

Ruawai Rambler



RUAWAI PROMOTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
28TH March 2023 7.30pm
Ruawai Community Hall

Report - Bruce Crompton.
RPDG Chair.

Another positive year for the RPDG.

It was a pleasure to see the Christmas Parade and the Letter box competition up and running again.

This year there was 13 Floats. Thanks to the community who got behind the Event

Thanks also to Jeff Price (Music) and Santa who came to visit on the day.

There is an opportunity for an organisation to take over the Spinning wheel Raffle next year as a fund raiser.

Rambler

Colleen Glass has agreed to work with Joe Wessel and will edit the Rambler in the future.

This is a great result and we look forward to working with Colleen.

Host the candidates meeting.

The RPDG held this just prior to the elections and it was well attended by both Candidates and members of the public.

Website for Ruawai.

"Ruawai Experience" is now online.

Have a look and let us know what you think. We are looking for an IT person to manage this on behalf of the group.

Building restrictions.

We have had no feedback over this however the KDC have made a commitment to future flood protection infrastructure which is a huge plus for Ruawai and will hopefully result in the removal of these restrictions.

Gardens.

Council staff have expressed concern over the health and safety aspect of the RPDG maintaining the Gardens. We have asked for dialog but to date have not had a response

Market Day.

This project was initiated as a fund-raising project however has proved unsustainable for the RPDG.

Adaptive Communities.

Kelly Retimana has agreed to represent us on this committee.

Looking forward

We have completed several long running projects and have now set our sights on the future.

Walkway. The South end has now been overlayed and compacted and this Project is now finished.

Only maintenance is envisaged in the foreseeable future. Thanks to Des Bickers and Craig Sanford for their time and machinery.

CCTV.

This Project is complete with 4 camera stations now operating. This has been a project run by Peter Flood from the beginning and he has been working with Willie Paniora to bring it to a conclusion.

It has been funded by the community and local businesses are hosting any power cost involved.

Faced with large price increases the Committee decided to borrow the money for stage 4.

The RPDG have entered into a loan agreement with two local residents for \$8000.00

Village Green.

This project has been put on Hold for the immediate future.

Mural.

Replacement will cost around \$16,000. We have raised around half of this amount. This year our focus will be on paying back the loans for the CCTV camera's and raising funds for the Mural replacement.

Any Support or ideas would be most welcome.

"Thank you" from Kura Newall

When Kura was dying she was full of schemes and ideas – mostly for fundraising or little jobs for people. One of the things she was adamant about was her need to thank the Ruawai community for the care, concern, laughter, tiki tours, food parcels, and all the other ways that she was supported. So here is a list of some of the ways Kura was helped. You know who you were so you will also know which ways you contributed to her peaceful passing.

We had:

The soup makers, the scone bakers, the corn fritterer, the fish catchers, the meal providers, the pikelet princess, the date loaf queen.

The 'we have a situation' solvers, the crossword companion, the tiki tour leaders, the shoppers, the dressing helper, the magazine bringer.

The awesome, the practical, the witty, the serious, the chatty, the silent.

The stockman, the water man, the woodman, the lawn mower, the fixer, the handyman, the gold fish catcher, the kumara kings, the beautiful-box maker.

The possum catcher, the feral cat catcher, the chook catchers, the rat catcher.

The old bosses, the school companions, the old work mates, the childhood bus stop sharers.

The nurses, the doctors, the wonderful carers. We have learnt so many new skills because of your expertise. All those who turned up to say 'Hi'.

And the far-away friends who kept in touch by phone.

Kura gave us all a lesson in how to die with dignity.

She could not have done this without all of you Ruawai-ites.

Thank you so much Ruawai! — from Kura and all the family



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OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9AM-5PM





White Rock Gallery has been open in Ruawai for a year and a half now. If you haven't been in to see our shop yet, please do pay us a visit. The gallery is open from 10am until 4pm Tuesday to Saturday, and from 11am until 3pm on Sundays.

We ensure all of the artwork and crafts are of good quality and original.

Everything for sale is done by people who live in our wonderful Kaipara district.

We had an art refresh at the end of January so all of the artwork on the walls has been changed. We do this every second month.

Our crafts include woodwork (walking sticks, coasters, necklaces); driftwood art, mosaic art, jewellery, quilted wall hangings, glasses cases and more; baby bibs, wallets, vintage blanket cushions, tote bags, toys, crocheted blankets and soft toys, flax weaving, candles, sculptures, stainless steel craft and much more.

We welcome new members. Pop in and have a chat if you are interested in joining us.

We also welcome anyone willing to help us out by doing the odd roster shift. If you have time on your hands and would like to man the shop for a few hours, do let us know.

We have a Facebook and Instagram pages – Search for WhiteRockGalleryNZ and you will find us.

Follow us or up to date pictures and information.

If you would like further information you can phone Lorraine on 021 250 8613 or Tina on 021 151 1569 or email whiterockgallerynz@gmail.com.



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Welcome to Jenny Joynt for taking
over as main sales person in December 2022

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Ruawai College



On Wednesday 30 November 2022, Ruawai College unveiled its school pouwhenua or pou (landmark), carved by Mr Keanu Townsend with the help of the Year 9 & 10 Hard Materials class this term.

The top of the pou depicts Hineteiwaiwa, the Māori goddess of motherhood, symbolising the nurturing of tamariki/students and encouraging them to follow their dreams. Hineteiwaiwa is wearing a heru (ornamental comb) in her hair which is the symbol of Ngāti Whātua, the local tribe of our area. She also represents mana wahine, symbolising the strong female Ruawai College staff members who are loyal to the growth of secondary education in the Ruawai township.

The middle of the pou shows a rauru (spiral) which represents the Wairoa River in brown and the Kaipara Harbour in blue. Where these bodies of water meet is where the town of Ruawai is located.

Below the rauru is a male face which portrays Tāne-nui-a-Rangi, the god who travelled to the heavens to retrieve three baskets of knowledge and bring them back to the people on earth: te kete-tuatea (basket of light), te kete-tuauri (basket of darkness) and te kete-arōnui (basket of pursuit). He represents striving for success and knowledge.

This pou is dedicated to Mrs Linda Sheehan, an educator who taught at Ruawai College for 20 years, who sadly passed away in December 2021.

Thank you to Cole Ringrose from Ringrose Construction for helping with the installation.



RUAWAI GARDEN CLUB

Hello to all the gardeners out there. We are back and ready to go. Firstly I must thank Noelene Gatehouse, who has retired. She has served as our secretary/treasurer, for so long that no one can remember just how long. Noelene has given so much to our club, which might not have continued to exist without her drive and enthusiasm. So thank you Noelene for all you have done for this club. Also thank you to our retiring president, Jill Fenney, who has done 5 years or so on this stint. So a new committee has been elected, and we are ready and able to charge out onto the world of gardens again. Meetings/trips will be on the 3rd Thursday of the month unless arranged otherwise. New members are always welcome. Phone Merle Jackson on 439-2335. Meetings are held at the Ruawai Bowling Clubrooms at 10 am. Hope to see you all there on the 16th February. Happy weeding to all

Council Mark says: the same is not always equal

For this story I want you to place yourself at the dinner table with your twin daughters, both aged 11 (well they would be the same age if they were twins, wouldn't they?).

Amy wants to be a Black Fern when she gets older, and is very sports-minded, whereas Charlie is much more interested in the printed word and can picture herself running a large library in future.

But they are twins, and although they are close, sometimes they clash, and suddenly an argument erupts between them at the dinner table and food is thrown. This is completely unacceptable to you, so there must be consequences for this behaviour. But what would be fair to both of them? To send them both to their room for some quiet solitude would be great for reader Charlie, but it would weigh heavily for Amy. Alternatively a run two times around the block would be an escape for Charlie but an unremitting grind for Amy.

There are solutions to this problem; I'll leave you to figure them out for yourself. If you are a parent or a teacher you may have had plenty of practice in this regard. The best and fairest solutions will take into account the differences between the two girls, and may well involve them in completing a task together. And so it is in society – to treat people equally and fairly sometimes we have to deal with them in different ways. In other words the same is not always equal.


Mark Vincent

Otamatea Ward Councillor

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A Big Thank You (Nga Mihi Nui) To Parirau Marae

Hūtia te rito o te harakeke, kei hea te kōmako e kō?
Whakataerangitia, rere ki uta, rere ki tai.
Kī mai koe ki ahau, "He aha te mea nui o te ao?"
Māku e kī atu, "He Tangata, he Tangata, he Tangata."

If the central growing shoot of the flax is destroyed the flax will die. Where would the bellbird live? It would fly aimlessly over land and sea.

If you ask me – "What is the most important thing in the world?" I would answer:

"It is people, it is people, it is people".

This karakia communicates the value that Māori tikanga (lore) places on nurturing family and Community.

Mihi

Ka mihi atu ki te kaihanga o nga mea katoa – tihei mauri ora.
Ka mihi atu ki nga mate – haere, haere, haere.
Ka mihi atu ki te Whare Tūpuna – e tū, e tū, e tū.
Ka mihi atu ki te Marae – takoto mai, takoto mai, takoto mai.
Ka mihi atu ki te Maunga Tokatoka – tū tonu, tū tonu, tū tonu.
Ka mihi atu ki te Awa e rere mai rā – e rere, e rere, e rere.
Nga mihi aroha ki ā koutou e te Hau Kāinga,
Nōreira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.



This is a mihi (acknowledgement) paying tribute to the Parirau Marae – its Maunga (mountain), its Awa (river) and its people, past and present.

Many of the Ruawai community would like to give heartfelt recognition and thanks to the people of Parirau Marae, who took the initiative to open a Community-Lead evacuation centre during Cyclone Gabrielle. On February 14th 2023, after almost three days of unrelenting wind and rain and amid concerns about excessive flood waters flowing down the Northern Wairoa River, Parirau Marae opened its doors to Ruawai residents. Locals describe driving across the Flats with water on both sides of the road, they say the highway was like a causeway lined by fallen trees. However, their short stay was memorable in a good way, for the hot meal and the feeling of safety and reassurance.

Annissa Thompson says that for her, the purpose of the marae being available has always been to make sure that the people are safe. Regardless of background or heritage it is about inclusiveness, and for people to feel like they belong. She says the person who needs the most recognition is Rusty Hammon as she always available for the marae.

Ki te kotahi te kākaho, ka whati. Ki te kāpuia, e kore e whati.

If you stand alone you will break (like a single stem of toe-toe). Woven together, we will become invincible.

