



Rabbit on rubbish
P2



Chefs at the Boar's Nest
P3



Freda the Army dog remembered
P4



It's Show time!
P7

Ruapehu dodges weather bomb bullet

While much of the Manawatu-Whanganui Region was hit by the severe weather on Sunday and Monday, the Ruapehu District mostly avoided any serious damage.

However, there were some roads affected including the Parapara and also Valley Road north of Raetihi, with trees brought down in strong winds.

The RDC's Taumarunui office was flooded after a blockage in an internal gutter.

The District's severe weather watches and warnings were cancelled on Monday night.

"Ruapehu is well known for throwing a bit of severe weather our way from time to time it's part of why we love living in this wild and beautiful area," stated an RDC spokesperson.

"We can't say enough to thank our lead agencies, support agencies, iwi partners, local businesses and the many members of our community who step up whenever there's a risk to life or other urgent matters brewing, whether it's what the sky, the awa, or the whenua might be plotting."

"Your vigilance, professionalism, and willingness to act early make a real difference. It's that collective effort, quiet, steady, and often unseen, that keeps our whānau and visitors safe."

RDC's weather update on Monday stated that "while the wider region experienced significant impacts, Ruapehu appears to have largely 'dodged a bullet,' with districts to the north and south taking the brunt of the weather event".

Turn to Page 3

Steam train returns after a six-year break



Paul Finned, one of the engine drivers on Saturday's Mainline Steam excursion.

Mainline Steam was back in the Waimarino on Saturday after a six-year break from running vintage train excursions.

Jb1236 hauled a full train of passengers from Plimmerton – where Mainline Steam is based – to National Park Station at Waimarino. Many of the passengers disembarked to be taken to Whakapapa for a ride on the Sky Waka Gondola, while the train travelled in reverse to Ohakune, where the locomotive was turned on the Junction turntable, ready for the return journey to Plimmerton.

Mainline Steam's regular excursions had been in hiatus while their locomotives were fully overhauled, explained engine driver Paul Finned, from KiwiRail.

While waiting for the locomotive to be serviced in Ohakune, he said there were not many people qualified to drive engines on the Main Trunk Line and, in fact "90 per cent of the drivers are here now".

In place of the usual vintage carriages for the train were five luxury

passenger carriages with modern, comfortable seating and huge windows to take in the views.

"It was great to see so many passengers making the most of the Sky Waka and lunch combo at Whakapapa, Mt Ruapehu, enjoying those incredible alpine views," stated Mainline Steam on social media.

"With everyone having such a wonderful time on the mountain, we ran a little later than planned so thank you for your patience as we ensured everyone was safely back onboard before departing."

"We're incredibly grateful to our hardworking crew and volunteers, and to every passenger who continues to support heritage rail in New Zealand."

They thanked Steam Incorporated for the use of their generator van while theirs is under maintenance.

"We'd also like to sincerely thank the National Park Volunteer Fire Brigade for assisting with watering the locomotive."

The SUMMER is to make your move

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Recycling: Rabbit's advice on how to do it right



Cr Rabbit Nottage with a bag full of items that can't be recycled but have been found in blue bins.

Ruapehu Events & What's On

FEBRUARY 2026

Waimarino A&P Show 21 February
For further information contact: info@waimarinoshow.com.

Waimarino Sheepdog Trials 27-28 February
Contact Secretary – Roger Suckling 027 897 1610.

MARCH 2026

Royal Theatre Movies, starts 7pm March
James Bond Goldfinger 7 March
Mary Poppins Disney Classic 14 March
The Great Race 21 March
A Fist Full of Dollars 28 March

Blazing Hills Trail Run/Walk 14 March
Contact www.blazinghills.nz.

Waimarino 103rd Rodeo 21-22 March
Secretary: Cathy MacLean 06 385 4636 or 027 240 1090. Email: c_d_maclellan@xtra.co.nz. Raetihi Rodeo Grounds, Parapara Highway

Ring of Fire 27-28 March
See www.rof.co.nz for more information

Tussock Traverse 28 March
See www.tussocktraverse.co.nz for more information

APRIL 2026

Waimarino Golf Club Centenary Tournament 3-5 April
For more information www.ruapehugolf.co.nz

Ohakune Beer Festival 4 April
For more see [@ohakunebeefestival](http://www.ohakunebeefestival.co.nz) or www.kingsohakune.co.nz

Junction Easter Market 4 April
Contact Jennie on 0210 236 0065 for stall and information.

Taste @ The Kitchen 4 April
See [thekitchenohakune.nz](http://www.thekitchenohakune.nz) for details.

For all your ski board and bike rental needs



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Ski, Board & Bike
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06-385-8433 tcb.nz

FOR MORE DETAILS, GO TO OHAKUNE.INFO
IT'S FREE TO LIST SO PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU
HAVE AN EVENT COMING UP ...
ADS@RUAPEHUBULLETIN.CO.NZ
LINK YOUR EVENT TO EVENTFINDA FOR FREE

Eating out in the Ruapehu District

Call 06 385 8532 to list your business here or email ads@ruapehuhbulletin.co.nz

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 35 years, we've 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, 4pm – late. 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
For over 35 years, The Powderkeg has been serving up exceptional food and service in a warm, welcoming atmosphere. Whether you're enjoying a sunny afternoon on our spacious balcony or indulging in our weekly specials like Sushi Fridays and Smokehouse Sundays, there's always something to look forward to. Join us for an unforgettable dining experience and follow us on Instagram @ powderkegbar for the latest updates and mouthwatering offers! Open daily 7am till late

THE CYPRUS TREE

79 Clyde St, Ohakune Ph: 06 385 8857
Check out our new menu. Kiwi craft beers, boutique wines and cocktails to quench that thirst. Playroom for the kids, foosball, air hockey and spades to keep the kids entertained. Spectacular mountain views. A great place for casual get togethers or special occasions. Open every day.

UTOPIA CAFE

47 Clyde St, Ohakune Ph: 06 385 9120
Open 7 days from 8am – 3pm for all day breakfast and lunch. Serving Havana Coffee. A cosy memorable atmosphere with a great range of cabinet food and beverages, Frappé and smoothies. Vegan/Gluten-free options for both savoury and sweet are available. Speedy free Wi-Fi! A perfect place for everybody!

Some Ruapehu people who are trying to do the right thing and separating their recyclables and putting them in their blue bin, are putting some things that aren't recyclable in there and councillors Rabbit Nottage and Viv Hoeta have launched a campaign to highlight the issue.

"Let's go topless" is the headline in an advert they have booked into this week's *Bulletin*.

Their aim is to make a start by asking people to remember to remove bottle caps before putting their bottles into the recycling.

They are offering prizes to people who put aside the most bottle caps.

"Bottle caps such as from milk bottles can't be recycled," says Rabbit.

"The council contractor asks people not to put caps into the recycling as they clog up the machinery at the recycling plant."

Rabbit says the contractor has complained that there are a lot of bins contaminated with non-recyclables.

"I was given a bag full of items that are commonly mistakenly put out for recycling. I was guilty in the past of leaving my tops on but it never really took much of my time or cost me any money to change my attitude and try make the job for the operators of the waste recovery vehicles a little easier.

"If these items get through and contami-

nate the contractor's bin, the whole bin load has to go to landfill.

The prize money for the competition is donated by Cr Rabbit Nottage and Cr Viv Hoeta from their council salaries.

Advice from Envirowaste – the RDC's contractor, can be found online or at the council website at <https://www.ruapehuhdc.govt.nz/our-services/waste-minimisation-services-and-education>

- Rinse before you put items in the blue bin.

- Keep your items loose and flatten any cardboard.

- Don't put items into plastic bags or boxes.

- Recycle plastic items with numbers 1, 2 and 5.

- Keep batteries out of your recycling bin.

- Remove lids off plastic bottles and the lids that are smaller than your standard large yoghurt container.

Items that can't be recycled include Tetra packaging (eg. long life milk, non-dairy milk, fruit juices); spray cans; soft plastics; glass that is not product containers (such as wine glasses, window glass etc); crockery; plastic items that don't have the recycling symbol and 1, 2 or 5 stamped on them.

Rabbit says they are hoping to do other incentive competitions in the future

DOC has \$9.2m for community conservation

The Department of Conservation's Community Fund opens for applications on 31 March, with \$9.2 million available for community-led projects protecting our most threatened species and ecosystems.

"New Zealand has the highest proportion of threatened indigenous species in the world, with more than 1000 native species currently classified as 'threatened' by extinction, and almost two-thirds of our rare ecosystems at risk of collapse," says Sia Aston, DOC's deputy director-general of public affairs and partnerships.

This new round of the Fund will support

local conservation activities to deliver tangible outcomes for biodiversity, promote collaboration and enable meaningful Māori engagement.

Aston says the contributions of community groups enables greater outcomes for nature.

"Community groups play a pivotal role in protecting our native species and their habitats and we know they bring a lot to the table," says Sia.

"By drawing on the strengths and resources of these groups – like volunteer

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LET'S GO TOPLESS! LOSE THE LIDS & WIN!

Please remember to take ALL lids off containers for recycling. These cannot be recycled.

Collect your lids and drop to Ethical Waste by 7 March to win 1st \$200, 2nd \$100 & 3rd \$50



Prize money donated by
Councillors Rabbit & Hoeta
from their Council salaries



Ruapehu dodges weather bomb bullet

From Page 1

Rainfall across Ruapehu was approximately 50–60 percent of what had originally been forecast. Rivers had peaked on Monday and were receding.

“Wind has been the primary issue locally; however, no damage or electricity outages have been reported.”

Minor issues were reported on local roads, including slips on Koir Road and Ruatiti Road, and a fallen tree on Makakahi Road. Crews have cleared these sites and roads remain open.

Taumarunui Council Office

Water Damage Council staff have responded quickly following water damage to the administration and records area at the Taumarunui office.

The damage occurred during an intense, localised downpour on Friday, when a soccer ball from a neighbouring playcentre blocked a drain, causing water to overflow into the building.

At this stage, no disruption to normal Council records response times is expected. Staff are still assessing the extent of the damage, and customers will be advised if any work requests are affected.

“Council appreciates the community’s patience should there be any unexpected delays while clean-up and restoration work is completed.



Ruapehu District Council's Taumarunui office was flooded on Friday, thanks to a soccer ball blocking a downpipe. Photo: RDC.

DOC has \$9.2m for community conservation

From Page 2

hours, expertise, or co-funding – DOC can amplify the positive change they create.

“This reflects DOC’s goal for New Zealanders to ‘Always Be Naturing’ – we can all make a bigger difference through shared effort, with every action adding up to support the nature we all rely on.

“Together, we can achieve the best outcomes possible for our very special biodiversity, so I’m really excited to see what this round of applicants will bring to support critical conservation work around New Zealand.”

Community groups, iwi and hapū, as well as private landowners throughout the country can apply for the funding.

The 2026 funding round will open on 31 March and close on 30 April 2026, giving applicants more time to plan and engage with relevant parties. Details on how to apply are available on the DOC website. Successful applications will be announced from July 2026.

The DOC Community Fund (DOCCF) is a Crown fund established in 2014 that provides contestable funding for community-led biodiversity restoration projects on public and private land.

The DOCCF has an annual appropriation of \$4.6 million (the 2026 round is doubled as it includes the 2026/27 appropriation).

Since 2014, the fund has awarded approximately \$50 million to over 750 community conservation initiatives across New Zealand.

This round focuses on projects protecting threatened species (defined as Nationally Critical, Nationally Endangered, Nationally Vulnerable or Nationally increasing) and threatened ecosystems (defined as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable).

“A huge thanks to the Taumarunui Fire Crew for their response efforts on Friday.”

Around the region

Following is the report on the wider region from Local Democracy Reporting:

By Moana Ellis, Local Democracy Reporting

Thousands of homes were without power and several major highways closed across the lower North Island on Monday, as farmers help clear a slip to free people stranded on a rural Rangitīkei road.

A state of emergency was in place for the Manawatū-Whanganui region, with Manawatū, Rangitīkei and Tararua districts declaring local emergencies.

Helicopter stood down

Local farmers helped clear a slip on Turakina Valley Road, allowing traffic to slow again.

Earlier in the afternoon, Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management group controller Michael McCartney said crews were working with the New Zealand Defence Force to deploy an NH-90 helicopter to Turakina Valley Rd, where people and vehicles were stuck.

“Our first priority is to establish communication with people in the area before working to evacuate them.”

The helicopter was stood down once the farmers cleared the road access.

Rangitīkei District Council was also involved in the operation.

Authorities are urging people not to use Turakina Valley Rd as a detour, warning there are multiple local road closures across the region.

“Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management reiterates our earlier advice to avoid non-essential travel,” McCartney said.

“Conditions are treacherous due to downed trees, landslips and the potential for landslips across the region.”

State Highway 1 was closed between Hunterville and

Waipoua, while State Highway 4 was closed between Whanganui and Raetihi. At the time of going to print, SH4 was still closed but SH1 had reopened.

Motorists were being asked to avoid non-essential travel, with conditions described as treacherous due to downed trees, landslips and the risk of further slips across the region.

Residents are urged to check routes via the New Zealand Transport Agency Journey Planner before travelling.

More than 17,000 homes across the region were

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Celebrity chefs cook up a storm at the Boar's Nest



Chefs Manu Feildel, at right, and Colin Fassnidge, second from right, discuss the use of preserved garlic and the Boar's Nest. At left is Robert Hawira and third from left is Darnella Hawira.

The unique combination of Te Hoata (Māori trade training); the rustic ambiance of the Boar's Nest and the ever-constant generosity of Darnella and Robert Hawira is legendary.

But today that magic combination moved up a notch when international celebrity chefs, Manu Feildel and Colin Fassnidge, were drawn to our rohe to see, listen,

taste and learn from our own local talent.

It was a spectacular day with a sumptuous feast of gourmet culinary delights; electric energy; hilarity; and fun. The lambs tails and freshwater koura made a particular impact!

From the ngahere to the maara; from the hotplate to the dining table, it was a perfect day.



JOIN US this Purple Poppy Day

Tuesday 24 February – 11am **War Animal Memorial Service**

An opportunity to see up close NZDF military working dogs and NZ Police dogs as well as our local Clydesdales horses.

Directly outside the Museum, SH1, Waipoua
www.armymuseum.co.nz

PLANNED POWER OUTAGE | 9AM TO 4PM

Taihape, Waiouru & surrounding areas

Why will the power be out?

Transpower, the owner and operator of the national grid, is carrying out important maintenance at the Mataroa substation and its connecting lines.

For this work to be completed safely and quickly, the substation has to be turned off.

We know there is never a good time to be without power and apologise for the inconvenience this may cause. We have worked with Powerco, your local lines company, to find a suitable time and date.

The map here shows areas likely to be affected by this outage, and your power retailer should notify you to confirm if your power will be affected.



For everything Ohakune, visit
www.ohakune.info

SUNDAY
15 FEBRUARY
2026

What is Purple Poppy Day – and who was Freda?

Purple Poppy Day is an internationally recognised day of remembrance dedicated to the animals that have served in times of war. This important commemoration began here in New Zealand at the National Army Museum in Waiouru.

Held annually on 24 February, Purple Poppy Day marks the anniversary of the unveiling of the Museum's New Zealand War Animal Memorial in 2018 — a moment that also signalled the birth of this global day of remembrance for war animals.

The establishment of Purple Poppy Day has been driven by the efforts of Nigel Allsopp and the Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation (AWAMO), who have worked with governments around the world to raise awareness and funds, ensuring the service and sacrifice of war animals is formally recognised and never forgotten.

Much like the red poppy symbolising fallen soldiers, the purple poppy represents animals that have served and died in conflict. It is estimated that more than eight million animals lost their lives during the First World War alone.

Across New Zealand's military history, animals of many kinds have stood alongside soldiers — horses, camels, donkeys, mules, dogs, pigeons, canaries, cats, goats, turtles and even chickens. They carried

supplies, transported the wounded, delivered messages, guarded camps, boosted morale and provided companionship in the most challenging of circumstances.

At the National Army Museum, these stories are brought to life. Among them is the story of Freda, a Harlequin Great Dane whose impressive collar is currently on display in the Museum's *WWI: New Zealand and the Great War* exhibition.

Freda was the beloved mascot of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade at Brocton Camp in Staffordshire, England, during the First World War. The soldiers cared deeply for her — sharing their rations and including her in route marches and parades. In return, Freda offered affection and comfort, providing a welcome distraction from the hardships of war for the men training far from home.

Tragically, Freda died of illness in 1918, just as the soldiers were preparing to return to New Zealand. Her grave at Brocton Camp near Cannock Chase continues to be respectfully maintained by the local community.

The public is warmly invited to attend the National Army Museum's Purple Poppy Day memorial service at 11.00am on Tuesday 24 February, held in front of the Museum.



The collar once worn by Freda, the beloved Harlequin Great Dane, the mascot of soldiers in the First World War. Photo: National Army Museum.

THE WEEKLY WORKOUT

answers for each puzzle are included on this page

837

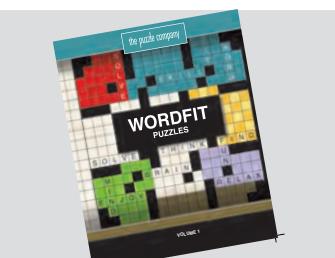
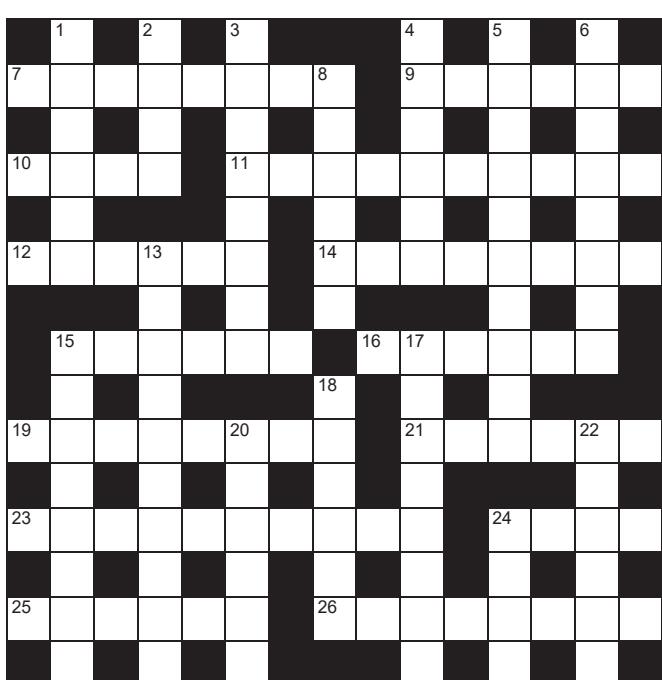
QUICK CROSSWORD

Across

- Eternal (8)
- Throws out (6)
- Filth (4)
- Artificial body part (10)
- Harmony (6)
- Landing field (8)
- Moved quickly or hastily (6)
- Season (6)
- And so on (Latin) (2,6)
- Yearbook (6)
- Causing distress (10)
- Thorn (4)
- Long, tapering flag (6)
- Impediment (8)

Down

- Sidekick (6)
- Printed words (4)
- Reaction (8)
- Person owing money (6)
- Walker (10)
- Remarkable (8)
- Advertising phrase (6)
- Snake-like (10)
- Comprehensive (8)
- Loud, resounding (8)
- Extravagant (6)
- Chore, task (6)
- Overseas (6)
- Edge (4)



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

THE TOP 10

1 Snowy, 2 No Doubt, 3 The Nutcracker, 4 An army (or airforce), 5 The ear, 6 Charles Heaphy, 7 Yaschmak, 8 Albany, 9 Capsules, 10 A young eel.

Puzzles © The Puzzle Company

SUDOKU

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

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

MEDIUM

2

HARD

The Top 10

- What is the name of Tintin's dog?
- Gwen Stefani came to prominence fronting which band?
- Which ballet with music by Tchaikovsky features "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy"?
- Iceland is the only member of NATO that does not have what?
- The Eustachian tube is connected to which body organ?
- Which 19th-century artist and Victoria Cross recipient had a popular New Zealand walking track named after him?
- What is the face-concealing veil worn by many Muslim women?
- The Marquis of Queensberry is remembered for his influence on boxing, and for his involvement in the imprisonment of which playwright?
- Which city is the capital of New York state?
- What is an elver?

CROSSWORD

Across: 7. Timless, 9. Effects, 10. Dift, 11. Proshetic, 12. Unison, 14. Airstrip, 15. Dated, 16. Spiring, 19. Et cetera, 21. Annual, 23. Disturbing, 24. Barb, 25. Pennon, 26. Handicap.

Down: 1. Million, 2. Text, 3. Response, 4. Debtor, 5. Pedestrian, 6. Skirming, 8. Slogan, 13. Sepulchre, 15. Detailed, 17. Plangueut, 18. Lavis, 20. Errand, 22. Abroad, 19. Spin, 21. Annual, 23. Disturbing, 24. Barb, 25. Pennon, 26. Handicap.

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SUDOKU

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



Waimarino A&P Show

Saturday 21 February

Celebrating Rural New Zealand

Barking and mullets feature in A&P Show 2026

Filling out the Waimarino Agricultural and Pastoral Show programme this Saturday are two new fun competitions – involving mullets and barking.

“Have you got an epic mullet that’s all about that ‘business in the front, party in the back’ vibe?” asks Show president Angela McCoubrie.

“Well then, this is for you!”

She said Waimarino’s Mighty Mullet Comp is here to find the ultimate mullet across all ages and stages and crown the mightiest mullet in all the land.

Categories include: Junior Mullet 0-12 years; Teen Mullet 13-18; Open Mullet 18+ years but open to all ages; Best in Show – judged on all entries.

“Enter on the day, you just need to turn up to the main stage just before 12,” says Angela.

The Show is going to the dogs this year – er, the dogs are going to the Show, with the stage opening up for the hardest working employees in the hill country, the humble huntaway.

“The inaugural Waimarino Bark Up is here to showcase these incredible dogs, with the top dogs going home with a bag of Royal Canin, and of course, bragging rights,” says Angela, who says committee member Lisa Frew is doing an amazing job with this event, while also managing the ever-popular Produce Shed.

Bark up categories include: best huntaway dog; best huntaway bitch; best non-working dog (yep, something for everyone!).

The Bark up will be held at 2pm on the Catalyst Performance Agronomy Mainstage – just bring your dog along 10 minutes beforehand to enter.

Local businesses who have made this event

possible are Thrupp Contracting, Ohakune Meats and Ruapehu Veterinary Services.

Other events include the “good old lolly scramble” thanks to Aerowork Whanganui who continue to support this event.

The Catalyst Performance Agronomy Mainstage has a great line-up of entertainment in store.

“This is the place where local talent gets showcased, and is also a great spot to stop and take five,” says Angela.

“So grab some kai, sit back, relax and let the mainstage crew take care of the rest.”

Free rides

Back again ... free rides for the kids!

“A big part of our mantra as a committee is to bring the community an epic family day out that embraces and celebrates rural New Zealand while remaining affordable,” says Angela.

“With the help of some incredible local businesses, we are again able to offer free rides for the kids.”

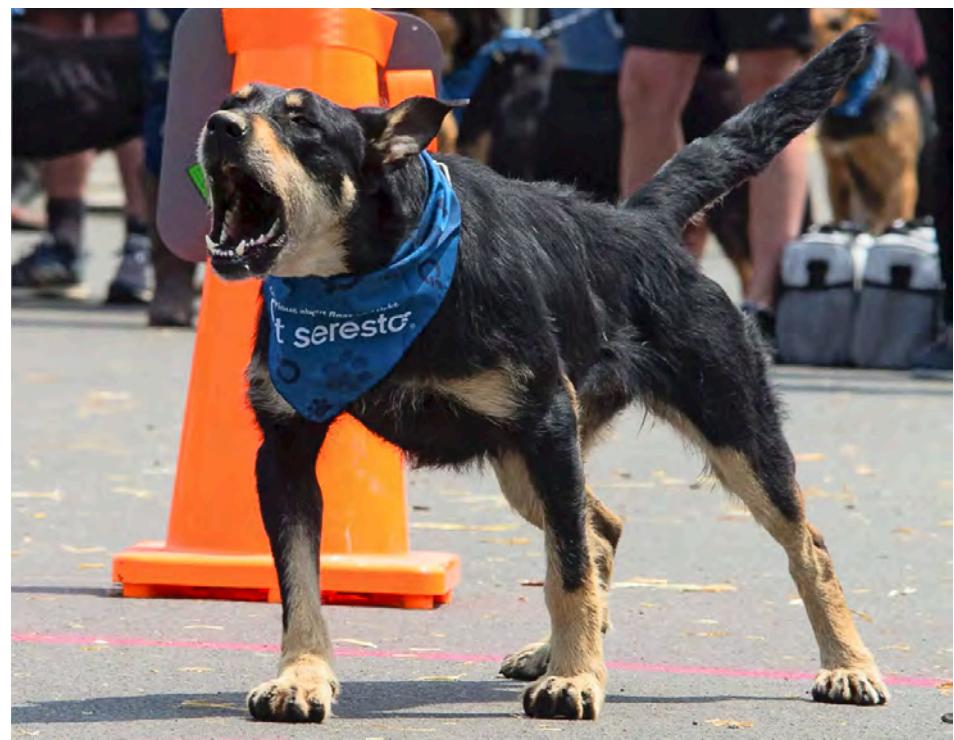
“Cheers to RTB Heli Ltd, Couper Agriculture, PKF Doyle & Associates The Accountants Limited & Plumber Dan for helping make this possible for our kids.”

Time out tent

Tweeddale Contracting and Hire and New World Ohakune have been dedicated sponsors of the Show’s ‘Time Out Tent’ for a number of years now, giving the kids (and adults) a fun place to get out of the elements.

“It is home to lots of games and entertainment and is a must-see at the show, especially for the littlest

[Turn to Page 7](#)



Bark Up competition sponsored by Dave Thrupp Contracting and Ohakune Meats. Photo: Hunterville Shemozzle Festival.

Celebrating Rural New Zealand



WAIMARINO
A&P
SHOW SINCE 1910

21
FEB

RAETIHI



FEATURING THE
WAIMARINO
WOODCHOP
21 FEB 2026

PROGRAMME

7.30am Produce shed opens for drop offs
9:00am Front gate closes
Produce shed closes for judging
Horse events start

SHOW OPENS

10:00am Karakia
Wood chopping starts
Couper Ag & PKF Doyles, RTB Heli & Plumber Dan - Free Rides start
10.15am Catalyst main stage entertainment starts
11.30am Aeroworks Lolly scramble
11.30am Bayleys Ruapehu Family Games
12.00pm Hayman Electrical Mullet Comp
12.30pm BNZ Hobby horse
12.45pm Brandt Small Dog race
1:00pm Ātihau Jon Preston Pavilion produce shed opens
Ruapehu Vets Young Farmers Comp
1.30pm Optimised Automotive Pet Parade
2.00pm Thrupp Contracting & Ohakune Meats Bark up
2.00pm Aeroworks Lolly scramble
2.30pm Ruapehu Whanganui Rural Support Gift Lamb
Final results announced - gift lamb, guess the weight RFS, guess the lollies PGG Wrightsons
3:00pm Show closes



Proud sponsors of the
2025 Waimarino A&P Show

3 Burns St, Ohakune. Ph: 06 385 8500 www.pggwrightson.co.nz

**FREE
KIDS
RIDES
ALL DAY**

WHAT'S ON!

Waimarino Bark Up
Mighty Mullet Comp
Clydesdale Horse Drawn Wagon
Little Dog Races, so bring your small dog along on a lead!
Hobie Horse Races for everyone, horses provided!

GATES OPEN 10AM • RAETIHI SHOW GROUNDS

Thank you
Sponsors





Waimarino A&P Show

Saturday 21 February

Celebrating Rural New Zealand

Ohakune Raetihi Garden Club

Enter your flowers, vegetables, baking, craft work, handcrafts in the Waimarino A&P Show. Entries can be dropped on Friday 1-7pm & Saturday 7-9pm

Schedules for the Show are available at the Ohakune Post & Lotto bookshop and Raetihi Information Centre.

All childrens exhibits welcome.

Flowers at the Show

The gardens in the Waimarino were looking stunning – even with a lack of sunshine, says Peggy Frew from the Ohakune Raetihi Garden Club.

“But after this week’s heavy rain they are sodden and bedraggled.”

Di Rout, president of the Club, is really hopeful that there will still be a great colourful display of flowers at the A&P Show on Saturday.

“If you have anything at all suitable bring it over and members of the Garden Club will help you enter them.”

Entry times are 1-7pm on Friday and 7-9am on Saturday.

“Also bring your baking, craft work, vegetables, jam, photography etcetera and encourage your children to enter.”

Schedules available from Ohakune Bookshop and Raetihi Info Centre.

“Make sure you visit the Produce Shed when you are at the Show. It will be open about 12.00,” says Di.



Bring your best mullet

Waimarino’s Mighty Mullet Comp is here to find the ultimate mullet across all ages and stages and crown the mightiest mullet in all the land.

Categories include: Junior Mullet 0-12 years; Teen Mullet 13-18; Open Mullet 18+ years but open to all ages; Best in Show – judged on all entries

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Waimarino A&P Show

Saturday 21 February

Celebrating Rural New Zealand

Fun and games at the A&P Show 2026



From Page 5

kids. Check out some of the activities that you can visit – Kim Young and Sons LTD Scavenger Hunt in the Wool; PGG Wrightson Ohakune Guess the Lollies and Peak FM Ruapehu FREE Face Painting.

Horsing around

It wouldn't be an A&P Show without the equestrian event and this year's Show has a chance for a boost, with the usual clash with the Feilding Show, that isn't on the same date for several years.

The equestrian show offers the perfect blend of high-quality events and grounds, with a little bit of something for everything, plus plenty of friendly local vibes.

Starting the day with flat classes that cater to most, moving to Round the Ring for a bit of excitement and those traditional show feels, and finishing with a day and a half worth of showjumping.

We also offer free camping for the competitors and take great pride in the surface of our arena, which is looking extra fantastic after all this rain.

A huge thank you to all our amazing sponsors, too, as every class this year has been supported by local businesses, allowing us to offer great prize money," adds Angela.

"Our amazing equestrian subcommittee does an incredible job every year to pull together an excellent and affordable schedule that is inclusive of everyone's abilities and interests, source experienced judges and course builders, and ensure all elements, from Round the Ring to Showjumping rings, are presented to a

high standard.

"The cherry on top is our grounds. They get a lot of love and attention throughout the year, meaning when you arrive in February they are in tip-top shape."

Produce shed

The Jon Preston Pavilion is once again brought to you by Ātihau-Whanganui Incorporation.

"This is the home of creativity and green fingers, and it is always incredible to see the talent out there," says Lisa Frew.

"It is a very inclusive space and we always encourage anyone who bakes, gardens, knits, preserves, paints or is creative in any way to check out the schedule and enter."

World champ chopper

The woodchopping competition is on again, organised by world-champion wood chopper, Ruapehu's Jack Jordan.

Asked if he will be too busy to compete – Angela said "hell no – there's no way he would be here without chopping."

Big support

Angela said they especially need to throw a shout-out to Lilburn Transport Ltd, "who have been a core supporter of our show for a number of years now".

Access

Access to the show might be affected by the road works on Parapara Road, but easy access can be found from George Street.

"It's actually easier – there's more shade, the best off-street parking and it's only about 30 seconds walk to the Show," says Angela.



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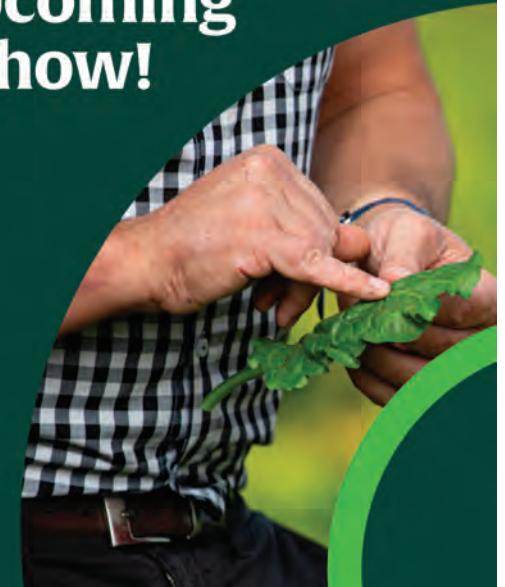
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Saturday 21st February

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NEW PRICES

From 1 April 2026, we are changing prices.

The current prices are detailed in the table below alongside the new prices.
The FAQs help make pricing a bit clearer.



keeping you connected

Prices

We bill your electricity retailer **DELIVERY PRICES** - includes distribution, transmission and pass-through.

Embedded Generation prices are for energy injected into the distribution network and are \$0.000 per kWh*.

TLC Discount prices calculate the TLC Discount for Waitomo Energy Services Customer Trust Customers.

Pass-through prices are related to other costs and regulatory incentives and the prices are \$/kWh

Variable price	Current variable price for LFC	New variable price for LFC
Peak	-0.0020	-0.0061
Shoulder	-0.0020	-0.0061
Off Peak	0.0000	0.0000
Anytime	-0.0016	-0.0046

Transmission prices include TLC's charges from Transpower. Recovery of these costs is included in daily and variable prices (\$/kWh):

Variable price	Current variable price for LFC	New variable price for LFC
Peak	0.0207	0.0227
Shoulder	0.0207	0.0227
Off Peak	0.0000	0.0000
Anytime	0.0165	0.0172

GST

All prices exclude GST. Our other prices (eg, those for capacity and dedicated asset customers) are available on our website. The pricing schedules, methodology and TLC Discount rules will be available on our website before 1 April 2026.

Variable pricing times

Peak	7am – 9.30am 5.30pm – 8pm
Shoulder	9.30am – 5.30pm 8pm – 11pm
Off Peak	11pm – 7am

Capacity bands

0 to 15 kVA denoted by 15 in price category code
16 to 30 kVA denoted by 30 in price category code
31 to 70 kVA denoted by 70 in price category code
71 to 150 kVA denoted by 150 in price category code

Got a complaint? Call us or Utility Disputes

If you have a complaint, please call 0800 367 546 or email us at info@thelines.co.nz to access our free complaints process.

If we cannot resolve your complaint, you can contact Utilities Disputes on 0800 22 33 40 or go to www.udl.co.nz.

Utilities Disputes is a free and independent service for resolving complaints about utilities providers.



This advert details NON-Waitomo Energy Services Customer Trust (WESCT) pricing.

For WESCT pricing please visit our website: thelinescompany.co.nz.

What are lines charges?

Lines charges pay for the electricity network that delivers electricity to your home or business.

TLC owns and looks after the poles, lines, transformers and systems that carry electricity from the national grid (Transpower) – the larger pylons, to your homes and businesses across our region.

Our role is to make sure the network that delivers power is safe, reliable and available whenever you need it.

If I use less power, do my lines charges decrease?

Even when your electricity use is low, the network still needs to be there – ready to deliver power instantly when you turn something on. Most of the cost of running an electricity network is fixed.

Poles, lines, transformers, safety systems and crews must be maintained year-round so every connection stays safe and reliable.

Your lines charges are your contribution to keeping that shared network available, just like roads or water pipes that must be maintained whether they're used a little or a lot.

Can I choose a different electricity distributor?

No. You can choose a retailer. The Lines Company is not a retailer. We are an electricity distributor.

Like other lines companies across the country, TLC is a natural monopoly. TLC owns the only set of power lines in your area. It wouldn't make sense to build multiple duplicate networks because networks are expensive and complex.

Electricity distributors are regulated by the Commerce Commission and the Electricity Authority. They monitor performance and set revenue rules and quality standards.

Is there a connection between lines charges and electricity use?

There is a limited connection. Even if you use very little electricity, the network must still be maintained so power is available when you need it. Fixed charges ensure the network stays safe, reliable and ready.

Electricity relies on a network of poles, lines, transformers and systems that must be ready to deliver power every minute of the day, even when usage is low. This 'always on' network is what keeps our lights on and our hot water heating when needed.

Electricity networks are similar to other essential networks we rely on every day. Roads don't shrink overnight when fewer cars are using them, and water and wastewater pipes must be maintained whether you use a little or a lot. The electricity network must be built and maintained to support everyone, no matter how much power each household uses.

Lines charges vs electricity

Electricity (the energy you use) is sold by your retailer. **TLC doesn't sell electricity** — we maintain and operate the network that delivers it. Depending on retailer, it is sometimes not easy to see exact lines charges. Scan the QR code for an estimate.

Why do electricity bills include fixed lines charges?

Fixed charges exist because most of the cost of running an electricity network doesn't change with how much electricity you use. The expensive parts — poles, wires, transformers, safety equipment, control systems and the people who maintain them — need to be funded year-round to keep your connection reliable.

What is a pricing code?

It is the category your property is assigned so that charges are applied based on your connection type, capacity and usage pattern.

Scan the QR code for details.

CURRENT YEAR - Prices from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026

Customer Group	Price Category Code	Customer numbers non-WESCT	Density	Controlled or Uncontrolled	Daily Transmission \$/day	Daily Distribution \$/day	Daily Pass-through \$/day	Daily Delivery \$/day	Peak Distribution \$/kWh	Peak Delivery \$/kWh	Shoulder Distribution \$/kWh	Shoulder Delivery \$/kWh	Off Peak Distribution \$/kWh	Off Peak Delivery \$/kWh	Anytime Distribution \$/kWh	Anytime Delivery \$/kWh
Residential Time of Use (TOU)	RTLFCHC	2,428	High	Controlled	0.1000	0.6576	-0.0076	0.7500	0.1487	0.1674	0.1272	0.1459	0.0574	0.0574		
	RTLFCLC	334	Low	Controlled	0.1000	0.6576	-0.0076	0.7500	0.2103	0.2290	0.1888	0.2075	0.1190	0.1190		
	RTLFCHU	934	High	Uncontrolled	0.1000	0.6576	-0.0076	0.7500	0.1737	0.1924	0.1272	0.1459	0.0574	0.0574		
	RTFLCLU	144	Low	Uncontrolled	0.1000	0.6576	-0.0076	0.7500	0.2353	0.2540	0.1888	0.2075	0.1190	0.1190		
	RTSTDHC	1,841	High	Controlled	0.5063	1.4523	-0.0586	1.9000	0.1150	0.1150	0.0935	0.0935	0.0050	0.0050		
	RTSTDLC	389	Low	Controlled	0.5063	2.8023	-0.0586	3.2500	0.1150	0.1150	0.0935	0.0935	0.0050	0.0050		
	RTSTDHU	825	High	Uncontrolled	0.5063	1.4523	-0.0586	1.9000	0.1400	0.1400	0.0935	0.0935	0.0050	0.0050		
General TOU	RTSTDLU	161	Low	Uncontrolled	0.5063	2.8023	-0.0586	3.2500	0.1400	0.1400	0.0935	0.0935	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT15HC	210	High	Controlled	0.5063	2.4523	-0.0586	2.9000	0.1150	0.1150	0.1010	0.1010	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT15LC	100	Low	Controlled	0.5063	3.3523	-0.0586	3.8000	0.1150	0.1150	0.1010	0.1010	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT15HU	920	High	Uncontrolled	0.5063	2.4523	-0.0586	2.9000	0.1400	0.1400	0.1010	0.1010	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT15LU	490	Low	Uncontrolled	0.5063	3.3523	-0.0586	3.8000	0.1400	0.1400	0.1010	0.1010	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT30HC	71	High	Controlled	1.0125	5.1046	-0.1171	6.0000	0.1150	0.1150	0.0875	0.0875	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT30LC	14	Low	Controlled	1.0125	6.6046	-0.1171	7.5000	0.1150	0.1150	0.0875	0.0875	0.0050	0.0050		
Temporary Accommodation TOU	GT30HU	168	High	Uncontrolled	1.0125	5.1046	-0.1171	6.0000	0.1400	0.1400	0.0875	0.0875	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT30LU	43	Low	Uncontrolled	1.0125	6.6046	-0.1171	7.5000	0.1400	0.1400	0.0875	0.0875	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT70H	110	High	n/a	2.3625	12.9108	-0.2733	15.0000	0.1400	0.1400	0.0775	0.0775	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT70L	47	Low	n/a	2.3625	15.4108	-0.2733	17.5000	0.1400	0.1400	0.0775	0.0775	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT150H	43	High	n/a	5.0625	25.5231	-0.5856	30.0000	0.1400	0.1400	0.0650	0.0650	0.0050	0.0050		
	GT150L</td															

Letters

What happened to the Ohakune flags?

In November and December 2025, the Ohakune Business Network through the Ohakune Community Charitable Trust (OCCT), canvassed local businesses to replace the Ohakune flags that welcome visitors, that had been up around the town and the Junction area.

Through this effort 50 new double sided and reinforced flags were ordered and were delivered ready for the new year.

This information was confirmed to and sent to the Ruapehu District Council in Taumarunui, who organise the putting up and taking down of the flags around the district.

Unfortunately, there has been a change in contractor, and the information was not passed on and no one collected the new flags to put them up around Ohakune. The Ohakune Business Network has contacted

the RDC to see what has happened, and the information has now been confirmed to the new contractors.

The Business Network was asked the other day "where are the flags?"

We understand that with financial limitations on the RDC, the contractors only put up flags around the Ruapehu District three times a year – for Christmas, Anzac and Matariki – and usually as the flags are taken down for one purpose, the flags are replaced for another purpose. Unfortunately, the Ohakune flags were missed being replaced after Christmas and will now be replaced after Anzac weekend at the end of April.

The Ohakune Business Network thought it important to let our locals know what has happened to their support in getting new flags.

Mike Wiggins, convener, Ohakune Business Network



Ohakune's promotion flags. New ones are here, but not up yet.

Power Trust consults on takeover offer

King Country Trust is seeking feedback from its beneficiaries and the community after receiving a non-binding indicative offer from Contact Energy to acquire the Trust's 24.98% shareholding in King Country Energy Limited.

The indicative offer values the shareholding at approximately \$47 million, subject to adjustments and final agreement between the parties. The proposed consideration is expected to be paid through the issue of Contact Energy shares to the Trust or its nominee.

Contact currently holds around 75% of King Country Energy and operates and maintains the company's five hydro power stations.

Four are located within the King Country region and one in the Horowhenua region, with total installed capacity of 53MW and average annual generation of 190 GWh.

King Country Energy director and Contact hydro development manager Todd Mead, says Contact would take full ownership of King Country Energy's stations if the proposed transaction proceeded.

"We're committed to remaining active in the local community, strengthening relationships and partnerships with local iwi, and continuing to invest in King Country Energy assets, ensuring they operate reliably and safely into the future," says Mead.

The Trust has undertaken a Special Ownership Review and will undertake public consultation to help inform its decision on whether to proceed with the proposed transaction or retain its shareholding in King Country Energy, says Trust chair Uwe Kroll.

The Special Ownership Review considers whether retaining ownership in KCE or proceeding with the proposed transaction is in the best interests of the Trust and its beneficiaries.

As part of this process, Northington Partners completed an independent assessment of the Trust's ownership options, including the merits of the proposed transaction. The assessment forms one input into the Trust's overall review and decision-making process.

Kroll said the review and consultation process is focused on ensuring the Trustees make a decision that reflects the long-term interests of beneficiaries.

"This consultation is about making sure we fully understand beneficiary and community views before determining the best long-term outcome."

Public consultation is expected to begin shortly and run for around a month.

If, following consultation, the parties decide to proceed, a sale and purchase agreement could be signed and completed in the second quarter of calendar year 2026. Final transaction terms remain subject to agreement between Contact Energy and the Trust.

The Trust serves approximately 10,300 beneficiaries, who are, in broad terms, electricity consumers connected to the lines network within the former King Country Electric Power Board supply area.

Information on how to make a submission will be available via the Trust's website and public notices.

2026 BUSINESS RESET

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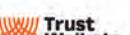
Tuesday 3 March - 10am to 3.30pm

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Queries: call Kim Treen 027 506 3141



With support from the following groups....



Multiple attack fronts now in use against wildfires for the Army

For the first time the New Zealand Army, Ngāi Tūmatauenga's Emergency Response team has been able to train with commercial fixed-wing aircraft to broaden the range of their capabilities and more effectively attack wildfires.

The recent fire training, Exercise Falcon, at the Waiouru Military Camp Training Area, comes during the fire season in the arid area.

The intent of the training was to ensure fixed-wing aircraft could operate and land at the Moving Target Range, in the northern end of the training area, and to give key personnel at the Waiouru Fire Station an opportunity to direct and control multiple aircraft. The team also took the chance to incorporate and rehearse other fire protection measures.

The training focused on zones where artillery training takes place and where fires can sometimes break out, Fire Master Staff Sergeant Matthew Anker said.

"We often train with commercial helicopters with buckets, but it was the first time we also worked alongside a commercial fixed-wing aircraft that was able to land in the area.

"Our standard operating procedures mean we always have fire safety plans and mitigations in place for all exercises, but we always have to be prepared and train for when things go wrong."

The fixed-wing plane from Airworks was loaded with 2000 litres of water, which it dumped over

the controlled burn site, alongside two aircraft from Mid West Helicopters NZ with their buckets.

Firebreak

"The fires we set also acted as preventative burning in areas where fires are likely to start in the future. It created a dual effect to reduce the fuel-load for the fire season, a fire break of sorts, and we were then able to call the aircraft in to extinguish the fire that we had started," Staff Sergeant Anker said.

"The aircraft was really effective in putting the fire out and stopping it in its tracks."

The whole station of 20 personnel took part in the two-day training and volunteer firefighters were used to maintain cover of State Highway 1.

"The training was a huge success because we were able to establish standard operating procedures to use fixed wing aircraft on large scale fires. It was essentially a dry run to prepare us for the fire season," Staff Sergeant Anker said.

"It was really valuable to be able to train with both the fixed-wing and helicopters at the same time. It's like going from a small arms weapon to a 50-calibre gun. There's a much bigger punch and will prepare us well for this season."

With the increasing effects of climate change and extreme weather, which in turn increases the risks of large-scale wildfires, it was good to be able to work effectively with outside agencies to combat those dangers, he said.

NEW LISTING



Raetihi 39 Seddon Street

Position, potential and possibility!

Set on a flat, 1,012sqm (more or less) freehold site, 39 Seddon Street offers a straightforward opportunity to secure commercially zoned bare land centrally located within Raetihi. With a practical layout and vacant possession, it's a clean slate for a range of commercial uses, subject to council consent. Raetihi is a well-supported rural township at the southern gateway to the Ruapehu region, servicing local residents, farming businesses, forestry operations and visitors heading to the mountain.

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Antony Greenfield 021 102 3594
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ABOVE: NZ Army personnel from the Waiouru Fire Station taking part in Exercise Falcon. Photos: NZDF.
BELOW: A fixed-wing plane from Airworks dumping water over a controlled burn site. One of two helicopters from Mid West Helicopters NZ using buckets to put out a controlled fire.



PLANNED POWER OUTAGE Ohakune, Raetihi, & surrounding areas

9:00AM – 4:00PM

Why will the power be out?

Transpower, the owner and operator of the national grid, along with your local lines companies Powerco and The Lines Company, are carrying out important maintenance at the Ohakune substation and its connecting lines.

For this work to be completed safely and quickly, the substation has to be turned off.

We know there is never a good time to be without power and apologise for the inconvenience this may cause. We have worked with Powerco and The Lines Company to find a time and date that is least inconvenient.

The map here shows areas likely to be affected by this outage, and your power retailer should notify you to confirm if your power will be affected.

Preparing for the power outage

Making sure you're prepared for a power outage can be a huge help. For some useful tips, visit transpower.co.nz/plannedoutages

Contact us

Email us at communications@transpower.co.nz or phone 04 590 7000 for more information. You can also call your power retailer.



*These are illustrative areas only.

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Power companies share platform and services partnership

Counties Energy and The Lines Company (TLC) last week announced the start of a Shared Platform and Services partnership designed to reduce duplication, lower long-term costs, deliver faster and better customer benefits — while preserving the advantages of local control and front-line employment.

The partnership will initially focus on digital platforms, joint procurement and energy hardship programmes that will “deliver tangible benefits for customers”, via a simple, scalable model that other Electricity Distribution Businesses (EDBs) can choose to participate in.

“It is a layered, simple model with minimal overhead that focuses on back-office efficiencies and specialist expertise sharing,” says TLC chief executive Mike Fox.

“This matters because the most cost-effective upgrade is the one that doesn’t need to be built,” says Fox.

“By working together, through smarter digital control, common systems and less duplication, networks can potentially move more energy across the same assets, keeping bills lower over time and improving resilience during bad weather and peaks.”

The two companies say they will continue to explore additional areas where collaboration can improve efficiency, capability and customer outcomes across the electricity distribution sector.

“Our vision is simple and customer-centred: do the right thing, do it together and do it now,” says Fox.

“By sharing platforms, procurement and expertise, we remove duplication, share specialist capability and pass efficiencies straight through to the communities we serve. This partnership is built to scale,

transfer and adapt, creating intergenerational value while staying true to our local needs and values.”

He says the partnership demonstrates sector leadership at a time when the Government has challenged EDBs to move faster on collaboration, standardisation and affordability.

“Rather than wait for structural change, Counties Energy and TLC are acting now with a bottom-up, low-overhead model that focuses on outcomes customers can see and feel.”

Judy Nicholl, chief executive of Counties Energy believes the partnership approach is a practical response to industry challenges and will deliver benefits to customers faster, and more efficiently.

“From day one this partnership will include several key initiatives – Counties Energy sharing its digital platforms and Distribution System Operator (DSO) capability with TLC and TLC sharing its expertise on implementing a unified Energy Hardship programme with Counties Energy. Both organisations will jointly develop a shared, common procurement approach which will deliver greater operational efficiencies.”

“This partnership is simple by design and ambitious in impact,” said Fox.

“As the model proves its value, the partners will invite other like-minded EDBs to join us on a clear pathway with substance. We believe it has the potential to accelerate sector-wide collaboration and standardisation.”

Chopper rescue



A hiker who had suffered injuries after a fall was airlifted from the Tongariro National Park, near the Tararua Falls, last week. “With the terrain too challenging for a standard landing, the rescue helicopter crew carried out a winch rescue, allowing the Critical Care Flight Paramedic to reach the patient quickly,” stated a Greenleaf Rescue Helicopter spokesperson. The patient received treatment and was flown to Waikato Hospital in a stable condition.

\$10,000
in funding available



Applications open now

Our community fund is here to help groups, people or organisations doing great work in our community. **Applications close 28 February 2026.**
For more information and to apply, visit thelinescompany.co.nz

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UNVEILING

JOHN MCQUARRY: Family and close friends are invited to attend John's interment and unveiling on 21 February, 11am at the Ohakune Cemetery.

PUBLIC NOTICES



Ruapehu Mayor
Weston Kirton
To arrange a meeting or call back please phone Council on 06 385 8364 or email: kay.kidd@ruapehudc.govt.nz

PUBLIC NOTICES
Section 101, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
Big Mountain Drinks Limited (formerly known as Ohakune Brewers Limited) have made an application to the District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council for the Renewal of an Off Licence in respect of the premises situated at 19 Goldfinch Street, Ohakune and known as Big Mountain Mead/Ohakune Brewers. The general nature of the business to be conducted under the licence is that of a Bottle Store. The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is intended to be sold under the licence are: **Monday to Sunday - 12.00pm - 9.00pm.** The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the Ruapehu District Licensing Committee at Ruapehu District Council, 59-63 Hua 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 first publication of this notice.

BUSINESS NOTICES

Ohakune Health Hub In pain? Let us help.

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NEED ADVICE?



Contact the CAB on 07 878 7636 or email: tekuiti@cab.org.nz

PUBLIC NOTICES

Calling stall holders Junction Easter Market

Thames Street, Saturday 4 April
10am - 2pm

Please contact Jennie
0210 236 0065

MEETINGS

The following meetings of Horizons Regional Council (Livestreamed) will be held during **March 2026** in the Tararua Room, Regional House, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North, unless otherwise advised:

Monday, 02 March

1.30pm Climate Action Joint Committee

Tuesday, 03 March

11.00am Regional Transport Committee
1.30pm Audit, Risk & Investment Committee - *this meeting replaces the previously advertised meeting date of Wednesday, 25 February.*

Tuesday, 17 March

10.00am Passenger Transport Committee
1.00pm Regional Council - Public Excluded (Not Livestreamed)

Tuesday, 24 March

9.30am Regional Council

Should Members of the public wish to speak at Meetings, they are advised to phone 0508 800 800.

MJ McCartney

CHIEF EXECUTIVE



PUBLIC NOTICE

ABANDONED VEHICLES POSSESSION NOTICE

To the persons registered under part 17 of the Land Transport Act 1998 in respect of the vehicles described below impounded from within the Ruapehu District pursuant to Section 356A of the Local Government Act 1974.

Vehicle ID	Make/Model	Colour	Location	Last Known Registered Owner
CSC938	2005 Nissan Pulsar 1.8 Q Sedan Auto Saloon	Gold	40 Main Road, Waiouru	Chris Wilson
MWK457	2001 Suzuki Ignis Hatch 1.3 5Dr Hatchback	Blue	38 Main Road, Waiouru	Jamie Lee Trevathan

If you do not claim the vehicle within ten (10) working days, Council will sell/dispose of the vehicle. To claim your vehicle, contact Ruapehu District Council on 07 895 8188 or 06 385 8364.

PUBLIC NOTICES



REGISTER NOW! Centennial Celebrations 3-5 April Easter Weekend

You must be registered by 28 February to secure a place at the dinner.
This means YOU - members and locals!

If you do nothing, or you will miss your place at the dinner.

Contact info@ruapehugolf.co.nz or see www.ruapehugolf.co.nz

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE - RING OF FIRE 2026

PURSUANT to Schedule 10, Section 342 of the Local Government Act 1974 notice is hereby given that the Ruapehu District Council will close the below roads for the following event:

Event: Ring of Fire Alpine Ultra Trail Run 2026

Roads:

- o Friday 27 March 2026 from approximately 8:00AM to Sunday 29 March 2026 at approximately 3:00pm Thames Street from the intersection of Mangawhero Terrace to the far end of the Turoa Lodge car park for the purpose of the Ring of Fire event hub.
- o Saturday 28 March 2026 from approximately 3:00AM to 8:30AM from the intersection of Old Station Road, the Ohakune Mountain Road will be closed to all non-event related traffic.
- o Saturday 28 March 2026 from approximately 7:00PM to 8:00AM from the intersection of Old Station Road, the Ohakune Mountain Road will be closed to all non-event related traffic. While the above closures are provisional due to the traffic management plan having not received regulatory approval, the Ohakune Events Charitable Trust does not anticipate that they will change.

Date & Time: 8am on Friday 27 March to 3pm on Sunday 29 March 2026

Detour signage will be in place.

Any person objecting to the proposal is called upon to lodge notice of their objection and grounds thereof in writing before 4pm on Wednesday 11 March 2026 at the Office of the Council at Private Bag 1001, Taumarunui 3946 or info@ruapehudc.govt.nz.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Tongariro Taupō Conservation Board Notice of Meeting

Date: 26 February 2026

Venue: Whakapapa DOC Office – Whakapapa Village, State Highway 48, 3951

Public Forum: 1.00pm to 1.30pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and engage with the Board during the public forum.

If you wish to attend the meeting or address the Board, either in person or online via MS Teams, please contact Louisa Meredith to receive an agenda and online link on:

E: tongarirotaupoconservationboard2@doc.govt.nz
Ph: 027 256 1835

www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/statutory-and-advisory-bodies/conservation-boards/tongariro-taupo



Advisory Notice

Exercise Bayonet Walk

The Combat School, Land Operations Training Centre, New Zealand Army, will be conducting Exercise Bayonet Walk from Saturday 7 March until Sunday 14 March 2026.

The exercise will be based in and around Kaimanawa Forest Park.

The exercise will involve up to 30+ soldiers. Personnel will be operating by vehicle and on foot, carrying weapons as part of their training. Blank firing will occur.

Members of the public should not be alarmed by the presence of military personnel or vehicle movement during this period. All activities are conducted in accordance with New Zealand Defence Force safety procedures. NZ Police and DOC have been informed of the activity.

For further information, please contact:

Wing Sergeant Major
WO2 Matt Wade
Combat School, Waiouru Military Camp,
Ruapehu Rd, Waiouru, NZ
021 2977249

An Extraordinary General Meeting of Raetihi Y Ahu Whenua Trustees, Owners and Beneficiaries

Saturday 28 February 2026, 10am (NZ time)

Raetihi Cosmopolitan Club
32 Seddon St, Raetihi

AGENDA:

1. Karakia
2. Apologies
3. Financial Report
4. Finalisation / Update on dividend distributions
5. Matters arising:
 - a. Update on Lease Agreement
 - b. Consideration of 2 hectares reserve to be set aside for future development
 - c. Feedback on grants proposal
 - d. Election for two replacement Trustees

Any enquiries to: Gordon Cribb - email: gcribb@gmail.com

CLASSIFIEDS

SITUATIONS VACANT



Class 5 Truck Drivers

Jilesen Group Ltd require Class 5 Truck Drivers to join the Transport Division Team based at our Taumarunui branch.

Jilesen Group is a well-established family business which specialises in civil roading and forestry construction and maintenance. The company also supplies and delivers product from its Quarry operations around the Central North Island.

The successful candidate must have the following:

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Please email your CV and covering letter to info@jilesen.co.nz

For further information, you can contact the Jilesen Group office on 07 895 6251.

PUBLIC NOTICES

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – RAETIHI GUT BUSTER 2026



PURSUANT to Schedule 10, Section 342 of the Local Government Act 1974 notice is hereby given that the Ruapehu District Council proposes to close the below roads for the following event:

Event: Raetihi Gut Buster 2026
Road: Seddon Street, Raetihi - between Duncan Street and Ballance Street
Date: Saturday 18 April 2026
Time: 08:00am to 16:00pm (4pm)

Detour available: Via Duncan Street, Queen Street and Ballance Street

The above road closure is provisional pending regulatory approval of the Traffic Management Plan. The Raetihi Promotions Charitable Trust does not anticipate any changes.

Any person wishing to object to the proposal is invited to lodge their objection, including the grounds for it, in writing no later than 4.00pm on Friday, 28 March 2026. Objections may be delivered to the Office of the Council, posted to Ruapehu District Council, Private Bag 1001, Taumarunui 3946 or emailed to info@ruapehuc.govt.nz

Ruapehu Junior Rugby Club AGM

Tuesday 3 March 7.30pm
at Raetihi Rugby Clubrooms

Position that need to be filled are:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
JAB Delegate
SNR Club Delegate
Registration Administrator
Equipment/Grounds Manager

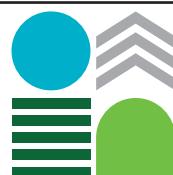
For more information please email ruapehujnrugby@gmail.com

Community trap building event supports local predator control



Youngsters took part in the trapping and trap building session in January. Photo: Ōwhango Alive.

PUBLIC NOTICES



KING COUNTRY TRUST

Whakarato Te Rohe Pōtae KING COUNTRY TRUST

PUBLIC NOTICE OF SPECIAL OWNERSHIP REVIEW REPORT

On 16 February 2026, the Trust issued a special ownership review report on whether the Trust should proceed with the sale of its remaining 24.98% shareholding in King Country Energy Limited to NZX-listed Contact Energy Limited or retain its shareholding.

A copy of the special ownership review report may be inspected from 16 February 2026 at the offices of the Trust (Peak Chartered Accountants, Taumarunui), the offices of King Country Energy, Taumarunui, and the public libraries in Taumarunui, Tūrangi and Ohakune during normal business hours. The report is also available on the Trust's website at www.kcpowertrust.co.nz.

The trustees welcome submissions on the report from interested persons no later than 3pm on 19 March 2026. Submissions may be made to:

The Secretary
King Country Trust
C/- Peak Chartered Accountants
P O Box 384
Taumarunui, 3946

Email: kcept@xtra.co.nz

Following this, a further notice will be given for public inspection of the submissions and for one or more public meetings to be held on the special ownership review report.

Dated 16 February 2026

The Ōwhango Domain Pavilion came alive on 9 January as part of Project Tongariro's Mahi Aroha programme, for a fun-filled rat trap-building afternoon.

Volunteers from Ōwhango Alive led the session alongside Clodagh Costello, community ranger with the Department of Conservation.

The session attracted a strong turnout, with 13 young people attending alongside their parents. Each participant built a trap box and fitted it with a rat trap to take home.

From the outset, there was clear excitement about putting the traps to work in backyards across the community.

Throughout the afternoon, the pavilion echoed with hammering, conversation and questions. At the same time, volunteers explained why backyard predator control matters. Importantly, they shared how rats impact native birds and invertebrates. As a result, families gained both practical skills and conservation knowledge.

Meanwhile, the hands-on format encouraged learning by doing. Parents and children worked together, supported by experienced volunteers. This approach helped build confidence and sparked meaningful discussions about caring for the local environment.

Ōwhango Alive thanks the "fantastic team" at Taumarunui Op Shop for their funding grant to help with this project, Project Tongariro, Department of Conservation and the dedicated Ōwhango Alive volunteers.

"Their support and commitment made the afternoon a success. Community-led events like this play a vital role in protecting biodiversity and inspiring the next generation of conservation champions," said an OA member.

Local sponsors support predator control in Ohinetonga Scenic Reserve

Ōwhango Alive has welcomed two new DOC200 trap sponsors, Kim and Owen Petersen of Ōwhango, strengthening ongoing predator control efforts in the Ohinetonga Scenic Reserve.

The couple recently joined volunteers along the Boathole Track to place personalised tags on their sponsored traps. Trap sponsorships help fund lure supplies and ongoing maintenance, ensuring traps remain effective in protecting native wildlife.

"Our trap sponsors play a vital role in supporting hands-on conservation," says a spokesperson for Ōwhango Alive.

"Every sponsored trap contributes directly to reducing predator pressure in the reserve."

During the visit, volunteers also discovered a striking fungi specimen near one of the traps, highlighting the rich biodiversity found within the reserve and reinforcing the importance of conservation work in the area.

DOC200 trap sponsorships are available for \$50 per year, renewed each March. Sponsors receive updates on trap activity via the Ōwhango Alive newsletter.

Ōwhango Alive thanks Kim and Owen Petersen, along with all sponsors and supporters, for their continued commitment to local conservation efforts.

For more information on sponsoring a trap or making a donation, please contact Ōwhango Alive.

SITUATIONS VACANT



Centre Manager Position

Nancy Winter Early Childhood Centre is recruiting for a new Centre Manager.

Enquiries to nancywintercentre@xtra.co.nz by 23.03.2026.



Soldiers take part in live field firing maneuvering in pairs and fours. Mentors and safety staff provide guidance and feedback if required.

Mentored for success - Reservists complete infantry corps training

New Army Reserve Force soldiers have been put to the test in Waiouru as they developed core combat skills.

In typically unpredictable Central Plateau conditions for the height of summer, the rain was pelting down on the Waiouru Military Training Area as 59 Reserve Force Infantry Corps Training (RICT) soldiers disembarked a New Zealand Army UNIMOG vehicle.

They hit the ground running and moved forward to all-round defensive positions under the direction of their section commanders.

Warrant Officer Class Two (WO2) John Harris, the Training Warrant Officer for the course, says these soldiers attended their basic recruit training last year and were now developing their core combat skills to the levels required of an infantry soldier.

"The training focused on operating as an infantry soldier in a rifle section with a train, mentor, develop focus by training staff."

Soldiers were introduced to specific infantry weapons and training scenarios and continued to develop and refine skills they'd learnt on recruit training.

They familiarised themselves with weapons systems including the MARS-L rifle, grenade launchers, CDF (Charge Directional Fragmentation device), the M72 Short Range Anti-Armoured Weapon, and the Light Support Weapon (LSW) machine gun.

In terms of honing their field skills, they undertook scenarios involving patrolling, observation posts, clearing patrols, ambushes, using open and close country scenarios.

Live field firing maneuvering in pairs and fours, and placing grenades into enemy trenches, were among the highlights for the soldiers, and marked the conclusion of the war fighting field phase of the training.

"The weather was extremely wet and unpredictable throughout the field phase," WO2 Harris said.

"They had to persevere in the face of adversity and remained positive - they definitely built their resilience."

Each year, responsibility for running the training is rotated through the three Reserve Force Battalions. This year 3/6 Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (RNZIR), took the helm.

Its Regimental Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer Class One Regan Cherrington, commended the soldiers on their collective commitment, dedication and resilience while reminding them they are now qualified Reserve Force infantry soldiers.

"The current strategic environment demands immediate readiness. We are not exercising and training, we are rehearsing.

"Become proficient with the basics and this will hold you in good stead."

He also spoke of the diversity of skills the Reserve Force brings to the New Zealand Army Ngāti Tūmatauenga, and the value this holds.

The Commanding Officer of 3/6 Battalion, RNZIR, Lieutenant Colonel Tom McEntyre, reiterated the current geopolitical environment and emphasised the importance of having highly-trained soldiers who are ready to be called upon, and ready to fight. He acknowledged the commitment shown by the recruits.

Weather bomb bullet

From Page 3

without power, including about 7500 in Whanganui.

A total of 37 people were evacuated from properties at Herbertville on the East Coast and at Saddle Road and River Road in Ashhurst due to rising rivers.

Most waterways across the region appear to have peaked, and heavy rain is beginning to ease, though warnings remain in place until mid-afternoon.

An Emergency Operations Centre in Whanganui was stood up overnight on Sunday, with teams continuing to monitor conditions.

Emergency officials reiterated earlier advice to avoid non-essential travel and to take extreme care.

Flooding impacts may become more

apparent as daylight reveals damage and as water moves down from the ranges into catchment areas.

Residents are advised:

If in doubt, get out – pre-emptive evacuation is safer than waiting for conditions to worsen.

Never walk, swim, play or drive in flood water.

If power is lost, unplug major appliances to prevent surge damage and use torches instead of candles.

Those reliant on electrically powered medical equipment should call 111 or go to the nearest medical centre if safe to do so.

Use radios to stay informed if power or mobile data is limited.

If in immediate danger, call 111. Emergency calls will connect via other available networks, even if a phone displays "No Service".

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

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