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Ruapehu

Bulletin

1 October 2025

Issue No 2077

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



Far West

to turn

soon

P2



Solar for

social

housing

P3



Spring

on

show

P4



Awards for

outdoors

experts

P5

RDC condemns threats and vandalism in local elections

Ruapehu District Council chief executive Clive Manley is calling out the abuse and harassment directed at local body election candidates, saying it has no place in a functioning democracy and must stop.

Manley said that, unfortunately, during the current election period some candidates have been subjected to threatening behaviour, including personal confrontation in public and the deliberate damage or removal of campaign billboards.

“No one should face abuse, intimidation, or discrimination simply for doing their job or for the decisions they have supported during their term in office.

“This behaviour is completely unacceptable and must stop. It undermines the democratic process and discourages good people from standing for office.”

He said Ruapehu is fortunate to have elected members from a wide range of backgrounds and life experiences.

“This diversity of perspectives is a real strength in Council’s decision making.

“Our community benefits when people with different views and skills come together to debate issues openly and respectfully.”

Manley stressed that all Council decisions are made in a transparent forum, with many ways for the public to contribute.

“Anyone can present directly to Council in the public forum, make a formal submission on key proposals such as the Long-Term Plan, or engage through consultations on major projects.

“Robust debate is healthy – but harassment and vandalism, such as tearing down billboards or confronting candidates in the street, is not.”

He added that councillors often debate issues intensely before reaching a decision.

“For a democracy to function, once a decision is made through the proper process, Council implements that decision. That is how local government works.”

Manley urged the community to show respect for all candidates and for the democratic process.

“Elections should be about ideas and vision, not intimidation.

“We ask everyone to participate constructively through the ballot box so Ruapehu can continue to be well served by capable and courageous elected members,” he said.



RDC's Clive Manley says abuse and harassment of local election candidates has no place in a functioning democracy and must stop, urging everyone to participate constructively.



Paul Stieglbauer, Retro Day organiser, with skis winner Maja Roodzant after her “retro fine” was drawn out of the box. What started as a gloomy day on Tūroa on Saturday, soon cleared to be a great ski day and another hugely successful Retro Day, with the turnout on Tūroa and at The Kitchen bigger than ever, says organiser Paul Stieglbauer. The day features games and competitions including people being “fined” for their 1980’s retro outfits. “So much fun and frivolity with many Retro dressed people turning up,” says Paul. The Retro team thanks the sponsors for their donations of spot prizes: Head, Marmot, Kim Young & Sons, La Pizzeria, Ohakune Hot Tubs, Powerkeg, Tūroa, Scott Goggles, Vuarnet, Morrell Motors, SLR, TCB, The Chocolate Eclair Shop, The Ski Shed, Vertigo Climbing and the Ruapehu Bulletin. Photos: Jude Chevin.

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RUAPEHU BULLETIN 1 October 2025 • 1



Returning native trees to rivers and wetland in the Tongariro Region

2025 Community Planting Day

SAT, 11th OCTOBER
Mākōtuku Walkway

www.tongariro.org.nz



Meet by the tuna (eel) sculpture SH4 opposite Grey Street, Raetihi any time from 10am to 2pm

The Royal Theatre, Raetihi

Community Entertainment

The Tavern

Friday 10 October – 7.30pm
\$15 Supper included. Bar available.
Fundraiser for Ruapehu Rugby

Ruapehu Events & What's On

OCTOBER 2025

NZ Mountain Film Festival

Matterhorn Restaurant, upstairs at the Powderkeg, Ohakune Junction. See Ruapehu Bulletin for details. ohakune.info or ohakunejunction.co.nz Fundraiser for Predator Free Ohakune

1 October

Women's Freeride Event

All levels welcome. For more information see WHAKAPAPA.COM/EVENTS

1 October

Follow the Pro Session

For more information see WHAKAPAPA.COM/EVENTS

2 October

Meet Koha & Face Painting

Happy Valley Plaza from 10am–12pm For more information see WHAKAPAPA.COM/EVENTS

3 October

Pond Skim & Live Music

Pure mountain fun! (Weather back-up: Oct 5). For more information see WHAKAPAPA.COM/EVENTS

4 October

Ossies Open tournament

Enter via NZ Squash website or via the Ohakune Squash Club facebook page.

3 & 4 October

The Ladylike Movement

Visit www.pureturoa.nz or on Facebook/Instagram [@turoa.nz](https://www.instagram.com/turoa.nz) for up to date information.

4 October

Treasure Hunt

One last chance to join the great Whakapapa Treasure Hunt! For more information: Whakapapa.com/events

5 October

Ohura Open Day & Sculpture Unveiling

Market, Firestation Open Day & Meet the Candidates www.allfiredup.co.nz

5 October

Project Tongariiro Planting Day

Mākōtuku Walkway www.tongariro.org.nz

11 October

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New chair for Community Foundation

The Whanganui Community Foundation has announced the appointment of Kathy Cunningham as the new chair of the Board.

“Kathy brings a wealth of experience in community engagement, philanthropy, and leadership to her new role, and the Foundation is excited to welcome her guidance as it continues to support and enhance the well-being of communities across the Whanganui region,” says a Foundation representative.

They said Cunningham has a long-standing commitment to strengthening local communities, with an extensive background in governance with non-profit and commercial leadership.

“Her passion for positive change and her collaborative approach will be instrumental as the Foundation builds on its legacy of supporting local initiatives, empowering organisations, and responding to the evolving needs of Whanganui and its surrounding areas.”

“I am honoured to have been elected,” says Cunningham.

“I look forward to working alongside our Trustees, dedicated team, our partners, and the wider Whanganui community to continue making a difference where it matters most.”

The Board of the Foundation thanks the outgoing chair Dr Mike Paki for his six and a half years of service in this role and look forward to his continued involvement. The Board are also confident that Kathy’s appointment will usher in a new era of growth and community impact.



Kathy Cunningham, new chair of the Whanganui Community Foundation.

Eating out in the Ruapehu District

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KINGS BAR & RESTAURANT

3 Rimu St Ohakune Junction Ph: 06 385 8648

Est in 1913, historic Kings offers an inviting menu by international chefs, a great selection of boutique wines and craft breweries including award winning Ruapehu Brewing Co beers in the fridge and on tap. See our Facebook page for what's on. Please check our open times as these will vary.

LA PIZZERIA

6 Thames St, Ohakune Junction Ph: 06 385 8558

Ohakune's most famous pizza restaurant, for over 37 years we have been serving Ohakune's best pizza. Come up and see us in the "Junction" at the end of the Old Coach Road and try one of our hot, tasty, handmade pizzas. Same great menu available for takeaway. Open 7 days, 4 – late. Check us out online at: www.lapizzeria.co.nz

LKNZ LODGE & CAFE

1 Rata St, Ohakune Ph: 027 257 LKNZ (5569)

Open every day. Menu includes our delicious big breakfast, creamy mushrooms, homemade soups, wedges, nachos, toasties, waffles and more ... Volcanic coffee, muffins & scones, real fruit smoothies and thick shakes. Dine in or takeaway. Onsite parking. www.lknz.co.nz

POWDERKEG

Bottom of the mountain road Ph: 06 385 8888

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THE CYPRUS TREE

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Far West T Bar turning soon



The crew have been working hard to get the Far West T-Bar turning again. Photo: Whakapapa.

Whakapapa’s Far West T-Bar is nearly ready to turn, after crews worked last week to pull the cable and hoist it into place on the wheel assemblies.

The T-bar hasn’t operated for several seasons.

“After a challenging stretch of weather, it’s been a story of patience, persistence and a bit of magic from the crew as we work to bring the Far West T-bar back online” states the ski area.

The previous week’s storms stalled their search for four fine weather days to get the job done, but we’ve clawed back some momentum.

By Friday 19 September they had the rope back on in record time, despite ice making things trickier than usual and they were “just looking for a couple more days to finish setting things up”.

All going well, they hope to have the Far West T-bar operational this week.



Vote #1 Gary Griffin-Chappel

To be your voice on Council

Authorised by Gary Griffin-Chappel E:garyforrdc@gmail.com



It takes a team.

To govern Ruapehu.

John Chapman

For Ruapehu District Council.

www.jcforrdc.com

Authorised by: John Chapman Mākōtuku Farm Raetihi 4573

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Solar power switched on for social housing Ruapehu

The local council and a power company have combined to deliver a sustainable community housing solar project that benefits local people while supporting the growth of renewable energy.

“Neither organisation could have done this project on their own,” said The Lines Company’s chief executive Mike Fox.

“This solar initiative shows what’s possible when organisations with a shared purpose come together.”

The project supports the Ruapehu District Council’s ambition to shrink its carbon footprint and the company’s commitment to promoting renewable energy.

“Installing solar panels on our social housing properties is a meaningful step toward our decarbonisation goals and reflects our commitment to kaitiakitanga and environmental stewardship,” said Ruapehu’s mayor Weston Kirton.

Fox says the collaboration proves that strong local partnerships can deliver results that matter – lower costs for tenants, cleaner energy for the district and “real progress toward sustainability”.

Solar panels have already been installed on two lots of RDC’s community housing complexes in Taumarunui at Miriama

Street and Cherry Grove, with complexes in Taupō Road and Ohakune yet to be done.

TLC brought the know-how and connections from its other solar initiatives in the form of Chris & Co Electrical and Solar, while RDC saw the opportunity to improve their social housing.

The mayor said tenants will feel the difference in their weekly power bills and ratepayers can be confident that this initiative comes at no cost to them.

“It’s a practical win for our social housing tenants and the wider Ruapehu community.”

Brian Portland, who is a tenant at the Miriama Street complex, was onboard from the get-go.

“Every dollar saved is a dollar back in my pocket,” said Portland. “The whole process was seamless, from the pre-install contact to installation.”

“At TLC, we stand behind our commitment to building genuine partnerships with stakeholders and making a difference to the people connected to our network. This project ticks both those boxes,” said Fox. “We’re looking forward to more collaboration with RDC.”



Showing the Miriama Street flats sporting their brand new solar panels in the background, from left, Steven Straughan (Chris and Co solar manager), Chris Stear (Chris and Co director), Hannah McKinlay (TLC project manager community), Kyle Barnes (TLC future energy general manager), Weston Kirton, Mike Fox (TLC chief executive), tenant Brian Portland and Sharon Robinson (executive manager – regulatory & customer services).

Te Mātuku launches whānau reports for health decisions

By Moana Ellis, Local Democracy Reporting

Te Mātuku, the iwi-Māori partnership board for Te Ranga Tupua, has released a four-part series of whānau voice reports, capturing kōrero from families across Whanganui, Rangitīkei, Ruapehu and parts of South Taranaki.

The reports reveal that wellbeing is inseparable from equity of access, cultural safety and trust.

Covering a wide scope – from primary health care and child wellbeing to mental health, cancer screening, rural health and

kaumātua support – they provide a grass-roots view of what communities need most.

Te Mātuku manu tāiko/CEO Elijah Pue said the reports carry the weight of lived experience.

“Through whānau-led insights, we are forging a path towards local health services that are culturally grounded, equitable and responsive,” he said.

More than 276 people participated, supported by independent Māori research institute Te Atawhai o Te Ao. Participants, all with whakapapa to iwi of Te Ranga Tupua,

Turn to Page 5

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Letters

Moore cleaning

• What is the responsibility of Green by Nature when contracted by the Ruapehu District Council?

We are the Ruapehu Neighbour Support Group Moore Street, we love walking three minutes to town from our homes.

Walking alongside the riverside to the CBD has always been beautiful for all of us who have walked this path for over 50 years and longer.

Lately we have noticed that our water drains, which are most important and should be cleared of any leaf, sticks and rubbish, prevent flooding and right now our river levels are high due to all the rain which can be a safety concern.

There is also cans and bottles over the fence line on the corner of Moore and Clyde across from Rata Street along the river within bush and trees.

There was a local man doing this job. He was amazing at his mahi and went the extra mile. We respected him and always stopped for a chat – bloody good sort who we miss dearly. Now for some reason this person is no longer working for the company.

We can honestly say it's not been the same since.

Two members of the group only went to the corner yesterday, took their spade clearing the drain areas. They say don't moan about it, just do it and fix it.

This is our home, we are so proud to keep a clean street for all our visitors to enjoy, we cater to the Top 10 Holiday Park and the motels. Holiday times are very busy for Moore Street.

We believe in upkeep at all times.

Justin Bishop and the other 36 members from the Ruapehu Neighbourhood Support Group Moore Street

Tongariro rights

• Regarding the letter from Greg O'Connor Patena about "mana whenua" and "iwi" rights within Tongariro National Park (*Ruapehu Bulletin*, Letters, 24 September), could he please state what these rights are, who defines those rights, and who gets to administer the monetary compensation to soothe the "injuries" inflicted when those rights are disregarded?

Could Mr O'Connor Patena also state how the question from one Mr Grace: "can I go as far as 100 pounds for his signature" (as it relates to the gift of Tongariro National Park to the nation), affects "mana whenua" and "iwi" rights within the park.

Patrick Noel O'Sullivan, Ohakune Branch, New Zealand Society of Half Castes

Candidates write

This section is set aside for letters from Ruapehu District election candidates.

Letters are limited to 300 words and the Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any letter. Priority will be given to candidates who haven't had letters published previously.

Letters will be published as space allows.

Affordability of rates.

Steadily increasing annual rates, the overspend and service fee charges have all been part of many discussions during this election campaign.

My take on rates affordability is that for many residents in the Ruapehu District – based on a small population base spread over a large land area with many small communities – the annual increases to the rates bill will become difficult to pay or unaffordable for many and the increases we are and have been experiencing will not be sustainable.

I believe that the model to charge rates on household to pay for services and infrastructure in the district is broken.

In the very near future our council needs to start conversations with central government about who pays for what and how this money is raised.

These will be big and important conversations to have.

Our roads, water services, parks and reserves are enjoyed by everyone that comes to the Ruapehu District.

Add to that an under-investment for many years or decades in key areas like the three waters – drinking, waste and storm.

And for the most part the local ratepayer foots the bill for services and infrastructure provided. I understand the funding for roads works differently.

We all feel the pressure of rates increasing steadily, arguably they are too high and already have or soon will become unsustainable for many.

The challenge and task for the newly elected councillors and mayor for the Ruapehu District will be to bring the affordability of rates to the attention of central government.

And we need to bring our neighbouring districts with us to these conversations.

I expect many councils around the country to be in a similar situation.

There is lots of work to do to ensure that living and working in the Ruapehu District remains affordable for our residents.

Peter Zimmer Council Candidate for General Ward

Spring on show



The annual Waimarino Spring Show saw Raetihi's The Centre filled with colour recently. Photo: Liz Brooker,

The Ohakune Raetihi Garden Club held its annual Spring Show at The Centre in Raetihi on Saturday 20 September, combining with the monthly market day.

"The display of spring flowers was a sight to see," said Club committee member Di Rout, who added that the Waimarino area "can grow lots of wonderful flowers and shrubs".

She said the show was enjoyed very much by the public who visited.

"Thank you to all the club members who helped to make this event very successful."

Results: Most outstanding flower arrangement Bernice Frost. Top camellia Angel Joyce. Best trees & shrubs Lee Larsen. Champion narcissi Sue Deadman. Most outstanding cut lower Sue Deadman. Most outstanding flower, Wonder and Colin (no surname supplied). Points are given covering all the exhibits and the overall winner was Angel Joyce.

The club ran three raffles: Garden products and \$100 cash, both won by Viv Hoeta. A cluster of shrubs was won by Linda C.

THE WEEKLY WORKOUT

answers for each puzzle are included on this page

821

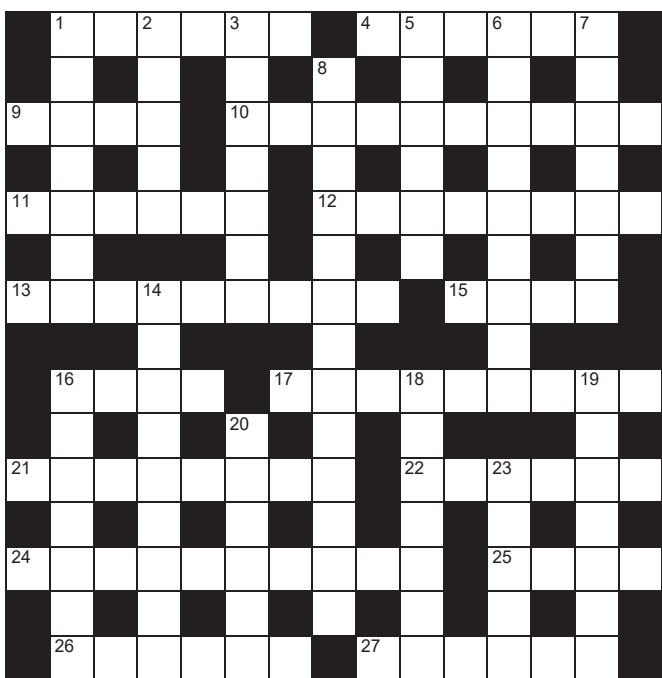
QUICK CROSSWORD

Across

- Worn away (6)
- Documents (6)
- Lawsuit (4)
- To begin with (10)
- Hindu festival of light (6)
- Perpendicular (8)
- Soldier of fortune (9)
- Stare (4)
- Bacteria (4)
- Caretaker (Fr) (9)
- Glade (8)
- Gently mocked (6)
- Tough luck (colloq) (4,6)
- Partly open (4)
- Move about violently (6)
- Boil with anger (6)

Down

- Shifty (7)
- Musical drama (5)
- Feeling (7)
- Place where bees are kept (6)
- Wipe out (9)
- Fabric edge (7)
- Persuasive (6-7)
- Divisive culinary herb (9)



- Chivalrous (7)
- Road marker (4,3)
- Hand explosive (7)
- Wealth (6)
- Separate (5)



Enjoy WordFit puzzles? Magazines available from www.thepuzzlecompany.co.nz

Puzzles © The Puzzle Company

SUDOKU

Fill the grid so every row, column and every 3x3 box contains 1-9

				1		7		
			6		7	4		9
			4	1	2			5
	8	3		5				
2								1
				9		3	6	
8				1	5	7		
4		1	3		2			
3		9						

1

HARD 2

9		4	6	2				
		1	5		9		6	
	8			1				2
				8	2	5	1	
		8	7		6	3		
	6	2	4	3				
3				7			8	
	5		8		3	4		
				9	4	6		5

EASY

The Top 10

- What's the name of the numerically obsessed vampire in *Sesame Street*?
- Who wrote *The Jungle Book*?
- Ancient Greeks thought the giraffe was a mix of which two animals?
- What is a perfect score in a game of 10-pin bowling?
- Soling, Star and Dragon are discontinued classes in what Olympic sport?
- Is Australia's population roughly four, five, or six times larger than New Zealand's?
- Which metal has the shortest name of any element, with only three letters?
- What biblical name links Tony Banks, Mike Rutherford, and Phil Collins?
- In motor racing, what does it mean if a driver is shown the black flag?
- Is the collective term for eagles a consternation, confederation, or convocation?

CROSSWORD

Across: 1. Eroded, 4. Papers, 9. Case, 10. Originally, 11. Diwali, 12. Vertical, 13. Mercenary, 15. Gaze, 16. Germ, 17. Concierge, 21. Clearing, 22. Teased, 24. Hard cheese, 25. Ajar, 26. Thresh, 27. Seethe. Down: 1. Evasive, 2. Opera, 3. Emotion, 5. Apiary, 6. Eradicate, 7. Salvage, 8. Silver-tongued, 14. Coriander, 16. Gallant, 18. Cat's eye, 19. Grenade, 20. Riches, 23. Apart.

SUDOKU

			1					2
8	1	7	2	9	4	6	3	5
2	5	9	6	3	7	1	4	8
3	4	6	1	7	5	2	8	9
5	6	2	4	3	1	7	9	8
1	9	8	7	5	6	3	2	4
4	7	3	8	2	5	1	9	6
6	8	5	3	1	7	9	4	2
7	2	1	5	4	6	8	7	3
9	3	4	6	2	8	1	5	7

Outdoor educators honoured at NZOIA Awards

Two Ruapehu “outdoor legends” have been nationally recognised for their outstanding contribution to the outdoors and outdoor education in Aotearoa.

At the recent NZOIA Excellence Awards 2025, Graeme Swift and Mel Harris from Hillary Outdoors were honoured with two of the organisation’s most prestigious awards.

Tall Tōtara Award: Graeme “Swift” Swift

Graeme’s name is well known across the outdoor education world. Over the past 16 years at Hillary Outdoors, Graeme, their current safety manager, has helped shape the backbone of their instructor development and delivery.

“His influence runs deep, from paddling rivers and leading bush missions to mentoring new instructors and assessing across multiple NZOIA disciplines,” says Rosie Coker from Hillary Outdoors.

Graeme is a long-standing NZOIA assessor – one of the few qualified canoe assessors in the North Island, “ensuring high standards and support are maintained for instructors across the region”.

In his personal time, Graeme is always

up for an adventure and is a dedicated dad of four. He seamlessly balances family life, work, and play. He brings the same spirit of exploration and care to his instructing as he does to his parenting.

The Tall Tōtara Award celebrates a role model who embodies excellence in outdoor leadership, and that’s Graeme to a tee.

Wāhine Toa Award: Mel Harris

“Mel Harris is the kind of leader who makes a difference just by being herself; calm, capable, grounded and deeply inspiring,” says Coker.

“As operations manager at our Tongariro Centre, Mel keeps things running smoothly and creates a culture of safety, trust, inclusion, and growth.”

Mel holds Bush 2, Rock 1 with Sport Climbing Endorsement, Alpine 1, and Canoe 1, and is a qualified NZOIA Assessor.

“She plays a huge role in training and mentoring the next generation of outdoor professionals, particularly wāhine, who look to her as a powerful example of strength, empathy, and integrity in leadership.”

She manages the operations of one of their busy Outdoor Education Centres,



Mel Harris and Graeme Swift – outdoors awards winners.

instructs their tertiary students across multiple disciplines, supports their new staff and volunteers for Inspiring Girls Expeditions, and still manages to get out and have her own adventures in her spare time.

The Wāhine Toa Award recognises a woman leader who inspires others to recreate, lead, and connect with te taiao

and Mel absolutely embodies this kaupapa.

“Their achievements at the 2025 NZOIA Awards are not just personal milestones, they’re a celebration of what’s possible when people lead with purpose, support others to grow, and stay curious about both the natural world and their own development,” says Coker.

Te Mātuku whanau reports

From Page 3

were engaged through surveys, interviews and hui.

“Their kōrero provides the foundation for understanding community priorities, experiences and aspirations in health and wellbeing,” Pue said.

Iwi-Māori partnership boards were established under the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act in 2022 to ensure Māori health needs and priorities are reflected in decision-making.

Pue said whānau voice is a critical touch point between the system and whānau.

“Engaging with our whānau will likely become the main function of IMPBs moving into the future.

“The release of the first four whānau voice reports signals our ongoing commitment to regular engagement and amplification of whānau perspectives, priorities and aspirations to inform decision-making processes across the health landscape.”

The reports highlight recurring concerns around access, distance and the need for care that is both practical and culturally safe.

In Report 1 on primary health care and wellbeing, whānau called for health services to be based within communities rather than out of reach. One participant said: “health services need to be where our whānau are, on the marae, in our communities, not miles away where we can’t get to them.”

In Report 2 on mokopuna ora (child and youth wellbeing), parents and caregivers stressed the importance of nurturing tamariki and rangatahi in ways that support both mental and physical growth.

“We want our mokopuna to thrive, not just survive,” one kōrero stated.

In Report 3 on mental

health, social cohesion and cancer screening, participants called for stronger community connections and a proactive approach to preventive care. One comment reflected a desire for culturally safe screening: “We need to see the faces of whānau when we go for screening, so we feel safe.”

In Report 4 on rural health, oranga promotion and kaumātua insights, rural whānau named chal-

lenges including distance, lack of services and limited cultural responsiveness. Kaumātua voiced a need for holistic support: “We need health that looks after our wairua as much as our tinana.”

The full reports are available on the Te Mātuku website.

LDR is local body journalism co-funded by RNZ and NZ On Air



\$10,000
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Election 2025: Ruapehu Māori Ward candidates

Marilyn Davis

By Moana Ellis - Local Democracy Reporter

Marilyn Davis says her bid for election to Ruapehu District Council's Māori ward is driven by one clear kaupapa: the health and wellbeing of her community.

Born and raised in the district and educated at Orautoha and Raetihi primary schools and Ruapehu College, Davis says she has long combined grassroots advocacy with governance roles.

Her motivation comes from an urgent social crisis in her rohe.

"We've got no doctors in Raetihi, the chemist is closed, our mills have closed, our whānau were put off and they've gone.

She wants to collaborate with health professionals to improve services and access across the district.

"Good health is the pinnacle for us."

She previously represented her iwi Tamakana on the Ruapehu Māori District Council, instrumental in establishing Māori wards.

"We went around to hui in Waiouru, Ohakune and Raetihi to inform whānau and hapū about the whole process of setting up a Māori ward, and why."

"All the decisions must come from the people. If you don't go to the people, that's where the raru comes in: 'who gave you permission to do that?'"

"I will make sure I go back to the right people, especially

our hapū, whānau and iwi. If they say no, well it's no."

Her community life includes working across kōhanga reo, kura kaupapa, wharekura and wānanga, as a kaiako and facilitator for marae-based studies in Raetihi and Whangaehu.

She is a senior katipa at Rātana, a Māori Warden and a trustee for Te Korowai o Wainuiārua.

Davis says she wants to ensure the Māori ward remains strong and is not deleted by referendum. She urges all whānau to check that they're on the electoral roll and vote.

"You can make the difference. You need to make the difference so that you can have a voice."

Korty Wilson

By Moana Ellis, Local Democracy Reporting

Korty Wilson is standing for a second term as a Māori Ward councillor, motivated by the need to ensure Māori voices remain strong at the council table.

Born in Raetihi and raised in Ohakune, Wilson has deep roots in the district – Ngāti Rangī, Ngāti Uenuku and Ngāti Hāua.

"I've decided to stand again because of the importance of the Māori ward.

"For so long, we haven't had a voice and things have happened without our input. With a referendum coming up, it's important there are people who will keep supporting it."

Wilson says her role has often been to help communi-

ties, iwi and council find common ground.

"Māori ward councillors have become the connectors for some in our communities who don't know how to connect with our people.

"It means having empathy, integrity and honesty, and being available to people kano-hi-ki-te-kano-hi – whether at the marae, at a tangi or in everyday community life.

"Aroha ki te tangata – that's what our people expect."

Her priorities: protecting the place of Māori at the council table; safeguarding the environment; ensuring tangata whenua lead the telling of cultural narratives in tourism.

"It's time for our stories to be told in our own voices."

After 15 years with NZ Post, she re-trained as one of the first graduates of the bilingual teacher training programme.

She taught at Ruapehu College and Ohakune Primary School and Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangī.

She has been a victim support volunteer for 25 years and has held leadership roles in parish and community groups.

She is currently a cultural advisor for Ngā Waihua o Paerangi.

"For councils to really understand, they need to be present when invited – at hui, wānanga, on the land, on the river.

"It's not always about the mighty dollar. It's more about the state of the water, the land, the environment. That mindset will take time, but the discussions are happening."

Wilson says she remains committed to building new understanding across communities.

"The more we work together, the stronger our communities will be."

Simon Hepi

By Moana Ellis, Local Democracy Reporting

Simon Hepi has spent his life working in his community. Now he wants to take that experience to the council table.

From Taumarunui, Hepi (Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Maniapoto, Whanganui River) is one of 17 children.

His Catholic faith and grounding in karakia shaped his early life, but so too did hardship. His father died young, leaving his mother to raise 12 children alone.

"That hardship shaped my resilience and passion for community service," Hepi says, of his four decades in social services.

Hepi joined Māori Affairs in the 1970s before moving into Social Welfare. He led Work and Income branches in Taumarunui and Te Kūiti, managing budgets, staff and government performance targets for more than 30 years.

Now retired, Hepi has served on his hapū

Māori Trust and its reservation trust.

"We need councillors who have a tighter grip on understanding finance, and more accountability on the spend."

Hepi says ratepayers are already facing steep costs from the council's recent Local Water Done Well decision.

"I watched the council's Three Waters decisions, how they operated and the discussions they had. Councillors need to be clearer when decisions are made. Is it the best decision for the ratepayers that you're representing? I had a bit of a problem with that."

"You have to communicate clearly with the people who put you in office and make sure they understand what's being done and why.

"We're in the toughest time ever. The people elected for the council going forward are going to need a bit of nous about what we're going to be dealing with. We are going to have to be innovative about our investment approach."

Hepi says Māori wards are about honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi, strengthening Māori voices in decision-making and ensuring equitable outcomes.

"We have to stand strong locally. This is a time when Government is challenging things Māori, and you have to put your best foot forward and stand up for what you believe in."

He says Māori wards should ensure iwi are part of procurement and environmental management decisions, especially where they connect to Te Awa Tupua and waterways.

He also wants to encourage young Māori to vote.

"We've got to educate our tamariki. They need to know how governance works and why they need to participate: why their vote matters and how representing who you are as Māori connects to justice for Māori."

LDR is local body journalism co-funded by RNZ and NZ On Air



Marilyn Davis.



Korty Wilson. Photo: Moana Ellis.

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Simon Hepi.

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"I am focused on rebuilding public trust by ensuring that Council remains transparent, takes responsibility, and fully embeds the new financial safeguards."

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Ōwhango gets planting for World Rivers Day

Despite the overcast skies, the Ōwhango community turned out in good numbers from as far away as Wellington and Pukekohe to celebrate World Rivers Day on Sunday 28 September, organised by Ōwhango Alive.

Fortunately, the weather held steady, no rain fell, and spirits remained high as volunteers planted 130 native trees in the Ohinetonga Scenic Reserve along the Whakapapa River, adding to ongoing efforts to restore and protect the local environment.

The trees were funded by Horizons and the Taumarunui Op Shop and sourced from Simone Talbot of Maungaroa Nursery in Lower Retaruke, who also donated some plants, keeping it local.

The planting was preceded by words of wisdom on the Awa from Rev Merv Aitken and the unveiling of a new sign, with the assistance of Jenny Hayward of Whakapapa DOC who sourced funding from the Alan Rosoman trust, highlighting the importance of the reserve and encouraging visitors to connect with, and care for this special

environment.

After the planting, participants gathered at the Ōwhango Domain Pavilion, where guest speaker Tyler Jarman, biodiversity advisor from Horizons Regional Council, delivered an engaging and informative talk. He outlined the wide-ranging community work Horizons undertakes, supported by regional rates, to protect biodiversity, enhance waterways, and foster sustainability across the district.

The event was a reminder of the power of community action: planting trees not only strengthens riverbanks and provides habitat for native species, but also leaves a legacy for future generations. With so many hands helping out, World Rivers Day in Ōwhango proved once again how much can be achieved when the community comes together.

The new Ōwhango Alive Calendars are always launched on World Rivers Day each year, so get in touch if you want one of these gems – they’re selling faster than a whio on the Whakapapa River rapids in flood.



Fans of rivers from around the motu gathered to plant trees for World Rivers Day. Photo: Ōwhango Alive.

College student leader wins power scholarship

Ruapehu College deputy head boy Liam Burnard is the third of his siblings to receive a scholarship from The Lines Company (TLC), with two older sisters receiving scholarships in 2022 and 2024.

Liam is heading to the University of Otago to study a Bachelor of Surveying with TLC assisting financially for two years.

“Liam has already shown significant commitment and leadership skill in his time at school, representing his school in squash and community services such as ANZAC Day and being involved in school events such as sports days and fundraisers,” says TLC’s customer and community engagement manager Anne Terry.

Liam said his interest in surveying stems from an interest in geography, mapping and outdoor activity.

“I chose a degree in sur-

veying because it combines my passion with real world problems like carbon emissions and sustainability,” said Liam in his application.

“Growing up in a small rural town like Ohakune I have seen how important rural communities are to the country. I want to help contribute to projects that will create more sustainable communities.”

“Liam interviewed exceptionally well,” said TLC chief executive Mike Fox.

“It’s wonderful to see yet another sibling from the Burnard family receive a TLC scholarship; a testament to the family, community and school.”

Liam is joined by three other students who will begin tertiary training next year with financial support from TLC.

Justin Schur, Tauhara College, will be studying a Bachelor of Engineer-



Liam Burnard – the third of his family to be awarded a study scholarship from a local power firm.

ing with Honours at the University of Auckland and Mikhail Hasanbasoglu from Te Kūiti High School will be heading to the University of Waikato also to study a Bachelor of Engineering with Honours. Both recipients will be supported for three years.

Tongariro High School student Sharlize Hopa is

Turn to Page 9

VOTE

Lyn Neeson

MAYOR FOR RUAPEHU

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Rabbit Nottage – standing for Ruapehu District Council

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Authorised by Rabbit Nottage nottage@xtra.co.nz

VOTE 1

VIV HOETA

For Ruapehu District Council

Integrity Reliability Accountability

Authorised by Viv Hoeta 0276588320

My name is Viv Hoeta and I am standing for re-election for The Ruapehu District Council. I have the institutional knowledge to guide our council in the next Trimester.

Integrity is of utmost importance. Being honest and having strong moral principles will ensure the trust of our communities is always at the forefront. Trusting in the democratic process is an integral part of Local Government.

Reliability to consistently attend and give 100% at all meetings and workshops.

Accountability and holding those to account for decisions that are made and need to be made. We have local organisations and businesses who have the capacity, knowledge and expertise to do the work that needs to be done in our district. When we say ‘keep it local’ we need to guarantee that those organisations and local businesses get first option and first priority to contracts. They have proven they can get the job done under budget and to a high standard.

Your Vote is important, make it count – Vote!

Election 2025: Ruapehu District councillor candidates

Roger Baker

Hello Ruapehu Community,
My name is Rodger Baker. I have a lifelong passion for the Ruapehu District, where I live, work, and raise my young family. For the past 25 years I have proudly called Ohakune home.

Farming and tourism are vital to the prosperity of our district. It is essential that farmers can maintain productivity and economic contribution with minimal disruption, while tourism strategies are strengthened to support growth. Fiscal responsibility and practical decision-making guide me, especially after witnessing the insolvency of RAL



Roger Baker.

and the mothballing of Winstone Pulp and the Tangiwai Mill. We must safeguard against similar economic shocks.

Observing Council operations has given me valuable knowledge of how decisions are made and the importance of sound infrastructure, particularly roading and water systems, which are Council's largest expense. Future-proofing our water systems is critical so stalled subdivisions in Ohakune can proceed. New homes will boost rate revenue and help meet housing needs.

As a councillor, my primary role will be to create robust debate in the chamber, add clarity to viewpoints, and protect regional economic stability. I believe regulations should support, not hinder our primary industries. Council must actively engage with the central government to secure the best outcomes for our district.

We need strong collaboration with neighbouring districts such as Taupō and Whanganui to grow tourism. In my sights is the completion of both the Ohakune Mountain Road downhill trail, Te Ara Mangawhero and the Ohakune to Raetihi cycle trail, two projects that would strengthen our region's appeal.

It will be a priority for me to visit smaller townships throughout the district and acknowledge their concerns. If elected, it would be my privilege to represent the people of Ruapehu with honesty, commitment, and energy.

This is my family's home, and I am passionate about its future.

Viv Hoeta

My name is Viv Hoeta and I am standing for

re-election for The Ruapehu District Council in a General seat. I have institutional knowledge to guide our council into the future.

Integrity is of utmost importance. Being honest, telling the truth and having strong moral principles will ensure the trust of our communities is always at the forefront. Trusting in the democratic process is an integral part of Local Government.

Reliability to consistently research and speak up at all meetings and workshops.

Accountability and holding those to account for decisions that are made and need to be made. We have local businesses who have the institutional



Viv Hoeta.

capacity to support works that need to be done and businesses who have saved our council money and received awards for their service. When I say keep it local, I mean local business, local companies and local voice.

Your vote is important and valued, make it count.

Nicoleen Wessels

I'm standing for council because I believe in transparent, responsible leadership that puts people first. With over 16 years in strategic, financial and systems management and as the owner of both a property management company and working as a real estate sales person in Taumarunui, I bring practical expertise and a deep commitment to our District.

Let's be honest, all our communities are struggling, some more than others. Whether it's aging infrastructure, limited housing, rising costs, or the loss of key services, every part of Ruapehu is under pressure. Some are shrinking, others are trying to grow without the resources to support that growth. Behind every challenge is a family, a business, a school, a marae, doing their best to hold things together.

I believe council must stop treating communities as if they're all the same. We need tailored solutions, flexible funding and a commitment to equity, not just equality. That means listening deeply, planning locally, and acting with integrity.

I support spending that's strategic and community driven. I'm cautious about further rates increases unless they're clearly tied to long-term value. Smarter procurement, tighter financial



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Election 2025: councillor candidates

oversight and better internal systems can reduce costs without compromising essential services.

If elected, I'll advocate for township revitalisation, upgraded digital systems, community hubs and sustainable housing development. I also want to expand waste minimisation efforts and improve recycling infrastructure.

We can take on more projects without increasing spending by unlocking external funding and building strong partnerships. Tourism offers growth, but it must be regenerative, benefiting both visitors and residents.

I care deeply about Taumarunui and the wider



Nicoleen Wessels.

Ruapehu District. I offer voters a blend of business acumen, community focus, and a straight-up approach to leadership. I'll advocate for housing solutions, smarter spending, and community-led progress, with honesty, empathy, and a clear focus on what works.

Peter Zimmer

The Ruapehu District has been my home for 33 years.

My education and professional background are: in agriculture - I have an agricultural science degree; and tourism as an owner/operator.

If successful, I will focus on building meaningful relationships, trust and understanding with you – the Ruapehu communities – to understand what it is you want for your home and our district.

Cost of living pressures affect everyone, therefore I will do what I can to keep council costs such as: rates, service payments and operational expenses at a reasonable level.

A big challenge for us is the amount of debt we carry and the restrictions and limitations that this creates.

Be aware, local government is changing fast, there are big shifts: local waters reform; resource management act changes; district planning and consent work potentially moving to the regional level; the impact of electoral boundary changes are an unknown; the need for Regional Councils is being openly discussed by the current government.

The main and important thing to realise is that what we have got now is not what the future is going to look like.

We are amidst a period of change and The Ruapehu District needs people representing them who understand our position and situation and battle hard for our district.

I am prepared to do that. I have already been doing it for the past six years at the community board table, during Long Term Plan & Annual Plan consultations and the 2022 local government representation review process.

My final comments for you: I stand for sound reason, transparency and accountability of council decisions. Conservative for me means that we stay within our means. Integrity is important for me.



Peter Zimmer.

College student leader wins power scholarship

From Page 7

also heading to the University of Waikato to study a Diploma in Te Tohu Paetahi. Sharlize will receive support for one year.

TLC launched the Inspiring Local Minds Scholarship in 2018 and has already supported 35 local rangitahi with tertiary study. Amounts vary, but applicants can receive up to \$2000 a year for three years for a wide range of study applicable to TLC jobs. All applicants must live on the TLC network.

This year, 19 young people applied with applications assessed by Mike Fox, TLC's customer and community engagement manager Anne Terry and Waitomo Energy Services Customer Trust (WESCT) trustee, Yvette Ronaldson.

Yvette said all applicants were impressive, not only in what they had achieved to date, but what they had planned for their futures.

"The applicants were nothing short of inspiring – a powerful reminder that the future of our region is in great hands. Across TLC's network area, we're seeing exceptional talent in our young people, and that's something we can all be proud of."



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Haere mai ki te Hui a Hapu Ngati Maringi te Hapu
Sunday 26 October, 10am
28 Queen Street, Raetihi
Agenda: Whakapapa Nominations Registration
RSVP to Garth Hiroti.
Email: ghiroti@gmail.com or 027 385 3309

Wharaurua Marae Maori Reservation Trust AGM 2025
Saturday 18 October 2025
Registration opens: 9.30am to 10.30am
Hui commences: 11.00am - 1.00pm

The Agenda is as follows:

1. Mihimihi Karakia
2. Apologies
3. Chairmans Report
4. Minutes from previous AGM 2023
5. Matters Arising
6. Financial Report
7. Charter Ratification
- Voting clauses 4.1
- Voting on Trustee Rotation
8. Election of 4 Trustees
9. Lunch
10. Election Outcome/Results
11. Karakia/Whakamutunga

REGISTRATIONS:

To be eligible to vote, you must be registered.

Registrations open at 9.30am to 10.30am & to be completed on the day. You must only register yourself. Nominations close 10 October 2025 at 5pm.

If you would like a copy of the Charter and nomination form to be a trustee, please email wharaurua.secretary@gmail.com

Any questions can be emailed to the same.

This is a Court Facilitated AGM. Facilitator Hayden Potaka

PUBLIC NOTICES

Free Legal Advice Clinics
Raetihi Chambers
44 Seddon Street, Raetihi
Wednesday between 10am – 2pm
8 October 2025
Ngāti Rangi Community Health Centre
Maungārongo Marae, 36A Burns Street, Ohakune
Thursday between 10am – 2pm
9 October 2025
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Whānau Ora (Tina, Darnella, Sylvia, Virginia)
Wrap around services for those with high health and social needs.
Advice and advocacy support
Support for GP practice

Tamariki Ora (Tina and Katherine)
Well child checks for pēpi 0-5 years
Kaiawhina additional support

Bowel Screening
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PUBLIC NOTICES
Section 101, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
No8 Restaurant & Bar Ohakune Limited has made an application to the District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council for the **issue of an On Licence** in respect of the premises situated at **55 Clyde Street, Ohakune** known as **No8 Restaurant & Bar**. The general nature of the business to be conducted under the licence is that of a **Restaurant**. The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is intended to be sold under the licence are: **Monday to Sunday 10.00am – 12.00am (midnight)**. 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 25 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. The first notice was published on 24 September 2025.

Community and Emergency Services

Alzheimers Whanganui Inc – Email admin@alzheimerswhanganui.org.nz or for support phone 06-345 8833
Budget Advice – Email waimarinobudgetservices@gmail.com or phone 027 259 5285.
CCS Disability Action (Whanganui) – Sheryl Brightwell 0800-789-654
Child, Adolescent and Sexual Health Nurse – 06-385-5019
Child Youth and Family Service – 0508-326 459
Churches
Anglican, 06-385-4957. **Baptist**, 027-206-1874. **Catholic**, 06-385-8858 or 027 606 5186. **Gospel Chapel**, 06-385-8453. **Presbyterian**, 06-388-0675 or 06-385-8708. **Waiouru** – **duty chaplain** 06-387-5599 ext 7031 or 021-493-692
Civil Defence – Simon Osborne, Emergency Management Officer (EMO), RDC – 07 895 8188, or 027 220 0569
CLAW community free legal advice
Whanganui 06-348-8288
Doctors: In an emergency call 111
Ruapehu Health Ltd 06-385-4211
Information Centres – Ohakune 06-385-8427, Raetihi 06-385-4805
Ngati Rangi Community Health Centre – 06-385-9580
Plunket Society – Plunket Nurse 06-385-5019
Police and Search & Rescue Emergency, call 111
Ohakune 06-385-0100, Raetihi 06-385-4002, Waiouru 06-387-6884, Military Police 0800-50-11-22
Red Cross – 0800 RED CROSS (0800 733 27677)
Rotary Club Raetihi - Ohakune – 027-344-5669
Ruapehu REAP – 0800 00 REAP (0800 007 327)
Ruapehu Maori Wardens – Email: ruapehumaoriwardens@gmail.com
St John – In an emergency call 111
Taumarunui Counselling Services
For confidential counselling in Waimarino phone 07-895-6393
Victim Support Contact Centre – 0800 842 846
Waimarino Cancer Society
Co-ordinator 06 348 7402
Waimarino Health Care Centre – Raetihi 06-385-5019
Waimarino Community Toy Library – waimarinotoylibrary@gmail.com
Women's Refuge – 0800-REFUGE 0800 73384
To update your details call 06-385-8532

Crater Lake now cooling

After a short period of heating, Te Wai ā-moe – Ruapehu’s Crater Lake – is now cooling, reports GNS.

The lake temperature peaked at 17°C in late-August and has been cooling since. The lake temperature is now 13°C. The Volcanic Alert Level remains at 1 and the Aviation Colour Code at Green.

“The traditional behaviour for the Crater Lake is to have two or three heating and cooling episodes in any consecutive 12-month period,” says Steven Sherburn, duty volcanologist.

The lake temperature typically peaks at 30-40°C and cools to 10-15°C. Since the lake reached 41°C in May 2022, there have been five further temperature peaks, with all but one reaching a lower temperature than the previous one, an overall decreasing trend of maximum temperatures.

The last heating cycle started from 10°C in early July and only reached a peak of 17°C in late August, before starting to decline. The current lake temperature is now 13°C.

“Although the trend over the last three years is the lake cooling, we continue to measure substantial volumes of volcanic gas emitted from the active vent under the lake.

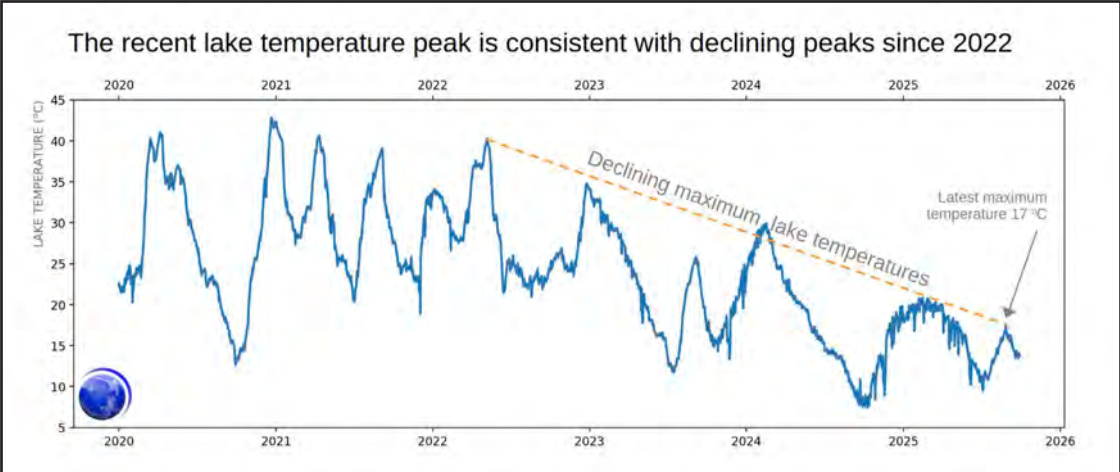
This indicates there is an open pathway from the source of the gas (magma deeper in the volcano) to the lake. This allows gas to escape and prevents substantial pressure buildup beneath the lake,” says Sherburn.

“We infer that over the last three years, the pulses of gas and heat that enter the lake and cause the temperature to rise have been getting shorter and/or smaller volume, causing the heat to run out before the temperature reached 30-40°C, which was commonly reached until 2022.”

With the lake now cooling, less steam and hot gas will be entering from vents at the bottom, and this will disturb less sediment. The colour of the lake will likely change from grey to a blue-green colour as sediment in suspension starts to settle. Minor upwellings of hot water will still be present at the lake surface, as will be yellow sulphur slicks.

Other monitoring data – earthquakes, volcanic tremor, volcano gas output, and lake chemistry are all within typical ranges, and nothing unusual has been observed.

Therefore, Ruapehu continues to exhibit typical low levels of activity consistent with minor volcanic unrest. The Volcanic Alert Level remains at 1 and the Aviation Colour Code remains Green.



Te Wai ā-moe (Ruapehu Crater Lake) has recently changed from heating to cooling. Since 2022, the long-term trend is an overall cooling. Daily mean temperature data collected by a monitoring station at the lake (<https://tilde.geonet.org.nz/>).

Ohakune park wins award – again

Ohakune’s holiday park is celebrating a major achievement after being named the Supreme Award Winner at the Top 10 Holiday Parks Awards for the second year in a row.

Alongside the top honour, the Ohakune Top 10 Holiday Park was also the winner of the Guest Experience award and the Most Highly Recommended award.

The Park was also runner-up for the largest proportional club card membership sale.

Park owner Kordula Daniel says these awards are a win not only for the park but also for the wider Ohakune community.

“This recognition belongs to our team, our guests, and our town,” says Daniel.

“We’re lucky to work alongside fantastic local businesses and operators who make Ohakune such a special place to visit. Together, we’re showing visitors that our region has so much to offer — from family-friendly experiences to the beauty of the mountain right on our doorstep.”

The team says these awards are a reflection of community spirit and the value of working together to provide outstanding experiences for visitors to the Ruapehu region.

Vote Robyn Gram

for Ruapehu District Council

Stability

Economy

Environment



Authorised by Robyn Gram, 158 Golf Road, Taumarunui
027 389 1912 robyn@buythegram.co.nz

Chopper snow rescues

A male skier was flown from Whakapapa Ski Area on Saturday afternoon after sustaining trauma injuries. He was flown to Waikato Hospital in the Waikato Westpac Rescue Helicopter.

Also on Saturday, a male was injured after sliding around 10 metres at Tūroa Ski Area. He was picked up in the Aerocool Rescue Helicopter after being treated at by the onboard critical care flight para-

medic, then flown to Tauranga Hospital for further care.

On Thursday morning 4 September, the Greenlea Rescue Helicopter was dispatched to Tūroa Ski Field for a female who had sustained serious injuries following an accident while skiing. She was treated by the onboard critical care flight paramedic before being airlifted to Waikato Hospital to receive further care.



The Aerocool Rescue Helicopter heads in to land at Tūroa.



The Waikato Westpac Rescue Helicopter on the snow at Whakapapa.

Ruapehu rugby reps



Two Ruapehu College students Vanessa Ashford-Wallis, at left, and Atlas Elers were selected for the Whanganui Under 16 rep team and competed in the inaugural Hurricanes under 16 development tournament over the weekend 20-21 September in Napier. The Whanganui Girls under 16 team won their division at the tournament taking out the final 26-19 against Wairarapa Bush. The tournament was created to give teams in the lower North Island a chance to play against the best and develop their skills with top coaches from the Hurricanes. Photo supplied.

Retro throw



Reeann Baker puts the effort in to throw a bag of carrots at the weekend’s Retro Day at the Ohakune Junction.



Scout Scarf, Ocean McKenzie and Reeann Baker scoff Skiers Inn chocolate eclairs at Retro Day.

Indoor golf tees off in Ohakune

Ohakune is a nature lover’s paradise, but the great outdoors is an unpredictable beast – but now there is a way to enjoy a round of golf without braving the elements.

Whether skiing and boarding in winter, or biking in summer, when the weather packs in, it’s no fun for anyone. That’s why the launch of an indoor golf facility feels like such a welcome addition to town.

Tucked away at the foot of the mountain, Golf Lab offers two state-of-the-art indoor golf simulators.

“It’s a spot where you can swing a club no matter the weather, snow, wind, or rain can’t stop the game. It offers fantastic kid-friendly entertainment with mini-putt golf and a racing car simulator that are proving very popular,” says Donni Allum.

For avid golfers, it offers in-depth swing and ball flight analysis to help improve your game.

“Hit a bunch of balls at the range or play hundreds of world-class courses including Pebble Beach, all in a warm, comfortable environment.

“With super affordable venue hire, it’s the perfect place for birthday parties, staff functions or entertaining mates.”

The golf simulator is conveniently located right next to the famous Powderhorn Chateau, meaning you can enjoy drinks, yummy food or the amazing indoor hot pool before or after your game.

The Golf Lab is open from 3-7pm on Fridays and 10am-7pm on Saturday and Sunday and by appointment Monday to Thursday.



Ben Scarf tries out the new Golf Lab at his Powderhorn Chateau.

Ohakune Squash

The penultimate round of Ohakune Squash Club’s inter-house on Thursday again had some close results – Prince picked up their first win this round beating Salming 90/81, Dunlop narrowly beat Head 92/89, Unsquashable beat Karakal 88/80 and Tecnifibre got 80 for the bye. Points with one round to go have closed even further: Tecnifibre still holds a narrow lead on 550, Dunlop takes over second on 536, Head 532, Karakal 527, Unsquashable 498, Salming 494 and Prince 475. The draw for the final round this Thursday is 5:00pm Tecnifibre vs Salming, 6:30pm Karakal vs Head, 8:00pm Unsquashable vs Prince and Dunlop has the bye.

A full field of 90 entries have been accepted for the Ohakune Ossie’s open this weekend. To cater for the high number of entries some games will need to be scheduled for Raetihi on both Friday and Saturday.

Entries are currently open for all divisions of the club champs that will start the following week with the graded champs first up.

There was no Ruapehu Tecnifibre Junior fixture last weekend but several Ohakune juniors took part in the national age titles at the Henderson Squash Club in Auckland. In the under 13 girl’s division Jessie Harding finished 10th and Casey Shields 11th. In the under 15 girl’s division Hana Harding placed 7th, Paige Drinkwater 10th and Elise Drinkwater 14th. All the girls either finished on their seeding or better. In the boy’s under 19 division Liam Burnard placed 15th.

GRAND OPENING
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50% OFF

Present this coupon at Golf Lab
to receive 50% off your session. Expires
1st December 2025

GOLF LAB

Property Brokers

Taumarunui 166 Saddler Road



Exceptional lifestyle

Nestled amidst the splendour of Taumarunui’s rolling hills, 166 Saddler Road offers an idyllic retreat for those in pursuit of a tranquil lifestyle, retirement haven, or an enchanting getaway. This impressive two-storey home, boasting a generous five bedrooms and two bathrooms, sits proudly on a sprawling 22.19 hectares of easy to flat land, providing ample space for farming or equestrian pursuits, calf rearing, and boundless accommodation potential. As you approach the property, the large living areas with seamless indoor-outdoor flow beckons, leading to expansive wrap-around decks on both levels that overlook the majestic Whanganui.

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For Sale By Negotiation + GST (if any)
View By appointment
Web pb.co.nz/TUR193535

Alan Blackburn
M 027 203 9112

Raetihi 164 Seddon Street



Mortgagee Auction

This property is being sold by way of mortgagee auction without vendor warranties in an “as is, where is” condition. The three-bedroom home is situated on a large, 1552m2 (approx.) elevated site conveniently located close to the Raetihi Shopping village. The property includes a large double garage and established trees. Buyers are advised to conduct their own due diligence. A sale will be sought on Auction Day so don’t miss this opportunity to grab yourself a good-sized family home. Contact Polly or Jenna to register your interest
AUCTION: 1pm; 23 October 2025
(will not be sold prior)
1 Goldfinch Street, Ohakune
Property Brokers Ltd Licensed REAA 2008 | pb.co.nz

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Mortgagee Auction 1.00pm, Thu 23rd Oct, 2025, Property Brokers Ohakune, 1 Goldfinch Street Ohakune, 4625
View Sun 5 Oct 11.00 - 11.30am
Web pb.co.nz/OHU211625

Polly Ingles
M 027 315 8368
 Jenna Hovelle
M 027 361 0167