

# \$405,000 Horopito Hub welcomed

Ruapehu is welcoming the Government's announcement of a \$405,000 investment through the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL) to help develop the new Horopito Hub at a key junction on the Mountains to Sea – Ngā Ara Tūhono Great Ride. The funding was announced as part of the Government's investment in upgraded visitor facilities at Horopito on the Great Ride.

The Hub will create a safer and more welcoming gateway at the junction of three important sections of the Mountains to Sea – Ngā Ara Tūhono Great Ride: the Ohakune Old Coach Road, Ruatiti Connector and Te Hangāruru, says Ngā Ara Tūhono Charitable Trust Kaihautū Ara Lynley Twyman.

"A key part of the project is the provision of public toilets, addressing a critical visitor-facility gap for cyclists, walkers, runners and other users at Horopito.

"The project will also provide formal car parking, safe shuttle access, shelter and improved wayfinding, creating a safer and more welcoming gateway for both visitors and locals.

"These facilities will benefit trail users while also supporting Horopito residents, highway travellers, shuttle operators and visitors to nearby attractions."

The facility will enable the historic Horopito Old School Hall to be better used for community gatherings, events, education and other activities. Housed in the former Horopito School building, the hall is a Group B Heritage Building and has been preserved through sustained community effort since residents formed the Horopito Residents and Ratepayers Society in 2006.

The Hub will provide a foundation for further community-led and tourism-related activity, encouraging visitors to spend more time in Horopito and supporting the wider Ruapehu visitor economy.

The Hub will complement the growing visitor activity already being generated by Horopito Motors, widely known as Smash Palace. Its recent investment in the Jump Start Coffee Cart, alongside its established visitor

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**An artist's impression of how the proposed Horopito trails hub will look.**



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# Loop linked again as work continues on Tongariro Northern Circuit

The full Tongariro Northern Circuit will operate as a loop this summer, but setbacks in construction of the new Oturere Hut have delayed the hut's opening until mid-December.

Progress has been made in repairing structural damage on Mangatepopo Track, which was impacted by fires in late 2025, and the track is on course for a summer reopening.

Department of Conservation principal ranger Jenny Hayward says being able to open Mangatepopo Track in mid-December means visitors can complete a full circuit this season.

"Mangatepopo Track is a critical link between Whakapapa Village and Mangatepopo Hut, and without it the Tongariro Northern Circuit hasn't been a circuit."

Although progress has been made at the track, poor weather has prevented contractors flying materials in to Oturere, delaying construction on the much-anticipated new hut. The hut and the campsite will now open for bookings from 18 December 2026. Visitors with affected bookings will be emailed directly next week by DOC and given the opportunity to change their booking or receive a full refund.

"We appreciate this is disappointing for those who had booked to stay in the brand-new hut, but unfortunately it has been unavoidable this time.

"On the bright side, when you do book the hut, you'll now be able to include it as part of the full Great Walk circuit."

The Tongariro Northern Circuit is a three or four-day hike through varied volcanic landscapes including parts of the Tongariro Alpine Crossing.

Jenny says there's also good news for the future of

Mangatepopo Track.

"At this stage we're just working on replacing and repairing the fire-impacted structures, but we now have approval to do a complete overhaul of the track.

"It's going to be a complete refresh, with metalling resurfacing, new boardwalks and a strong focus on futureproofing.

"People who've walked the Mangatepopo Track in recent years will

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The new Oturere Hut – opening delayed until December. Photo: DOC.

## BAYLEYS



### Ohakune 100 Ruapehu Road

#### Quaint railway cottage

Nestled on Ruapehu Road at the edge of Ohakune township, this iconic Railway cottage offers character and breathtaking rural views. The cottage would provide a great opportunity for a family to settle into a great lifestyle and enjoy the outdoors on offer from the Central Plateau. Call today to come and see this cottage!

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## BAYLEYS



### Ohakune 18A Matai Street

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# \$405,000 Horopito Hub welcomed

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attraction, demonstrates local confidence in Horopito's potential and the opportunities created as more people stop, explore and spend time in the area.

"This investment recognises Horopito's growing importance within our connected trail network and the wider region," says Twyman.

"The Hub will address a long-standing gap in public toilets and other essential visitor facilities, improving safety, comfort and accessibility for people walking, cycling and travelling through Horopito. We are grateful for the Government's support through the IVL, which recognises the importance of investing in infrastructure that enhances visitor experiences while benefiting local communities."

"We look forward to working closely with the Horopito community to ensure the Hub is a welcoming, well-used asset that reflects local aspirations and delivers lasting benefits."

The Trust welcomed the support of Tourism and Hospitality Minister Louise Upston and the Government's continued investment in visitor infrastructure that strengthens regional tourism and community outcomes.

The project application was supported by Visit Ruapehu and will be delivered in partnership with Ruapehu District Council, which will lead

the project and own the completed public assets.

"Horopito is an important gateway within the Ruapehu visitor network. This investment will improve the visitor experience, support greater use of local community facilities and create new opportunities for tourism activity in the area," Visit Ruapehu General Manager Jo Kennedy said.

Ngā Ara Tūhono Charitable Trust will support delivery through its trail, visitor-experience, stakeholder engagement and signage expertise. The Trust also acknowledges the Visit Ruapehu, Ruapehu District Council, Horopito Ratepayers Association, the Horopito Old School Hall community, the Fredrickson family and everyone who has supported the project's development.

Detailed design, consenting and delivery planning will now progress, with the preferred aim of opening the Hub during summer 2026/27.

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# Newest spot for sweet and savoury

Newly opened this season, The Flavour Farm is Ohakune's newest spot for sweet and savoury takeaways done right. When you're after some quick and high-quality food, this is the place to grab it. Tuesday to Sunday, 9am until 3pm, at 18 Goldfinch Street.

On the menu: brunch plates to start the day off well, pocket meals stuffed with slow-cooked meat, hearty soups, and heat 'n' eat meals for busy nights. Something for every craving, to sustain any busy day.

Behind it all is Karl, a chef with worldwide experience and formal training in traditional French cuisine, now bringing that expertise to Ohakune. At The Flavour Farm, Karl merges the techniques of haute cuisine with meals that are practical and easy to enjoy at home or on the go.

Karl makes it a point of honour to prepare everything from scratch. That means homemade bread baked fresh, kefir cultured in-house, and sauerkraut fermented on-site. Real ingredients, real technique, real flavour.

The menu is constantly refined, one dish at a time, shaped by creativity and by you. Karl welcomes customer requests and feedback, and gluten-free and vegetarian options are always available.

The Flavour Farm 18 Goldfinch Street, Ohakune Tuesday to Sunday, 9am to 3pm.



Karl Piddington – offering sweet and savoury takeaways 'done right'. Photo: Nicholas Schneyer.

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# Bridge upgrades to boost Mountains to Sea

By: Moana Ellis, Local Democracy Reporter

A major infrastructure upgrade on the Mountains to Sea - Ngā Ara Tūhono Great Ride is under way, with 15 new bridges and boardwalks being installed across the iconic Mangapurua and Kaiwhakauka sections.

The Department of Conservation (DOC) is leading the project, working alongside the Ngā Ara Tūhono Charitable Trust to co-ordinate visitor communications and minimise disruption during construction.

Installation work on the Mangapurua section will take place until mid-October, in time for the Great Ride season.

Work in the Kaiwhakauka Valley will follow in November and December, with bypasses available while construction is underway.

DOC project manager Louise Brown said careful planning means most visitors will still be able to enjoy the trails while work progresses.

"Many of the bridges have been built offsite and, for the most part, existing structures will remain in use until the new bridges are completed, so you'll still be able to get out nature."

"However, there will be a couple of times where we need to close a track completely, and we'll aim to give two days' notice on our website."

The Mangapurua and Kaiwhakauka tracks are among the most remote stages of the Mountains to Sea - Ngā Ara Tūhono Great Ride, taking riders, walkers and trampers through Whanganui National Park and connecting them with the history, landscape, waterways and stories of the valleys.

The project includes a mix of aluminium truss and timber bridge replacements, along with two new boardwalks in the Kaiwhakauka Valley.

## Important investment

Trust kaihautū ara/general manager Lynley Twyman said the upgrades are an important investment in preserving one of the country's most distinctive trail experiences.

"The Mangapurua and Kaiwhakauka sections are a truly special part of the journey. They offer riders and walkers a powerful sense of remoteness, history and connection - from the old valley settlements and the Bridge to Nowhere through to the Whanganui awa," Twyman said.

The Trust governs, maintains and develops the Great Ride, bringing together local iwi, the Ruapehu and Whanganui district councils and community partners.

"These bridge upgrades are not about changing the character of the experience. They are about protecting access, improving safety and making sure this remarkable journey can continue to be enjoyed into the future," Twyman said.

"This work demonstrates that although these trails are free to access, they rely on strong partnerships, ongoing maintenance, and investment from agencies, councils, iwi, communities, operators and trail supporters."

Ngā Ara Tūhono Charitable Trust trustee Hayden Potaka, representing the Whanganui Māori Regional Tourism Organisation, said the Great Ride plays a vital role in supporting Māori tourism and the wider visitor economy across the region.

"Ngā Ara Tūhono is important to the ongoing development of Māori tourism and the wider visitor economy across our rohe."

He said the organisation had been working well alongside the mayors and industry representatives on the Trust.

"Strong partnerships with DOC, councils, iwi, communities and tourism operators are essential to its continued success."

## Tourism link

"For tourism operators throughout the Whanganui catchment, the Mountains to Sea - Ngā Ara Tūhono Great Ride is an important link connecting the maunga, the whenua and the Whanganui Awa."

"Maintaining safe, functional and high-quality trails supports our operators, strengthens local employment and enterprise, and creates lasting benefits for the communities situated along the journey."

Potaka said the Mangapurua and Kaiwhakauka sections are especially significant because they connect visitors with the history, cultural narratives and natural environment of the rohe.

"The bridge replacement work is an important investment in maintaining safe access and ensuring these special places can continue to be experienced."

# BAYLEYS



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# Northern Circuit work continues

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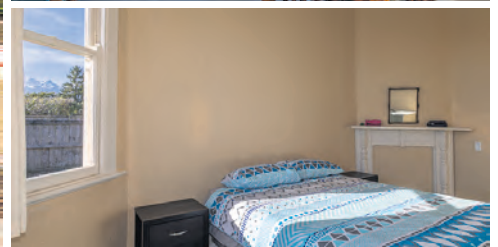
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*A set of steps after the fire and after the repairs. Photos: DOC.*

## BAYLEYS



**Rangataua 9 Tau Street**

## Character villa with space and charm

Set in the quiet village of Rangataua, 9 Tau Street offers the charm and proportions of a classic villa with plenty of potential to add further value. This relocated character home has already seen some renovation work completed and presents as tidy and comfortable, while still leaving room for you to add your own style and finishing touches over time. Featuring four bedrooms, one bathroom, and beautiful high stud ceilings, the home retains the timeless character villas are loved for while providing generous living spaces for families, holidaymakers, or those wanting room to spread out. With partial views of Mount Ruapehu and being sold partially furnished and ready to enjoy, this is an easy move-in option with scope to further enhance.

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768<sub>sqm</sub>  4  1 

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*A lovely way to spend the end of a spring day – drive up the Ohakune Mountain Road for a barbecue picnic and watch the sunset. Photo: Robert Milne*

**BAYLEYS**



## Ohakune 10/76 Ruapehu Road

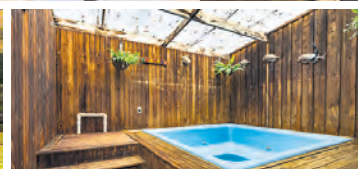
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## Ohakune 3 Karo Street

### Iconic Tussock Lodge

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## Schools snowboard successfully against the season's odds



Lena Winstanley from Rangitoto College enjoys the slope style competition at the Ruapehu College-organised 'Primo-K2 Snowboard Competition for Secondary Schools' at Turoa recently. The competition was held successfully at Turoa after being delayed due to the poor snow season, then shifted from Whakapapa for the same reason. See story Page 12. Photo: Mark Sedon, Off Piste Photography, Ohakune.

## From the files:

**The Ruapehu Bulletin – and its predecessor, the Waimarino Bulletin – have been covering stories from the ski areas since 1983. Papers Past has all our files – searchable – from May 1983 to 2001.**



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# From the files:

*Pictured is the Tūroa Yeti making his escape from a band of ski instructors, during a ski school demo in the 1980's*  
*The Ruapehu Bulletin – and its predecessor, the Waimarino Bulletin – have been covering stories from the ski areas since 1983. Papers Past has all our files – searchable – from May 1983 to 2001.*




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**Meet Craig Hughes: the owner, with his wife Mele, and head chef of Robins Nest Bistro. Craig has been a chef for 48 years starting his career in The Navy where he trained. He has worked in Tonga, London and Auckland before moving to Raetihi 10 years ago, where he has worked at different establishments in the Ohakune, Waiouru and Raetihi.**



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# School takes aim to name snow gun

A local school's long-standing connection with Mt Ruapehu has been recognised, after winning Whakapapa Ski Area's 2026 "Name a Snow Gun" competition.

Hayley Brown, a teacher at Kuratau School, submitted the winning entry, nominating the school in recognition of its special history with the maunga.

"For generations, Kuratau School students have travelled to Whakapapa to learn to ski and snowboard in Happy Valley, with thousands of young people taking their first turns on snow through the school's ski programme," says Whakapapa Ski Area marketing manager Phil Lemalu.

"Inspired by this enduring tradition, Whakapapa's newest snow gun has officially been named 'Kuratau Cannon'.

"The Kuratau Cannon now stands proudly in Happy Valley, where it will help produce snow for the next generation of beginner skiers and snow-

boarders, while celebrating the school's contribution to introducing young New Zealanders to the mountains."

Lemalu said the competition attracted a range of creative entries, but Kuratau School's story stood out.

"The connection between Kuratau School and Happy Valley spans generations. So many young people have experienced snow for the first time through school trips, and it's fitting that one of our snow guns now celebrates that legacy. We congratulate Hayley and the Kuratau School community on their winning entry."

Visitors are encouraged to keep an eye out for the Kuratau Cannon next time they're in Happy Valley and snap a photo when they spot it.



**Hayley Brown, Kuratau School, pictured with the 'Kuratau Cannon' and one of her pupils. Photo supplied.**



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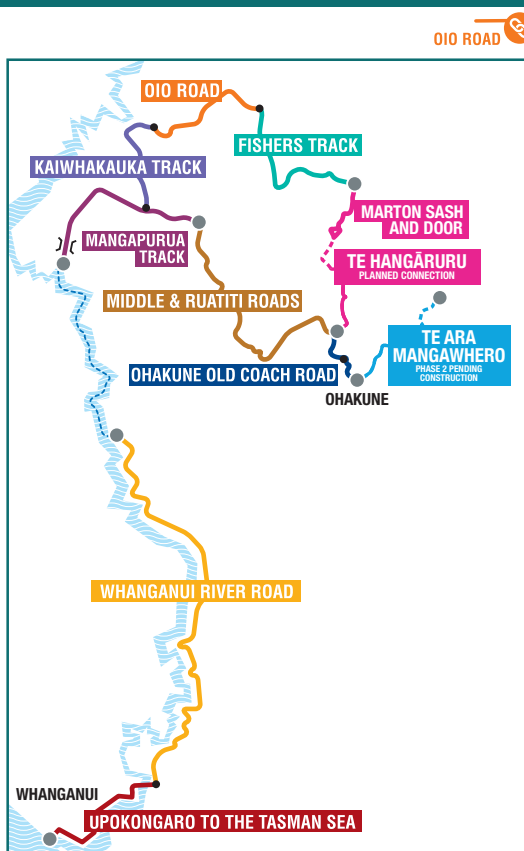
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Please note: To access Uenuku Pines Mountain Bike Park, you must purchase a day license from Ruapehu MTB Club first ([ruapehumtb.nz](https://ruapehumtb.nz))

## FISHERS TRACK

GRADE  
3

LENGTH  
27 km

DURATION  
2-3 hrs

## MARTON SASH AND DOOR

GRADE  
3

LENGTH  
18 km

DURATION  
2-3 hrs

## TE HANGĀRURU

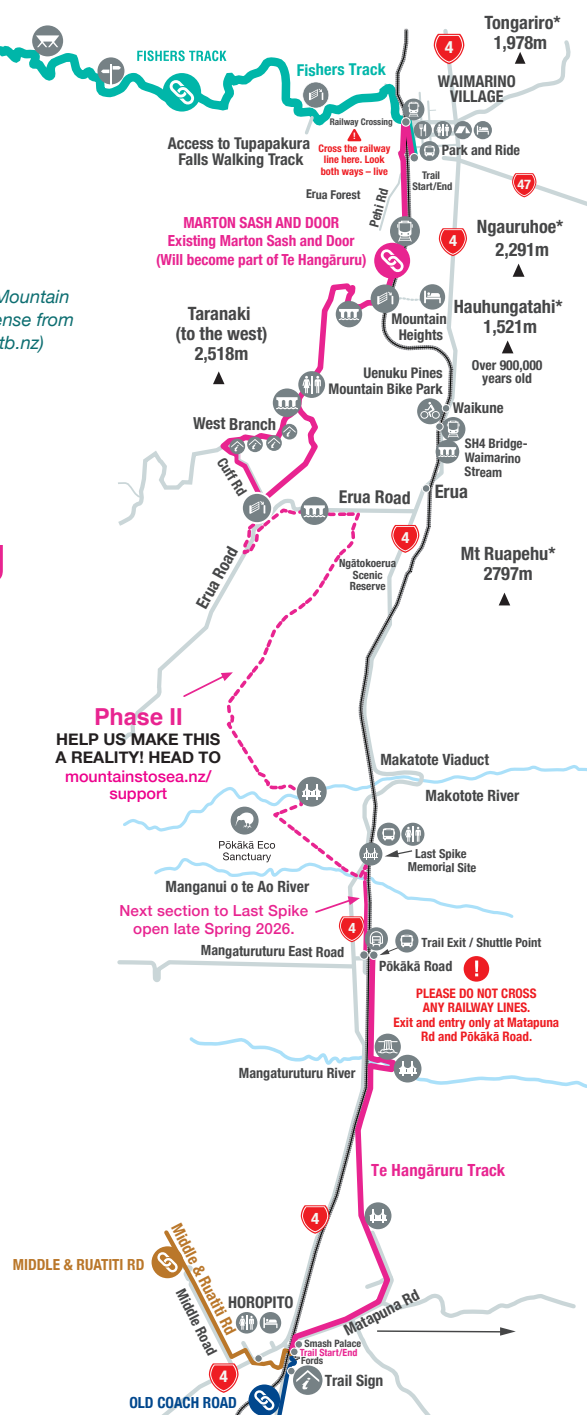
GRADE  
2

LENGTH  
11.1km  
(one way)

DURATION  
1.5 hrs  
(return)

Discover more exciting sections of Mountains to Sea – Ngā Ara Tūhono. Over 300kms of connected trails from Ruapehu to Whanganui. Also check out our sister Great Ride – Timber Trail NZ.

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**RUAPEHU Spring  
BULLETIN**

Published by Ruapehu Media Ltd

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

**(06) 385 8532**

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# Kiwis in the mountains, on film

A selection of New Zealand films from annual New Zealand Mountain Film Festival is on show at the Matterhorn in Ohakune in October.

As well as getting to see some Kiwi adventurers on missions around the world and in New Zealand, people buying tickets will be supporting the Predator Free Ohakune group, that is working to restore native birdlife to the town that sits right on the boundary of the Tongariro National Park.

The set of short films feature world-class Kiwi productions alongside the best of international adventure cinema — skiing, climbing, kayaking, mountain biking, and more.

Each year, the NZ Mountain Film Festival Charitable Trust stages one of the world's premier mountain film festivals in Otago, then invites groups from around the country to share a selection of the best films.

This year's Kiwi selection includes:

*Jerry on the Jerry* (10 mins) Huw Miles – a team of pack rafters make a second attempt at a first descent of the Jerry River deep in Fiordland.

*Race Be Run* (15 mins) Richard Carey & Prabhjit Sabharwal. Dressed as Superman, a man runs solo along Canada's highways to raise funds for cancer charities, transforming the grief of losing both parents into a quiet, inspiring mission of hope.

*Project RedLine* (30 mins) Matheson Brown. A blue-collar nobody from New Zealand goes up against a mountaineering elite in an attempt to strip him of what is widely believed to be an illegitimate world record. (Festival Spirit Award)

*Alone on Makalu* (22 mins) Nick Kowalski. Matthew Scholes attempts to

summit the world's fifth-highest mountain without supplementary oxygen.

*The Pole of Inaccessibility* (25 mins) Danny Warley & Ned Brannigan. A paraglider embarks on a multi-day bivouac flight across New Zealand's Southern Alps, navigating glaciers and vast wilderness to reach the country's most remote point, the Pole of Inaccessibility. He then faces the challenge of getting back out. (Spirit of Adventure Award)

*100 Days in Fiordland* (24 mins) Dan Sutherland. Three kayakers spend 100 winter days deep in Fiordland National Park, sea kayaking, hunting, fishing and searching for unexplored whitewater in one of New Zealand's most demanding wilderness expeditions.



Exploring Fiordland's remote rivers features on film this spring.

## RUAPEHU ACCOMMODATION

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## NZ MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL NATIONAL TOUR



Matterhorn, Ohakune. Thursday 8 October  
Doors open 6.30pm Film starts 7pm

Tickets \$20 from the Ruapehu Bulletin office  
or on the door.

Fundraiser for Predator Free Ohakune

**Ruapehu  
Bulletin**

[www.mountainfilm.nz](http://www.mountainfilm.nz)



# Ruapehu Events

## SEPTEMBER 2026

11-13  
FRI-SUN

### Adaptive Festival

A celebration of inclusive snow sports where people of all abilities come together on the mountain. More on this event at [www.whakapapa.com](http://www.whakapapa.com)

12  
SAT

### Tūroa Parks Rail Jam

The Tūroa Parks Rail Jam is back. Throw down for prizes, ride to a live DJ and bring the hype for an afternoon of park laps, style and friendly competition. More on this event at [www.pureturoa.com](http://www.pureturoa.com)

12  
SAT

### Rail Jam – Winter Vibes

Get ready for one of the biggest freestyle events of the season as The Rail Jam returns to Tūroa. Beginning at 1pm, the competition features an open jam format where riders showcase their best tricks before the top eight progress to head-to-head knockout heats. With a live DJ, incredible prizes and an electric atmosphere, this is a must-see event whether you're competing or spectating. Helmets are compulsory.

12  
SAT

### Navy Club Champs

More on this event at [www.whakapapa.com](http://www.whakapapa.com)

19  
SAT

### Ngauruhoe Trophy Race

Contingency 20 September. More on this event at [www.whakapapa.com](http://www.whakapapa.com)

TBC

### Girls Who Shred

After a booked out event in August we're taking pre-registrations for a TBC date in September. Please register to stay updated! Visit [www.pureturoa.nz](http://www.pureturoa.nz) or find us on Facebook or Instagram @turoa.nz for up to date information.

21-23  
MON-WED

### NI Secondary Schools Ski & Snowboard Champs

An awesome three day event for North Island Secondary School Skiers & Snowboarders, with a mixture of racing and freestyle events held at Tūroa. Disclaimer: Tūroa events are subject to snow and weather conditions. Visit [www.nissc.nz](http://www.nissc.nz) or Facebook North Island Secondary Schools Skiing Competition. Email [nissc.snowsports@gmail.com](mailto:nissc.snowsports@gmail.com)

26-2  
SAT-FRI

### Waimarino Art Awards

Celebrating art and photography talent across the region. The Annual awards are a showcase and place to buy too. Exhibition Viewing Times 27 Sep - 2 Oct, 11am - 2pm days and 6-9pm nights. WEEK OF WORKSHOPS: \* Puoro, \* Gelli Printing, \* Ecstatic Art & Dance, \* Kahu Aroha, \* Paint & Collage, \* Paint & Sip, \* QuickDraw! \* Pottery Animals, \* Pyrography. All details on [www.waimarinoartawards.org.nz](http://www.waimarinoartawards.org.nz). Contact Annie 021 638 800

26  
SAT

### Peak 2 Powderkeg Triathlon Tūroa

Celebrating its 30th year, the legendary Peak to Keg adventure race remains one of Ruapehu's most iconic events. The four-stage challenge takes competitors from the summit of Tūroa Ski Area to the Powderkeg below Mt Ruapehu, combining endurance, teamwork and plenty of mountain spirit. Participants can enter as individuals or teams of three, with team entries requiring at least one female competitor. [www.powderhorn.co.nz](http://www.powderhorn.co.nz)

26  
SAT

### Tongariro Juniors Club Race

Contingency 27 September More on this event at [www.whakapapa.com](http://www.whakapapa.com)

SCHOOL  
HOLS

### School Holiday Fun at Whakapapa

Saturday 4 July: Face Painting, Meet Koha, Scavenger Hunt (Always On), Photo Comp (Always On), Colouring Comp (Always On), Sunday 5 July: Face Painting, Meet Koha, Backcountry Awareness with BCA. Saturday 11 July: Face Painting, Sunday 12 July: Meet Koha, Face Painting, Monday 13 July: Meet Koha, Face Painting, Sunday 19 July: Meet Koha, Face Painting. More on these events at [www.whakapapa.com](http://www.whakapapa.com)

## OCTOBER 2026

3  
SAT

### Retro Day

A celebration of everything retro and spring in Ruapehu. Break out your dads old one piece or your old fluoro pants because the Retro Police will be out and about handing out fashion fines that could win you and your outfit some stunning prizes. Fun and games for the whole family including Chocolate Eclair eating, Air Guitar and Carrot Bag Toss at The Kitchen, 4 Thames St, Ohakune Junction. See Facebook page for details. #RETRODAYOHAKUNE

3  
SAT

### Waimarino Cup/North Island Champs

Contingency 4 October. More on this event at [www.whakapapa.com](http://www.whakapapa.com)

5  
MON

### Whakapapa Freeride Festival

Contingency 5-8 October. More on this event at [www.whakapapa.com](http://www.whakapapa.com)

8  
THURS

### Mountain Film Festival

Come and see the award winning selection of films from the NZ Mountain Film & Book Festival. This year's festival to be held in the Matterhorn. Sponsored by Ruapehu Bulletin

10  
SAT

### Pond Skim - Whakapapa

More on this event at [www.whakapapa.com](http://www.whakapapa.com)

17  
SAT

### Ohakune Fashion Show

Showcasing winter fashion with a fun local fundraising event, held at the Matterhorn Bar & Restaurant. Local, recycled and fashion on show. A great night out. See **Ohakune Fashion Show** on Facebook for details.

24  
SAT

### Fork and Flame

An exclusive fine dining experience at Freddie's Tasting Lounge. Enjoy a 6-course degustation menu and stargazing evening at Tūroa's mountain restaurant. More on this event at [www.pureturoa.com](http://www.pureturoa.com)

23-25  
FRI-SUN

### Landrover Show Taumarunui

Calling all Land Rover clubs and owners to the biggest Land Rover gathering in NZ. Taumarunui A&P Showgrounds. Camping, auto jumble/swap meet, trade stalls, food vendors, kids area. Contact: [landrovershow@gmail.com](mailto:landrovershow@gmail.com) or on Facebook **The Land-Rover Show**.

## DECEMBER 2026

12  
SAT

### Raetihi Christmas Carnival

Come along to the always popular Raetihi Christmas Carnival. Fun for all - stalls, raffles, food, live bands with lollies and games for the kids. Seddon Street, Raetihi from 9am. Contact Kay on 027 924 7252 for stalls.

**DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.  
FOR MORE DETAILS, GO TO  
RUAPEHU.INFO**

Disclaimer: Whakapapa events are subject to snow and weather conditions Visit [www.whakapapa.com](http://www.whakapapa.com) for up to date information. Tūroa events are subject to snow and weather conditions. Visit [www.pureturoa.nz](http://www.pureturoa.nz) or on Facebook/Instagram @turoa.nz for up to date information.

**RUAPEHU Spring  
BULLETIN**

Published by Ruapehu Media Ltd

[www.ohakune.info](http://www.ohakune.info) (06) 385 8532

# Discover New Zealand's military history in the heart of Ruapehu District

Nestled in the dramatic landscape of the Central Plateau, the National Army Museum Te Mata Toa in Waiouru is a must-visit destination for anyone exploring the Ruapehu region.

Whether you're travelling through on a road trip, enjoying the region's spectacular outdoor adventures, or spending time on the slopes of Mt Ruapehu, the Museum offers the perfect opportunity to step inside, take a break and discover the fascinating stories that have shaped Aotearoa New Zealand.

Home to one of New Zealand's most significant collections of military history, the National Army Museum brings the experiences of New Zealand soldiers to life through powerful stories, remarkable objects and engaging exhibitions.

Explore the stories of New Zealanders who have served from the New Zealand Wars of the 1840s through to more recent conflicts and peacekeeping operations. Discover incredible medals and personal treasures, come face-to-face with military vehicles and artillery, and learn about the people whose courage, sacrifice and service helped shape our nation.

Among the Museum's many highlights are the extraordinary stories of New Zealand's Victoria



**The National Army Museum is a popular stop – inside and out– before and after driving past the Tongariro National Park mountains.**

Cross recipients, including the medals of Captain Charles Upham VC and Bar – the only combat soldier to receive the Victoria Cross twice.

The Museum is also home to Roimata Pounamu, New Zealand's national memorial wall, where more than 30,000 names commemorate those who gave their lives in service

to their country.

## **Discover Your Family's Military Story**

The National Army Museum is also a popular destination for people  
**Turn to Page 39**

## ENTER TO WIN!!!

### PRIZE VALUED AT OVER \$1000

Find the answers in the advertisements throughout this publication.

Simply email your answers to: [ads@ruapehbulletin.co.nz](mailto:ads@ruapehbulletin.co.nz) to go into the draw!

**Question 1: What is the brand of coffee served at Utopia?**

**Question 2: What date is Retro Day and where is this held?**

**Question 3: Complete the phrase "soft snow, long ...."**

**Question 4: What event finishes at the Powderkeg?**

Provide your name, phone and email with your answer.

All correct entries will go into the draw to win!

Entries must be received by Friday 16 October. Prize drawn on 21 October 2026.

**PRIZE INCLUDES:** Two nights accommodation at Tūroa Lodge; Whakapapa Sightseeing passes; Tūroa day pass, SLR ski or board tune, TCB bike hire, Schnapps Mini Golf, food vouchers from The Hungry Rush, La Pizzeria, Robin's Nest and Utopia Cafe.

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# RUAPEHU.INFO

# NZ's military history in the heart of Ruapehu

From Page 37

researching family members who have served in the New Zealand Army. Whether you are beginning your family history journey or have already uncovered a name and want to know more, the Museum can help bring those stories to life.

From accessing and interpreting military service records to discovering more detailed information about a person's service, the Museum provides a valuable starting point for anyone wanting to explore their family's military connections and uncover the stories behind the names.

## Through an Army Lens

Don't miss the Museum's latest exhibition, *Through an Army Lens*, a fascinating look at New Zealand Army life through the eyes of those who capture it. Featuring striking photographs taken by New Zealand Defence Force photographers, the exhibition takes visitors behind the camera to explore the people, places and moments that make up military service.

From life in the field and training exercises to overseas deployments and everyday moments rarely seen by the public, these powerful images offer a unique and personal perspective on the modern New Zealand Army.

But a visit isn't just about history. With family-friendly experiences, engaging exhibitions and plenty to discover around every corner, the National Army Museum offers something for visitors of all ages.



The Army Museum's display showing an old uniform office from the First World War.

On-site location photographer  
GLYN HUBBARD PHOTOGRAPHY

Mob: 027 274 4282  
Email: [glynhubbard@icloud.com](mailto:glynhubbard@icloud.com)

Website: [glynhubbard.co.nz](http://glynhubbard.co.nz)

Gallery: 14 Manuka Street, Ohakune

# Ruapehu's spring snow options

Whakapapa is offering guests more choice and value on the mountain this spring with a new All Mountain 2-Day Pass and updated pricing across its All Mountain and Happy Valley Beginner Area passes now available to purchase online.

The new passes, available online for \$134 for adults and \$89 for youth, giving guests two days on the mountain for the equivalent of \$67 per day for adults and \$44.50 per day for youth.

The two days do not need to be consecutive and any unused days will be valid for the upcoming summer season between 1 November 2026 and 30 April 2027.

Whakapapa has also updated its All-Mountain Day Pass, previously available as the All-Mountain Weekday Pass, which is now valid any day of the week, including weekends. The All-Mountain Day Pass is available online for \$119 for adults and \$79 for youth.

Happy Valley also has updated pricing: Beginner Area Pass, available online for \$79 for adults and \$59 for youth.

"Spring is a great time to get back up the mountain, and we wanted to offer guests more choice, value and flexibility as they make plans for the rest of the season," said Dave Mazey, CEO Whakapapa Holdings Limited.

"The new 2-Day Pass gives people a simple way to get more time on the mountain for less, while extending the All-Mountain Day Pass across the full week and updating our pass pricing gives guests clearer options when planning their day at Whakapapa."

## Tūroa spring

Tūroa Ski Area is also offering spring passes, including a \$499 adult pass (\$249 for youths).

The offer includes sightseeing, discounts on a 2027 pass, discounted Whakapapa day passes, 25% off Tūroa merchandise and tuning and a range of off-mountain offers.

### — RUAPEHU LIONS —

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