

# Buller Bays Bulletin

PROUDLY PRODUCED BY THE NGAKAWAU COMMUNITY CENTRE  
- A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE BULLER MINING DISTRICTS COMMUNITY CENTRE SOCIETY INC

# BBB

FEBRUARY  
2026



**Ngakawau Community Centre**  
**30a Main Road, Ngakawau**  
**Phone 782 8276**

**nberc@actrix.co.nz**



Like many who live in Northern Buller, we like to spend time in our own back yard during the summer. Such a wide variety of activities and amazing scenery to be enjoyed. Often friends and family come to see why we love living here so much and are not disappointed by what they find. A selection of photos taken by NZDF photographer Chief Petty Officer Chris Weissenborn whilst here on holiday, showcase just a few of the beautiful spots found during his stay in the district along with one particularly dramatic weather event between Christmas and New Years Eve 2025.



Moria Gate - Oparara



Gentle Annie



Denniston



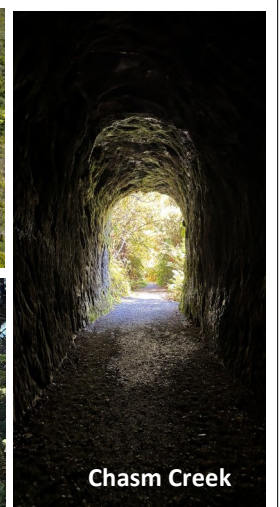
Hail in December!



Millerton Bathhouse



Millerton Incline



Chasm Creek



Mohikinui River



Ngakawau Community Centre



**NGAKAWAU  
COMMUNITY  
CENTRE**

\*\*\*SERVICES\*\*\*

- ◆ photocopying
- ◆ colour & b&w
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- ◆ typing
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- ◆ posters

\*\*\*HOURS\*\*\*

9am - 2pm

Monday - Friday  
(excl. public holidays)

Ph: 782 8276

Email:

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www.nth-buller.co.nz

**BBB**

**Buller Bays Bulletin**

**ADVERTISING  
RATES**

Whole page

\$60

Half page

\$45

Quarter Page

\$25

13.5cm x 13cm

\$30

10.5cm x 7.5cm

\$15

7.5cm x 5cm

\$10



**MOKIHINUI FISHING COMPETITION**  
26th December 2025 to — 4th of January 2026

Keen fishers (both salt and fresh water) braved strong currents and swells during the annual Mokihinui Fishing Competition.

A total of 239 fish were weighed in for the ten days of the comp which attracted 135 participants this year.

Organisers said a lot of big fish were hooked up but unfortunately not landed, due to the conditions making landing bigger fish difficult.

Despite this, they were happy to see many new faces in the Open category coming from the both the east and the west coasts along with a big group of juniors taking part, many of whom went home with an MFC tee-shirt, hats, new fishing rods and reels plus other great prizes. "A huge thank you to all our sponsors and those that volunteer to make this event a success". Sponsors as follows:

*Gentle Anne Seaside Accommodation and Campground, Mokihinui Pub n Grub, Coastwide Concrete Pumping, Coast Outdoors, NPD, Brunner's Westport, Lion Brown, MBC Hands on environmental solutions, Morgan Farms, JKs Corner Store Ngakawau, McLean Industries, Westland Engineering, Clarkson Signs, Terra Cat, Mitre 10 Westport, Power Farming.*

DAY	OPEN	MECHANICAL	JUNIORS	DAILY FISH COUNT	OPEN	MECHANICAL	JUNIORS
	HEAVIEST DAILY FISH	HEAVIEST DAILY FISH	HEAVIEST DAILY FISH		HEAVIEST SNAPPER	HEAVIEST SNAPPER	HEAVIEST FISH
1	—	—	—	—	ANDREW WRIGHT 7.46	SWAMPY & CHUCKLES 6.27	1 <sup>st</sup> OTIS POORE RIG 5.05
2	SHANAN BUSCH KAHAWAI 1.77	—	OTIS POORE KAHAWAI 1.68	4	HEAVIEST SNAPPER RUNNER UP JACOB COLEMAN 6.54	HEAVIEST SNAPPER RUNNER UP SWAMPY & CHUCKLES 6.19	HEAVIEST FISH 2 <sup>nd</sup> CODY PENROSE RIG 3.10
3	JACOB COLEMAN RIG 2.25	SWAMPY & CHUCKLES SNAPPER 6.27	OTIS POORE RIG 5.05	18	HEAVIEST OTHER FISH JACOB COLEMAN RIG 5.36	HEAVIEST OTHER FISH SWAMPY & CHUCKLES RIG 5.15	HEAVIEST FISH 3 <sup>rd</sup> MILLER MORRISON SNAPPER 2.92
4	ARIEL COLEMAN SNAPPER 4.80	LOIS SYNDICATE SNAPPER 4.97	MILLER MORRISON KAHAWAI 2.12	24	HEAVIEST FISH RUNNER UP JACOB COLEMAN RIG 3.12	HEAVIEST FISH RUNNER UP SWAMPY & CHUCKLES RIG 4.89	HEAVIEST TROUT 1 <sup>st</sup> HANS BUSCH 1.27
5	KAHN ZIELINSKI SNAPPER 6.20	SWAMPY & CHUCKLES SNAPPER 6.19	MILLER MORRISON SNAPPER 2.92	34	HEAVIEST TROUT SHANAN BUSCH 2.58	HEAVIEST TROUT RUNNER UP MEL ELVIN 2.12	HEAVIEST TROUT 2 <sup>nd</sup> ARLO POORE 1.06
6	ANDREW WRIGHT RIG 7.46	JOE BRUNNER SNAPPER 5.17	HANS BUSCH RIG 1.78	66	HEAVIEST TROUT RUNNER UP MEL ELVIN 2.12	HEAVIEST TROUT 3 <sup>rd</sup> ARLO POORE .93	HEAVIEST TROUT ARLO POORE 1.06
7	SHANAN BUSCH RIG 2.05	JOE BRUNNER KAHAWAI 1.55	HANS BUSCH KAHAWAI 1.58	5	HEAVIEST KAHAWAI KRISTIN SCHULTE 2.38	HEAVIEST KAHAWAI TONY TIMBS 1.93	HEAVIEST KAHAWAI MARTY PENROSE 2.30
8	SHANAN BUSCH TROUT 2.58	TONY McNABB SNAPPER 4.83	ARLO POORE TROUT 1.06	21			
9	CRAIG THIN SNAPPER 3.12	SWAMPY & CHUCKLES RIG 4.89	CODY PENROSE RIG 3.10	26			
10	ANDREW WRIGHT SNAPPER 4.21	JOE BRUNNER SNAPPER 3.56	HANS BUSCH RIG 1.78	41			
INFO - DAILY PRIZES CAN BE COLLECTED AFTER 6PM				TOTAL FISH CAUGHT: 239			
PRIZE GIVING: SUNDAY 12.30pm FOLLOW ON FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES & PHOTOS MOKIHINUI FISHING COMPETITION							

Below - Every year, Otis Poore from North Canterbury looks forward to fishing in this competition. This year he won the heaviest fish (Rig) in the juniors section and his brother Arlo won 2nd & 3rd prizes for the heaviest trout. (Photo - Chris Weissenborn)



Above - Jo Brunner with a 5.17kg snapper he caught on day 6 of the competition.



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Fire and Emergency New Zealand is responsible for declaring fire seasons and issuing fire permits in all urban and rural locations in NZ. No matter what the fire season is, you still need to comply with any council bylaws and regional council requirements relating to smoke nuisance and discharges to the air, even if you are issued with a fire permit from Fire and Emergency.



**Not sure whether you can light a fire? Check at: [www.checkitsalright.nz](http://www.checkitsalright.nz)**

In New Zealand, 99% of wildfires are started by people.

Your actions make all the difference.

Need help? Call [0800 658 628](tel:0800658628) or email [firepermit.enquiries@fireandemergency.nz](mailto:firepermit.enquiries@fireandemergency.nz)

## WHEN ARE WE OPEN?

### Cowshed Café

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Open daily 9am-6pm

For dinner hours email

[thefolk@gentleannie.co.nz](mailto:thefolk@gentleannie.co.nz)

### Seddonville Hotel

Open Tues to Sun

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Closed Mondays

### Pub N Grub - Mokihinui

Daily 2pm til late

### Hector Country Music Heritage Museum

Open most days

8am - 5pm

### Ngakawau Pool

Open 1pm to 4pm daily

(weather dependent)

### JK's Corner Store

(Hector)

Mon-Fri 8am - 7pm

Sat-Sun 9am - 5pm

### Ngakawau Tavern

Bar Hours:

11am - 1am

(hours subject to change)

### Coalface Café & Takeaways

(Ngakawau)

Sunday - Thursday

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Friday & Saturday

11am - 8.00pm

Hours subject to change

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### Granity Library

Open Sun 10 - 11am

Open Wed 2—3pm

### Granity Op Shop

Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri

1pm - 4pm

Sat & Sun 11am - 2pm

### Torea Gallery & Studios

(Granity)

Summer Hours

10am - 4pm (7 days)

### Northern Buller Museum

(Granity)

1-3pm most days.

Contact: Derek

021 159 1122

### The Scullery

(Waimangaroa)

Monday-Friday

7am - 3pm

Saturday & Sunday

9am - 2pm

# Busy Beaver Contracting



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Ph: Waen 027 722 2647



Local Artist: Faye Spillane  
 Address: 22 Lewis Street  
 Mokihinui  
 Phone : 0211837728  
 Gallery Hours : When sign out or  
 by arrangement  
 ART, CRAFTS, GIFTS  
 Instagram: fazeartstudio  
 Facebook : Faze Art by Faye Spillane

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### TEAMWATSON - WATSON'S MILL TRAMWAY TRACK

#### December/January Activities

Our Happy Happy news is that the Community Agreement with DOC was signed just before Christmas. WooHoo!

The Access Track is nearly complete now with the work done this month to resolve the creek that was challenging on the LandSAR exercise last October. One bank has been benched down to a ramp across two culvert pipes and steps built up the other side. Awesome mahi from the Team.

We can now begin the work on the Watson's Mill Tramway. Yipee!

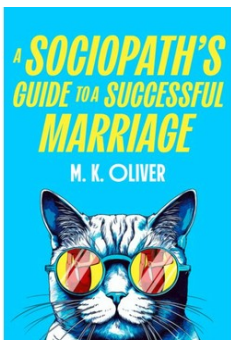
Of course it remains closed to the Public until complete, so if you can't bear the wait, then sign onto the Working Bees by contacting Jo on 0272555382 and help make it happen sooner....

**Working Bee** this **Saturday 24 Jan**, 10am at Greenfield St

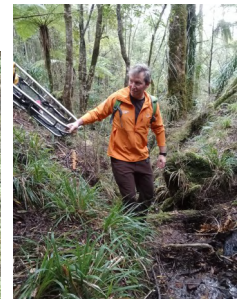
**First Aid Course** The following **Saturday 31 Jan**, 8:30am Granity Fire Station

**First Meeting** of the new Year **Wednesday 11 Feb**, 6:30pm at the Granity Pensioners Hall.

### NEW BOOK RELEASE



There's a dead body in my living room. I've not called the police because it was I who stabbed him. Seven times in all. The truth is, it's surprisingly difficult to dispatch someone with a vegetable knife. In case you're wondering, the dead man is not my husband



Earlier LandSAR challenges are now resolved by a ramped culvert pictured left

**Bathurst Resources – Company Update**

**Invite to drop-in Sessions**

Bathurst Resources is to host a series of drop-in sessions to provide an update on our Stockton mining operations including the Buller Plateau Continuation Project.

The drop-in sessions will be held as follows:

- Wednesday 25 February, 5pm – 7pm:  
Ngakawau Community Centre
- Thursday 26 February, 5pm – 7pm:  
Waimangaroa Fire Brigade Hall
- Friday 27 February, 5pm – 7pm:  
EPIC Westport

Please email [westport@bathurst.co.nz](mailto:westport@bathurst.co.nz) if you would like any further information.



**MILKING BEFORE DAWN**

In the drifting rain the cows in the yard are as black  
And wet and shiny as rocks in an ebbing tide;  
But they smell of soil, as leaves lying under trees  
Smell of the soil, damp and steaming, warm.  
The shed is an island of light and warmth, the night  
Was water-cold and starless out in the paddock.  
Crouched on the stool, hearing only the beat  
The monotonous beat and hiss of the smooth machines,  
The choking gasp of the cups and rattle of hooves,  
How easy to fall asleep again, to think  
Of the man in the city asleep; he does not feel  
The night encircle him, the grasp of mud.  
But now the hills in the east return, are soft  
And grey with mist, the night recedes, and the rain.  
The earth as it turns towards the sun is young  
Again, renewed, its history wiped away  
Like the tears of a child. Can the earth be young again  
And not the heart? Let the man in the city sleep.

*Ruth Dallas*



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WINTER HOURS 7 DAYS 11 - 3

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*"Good friends are like stars.  
You don't always see them,  
But you know they're always there."*



**Mokihinui Kids Fishing  
Competition**

**7<sup>th</sup> February**

Mokihinui River Mouth

**Free Entry**  
**Early registrations**  
**receive a Free Gift!**

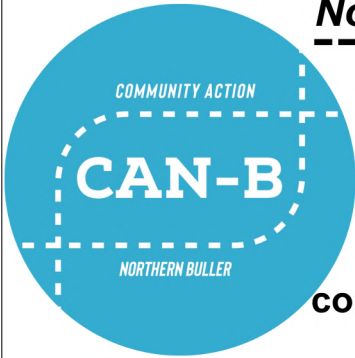
**Awesome Prizes to be won!**

Free BBQ & Prizegiving after contest at Mokihinui Domain



Register online at <https://www.npd.co.nz/mokihinui/>  
or in-person at Brunners Westport • All kids must be registered to enter.

## CAN-B: Community-Led Development Northern Buller



Need help actioning ideas  
for you community?



Email CAN-B  
connectorcanb@gmail.com



Follow CAN-B



## HECTOR COUNTRY MUSIC



Barry Skinner hcmhm@extra.co.nz 03 782 8400

## HERITAGE MUSEUM



Toni O'Keefe  
Seddon Ward  
Councillor

toni.okeefe@bdc.govt.nz  
PH: 0273 671 315

I will be heading down to the Ngakawau Community Centre, once a Month, to be available to the public. Needing help with a service request, looking for information regarding BDC or just head on down for a chat:

**Next Placement**  
**Thursday February 26th**  
**12pm to 2pm**

If you have any concerns or queries don't hesitate to contact me, I am here to serve.



**Granity Community Library**  
Sunday 10.00 - 11.00am &  
Wednesday 2.00 - 3.00pm  
**New members  
welcome**  
Subs—Family \$10, Single \$7



## GIANT Chess

Gold coin  
donation.  
Come in and play any time  
that the Ngakawau  
Community Centre is open.  
(Set up required)



**CRAFT  
GROUP**  
**EVERY FRIDAY!**  
**10am to 2pm**

**Waimangaroa Fire Station Lounge**  
**All Welcome**



**PARKRUN IN WESTPORT**  
A free, friendly, enjoyable  
5km community run, jog or  
walk event every Saturday  
morning in Westport. For  
more info you can register  
at [www.parkrun.co.nz/](http://www.parkrun.co.nz/)

**MORNING TEA  
&  
NATTER**  
FRIDAYS 10 - 12:30

KOHA ENTRY  
ALL PROCEEDS DONATED  
TO COMMUNITY GROUPS

THE  
**LYRIC**  
THEATRE

DON'T FORGET  
YOUR MUG

## Buller/Kawatiri



## ST PETER'S COMMUNITY CHURCH

Want to learn about the  
Christian faith?  
Come and enjoy the  
presence of God, and a  
friendly welcome from  
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Church.  
Sunday Service starts at  
10am, followed by a yummy  
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## COMMUNITY NOTICES



**BULLER  
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Free confidential  
advice. Sort your  
budget now before  
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## AA

Meets 7.30pm  
Every Tuesday  
St Canice's Church  
Hall, Westport

Contact:  
Gary  
027 7516 555

## BULLER CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

At the CAB we try to  
help people to know &  
understand their rights  
and obligations & how  
to use this information  
to get the best  
outcomes, provide  
people with the  
confidence & support  
they need to take  
action, & work for  
positive social change  
within communities &  
wider society. We  
provide a free &  
independent service to  
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0800 367 222 or  
789 8388.

Visit us at the Clock Tower,  
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Mon – Fri 10am – 1pm

## LAMINATING

Available at the  
Ngakawau Community Centre.  
A4, A3 and business-card sizes



## COMMUNITY SPORT AND FITNESS

### GRANITY JUDO CLUB

Monday Juniors 4.30pm  
with Sam Ph 027  
3155747 and Jai  
Ph 027 2177465

#### Mon & Thurs

5.30pm with Wayne ph  
021 027 64824 or Leah  
027 343 5903

#### RAFFLE RESULTS

December draw

Raffle 1—1st Fifi, 2nd Diane  
Raffle 2—1st John, 2nd Lyn,  
3rd Bade, 4th Hiha

### YOGA

#### Mokihinui Hall

Tues 5.30 - 6.45pm

\$10 Casual Class

Tutor:

Mandy Coleman

Enquiries:

Ph 021 292 2060

### TABLE TENNIS

The Lyric Theatre

Mon 7—9pm

Thu 4—6pm

\$3 entry

### SIT & BE FIT

Ngakawau Community  
Centre

Mondays

11 - Midday

Free Entry

*Last day 23rd Feb*

### TAI CHI

Ngakawau Community  
Centre

Wednesdays

10.30 - 11.30am

Free Entry

*Last day 15th Feb*



# COALFACE

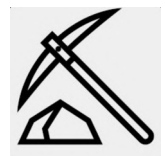
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**Saturday 31 January  
ZONNIS**

A dynamic duo from Victoria, BC, fresh at the beginning of their 34-date 2026 Aotearoa Tour, Zonnis styles range from traditional folk to alternative rock, with funk and soul influence, establishing the duo as festival favourites across Canada and beyond. Boasting over 400 festival and international appearances under their belts, this show is sure to invigorate the spirit and awaken the soul in us all.



**Tickets \$20 (door sales only). Doors open 6:30pm, show starts 7:30.**



**Friday 20 February  
QUIZ NIGHT**

Your favourite quizmasters Martin and Nicki present your chance to win at the high-stakes game of being the biggest know-it-all.



With 8 rounds of topics traversing realms of the familiar to the delightfully obscure, it pays to bring your 'A' game and a nerd (or two).

**Teams of 4-6, \$5 per person. Doors open 6:30pm, Quiz starts 7. Move an item on from home to add to the prize table.**



**Saturday 28 February  
The Dorado Experiment**

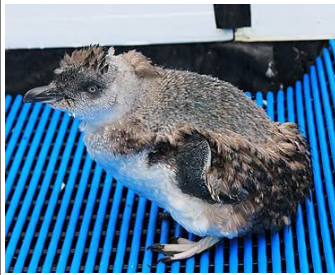
A psychedelic rock band from Nelson, NZ, fusing cosmic soundscapes, groove-heavy rhythms, and raw improvisation. Their live shows blur the line between song and journey, weaving hypnotic riffs, soaring vocals, and immersive visuals into a singular experience. With roots in classic '70s and psychedelic rock, the band channels the energy of icons like Led Zeppelin, The Doors, Aerosmith, Pink Floyd, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers, creating a sound that's both timeless and electrifying.



Known for their improvisational flair and dynamic live performances, The Dorado Experiment blend the wild energy of a jam session with the precision of crafted songwriting.

**Presales \$29, door sales \$35. Doors open 7:30pm, music starts 8.**





### Kororā /little blue penguins need space when they come ashore to moult.

Little Blue Penguins/Korora are a feature of Northern Buller’s coastal communities often making nesting burrows underneath homes.

Between November and March, they must also come ashore to shed all their feathers and grow a new waterproof coat, which takes about two to three weeks. During this process which is known as a “catastrophic moult”, they are especially vulnerable to predation from dogs, as they cannot swim.

The Department of Conservation says not to worry if you see scruffy penguins during moulting season, but to keep yourself and your dogs away from them.

Moulting penguins don’t look pretty, but this is a natural part of the bird’s life cycle. The best thing to do is leave them be, and ensure they are undisturbed during their moult.

During the moult, Kororā have to stay ashore and fast while the new feathers grow. To prepare for the moult, they put on extra weight. The normal weight for Kororā is around 1kg, but when they start the moult, they can weigh as much as 1.7kg.

By the end of the moult, they typically have lost half of that initial weight and return to sea with their brand-new feathers.

## BLAST FROM THE PAST

Source [https:// westcoast.recollect.co.nz](https://westcoast.recollect.co.nz)



Denniston Cottage Hospital, opened 4th Nov, 1910

Warren Roberts - Postcards of old New Zealand



Cottage Hospital  
Denniston 1944



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OPENING HOURS**

**Monday, Wednesday,  
Friday**

9am - 4pm

**Tuesday, Thursday**

CLOSED

**Saturday** 9am - 4pm

**Sunday** 9am - 1pm

**Public holidays**

CLOSED



**JK's Corner Store**

The Summer of 2026

Opening hours,  
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Snacks, fav-sweets, and more.**

If you need bait or ice, we got it.

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JK's Corner Store

**RARE BIRDS SEEN AND HEARD IN BIRCHFIELD**

A matuku-hūrepo (Australasian bittern). PHOTO: CRAIG MCKENZIE

The Love Bittern Project has delivered some good news for a group of volunteers hoping to help save the rare Australasian Bittern from extinction. Anecdotal evidence over the years has suggested we might have a group of these rare birds in the area. That has now been confirmed. Bittern were recorded “booming” consistently in Birchfield from 27 November to 7 December both morning and night. One was also seen. Booming is the distinctive noise the male Bittern birds make during the mating season. Project spokeswoman Wendy Ambury said it was good to know the birds are still around. “Fingers crossed they are breeding there somewhere.” she said.



The Love Bittern Project galvanises community-led action on the ground to help save these elusive birds and their wetland homes across New Zealand. Wendy visited northern Buller last November to promote the Great Matuku Muster - a synchronised coordinated count of these rare and endangered birds across the whole country. The coordinated count initially produced disappointing results for Birchfield, however the group persevered and were rewarded for their efforts. Wendy said that the initial failure to record booming may have been weather related. “We know from other sites that Bittern delay breeding until the water levels stabilise and I wonder if all that intense rain before the Muster led to a delay there...or if they have a pattern of booming later...time will tell!” she said. Buller recorded record rainfall number in October last year.

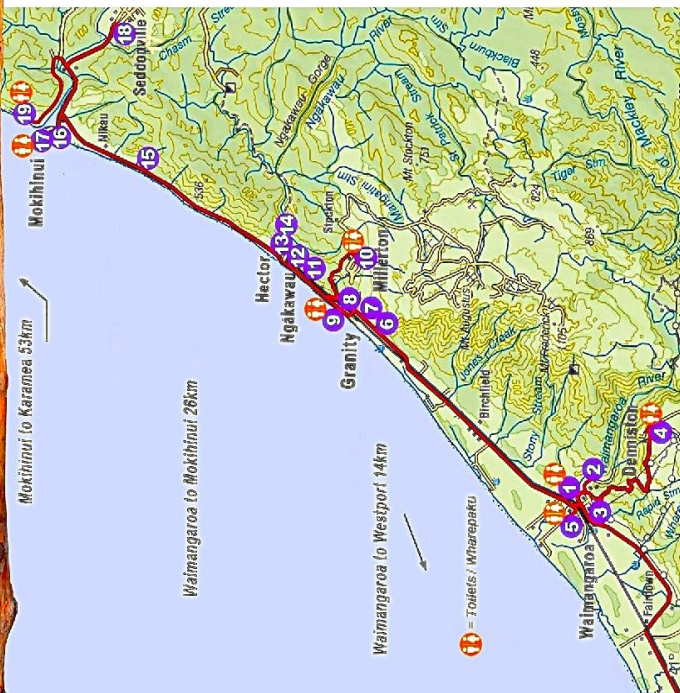
No booming was heard at Karamea although a bittern was seen and photographed there. “We did have reports of booming behind Westport (Gillows Dam area) which is likely more stable in terms of hydrology.” she said.

She said Carters Beach wasn't monitored because access off the Kawatiri Trail (where they've been sighted close to the river) was still closed and the project was yet to gain access and participation along Martin's Creek and wetlands on private land there that curl back up to join Gillows/Colin's dams. “Our elusive Bittern have sent us on another merry chase this year but it's great to know we've got more eyes and ears open.”

Wendy thanks everyone who helped with the count. “Thank you all for helping Bittern and I look forward to 2026's muster!”.

Wendy at Ngakawau in 2025





Welcome to the NORTHERN WEST COAST ARTS TRAIL...

Enjoy a voyage of imagination and discovery of the many talented artists of the beautiful Northern West Coast. Visit historic halls and engage with artists at their galleries.

Displays will be open from 10AM to 4PM, Jan 31, Feb 1 & 2. Eftpos will not usually be available, so cash is recommended. Every effort has been made to ensure all information in this brochure was correct at the time of printing. Please note that visitors who enter properties do so at their own responsibility. Look out for the flags to help find locations.



**1 THE SCULLERY & WOODY'S SCULPTURE GARDEN**  
Cafe, garden, carvings, jewellery and sculpture.  
Bambury St, Waimangaroa



**2 CONNS CREEK CLAYART**  
Lynn Brooks  
Pottery, sculpture, cups and bowls  
12 Conns Creek Rd,  
Waimangaroa



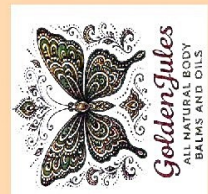
**3 AMBA WAGHORN & MAL HOUGHY**  
Suncatchers and Christmas wonder. Timber repurposed into something practical or beautiful.  
3 Hawes St, Waimangaroa



**4 FRIENDS OF THE HILL**  
Historic Denniston Museum hosted by Sylvia & Gary James.  
Carving by Andy Craig, creatures by Dave Pullan & Sue Leversedge, quilting by Kirsty Williams, textiles by Sylvia. Whareatea Mine Rd.



**5 WAIMANGAROA DOMAIN**  
Les Cooper woodwork, Loredana Micu dolls, Julia Gold balms & oils, plus more local artists.  
Corner of Sunderland & Newcastle, Waimangaroa



**GoldenJules**  
ALL NATURAL BODY BALMS AND OILS



**6 CLAYWAYZ GRANITY**  
Annie MacKenzie & Davey Marshall  
Pottery, Weavery and Flowers.  
Clayz & wayz  
4 Torea St, Granity



**7 MIKE McLAUGHLIN & JAN BLACKBURN**  
Mikes' Rustic Bird Feeders & Letterboxes. Jans' Stone Jewellery  
32 Torea St Granity.



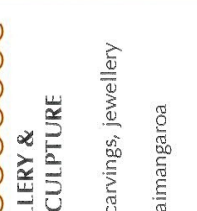
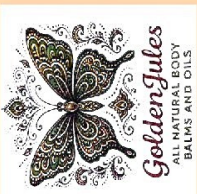
**8 TOREA GALLERY**  
Local arts and crafts co-op.  
Textiles, soaps, rocks, printmaking, leatherwork, pottery, mobiles, woodturning and much more.  
97B Torea St, Granity



**9 THE LYRIC THEATRE**  
Event, ONE NIGHT ONLY.  
7.30PM Saturday January 31.  
Celebrate the opening of this years trail with Canadian Folk Rock duo, ZONNIS. \$20.



**10 MILLERTON HALL**  
Art and craft from various artists.  
Paintings, harakeke weaving, wearable art, woodwork & more.  
Head into the hills from Granity,  
407 Calliope St, Millerton



**1 THE SCULLERY & WOODY'S SCULPTURE GARDEN**  
Cafe, garden, carvings, jewellery and sculpture.  
Bambury St, Waimangaroa



SEE OVER PAGE

# Northern West Coast Art & Craft Trail

Jan 31,  
Feb 1,2  
2026

**11 DRIFTWOOD COTTAGE**  
Moya C. paintings & crafts. Where waves meet land, tides of fortune sit beneath me  
168 Torea St, Granity



**12 NGAKAWAU HALL**  
Heather Holland quilts, Rowan Scott paintings. Kate Wall paintings. Art and craft from various local artists  
30 Main Rd, Ngakawau



**13 IK'S COASTAL CHARM**  
Showcasing vibrant handmade treasures by local artists, with yummy ice cream for art trail explorers.  
Corner Main & River Rd, Hector



**14 JANINE PROWSE**  
Paintings and gallery  
11 River Rd, Hector

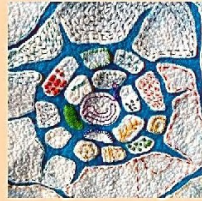


**15 MARCELLAS GALLERY**  
Marcella Southon  
Paintings and gallery  
624 Nikau Rd



**16 FAZE ART & ADRIFT**  
Faye & Micky Spillane  
Mixed media resin painting & carving  
22 Lewis Street, Mokihinui

**17 MOKIHINUI HALL**  
Fibrecraft & more. In a plastic world, natural materials to sustain and feed the soul. Mandy Coleman, Ariel Coleman and Jude Reid. Mokihinui Campground



**18 ATAHUA TOI CREATIONS**  
Fiona & Merv Mackie. A passion for creating art from flax and wood. Raranga Weaving and Woodturning.  
8 Gladstone St, Seddonville



**19 COWSHED CAFE**  
Cafe Open. Kids playground. Art and craft from various artists. Books of all sorts.  
Gentle Annie Campground, 298 DeMalmanches Rd, Mokihinui



Cover image by Paul Williams  
Facebook: Northern West Coast Art and Craft Trail  
Email: [nwcaact@gmail.com](mailto:nwcaact@gmail.com)



Proudly supported by:  
The Scullery,  
Waimangaroa

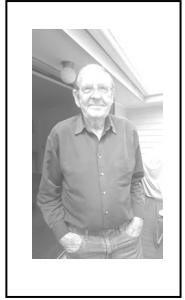




# The Past Revisited, Memories in Northern Buller

(by Lynne Maguire)

Recollections of GS



Not many people know where St Helens is these days. It was once a community in our district with a train station, a telephone exchange, several families, and a very good Railways bus service to Granity, Waimangaroa, and Westport. For one man, this small settlement holds the richest of memories.

The story begins in Christchurch, at an orphanage in the early 1950s. GS's parents were unable to care for him, and at around 7 years of age, he went to live at the orphanage. He has good memories of the seven or so years that he lived there. Each summer, the children were sent to stay with families for a holiday out of the city.

During the summer of 1953 or 4, GS came to stay with Mr and Mrs M in St Helens. GS recalls:

Mr M ran a small farm with about 20 cows that were milked each day. The milk was separated, and GS would chop wood for the fire. He's not sure what the fire was for, but it was part of the milking routine and had to be lit and fed with wood every day. The cream was collected daily or every other day at the gate. There was an old tractor on the farm, and as a 10-year-old, GS was taught to drive it, towing a side cutter for hay making. Mr and Mrs M didn't have a car, just the tractor and a draft horse called Steve. Steve had an important role in the development of the farm. Regularly, he was hitched up to a sledge on runners. Mr M would pull up boulders and large rocks from the paddocks and put them on the sledge. Steve's job was to pull the heavy sledge with the boulders and stones onto the riverbed for disposal. To the amazement and joy of any children watching, Steve would heave and pull, grunt and sweat, and then let out the loudest 'horse farts'. It must have been very memorable, because GS still chuckles about it these many years later. He remembers that sometimes four or five children would sit on the gentle giant's back as he carried them around.

GS recalls having duck eggs for breakfast each morning and swimming in the Mokihinui River every day, the children teasing one another about the huge eels that might bite you. They never did. The weather was always fine! GS has fond memories of eeling in a pond at the farm. Mr M taught the boys how to make a hīnaki (traditional basket-like traps) for catching eels, which were then smoked and enjoyed by all. He told me that Mr M helped him build a model boat, and that he spent many hours sailing it on the pond.

Seddonville was a busy settlement with mining and forestry as the principal industries. GS has a memory of walking along a pipeline carrying buckets of water to a mine. He can't remember if it was coal or gold. The hall was converted into a movie theatre whenever a film was scheduled. GS told me about a movie he watched starring Montgomery Cliff and Shelley Winters. He couldn't recall the name, but the plot involved a murder at a lake. Heavy stuff for a ten-year-old, but GS said he didn't lose any sleep over it. I looked up the movie, and for those who might want to know, it was called 'A Place In The Sun' and came out in 1951. I found it interesting that Elizabeth Taylor was in the cast, but GS didn't mention her.

GS didn't keep in touch with Mr and Mrs M when he went back to Christchurch, and he didn't holiday there again. In the 1970's, as a young man, GS came to Mokihinui for a holiday and found out the couple who had given him so many rich memories as a young lad had passed away in the 1960's.

The house that Mr and Mrs M lived in is still standing. It's pretty hard to find behind an old, dilapidated wooden gate that can't be opened. The house's walls are decaying and overgrown with weeds. You have to know it's there to spot it. However, for GS it is a place that once was vibrant and full of new experiences and adventures, a place of acceptance and laughter that remains true almost 70 years on.

Many thanks to GS for sharing this story and allowing me to re-tell it in my own way.

# Ngākawau Clinic

Health New Zealand  
Te Whatu Ora

1c Main Road, Hector  
Phone: 03 788 5062  
Email: Ngakawau.Clinic@wcdhb.health.nz

**Practice hours** Mon – Fri: 8:30am to 4:30pm

## Appointment availability



To help us provide you with the best care, please book appointments in advance rather than dropping into the clinic. Appointments are scheduled in 20-minute intervals, and this time is dedicated to you. If you have a complex concern, please let our receptionist know so they can book a double appointment for you. We also offer telehealth (video) GP appointments, supported by our rural nurse specialists.

**Ka Ora Telecare** provides after-hours health advice and treatment on weeknights (5pm to 8am) and 24/7 on weekends and public holidays.

☎ **0800 252 672** or visit <https://kaora.co.nz/app/> to connect.

**In a life-threatening emergency, always dial 111.**



## SPORT TASMAN

Sport Tasman is one of 14 charitable regional sports trusts that support New Zealanders to be more active and healthy.

Contact:  
Tara Papworth  
**021 0839 9077**

tara.p@sporttasman.org.nz

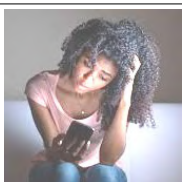
## A MESSAGE FROM BULLER PHARMACY

We've got public holidays coming up so we're letting you know in advance so you can be prepared. The pharmacy will be closed Monday 2nd Feb and Friday 6th Feb.



## BEING A NURSE MEANS...

You will never be bored  
You will sometimes be frustrated  
You will always be surrounded by challenges  
You will carry immense responsibility  
You will see life begin – and end  
So much to do and so little time  
You will step into people's lives and you will make a difference  
Some will bless you, some will curse you  
You will see people at their worst – and at their best  
You will never cease to be amazed by people's capacity for love, courage and endurance.  
You will cry a lot  
You will laugh a lot  
You will know what it is to be human  
And to be humane



## National helplines Need to talk?

Free call or text **1737** any time for support from a trained counsellor.

**Lifeline** – 0800 543 354 or free text 4357 (HELP)

**Youthline** – 0800 376 633, or free text 234

**Samaritans** – 0800 726 666

**Suicide Crisis Helpline** – 0508 828 865

- ⇒ DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN HEALTHCARE IN NORTHERN BULLER?
- ⇒ DO YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS ABOUT HEALTHCARE IN NORTHERN BULLER?

**THE TRUST IS AN ADVOCATE FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH IN OUR REGION. PLEASE CONTACT US FOR A MEMBERSHIP FORM**



northernbullerhealthtrust@gmail.com  
022 464 5232

*Northern Buller Health Trust.*



For the best natural  
health support and  
advice. We have all the  
products right here.

**Ask for Judith or Ron**

*“Confidentiality is Assured”*

**Store Open Tuesdays to Saturdays**  
112a Palmerston Street  
Ph 789 7595

# Power Board Electrical Ltd.

## Specials for Heat Pumps

A wide variety of sizes are available  
We specialise in floor consoles

# HEAT PUMPS

Free measure & quotes  
call Clive 027 252 6417

### Granity Volunteer Fire Brigade Awards Night - Dec 2025

After five years service to a fire brigade, long serving members are presented with a service medal. Every two years after that, a two-year bar is added. Eight, two-year service bars were presented at Granity last year. Most pictured have done over 10 years service with the brigade with several having done almost 25 years.



Left to Right:  
Marg Harris  
Glen Standing  
Marie Standing  
Bart Gillman  
Anne Parkin  
Chris Lawson  
Absent:  
Grant Smith  
Jo Douglas

*Congratulations to Granity volunteer firefighters*

### St Peter's Church News

I've been thinking about storms lately. (Hopefully we haven't had another big one in the time between when I wrote this, and when it's published!)

There are different types of storm. There are the physical, meteorological weather ones. We don't have too much control over those, but we can mitigate the effects; making sure our roofs don't leak, wearing a raincoat etc. A ship, for example, has anchors, which work not just in storms, but in strong currents and clear weather as well. More on that shortly.

There are political and social storms.

Then there are our own personal storms; illness, disability, trauma, and general bad things that happen to and around us.

How do we cope with those latter ones? What is your anchor? There's an old hymn that asks the question "Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?" How are your anchors doing? (Ships usually have more than one!)

Come and enjoy the presence of God, and a friendly welcome from everyone at St Peter's Church.  
Sunday Service starts at 10am



**HAGEDORNS**  
BULLER FUNERAL SERVICES

*Funeral Director & Monumental Mason*

*Serving the Buller District  
for over 125 years.*

Preplanning consultations.  
Headstones, Plaques &  
Restoration Work.  
Personalised, Memorable  
& Meaningful Services.

(03) 789 7075

[hagedornfs@gmail.com](mailto:hagedornfs@gmail.com)

[www.hagedorns.co.nz](http://www.hagedorns.co.nz)

**0800 MAUREEN**

Call anytime or

[maureen.pughmp@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:maureen.pughmp@parliament.govt.nz)

**Maureen Pugh**  
MP for West Coast-Tasman

Funded by the Parliamentary Service. Authorised  
by M Pugh, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



Open Mic Night &  
Fish 'n' Chips !!

**FEB - POSTPONED**

**DINE IN & ENJOY THE MUSIC OR TAKEAWAY !!**

Bring an instrument, Bring family & Friends....

BYO Drinks & Sober Driver....

Bring your dancing Shoes....

**CASH SALES ONLY (NO EFTPOS)**

#### MENU

BATTERED FISH 1PC	\$6.00
SCOOP OF CHIPS.	\$5.00
BATTERED SAUSAGE 1PC	\$4.00
PLAIN SAUSAGE 1PC	\$3.00
CORN BALLS (CRUMBED)	\$1.00 EACH
CHEESE BURGER	\$10.00
VEGE BURGER	\$10.00
BOTTLES OF SOFT DRINK OR H2O	\$2.00 EACH

\*\*WAIMANGAROA DOMAIN FUNDRAISER\*\*

# NZ Creative Communities Scheme Funding round 3 of 3 open 9 February 2026

## Funding from the Creative Communities Scheme is available for community-based arts activities in the Buller District.

The Scheme aims to increase participation in the arts at a local level and increase the range and diversity of arts available to communities.

The Scheme is a partnership between Creative New Zealand and local authorities. Each local authority is responsible for delivering the Scheme in its area.

Local decision-making is the key to the Scheme, and applications are considered by a subcommittee, which consists of two Councillors, one representative from the local Iwi, one representative from each of the three Community Arts Councils (Karamea, Buller, and Inangahua), and two community members.

There are three funding rounds for each financial year (1 July–30 June), and \$19,000 is available.

Please note that groups or organisations must provide a copy of their latest financial statement.



## Closing dates for 25/26



Round 3 of 3 (FY 25/26)

**Opens 09/02/2026**

**Closes 09/03/2026**



For further information:  
[bullerdc.govt.nz/ccnz](https://bullerdc.govt.nz/ccnz)

Scan the QR code  
to learn more



## COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

If you have concerns about Buller District Council related matters feel free to contact your Seddon Ward Councillors.

### Rosalie Sampson

Ph 782 6745 or 027 3567388

### Toni O'Keefe

Ph 0273 671 315

You can also lodge a service request at [bullerdc.govt.nz/do-it-online/request-a-service](http://bullerdc.govt.nz/do-it-online/request-a-service)

If your request is urgent (e.g. excessive noise or flooding), please phone 0800 807 239.

## CIVIL DEFENCE

To contact the Buller Emergency Management Officer phone 789 7999 Or follow us on Facebook - [www.facebook.com/BullerCD/](http://www.facebook.com/BullerCD/)

### Local Coordinators:

Ian Mulholland  
Ph 021 771 342  
(Seddonville)

Tony McNabb  
Ph 021 176 6391  
(Mokihinui)

Bart Gillman  
Ph 021 025 76634  
(Granity/Ngakawau)

Tania Hammond  
Ph 022 612 7353  
(Millerton)

Geoff Dark  
Ph 021 734 131  
(Hector)

## BOIL WATER NOTICE

### Ngakawau-Hector Water Society Incorporated

All consumers on our Water Supply are reminded that all water intended for drinking and food preparation should be boiled for at least three minutes before use.

### Contacts for this water supply:

Dick Marsh - 782 8258  
Hugh Tyler - 782 8500



## ALL ELECTRICAL WORK

- Domestic / commercial / industrial wiring and lighting
- Heatpump sales and installation
- Electrical inspection services
- EV charging systems
- Solar power systems

(03) 788 9900

[www.electroservices.co.nz](http://www.electroservices.co.nz)

## Your Northern Buller Sales Consultants

Westport Branch  
03 789 8777



Glenys Elley  
027 545 3667

Valerie Woods  
027 540 2220

Jo Makutu  
027 327 7240

Danni Foote  
021 0844 5092

## Property Brokers<sup>B</sup>

Licensed REAA 2008  
Q024386

## DEVICE ADVICE

The Sue Thomson Casey Memorial Library in Westport offers in-person Device advice, for smartphones and tablets by appointment. Please note this service is not provided by IT experts but offers beginner assistance with using devices and apps. Sessions take place on Wednesday mornings from 10am - 12pm.



Visit the library website at [bullerlibraries.nz](http://bullerlibraries.nz), call 03 788 8030 during business hours or email [library@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:library@bdc.govt.nz)

# WAIMANGAROA RESERVE & DOMAIN



FEB  
7TH  
11am

## RHYTHM & FOOD FESTIVAL 2026

Fantastic line up of local & visiting musicians to entertain you throughout the day, featuring special guest & local lady

**Mel Parsons!!**



037894900

Driven With Passion

Buller Taxis

for your transport requirements

Fantastic range of food stalls, coffee carts & local brewery Shortjaw Brewing

(+18 restricted area)

FESTIVAL TICKETS ON SALE NOW & GATE SALES ON THE DAY!! (GATE SALES CASH ONLY)

\$20 single, \*\$50 Family of 4

TICKETS ON SALE AT

**THE SCULLERY  
WAIMANGAROA**

**JK'S CORNER STORE  
HECTOR**

**Shortjaw  
Brewing**



Message our FB page Waimangaroa Domain or Email [waimangaroarrd@gmail.com](mailto:waimangaroarrd@gmail.com) to enquire and or arrange to purchase tickets.

\*Family passes will be issued for pre orders only

(2 Adults, 2 children under 15 under 10 free)

## HALLS FOR HIRE

### Millerton Community Hall

Available for hire.  
For more info  
contact Tania  
022 612 7353

### Mokihinui Domain Hall

Lovely cosy space  
with adjacent  
campground  
kitchen  
For more info  
contact Jane:  
027 274 7223

### Ngakawau Community Centre

Hall with kitchen,  
supper room.  
Chairs & trestle  
tables for hire.  
Giant Chess set  
Reasonable rates.  
Ph: 782 8276

### The Lyric Theatre Granity

Email  
events@thelyric.nz

### Waimangaroa Domain Reserve Hall

For info  
Contact Bev:  
(03) 789 9079 or  
021 032 0311  
[Waimangaroarrrd@gmail.com](mailto:Waimangaroarrrd@gmail.com)

### Waimangaroa Community Centre

Currently closed  
Under long-term  
hire



## T.A. PAINTING

House Painting | Exterior | Interior | Roof Painting

Gardening/Tree/Hedge Pruning | Rental Properties Maintenance

Contact: Terence Amies [t.a.painting@outlook.co.nz](mailto:t.a.painting@outlook.co.nz)  
03 789 6580 | 020 4141 0169



BACK RD CONTRACTING

M 021 431 973 Julia  
M 021 904 223 Shane  
E backrdcontracting@gmail.com  
FB Back Rd Contracting

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- WATER RETICULATION
- RETAINING WALLS

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## JT ELECTRICAL

Domestic - RV - Marine  
Switchboard Upgrades  
Solar - Off Grid

Friendly, affordable, reliable  
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Main Rd, Waimangaroa



## Trade Qualified Builder

Local and Experienced

All work considered  
Reasonable Rates

Call Dave on 021 1674714

## BULLER PLUMBING LTD



Domestic & Commercial  
Installations  
Maintenance

Mike Best  
or

Ph. (03) 782 8383  
Cell 027 482 8383

## Advertising Space Needed?

This spot could be yours for only  
\$10 per month.

Contact the BBB at the Ngakawau  
Community Centre for more info:  
[nbcrc@actrix.co.nz](mailto:nbcrc@actrix.co.nz) or 03 7828276



## Painter



Qualified, reliable, established local painter  
and decorator with 20+ years experience.  
Interior and exterior, high standard of finish,  
weatherboard houses and ladder work  
specialist, references available on request

Call Mark on 027 304 4697

## TARNZ LEATHER

Repaired, restored, replicated, carved &  
commissioned leatherwork.

Tania Hammond

Cell: 0226127353 fb:TARNZ  
or visit me at Torea Gallery  
In Granity most Tuesdays

## Upholstery Boutique

Ngakawau



Txt Maria Elliott  
0220402185 for  
photo quotes.

Mid-century, antique  
furniture, headboards





### SIX YEARS of COMMUNITY ACTION

A Pictorial Record of the Buller Mining Districts  
Community Centres

THE BULLER MINING DISTRICTS COMMUNITY CENTRES  
Denniston Birchfield Millerton Ngakawau Granity  
Seddonville Waimangaroa Stockton Waimaire  
NGAKAWAU \* WESTPORT \* SOUTH ISLAND \* NEW ZEALAND  
original printing August 1953

This historical pictorial record of the first six years of the Buller Mining Districts Community Centre Society (1947 to 1953) has been carefully reproduced and is now available for \$3.50.

Proceeds to the  
Ngakawau Community Centre

### DENNISTON HILL CLIMB FEB 21 & 22 ROAD CLOSURE

The Denniston Road will be closed for the Denniston Hill Climb car rally from the intersection of Neighbours Street & Banbury Street, Waimangaroa from 7am til 5pm Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd February. The road will be open approx. every 30 mins to let traffic through between races.



### TPP Trades Campus, Coates St Westport

website: [www.tpp.ac.nz](http://www.tpp.ac.nz)  
Westport and Greymouth courses available.  
Freephone 0800 800 411

### NGAKAWAU KARAMEA RUGBY REUNION

# EASTER 2026

Registrations Now Open  
To keep in touch with the latest news on  
the Reunion please visit our website:  
[ngakawaurfc.co.nz](http://ngakawaurfc.co.nz)



### THE HIDDEN WORLD WHERE WE LIVE (contributed)



While out for a walk in our wonderful corner of the world someone with better eyes than me spotted a small group of little blue mushrooms. Famous for featuring on our \$50 note and found in the native forests of the West Coast and Rotorua areas, *Werewere-kōkako* is the Maori name because this mushroom's colour is similar to the blue wattle of the kokako bird, (*Entoloma hochstetteri*). Found mostly in Autumn, these guys seem to be early but any wonder with the amount of rain we've had and not a very hot summer as yet.

Also spotted was the Red Waxgills (species within the *Hygrocybe* genus). They are small mushrooms with shades of scarlet reds and orange found on mossy forest floors, particularly in damp areas.



Peak season is autumn to winter especially after heavy rain, so again, out of normal season, but what's "normal" weather here at the moment.

### FOR SALE - 7X4 STEEL TRAILER

With aluminium floor, mud guards & motor bike ramps, (will fit 4WD bike).  
Warranted & registered and has its own small garage to house trailer in.  
\$800 or ono  
Only selling as no longer use it.  
Ph Barry on: 03 7828400 for viewing

### TOREA GALLERY NEWS



It's been a busy summer season so far at the gallery and our members are regularly bringing in their creations, so there's always something to see.

**Exhibitions:** Templetree Pottery by Bronwyn Brady, running through until mid-March. We have exhibition openings for any creatives out there. You don't need to be a gallery member to exhibit your art/craft. We currently have two openings – June and July 2026. Please contact the gallery directly for further information.

Torea Gallery & Studios is open 7 days and is also participating in the Northern West Coast Art & Craft trail running from 31 Jan to 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb. We'd love to see you there!

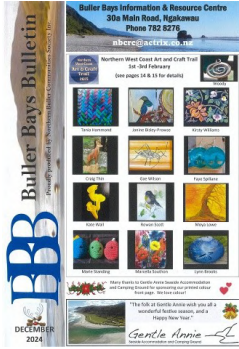




# THE NGAKAWAU COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Resources and Information for residents and visitors to our District)

## THE BBB (OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER)



The Buller Bays Bulletin – a free community newsletter produced 11 times a year and delivered to homes and businesses between Seddonville and Waimangaroa. 18 to 24 pages in length, the BBB contains a range of local information, articles, upcoming events/opportunities, historical pics and public notices. Advertising is predominantly from local businesses. The newsletter started being produced in 1990 and 35 years later is still going strong!

## PRINTING SERVICES



The Centre has a high quality Xerox photocopier capable of managing a variety of printing or scanning jobs in colour or black & white.

Printing on card is also available or you can supply your own. A4 or A3 sizes are standard, but we can also reduce or enlarge images/docs as needed for your purposes

## OTHER SERVICES



Services include computer access, Wi-Fi, laminating, envelopes, stamps, CV preparation, business cards, flyers, posters and typing services.

This is also a place to find information on community services, learning & other activities provided both by external agencies and the local community.

Hall bookings can be made for sport, events or meetings.

## YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS for the MARCH

Edition of the Buller Bays Bulletin must be received by the Ngakawau Community Centre by

**Midday Friday 20th February 2026**

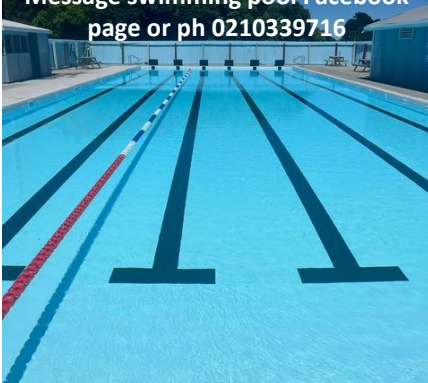
Email: [nbcrc@actrix.co.nz](mailto:nbcrc@actrix.co.nz)  
Ph 03 7828276

## Thank You!


**Bev Fastier for taking on the BBB deliveries in Hector, Ngakawau and Granity.**

**The Ngakawau Pool is open for swimmers! (Keys \$100 (includes \$30 key bond))**

**Message swimming pool Facebook page or ph 0210339716**



**6 River Road, Hector**



**Valentines Day**

**Saturday, 14 Feb 2026**

**PICKLEBALL MIGHT BE BACK!**

Free pickleball sessions finished late last year. This fun sport was thoroughly enjoyed by those who came along to the sessions provided. We're keen to support Pickleball at the Ngakawau Community Centre over winter 2026 and have sought funding for hall hire and some new equipment to do it. Other indoor exercise classes are also planned.



We hope to know the result soon and to commence Pickleball again in April. Watch this space and we'll let you know the result.




**Sit & Be Fit**

Low impact workout and muscle strengthening  
Gentle Seated Exercise Experience  
Music & Laughter to exercise heart and mind

**Ngakawau Community Centre**  
With tutor Lynne

**MONDAYS**  
Excl. Buller Anniversary  
**11.00am til Midday**  
Free Entry!  
Ends Feb 23rd



**Tai Chi for Health & Balance**

Low impact, relaxing alongside a brain workout.  
Seated form too if folk have mobility issues.  
First and foremost - fun!

**Ngakawau Community Centre**  
With tutor Sylvia

**WEDNESDAYS 10.00am** (for a special half hour focussed on balance)  
**Full Class 10:30am til 11:30am**  
Free Entry!  
Ends Feb 15th

