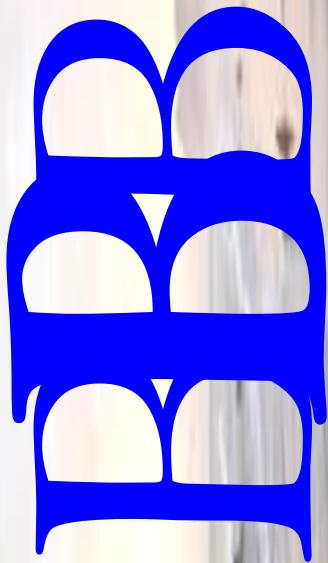


# Buller Bays Bulletin

Proudly produced by Northern Buller Communities Society Inc.



MARCH  
2025



**Buller Bays Information & Resource Centre**  
**30a Main Road, Ngakawau**  
**Phone 782 8276**

[nbcrc@actrix.co.nz](mailto:nbcrc@actrix.co.nz)



## NORTHERN WEST COAST ARTS AND CRAFTS TRAIL DRAWS IN THE CROWDS

*(Contributed)*

What an excellent long weekend held in our district with the Northern West Coast Arts and Crafts Trail. With a mixture of arts and crafts available, visitors had nothing but praise and admiration for the event and its organisation.

Coming from all parts of the West Coast and as far away as Nelson and Christchurch, we averaged 120 for most halls and an outstanding 215 at the Ngakawau Hall. Individual studios also recorded wonderful numbers including 158 at the Conns Creek pottery and 93 at the Standings in Curtis St. Many studio owners said most of the time, they didn't have time to sit :)



The wearable arts at the Lyric Theatre were both dramatic and successful. Visitors from far and wide were also intrigued with the history aspect of the trail, especially the Denniston and Millerton Halls. The whitebait sandwiches were a big hit at Waimangaroa, and JK's shop was very busy with ice creams. Mokihiui was bustling with not only the Trail, but also the fishing competition and the painting of fish for the camp grounds. The Folk at Gentle Annie also reported their numbers increased due to being at the end of the trail where a well deserved coffee and cake was in order. Our visitor numbers are still coming in, but we now have a target to better next time. The organising group will now sit back, reflect and then gather momentum for the next trail. A big thank you goes out to the Creative Communities Scheme for funding, the supporters, the Halls, the artists, the visitors that attended and the wonderful volunteers that helped with every aspect of the Trail. A meeting will be held soon to get the momentum up and running. Everybody is welcome to attend, even if you are not arty or crafty!!





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**www.nth-buller.co.nz**

**ADVERTISING RATES  
BULLER BAYS BULLETIN**

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Whole page     | \$58 |
| Half page      | \$44 |
| Quarter Page   | \$22 |
| 13.5cm x 13cm  | \$25 |
| 10.5cm x 7.5cm | \$14 |
| 7.5cm x 5cm    | \$8  |

**TOTAL TREE  
SOLUTIONS**

**Sam Algie**

027 354 5753

samlg@myyahoo.com



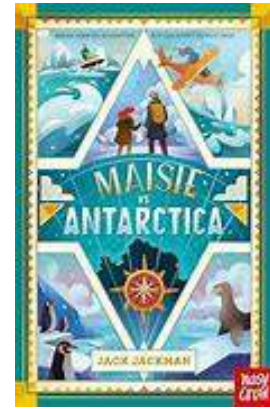
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**IT'S HERE!**

The world's fastest growing sport has arrived in Ngakawau. Pickleball was invented in 1965 on Bainbridge Island, near Washington in America. Three dads whose kids were bored with their usual summertime activities are credited with creating the game after they went looking for badminton gear and could only find ping-pong bats and a wiffle ball. Pickleball has since evolved from that original equipment and simple rules, into a popular sport played all around the world. A court game similar to badminton, Pickleball is played either out of doors or indoors, and it can be played by most ages and abilities. Play is with two (singles) or four (doubles) players.

Unlike other sports, pickleball is a weird name. There isn't a ball-shaped pickle being used and most of the time, the ball isn't even green.

There are several versions of how the sport's name was created, but one that has stood the test of time is that it was named after what are known as “pickle” boats. The last boat to finish the race is called the ‘pickle boat.’ The origin of the name comes from English yachting, where the last boat was called the ‘fisher.’ The boats used to stop to fish for herring and then pickle them, thus “pickle boats”. These boats would often be the least competitive boat in the race, with a crew that was thrown together at random. It makes for a fitting name since the game of pickleball was born out of using leftover equipment from other sports.

Anyone asked about this game says it's so easy to play and fun to do for all ages. Why not give it a try at the Ngakawau Hall thanks to Sport Tasman.



# The Scullery

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**JK's Corner Store**  
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**Granity Library**  
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Wed 2.30 - 3.30pm.

**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  
7.00 - 4pm  
Saturday & Sunday  
9.00 - 3pm

**Cowshed Café**  
(Gentle Annie)  
Open 7 days 9am - 5pm

**Seddonville Hotel**  
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Daily 2pm til late

**Ngakawau Pool**  
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# Travel Tales

## (by Lynne Maguire)

Dear Reader

I spent over one year diligently learning Spanish on Duolingo for my trip away. I had two weeks with my family and I wanted to have a basic ability to read signage and have a simple chat with the people I met. Of our two grandchildren, the youngest, Master 2, (soon to be 3), understood English, but rarely spoke it. The elder, Master 4 was a confident duo linguist; English and not Spanish, but Catalan. I'm not going to cover the separatist relationship between the Catalan province of Spain and the rest of the country, but needless to say, it is a very real thing. Everywhere I visited, from small villages to larger towns, the pride of being a Catalan citizen was evident. Catalan flags were displayed from many windows and Spanish was not spoken in shops, supermarkets, schools, or cafés. (Even though Spanish is the official language and a compulsory school curriculum subject from around 10 years of age.) My grandchildren did not speak or learn Spanish in their 'school' and did not speak it at home. Our son, who is almost fluent in Catalan does not speak or understand Spanish. So much for that brilliant idea of mine, it was completely and utterly redundant!

Our family live in a small village of 200 registered inhabitants. Of those 200, many are casual residents; only around 80 people live there permanently. The village is about an hours drive North-West of Barcelona, set off the main road on a hilly outcrop. The streets have been recently re-sealed to take away the uneven cobblestones and give smooth coverage – great for kids on bikes and wheelie things! The buildings are mostly two or three stories, side by side with thick earthen walls and doors that open right on to the calle, or street. The church has had worshippers since the 1020 somethings. The history is very evident every step that you take and every breath of air that you breathe.

Oh, the air! In the area of The Village and almost everywhere I travelled in the Catalan region there are farms, but no animals to be seen. All the stock; cattle, pigs, goats, sheep, chickens, and horses are kept inside in purposefully built barns. The paddocks had very dry stubble, when I was there, due to the harvesting of grains and canola. For a rural kiwi this was an odd phenomenon and I found myself constantly looking for livestock when we were out and about. I did see some horses and a few young cattle, but that was all.

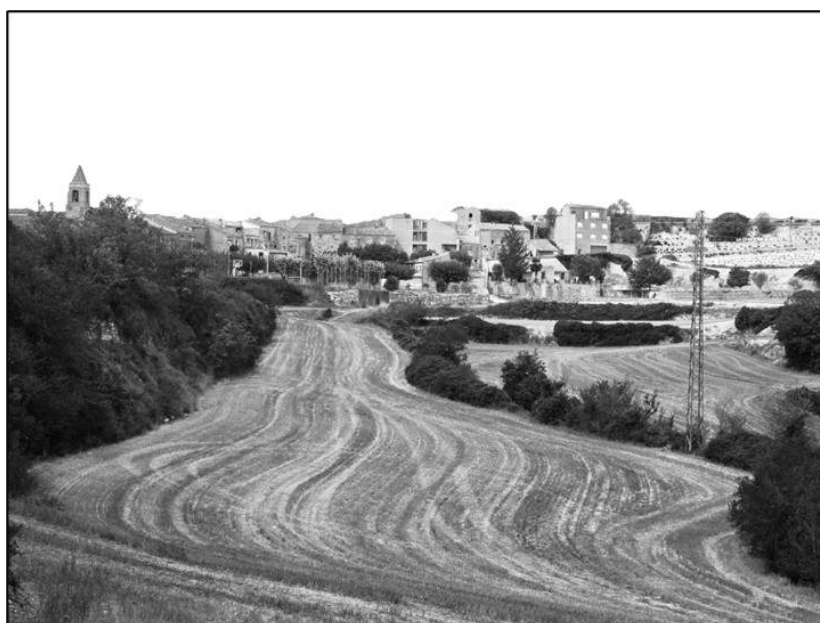
Two paddocks down from the hill that The Village was set on was a pig farm. As soon as I arrived the odour of pigs was in my nostrils! It stayed my entire visit, sometimes a lot stronger than others. The hot, dry, sticky days with very little breeze were the worst! At times it was very intense but the locals didn't seem to be bothered. It was never mentioned, not even by the children, I guess they were accustomed to it.

The day that my sister and I arrived it rained. There had not been any rain for a very long time and the land was parched. The calle, or street, very quickly filled with water and had a small rivulet running down its centre. People opened their front doors and stood in the shelter of the buildings and enjoyed the water as it poured off rooves and down the street. Master 2 was super excited! He very quickly shed all his clothes and proceeded to jump in puddles and play with abandonment. The fact that this wonderful event, (the rain), was credited to us, the foreigners from the Southern Hemisphere, gave us a wonderful entry into The Village, its people, and its life.

*To be continued next month ...*

Yours Sincerely,

A Sexagenarian on her First European OE



*'The Village' in the Catalan Province of Spain*

## TOREA GALLERY NEWS

We have 2 new locally written children's books at the Gallery written by Jeanette Goode definitely worth a read, west coast and penguin themed. Our middle studio in the back is currently occupied by Jess and she's into massage so if your muscles need some TLC get in touch and receive your bliss, we all need to take time out for some self care. 0211679507

We have plans for the other unoccupied studio along the lines of up cycling - so watch this space. We will have a rabbit warren yet!

Also we received our certificate of incorporation late last year after the second constitution review in less than 5 years. A bit of a mission but it's done now and we are all up to the new standards etc. Pile progress continues as we are still working on raising funds for the project. Any donations welcomed.



### Artists profile

I joined the Gallery quite some years ago now when I started making soap and realised I enjoyed the process so much that to continue creating I would have to find other homes for the majority of my soaps. So it was with trepidation I presented my product to the Gallery crew for approval. It's good to remember how craftspeople may feel when others are passing judgement on their craft products.

Haven't looked back really, once I joined I started to diversify. Now I also create healing balms, natural sprays, harakeke baskets, felt and knit felt bags, crocheted hats, painted rocks and the odd felted tea cosy and the like. I am essentially a wool crafter tbh but like to play and create in a variety of mediums. I have even been known to do mosaics (covid lockdown time). My favourite wool craft is dyeing and I enjoy crochet way more than knitting unless of course the colour grabs me.

Creativity feeds my soul and is my "go to" when life spits the dummy at me. Everybody was born to create, don't let the world make you believe otherwise. Let's go!!

Cheers Mandy Coleman

## Buller District Council's Westport office closed 3 - 28 March 2025

**Buller District Council's Westport offices in Brougham Street will close temporarily between Monday 3 and Friday 28 March 2025 for installation of a heating, ventilation and cooling system (HVAC).**

Council's customer services staff will relocate to the Sue Thomson Casey Memorial Library at 87-89 Palmerston Street and will be able to assist members of the public with general enquiries and payments during the library's opening hours, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm weekdays.

Residents can also use council's online payment option to pay for a range of services including rates, building consent fees, resource consent fees, dog registration and LIMs.

Members of the public who have scheduled appointments with the building and planning teams will still be able to meet with staff, the meeting location will be advised prior to your appointment. Drop-in consultations will not be available without prior arrangement.

For more info, please call 0800 807 239 or email [info@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:info@bdc.govt.nz)

 [bullerdc.govt.nz](http://bullerdc.govt.nz)

## Price Rises from April

The Ngakawau Community Resource Centre is increasing its advertising rates and some of its centre service charges from April 1st 2025.

As part of a non-profit organisation, the centre has always tried to keep its service and advertising rates similar to that of other public service entities like libraries. The last time prices were reviewed was in 2021. Costs have risen a lot since then.

From April 1st price changes as below will be applied:

### Advertising:

Full Page \$60, Half Page \$45, Quarter Page \$25

Other sizes

7.5cm x 10.5cm \$15

13.5cm x 13cm \$30

7.5 x 5cm \$10.00

### Other Services:

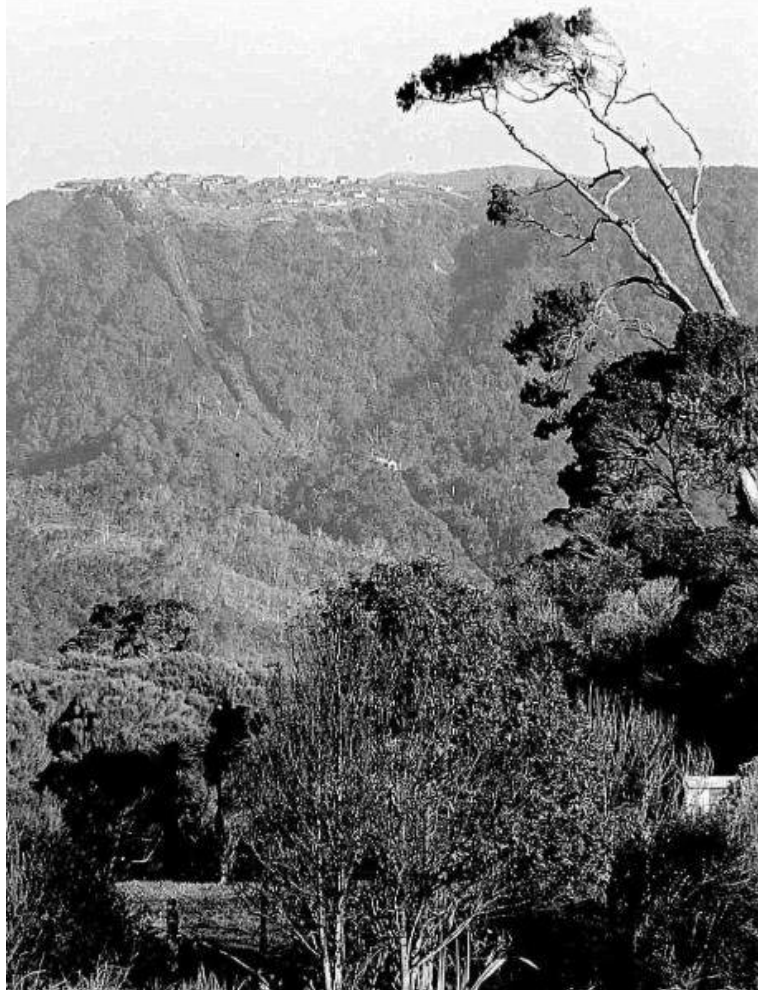
Laminating A4 per sheet \$2.00, A3 per sheet \$4.00

Typing per page \$8.00

Business Cards (Preparation and 50 cards) \$25.00. Extra cards per page \$1.60, trimming service per page \$1.00

Other services by request. Thanks for your understanding and for your support of the BBB and the Resource Centre.

## BLAST FROM THE PAST



The Denniston Incline with the settlement of Denniston at the top.ca.1900s-1930s.

It was named after R. B. Denniston, manager of the first major mine to open in the 1870s and later a director of the Westport Coal Company.

Source <https://westcoast.recollect.co.nz>

## CAN-B News

Celebrating:

Waimangaroa Domain Reserve re-opening 16th Feb 2025:

Hot sunny day, ribbon cutting & speeches at 1.30pm, Bev Morrow & Jamie Cleine welcomed an eager crowd into the building.

The day was filled with live music, children's paddock games, small bore rifle, local fire station display, stalls & muscle cars. Fresh Devonshire teas, hot chips & sausage sizzle went down nicely, cooked in the new kitchen.

What a fantastic facility for our community to have use of again & a lovely, mowed field for everyone to enjoy, amazing feat of volunteer power.

Thoughts:

And speaking of mowing, the railway reserve areas in Granity that the Northern Buller Communities Society have done a wonderful job of maintaining for years....is there any community interest in keeping the present well-cared for appearance? When NBCS ceases to exist, how will this change the look of our area? Granity right now looks like a destination with so much to see, such as the Museum, the Craft shop, the second-hand shop, The Lyric Theatre, Ross's studio, the Resource Centre, Coalface Cafe, and JK's (our local store at the Ngakawau bridge).

Is it likely that a village that looks unkempt will discourage visitors from stopping? And will we still be as proud of our township?

CAN-B supports community led development and plans.... we encourage initiatives that contribute to our general well-being and special character. Action, anyone?

Track:

CAN-B will meet with DOC staff in the first week of March to explore in what way we can move forward with the Watson's Mill Track. We are still asked NOT to go exploring. Permissions from the Ecological Area Authority depend on us respecting this...

DOC also ask for one contact only for all enquires on Watsons.

For now, please use CAN-B

representative:

[jo.giggleswick@gmail.com](mailto:jo.giggleswick@gmail.com) until we form a committed working group.



**CELEBRATE CHILDREN'S DAY**  
**SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025**

**NGAKAWAU**  
Ngakawau Pool  
Free entry, sausage sizzle and lolly scramble.  
1.00pm - 3.00pm  
Sunday 2 March  
Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

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Contact Homebuilders for more details  
03 788 8065 or [office@homebuilderswpt.co.nz](mailto:office@homebuilderswpt.co.nz)  
Cancelled if wet - advised on Facebook and Coast FM

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 DENISON HICKSOL MILLERS NGAKAWAU GRANTY  
 SULLIVAN WAINANGROA STOKES WAKATU  
 NGAKAWAU WESTPORT SOUTH ISLAND NEW ZEALAND  
 printed in New Zealand 1992

This historical record of the first six years of the Buller Mining Districts Community Centres Society has been carefully reproduced by the Resource Centre. It is now available for purchase at a cost of \$3.50. Proceeds to the Ngakawau Community Centre




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 tara.p@sporttasman.org.nz



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**BULLER DISTRICT LIBRARIES**  
 Te Kete Wānanga o Kawatiri

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Visit the library website at **[bullerlibraries.nz](http://bullerlibraries.nz)**

For any inquiries please contact the Westport Library during business hours on 03 788 8030 or email **[library@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:library@bdc.govt.nz)**

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

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Mon-Fri: 8am - 4.30pm  
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 In an Emergency Dial 111

**AA**

Meets 7.30pm Every Tuesday  
 St Canice's Church Hall, Westport  
 Contact: Gary  
 027 7516 555

**BULLER CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**

For friendly help & information about anything from consumer problems to telephone numbers.

Contact CAB on 0800 367 222 or 789 8388.

Visit us at the Clock Tower, Westport.  
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**Granity Library**  
 Sunday 10.00 - 11.00am  
 Wednesday 2.30 - 3.30pm

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# WHAT'S ON AT THE LYRIC THEATRE THIS MONTH?

## Sun 8th March - Arts on Tour NZ Presents HETI & HOPE

Heti has created lyrics and tunes most of her life. Adie and Heti have been together for over thirty years both as partners in life and making music and it shows in their performance. The connection is palpable. Musically Adie skilfully weaves in and out of the lyrics and keyboard either on lead or rhythm guitar or violin,

whilst Heti's soulful melodies ring out with lingering words to reflect upon.

Heti loved listening to female artist growing up, Carol King, Patti Smith, Nina Simone, Billy Eilish amongst many. She also enjoyed David Bowie, Pink Floyd and Van Morrison. Her unique songs are from a personal view looking at herself and humanity, body, soul and spirit and the World we live in. She loves engaging with an audience, creating connection and a memorable evening for everyone.

**Presale tickets \$20 from NBS Theatre Westport box office, [thelyric.nz/tickets](http://thelyric.nz/tickets) or \$25 on the door, Under 16's \$10. Doors open 6:30pm, concert starts 7:30pm.**



## Fri 28th March - QUIZ NIGHT

Calling all brainiacs, introverts, bibliophiles, science-buffs, quiet observers, history geeks and trivia nerds...

Your favourite Quiz-masters Martin & Nicki present a unique opportunity to recall that odd fact you learned all those years ago. Now's your chance to dazzle (or disappoint) your family and friends.

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



## Fri 4th April - DAVE FLYNN

Award-winning Irish-Kiwi guitarist/composer Dave Flynn returns to New Zealand with an exciting expansion of his acclaimed show Celtic Guitar Journey. Flynn will blend familiar Celtic sounds with fresh flavours from his global travels.

Praised by the New York Times for the power and grittiness of his music, Flynn's latest compositions reflect the landscapes and cultures he's encountered during his decade-long travels around New Zealand. These Irish-Kiwi pieces combine the beauty of Celtic music with the unique spirit of Aotearoa, offering a distinctive musical journey that blends his Irish heritage with his adopted second home.

**Presale tickets \$20 from NBS Theatre Westport box office, [thelyric.nz/tickets](http://thelyric.nz/tickets) or \$25 on the door, Doors open 7pm, concert starts 7:30pm.**



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### GRANITY OP SHOP NEWS

The Granity District Fundraising Centre Incorporated, would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the Northern Buller Communities Society for enabling us to proceed with the purchase of the Granity Op Shop. (Former Mines Survey Office) Without their intervention this building could have been lost to the community.



Hopefully our present members can keep on doing the good work that has been done by past volunteers in keeping this Charity Shop alive to benefit our community.

We have three new volunteers please make these people feel welcome. We would like to thank Mairee for her dedication over the last ten years, Mairee will still fill in when we need her, Thank you Mairee.

Recipe this month is - Apple Cinnamon Cake

150 g melted butter, 2 cups stewed apple, 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs, 2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1/2 cup sultanas, 1/2 cup walnuts.

Preheat oven to 160°C. Mix all ingredients together and spoon into a lined baking tin. Bake for 55-60 minutes until cooked. Cool on wire rack and serve warm dusted with icing sugar.



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

### "Public Toilets at the Hector Freedom Camping Site

A group has been set up to lobby for some permanent public toilets at the Hector Freedom Camping Site. The reason for this request is the large number of non-compliant campers who are using the shrubs and trees in and around the camping spot, for toileting purposes. This is a public health issue.

We have set up a Whatsapp group called "Hector Public Toilets Team" to keep everyone informed about how we are proceeding, as well as hearing useful suggestions.

If you would like to be added, please send your request with your name and mobile phone number to Bev at: [b.kc.ansell@gmail.com](mailto:b.kc.ansell@gmail.com), or if you would prefer correspondence via email - please let her know."



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## HALLS FOR HIRE

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### Millerton Community Hall

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

### Mokihinui Domain Hall

Recently renovated Available for hire. For more info contact Mandy: 021 292 2060

### 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

Recently refurbished For info contact Bev: (03) 789 9079 or 021 032 0311

### Waimangaroa Community Centre

Cnr Hall & Banbury St contact Les: 027 2729360 or Jackie: 027 2843998



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## GRANITY FIRE BRIGADE NEWS

Kia Ora from the Granity Volunteer Fire Brigade! We're looking very dry out there, despite the rainfall so please be very mindful of the fire risk. Fire can get out of control very quickly, especially during dry or windy conditions. Before lighting any outdoor fire, always check the fire danger level and any restrictions in your area:



- Visit [www.checkitsalright.nz](http://www.checkitsalright.nz) to see current fire conditions. (see below)
- Ensure you have a safe, clear area for any outdoor burn.
- Never leave a fire unattended and always fully extinguish it before leaving.

We've had a couple of large structure fires recently – one that took us all the way up to the Karamea area! We were thrilled to assist the excellent crews further up the coast. Back in our own patch, we attended a shed fire where we utilised multiple crews from around the area.

Please remember to check your smoke alarms! They're your best defense against house fires. They provide an early warning, giving you precious time to get to safety. We recommend:

- ◆ Installing smoke alarms in every bedroom, living area, and hallway.
- ◆ Testing your alarms monthly by pressing the test button.
- ◆ Replacing batteries at least once a year or opting for long-life alarms.
- ◆ Replacing alarms every ten years, as their effectiveness can degrade over time.



Til next time, Stay safe out there!

**Fire seasons and permits** - Fire and Emergency New Zealand is responsible for declaring fire seasons and issuing fire permits in all urban and rural locations in New Zealand. 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. Please **DON'T** call or message the local volunteer fire brigade about an intended burn-off. **Do this instead:**

Check at: [www.checkitsalright.nz](http://www.checkitsalright.nz)

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

In New Zealand, 99% of wildfires are started by people. Your actions make all the difference.



## Greetings from your local Constable,

Unfortunately, there has been another house fire to report. The fire has been determined suspicious. Although I am assisting, the fire is being actively investigated by detectives. I do not believe there is anything at this stage to suggest the recent fires are linked, other than proximity and timeframes. We are approaching it with an open mind, and nothing has been ruled in or out. If you have any information to provide, please approach me directly or you can report it anonymously via Crimestoppers quoting the file number 250207/7400.

I have received some feedback from numerous people regarding my comments concerning the cannabis growing season in the BBB prior to Christmas. I am under no illusion that public opinion toward cannabis has changed somewhat in recent years, due to the referendum etc. I am also aware that the proportion of enthusiasts in this area is perhaps higher than in some other parts of the country. It is important for everyone to be aware that it is illegal to possess, grow, deal, and consume cannabis, and anyone engaging in such behaviour is criminally liable for their actions. My personal thoughts or opinions are irrelevant in the matter, I do not get to choose what laws I do and don't enforce. If I receive reports of, or come across criminal behaviour, I am bound by oath to investigate it. In saying that, it is also important to know that the police response would be on a graduated scale, depending on the severity of the situation. Naturally, driving under the influence, large scale grows, and dealing are likely to result in a higher-level response. I'm more than happy to discuss this matter further with anyone who has concerns or information to report.

Our roads continue to be busy with summer traffic. Please be careful when travelling around the area and bear in mind that visitors may not be fully conversant with the local roads and/or road rules. In conjunction with the area road policing units, I'll be out there conducting speed enforcement as well as breath testing. Slow down and make other arrangements to get home if drinking and there will be no worries.

I'm having a little time off within the coming weeks. The area will be covered by other staff. Please continue to report by phoning 111 'if it's happening now' or 105 'if it's already happened'. Alternatively, reports can be made online or via the Police phone app. Those reports will go to the appropriate person to follow up and investigate. I will action anything else that can wait when I return.

Stay safe out there.

Constable Paul Cannell  
Sole Charge, Granity Police Station





## **We Welcome you to Visit JK's Corner Store**

Formerly known as Ngakawau Store, Jade and Kim are excited to serve you as JK's Corner Store. Located across from the Hector dolphin statue at the mouth of the scenic Ngakawau River, our store offers a delightful mix of local pies, coffee, tasty treats, and everyday essentials

### **What We can Offer**

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## COMMUNITY GROUP MEETINGS

### MASONIC LODGE

Meets monthly at the  
Phoenix Lodge  
Masonic Centre  
51 Russel St Westport  
TOREA No. 121:  
2nd Wednesday 7.30pm

Secretary: Richard Currie  
Ph: 027 284 8536  
lodgetorea121nzc@gmail.com

### GRANITY COUNTRY PENSIONERS

Monthly meeting and  
pot-luck tea 1st Saturday  
of every month 5pm

**GAMES NIGHT:** 7.30pm  
every second Wednesday  
New Members Welcome  
Phone 782 8197

### WAIMANGAROA WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Meet 1st Thursday  
evening of the month.  
Everyone welcome.  
Phone  
Carol: 027 281 5347  
Anne: 021 186 8707

### WAIMANGAROA RESERVE & HALL SUBCOMMITTEE

Monthly Meeting  
1st Sunday of every month  
5pm—Domain Hall

### BULLER BAYS PLAYGROUP

Thursdays 10am-12  
Far end of Granity School  
Contact is Helen  
020 413 58309



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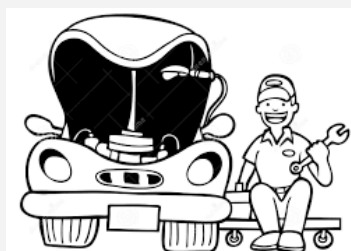


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Te Whatu Ora

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1c Main Road, Hector  
788 5062  
[www.wcdhb.health.nz](http://www.wcdhb.health.nz)



### Mine workers in Northern Buller were not afraid to threaten strike action when it came to preserving their access to medical care in the 1940's and 50's as these press articles from Papers Past show...

Otago Daily Times - 28 May 1949

#### MINERS CEASE WORK DOCTOR REQUIRED IN STOCKTON

#### URGENT REPRESENTATIONS

WESTPORT, May 27. The Stockton Miners' Union, at a special meeting to discuss the position of doctors in mining townships, passed the following resolution:—"That the Stockton Miners' Union ask the Minister of Health to raise the grading of the Buller District Hospital to enable the district to retain the services of Dr D. R. Ryder. The organisation is convinced that it is in the best interests of the district to retain the services of an efficient surgeon. The isolation of this district from a surgical point of view calls for the most up-to-date service available."

The Stockton miners have been idle for two days, as no doctor has yet been appointed to their area in place of Dr J. D. Simpson, who has been unable to act for some days owing to the effects of an accident. The men claim that the dangerous nature of their work entails the permanent presence of a doctor within call in case of accident, and they are determined not to resume work until one is available. Dr E. H. Peat, of Granity, has been doing much of the work over a wide area from Seddonville to Millerton, including Ngakawau and Stockton, in the absence of Dr Simpson, but an outbreak of measles amongst the children and a form of influenza has increased his duties so much that he cannot always be on call from the mines.

Grey Valley Argus - 04 July 1949

#### Doctor Question In Coal Area

On Thursday there was no doctor in the Granity-Milberton area, but the mines did not cease. Dr E. H. Peate has left the Granity-Milberton area for another centre. Buller Miners' Central Committee secretary (Mr I. L. Tyler) communicated with the Health Department at Wellington, also Hon. C. Skinner, to arrange for a replacement. The problem was solved from Westport when Dr J. D. Simpson, although not fully recovered from the effects of his recent accident, offered to fill the vacancy until tomorrow.

Hon Mr Skinner has advised that all possible is being done by the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mines to find suitable doctors for the Buller central mining district. The position is fully appreciated by all concerned after discussions with the secretary of the Buller Hospital Board (Mr Brown) at present in Wellington. It is understood that Dr Fave Root, who has been relieving at Ngakawau will return to Wellington this week and two replacements will then be necessary.

The Press - 04 Feb 1955

#### DOCTOR FOR MINE AREA NO LOCUM TENENS AVAILABLE STOPPAGE MAY CONTINUE UNTIL FEBRUARY 21

(From Our Own Reporter)

WESTPORT, February 3. Efforts by the Health Department to get a locum tenens for Dr. J. Anyon at Ngakawau and Stockton have not been successful. If coal miners of the Buller district continue in their determination not to resume work until one is appointed it may be February 21, the day when Dr. Anyon's annual holidays conclude, before coal is again produced in the area.

It was ascertained this morning by Mr G. A. Brown, secretary of the Buller Hospital Board, that it was impossible to get a doctor to serve at Ngakawau and Stockton. It is understood that the department considers that two doctors in the mining areas should be sufficient to provide relief at other places for three weeks. Miners think it unreasonable that one doctor serving Denniston should be on call to Stockton.

Because of their small pay after the long Christmas holiday break the miners do not appreciate the stoppage. Most bins are filled to capacity. Three colliers are expected to load at Westport early next week. If bar conditions allow large loads to be taken, thus nearly emptying the bins, the waterfront might also have an easy time until a doctor comes to Ngakawau and mine work is resumed.

### 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



## 20 Hearing 25 Awareness Month

Hearing Awareness Month is about hearing health & raising awareness for the experiences of the 880,000+ New Zealanders who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

Every year organisations around New Zealand come together in March to celebrate Hearing Awareness Month. Kicking off with World Hearing Day on the 3rd of March, there are plenty of ways you can get involved. Visit <https://www.nfdhh.org.nz/> for more info.



Approximately 1 in 10 girls and women in New Zealand will have endometriosis. In most cases, there can be symptoms including period pain, pelvic pain and sub-fertility or infertility.

March is international endometriosis awareness month, and a chance to grow understanding of endometriosis and highlight the impact it can have on those who live with this often debilitating condition. Visit <https://nzendo.org.nz/> for more info.



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## Request for Expressions of Interest

(Deadline Extended)

The Northern Buller Communities Society Inc (NBCS) is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) in the demolition, removal or Licence To Occupy\* the former sports pavilion located at 49A Domain Road, Granity.

The Pavilion is currently rented but will become vacant in April.

This building was constructed in approx. 1950 by the Buller Mining Districts Community Centres Society Incorporated (BMDCCS). It has been extensively altered over the years for various uses. This building has been managed by NBCS since 2012 following the dissolution of the former Granity Domain Board. It is currently sited improperly on road reserve (without a Licence To Occupy from the Buller District Council).

The EOI process including further information and an application form, can be obtained by emailing your interest to The Secretary at [nbcrc@actrix.co.nz](mailto:nbcrc@actrix.co.nz) (Closing 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025)

*\*Please note a Licence To Occupy the land is only open to non-profit organisations who wish to take over management of the building solely for a charitable community purpose.*

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Round 1 of 3 (FY 25/26)  
Closes 09/06/2025

Round 2 of 3 (FY 25/26)  
Closes 06/10/2025



Scan the QR code to  
learn more







**BULLER**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri



# New trees for Victoria Square

**Vote for your top three favourite tree species from these nine options:**

**We're conducting a survey to gather community feedback on the replacement of 11 unsafe or noxious trees at Victoria Square in Westport.**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <br>Kahikatea | <br>Kauri | <br>Matai  |
| <br>Pūriri    | <br>Rimu  | <br>Feijoa |
| <br>Mandarin  | <br>Pear  | <br>Plum   |

This is your chance to shape the future look and feel of this green space in Westport. Your feedback will be instrumental in selecting the best mix of species and locations for the new trees, making you part of this decision.

Whether you're a frequent user of Victoria Square, or just a sporadic visitor, we want to hear from you.

This survey will only take two minutes of your time, making it a quick and easy way to share your thoughts.

You can complete the survey either from your tablet, phone or computer or through a computer located at the Westport or Reefton Libraries.

**The survey will be live from Friday 14 February to 4:30 pm Monday 3 March 2025.**



### Want to know more?

We have published an interactive online map on 'Let's talk Buller', that includes information about each tree's location, the species, and why it has to be removed.



### Do it online

Scan this QR code and complete this survey online

This link will take you to: [letstalk.bullerdc.govt.nz](https://letstalk.bullerdc.govt.nz)



## **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)

Faye Spillane  
Ph 021 183 7728  
(Mokihinui)

Bart Gillman  
Ph 021 025 76634  
(Granity/Ngakawau)

Tania Hammond  
Ph 022 612 7353  
(Millerton)

Heather Hutchinson  
Ph 021 438 385  
(Waimangaroa)

## **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:**

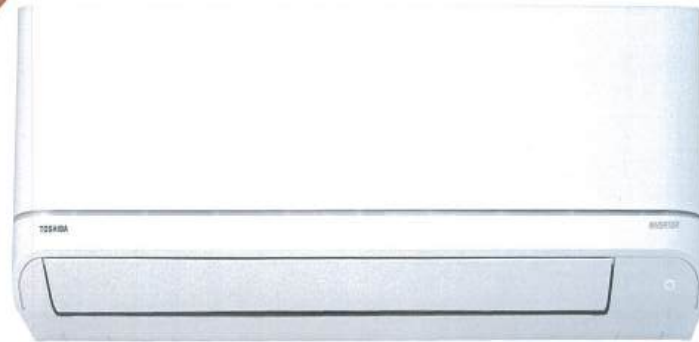
Dick Marsh - 782 8258  
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Toni O'Keefe  
Seddon Ward  
Councillor

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Ngakawau Resource & Information  
Centre, once a Month, to be  
available to the public  
Head on down for a chat:

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## NORTHERN BULLER COMMUNITIES SOCIETY PAGE

### WORK PROGRESSES ON WINDING UP

The Society's interim management committee has made progress in winding up and distributing the society's assets and surplus funds. For community information, current winding up activities are listed below. This will be updated via the BBB until all actions agreed by the membership have been completed.

- Lawyers have prepared conveyancing paperwork for the sale of the Op Shop to the Granity District Fundraising Centre Incorporated – a registered charity.
- The Expressions of Interest period has been extended for 49A Domain Road (the former Pavilion) - see page 16
- That KiwiRail Licence To Occupy railway land through Granity has been relinquished from 14 May 2025.
- Ownership of the two mowers & trailer is being transferred to the Buller Mining Districts Community Centres Society Incorporated (a registered charity) effective 15 May 2025.
- The Department of Conservation has been advised that administration of the Granity Recreation Reserve is to be relinquished effective 31 March 2025.
- That operation of the Ngakawau Community Centre including the Resource Centre activities will be transferred to the Buller Mining Districts Community Centres Society Inc. effective 01/04/2025.
- Funds remaining in the former Wax Lyrical Theatre Company have been donated to Buller High School 's Performing Arts Department.
- Funds tagged for the Hector's Dolphin Statue site will be transferred to Can-B to assist with ongoing maintenance of this site by volunteers.

Mowing of the KiwiRail Railway Reserves (though Granity) will cease from May 14th. The Community Action Northern Buller (CAN-B) Society Incorporated is encouraging people who want to contribute to the promotion and support of future beautification work to get in touch (see page 6).

CAN-B's community connector can be emailed at [connectorcanb@gmail.com](mailto:connectorcanb@gmail.com)

### YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

for the  
**APRIL**  
edition of the  
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must be in to the  
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by

12 noon  
**20th MAR 2025**

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### THE RESOURCE & INFORMATION CENTRE (Ngakawau Community Centre & Hall)

#### 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 & 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 Resource 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.



#### OTHER SERVICES



The Resource Centre offers computer access, Wi-Fi, laminating, envelopes, CV preparation, business cards, flyers, posters and typing services. It is also a place to find information on community services, learning and other activities provided both by external agencies and the local community. Our staff have a wide knowledge of the area and a great selection of activities and information for the travelling public.