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Creativity was on show down the main street in Taihape in the Saturday sunshine. Photo: Terry Karatau.

Taihape Area School Prizegiving 2025

On Friday 31 October, Taihape Area School held its annual Senior Prizegiving, recognising the hard work, dedication and outstanding achievements of its senior students.

The MFC was filled with parents, staff and members of the school community as students from Years 11, 12, and 13 were called to the stage. Principal Michelle Cameron addressed the gathering, praising the students for their resilience and success in what has been another challenging yet rewarding academic year.

Awards

The top academic award for 2025, the Flack Brown & Co Cup – the school Dux – is Emma Collings. She received an Excellence Endorsement in Level 3 Certificate.

The Mokai Patea Services Cup – the Rangatahi Award for Tino Rangatiratanga: Luke Edwards.

Nga Mahi Tuku Iho Trophy – for someone who has displayed a strong commitment to Te Ao Māori within the School: Oshyn Falemaka.

Troon Cup – for a Year 12 who has contributed by living the TAS values, contributing in school events displaying citizenship and participating in sport displaying sportsmanship, and is a good all-rounder: Ketana Musgrove.

Rotary Plaque – Service above Self – Someone who has made an outstanding contribution to school and displays service above self: joint recipients are Oshyn Falemaka and Emma Collings.

Bruce Hay Memorial Prize of \$250 is awarded to a student who is leaving school, who by their participation and example to



Emma Collings – Dux – with Blake Lamb and Oshyn Falemaka – recipients of scholarships.

others has contributed much during their time at school: John Ashton-Mudgway.

Ryan Thomas and Co Cup – to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to school and who also shows academic ability and general qualities of citizenship, sportsmanship and leadership: Emma Collings.

The following students received our scholarships:

Rangitikei District Council Scholarships – (two for \$1000 each towards future education and pathways): Emma Collings and Blake Lamb.

St Margaret's Church Scholarship – \$3000 towards future education: Oshyn Falemaka.

Maria Helhoski Scholarship – \$10,000 is for future education: Emma Collings. Oshyn Falemaka and Blake Lamb also received \$5000 with a further possible \$5000 with the completion of their first year at University.



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EVENTS

DECEMBER 2025	
Taihape Community Christmas Lunch	Christmas Day
JANUARY 2026	
Marton Country Music Festival (ticketed)	16 – 18 January
Kiwiburn Hunterville (ticketed)	21 – 26 January
Turakina Highland Games	24 January
The Taihape Shears	24 January
The event will be held in Taihape and is a key part of the selection process for the New Zealand team for the 2026 Golden Shears World Championships in Masterton	
FEBRUARY	
Rangitikei Shearing Sports	early February
Fest-a-Bull - Bulls	28 February
MARCH	
CampFest Bulls	6 - 8 March
Rangitikei Adventure Race	21 March
Nth Island Secondary Schools Champs (ticketed)	
APRIL	
Marton Harvest Festival & Pedal 4 Pleasure	12 April
Suzuki Extreme 4x4 Challenge	late April

TAIHAPE

ADVERTORIAL

Concrete reputation earned

Taihape's Byfords Readimix has spent more than five decades working to earn a reputation as a trusted supplier of ready-mix concrete across the Rangitikei and southern Ruapehu District.

Joe Byford started the company in 1970 and has recently handed over the reins to sons-in-law Simeon Nepe – operations manager – and Allan McKay – plant manager.

But Simeon says Joe still stays around, lending a hand and keeping an eye on things.

Simeon and Allan have 31 and 34 years' industry experience respectively and bring a wealth of knowledge to the business.

"Our concrete is often praised by customers from outside the region – they tell us its some of the best they've worked with," says Simeon.

Byfords Readimix is in Abattoir Road just north of Taihape township and they have a satellite plant in Waiouru. They serve a vast area from Hunterville and north to Waimarino/National Park Village, up to the skifields and across the Gentle Annie to service remote farm stations.

Regular testing managed by Allan ensures their concrete meets the rigorous standards to meet the requirements to be certified by Concrete New Zealand.

Ready mix is their core business, but they also offer concrete products including farm troughs, dog bowls, garden pots and stepping stones.

Recent projects have included the Nga Awa sports amenity building, the Taihape Fire Station, the St John facility, the PGG Wrightson store in Ohakune, and the Desert Road maintenance project.

Byfords operates four concrete trucks and employs three full-time experienced drivers.

The company is well-known for supporting the community, sponsoring the Taihape Premier Mens Rugby Team, midget rugby, the Rangitira Ladies Golf Tournament, Academy School Books and the Special Children's Extravaganza.

"We believe in giving back," says Simeon.

"Supporting local sports and events strengthens the ties between us and the community we serve."



The Byfords team, from left, Dean Noble, Simeon Nepe, Jaffa Lamb, Joe Byford, Allan McKay. Absent: Shane Bowman.

Rangitikei women win rafting gold

The New Zealand Open Women's R4 rafting team – all women from the Rangitikei – have won gold at the International Rafting Federation World Rafting Championships in Malaysia on 1-7 December.

The team was Emma O'Connell, Hazel Cumpstone, Janey Harrison, Keeva Harrison and Christina Donne-Lee, coached by Mangaweka's Paul Eames.

They competed in four disciplines: sprints, head-to-heads, slalom and downriver, winning gold in the sprints and downriver events, and enough points to win overall.

Eames said the experience was an excellent time away, topped off with a win.

"We knew that we had good river-runners, the river experience was the advantage," he said.

The team work and train on the Rangitikei River.

They won the R6 Pacific Cup, held in Murchison, in March after practising only four times together.

Crew captain Janey Harrison said they had been going with the flow and, despite being competitive people, went to Malaysia for an experience.

"We surprised ourselves in that first race. To get out of the gate and win that gold in the first sprint, we thought 'shit, once again, we could give this a nudge and do well'," Harrison said.

"It was more grit than anything that got us there – we turned up to play."

She said returning home as world champions felt like a big thank you to the community which supported them.



The New Zealand Women's Open R4 Rafting team, from left, Keeva Harrison, Hazel Cumpstone, Christina Donne-Lee, Janey Harrison and Emma O'Connell.

Harrison admitted the past success of the Rotorua-based New Zealand Open Women's crew added extra motivation to perform well.

"It was pretty special ... those girls have won so many competitions over the last decade," Harrison said.

"The pressure was a little bit on to not let them down, so we felt pretty bloody good about bringing that gold home, not gonna lie.

"They were big shoes to fill but we managed to put our feet in them."

The Kampar River in Malaysia suited the crew, Harrison said.

"It worked in our favour because it was lower. They had a bunch of rain the week before but not much rain while we were there," she said.

"The majority of it was technical rafting, which is what we're used to, so it definitely worked in our favour."

Harrison was unsure what the future held and whether the crew would stick together or try their luck in different categories.

Acknowledgements to the Whanganui Chronicle.



TAIHAPE
HONDA



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TAUMARUNUI
HONDA

We wish you and your families a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year, and thank you for your continued support.

Our last day open for the year will be Wednesday 24 December, closing at 4.00pm.

We will then be closed for our Christmas/New Year break and will re-open on Monday 5 January 2026.

If you have an urgent need during this time, Josh will be available on 027 695 9610.

Merry
Christmas

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Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a bright year ahead.
Thank you for your continued trust and support throughout 2025. From our Bayleys family to yours, warmest wishes for a safe and happy holiday season.



BAYLEYS

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Our offices will be closed over the Christmas holidays from 1pm Tuesday 23rd December, 2025 through to 8.30am Monday 12th January, 2026.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

PKF Doyle

Compliments of the season from Nikki & Sue

We are closed from 5pm on Friday 19 December and will reopen on Wednesday 14 January 2026.

We wish you a safe and happy festive season and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Pinnacle Accountancy

NGĀTI RANGI

Meri Kirihimete me ngā mihi o te tau hou

The Ngāti Rangi offices will be closed from 19 December 2025 until 5 January 2026

Have a safe and happy holiday

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Ruapehu Health Ltd during operating hours 06 385 4211

Building Skills for Conservation: Ōwhango Alive workshop trapping



Trapping volunteers brace themselves for the inevitable noise of one of the traps being set off. Photo: Ōwhango Alive.

Ōwhango Alive trappers recently came together for a hands-on trapping workshop hosted by the group's chairman, Mark Fredericks, as part of their ongoing commitment to protecting local taonga species and strengthening their predator control efforts across the rohe.

The workshop offered an opportunity for both new and experienced trappers to refresh their skills, share knowledge and learn best-practice techniques for trap placement, maintenance, safety and humane predator control.

Mark led practical demonstrations, assisted by Dean Wilson, who as a retired electrician, was able to guide the trappers through the intricacies of the AT220 trap, while answering questions, and sharing valuable insights from Mark's years of conservation and trapping experience.

"Workshops like these are a vital part of ensuring our

trapping network remains effective, safe, and consistent," said Mark.

"With predators constantly on the move, staying informed and connected as a team is key to protecting whio, kiwi, and other native wildlife that depend on predator-free habitats to survive."

Appreciation goes to Mark for hosting the day and to all the dedicated volunteers who gave up their time to attend, learn, and contribute.

"The strength of Ōwhango Alive lies in its people, and days like this remind us just how powerful community-led conservation can be."

If you are interested in sponsoring a trap, or getting involved with Ōwhango Alive, we would love to hear from you. Owhangoalive@yahoo.com or call 020 458 3973.

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They tooted for tucker: the people gave

"From the first responders, to the volunteer helpers, to Opus Fresh (providing coffee), to the wonderful generous support from the community, to having lunch shouted for the team (thanks Doug and Renee), Ohakune's first Toot for Tucker was a huge success," says one of the organisers of the first 'Toot for Tucker' event that worked in conjunction the annual Waimarino Christmas Appeal. The event saw first responders – Police, St John Ambulance and the Ohakune Volunteer Fire Brigade roam the streets, 'tooting' to announce their arrival for people to donate items for the appeal. "If you missed the trucks, you can drop off goods to Ohakune Police Station, Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm, or at The Cyprus Tree Ohakune after 5pm. Photo: OVFB.

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Rescue chopper to Crossing



A female hiker who had slipped and sustained injuries on the Tongariro Alpine Crossing was rescued by the Grassroots Trust Rescue Helicopter on Wednesday. Due to the remote location, a winch extraction was required. Thanks to the crew's skill and efficiency, she was safely lifted out and transported to Whanganui Hospital for treatment. To support the rescue service go to give.rescue.org.nz/event/grassroots-trust-winch/donate. Photo: Air Crew Officer Ben.

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This requirement applies to all pools no matter what the size, including spas, hot tubs, temporary and inflatable swimming pools.

Helpful checklist

For a helpful pool safety checklist to see if your pool barrier is safe and compliant or see Council's website ruapehudc.govt.nz



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Ohakune Park Christmas is back

The Ohakune Christmas in the Park is back again.

Revived in 2023, this will be the third edition of the event that is now under the wing of the Ohakune Charitable Events Trust.

Dave Sims will again lead the vocalists in bringing to life some of the more well-known contemporary Christmas songs.

“The idea is we just lead the music and the community can hum along quietly or join in at full noise from their spot on the green,” said Sims.

An unfavourable forecast led the event indoors last year, which whilst still successful, was disappointing.

“The kids had a great time and the music was much easier to manage, but ultimately Christmas in Aotearoa is a largely outdoors event. I’m crossing all my fingers and toes

for a beautiful, sunny evening on the 23rd.”

Christmas in the Park is supported by a number of local businesses that allows the event to be staged. Spot prizes, live sound production, staging and a few other special surprises are only possible due to this support.

“Three years in and our local businesses are still right behind it. I think it shows that this event is important to people.”

For updates and further information, head to the Ohakune Christmas in the Park page on Facebook, or check out the link to the event page at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/christie-park-ohakune/ohakune-christmas-in-the-park-2025/770584099372587/>

Children enthralled at last year’s Christmas ‘in the park’ – held indoors for 2024. Photo: Liz Brooker.



Collaboration helps revive traditional Māori games for schools

When a group of schools recognised their tamariki needed more chances to experience traditional Māori games, they also knew the project would rely on collective effort. That support arrived through two organisations – Men’s Shed Whanganui and Waters & Farr – who helped turn the idea into reality.

Teachers were inspired to introduce Pūkao, a traditional Māori game that tells the story of the kūmara and its harvesting, after attending a workshop led by cultural advocate Harko Brown. But Pūkao requires a specialised piece of equipment, the taroaroa, and finding enough for 25 schools, including within the Ruapehu District, posed a significant challenge.

Men’s Shed Whanganui, known for its craftsmanship and strong community focus, volunteered to design and build the taroaroa. To make sure the equipment was safe and durable for tamariki, they needed

high-quality materials. Waters & Farr responded by donating everything required for the build.

“When Men’s Shed Whanganui approached us about this, we thought the project fit well with our values – we’re a family owned business and we’re part of the community so it seemed like a good initiative, both to support the Men’s Shed and also schools and students,” Derek Pickering from Waters & Farr said.

The partnership is a clear example of kotahitanga (unity) in action. Through the combined generosity and expertise of Men’s Shed Whanganui and Waters & Farr, 25 schools throughout Whanganui, Rangitikei and Rupaehu now have handcrafted taroaroa sets to bring Pūkao into their classrooms and playgrounds.

The benefits extend well beyond the equipment itself. The project gives tamariki a hands-on connection to mātauranga Māori and creates op-

portunities to engage with cultural knowledge in meaningful, active ways.


“Receiving the Pūkao equipment has had a positive impact on our tamariki and their engagement with traditional Māori games,” said one teacher.

“Students and teachers were absolutely ecstatic to explore the equipment and quickly became immersed in learning and playing Pūkao. Having the proper resources really brought the pūrākau to life, helping them make meaningful connections between the stories and the gameplay.”

Another added their thanks: “We are incredibly grateful to the Men’s Shed and Waters & Farr for their generosity and support in making this kaupapa possible. Their contribution has allowed our tamariki to engage meaningfully with Ngā Taonga Tākaro, and we truly appreciate the time, effort, and goodwill they have invested in our school and the community.”



Tamariki are from Keith Street School try their hand at pūkao.




Ruapehu Health Ltd

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Wednesday 24th December 9:00 – 2:00
Thursday 25th to Sunday 28th December Closed
Monday 29th December 8:30 – 4:30
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Thursday 1st to Sunday 4th January Closed
Monday 5th January Normal Hours




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WAIMARINO HEALTH CENTRE

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CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR HOURS

The Waimarino Health Centre will close on the 19th December 2025 at 4.30pm and reopen on 5th January 2026 at 8.30am

Hours for the following services through this period are as follows:

Midwifery Staff	available throughout the closure Phone: 0274 848827
Rural Nurses	available throughout the closure Phone: 0274 848826
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Social Worker	reopen Tuesday 6th January 2026
Radiology Dept	reopen Tuesday 6th January 2026
Public Health	reopen Monday 5th January 2026

All other Services will be closed throughout this period.
If an emergency please dial 111.

*The Staff at the Waimarino Health Centre would like to wish you good health and safe travelling over the Christmas/New Year period.
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora



PUBLIC NOTICES

Ruapehu Lions & Ngāti Rangi



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Generosity and character rewarded

David Johnston of Manunui has been named the 2025 Ruapehu Citizen of the Year in recognition of his lifelong commitment to volunteering and community service.

Ruapehu's mayor Weston Kirton said the Citizen of the Year Award provides important recognition of the value Ruapehu places on volunteer workers and the vital role they play in strengthening communities.

"David is a very worthy and inspiring recipient," Kirton said.

"His countless hours of voluntary service have made a real and lasting difference to people and to the wider community."

Mr Johnston's community involvement spans decades and a wide range of roles.

He has served as secretary of the Taumarunui and King Country Young Farmers and as chairperson of the Manunui Primary School Committee.

His commitment to emergency services includes 19 years as a volunteer fire-fighter with the Manunui Fire Brigade, where he rose to deputy fire chief, and nine years volunteering with St John Ambulance.

He also spent five years driving the local mobility van, helping residents access essential services and maintain social connections.

He has shared his professional building skills by constructing stage sets for the Choral and Operatic Society and contributed to community events through the Kakahi School Reunion Committee.

For the past 12 years, he has also volunteered with the Owango Alive conservation group, supporting local environmental restoration.

Kirton said Mr Johnston's service reflects the best of Ruapehu's community spirit.

"David is a great example of the selfless people who work quietly for many years doing the important mahi that underpins our communities.

"This award recognises not only what he has done, but the generosity and character behind it."

A council spokesperson said there were no nominations for the Waimano Citizens Award for 2025. Asked if they would consider extending the nominations deadline, they said they already had once. It would be up to the Waimano-Waiouru Community Board if they extended it again; their next meeting is in March.



2025 Ruapehu Citizen of the Year David Johnston with his wife Marion and Mayor Weston Kirton



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PUBLIC NOTICES



**Ruapehu Mayor
Weston Kirton**

To arrange a meeting
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06 385 8364 or email:
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BUSINESS NOTICES

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www.ohakune.info



BUSINESS NOTICES



222 Rora St, Te Kuiti.
Ph 07 878 7636 Email: tekuiti@cab.org.nz

The Te Kuiti CAB will close from
1pm on 19 December until
10am Monday 12 January 2026

During closure our answerphone service will
remain active, phone and email messages will be
regularly monitored.

Wishing you all a safe and happy Christmas



Christmas Services

Christmas Day 10am
28 December - no service

St Mary's Church, 130 Seddon St, Raetihi

Contact: Kathryn 0274 212 254

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Roadside
Herbicide
Applications**



Asplundh will carry out seasonal roadside
herbicide applications to weed trees growing on
the rural road reserve in both the Rangitikei and
Ruapehu districts between November and March.
A spray plan is available for viewing on request.

For further information, please contact
planning@asplundh.co.nz



ISSN 1170-1676 (print)

ISSN 1178-7406 (online)

Published by Ruapehu Media Ltd

Phone (06) 385 8532

56 Clyde St, Ruapehu Colab office, Ohakune.

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

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

Publishing Editor:

Robert Milne – robert@ruapehubulletin.co.nz

Advertising Rep:

Jude Chevin – ads@ruapehubulletin.co.nz

Printed by NZME, Auckland

Advertising Deadline 5pm Friday

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF
TENDER OF
ABANDONED LAND**



Under conduct of the Registrar of the District Court at Taumarunui
at the request of the Ruapehu District Council and in exercise of the
power of sale contained in the provisions of the Local Government
(Rating) Act 2002, the Ruapehu District Council offers by public tender
the property listed below: -

Whanui Street, Matiere, Otangi-Heao
Valuation number: 0622030900

Section 9 Block IX Town of Matiere and being all the land contained in
Certificate of Title TN90/7 approximately 1214 square metres more or
less. The property is situated at Whanui Street, Matiere, Otangi-Heao
and is within the territory of the Ruapehu District Council.

Whanui Street, Matiere, Otangi-Heao
Valuation number: 0622031300

Section 3 Block X Town of Matiere and being all the land contained in
Certificate of Title TN90/12 approximately 1214 square metres more
or less. The property is situated at Whanui Street, Matiere, Otangi-Heao
and is within the territory of the Ruapehu District Council.

TENDERS CLOSE 4pm, Friday 30 January 2026.

**Tender documents are available by contacting Debt Management
Central (DMC),** on 0508 436 269; dmc@mw.org.nz, DMC, DX
PA84005, Feilding or from <http://www.debtmanagementcentral.org.nz>

Tender documents and all enquiries are to be submitted to DMC the
agent for the Local Authority.

Late tenders will not be accepted.

This notice is authorised by:

Clive Manley
Chief Executive
Ruapehu District Council
26 November 2025



PUBLIC NOTICES



ĀTIHAU-WHANGANUI INCORPORATION

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that at the **Annual General Meeting** of the
Incorporation held on the 5th of December 2025 the aggregate value
of votes cast in the vote on shareholding, in respect to agenda items
4, 8, 10, 11 and 12 were as follows:

	FOR	AGAINST
Item 4. Election of Officers		
Shar Amner	80,814.06	Appointed
Charles Chadwick	49,390.24	
Kiritahi Firmin	26,357.00	
Jonelle Hiroti-Kinane	57,824.09	Appointed
Debbie Hyland	37,152.11	
Hayden Potaka	62,174.71	Appointed
Sarah Rae	55,463.11	
Charles Taituha	20,358.17	
Item 8. That a dividend of 60 cents a share be paid in December 2025 pursuant to section 259 (1) (c) of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.	137,456.20	14,845.98
Item 10. Silks Audit be appointed Share Valuer pursuant to section 278 of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.	133,554.57	12,644.13
Item 11. To approve a Kaumātua grant of \$50 to kaumātua for travel costs associated with the Annual General Meeting. Payment to be by direct credit.	133,925.86	19,271.24
Item 12. Pursuant to s259 (1) of the Act, a grant be made to Te Āti Hau Trust of \$325,000 for the 2025/2026 financial year for charitable purposes.	133,118.57	18,787.76

P J Maguire Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Section 101, Sale and
Supply of Alcohol Act 2012**
Tithom Hotels Limited have
made an application to the
District Licensing Committee
at Ruapehu District Council
for the **Renewal of an On
Licence** in respect of the
premises situated at **68
Clyde Street, Ohakune,**
known as **Rice Bar & Food.**
The general nature of the
business to be conducted
under the licence is that of
a **Hotel.** The days on which
and the hours during which
alcohol is intended to be
sold under the licence are:
**Monday – Sunday: 11.00am
– 11.00pm.**

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

Any person who is entitled
to object and who wishes
to object to the issue of
the licence may, not later
than 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 renewal
of a licence may be made
in relation to a matter other
than a matter specified in
section 131 of the Sale and
Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.
This is the second
publication of this notice.
The first notice was
published on 10 December
2025.

Deadline for all advertising bookings and copy is

5pm Fridays!

Our next issue is 21 January 2026 - deadline Friday 16 January

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WAIMARINO BULLETIN

VOICE OF THE RUAPEHU REGION
Tuesday 17 December, 1985. Volume 3 No. 30

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Governor-General reviews cadets

The new Governor-General, the Most Reverend Sir Paul Reeves, presided over the passing-out parade of Waiouru's first officer cadets, last week.

Sir Paul, accompanied by his wife Lady Beverley, was making his first visit to Waiouru since becoming Governor-General.

Chief of General Staff, Major General J. A. Mace, Commander of Support Command, Brigadier E. J. Torrance, Commander, Army Training Group, Commandant of the Officer Cadet School, Lieutenant Colonel M. F. Dodson, Colonel Bruce Meldrum, and their wives also attended the ceremony.

The cadet company of 40, which included three women

and two others from Fiji and Tonga, graduated as second lieutenants after an intensive 12 month course.

Officer cadets were trained at the Australian military colleges of Portsea and Duntroon until this year, but most will now train at Waiouru.

A second group of officer cadets, which began training half way through this year, will be graduating in six months time, while from January courses for new intakes will be reduced to six months.

After the parade, the prizegiving ceremony was held in the camp cinema and Sir Paul and Lady Beverley later attended the graduation ball at which the new officers were awarded their pips.



The new Governor-General the Most Reverend, Sir Paul Reeves, inspects graduating cadets of Waiouru's first intake of the Officer Cadet School of New Zealand.



Michael and Jo Warbrick, departing soon for their old home of Edgecumbe.

College head departing

During the year of their silver wedding anniversary, Michael and Jo Warbrick are going home.

The Warbricks and two of their children, Maurice and Paul, have been in Ohakune for five years, and are soon to return to Edgecumbe. Michael was formerly deputy principal of Edgecumbe College and will be returning there to take up the position of principal.

As principal of Ruapehu College, Michael has played an important part in developing the multi-cultural aspects of the school.

"I believe we are much more sensitive to the needs of the Maori as well as European and Chinese children and I'd like that to be the thing the school is remembered by," said Michael.

The highlight of his time as principal was the school's performance of Maui, the first production at the school for many years.

"The children's talent are so raw and rich," he said.

Although he has had other interests, including involvement with Rotary for a time, serving on the St Joseph's Pastoral Council and as a council member of the Wanganui Regional Community College, Michael's main 'hobby' has been Ruapehu College.

"The thing I will dearly miss is turning into Tainui Street — one of the great things is coming to school not dreading it, which is indicative of the joy of the job."

Jo has also enjoyed her work at the Ohakune Library which has enabled her to get to know many people.

As well as leaving many friends in the area, Jo will also be leaving her blooming garden, which, along with reading, is her favourite hobby.

She has also been an active member of the Waimarino Red Cross and the Waimarino Garden Club.

Maurice has recently completed sixth form at

Ruapehu College and will go on to seventh form at Edgecumbe College.

He has been involved in many outdoor activities at the school as well as the college's Maori cultural group.

Paul has just finished standard four at Ohakune Primary School, is involved in the Turoa Tumblers and is a keen trout fisherman at Lakes Reserve.

Both boys will have school mates when they return to Edgecumbe from when they were at school there before.

The Warbricks also have older children in Auckland and Wellington, two living in the Whakatane area, as well as one grandchild, and both their mothers live near Edgecumbe.

"It's not what we've done for the area, but more what the area has done for us as a family. The growth in ourselves as individuals and as a family cannot be measured. That is why we have loved our stay," said Michael.

Siggy sports ambassador

Raetihi ultra-distance runner Siggy Bauer has been made a New Zealand Sports Ambassador by Mike Moore, the Minister of Recreation and Sport.

Sports ambassadors receive no payment but are encouraged to promote New Zealand trade, industry and tourism when they are travelling overseas.

"It is up to exporters, manufacturers and tourism people to take advantage of us when we are competing in different places round the world and get us to speak publicly and appear at New Zealand functions," said Siggy.

All New Zealand embassies and high commissions round the world have been notified of Siggy's appointment and asked to give him as much help as possible when he is in their countries.

"I will be able to talk to service clubs and the like to promote New Zealand and also to speak about the highlights of our own region —

the skiing, the rivers and so on."

Siggy will be racing overseas again shortly when he competes in a six-day race in Colac, Victoria, in late February.

In early May he runs in the Sydney to Melbourne race again, which has now been extended to 1,000kms.

Later in the year there may be a six-day race in New

York but the details have not yet been finalised.

When he travels overseas he will be able to take advantage of one of the perks of sports ambassadorship, courtesy of Air NZ.

They will upgrade his travel so that if he has paid an economy fare this will become a business class ticket and so on.



Siggy Bauer — now a New Zealand sports ambassador.

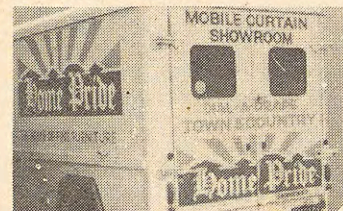
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Waimarino School prizes 2025



Raetihi School's top scholars: Raetihi School held their 2025 prize giving event last week. The top academic award – the Dux Cup – went to Keisha McDonough. Runner-up Dux is Michael Birch. Blackburn Cup all round learner is Chanel Hagley-Tutauha. Year 8 Jubilee Shield was awarded to Israel Metekingi. Photos: Raetihi School.



RUAPEHU COLLEGE JUNIOR PRIZE WINNERS: left, Paige Drinkwater is Junior Dux for 2025, top Year 10 academic student, winning the Ruapehu Bulletin trophy. Right, Heleyna Hammond, top Year 9 academic student, winning the Milne Family Trophy. Photos: Kerren Dixon.

Property Brokers 



Merry
Christmas
& Happy New Year

From the team at
Property Brokers Ohakune

Our office will close from Tuesday 23rd December 2025 and re-open Monday 5th January 2026. Our sales team are available during this time and can be reached on their mobile numbers.



OHAKUNE PRIMARY SCHOOL'S TOP ACADEMIC STUDENT: at centre, Madison Lee, was awarded the Dux Trophy for the top Year 8 academic student. She is pictured with principal Lisa Clark and last year's joint Dux winners, Dulcie Gunnell and Isla Paynter.



Our office will be closed from Friday 19 December. And will open again on Thursday 15 January 2026.

We will be checking our messages and emails regularly so please stay in touch! Email: ads@ruapehubulletin.co.nz or robert@ruapehubulletin.co.nz

Wishing all our readers and advertisers a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.
All the best for 2026!