

Locally Owned and Operated
JR's
KEVIN JORDAN
 Phone 838 8325
 Mobile (0274) 456 844

- Chimney Cleaners •
- Carpet Cleaners •
- Pest Eradicators •
- General Cleaners •

The Wairoa Star

W.O.F.
WAIROA WARRANT OF FITNESS CENTRE
 38 Freyberg Street, Wairoa
 Phone 838 6368
Hours: 8 am - 4.30 pm
 Tuesday, November 22, 2011

Price \$1

1st

Best All-Round Independent Community Newspaper 2009 and 2010
 - NZCNA Circulation under 7500

Presbytery sold for \$57,500 P 2
 Parade, Boulevard Day P 3
 Farming P 10
 Sport, sports awards Ps 13 - 16



Another fantastic finish

WAIROA had its best individual man's performance ever at the 2011 Lake to Lighthouse Challenge with local man Sam Manson, coming fifth in the open men's race.

The 20-year-old son of Peter and Vicky Manson had competed in only one previous multisport event, when he came fourth in the Coromandel Classic in August.

The weather gods threw everything at the fourth Lake to Lighthouse Challenge athletes at the weekend. An overdue sou'westerly squall on Saturday made life tough for the kayakers in the second section and boat marshals picked up five kayakers — four from the water.

Race director Chris Joblin said the marshal boats were stationed at one-kilometre intervals and the competitors were picked up very quickly.

Along with the morning's dramas there was hail at Onepoto and on Panekire Bluff in the afternoon. Local Tamsyn Morunga competing in all-women's group Tyre General got hypothermia. She still finished her section but was taken to hospital shortly after.

Richard Ussher had to pull out all his reserves to overcome fellow Nelson multisporter Trevor Voyce's day one lead on Sunday.

He had an anxious wait for his rival to finish but his title was safe for another year.

"I was disappointed with how I did on Saturday but it's all about how you bounce back," Ussher said. "After that amazing welcome at the finish on Saturday I wanted to show I deserved it," he said, referring to the powerful haka he was given in Tuai. Ussher clocked an



overall 12 hrs 50 min to Voyce's 12 hrs 55 min. Brad Williams was third in 14 hrs 26 minutes. Elina Ussher won the women's section in a performance that was every bit as dominant as her husband's was knife-edge. She

Drama with kayak pick-ups, hail and hypothermia.

finished in 14-hrs 36 min. It was an extremely difficult day for Voyce, runner-up for the second year. But he pushed his fellow Nelson athlete and Coast to Coast champion to the absolute limit.

The first local individual home was 20-year-old Sam Manson and

the Dough Boys — Rod Kirwan, Jeremy Harker and Johnny Yuile — were the first local men's team home.

The first women's team home comprised local women Linda Cook, Tamsyn Morunga, Lynda Gaukrodger from Gisborne and Charlotte Drury.

Twelve competitors came from Gisborne and a group of international students from Havelock North also took part.

To help publicise the event a television crew filmed the two days of sweat and tears, community involvement and unique cultural experience for broadcast on TV1's Skoda Game On, December 11, 4pm and (to be confirmed) Sky 1 7.30pm December 15.

Around 200 volunteers from Wairoa and Waikaremoana were involved behind the scenes with Dave Martin the assistant race director.

This year's event had several new one-day races including the Classic, which had competitors climbing 500m up the steep Ngamoko hill and descending 800m.

Sam Manson was the first local individual home with a time of 14:57:15. He only became focused on the L2L event in June and used the Coromandel Classic to help prepare for it. He said because L2L was a local event he had always wanted to do it. The aircraft mechanic is training to be an aircraft technician in the Royal New Zealand Airforce based at Whenuapai in Auckland. Manson said the classic was ideal preparation for learning about transitions and many of the competitors there were also at the L2L in the weekend.

More pictures on page 13

Following a bike section, the run was 15km and three local women's teams cleaned up the open two-person section.

A father and daughter team from Tuai Neal and Oriwa Taylor also enjoyed the classic competing in the open mixed section.

Mr Taylor said it was much more achievable.

School seeks answers on girl's fall; the time she was missing

AN afternoon walk in the bush turned into a traumatic experience for a Te Kura Kaupapa student last Wednesday.

The 11-year old girl slipped several metres down a bank on to a ledge and then fell to the bottom of the cliff where she lay on rocks with an injured leg.

The Lowe Walker Rescue helicopter flew the injured girl to Hastings Hospital where she is in a stable condition.

A group of 25 students from Te Kura Kaupapa Maori O Ngati Kahungunu O Te Wairoa were at Te Reinga Marae for their daily waiata wananga.

The students and four adults went for a short walk in the bush and along the river below the marae.

An earlier head count completed

halfway along the walk showed all students were present at 1pm, said Wairoa Police Sergeant Aubrey Ormond.

The walk began in sunny conditions, said acting principal Anahera Scott.

Ms Scott said it was during a sudden downpour with poor visibility that the accident occurred.

Ms Scott said the bus took the rest of the wet and shivering students back to the kura and a teacher and a support staff member remained behind with the support vehicle.

The girl's absence was discovered after a head count back at Te Reinga Marae at 2.15pm. The rescue services were alerted at 3.40pm.

Meanwhile, a group of locals at Te Reinga had started searching with two staff members and they scoured the

area for over two hours before the girl was found at 4.30pm.

Police search and rescue and the Lowe rescue helicopter went to the location, but the girl was found just before they arrived.

Sergeant Ormond said the girl was injured and cold but was talking when she was found.

He said it was fortunate she did not fall into the river.

"That would have been a totally different story and we'd probably still be looking for her."

Ministry of Education group manager Jeremy Wood said the school would be analysing the incident to discover the underlying causes.

Ministry of Education staff would be on hand to provide additional support if requested by the school.

for a superior lawn finish

LawnMaster

ESTATE 550
 B&S 550 Series engine
 No rust cast alloy chassis
 460mm cut

4 YEAR lawnMaster warranty

\$799

Enjoy 6 months interest free on all GEM Visa purchases over \$250
 Credit card fees and approval criteria applies

Chris Joblin Motors
 Queen Street - Phone 838 9005