



Sept. 2021

RUAWAI RAMBLER

A Newsletter for Ruawai and Surrounding Area
From the Ruawai Promotions and Development Group

This Issue of the Ruawai Rambler Sponsored by

Preston Farms

From the Editor

At the time I start writing this, we are still under Level 4 Lockdown. As a result I have not received the same number of articles for the Rambler as usual. I am hoping we go down to Level 3 so that we can get this Newsletter printed and delivered. However, we do have some important information from the Ruawai Promotions and Development Group. Because of the Lockdown, RPDG has not been able to have a regular Committee meeting and the members have kept in touch via email. RPDG has two Public Meetings every year; the AGM in March and another Public Meeting in September. As you will see, we are planning the meeting for early October but nobody is sure at this point if it will actually be able to go ahead. Our Chairperson, Bruce Crompton has written a few articles. One concerns the ongoing problem of Building Restrictions for the Ruawai area. This is a problem that will concern everyone in the area and the Group will keep working on this for you. The other article from Bruce is about the Face in the Hole Board on the Village Green which has been another RPDG project.

As many of you will know already, Carolyn and I (and Holly the dog) are moving to Dargaville. Actually, Covid permitting, we will have moved by the time you read this. I will keep on as Editor of the Ruawai Rambler. In a separate little article I will write a little about ourselves.

Thanks to our sponsor for this issue, Preston Farms. The Preston Family's been farming on the Ruawai Flats for many years and have been great supporters of the Ruawai Community in many ways. Also, my thanks to those who have contributed articles for this September Rambler. As mentioned in previous issues, if you know anyone that wants to receive the Ruawai Rambler by email, just let me know. For information about the Rambler, or for advertising, please contact: J.H.Wessel; jhwessel@xtra.co.nz

Ruawai Promotions and Development Group

Public meeting 5 October

COVID PERMITTING..

Place: Ruawai Hall; Social lounge.

Time: 7.30 pm

Bring along your ideas on how we can make a difference.

There are a number of ideas already in the pipeline.

Come along and hear what it is about.

If you have anything to discuss feel free to contact one of the team.

Note: if the meeting has to be cancelled due to Covid it will be re-advertised at a later date in the Lifestyler.

High Level of Concern Over Building and Subdivision Restrictions

On 6 July at a Public Meeting, called by the Ruawai Promotions and Development Group, the Ruawai Community voted unanimously against the Building, Investment and Subdivision restrictions being implemented by the Northland Regional and Kaipara District Councils.

The RPDG advertised the meeting once in the Ruawai Rambler.

50 people attended the meeting and a further 35 supported motions against the restrictions via a petition and email.

The RPDG believe that this indicates a high level of concern over this matter in the Ruawai Community.

It seems incredible that we have been subject to what amounts to Emergency Regulations for more than 3 years - without an Emergency.

It also seems unreasonable that the Community, who is affected by these regulations, have no voice in the discussion.

Since that time:

At a second smaller meeting, those concerns were voiced directly to both the Northland Regional and Kaipara District Councils.

This meeting concluded:

1) That the source of the restrictive practice's started at Regional Council level and has been implemented by the Kaipara District Council.

2) That they are based upon the assumption that Ruawai is flood-prone.

3) That this assumption is solely based upon flood mapping and does not adequately include other relevant markers such as History and Infrastructure Improvements.

The good news:

Recently, there have been discussions between The Northland Regional and Kaipara District Councils and the Raupo Drainage Committee.

Ian Beaty, 'Raupo Drainage Committee Chair' has reported there is a genuine willingness from all parties to resolve this matter.

Watch this space for further developments,

Bruce Crompton, Chair RPDG

Ruawai Promotions Have been busy on the Village Green.

One can not fail to notice the latest addition on the Village Green.

Congratulations to Loraine Littler for conceiving the Face Board and doing the art work.

Loraine proposed the Face Board as an attraction so travellers could stop and enjoy the Village Green and may be spend a Dollar The idea is good and the RPDG got right in behind the project.

Our thanks to the Kaipara District Council who funded about a third of the total cost through a grant.

The remaining cost was covered by the RPDG.

Also, a big thanks to our members Tony King, Des Bickers, and Craig Sanford who built, Painted and erected the Face board.

A great effort, and the summer should see families make use of it while having a break at the picnic table.

Editor's note: Bruce wrote this article and left off that he also helped to erect the Board .

Bruce Crompton, ChairRPDG



Des Bickers and Craig Sanford
digging away



Tony King who did all the
carpenter and concrete work

**Man blames fate for other accidents, but feels personally responsible
when he makes a Hole In-one**

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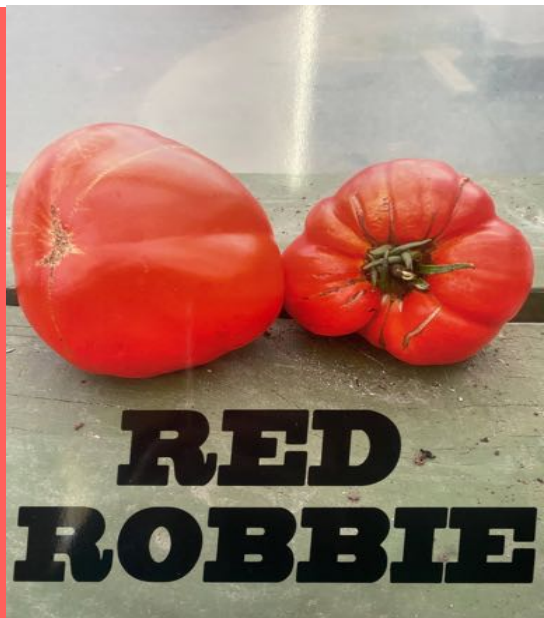
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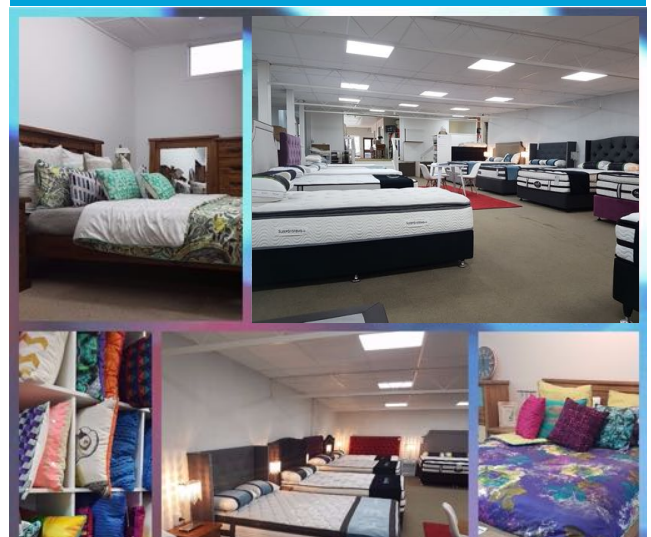
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A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove that you don't need it

A little about ourselves;

Carolyn and I came to Ruawai from Canada in 1974 with our five children ages 3 to 9. There was then, as now, a shortage of Veterinarians and the Otamatea Veterinary Club (now trading as The Vet Centre) decided to advertise in Canada for a Vet. Carolyn and I had been thinking about leaving the long and cold Canadian winters behind and I replied to the ad. We arrived in April of 1974. On the way over on the plane between Hawaii and Auckland, I met an Auckland businessman. After some discussion, he asked where in New Zealand I was going. I said "To Ruawai". His reply was "Ruawai!!" That's a one-horse town and the horse died years ago! Your working conditions will be in mud up to your knees" Not a very encouraging remark. However, we came to Ruawai and are leaving reluctantly after all these years. The reason is that, with increasing age, the house and property will become too much to take care of; so we have to downsize. We have bought a smaller home/property in Dargaville and hope to have time together to make good memories, as we have so many in Ruawai.

Jo and Carolyn Wessel



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When you are courting a nice girl an hour seems like a second.

When you sit on a red-hot cinder, a second seems like an hour.

That's relativity

Albert Einstein

Resin, Amber, Copal, Gum?

Four names for the same substance. Which one is correct? All are as it turns out.

Resins are produced by many trees and other plants. Frankincense of the Bible is one of these.

No one can presently date resins by any definitive test. Age can be inferred if we know the age of a sedimentary deposit in which they are found.

Some people want the word 'amber' to be reserved for certain age resins. However, since resins are produced continuously and cannot be accurately dated they could all be called amber. Those who sell Baltic, Dominican and Mexican 'amber' do not want the term used for other resins. They want to call other resins 'copal' There is a commercial bias present here.

Logically we should call everything 'Resin' The proper scientific terminology is 'fossil resin'

It has been claimed that copal will dissolve in acetone and amber will not. This is incorrect. All fossil resins will dissolve in alcohol, acetone or benzene.

Another claim on some internet sites is that "Amber is a true fossil; it has turned to stone". Fossil resins can not turn into stone.

Diamonds and other gem stones are forever. They are true stones. But fossil resin (amber) is not. What about New Zealand fossil resin? It is usually called kauri gum but there seems to be no reason why we cannot call it New Zealand amber. Kauri trees have been around for millions of years, so kauri gum can be very old indeed.



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The sponsor for this issue is Preston Farms and as I mentioned above, the Prestons have been farming on the Ruawai Flats for many years. I asked Lyall and Garth to write a short article about the family.

The History of Preston Farms

Our grandfather, Bill Preston, who had recently returned from World War 1, set off from Helensville on a steamer in 1919 to check out a farm in Ruawai. A friend had told him about Ruawai and he liked what he heard. He also liked what he saw and purchased 164 acres at the end of Mitchell Road; a large farm at that time. He loved his new community and became very involved in many organisations. He was Chairman of the Hall Committee when the current hall was built and opened in 1958 by Prime Minister, Walter Nash. He was also Chairman of the Ruawai Dairy Company when it was built. He married local girl, Lucy Williams and they had two children. Ben was born in 1925 and Rex in 1927. Both Ben and Rex continued farming the land. Ben and his wife, June went to the Rehia farm and our father, Rex and his wife Colleen, farmed the original Mitchell Road farm. By the late 1960's, farms were starting to merge. Our father bought two neighbouring farms, Jack Strang's and Newton Houghton's. Cow numbers rocketed to 300; one of the first large herds in the area. We left school in the early 1970s and also managed to add neighbouring properties. Eventually the farm needed new infrastructure to cope with the growth. A 60-bale rotary was built 10 years ago along with wintering facilities to accommodate 970 cows. We have seven children between us and, although none are farmers, they love their farm and Ruawai upbringing.

Garth and Lyall Preston; August 2021

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NEW LIFE FOR THE OLD ARAPOHUE BUSH CAMP: ARAPOHUE RURAL RETREAT

Ruawai resident, Janet Curle (nee Balcombe) and team are working on the fulfilment of a vision to develop a low-profile residential healing and recovery centre for those needing respite and loving care. She and her husband, Ray, formed Wild Side Charitable Trust which purchased the old Arapohue Bush Camp in August 2020 to establish Arapohue Rural Retreat. With the help of many volunteers and local tradies, they are slowly restoring the old buildings and farmland as private donor funding comes in. Ray and Jan are the Centre Directors and moved on-site in December 2020.

A feature of the new Arapohue Rural Retreat will be the Equine Mentoring programme where college-aged children experiencing difficulties in their home life or at school will have the opportunity to spend time with the four 'healing horses' — Deva, Divi, Brushka and Lacey.

"From experience working with people and horses, I have found that the positive effects of equine mentoring teaches responsibility, aids personal growth by mirroring behaviour, builds relational confidence, establishes understanding of cause and effect, and encourages communication, love, respect and acceptance", says proposed Equine Mentoring Manager, Vania Lamont.

Comprehensive community gardens are also being established at Arapohue, using the 'Back to Eden' (no-dig) concept of laying down cardboard over the soil, covering with a layer of rich compost then another layer of full-tree mulch (including leaves). After that, just a bit of weeding and continually adding mulch and compost proves to be a very successful model of gardening (search YouTube: 'Back to Eden Gardening Documentary Film - How to Grow a Vegetable Garden'). Volunteers and guests at the Retreat will be encouraged to work in the gardens and orchard as veggies and fruit are grown with the aim of producing a surplus to donate to the Dargaville/Ruawai Food Bank and the Salvation Army food parcels.

Ray and Jan are inviting 'Friends of Arapohue' from Ruawai and surrounding areas to support what they are doing by way of volunteering to help with some of the projects, garden and orchard maintenance or giving a donation to cover future development. They don't want to be reliant on government funding and hope to be self-supporting in the near future. Ray and Jan believe that the vision of Arapohue was God-given and they are continually amazed at the miraculous provision thus far.

A video with drone footage of the complex can be seen at www.wildsidetrust.net. Readers are welcome to contact Jan re volunteer or donation opportunities: email.janet@thewildside.net. Find out more, or subscribe to email newsletters at www.wildsidetrust.org for occasional updates.

Thanks, Jan



Sign and Cottage entrance



Fireplace



Vania, Deva and Divi at Arapohue



Community Garden

There are three kinds of people: the ones who learn by reading; the ones who learn by observation, and the rest of them who have to touch the fire themselves to learn if it's really hot

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Numbers are limited so book early.
Maximum 12 people. Minimum number 6

Facilitated by Josie Scott MNZAC

Date: October - November 2021 – Wednesdays commencing 20th October.
Time: 4.30pm -6.30 pm
Venue: Northern Wairoa RSA.

To secure your place please phone Hospice on (09)4393330 by October 11th 2021.
Email Sharyn at support@hospicekaipara.org.nz



Council Mark says: "It's district plan review time and your ideas are needed."

We are under pressure to advance the review of our district plan as much as possible before the RMA reforms take effect; that way we hope to have a more up-to-date set of rules which meets the needs of our communities better. We have the advantage of recently completing a spatial plan covering the whole district. This means, along with the existing district plan, we are not starting with the proverbial blank sheet of paper. A key concern relates to Significant Natural Areas (SNAs). They originate from the RMA. This resulted in a National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity which meant that regional councils had to introduce a rule about SNAs which local councils are obliged to provide for in their district plans. Of course the devil is in the detail; it is one thing to have a line on a map through your property, it is another thing to have rules which affect what you can do on the other side of that line. The outcome I would love to see is that landowners value and cherish the wetlands and bush remnants on their property; and it would be great to provide advice, support and assistance in doing that. It is always easiest to reach for the regulatory tool at the top of the toolbox rather than looking for ways to encourage and incentivise the nurturing and guardianship/kaitiakitanga of these features. It may be fair enough we have a statutory obligation to record these features but I and my colleagues around the Council table are interested in any creative

suggestions people may have about ways of encouraging landowners to look after and enhance these special treasures on their land - in other words, alternatives to regulatory sticks.

Mark Vincent; Otamatea Ward Councillor; 021 0829 8037

THE ART STUDIO, RUAWAI

Once again COVID/19 has interrupted our country and another art year. We have missed our weekly get-togethers; however, for some it has given us the chance to paint at home, especially those of us who do not have a studio, art room or designated area to paint in. Nobody is coming so the dining table can be put to good use. There is nothing wrong with eating a meal from a tray on your lap!!

For those of you who are not artists and are feeling bored - pick up a pen or pencil and try drawing or doodling on a piece of paper. You may surprise yourself and find you have a hidden talent. There is also an app on your cellphone called "Happy Colour". The emblem is a red and white rose.

Earlier this month we were privileged to have a visit from a former Ruawai resident, Ian Strang. Ian brought a selection of his own art work for us to see.



This included cat faces painted on rocks, beautiful little miniatures, a great self portrait (worked on velvet), a photo for which he had painted the frame in colours to compliment the photograph; and larger works of art on canvas. Ian joined us for lunch and remained the remainder of our afternoon. Thank you, Ian. We thoroughly enjoyed your visit and the time and trouble you took to bring us such a variety of work to discuss and admire.

With such uncertain times, it is hard to plan special events. But as soon as possible, we will return to our normal art on a WEDNESDAY. This commences at 10:00am and concludes at 2:30pm. **Should you wish any further information, please phone Frances 094392554.** Be kind, stay safe and look after one another.

Barry supplied this photo of Frances and her dog who looks eager to share her dinner

Small Animal Vet Clinic Returns to Ruawai on Tuesdays and Thursdays

A big thanks to the Ruawai community for their continuing support over winter, when due to the Vet shortage we had to move companion animal vet services to our Maungaturoto clinic to enable us to provide sufficient veterinary resources to Ruawai farmers during calving.

We're pleased to advise we're now able to offer small animal services again at our Ruawai clinic, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please do call ahead to book pet appointments, and phone at least 24 hours ahead for any script requirements.

Our retail store remains open 8-5 Monday to Friday as usual, and as always, our emergency after hours service is available on 09 4392506.

No sooner do we re-open our small animal clinic than we're all dealing with Covid19 Alert Level changes.

- In regard to Covid19 Alert Level 3, companion animal appointments are drop off and pick up only –unfortunately you will not be able to enter the clinic with your animal. Please wear a face mask when dropping off and picking up your pet.
- When you arrive for your appointment, please let us know when you're in the car park and we will come out to get your pet. As usual, for the safety of your animal and our team all animals must be on leash or in a cage.
- Due to safe distancing requirements, we have allowed additional time for admission, consultation and discharge. There will be no additional charge to you for this, in the interest of safety and wellbeing for you and our team.
- For any petfood or over the counter requirements, please call ahead to order and make payment arrangements, and we will leave the product at a prearranged place outside for you to collect.
- Phone triage and consultations are available. Please call us to arrange an appointment time. Following the initial call response, phone triage and consultations will be charged at our usual rates.

Stay safe, be kind

The Vet Centre - Ruawai

23 Jellicoe Road
09 439 2506
ruawai@thevetcentre.net.nz

Opening Hours

Retail Store:

Mon - Fri 8.00am - 5.00pm

Small Animal Clinic:

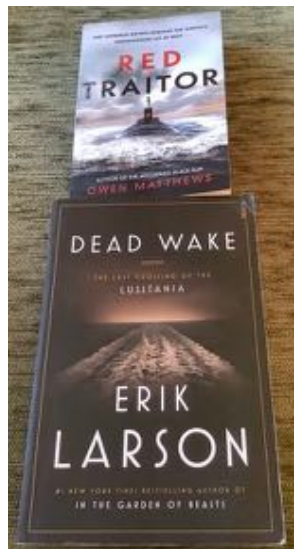
Tues and Thursday 8.00am - 5.00pm



Sue's Book-Corner

A bit of a theme going on this time, ships, and submarines - not intentionally !
I'm lucky to have a few good people who send me new releases and out of them these were my favourites.

Dead Wake by Erik Larson



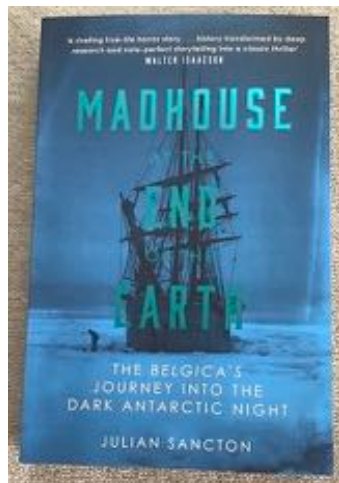
On May 1st 1915 the luxury liner Lusitania was sailing from New York to Liverpool. Germany had declared the sea around Britain a war zone, so passengers were understandably anxious of U boats. But, the captain, William Thomas Turner had every faith his ship could outrun any submarine. Walter Schwieger, captain of the Untersee U boat -20 was happy to prove him wrong. The story switches from hunter to hunted and captures the drama that unfolds and brings America on the road to war. You might think you know this story, truly you don't. It's gripping and exciting in equal measures, well worth reading.

Red Traitor by Owen Matthews.

This is part fact/ part fiction set during the height of the Cuban Missile crisis in 1962.

KGB Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Vasin is chasing a rumoured American spy embedded at the highest level of Soviet power. While searching he hears whispers of an operation, Anadyr. While tension grows between Khrushchev and Kennedy over Russian missiles hidden in Cuba, 4 Soviet submarines are ordered to make a secret run at the blockade the Americans had in the Caribbean. Each carried tactical ballistic missiles, armed with thermonuclear warheads.

The cat and mouse game plays out and the rest of the worlds fate rest on the itchy trigger finger of one Soviet naval officer. Can Vasin unearth what's going on, is his American spy and the operation Anadyr connected, can he stop a catastrophe ? A tense, bone chilling thriller, I loved it.

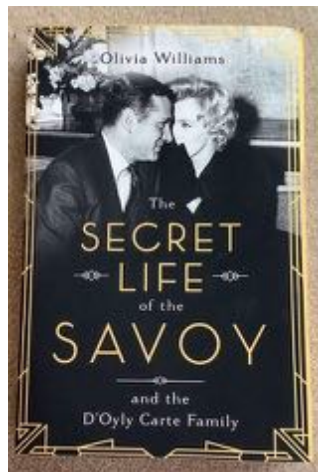


Madhouse at the End of the Earth by Julian Sancton

The true survival story of an early polar expedition that went disastrously wrong. The ship frozen in ice, the crew trapped for the whole sunless Antarctic winter. Among the crew was Roald Amundsen, a young Norwegian who went on to become a polar explorer in his own right, and Frederick Cook, an American doctor, part scientist, part adventurer , who saved many of the crew from scurvy with his unorthodox treatments, which included eating penguin and seal meat ! Even today NASA studies the documents from the voyage in research for isolation for missions on Mars.

It is a brilliant book, I shivered as I read it !

Complete change after all that with :



The Secret Life of The Savoy by Olivia Williams

Richard D'Oyly Carte opened the Savoy in 1889, it was Britain's first luxury hotel.

The book tells the story behind the hotel and family through 3 generations.

Richard, who made his fortune managing Gilbert and Sullivan's opera's.

Rupert, who expanded the

empire through 2 world wars.

Finally, through Bridget, last of the family line.

A fascinating insight to the hotel and family, glamour, scandal, and eccentric characters, this has it all.

It also made a change from the previous books, I needed something lighter after all that drama !

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Kauri Museum Collection Online

The Kauri Museum has recently launched a new website with updated information on the Museum's exhibits and collections.

Very little of the Museum's huge collection is available to view online, something which hampers the ability of people to investigate what they will see before they actually visit. Increasing the range and quality of images is a new priority, given additional impetus by the Covid pandemic.

The new website www.kaurimuseum.com presents a wider selection of images and information on the collection and exhibitions at the Museum than ever before, with many photographs newly taken. Photographer Stephen Davies has produced beautiful photos of some of the Museum's collections of Kauri gum, Taonga Māori, Ross trophies and vintage wood working tools.

The website also has images from the Tudor Collins photography collection. Born in Northland, Collins was a bushman, seaman, businessman and farmer. But he is best known as a photographer, leaving extensive collections of work including naval, big-game fishing and news photography, and the priceless record of images of the kauri industry, the people, and the forests of Northland which are held by the Kauri Museum.



Some of the items viewable online, the vintage wood working tools, were generously donated by the late Chris Norris from Auckland. Chris highly regarded the Museum, and had visited both privately and as a member of the New Zealand Vintage Tool Club. An avid vintage tool collector, Chris had a passion for woodworking.

The Museum website also has an online shop where you can view and buy some beautiful gifts such as Kauri bowls and jewellery. We know that in the current circumstances a visit to the Kauri Museum isn't possible but why don't you check out the

new website today to learn something new or refresh your memory of the Museum's extensive collection.

Luke Shepherd



You Are What You Do.... Or Are You?

In his book "The 5 Personality Patterns", Steven Kessler describes a personality map that focuses on behaviour as a thing that a person does when presented with a certain trigger that gives rise to a specific feeling, or set of feelings, that means the person feels unsafe and needs to protect themselves. This is important because there are many personality models that focus on labelling personality types; they portend to help people understand themselves and who they are. Examples include Enneagram and Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. These Personality Profiling tools insinuate that people are the way they are and cannot change. It can mean that people can forgo the responsibility to change their behaviours as it implies they are "fixed". For instance, after being labelled a specific type with a set of behaviours, some people may, say justify their behaviours. For example, they may say: "Well, it's the way I am."

What I love about the "map of personality" Kessler presents is that he constantly refers to a behaviour pattern as something we do or are in. It is NOT who we are. This means that the way we feel going into a behaviour pattern, and the pattern itself, can be changed because we are not limited to our thoughts, feelings and actions.

The 5 Personality Patterns are based upon how people behave to keep themselves safe, especially in times of distress; and are determined by how the energy flows within their body. There are 5 ways that energy can flow in the body during times of distress and people will generally have a preference for 2 or 3. Energy may;

- Move away from others
- Move toward others
- Move in and down
- Move up and out
- Be constricted

Kessler says "These patterns of energy flow influence how a person perceives the world and, therefore, what he experiences, thinks, and feels. And they influence how the person behaves, especially when too much energy hits his system and he goes into overwhelm. These patterns of energy are so fundamental that they even shape the body as it grows. But the safety patterns are not based on body shape or emotions or behaviour. They are based on how energy flows through the body."

The wonderful thing about this paradigm is that it helps us to not only understand why we behave the way we do, but others as well, helping us to understand that what may appear to be irrational is actually born out of a need to feel safe; and we can learn how to meet that need resourcefully. It also suggests that by changing the energy flow within our bodies we can change the way we see the world; that we can feel safer inside of our bodies.

If you would like to learn more about the 5 Personality Patterns (and discover which patterns you may be running), download: "Discover your Overwhelm Pattern: Your Guide to Understanding Yourself and Others" from MindOverSelf.org/freereport In bliss, Carrie

The Kauri Museum has an extensive research library. While doing volunteer work at the Museum, I came across a book about the Finlayson family and in it was a section about Philip Finlayson who was an early settler in Ruawai. At one point Philip owned most of what is now the North side of Freyberg Road. Our house at 57 Freyberg Road, was build for Philip's daughter Mary. The rest of the story in the next Rambler

Philip Alexander Finlayson
Philip was born in Waipu 24.07.1867. His primary education's at Waipu. By the time he was ready for secondary education, the family had established sufficiently to send him Auckland Grammar School. It was his mother's hope that he would become a Minister of the Church.



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He played for the Grammar 1st Rugby XV. and for Waipu. He also received a thorough grounding in and love for English classical literature which was to give him great pleasure throughout his life.

Philippa Finlayson recalls him as an old man reciting endless lines from the classics. He was an avid reader and his knowledge of and interest in history was immense.

On leaving school Philip decided the Church was not for him. The family found him a position as a clerk with a law firm in Auckland where he spend some time. When his brothers John, Donald and Kenneth commenced working the kauri bush at Rehia, Philip was put in charge of the cook house where he worked for some three years, at the end of which he received 400 acres of the Rehia block as wages.

Philip married Esther Kate Brown whose family farmed land adjacent to the Rehia property. The wedding on the 18th December 1894 was the first to be performed in the new church at Rehia. Esther was very gifted at handcrafts often sending to France for knitting and crochet patterns. Before her marriage she taught sewing and cooking at Rehia school. She made her own exquisite wedding gown.

Philip and Esther moved into a small cottage on their bush block. Philip cleared the land which was densely covered with Puriri and Nikau forest. The land was strong and the pastures established well on the bush burn. Philip's parents lent him sufficient capital to purchase his initial livestock. The loan was duly repaid. At this time there were few roads and no freezing works or export markets for the cattle he bred, so he slaughtered and butchered them himself then hawked the meat by packhorse to the drain diggers digging the canals on the Ruawai Flats.

In 1904 land at Ruawai came up for ballot. Philip took up 300 acres of swamp on the North side of the main road where Ruawai stands today. He described the land as being covered with Raupo reeds. The decayed litter from hundreds of years of growth created a mound of peaty compost. After a fire had burned the surface, the land was ready for seeding. The pastures flourished on the rich compost. Drainage was not a great problem until some years later when the litter decayed and new drains brought the water down from further inland.

In 1906 Philip built a fine house at Ruawai at a cost of £800, using borrowed capital, and moved his family there. The elder children, Ethel and Rory, had a tutor as the Ruawai school was not opened until 1909. At Ruawai several acres were planted in orchard to supply the homestead. Apples, peaches, pears, plums citrus and guavas were to be had in abundance.

Philip was one of the four original trustees for what was later known as the Trust Church, Ruawai (about 1916). Both he and Esther were strong supporters of the Presbyterian Church. Philip and Esther were a most generous and kind couple, helping many people in times of need and illness. They held numerous dances and parties in the ballroom of their home which the young people came from Dargaville and surrounding districts attend. There were often tennis parties at the homestead too. Philip owned many good horses and one called "Marble Mount" was successfully raced.

By 1914 a dairy unit was established and the herd was in the care of Kasper Meier. It is recorded that on the morning the Ruawai Dairy Company opened at 6.30 am, Kasper Meier delivered, by horse and dray, the first milk, which was from the Finlayson farm.

Philip was a foundation director of the Ruawai Dairy Company and a director from 1914 to 1921. The dairy farm flourished. Two high producing pedigree herds were purchased from the Waikato; one of Holstein cattle and the other Jerseys. These cattle were railed to Hurau then driven from there to the farm. The herds were grazed separately but milked in the same dairy. Additional Holsteins were imported from Europe.

The wharf was built at Ruawai in 1906. River boats were the main link with the outside world. In January 1914 F. J. Hoskings surveyed a subdivision in Ruawai. Sections were advertised in the Northland Times and could be purchased from a real estate agent for between 26 pounds and 89 pounds. The subdivision was on the corner of the farm. **To be continued**



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