, whilst managing stakeholder engagement, recruitment, selection and onboarding activities for Awhiwhenua. **This is a live-in position.**

We are looking for the right person to mentor our taura in household tasks including cooking, cleaning and other front of house duties. The Kaiawhi will need to ensure the whare operates in a manner which aligns with tikanga Māori and the Awhi Way.

Key responsibilities also include monitoring and reporting, organising one off training events, and participating in Awhiwhenua Committee meetings.

A competitive remuneration package is on offer and will reflect skills and experience. The successful applicant will be required to undergo a pre-employment drug test prior to commencement. This is a full-time position.

Applications are now open and close on Friday 17 December, 5pm.
Please send a copy of your CV and cover letter to awhiwhenua@atihau.com

tranzit coachlines
School Bus Drivers

Looking for a fresh start in 2022 or a rewarding change?
We have secured new School Bus routes for 2022 in both Taumarunui & Ohakune and have opportunities for both Permanent Part-time & Casual School Bus Drivers.

You will need excellent communication, a high regard for health & safety, as well as the ability to pass a medical (DL9) and police check. A Class 2 Licence and P Endorsement is preferred although not essential as we can provide training and support.

Interested? Give us a call on 0800 200 018 or apply on our website: tranzit.recruitmenthub.co.nz

SITUATIONS VACANT
Are you looking for a change? Ruapehu District Council has a number of exciting roles on offer that may be of interest to you. There are fixed term and full time roles available.
• Senior Management Accountant
• Project Manager
• Executive Assistant x 2 positions available to cover Parental Leave
• Technical Services Officer AM/GIS
• Team Administrator
• Customer Services Officer (Raetihi based)
If you are interested, please email work@ruapehudc.govt.nz to request a copy of the position description. Applications for these roles will remain open until they are filled.

www.ohakune.info

SITUATIONS VACANT

Pioneer energy
ASSET SUPERVISOR HEAT PLANT – OHAKUNE (Full Time Permanent)
An opportunity for an experienced industrial plant supervisor has become available. We are looking for an organised, team player to join our company.
The position is located onsite at the Winstone Pulp International Mill, Ohakune (WPI Karioi). While our preference is for this staff member to be based in Ohakune options for being based from Taupo could be considered. Our heat plant provides heat for the drying of wood pulp from burning wood waste bi-products. WPI staff monitor and operate the heat plant on a 24/7 basis.
As part of the Pioneer team, you will be expected to deliver practical and technical expertise, working closely with WPI management and staff, supervising and overseeing heat plant operations, maintenance and management.
About you
We are interested in hearing from you if you have:
• 5 years+ experience working in the industrial environment.
• A mechanical or electrical trades background would be an advantage.
• Experience with boilers and or thermal energy plants would also be an advantage.
• Maintenance and small project planning skills
• Some experience and understanding of budgets
• Have experience with a Computerised Maintenance Management System
Ideally you will be:
• Willing to learn and develop
• An organised team player
• Capable of writing monthly reports
• Health and Safety conscious
• Familiar with Microsoft programs and communication software
• Be physically fit and active
• Agree to a pre-employment drug & alcohol test
• Hold a current valid driver's licence
• Legally able to work in NZ
Interested in applying or wish to find out more about this role, our company, people and projects:
Visit: www.pioneerenergy.co.nz/careers
All candidates interested in this role must apply directly online through the portal provided, otherwise your application is unable to be considered.
Applications close 13 December 2021

PUBLIC NOTICES



HUI Ā-TAU 2022

10AM, SATURDAY 12TH MARCH 2022
OPARURE MARAE, OPARURE

AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE MANIAPOTO MĀORI TRUST BOARD (MMTB) AND MANIAPOTO FISHERIES TRUST (MFT) ANNUAL REPORTS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON THE MMTB WEBSITE (WWW.MANIAPOTO.IWI.NZ) FROM 12TH FEBRUARY 2022

AGENDA TO BE CONFIRMED

NAU MAI HAERE MAI TĀTOU KATOĀ!

All enquiries to:

Admin Support Hub
P.O. Box 36, Te Kūiti
Phone: 07 878 6234 or freephone 0800 668 285
Email: admin@maniapoto.co.nz



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

NOTIFICATION OF GUIDED/ ADVENTURE BASED CONCESSION APPLICATION

The Minister of Conservation gives notice under section 17SC of the Conservation Act 1987 of an application by Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Education Trust for a 20-year concession licence to undertake a variety of guided and adventure based outdoor education activities within the Whanganui, Taranaki, Tongariro and Taupo area.

Additional Information

Further details of the proposed concession are available at www.doc.govt.nz/consultations

Any person or organisation may make comment in writing to the Director-General for or against the proposal, or make any other written submissions on the proposal. Comment submission forms may be downloaded from (<https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/have-your-say/all-consultations/2021-consultations/2021-notified-applications/>)

Objections or submissions should be sent to:

Director-General
Department of Conservation
Permissions Team
Private Bag 3072
Hamilton 3240
Attention: Liam Thomas
Senior Permissions Advisor
Email: permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz

Submissions will be accepted up to and including 5.00 pm on 24 January 2022. Once submitted, submitters' information is subject to the Official Information Act 1982 and may be released under that Act. If you wish to keep any part of your submission confidential, you need to state this in writing when making your submission.

Any person or organisation wishing to be heard in support of his/her submission, must request (within that submission) an opportunity to appear before the Director-General.

If a hearing is required, then it is anticipated this will be facilitated Tuesday 15 February 2022 (subject to change).

Mt Ruapehu kicks off summer

After a month-long shut-down for maintenance at the end of the winter season, the Mt Ruapehu team was excited to be reloading the Sky Waka gondola cabins and opening the Knoll Ridge Chalet doors to summer 2021 / 2022 last Friday.

The Mt Ruapehu summer offering, which is open through to 1 May 2022, includes the Sky Waka gondola sightseeing experience and dining experiences at the award-winning Knoll Ridge Chalet. Short walks, varying from just 15 minutes to up to four hours, from both the base of the Sky Waka gondola and from the Knoll Ridge Chalet, also give guests the opportunity to explore the unique volcanic terrain, on foot.

The Sky Waka gondola transports guests 1.8km up and through the North Island's most rugged and spectacular

landscape, to an altitude of 2020m above sea level. Floor to ceiling views on the return Sky Waka gondola journey, capture the unique, volcanic terrain, and panoramas out to neighbouring mountains, Mt Tongariro and Mt Ngauruhoe.

At 2020m, guests are welcomed to the architecturally awarded, Knoll Ridge Chalet. Dining experiences include an extensive buffet lunch at the Knoll Ridge Chalet's Pinnacles restaurant, and a café style offering. The buffet lunch comprises a variety of dishes, locally sourced where possible, from antipasti to main-style, slow roasted and poached, meat and seafood, to a dessert station, and decadent cheese board.

In December, the buffet lunch will take on a Christmas theme, fit with turkey, glazed ham, pavlova, and Christmas pudding, available every day but Christmas Day.

DEATH NOTICES

ST JOHN, SARAH FRANCES: Passed away peacefully on 4 December 2021, the day before her 94th birthday. Dearly loved wife of the late Marcel Kenneth (Ken). Cherished mother and mother-in-law of Kenneth Charles (deceased), Christine and Graeme, Eileen, Janice and Tony, Barbara and Anthony (Red). Much loved Nana of all her grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. A service to celebrate Frances' life will be held at The Raetihi Primary School Hall, 24 Grey Street, Raetihi on Saturday 11 December 2021 at 11am. Please call Cleveland's on 06 345 5522 to confirm your attendance.

Due to the current Covid 19 restrictions a total of 100 can attend. Vaccine Passports are essential. An invitation is extended to friends not attending the service to view the live webcast online at www.clevelandfunerals.co.nz/live



SITUATIONS VACANT



Kaimahi He Puna Ora (non-clinical role) Ruapehu

The Maori Health Outcomes Advisory Group of providers have formed an exciting service for wahine with pepi under 3 and whanau who are faced with alcohol and drug issues. The role will be based in Raetihi but will cover the Ruapehu area.

Are you someone that is innovative, creative, and experienced in Matauranga Maori and prepared to work differently in supporting mama, pepi and whanau who do not have strong relationships with services in the community? You will work one-on-one with mama and their whanau, as well as developing and facilitating matauranga Maori and well-being wananga.

If you have these attributes, skills, experience, and desire, apply for this opportunity today.

The following are essential:

- Police screening and drug testing
- Covid-19 vaccinations
- Full driver's license

Please go to our website at www.teoranganui.co.nz/community-workers for a job description.

Closes: Wednesday 15th December at 5pm. To apply for the position please send your CV to:

Service Manager
Te Puke Karanga Hauora
Julie McDonnell
Email: petm@tpkh.co.nz

**Deadline for all
advertising bookings and
copy is
5pm Fridays!**

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Raetihi Ohakune Garden Club present

Bev Hiscox Memorial Flower Show

Saturday 11 December
in conjunction with the
Raetihi Christmas Carnival.
Schedule available
from:
Raetihi Info Centre and
Ohakune Bookshop.



PUBLIC NOTICE Section 35 of The Trustee Act 1956

Pursuant to Section 35 of the Trustees Act 1956 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all creditors and other persons having claims against or in respect of the undermentioned estates or any property forming part of such estates or against the trustees personally, are required to send their claims to the undermentioned solicitors on or before the 10 January 2022 and NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that after such date the Executors propose to transfer or distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which the Executors then have notice and that in such event the Executors will not as respects the property so transferred or distributed be liable to any person of whose claim they have no notice at the time of such transfer or distribution.

JOAN BLACK

formerly of Taumarunui, latterly of Taupo,
Retired, Deceased

ANDREW AUBREY CAVE

of Taumarunui in New Zealand, Retired,
Deceased

ALMA RACHEL EDWARDS

formerly of Matiere, latterly of Taumarunui in
New Zealand, Retired, Deceased

JILLIAN ELIZABETH GOLDEN

formerly of Taumarunui, latterly of Hawera,
Retired, Deceased

DORIS JESSIE MACKIE

formerly of Taumarunui, latterly of Timaru in
New Zealand, Retired, Deceased

RANGAUNU NICHOLAS RAHARUHI
of Urenui in New Zealand, Retired, Deceased

DONALD LESLIE SIEMONEK

of Taumarunui in New Zealand, Farmer,
Deceased

ANN ELIZABETH WALSH

of Taumarunui in New Zealand, Retired,
Deceased

JOSEPHINE NONA WOODS

of Taumarunui in New Zealand, Retired,
Deceased

c/- MENEFY JAICHAND JORDAN
SOLICITORS
COMMERCIAL HOUSE
5 MANUAUTE STREET
TAUMARUNUI 3920

Ohakune cinema coming down: to be recycled

Dismantling the 105-year old Kings Theatre in Ohakune is well under way, but all is not lost with the developers planning to reuse as much as possible in a rebuild on the site.

Two years ago, Greg Hickman of Big Mountain Mead purchased the historic Ohakune cinema building at 17 Goldfinch Street. Together with Austin Hobson of Ruapehu Brewing, an ambitious plan was brewed to restore the cinema to its former glory as a cinema taproom with a state-of-the-art brewery and meadery.

Mr Hickman says they hold great respect for the heritage of the cinema and its importance to the local community as a cultural icon. But due to significant deterioration of the original site, the cinema will be recycled into a new, modern structure reflecting its magnificent mountain backdrop.

“Materials and historic items from the original building will be integrated wherever possible to preserve the rich history of the cinema, with the waste reduction goals of our region’s Long-Term Plan in mind.”

Aiming to be complete by summer 2022, the taproom bar will represent the product lines of both Ruapehu Brewing and Big Mountain Mead with other beverages in the pipeline.

Food options will be on offer leveraging partnerships with existing local establishments. The building will house a digital cinema, recreating

vintage cinema ambience by repurposing native timbers and vintage fixtures.

Boasting multiple large indoor and outdoor entertainment areas, the owners see the new building as a regionally significant all-weather asset for Ohakune, creating a versatile entertainment centre for locals and visitors year-round.

Mr Hickman says the development has been planned with extreme care, preserving and recycling original materials, restoring the significance of the original site to its former prominence within Ohakune.

The main focus of the brewery product will be export, which will bring an economic boost to the region. Preferring to use local resources will bolster the local economy as well as create employment and apprentice opportunities. A couple of small retail spaces will support local craft and manufacturers, and the iconic Kombi Ohakune is along for the ride too. The taproom will supply an array of products leveraging local suppliers and creatives including—but not limited to—beer, mead, cold brew coffee, bitters, soft drinks and other products not yet on the market.

Production in the purpose-built brewery and meadery built behind the original building has commenced. The public can look forward to tours and tastings of the offerings in the near future.



Ohakune's Kings Theatre is being dismantled. Inset: an artist's impression of the replacement building that will include a new picture theatre.

Call for clearer Ruapehu box numbers

As St John ambulance officers gear up for a busy summer season, the Ruapehu team are asking residents and property owners to check their properties are clearly marked and numbered to ensure they can easily and quickly reach anyone needing an ambulance.

For some time, faded letterbox numbers and unmarked addresses have been a concern for St John ambulance officers in the Ruapehu and surrounding areas.

“When we receive a call out, it is vital that we accurately locate our patients, especially in the event of a cardiac arrest emergency or when someone is in a life-threatening condition. If a property letterbox is not clearly labelled or numbers are not positioned in an obvious place, it can delay our response time and patient outcome,” says Nick Thurston, St John Ruapehu area support manager.

The issue is prevalent across the country and is experienced by all emergency services but across all suburbs of Ruapehu, and neighbouring areas, many properties are in rural locations or on farms where property numbers are not easily spotted from the road, or multiple letterboxes are in one location.

“Some properties don’t have letterboxes because they are holiday homes or baches; but visitors may still need an ambulance. Many houses have faded numbers or are obscured by overgrown hedges and weeds. On numerous occasions, our officers have had to drive up and down the street several times or knock on multiple doors to identify the property they’re locating,” says Mr Thurston.

St John is now urging homeowners in all areas of Ruapehu to ensure their properties are clearly marked.

“It is important for all households to be identifiable. We recommend large numbers that are easily visible as we drive past and fixed in an obvious location near the road, such as a letterbox or fencepost. We advise property owners to ensure the numbers are visible at night, not faded or masked by overgrown shrubs,” says Mr Thurston.

“In the event of an emergency, we encourage someone from the property to park a car at the end of the driveway and turn on the vehicle’s hazard lights. If it is late at night, you can turn on all the lights in the house. It is also a good idea to trim back trees or bushes that may obscure a street-level house number, so it is more visible from the roadside.”



Clearly marked property numbers can save time for emergency services – and save lives, says St John Ambulance.

GETTING
far away
IS *closer* THAN
YOU *think*

**SUMMER
season**

**NOW
open**

1.8km Sky Waka
gondola journey
Buffet dining at
2020m
Short walks for
most abilities

SKY WAKA
MTRUAPEHU.COM

**Mt
RUAPEHU**