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Lifting local youth up
P3



Kiwi Forever still going strong
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Prepare for Carrot launch
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Iwi tours the mills
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Turoa buyout would have ‘very wide shareholding’

A public company formed last week by ex-Raetihi resident John Sandford aims to buy Turoa ski area, to be operated separately from Whakapapa.

“We believe that focussing on the operation of Turoa, separate from Whakapapa, will better ensure long-term success of the operation,” states Mr Sandford in a statement last week.

He said he represents a group of Southern Ruapehu residents, businesses (tourism, farming and general), out-of-town property owners, and RAL season and life-pass holders, “with an interest in the possibility of being involved in the purchase of the assets and business of the Turoa portion of RAL”.

John Sandford was the founder of Jason Publishing travel guides. He also served on the RAL Board from 2005 to 2011 and was also involved in a move to buy Turoa off RAL soon afterwards.

If successful, he said the purchase will be made by a public company with very wide shareholding to fairly spread the risks and benefits. The company would be a standard commercial entity and will not seek Public Benefit Entity (PBE) status.

He said their interest is in purchasing Turoa alone because: the potential foundation shareholders are all connected to Turoa in some way; they wish to “integrate the Turoa operation more deeply with the wider Southern Ruapehu region than it has been in the past”; The group believes that ownership and operation of Turoa separate from the Whakapapa operation “de-risks the potential of devastating effects” such as seen with the current RAL situation.



John Sandford.

Turn to Page 3

Destination plan focussed on Ruapehu environment



Elijah Pue welcomes the visitors to Raetihi Marae on Monday, before the launch of the Ruapehu District Destination Management Plan. Below: Shiro Brown, from Waihuia Ventures, speaks on behalf of the visitors. A wide range of visitors joined local iwi alongside Visit Ruapehu staff for the launch, including the mayor, Weston Kirton, several councillors and staff, members of parliament and many local tourism operators. See inside for details.

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Mt Ruapehu season pass prices announced

Prices have been published for snow season passes for Tūroa and Whakapapa ski areas for 2023, with an anytime season pass costing \$599.

An anytime youth season pass will cost \$399, for people aged five to 17.

Mt Ruapehu reconfirms that a 2023 Season Pass will give skiers and snowboarders access to the full 1050 hectares of terrain across both Whakapapa and Tūroa.

New this year will be additional options – mid-week season passes, a ‘Season+’ pass and a ‘SeasonFlexi’ pass.

The adult mid-week pass will cost \$349 adult and \$199 youth.

An adult Season+ pass will cost \$649 for anytime access. This pass gives the option of a partial or full refund in the event of serious illness or injury during the season.

The new SeasonFlexi pass will cost \$899 for anytime access. This pass gives buyers the option of a 50% refund during the season (if the pass hasn’t been used more than four times) for any reason “no questions asked”.

“A SeasonFlexi Pass gives you our maximum assurance, with a “no questions asked” 50% refund should your priorities or plans change and you cannot make the

most of your 2023 season pass,” says Mt Ruapehu.

The regular Season Pass has the benefits of 15% off food and beverages, retail, and group lessons, plus four Buddy Passes (50% off a day pass).

Mt Ruapehu says season passes will only be on sale for the duration of the Season Pass campaign (likely a four-week period), and not again later or in-season.

“So, once we can confirm our on-sale date (of which we continue to await confirmation from the powers that be), we would suggest you don’t hibernate this season and lock in for 2023 during this campaign period.”

As also shared previously, Mt Ruapehu says work continues alongside key stakeholders to realise a future for Mt Ruapehu beyond the 2023 season. If for any reason these proceedings impact a 2023 season and the season does not go ahead, any Season Pass purchases will be refunded in full.

“Further information for Life Pass holders is still in the works, again awaiting direction from the Crown, through the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE),” states Mt Ruapehu.

Ruapehu tourism plan focussed on the environment

The Ruapehu Tahia Ko Puanga Destination Management Plan 2023 is a 22 page document that sets out how local tourism will look between now and 2050.

Following is a message from the Board of Visit Ruapehu on the plan:

Imagine a region where the visitor economy is environmentally centred, and like the environment it is a dynamic, balanced, connected eco-system that creates reciprocal value for everything within it. It learns as it evolves. It seeks to selfheal. It sustains the health and wellbeing of all living things as it regenerates itself for the benefit and survival of the entire eco-system. This is true reciprocity. A value that has guided the development of this plan.

We live, work and play in one of the most stunning, pristine natural environments in the world. This plan requires shared leadership for change to help us choose lifestyles and investments that make sure our future generations can do the same.

We wish to thank our local community made up of many groups, individuals and families including our operators, iwi, hapu, whanau, marae, businesses, schools, trusts, and other authorities. We listened intently to your words and we hope you see yourselves in this plan. Our thanks go too to our partners and allies -Ruapehu District Council, Regional Tourism New Zealand, MBIE and Tourism New Zealand.

We want to especially acknowledge Waihuia Ventures Ltd for taking us all on a journey toward understanding the beauty and innovation of Te Ao Maori, incorporating

intelligence-driven research and ensuring genuine engagement with the region.

Finally a special thank you to Jo and our team at Visit Ruapehu for their passion, commitment and endless hard work.

We are Ruapehu, welcome to our destination.

Standing in Ruapehu


in 2050 we will say:
The decisions we make begin and end with consideration to our environment. Local relationships are strong across all sectors and industries. Families are thriving as they accept and enjoy sharing their special part of the world with local and international manuhiri. In return the people and the natural environment benefit. Each person has a crucial role to play, and, akin to nature, we recognise the interdependence of our responsibilities.

The iwi graciously share their ancient wisdom of the environment. Their leadership continues to guide the protection and harmonious balance of lifestyle for all across our region. Our shared love, mutual respect and sense of responsibility hold us accountable to the wellbeing of the environment which in turn secures our own.

We have created a system that is connected, dynamic and yet balanced with shared values guiding our behaviours and decision making. We now know that nature binds all living things through relationship; through whakapapa; through an eternal connection. The plan we embarked upon 27 years ago helped us to realise this.

What's on around Ruapehu

Carrot Rocket Launch	1 April
Big Bike Film Night	6 April
Ohakune Beer Festival	8 April
Big Junction Day Out	8 April
Ohakune Junction Market	8 April
Raetihi Gutbuser	22 April



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

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

Eating out in the Ruapehu District

CYPRUS TREE

79 Clyde St, Ohakune Ph: 06 385 8857

Check out our new menu. Kiwi craft beers, boutique wines and cocktails to quench that thirst. Playroom for the kids, foomball, air hockey and spaces to keep the kids entertained. Spectacular mountain views. A great place for casual get togethers or special occasions. Open everyday except Wednesdays from 5pm.

KINGS BAR & RESTAURANT

3 Rimu St Ohakune Junction Ph: 06 385 8648

Est in 1913, historic Kings offers an inviting menu by locally renown chefs, a great selection of boutique wines and is the exclusive venue to offer Ruapehu Brewing Company beers on tap. See our Facebook page for what's on. Wednesday – Friday from 4pm and Saturday and Sunday from 2pm.

POWDERKEG

Bottom of the mountain road Ph: 06 385 8888

The iconic Powderkeg – with a great craft beer and wine selection. With over 30 years' commitment to service and good quality free range food. Follow us on instagram @powderkegbar for our weekly deals, parties and giveaways. Great breakfast and delicious brunch cocktails in the Matterhorn, Monday to Friday 7am – 10am and 7am – 10.30am Saturday & Sunday. The Powderkeg is open everyday, from 4pm – late on weekdays and 3pm – late on weekends.

UTOPIA CAFÉ

47 Clyde St, Ohakune Ph: 06 385 9120

Open 7 days from 7:30am – 3:30pm for all day breakfast and lunch. A cosy memorable atmosphere with a great range of cabinet food and beverages, including regional famous Volcanic coffee, Frappé and smoothies. Vegan/Gluten-free options for both savoury and sweet are available. Speedy free Wi-Fi! A perfect place for everybody!

2 • **RUAPEHU BULLETIN** 29 March 2023

Community Grants now open for projects


Kanorau Koiora Taketake - Indigenous Biodiversity Community Grant


&

Pūtea Hapori Urupare Āhuarangi - Community Climate Response Fund

Apply from Monday 27 March to Friday 5 May, 1pm

Scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.horizons.govt.nz under Grants and Sponsorships to apply





Whiria Nga Hua music and mentoring

A mentoring programme that aims to provide rangitahi (youth) with the skills they need is one of over 30 Whiria Nga Hua enterprises in Raetihi, Ohakune, Waiouru, Karioi and beyond trying to focus on wellbeing.

Another programme that is part of Whiria Nga Hua is on music, with Caleb Lucas planning to hold sessions with youths with the planned outcome being the release of their own music single recording. (See story coming soon).

Wayne Te Huia, Raetihi, has established Rangatahi Whakahoki – a mentoring programme to provide rangatahi with skill development including fitness, social skills, tangihanga mahi, marae mahi, hunting, diving, sports, meat processing, lawnmowing, nature walks and community gardens.

“Such is the commitment and enthusiasm engendered in the young people he is working with, they are up at 5.30am to go to the gym,” says Helen Leahy, pou ārahi chief executive of Ngā Waihua o Paerangi Trust.

Wayne Te Huia has a team of five helping deliver the programme.

It starts with gym sessions in Ohakune for the participants, to help build their physical capacity.

“We’re trying to get into a routine with them and show them that there are other things out there.”

A range of skills development are part of the process, including hunting and diving. But those activities are not just about having a bit of fun in the sea or in the bush.

Wayne explains that they teach the rangatahi about sustainability when gathering kai moana. For example, they dive in different places each time and only take what they need.

And they then take their catch and distribute it to whanau back home, including the elderly and for events such as tangi.

This contact is an important aspect – connecting the young people with their com-

munity to develop respect both ways. This also gives them the chance to find out where the community needs help.

Wayne says they are getting great support for the programme from the community – lots of calls from people who want to help.

So far numbers are building, but they have already had one participant move into full time work.

They have to commit to six months to the programme and have family support.

“It’s entirely up to themselves to make it work.”



The Rangatahi Whakahoki team, from left, Katherine Herewini, Alex Herewini, Wayne Te Huia, Raewyn Sinclair, Rene Allen and Maia Allen.



Three rangitahi pictured with their kai moana bounty to be shared with the community: from left Dalton Neho, Tiori Arahanga and Baron Cawsey.

Turoa buyout

From Page 1

“We understand the administrator’s desire to ensure that a complete solution is found for the current situation with RAL,” said Mr Sandford.

“With that in mind we will negotiate where possible with any entity that wishes to hold the Whakapapa assets and business.”

He said they are also conscious that they will need to be mindful of and, work together with DoC, RDC, Ngāti Rangī, Ngāti Uenuku, possibly other iwi, and RAL Life Pass holders.

Volunteer administrator John Fisk has said that the Crown is taking the lead role in working on a long-term arrangement for the ski areas.

It is understood that there is at least one other party looking to buy Turoa and another for both fields.

John Sandford said although Turoa would be run separately, they could still

co-operate on lift passes.

On social media, Mr Sandford rejected a comment that the process “could be usurped by a closed-door, back-room deal to sell the assets for \$1 to a related party in a sweet-heart deal that privatised the skifields in the unilateral control of private investors while leaving the community out in the cold”.

He said it was not a given that they could buy just Turoa and that the “back-room deal” comment is “unrealistic at best”.

“Just to be clear, it is intended that the proposal I am promoting will have a very wide shareholder base.

“Anyone who has an interest in seeing a thriving business at Turoa will have an opportunity to participate.

“While we are only interested in Turoa, we are committed to working with a purchaser of the business at Whakapapa to ensure operational efficiencies and customer benefits for all, where possible.”



Matt Chisholm has signed on as Ambassador for the Rural Support Trust

and he’s back for 2023 on a nationwide tour talking to rural communities about mental wellbeing. With the support of the regional Rural Support Trusts across New Zealand and our proud partners, we are looking forward to bringing Matt to Taumarunui.

- Date:** Tuesday 4 April 2023
- Time:** 6:00pm Doors open with a light dinner to start
- Venue:** Eels Rugby Club Rooms, Cherry Grove Road, Taumarunui

Tickets are limited, please RSVP for catering purposes. Cash bar available.

Together with our proud partners



Kiwi Forever provides ‘holistic world view of nature’

Kiwi Forever – a week-long programme for secondary school students from around the region that is focussed on conservation – wrapped up on Friday.

The programme is based on a partnership between Ngāti Rangī, Genesis Energy, Department of Conservation, and Project Tongariro.

For the week a group of rangatahi from schools across the region arrived on Sunday and stayed until Friday afternoon; all focused on the kaupapa for which they had been selected to uphold.

Students are selected for the scholarship because of their interest in the natural environment, conservation and/or their leadership skills.

Ruapehu WorX played a key role in providing the youth with experience of Trap NZ, GPS and radio - and put them to work in the forests.

The programme is designed to engage student in hands-on experiential learning about conservation and mātauranga Māori, a holistic world view of nature, people and place.

Students take part in a range of activities to highlight the importance of Aotearoa’s unique biodiversity, including exploring the Ngāti Rangī view of the environment, pest control work, ngahere (forest) restoration, renewable energy, and kiwi conservation issues.

“It is an amazing opportunity for learning and a hands-on experience of the art of being tangata tiaki,” said a spokesperson.

“We are especially indebted to Uncle Keith Wood, Auntie Mercia and their whānau who have invested so much in this kaupapa; Cam Speedy for his professionalism and expertise and Tiorangi Marae for their manaaki.”

Keith and Mercia wood and all their whānau have committed the last 18 years to KiwiForever.

“It is a remarkable commitment to intergenerational learning; to all our rangatahi and of course to the protection and preservation of Kiwi.”



Trapping pests is a major part of the Kiwi Forever programme that focusses on Ruapehu ngahere (forest). Photo supplied.

THE CROSSWORD

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- Across**
7. Native New Zealand feathery tussock grass (6)
8. Soak (6)
10. Co-producer and star of *Muru*, a 2022 film about the 2007 Te Urewera police raids (4,3)
11. Influence, power (inf) (5)
12. Belonging to us (4)
13. Resides (5)
17. Artist's stand (5)
18. Extinct New Zealand bird (4)
22. Pounce upon (5)
23. Hamilton's nickname (3,4)
24. Writer (6)
25. Dive (6)
- Down**
1. Sheep or cattle farm (7)
2. Name of a large man-made lake, and a nearby mountain (7)
3. Film (5)
4. NZ's most popular summer sport (7)
5. Madden (5)
6. Slide (5)
9. Nickname of a former NZ Prime Minister and Governor-General, prominent 1957-1980 (4,5)
14. NZ film director who received an Oscar for *The Power of the Dog* (7)
15. Uncompetitive races, usually for fundraising or awareness (3,4)
16. Bike bag (7)
19. Customary (5)
20. Privacy compartment (5)
21. Goggle-box (inf) (5)

Previous solution
Across: 1. Fatuous, 4/7. Jason Ryan, 8. Biennial, 10. Tāne Mahuta, 12. Mānuka, 13. Dreamy, 15. Watermelon, 18. Bandanna, 19. Dale, 20. Swarm, 21. Shut-eye.
Down: 1. First, 2. Training, 3. Slight, 4. Janet Frame, 5. Said, 6. Nullify, 9. Smoke alarm, 11. Tall tale, 12. Minibus, 14. Tennis, 16. Niece, 17. ENZA.

Night sky display for the Rocket

A night sky information panel will be unveiled at the Carrot Rocket ‘launch’ at the Ohakune Carrot Adventure Park on Saturday in Ohakune.

Park trustee Dave Scott wanted to include information on the stars with the rocket, to help children playing at the rocket to learn more about what’s beyond Earth.

He approached the Royal Astronomical Society of New Zealand, hoping for some help in providing accurate information that the Park could use.

But the Society went a lot further – agreeing to not only provide information, but also design and provide the information panel.

“We want to send kids into space in their imagination,” says Dave.

“They got excited and offered to back it completely.”

Nalayini Davies, president of the Royal Astronomical Society said the display panel entitled ‘A Journey through Space – From Earth to Andromeda’ is designed by RASNZ member Gareth Davies.

“The panel will stand alongside a space rocket specially constructed by the Ohakune Carrot Adventure Park Trust for the future enjoyment and education of visitors to ‘Ohakune Carrotland’.

Why a Carrot rocket?

What does Ohakune’s Carrot Park, a rocket and a London-based, YouTube video star have in common? They’re all linked through a self-published autobiography, without the subject knowing anything about it.

Profits from the sale of the book helped build the Carrot Rocket and Carrotland, which is being ‘launched’ this Saturday.

YouTube video pair Josh Carrott (with two t’s) and Ollie Kendall visited the Ohakune Carrot Adventure Park in 2017, while they were in the area to walk the Tongariro Alpine Crossing.

They featured “Carrotland” as they called it, in an episode of their weekly YouTube video “Jolly”, which has so far had over 617,000 views.

Later, Ollie decided that through their YouTube channel, there was enough material on Josh to put together a biography on his friend. As the words are all Josh’s, he decided it was an autobiography.

The launch of the book, titled *Once Upon A Time In Carrotland: My YouTube Autobiography Which I Definitely Wrote All Of*, was done on their regular YouTube channel, which was the first time Josh found out about the project.

“He’s about to become a globally-published author, and he has no idea,” says Ollie in the introduction, explaining that the book launch is a birthday present to Josh.

“You ... are the first person in history to unknowingly write and publish your own autobiography,” he tells Josh.

The book features their visit to Ohakune and part-way through the presentation to Josh, Ollie introduces none other than Dave Scott, instigator of the Carrot Park, or “Carrotland” as the pair would have it.

Turn to Page 5

Captain Festus sets sail for the Carrot

The master of music and mischief, Captain Festus McBoyle and his crew of swashbuckling entertainers are setting sail for this Saturday’s launch of the Carrot Rocket on Saturday. The salty crew are promising a hilarious adventure on the high seas of comedy. Armed with a barrel of cheeky humour and a chest full of side-splitting songs, the Captain is joined by his wife Miss Lucy Drawers and strongman extraordinaire ‘The Great Ebenezer’. Together they offer a voyage into their weird and wonderful world for young and the young at heart.



NZ Landmark of the Year prepares for launch

Fans of the Ohakune Carrot can join the festivities to celebrate the launch of the new Ohakune Carrot Rocket on Saturday 1 April in Ohakune.

This follows the recent success of the Big Carrot, which was voted as the 2023 New Zealand Landmark of the Year in Caltex NZ's nationwide competition.

A first of its kind, family fun event, the Ohakune Carrot Rocket Launch kicks off at 10am at the iconic Ohakune Carrot Adventure Park with food stalls, garden plants, crafts, face painting, entertainment and giveaways.

"Come as you are or come in fancy dress. It will be a spectacular day of celebration with internationally renowned YouTube stars Ollie and Josh from JOLLY and their popular Korean Englishman channel, as our very special guests of honour," says Dave Scott from the Ohakune Carrot Adventure Park Trust.



Carrot Park trustees Dave Scott and Peggy Frew.

Why a Carrot rocket?

From Page 4

Dave congratulates Josh on the publication of his autobiography, then explains that he and Ollie have been working on plans for the "Carrott Rocket".

"I have been in contact with Ollie and he is confident that your fans, the 'Jollybeans' will buy enough copies to make this dream a reality," says Dave.

Josh asks Dave if he has ever met anyone with Carrott as their name, to which he replies "no, not with two t's". The episode has had over 1.1 million views.

Ex-Ohakune resident Murray Swan worked on designs for the rocket, which was built in Piopio.

The rocket has a cockpit at the base so children can climb in and take a seat, then push a button to start lights flashing, followed by a countdown, then an "audio blast off".

You can view the "Carrottland" video at https://youtu.be/kdh_5pxya44

Jolly first discovered the Ohakune Carrot back in 2017 while on holiday and wanted to donate a statue to the Ohakune Carrot Adventure Park to commemorate their love for the humble yet giant 7.5 metre tall Ohakune Carrot.

The Ohakune Carrot Rocket was the winning idea for the statue with its build commencing in 2021 with funding raised from Jolly's 5-star rated book *Once Upon A Time In Carrotland*.

Attracting an average of 10,000 visitors per month, the award-winning Ohakune Carrot Adventure Park, being renamed as Carrotland, is a beloved local attraction that boasts a spectacular array of larger-than-life vegetables including Muncho Manchester the Carrot, Crimson King Swede, Sir Lancelot Brussels Sprout, Perla Potato and Panorama Parsnip.

"Dreamed up and developed by a team of local volunteers, the Ohakune Carrot Adventure Park pays homage to the rich growers heritage in our region and shows our love for our people and place," adds Dave.

Jollybeans from around the world have shared their enthusiasm for the Ohakune Carrot Rocket Launch. The 1 April event is no joke with the unveiling of the Ohakune Carrot Rocket set for 11.30 am. Entry is free.



Carrot Park trustee Dave Scott, left, video chats with Josh Carrott and Ollie Kendall on their YouTube Show. A model of the carrot rocket sits on the laptop.

IT'S NOT A JOKE!

FREE ENTRY

Saturday 1st April 2023

OHAKUNE CARROT ROCKET LAUNCH

From 10am | Jolly Team arrives at 11.30am for Carrot Rocket Launch

Vegetable, Plant, Craft, Merchandise and Food Stalls
Live Music & Childrens Entertainment

Come in your Best Fancy Dress

visitruapehu.com/rocket

Ohakune Raetihi Garden Club

Carrot Rocket Launch
Plant Stall
Saturday 1 April

Contact Di
021 165 7343.

Annual Plan 2023/24

Have your say.



Intro.

Council's Annual Plan sets out what services and infrastructure we plan to deliver over the up-coming 2023/2024 financial year and how we plan to fund it.

In the current environment we are facing a wide range of pressures on our finances including high inflation with increases in interest, depreciation and supplier costs amongst other things.

These pressures have challenged Council to keep rates and fees and charges affordable and we have worked hard to find spending reductions.

We are proposing an average 8% rate rise and increases in fees and charges to recover cost increases over the last couple of years and a debt level of \$60.5m.

While the proposed average 8% rate increase is higher than we would like with general inflation being over 7% it is considered an absolute minimum to meet increasing costs without impacting on essential services and infrastructure needs.

The proposed increases will provide Council with a sustainable level of funding to maintain reliable services while maintaining fiscal responsibility. Council now invites you to have your say on our Annual Plan proposals.

Consultation on our Annual Plan proposals is open from Monday 27 March until Wednesday 26 April.

Please take some time to inform yourself of the issues and tell us what you think to help inform Council's final decision.

Key points.

- Proposed 8% average rate increase and debt of \$60.5m to maintain levels of service and fiscal responsibility.
- Proposed increases to fees and charges required due to inflation and to maintain cost recovery.
- Operational spending of \$51m and \$21.2m on capital investment.
- Debt of \$60.5m exceeds self-imposed 2x rates revenue limit but under Local Government Funding Agency prudent debt level of \$68.9m.
- When new multi-regional water entities take over water services and associated debt from 1 July 2024 Council debt will be within self-imposed debt limit.
- The high inflationary environment with market pressures and rising interest rates are the underlying story to the Annual Plan budget.

Proposals we would like feedback on.

1. **The proposed 8% average rate increase.**
2. **The proposed increases in Council's fees and charges.**
3. **Council exceeding our self-imposed debt limit of 2x rates revenue.**
4. **Anything else relating to the Annual Plan.**

More info.

For more information including a Consultation Document and online Feedback Form see: ruapehudc.govt.nz (see link from the homepage) or pick-up from your local Council office.

Community hui.

The mayor, elected members and council staff will be available at community hui around the district to discuss the Annual Plan and listen to feedback. Hui will be live-streamed on Facebook.

Date	Location-Venue	Start
Tue 28 March	Waiouru - Waiouru School, Ruapehu Rd	6.30pm
Thu 30 March (before WWCB hui)	Raetihi - The Centre, Baptist Church Hall	6.00pm
Tue 4 April	Ohakune - Council Chambers, Ayr St	6.30pm
Thu 6 April (before TOCB hui)	Taumarunui - Council Chambers, Huia St	6.00pm
Tue 11 April	National Park - The Park Hotel	6.30pm
Thu 13 April	Ohura - Ohura Hall	6.30pm
Fri 14 April (Lunchtime hui - attend in person or on Zoom)	Taumarunui Council Chamber or on Zoom (see ruapehudc.govt.nz for Zoom link)	12.30 - 1.30pm
Tue 18 April (before ONPCB hui)	Owhango - Owhango Hall	6.30pm

Proposed **8%** avg. rate rise
to maintain current services.



Weston Kirton
MAYOR JP
RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA-Ā-ROHE O RUAPEHU



Ngāti Rangi group tour the WPI mills

A group from Ngāti Rangi iwi toured the Winstone Pulp International pulpmill at Karioi and the sawmill at Tangiwai

recently, to witness the environmental management activities at the sites. In 2009 Ngāti Rangi signed an agree-

ment with Winston Pulp International to provide a forum for communication in respect of environmental management of the sites and, in particular, in regard to the discharge of waste into the Whangaeu River.

The tour, led by WPI manager Mike Ryan and sawmill manager Stuart Gibson, also included the wastewater plant and the wetlands pilot project.

The group was impressed with the skill and dexterity required for many of the operations, including allocating different logs to different timber sizes, as demonstrated by Ngāti Rangi iwi member Leonard Pirere.

"The technology and the level of competency required to navigate a complex series of decisions all at once is staggering," said the group.



Leonard Pirere operates the log sorter at the Tangiwai Sawmill, with Ngāti Rangi Pou Whirinaki Deana Wilson and Mike Ryan.

Pony ball a winner

The Waimarino Pony Club held their first ball at the Rangataua Hall on Saturday, with the theme of "off to the races" with the community showing up "looking glamorous and ready to dance the night away".

"The historical Rangataua Hall was decorated and set the scene for a great night, with band Doc Brown from Tauranga playing awesome music throughout the night," said Angela McCoubrie.

"Delicious finger food was provided by the team at Osteria.

"There was also a live and silent auction held with auctioneer extraordinaire Dan Steele, which proved to be very successful."

The Club offers "a massive thank you" to all those businesses who donated prizes and supported the event and to all those who bought tickets and came along to raise funds for our horse riding kids, who benefit from learning so much more than

just riding horses.

"Pony Club teaches the kids about looking after animals, about getting outside even when it's raining, to be resilient and brave when things get tough and to celebrate the success of others as well as themselves."

Angela thanked Desarie Drayton for her dedication to bringing the community a night to remember, her attention to detail and commitment to providing a fabulous event.

She said the night was not only financially successful but there was also a feeling of togetherness and celebration throughout the night with a very fun atmosphere.

The 2023 Quality Presentations Mounted Games Zone 2 Final will be held at the Waimarino A&P showgrounds this Sunday, if people are keen for some horsey entertainment and to see some of our riders in action.



It is all about the kids, some of the riders from Pony club camp in January. Below: dancing the night away. Photos supplied.



NEW LISTING



Ohakune 5 Toe Toe Lane

Land and build package

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RUAPEHU BULLETIN 29 March 2023 • 7

Over 100 volunteers refurbish Ohakune community hall

For the last five months, Ohakune residents may have noticed an increase in activity in Arawa Street – with many visitors arriving and all with the same purpose – volunteer in extensively refurbishing the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses.

Members of the local congregation have been meeting at this building for worship since it was built in 1965. The age of the hall was starting to show, so in 2018, the decision was made to extensively refurbish the Kingdom Hall. Due to Covid-19, the project was postponed to 2022.

Local resident Skye Perrett said that she was very excited to hear that the Kingdom Hall was getting a refurbishment.

“The congregation was buzzing when we received the start dates for the refurbishment,” Ms Perrett said.

The project included constructing a car park, recladding the exterior of the building, lowering the ceiling, adjusting the internal layout within the hall, installing insulation, double glazing, and air-conditioning.

Such an extensive refurbishment would have been impossible for the congregation of 34 individuals. However, due to being primarily financed by voluntary donations and over 100 workers from all over New Zealand and Australia volunteering for the project, the refurbishment was accomplished.

Many volunteers were qualified tradespeople, while others had less experience but were willing to learn and ready to help wherever needed.

An 18-year-old volunteer who initially felt nervous, was put at ease by the kind construction team.

“I got to help out with demolition and installing carpet,” Ashlea Hale said.

“It was quite nerve-racking to start with because I didn’t really have many skills, but everyone was so kind while explaining what to do and made sure you felt comfortable.”

The project faced several challenges caused by unpredictable weather and delays in receiving equipment and furniture.

Volunteer Barry MacDonald said the team decided to pour concrete for the carpark despite the wet weather.

“At the start of the day, it was pouring down with rain, but we decided to go ahead and hope that the weather improved,” Mr MacDonald said.

“As soon as we started to pour the concrete the rain suddenly stopped and was perfect weather for curing concrete.”

Local resident Allan Perrett said the refurbishment finished ahead of schedule.

“We anticipated delays with equipment and seating for the hall,” Allan Perrett said.

“But everything arrived on time, we received final consent for the refurbishment and we were able to hold our first meeting sooner than we expected.”

Long-time Ohakune resident Jackie Collett was impressed by the construction team’s efforts when she saw the result of the finished refurbishment.

“The first time I walked in once it was finished, I checked everything and opened every door to see what had been done.” Ms Collett said.



Ohakune resident Jackie Collett says the team have done “a beautiful, marvelous job”.

Raetihi sculpture wows



A new wall sculpture in Raetihi is a pleasing addition to the streetscape, but one reader sent us this to show that it is even more spectacular at night.

“They have done a beautiful, marvellous job. It looks sophisticated.”

Jehovah’s Witnesses in Ohakune are looking forward to using the newly refurbished Kingdom Hall for a special global programme on Sunday 2 April 2023 at 10:00 am featuring the theme, “You Can Face the Future with Confidence!”.

They also look forward to the annual observance of the Memorial of Jesus Christ’s death on Tuesday 4 April 2023 at 7:00 pm.

All meetings are free of charge and open to the public. Ohakune residents and visitors are invited to attend and gain an opportunity to visit the Kingdom Hall to see the results of the extensive refurbishment carried out by volunteers.

Weekly meetings are also held at the Kingdom Hall and open to the public on Thursdays at 7:00pm and Sundays at 10:00am.

For more information contact Jehovah’s Witnesses at (+64) 27204-2972 or pid.au@jw.org



It was all hands on deck for several stages of the Kingdom Hall in Ohakune, including the concrete pour for the Hall’s carpark. Photos supplied.



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PUBLIC NOTICES



**Nga Morehu O Uenuku Te Kohanga Reo
NOTICE OF AGM**

19 April 2023, 4pm
at 2 Hukaroa Rd, Raetihi

Election of officers

- Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Nau mai haere mai

Mangamingi Pa Trust AGM

Rapana Paora Whanau Trust AGM

Reureu 1 Sub 20A Trust AGM

Mangamingi Farm Trust AGM

Saturday 13 May 2023 – 10am
Mangamingi Pa, Ohakune Road, Raetihi

Agenda:

Karakia
Apologies
Minutes of last AGM
Annual Financial Report
Matters Arising
Chairmans Report
General Business

PUBLIC NOTICES

Section 101, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
Ruapehu Rugby & Sports Club Inc have made an application to the District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council for the **Renewal and Variation of a Club Licence** in respect of the premises situated at **Rochfort Park, Raetihi Road, Ohakune** known as **Ruapehu Rugby & Sports Club**. The variation refers to the following: **That the licenced area be extended to an outdoor viewing platform on the upper level of the Club Rooms.**
The general nature of the business to be conducted under the licence is that of a **Sports Club**. The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is intended to be sold under the licence for this area are: **Monday to Sunday: 12.00pm – 12.00am.**
The application may 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 only publication of this notice.

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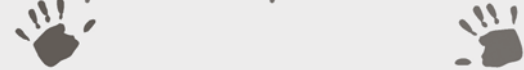
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COMPLIANCE OFFICER SOUTHERN



Our Licensing and Compliance team is looking for an experienced Compliance Officer.

The position is to ensure statutory requirements are met for animal management, noise, parking, litter and Council bylaws.

This includes working with the Community to educate them on their legal responsibilities and assist them into gaining compliance.

You should have experience in handling dogs and stock, ideally an understanding of animal behaviour. You must have an ability to show empathy, both to animals and owners.

You will need to have the ability to use your initiative, work unsupervised and be able to form clear decisions, sometimes in difficult, tense situations.

Excellent customer service skills, an ability to multi task and be prepared to work effectively in a multi-cultural environment.

The successful applicant will have:

- excellent oral communication and interpersonal skills
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- a current valid New Zealand drivers' licence

Local geographical knowledge is an advantage not a necessity. This is a permanent role, primarily located in Ohakune & Raetihi.

If you are interested in learning more about this role, or would like to apply please check out our website.

www.ruapehudc.govt.nz

Applications close Monday 24 April 2023.

Don Linklater Memorial Bursary applications open

Applications for the Horizons Regional Council Don Linklater Memorial Bursary are now open until Friday 21 April 2023.

Valued at \$8000, the bursary is available to support students whose area of study is relevant to the work that Horizons does. The bursary can be divided among up to four recipients.

The Bursary was established to honour the late Don Linklater, who was Horizons chair from 1989 to 2000.

The bursary covers study at undergraduate or post-graduate level, in areas like environmental planning and engineering, resource management, and environmental modelling – with a particular interest in river and drainage basin dynamics.

Horizons councillor Te Keneti Teira, who sits on the panel for the bursary, says it helps to fund students studying in areas which align with Horizons' areas of business.

"It is so important to foster a passion for environmental work in our region, and to be able to support our aspiring leaders in their study is an investment in the future of resource management," says Cr Teira.

Previous bursary recipients, Claire Gordon and Danielle Thompson, were both recognised for their interest in science and engineering fields respectively.

Claire Gordon was studying toward a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Geography and minoring in Environmental Science at the University of Canterbury, with the hope of becoming a farm consultant. Danielle Thompson was studying toward a Bachelor of Engineering, with a particular interest in regenerative planning and development.

Eligible applicants for the bursary will be New Zealand citizens or residents, and must be from the Horizons region. However, they can be studying outside the region.

The selection panel will also consider any connections applicants may have to iwi/hapū within the region.

Applications for the bursary close at 8am on Friday 21 April 2023. No late applications will be considered. The selection panel will be comprised of Horizons councillors and staff, and any shortlisted applicants will meet with the panel.

For those interested in applying for the bursary, they can do so at the Horizons website: <https://www.horizons.govt.nz/about-our-region-and-council/grants-and-sponsorship/don-linklater-memorial>

We aim to deliver a Bulletin to your letterbox every Wednesday – but if you are not receiving one, please let us know.

Email: ads@ruapehubulletin.co.nz or call 06 385 8532

Bikes on film at the Powderkeg

In its 9th year, The Big Bike Film Night will be celebrating cycling in all shapes and forms at the Powderhorn Chateau in Ohakune next week with a programme described as 'a feast of short films devised and designed for the two-wheel devotee'.

Since 2015, The Big Bike Film Night shows a love of cycling to cinemas, presenting an array of international and New Zealand movies specifically selected by Taupō based curator – "Film Pedlar", Brett Cotter.

"Each year I set out with just one goal – to bring together the best cycling short films from around the world for our audiences, celebrating the fun, the adventure, and inspiration that bikes enable," says Cotter.

The 2023 collection contains 10 films that are "as varied and diverse as you could hope for" and contains a strong contingent of Kiwi films, including a world premiere, alongside an assortment of international films.

Return to Dillon Cone, shot in the rugged coastal Kaikōura ranges, will be making its world premiere at the festival, and is from Canterbury filmmakers Dylan Gerschwitz and Deane Parker. The film follows a team who have spent five years formulating a dream ... an attempt to reach an unriden peak accessible only by river.

The expedition takes on the jagged gorges of the Clarence River (Waiau-toa awa) by packraft, and afterwards travelling by mountain bike, in their pursuit of

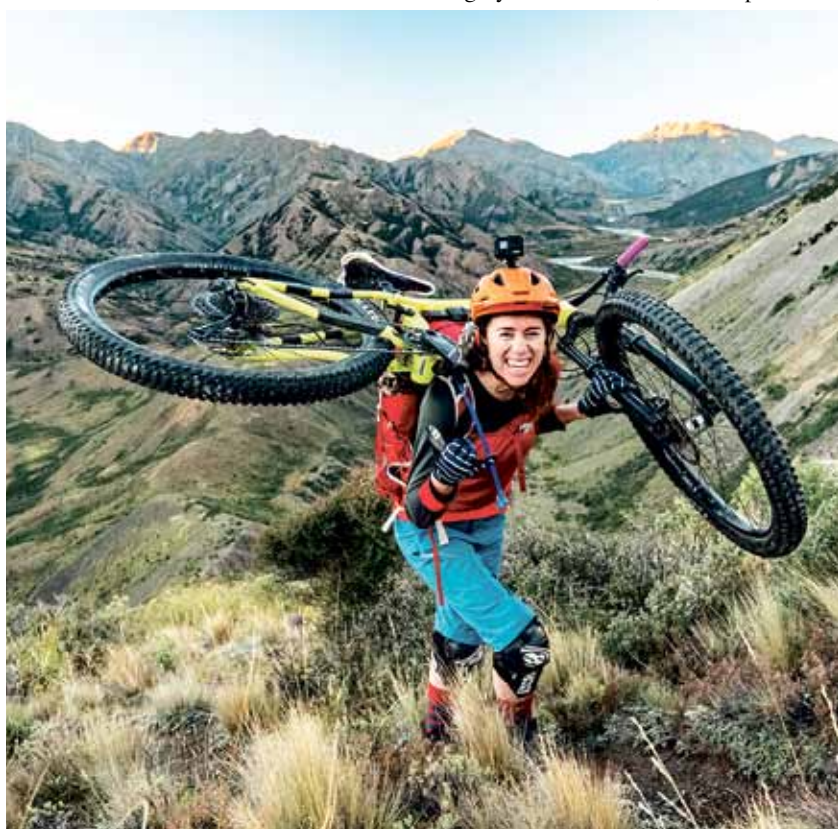
summitting the steep shingle-laid slopes of the imposing Dillon Cone.

Another film is set in Tuscany following a 74-year old bicicetta rider "whose spirit personifies cycling"; a young Australian bikepacker shares lessons from her scenic trip to Hell; two schools offer insights into how they promote active transport within their school community; a tale of a rider with a searing thirst for adventure exploring interior Iceland; putting the 'mountain' into mountain biking – the eyes of a Scottish highlander are opened to the healing power of the bicycle; an uplifting film that celebrates a humble volunteer whose community spirit is inspiring and so are the majestic winter views of the trail where he lives in rural heartland Central Otago; a human-powered

movie that follows a family that chooses to live life to the fullest in the face of adversity; and what happens when you combine a ultra-distance 320km gravel race and parenting together over a 24-hour period.

"The power of storytelling is at the forefront of what we offer, and the belief that the humble bicycle can improve our health, inspire and uplift people with where it can take us; connecting communities with stories that captivate us, stories that make us think, and most importantly of all, inspiring us to get out and ride," says Cotter.

The Big Bike Film Night will be screening at the Powderhorn Chateau in Ohakune on Thursday 6 April, 7pm. See advertisement this issue, or visit www.bigbikefilmnight.nz.



An expedition to mountain bike Dillon Cone in the Kaikōura Ranges is the subject of one of the films on show.



Expressions of interest to Cam 027 586 1015



HAVE YOU GOT AN EVENT

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**Share your experience of life
in Ruapehu and help lift
community wellbeing**



Council's award winning digital portal called Pūwehnuā ki Ruapehu combines insights into life in Ruapehu with data on housing, health, education, crime, spending and access to services amongst other things.

It is allowing Council and other service providers to better understand community need and wellbeing and design tailored solutions to address these.

The personal experiences play a critical role in filling gaps in the data while providing unique insights into the challenges and issues whānau have living in Ruapehu.

As an example the portal helped to shine a light on the true nature of housing issues in Ohakune and unlock Government funding to build much needed social housing.

To maintain the power of the portal we need our community stories to remain timely and relevant.

By taking a few minutes to share* your experience of living in Ruapehu via the attached survey you can help us lift our collective wellbeing.

*Any shared personal details are kept strictly confidential.



Use your phone and the QR code to
open the survey or if on your
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www.surveymonkey.com/r/F5KMQT6

Ohakune players, past and present, win top grades

Over the weekend Ohakune hosted the Ruapehu Commercial Cleaning and Property Maintenance Ltd sponsored B grade tournament. Sixty six entrants from around the country took part.

In the top men's division, ex-Ohakune player Dylan Budge from Lugton Park was the winner with Cody Paul from Hamilton runner up. In the women's top division Grace Burnard beat fellow Ohakune player Emma Rowe in the final.

In other division finals: men's division two Liam Burnard (Ohakune) beat Rawiri McKenzie (Turangi), women's division two Jane Parker (Ohakune) beat Renee Rogers (River City), men's division three Treye Ericksen (Dannevirke) beat Andrew Burnard (Ohakune), women's division three Fearn Phillips (Whakatane) beat Joanne McTeague (Taupo), men's division four Tyler Erasmuson (Whakatane) beat Archie Mills (Ohakune), men's division 5 Carter Lusty (Franklin) beat Matthew Dowman (Ashhurst), mixed division one Xavier Booth (Whanganui) beat Olivia Grey (Ohakune), J grade division Jessie Harding (Ohakune) beat Elise Drinkwater (Ohakune).

Results from last week's inter-business are: In pool A – Rock Boys beat Thrown

Together 11/3, Fenzoha75 beat Parked Up 15/4, Ontrack beat SB Painting 11/7 and Bolt had 9 points for the bye. In Pool B – Rock Girls beat PGG Wrightson 11/5, Riley's Rockstars beat Luck of the Draw 12/9, Nameless beat Bulky Pulpies 12/9 and AEIOU had 9 points for the bye. Points after four rounds and with new member 10 point joining bonuses added in Pool A – Bolt 54, Fenzoha75 50, Ontrack 40, Rock Boys 39, Thrown Together 34, Parked Up 30 and SB Painting 22. In Pool B – Nameless 50, Luck of the Draw 48, PGG Wrightson 45, Rock Girls 43, Bulky Pulpies 42, Riley's Rockstars 33 and AEIOU 27.

Draw for this Thursday: At 5:30pm on New World Court – Fenzoha75 vs SB Painting, on TCB/Jones Bro's Court – Thrown Together vs Ontrack, on Trust Power Court – Bolt vs Parked Up, bye Rock Boys. At 6:45pm on New World Court - Bulky Pulpies vs Riley's Rockstars, on TCB/Jones Bro's Court – PGG Wrightson vs Luck of the Draw, on Trust Power Court – AEIOU vs Nameless, bye Rock Girls.

Teams are reminded that this is the last week for new member bonuses. Locks will be changed on Thursday as 2023 subs will be due.



Grace Burnard beat fellow-Ohakune player Emma Rowe in the top women's division final in Saturday's tournament. Photo: Holly Deadman.

Time to gear up for Gutbuster

The Raetihi Gutbuster is back after a break last year with new options suited to more locals, with fun run distances and ebike options.

The date changes too – switching from Easter to Saturday 22 April.

“The Raetihi Gutbuster has a range of fun, road bike, mountain bike, and e-bike options to challenge you in our unique and welcoming landscape,” says organiser Cathy Rogers.

“If you're not a keen biker, why not check out the running and walking events.”

Participants can chose from a 5km walk/run, a 21km half marathon, a 25km bike ride and a 50km bike ride along Raetihi-Pipiriki Road.

Cathy Rogers said the new events were added at the request of previous competitors and with the hope of increasing local involvement in the event.

“The 5km event seems to be a very popular event elsewhere and, by adding that one, we hope to get more local participation.”

The streets of Raetihi will be the course for the 5km run, suitable for those who wanted to get their children involved.

“We've had an excellent response from local schools around here, so that's a really positive outcome already.”

The half-marathon was added to replace the previous 18km run/walk/bike because it was a more common distance for a race and would make the event simpler and more accessible.

It will see runners leave Raetihi and complete a 10.5km route along Raetihi-Pipiriki Road and Waipuna Road before turning around and heading back to town.

The Gutbuster gets its name from the steep inclines along Raetihi-Pipiriki Road, especially punishing when riding from Pipiriki to Raetihi.

“The people that started it 12 years ago gave it that name because it was going to be quite challenging on the legs and the lungs, getting up some of those hills.”

The 50km race will start in Raetihi, with riders making their way down the road, turning around at Pipiriki and returning back along the road, while the 25km will start in Pipiriki, with the cyclists being bussed there to ride back to Raetihi.



Cyclists line up for the Raetihi Gutbuster race, from Raetihi down to Pipiriki and back. Photo supplied.

Registration for the event is already open and will close on the morning of the event, with every entrant receiving a goodie bag unique to the region.

Each competitor will take home a bag of local produce, including carrots, parsnips and potatoes.

“That's what we're famous for, so we give away a goodie bag of

fresh local vegetables,” Rogers said.

Everyone who finishes their race will also receive a medal, with winners taking home prizes.

Organisers are hoping for around 150-200 people, up from 120 last time.

Info and entries: www.raetihi-gutbuster.com

stronger together...



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

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