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**Ruapehu covid cases drop P3**



**Top brass play Ohakune P5**



**McCallum's world explorer award P7**



**Stashing happy snow P8**

## Ruapehu volcanic unrest continues

Volcanic unrest continues at Mt Ruapehu, marked by increased volcanic gas output and strong tremor and continued high temperature. Recent airborne gas measurements confirm continued high levels of volcanic gas emissions, along with strong volcanic tremor, reports GNS.

Crater Lake (Te Wai ā-moe) temperature has risen to 38°C.

The Volcanic Alert Level remains at Level 2.

Over the past six weeks, Mt Ruapehu has exhibited the strongest volcanic tremor in two decades along with a rise in Crater Lake (Te Wai ā-moe) temperature.

This period of heightened volcanic unrest continues.

Over the last week, the level of volcanic tremor has varied, with bursts of strong tremor interspersed by short periods of weaker tremor. This represents a change in character in the tremor, and the driving processes remain unclear.

The last three days has seen Crater Lake temperature rise to 38°C following a four-week period at 36-37°C.

GNS modelling suggests that to maintain the lake temperature and subtle rise requires ~200-300MW. Due to the heightened volcanic unrest, GNS Science staff are carrying out more frequent aerial gas measurements and Crater Lake sampling.

A gas measurement flight on 28 April recorded the sixth-highest sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) flux of 390 tonnes per day since 2003. Sulphur dioxide is a strong indicator gas and is derived from a relatively shallow magma body, which is perceived to currently exist a few kilometres beneath Crater Lake.

Further gas flights will be conducted when weather conditions are suitable. Sampling of Crater Lake was also conducted last week and during that visit, GNS scientists observed upwelling of Central Vent and reduced upwelling at the Northern vents area.

During recent visits, active upwelling has only been observed at the Northern vents. It is important to note that Central Vent is the

**Turn to Page 2**



**Volunteers from local iwi work to capture endangered fish species from a stream on the Parapara Highway, before work starts to replace the culvert. See inside for more. Photo: Ngati Rangī.**



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# Ruapehu volcanic unrest continues

## From Page 1

primary vent, whereas the Northern vents are a subsidiary vent system.

GNS had surmised previously that Central Vent was sealed, blocking the main flow of fluids and gases into Crater Lake. However, this vent now appears to be at least partially open.

"We are still awaiting laboratory analysis of the latest Crater Lake fluid and gas samples," said Geoff Kilgour, Duty Volcanologist.

"This will show us if magma is interacting with the hydrothermal system beneath the lake. We will report on those when available."

He said the high sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) flux, sustained carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and continuing strong volcanic tremor, continue to indicate that molten rock (magma) is driving this period of heightened unrest.

Increasing Crater Lake temperature is reflecting the increasing upwelling of hot fluids and gases through Central Vent as

well as the Northern vents.

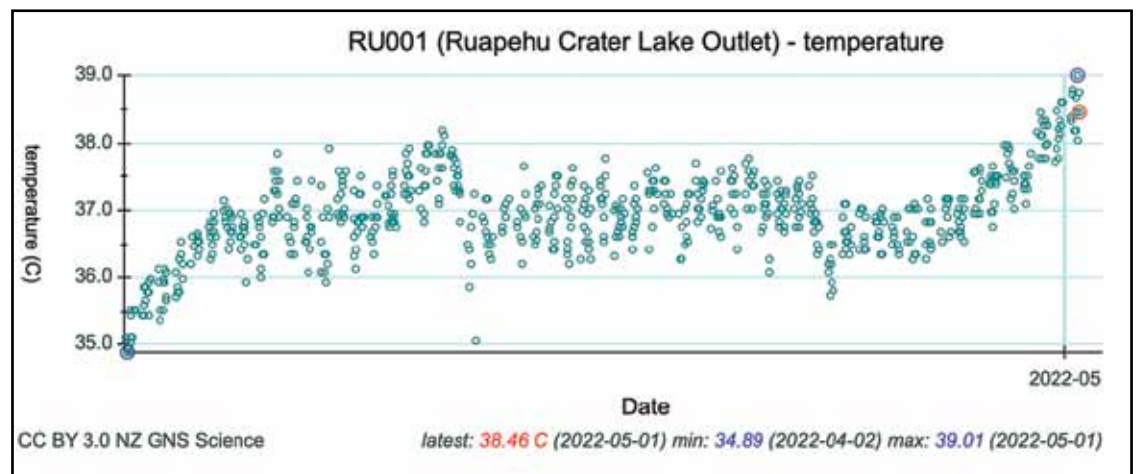
"Within the next four weeks, the most likely outcome of this unrest episode is no eruption, or a minor eruption that is confined to the lake basin."

Small eruptions are still able to generate lahars, especially in the Whangaehu River.

"The next most likely scenario is an eruption that impacts the summit plateau and generates lahars in multiple catchments, similar to what was seen after the September 2007 eruption or older events like those in 1975 and 1969.

"The chance of a prolonged eruptive episode or a larger eruption, such as occurred in 1995-96 with wider ashfall impacts, is higher than it was two months ago, but remains very unlikely.

"Such an eruption would most likely only follow a sequence of smaller eruptions. The interpretation of this activity is consistent with elevated volcanic unrest at the heightened level and therefore the Volcanic Alert Level remains at Level 2."



GNS graphs the changes in the Crater Lake water temperature, which shows it reaching over 38°C in recent days.



GNS's webcam captured a steam plume from the crater lake on Tuesday morning. Ohakune residents reported seeing the plume rise rapidly, then disperse into cloud.



Ngati Rangi's Don Robinson talks about taking care of waterways in the iwi's area. Photo: Ngati Rangi Trust.

A stream on the Parapara Highway was the focus of a 'de-fishing' exercise recently, to save the creatures in the stream and make way for repairs to the road.

A partnership group of people from Ngāti Ūenuku, Te Korowai o te Awaitei, Ngāti Rangi and Waka Kotahi carried out the work at the Auraki Stream.

The purpose and focus was on the protection and relocation of fish species in the stream before a new culvert is installed and the new road replaced on State Highway 4.

The stream level was very low due to the low rainfall in the area and at first glance it looked like nothing would be alive in the stream.

But the group was successful in relocating two long-finned tuna – an endangered species – which were released into the Mangawhero River.

The team used a backpack electrofishing method to locate the fish along with minnow traps to catch the remaining fish in the stream the following day.

Whānau members interested in participating in such activities are invited to email amoa@ngatiran-gi.com to register your interest.

## What's on around Ruapehu

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# 'Lipstick on a pig': Ruapehu councillor condemns Three Waters changes

By Moana Ellis, Local Democracy Reporter

A Ruapehu District councillor says efforts will continue to put in place a plan for Three Waters reforms that protect property rights and community voice.

Cr Adie Doyle represents the Ruapehu council on Communities 4 Local Democracy (C4LD), a breakaway collective of 32 local councils that continues to challenge the Government's controversial reform model.

C4LD has put forward its own proposal for reform while the local government association of councils, Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ), works with the Government to support its Three Waters Reform Programme.

Doyle said the Government's changes to the reform package, following recommendations from a working group, merely pay lip service to addressing widespread concerns.

"It's a pig with lipstick. The reforms as they are, are a bad idea. The recommendations from the working group, although they are an improvement, they're just minor improvements on a bad idea, so it's lipstick on a pig."

Water infrastructure, such as pipes, reservoirs and treatment plants, is currently owned by 67 councils which deliver storm, waste and drinking water services to their ratepayers.

The Government said on Friday each council would now have shares in the four massive entities that will take over water networks and service delivery. This would confirm an ownership stake for councils, Ministers said.

## Government 'spin'

Doyle condemned the new public shareholding model as Government spin.

"It's an absolute nonsense. They're called non-financial shares. With property and ownership comes rights and those rights are being extinguished."

"To say that the council still have ownership is Government spin because at the moment we have 100% control over those assets and the people have a direct line of sight to those assets. We're going to lose that."

"The RDC is a legal entity in its own right and we own those water assets on behalf of our ratepayers. The government is expropriating those property rights. They're taking away those property rights without full and fair compensation."

"That links into the co-governance model in that you're taking away assets from one group of people and giving it to another group of people to manage on their behalf, without the mandate from the people."

The Government proposal embeds 50-50 co-governance for mana whenua and local councils in the Regional Rep-



resentation Groups that will oversee the four new water entities, including appointing board members.

Doyle said ownership and co-governance were burning issues raised by Ruapehu councillors but protecting local voice was the biggest concern.

Along with the Whanganui, south Taranaki and Rangitikei districts, the Ruapehu district falls into the proposed Entity B.

## Ruapehu voice 'won't be heard'

"This new Area Entity B is going to have a population of over one million people and there are going to be either six or seven council reps on the governance board. In an organisation of a million people, little old Ruapehu with 12,000 population – our voice will not be heard," Doyle said.

"We are really fearful that we're going to be at the bottom of the food chain. Basically, you've got zero influence being a small council."

Doyle said nobody disagrees that water networks need improvement – the question was how that would be funded.

He said through the water services bill the Government had lifted water standards to a level councils could not afford, and local authorities would need grants or subsidies to upgrade those services.

C4LD preferred a model in which the Government provided a regulatory envelope to fund council-controlled water organisations, Doyle said.

C4LD chair and Manawatu District mayor Helen Worboys said the C4LD model showed how balance sheet separation and the efficiencies of collaboration could be delivered while protecting local voice and community property rights.

"While we're disappointed in this initial version of the legislation, we're committed to working to get a better model in place that works for everyone," Worboys said.

"We'd urge everyone to get in touch with their local MPs to ensure they know what you think about this plan, and we'll be encouraging significant local participation in the select committee process."

Local Democracy Reporting is Public Interest Journalism funded through NZ On Air



Cr Adie Doyle.

# Ruapehu Covid cases still declining

New Covid-19 cases in the southern Ruapehu District continue to decline in number, with 25 new cases reported by the Whanganui District Health Board in the seven days to 2 May.

There were seven new cases reported for Ruapehu on Monday.

With this decline in cases, the WDHB announced on Monday that they will no longer be providing daily updates but will shift to a weekly roundup of COVID-19 updates, publishing on Fridays.

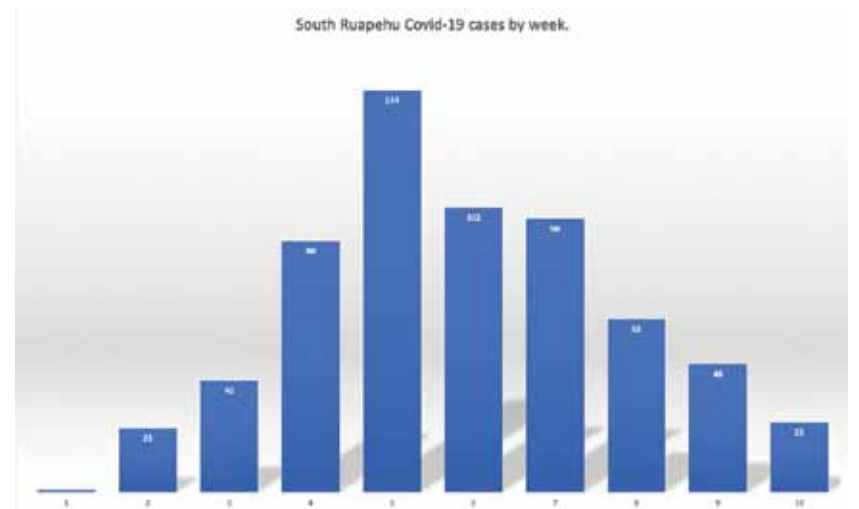
The WDHB reported another Covid-19 related death on Friday.

Those who would like to stay updated on a daily basis of the COVID-19 situation in our Whanganui region will be able to find daily case information on the Ministry of Health website.

If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, including a runny nose, headache, fatigue, sneezing or a sore throat, WDHB advises you to please isolate and arrange to be tested.

Call Healthline 0800 358 5453 if you have any concerns or questions.

Tuesday's data was not available at the time the Ruapehu Bulletin went to print.



This graph shows the rise and fall of weekly reported Ruapehu Covid-19 cases, since the outbreak started 10 weeks ago.

# Cycle trail work to start in spring

Physical work on building the Te Ara Mangawhero shared cycle and walking trails in the southern Tongariro National Park, is due to start in spring, Ruapehu District Council members were told last week.

An item in the chief executive's monthly report updated councillors on the project.

Works Approval and Resource consent applications are nearly ready to be lodged, stated the report, with the contract with Ruapehu WorX Ltd updated and ready to be signed.

"This will be managed through an Invitation to Negotiate (ITN). A contract start date will depend on external approvals coming through, which is estimated to be April/ May."

"Works will begin with items which are less dependent on weather, such as bridge

building, with earthworks and surfacing to take place later in 2022.

"Work has begun on the application and approval process for Tranche 2 – Horopito link and Horopito to Last Spike."

"Engagement with KiwiRail has also commenced to set out the trail along the rail corridor," concluded the report item.

Councillor Elijah Pue asked if council was "about ready to turn a sod?"

Council officer Warren Furner said the project was at the point of application for a Department of Conservation concession.

He said the project's construction management plan, which includes environmental impact assessments, has been completed and the application was due to be lodged by Ngati Rangi Trust.

"We understand that this has been done and approvals are expected for work to start in spring."

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# Hydrogen buses for ski fields?

By Mark Ebrey

Could hydrogen be used to power buses servicing the Ruapehu skifields?

“Hydrogen fuel is a perfect fit for Ruapehu District Council’s passenger transport pilot from National Park to both Whakapapa, Turoa, the Tongariro Crossing, and beyond,” RDC infrastructure manager Warren Furner told the council at their meeting last Wednesday.

Kevin Hodges from Hiringa, based in the Waikato, told councillors that if all public transport in the Tongariro National Park were run on hydrogen, the only emissions from the vehicles would be water, from the recombined hydrogen and oxygen.

He demonstrated making hydrogen using tap water and electricity, on the desk, in the meeting.

Mr Hodges said he believed the RDC was the first council in New Zealand to see hydrogen produced in a meeting.

RDC has been told the initial target was to use hydrogen as a transport fuel between the North Island points of Auckland, Tauranga, Hamilton and Palmerston North, where Hamilton is fast becoming a transport hub, with the new Tainui freight centre presently being built near Waikato University. Hiringa’s objective is to have

24 filling stations established in the next three to four years, and that work is well underway.

Mr Furner told last week’s council meeting that the impact of the freight centre means the Ruapehu District will be where most hydrogen fuelled trucks, and ultimately cars, buses, and potentially trains, will transit.

Taumarunui, National Park, Turangi, Waiouru and Ohakune are all potential fuelling locations for the next phase in the near future.

With the less than acceptable environmental aspects of diesel fuel, particularly in the fragile environment of Ruapehu District and Tongariro National Park, hydrogen as a fuel source for transportation is a logical step. Hiringa has, in the last two years, set up Waitomo Energy as a fuel supplier, with the first location set for Te Rapa, Hamilton. An approach to Waitomo to add one or more of those locations in Ruapehu is likely to fit with its hydrogen expansion philosophy.

Hiringa team said they are excited that there is enthusiasm in Ruapehu District Council, as refuelling in the Central North Island, plus buses in the region, are part of its next development phase.

## 42 Traverse chopper rescue



A woman in her 40's riding the 42 Traverse Track, in the Tongariro Forest, sustained injuries in a mountain biking accident on Saturday. The patient was winched from her location by the Greenlea Rescue Helicopter crew and flown to Waikato Hospital for further treatment.

## Letters

**Climate hope**

• Amid the war in Ukraine, the still-raging pandemic, and escalating inflation, the recent release of the latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change shows some grounds for hope.

The summary is blunt and clear and, in many places, acknowledges realities that scientists and campaigners have known for years, but governments often avoided admitting. First, it is acknowledged that North America and Europe have made the greatest contribution to the crisis we are living through, by producing by far the most carbon dioxide emissions since the industrial revolution.

Today, the average North American emits 16 tonnes of carbon dioxide each year from fossil fuel use, compared to two tonnes for the average African.

Consumption by the top 10% of households comprises over a third of global greenhouse gases, compared to 15% of these gases for the bottom 50% of households. Every government now agrees that the climate crisis is driven by how the world’s wealthy – which includes much of the population of New Zealand – currently live, consume, and invest. This is a major leap forward compared to previous reports.

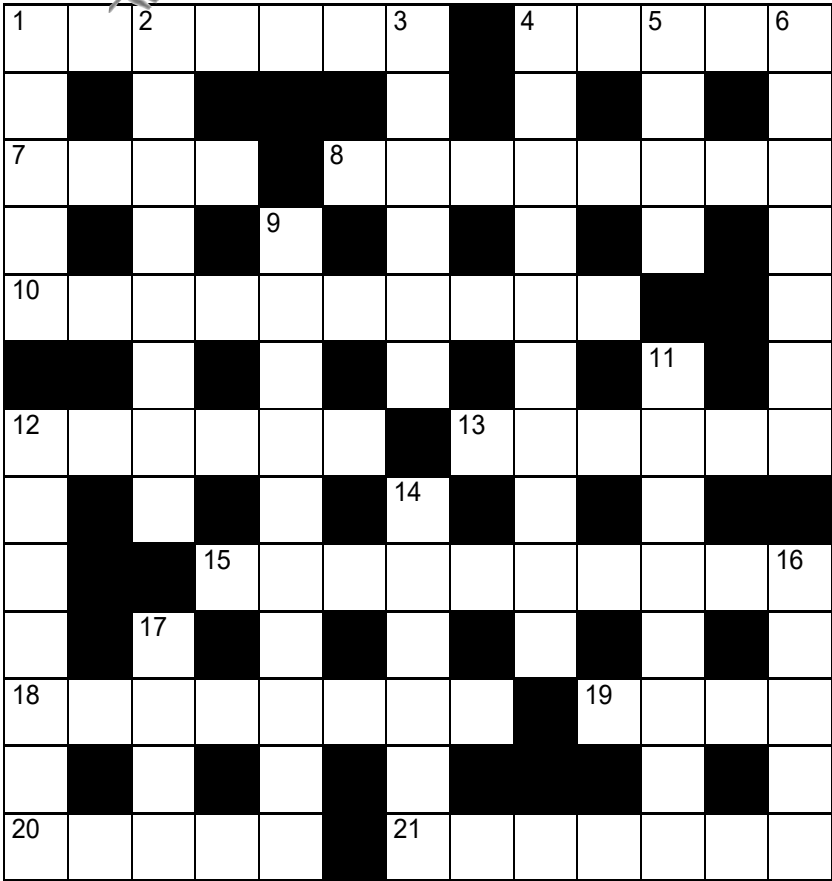
The report also contains an astonishingly frank assessment of the organised efforts used to thwart climate action. The intertwined relationship between fossil fuels and government goes deep, inviting suspicions of hypocrisy.

Climate change can feel complex, but the IPCC has worked hard to make it simple for us. A path still exists to halve emissions by 2030, which will give our species a chance to meet the 1.5°C goal by 2050.

It is a hopeful message. The task now is to make it real.

Paul Beckett

## THE NZ CROSSWORD 1879



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- Across**
1. Manner, deportment (7)
  2. National Party leader before John Key (5)
  7. Creative (4)
  8. Old-fashioned undies (8)
  10. Taranaki town founded by Scandinavian settlers (10)
  12. Foodstuffs vendor (6)
  13. Usual, normal (6)
  15. Dunedin suburb, site of huge 1979 landslide (10)
  18. Embarrassed (3-5)
  19. Branch (4)
  20. Panache (5)
  21. Small amount (7)

- Down**
1. Piece of sawn timber (5)
  2. Forerunner to Golden Kiwi and Lotto (3,5)
  3. Artist best known for portraits of Maori (6)
  4. Bay area suburb of Auckland (10)
  5. Word meaning 'the end' (4)
  6. Won easily (colloq) (5,2)
  9. New Zealander who had an environmental trust set up in his name after his death in 2001 (5,5)
  11. Grand and impressive (8)
  12. Small motor racing vehicles with an open frame (2,5)
  14. Popular bread brand (6)
  16. Report someone to the authorities (colloq) (3,2)
  17. Greeting (colloq) (4)

### Previous solution

**Across:** 5. Solve, 8. Pahiatua, 9. Otago, 10. Litigate, 11. Roomy, 14. IRD, 16. Shrink, 17. Ansett, 18. Arm, 20. Admit, 24. Auckland, 25. Local, 26. Pinnacle, 27. Stoke.

**Down:** 1. Aptly, 2. White, 3. Hāngi, 4. Muster, 6. Outhouse, 7. Vegemite, 12. Shadbolt, 13. Kiwibank, 14. Ika, 15. Dam, 19. Rousie, 21. Skink, 22. March, 23. Udder.



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- National Park Community Board**  
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# Ground breaking partnership with iwi to create Ohakune homes for Māori

Ohakune Māori will benefit from a new government fund announced last week that aims to partner with Ka Uruora to deliver up to 172 new homes for whānau.

The fund was announced by the Minister of Housing Hon Dr Megan Woods and Associate Minister of Housing (Māori Housing) Peeni Henare on Friday.

Ministers Henare and Willie Jackson joined partners Ka Uruora at an event in New Plymouth where the announcement was made today.

“The housing crisis was decades in the making, and we are turning it around through housing policy reforms, and the largest Government investment since the 1970s to get a lot more new housing built,” Megan Woods said.

“Our place-based and kaupapa Māori strategy is proving the foundation for the Government’s work in housing. We know we cannot take a one-size-fits-all approach and we will continue to work alongside Iwi and Māori to advance housing projects that support whānau needs.

“It’s great to see Ka Uruora working at pace, and in partnership with the Government to help more whānau who need it most into warm, dry and safe housing on their whenua.

“This investment is an excellent example of our continued commitment to address the housing crisis for Māori. I’m delighted at the progress we are making,” Megan Woods said.

“This Government made a record investment in Māori Housing. In last year’s Budget we committed \$730 million to Māori housing supply and Infrastructure,” Peeni Henare said.

“I am also committed to ensuring that this investment is made in partnership with Māori, taking a by Māori for Māori approach.

“Over the past year, our teams at Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga and Te Puni Kōkiri have worked with iwi groups to test, develop, and implement new housing solutions.

“Ka Uruora were identified through the National Iwi Chairs Forum last year to partner with the Government to deliver Māori housing in their rohe.

“Today we take time to celebrate this milestone investment, and the formation of a partnership founded in shared priorities and values,” Peeni Henare said.

“More importantly, what it will do is unlock intergenerational wealth, and aspirational wealth in housing,” Henare said.

“We know Māori have some of the worst housing conditions in Aotearoa. The status quo clearly wasn’t good enough.”

Funding has been approved for:

- A maximum of \$37.6m in supply funding to deliver up to 172 affordable rentals;

- A maximum of \$17.5m to contribute to the infrastructure requirements for up to 172 affordable rentals, plus a further 31 progressive home ownership (PHO) sites.

- Not only are whānau getting into homes quickly, but they are able to do so on their own whenua.

“Last year we launched our National Māori Housing strategy – MAIHI Ka Ora. It promised partnership, investment and progress.

“This announcement sees us delivering on the

promises we made in MAIHI Ka Ora, the promise we made to work in partnership with Māori and the commitment to delivering a better Māori Housing future for our whānau,” Peeni Henare said.

The money will be invested to deliver a minimum of 172 affordable rental homes across Taranaki, Ohakune, Tūrangi, Tokoroa, Blenheim, Thames and Tāmaki Makaurau.

Taranaki’s Ka Uruora chair Jamie Tuuta said they had analysed Māori households that didn’t own their own home, and there was a big group sitting in “what we describe as the affordable rental category”.

These were whānau who were not eligible for rental subsidies, earned between \$40,000 and \$70,000 a year, and could not get their foot in the door to buy a home.

“That’s why a lot of the focus initially is on affordable rentals and what we’re seeking to do there is charge 80% of a market rental, and cap, where possible, the rent at 30% of the household income,” Tuuta said.

## Waimarino health project makes progress, slowly

A plan to combine health and social services that received a Government loan of \$2 million in 2020 is making progress, but slowly, advises Whanganui District Health Board chief executive Russell Simpson.

Another \$3 million is pledged for a second phase of the Ruapehu Wellness Centre project, to be based in Raetihi.

Phase one covered the clinical building, existing building refurbishments, site works, car parking and an ambulance bay.

Only a small amount of the first loan has been spent, advises the DHB, on engaging an external architect to work with the community and with Erena Mikaere in her role as the project lead for the Ruapehu Whānau Transformation project.

Covid-19 has meant resources had to be transferred from the project.

“In a non-Covid world we would have made substantial progress,” Simpson said.

“I had a finite resource which I needed to prioritise in the last two years and, unfortunately, projects such as this have been delayed.”

Phase two will look at the staff facility, offices, the hui and event space and the birthing unit, Mr Simpson told the Whanganui Chronicle last week.

“After that is the healing centre, and there is some contingency funding in that phase.”

The DHB received community feedback and recommendations on a model of care on 27 January.

“There was extensive feedback, ranging from conventional and holistic health services to traditional Māori methods of healing,” Simpson said.

“We are certainly supportive of not just health models of care but wellbeing models as well.”

The original funding proposal came after the Ngāti Rangī-led Ruapehu Whānau Transformation programme presented community solutions, of which health was one.

“We’re continuing to work with the community on what health services are required for the region,” said Mr Simpson.

Refurbishing the Waimarino Health Centre in Raetihi was the easier part of the project to commission and develop, Simpson said.

When completed, Ruapehu Health, the Waimarino Health Centre and iwi health and social service providers would be under one roof.

“The staffing, models of care and service delivery are more challenging,” Simpson said.

“We need to ensure we are setting the community up for long-term, sustainable options.

“It’s more than just bricks and mortar, it’s a whole integrated service.”

Honey Winter, chairwoman of Ruapehu Health Limited

Turn to Page 7

## Holiday music magic made in Ohakune

Students from across the lower central North Island gathered at Ohakune Primary School on Friday 22 April for a day of music, under the experienced baton of an international music giant of the band world.

Harmen Vanhoorne, one of the world’s leading brass players and trainers, came all the way from Auckland via Taupo to spend time with the players of tomorrow.

“It was really nice to see such young players

push themselves in their music,” said Harmen.

The group then performed a free ANZAC Day tribute concert to a small but very appreciative audience.

The workshop was the first in a series of one-day events planned for across the lower North Island as part of the Gumboots Brass and Wind Ensemble project to connect rural and regional youth musicians with their peers and to make the music truly a shared community experience.

The workshop was made possible through the support of Creative Communities New Zealand, The Earle Creativity and Development Trust, and bands of the Central Districts Brass Band Association, as well as local businesses.

For further information about the Gumboots brass and wind ensemble project contact band co-ordinator, Kathy Clark on 021 689 005 or gumbootsbrassandwind@gmail.com.



Harmen Vanhoorne leads a workshop on brass band music on Friday. Photo supplied.

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# Forestry demands clear policies: McKelvie

Local member of Parliament Ian McKelvie promotes forestry to combat climate change and says the industry needs better policy

• I am thoroughly enjoying my role as National's spokesperson for Forestry. It's an industry close to my heart as a long time farm forester myself, and having witnessed significant change and amazing technological advances over the years. It's also an important industry in the Rangitikei.

If our goal as a country is a carbon zero economy by 2050 then we need to think smarter. We need clear and equitable policies when it comes to farm forestry, whole farm conversions, carbon farming and new exotic planting. We can't set targets and not have a realistic plan to get there – expanding our exotic forestry footprint it would seem to me is vital to getting enough carbon, but it's not the only solution.

Global demand for timber products is expected to quadruple by 2050. Forest owners in New Zealand just want to be able to get on with the business of growing trees; and to be in the best position to meet growing

world and economic demand.

In future it's likely wood in some form or other could be used to replace current gas emitting alternatives. Think Fonterra burning wood not coal at their facilities; and high end timber products replacing steel and plastic in the construction industry.

The increasing cost structure the forestry industry is facing can't be ignored. The cost of land has increased significantly, while the cost of production including labour, transport, compliance, improving technology, road building and so the list goes on – have all increased too.

The forestry sector demands and deserves clear and concise policies that will build confidence and at the same time boost public support. National is watching developments in the sector closely and we are working hard on a Forestry platform that will deliver for forestry in New Zealand, today and into the future. This outstanding industry currently contributes in excess of \$1.6b to our nation's economy and is vital to our future bio-economic health, wealth and prosperity.



Local MP Ian McKelvie, at centre, has been about the country looking at forestry operations.

# Ex-Ohakune ranger wins explorer award

Ex-Ohakune park ranger Rob McCallum was recently presented an international award for his part in co-founding his Five Deeps Expedition.

The Explorers Club annual dinner was once again held in person in New York City last week.

EYOS (Expeditions, Yacht Charters, Operations, SeaXplorer) team members attended the dinner to witness Rob McCallum receive the Citation of Merit (2020) on behalf of the entire Five Deeps Expedition – "the most ambitious exploration expedition of the century". The award is given out annually in recognition of outstanding feats of exploration.

The the Five Deeps Expedition circumnavigated the globe and travelled 47,000 nautical miles with the goal of reaching the deepest points of all five oceans – a goal reached and exceeded. The expedition tallied 39 submersible dives overall,

discovered new species and achieved world records.

Expedition leader Rob McCallum was responsible for the logistical challenges of the Five Deeps mission, about which he says "the scale of the undertaking surprises most people; we have co-ordinated over 1100 flights, dealt with 54 government entities and had to provide logistical support to some of the most remote parts of the world.

"EYOS Expeditions was perhaps the only entity in the world with the experience in oceanic diving and remote-location expeditions that could co-ordinate a project of this size and scale," wrote the Explorers Club.

**Rob McCallum and colleagues with his Explorers Club citation. Photo: Ben Lyons.**



## Health project

From Page 5

ed and the interim Ruapehu Wellness Centre board, said the local community wanted "to see something happening".

She said the move to phase two was in the hands of the DHB.

"They have a process they need to go through and we respect that.

"I'm confident they will come to the party before they exit [on 1 July], but the locality group under the new Ministry of Health structure absolutely knows about it and is very supportive.

"A lot of planning and a lot of discussions have taken place. We don't take this on lightly, but it's certainly what our community wants.



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# Happy snow making

Snowmaking at Whakapapa's Happy Valley beginner area is well under way, preparing for opening the ski area on 3 June - less than a month away. A large stash of snow from the ski area's snow factory can be seen protected by tarpaulins - enough to build the area's snow sledding slope. Photo: Murray Wilson.



# Ohakune Squash

Ohakune Squash Club Interhouse starts this week. Seventy members have been seeded into seven teams.

Matches will be best of five up to 11. The draw for this Thursday is at 5:00pm team five plays team three, at 6:30 team two plays team six and at 8:00pm team seven plays team four. Team one has the bye. Team five helps with kitchen duties for the first half - 5:00 until 7:15 and team four is on the second half from 7:15 to 9:30. Team captains will be in contact with their teams to let members know what team they are in plus a draw can be found on the club Facebook page.

This is a busy week for the club with Ruapehu Interclub on Tuesday evening, junior beginners coaching starting up on Wednesday and April leagues to be completed by Wednesday.



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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### Section 101, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

**Pilla and Pilla Limited** have made an application to the District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council for the **Renewal of an Off Licence** in respect of the premises situated at **10 Main Road, Waiouru** known as **Oasis Bar & Motel**. The general nature of the business to be conducted under the licence is that of a **Tavern**. The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is intended to be sold under the licence are: **Monday - Sunday: 10.00am - 10.00pm**.

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the Ruapehu District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council, 59-63 Huia Street, Taumarunui.

Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the issue of the licence may, not later than 15 working days after the date of the publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with the Secretary of the District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council, Private Bag 1001, Taumarunui 3946.

No objections to the issue of a licence may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 105(1) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

This is the second publication of this notice. This notice was first published on 27 April 2022.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### Section 101, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

**Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited** have made an application to the District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council for the **Renewal of an On Licence** in respect of the premises situated at **Turoa Ski Area, known as Giant Cafe**. The general nature of the business to be conducted under the licence is that of a **Café/Restaurant**. The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is intended to be sold under the licence are: **Monday - Sunday: 10.00am - 4.30pm**.

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the Ruapehu District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council, 59-63 Huia Street, Taumarunui.

Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the issue of the licence may, not later than 15 working days after the date of the publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with the Secretary of the District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council, Private Bag 1001, Taumarunui 3946.

No objections to the renewal of a licence may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 131 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

This is the second publication of this notice. This notice was first published on 27 April 2022.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### Section 101, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

**Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited** have made an application to the District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council for the **Renewal of an On Licence** in respect of the premises situated at **Turoa Ski Area, known as Alpine Cafe**. The general nature of the business to be conducted under the licence is that of a **Café/Restaurant**. The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is intended to be sold under the licence are: **Monday - Sunday: 10.00am - 11.00pm**.

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the Ruapehu District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council, 59-63 Huia Street, Taumarunui.

Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the issue of the licence may, not later than 15 working days after the date of the publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with the Secretary of the District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council, Private Bag 1001, Taumarunui 3946.

No objections to the renewal of a licence may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 131 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

This is the second publication of this notice. This notice was first published on 27 April 2022.

### PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE FOR OHAKUNE MARDI GRAS

Pursuant to the Local Govt. Act 1974 Sec 342 Schedule 10 notice is hereby given that the Ruapehu District Council for the purpose of holding the Ohakune Mardi Gras on Saturday 18 June 2022 is proposing to close the following streets:

- **Part of Thames Street from Mangawhero Terrace 13/06/22, 12pm to 20/06/2022, 6pm one lane closure.**
- **Thames Street from Mangawhero Terrace to Rimu Street, 17/06/22, 6pm to 18/06/22, 6am full closure.**
- **Thames Street, Tyne Street, Rimu Street and Utuhia Place, 18/06/22, 8am to 19/06/22, 8pm full closure.**
- **Thames Street from Mangawhero Terrace to Rimu Street, 19/06/22, 10am to 19/06/22, 6pm full closure.**

Resident Access - controlled road closure points will have marshalls to allow resident access to their properties throughout the duration of the event

Any person objecting to the proposal is called upon to lodge notice of their objection and grounds thereof in writing before 4.00pm on Friday 27 May 2022 at the office of the Council at Private Bag 1001, Taumarunui 3946 or info@ruapehudc.govt.nz

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Ruapehu Mountain Bike Club AGM

Wednesday 11th May 2022  
7pm @ Kings Ohakune

All welcome

Any queries, please email the club at  
ruapehumbc@gmail.com



### Nga Morehu o Uenuku Te Kohanga Reo NOTICE OF AGM

Wednesday May 11th 2022, 4pm  
at 2 Hukaroa Rd, Raetihi

Election of officers

- Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Nau mai haere mai



### Notice of Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 11 May, 1PM

Ruapehu District Council Chambers

37 Ayr Street, Ohakune

### Agenda:

- Apologies
- Confirmation of Minutes
- Chairperson's Report
- Co-ordinator's Report
- Financial Report
- Election of Officers
- General Business



### Te Kohanga Reo o Mo Te Whanau Notice of AGM

whanau@k07i053.kohanga.ac.nz

Monday 16 May 2022, 4pm  
Venue: 32 Queen Street, RAETIHI

### AGENDA:

- Previous minutes
- 2021 Audit Report
- Chairman Report
- Election of officers
- Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Signatories
- Auditors

Nau mai Haere mai

## SITUATIONS VACANT



### Finance/Office Administrator - Te Mano o Te Whenua Tupua

(Part Time / 10 hours per week)

Te Mano o Te Whenua Tupua has been established to represent the descendants of Uenuku, Tamakana and Tamahaki. In keeping with existing settlement aspirations, it is currently focussed on developing its environmental division.

Having only been operating for six months, Te Mano o Te Whenua Tupua is looking for an experienced and exceptional Finance/Office Administrator on a Part Time basis to join our team at 28 Queen Street, Raetihi, reporting to the Project Manager.

Our team are dedicated, passionate and fully committed to achieving outstanding results across the organisation.

You will be responsible for the Finance/office Administrator duties in relation to our environmental department as well as supporting our health, social and other divisions when these are established. We are looking for someone who is a team player, can adjust focus as necessary and support wherever the need is required.

### Key tasks include:

- Processing accounts payable
- Bank reconciliations
- Processing invoices and supplier payments
- Assisting with payroll
- EOM process, to ensure timeliness of reporting
- Credit Control and customer invoicing
- Ensuring all Invoicing is captured and accurate
- Control of day-to-day income and expenditure
- General office administration duties

### Experience:

- Three years' experience of monthly financial reporting
- Advanced Xero and Excel skills
- Previous experience in a similar finance and office administration role
- Must have practical knowledge and experience of financial office administration tasks
- Excellent experience using Microsoft Office

The successful applicant will be a proven team player, who can provide support wherever it is required.

If you are interested in joining our dynamic team, please contact Ariana Hawira for a Job Application and more details 027 556 6193 or email ariana@uenuku.iwi.nz

Applications close: Friday 13th May 2022



## CLASSIFIEDS

### DEATH NOTICE

**LE NOEL, KEVIN.** Passed away peacefully at home, in the presence of his family on May 2, 2022, aged 65 years. A service will be held at 11am, Wednesday 4 May at the Raetihi Centre. Kevin will be cremated followed by a private burial to lay him to rest with his beloved wife Sharlene.

### SITUATIONS VACANT

#### CONSENTS MONITORING OFFICER



This is an exciting time to join RDC working within an established and talented team.

If you have previous experience working within the remit of a regulatory framework, robust monitoring and investigative skills coupled with the ability to ensure compliance through education and partnership, then this might be the opportunity for you. To be successful in this role the ideal applicant will have:

- Demonstrated experience in Regulatory Compliance and in particular proactive monitoring and investigation skills.
- A solid track record and established methodologies used to gather evidence and file preparation
- A sound understanding of the Building Control and Resource Management consenting process.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills with the ability to deal with conflict and conflict resolution.
- Solutions focussed mindset who can identify win-win outcomes.
- A team player who can balance working autonomously.

Visit our webpage,  
[www.ruapehudc.govt.nz](http://www.ruapehudc.govt.nz), to apply.

Applications close: 5pm, Thursday 19th May 2022.



### We are thrilled to be coming to the Ruapehu District in July!

Recreational Services is a family-focused business that offers full facility parks maintenance services across Aotearoa.

Its recent merger with Green Options and Skyline Landscape Services makes it Australasia's largest and most experienced parks specialist group.

We pride ourselves on our special culture that is committed to professionalism, ownership, people, and knowledge. We're exceptionally proud to be the nominated provider for the Parks, Reserves and Gardens Maintenance contract to the Ruapehu District Council, and we are currently recruiting for the following skilled roles:

- Operations Manager
- Team Manager
- Contract Administrator
- Horticulturalist
- Mower Operators
- Handyman/Building and Maintenance Specialists
- Cleaning and Litter Servicepersons

If you would like to express your interest in any of the above roles, head to our careers website [careers.rs.kiwi.nz/search](http://careers.rs.kiwi.nz/search) and search for the job reference **Ruapehu** to register your details with us.

If you would like any further information, please get in touch with Chelsea on 021 743 256 or [chelsea@rs.kiwi.nz](mailto:chelsea@rs.kiwi.nz).

[www.ohakune.info](http://www.ohakune.info)

# Council ownership of waters entities confirmed

The Government has confirmed local council ownership and strengthened local voice by accepting the vast majority of the Three Waters Working Group recommendations on representation, governance and accountability, Infrastructure Minister Grant Robertson and Local Government Minister Nanaia Mahuta announced last week.

"Fundamentally these reforms are about delivering clean and safe drinking water at an affordable price for New Zealanders. Without reform, households are facing water costs of up to \$9,000 per year, or the prospect of services that fail to meet their needs," Grant Robertson said.

"Everyone accepts the need for change. You only have to look at the number of burst pipes, boil water notices and the volume of sewerage spewing into our harbours to see we can't carry on as we are and that our water infrastructure is crumbling.

"At the heart of councils' concerns have been the issues of ownership and voice. By accepting the majority of the recommendations made by the independent Working Group on Representation, including a shareholding plan, we have listened to these concerns and modified our proposals accordingly.

"With the key issues now addressed we cannot afford to wait any longer. The costs to communities and ratepayers are just too big to ignore and we need to get on with fixing it," Grant Robertson said.

"The Working Group was tasked with addressing the issues of most concern to the sector and Cabinet has agreed to the majority of their recommendations that ensure councils, iwi and

communities have a strong voice in the new entities," Nanaia Mahuta said.

"I acknowledge the anxiety around change, but ratepayers and local communities cannot keep paying more and more for services that have been underinvested in for too long, and now put their health at risk.

"That's why the Government has extensively engaged with local government, iwi and hapū, the water industry for more than four years to understand the case for change and assess the best option for reform.

"This is the best option to deliver the clean, safe and affordable drinking water New Zealanders deserve while also retaining community ownership and protecting against future privatisation.

"We are now at a point where the case for change is well made and the policy has been robustly tested and improved. We have listened to concerns and now is time to move forward with these reforms," Nanaia Mahuta said.

In line with the Working Group's recommendations the Government will:

- provide for a public shareholding structure that makes community ownership clear, with shares allocated to councils reflective of the size of their communities (one share per 50,000 people);
- further strengthen and clarify the role of the Regional Representative Group; with joint oversight from local councils and mana whenua to ensure community voice and provide tighter accountability from each water services entity board;
- maintain that board members are to be ap-

pointed based on skills and competency;

- strengthen connections to smaller communities including through local sub-committees feeding into the Regional Representative Group, to ensure all communities' voices are considered as part of investment prioritisation; and

- recognise and embrace Te Mana o te Wai – the health and wellbeing of our waterways and waterbodies – as a korowai, or principle, that applies across the water services framework.

"The governance arrangement in the Regional Representative Group is not something that is new. Many councils already have co-governance arrangements in place, and acknowledge the importance and benefit of such arrangements," Nanaia Mahuta said.

"For example the Waikato River Authority set up by the previous Government, established fifty-fifty co-governance around the Waikato River and is a good working model of shared decision making to improve the health of the river.

"The Regional Representative Group is not about ownership but rather ensuring community inclusion and voices are heard, securing a kaitiaki or guardianship role for the protection of our environment, and maintaining the focus on the long-term planning required for national infrastructure. It's a model that makes sense and is already working well.

"Without the changes we are making all the evidence points to a legacy of broken pipes, outdated sewage plants, and potential repeats of the tragic Havelock North gastroenteritis outbreak that killed four people and made thousands sick. This should not be the case in a first-world country," Nanaia Mahuta said.

## Gearing up for snow time

Maintenance is well on track for Turoa to open for the 2022 snow season, reports Mt Ruapehu.

Early in April, chairs loaded on Tūroa's Parklane.

The bulk of the Tūroa maintenance team's work over summer has been in annual servicing of lifts, ensuring their safety and reliability.

"Servicing our lifts is no small feat. It involves scaling every single tower on the ski area, of which there are about 80 on Tūroa," reports RAL.

"A larger team (up to 17 team members this summer) and better planning has seen the team well ahead of plan."

After the Parklane, the team turned their attention to the Movenpick and other lifts that have completed their service.

The bullwheel bearing has been replaced on the Parklane and cross-heads choppered off, repaired, and then choppered back in on the Giant.

The High Noon Express was the last one to complete its annual service and was by far the biggest undertaking with many more mechanical components.

It takes the team up to six weeks to complete the annual service, relying on weather suitable to scale the towers.

In terms of the team's drive this summer, Head of Maintenance at Tūroa, Gaz Bradnam, says "The team know they need a good season, they know they need to be successful. They want to see the smiles on the faces of those who visit Tūroa."

Tūroa opens on 8 July.

Photo: Zac Keay.





# Ruapehu Seniors start for 2022

The Ruapehu Rugby and Sports Club winter season sports has kicked off for the year with the Ruapehu Seniors starting their club rugby season for 2022.

This year the club has a Senior Rugby Team in the 2022 Tasman Tanning Seniors Country Draw, and the Club looks forward to watching them progress the season and develop as a unit.

They are coached by William McDonnell and Kim McNaught with the support of manager Jaime Brock, who together have committed to developing and continuing the Ruapehu presence in the regional competition.

They have started well, securing a win by default against Ratana, then following on in the weekend with the team hosting Utiku Old Boys from Taihape, who won 19-24.

It was a great game played by both teams, Ruapehu players showed up and keen as to get out and have a good game.

"The players haven't had too much time together as a unit so team connections and combinations are still developing," said coach William.

The club is rebuilding as, for the first time in a long while, Ruapehu has no Premier team in the 2022 competition.

"The senior team are up for the challenge and have a good solid squad committed and developing to continue to keep the Ruapehu culture going for our next generation of future players."

The netball season is also ready to start with their social netball team ready to commit to another season in Whanganui, starting Saturday 7 May.

"We look forward to sharing their success throughout the season as well," said interim committee chair Steph Waerea.

There is also the junior netball and rugby teams and the club sees this as an important link for development and the continued sporting pathway for local kids.

"Their season can't be too far from starting and we look forward to seeing our kids getting into it."

The Club makes special acknowledgement to all past and present committee members who have committed some long hours into keeping the club active.

"We especially would like to send huge thanks to those who have done and continue to do great stuff for our club. Bruce Cranston (president), Steve McDougall (president), We remember Jesse Seaman, Ray Parr, Boofee Green, Mel McDougall, Jonelle Hiroti-Kinane, Shey and Tony McLean, Aisha Kumeroa, Lesley McLean and recently Maxine and Alex Hakaraia.

"Your contributions have never gone unnoticed over the many years and I'm sure the new committee will continue to navigate this next phase for the present and future players that will represent our club.

"Lastly, we wish all our players across our communities all the best for the season and appreciate and thank our committed coaches, managers, parents and partners, our continued sponsors, and supporters of our club," said Steph Waerea.



Some of the Ruapehu Senior players who enjoyed their game against Utiku Old Boys on Saturday 30 April, 2022, hosted at Rochfort Park in Ohakune. From left, Morvin Trow, Carlos Tahau (c), Ezekiel Anderson, Pikiao Waara, Corey Carmichael.

## Pony Club gymkhana celebrates season

The Waimarino Pony Club celebrated a very busy season with their annual Gymkhana event on Sunday, which involved games, flat classes and show jumping.

It was a great warm sunny day for May and all riders showed off their skills developed over the season mixed in with a whole lot of fun!

Results were: Points prizes, 9 Years & Under, Melody Ritchfield. 10-11 years, Maddie Whitehead. 12 years & over, Josh Cashin (Taumarunui & Districts PC). WPC Rider over Jumps 12 years and under – Marjie McCoubrie. WPC Bareback Rider Overall – Maddie Whitehead.

After the gymkhana was the club's end of season prize giving: attendance, Junior Kaylee Williams; Intermediate Marjie McCoubrie; Senior Aylish Jordan. Groomed and turned out, Junior Kaylee Williams,

Intermediate Marjie McCoubrie, Senior Aylish Jordan. most improved, Junior Abbie Drayton, Intermediate Isabella Carr, Senior Aylish Jordan. most conscientious rider, Aylish

Jordan. Horsemanship Trophy Brooke Aukett.

Congratulations was also given to the following riders who gained their D Certificate: Isabella Carr, Abbie Drayton, Brook-

lyn Hovelle, Eva Hovelle, Charley-Jean MacLean, Melody Ritchfield, Snow Steele, Kaylee Williams.

The club has also had extra training sessions, developing the games riders

representing the club and King Country Area: Aylish Jordan, Marjie McCoubrie, Isabella Carr, Eva Hovelle, Brooklyn Hovelle, Melody Ritchfield, Maddie Whitehead and Kaylee Williams.



Waimarino Pony Club members had a happy end to their season on Sunday. Photo: Angela McCoubrie.

stronger together...



NZR Central have recently broken the tradition of real estate in the area by deciding to join as a team.

The philosophy behind this is that by sharing all listings and commissions equally and working collaboratively, every NZR customer and client has the benefit of knowing that they have the entire sales team working as one on their behalf to ensure a positive and successful outcome is achieved.

Combining our individual experience, knowledge and skill set as well as true open communication between each member of the team, gives us that extra edge over other agencies and gives our clients and customers the certainty that nothing else stands in our way of ensuring they are provided with the best experience that they deserve.

With already proven sales success we pride ourselves on our honesty and integrity which is evidenced by the testimonials received.

We would love for you to join us and see what we can all achieve together!

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