

April 2022
Volume 26 Issue 4

Coromandel Town Chronicle

FREE
Community Magazine

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Autumn in Coromandel

Photo courtesy of Colville Bay Pre-school

Working bee PG 7



New home for dairy PG 10



New trailer PG 23



Haere mai. Welcome to the Coromandel Town Chronicle

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Cover picture: Colville Bay Pre-school enjoying the autumn sunshine. Photo by Esther Powell

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www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz/html/guidelines.html

The Coromandel Town Chronicle is open for everyone to contribute, however the editor reserves the right to select the articles and letters that are published and edit them for clarity and space.

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Emergency

Call 111. AED's in Coromandel Town: Fire Station, Ambulance Station, Four Square, Coro Family Health, Bowling Club/RSA, Te Korowai and Phoenix House. Although AED's are important, St John say performing continuous chest compressions/calling 111 takes priority.

Editor's comment

Haere mai to Australian visitors. We welcome you back to our slice of paradise.

This month we celebrate Easter. The Easter Group are getting together once again for their 35th Easter Exhibition, Two Railwaymen exhibition is on this month, and Jim Davis is going to be back on stage with some extra dates of "The Daylight Atheist" that was cut short two years ago.

The bowling club are busy, the fishing club are holding their "Take a Kid Fishing" – inner harbor tournament in April, it will be Poppy Day, and the ferry will be running for Easter and Anzac weekend.

So some elements of getting back to normal this April.

Debbie

Letters

Kia ora koutou,

I just want to convey a huge thanks to John Veysey for his great contribution in the March Chronicle. I would like to extend that thanks to Debbie, the editor, as well because she gets a lot of flak from both sides of the great divide.

I was appalled at the tactics used by the pro-poison campaigners at last month's CCCB meeting, where they literally hijacked the meeting to vent their frustrations out on the community board for reflecting what the community wants, that was by stating and reiterating their position with regard to residual toxic poisons including 1080 in the previous month's Chronicle.

My understanding of the Board's meeting rules and regulations is that you can only speak for five minutes on a topic, and that two people representing the same organisation cannot speak for five minutes each on the same topic. The pro-poisoners circumvented that by making "individual" staged performances, and yet all of them have been employed as contractors with MEG. They collectively managed for at least 35 minutes to villify the CCCB to once again assert their individual pro-poison positions whilst maintaining it was the community's wishes. They trotted out the same rhetoric pro-poisoners have been espousing for many years, without any results except inhumane and culturally abhorrent practices.

As far as I'm concerned, our defence (in Harataunga anyway) is the defence against poisoning our kāpata kai/ngā kete kai (our food cupboard/our food baskets), namely our whenua, for hunting and gathering kai and rongoa, our awa for water and our customary right to harvest kēwai, tuna, inanga, and our moana for gathering all of our kaimoana and to protect these taonga tuku iho from the effects of long-term, repeated and increased use of toxic residual poisons. This is my view and a typically indigenous/cultural lens view. You cannot poison the whenua back to health.

He whakatauki tēnei: Nāu te rauru, nāku te rauru, ka ora ai te iwi.

Nāku noa, nāku he iti nei, ki raro i te korowai kaitiakitanga.

Nā Sally Mihihara Steedman

Kuia, Ngāti Porou ki Harataunga

Humane, Sustainable and Ecologically Sound Wild Animal Control

Kia ora,

This is a letter to express our full support of all local board resolutions stating opposition to the use of 1080 poison and residual toxins in conservation and weed management work within the Coromandel region and wider New Zealand.

We support the Coromandel-Colville Community Board's (CCCB) long-standing resolutions regarding wild animal control that oppose the use of toxin 1080 and other residual poisons. Like the CCCB, we support hunting and trapping as sustainable, ecologically sound approaches and consider cyanide the only poison considered humane and of minimal residual harm.

We support the Upper Coromandel Landcare Association's (UCLA) policy opposing the use of 1080 poison and other toxic chemicals.

The fact is that toxic chemicals and poisons are not only cruel and inhumane, but incredibly destructive to all ecological systems and life within the food chain.

Chemical poisons are harmful to all wildlife, the insect kingdom, soil life, waterways and aquatic life – as well as humans. They also result in the chemical compaction and sterilisation of soils, thus preventing the natural process of carbon sequestration and water filtration.

We urge local boards to support and promote non-toxic wild animal control, and to resist pressure from lobby groups to reintroduce the use of toxic chemicals and poisons.

Please do contact us if you need further support or wish to speak with us on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Asha Andersen, Anne Felicity Taylor, Hana Blackmore – Trustees of Flora and Fauna of Aotearoa

Email letters and opinion pieces to the *Coromandel Town Chronicle* corochronicle@gmail.com. Contributions should be kept short, and should not exceed 350 words. The editor reserves the right to reject letters or edit them for clarity and space.

Coromandel Town Information Centre

By Sandra Wilson

Hello everyone. Well, we have moved into autumn and with it brings some respite from those hot, humid days. A bit chillier in the mornings but it gets you up and moving.

The Info Centre has been a little quieter with tourists this month, but no doubt this will change with the changes to overseas travel as Kiwis head home from Australia and then later this month when Australians can visit just in time for Easter, Anzac and school holidays. That should help support our local businesses over winter. We are working with our Digital Marketing provider to get campaigns up and running so they get an idea of what is on offer in our piece of paradise.

I must admit I am still blown away by the number of New Zealanders who have always holidayed on the east side of the Peninsula and are now finally venturing over to the west side. They are totally in awe of what is on offer here, appreciate the historical look of our town and the beautiful surroundings we call home.

Our free text messaging service is growing with new members each month. This keeps subscribers up to date with weather, roading issues, water issues, art exhibitions, events, etc. It's really good if you do not have internet access. So give us a ring or pop into the centre and we will sign you up.

We are now selling road sign magnets. Pop in and see our bespoke range. Only \$2.50 each.

Just thought I would share some of the questions we've been asked: Is there an AA meeting in town? How do I get my friend's mobility device to her in hospital? Do we know someone who paints boats? How can I get to Auckland? Where do I get my booster shot? Anyone in town have an industrial sewing machine? Who does lawn mowing?

As you can see, questions are quite varied, which keeps us on our toes. If you want your business advertised so we know what you do and can share it with our community, then contact us.

Natalie, who has worked at the Centre for nine-plus years, is hanging up her info badge. She has decided it is time to retire so she can spend more time in the garden, walking and enjoying life. I cannot tell you how much Natalie will be missed as we have worked so closely together over those years. She has always been able to make me stop and think about things in a different light and been my right-hand person.

I know Natalie has done an amazing job as the feedback from people whom she has spent time with – especially regarding walks, beaches, nature (which is her forte), where to go and what to see – has always been extremely positive. They often pop back in to say thank you. I even find myself picking her brain. You might not know but Natalie provided many of the wonderful photos for our website, especially the walks and beaches. Her attention to detail is second to none.

I shall miss working with you Natalie, as I am sure many of the team will – especially Malcolm, who worked with you on Fridays for so many years. We will see you around and no doubt you might pop into the Centre now and again. Thank you again Natalie, for being part of the Info Centre family. From us all, good health and happiness.

As you can imagine, we now have a gap in our team. If you think being a Customer Service Consultant is for you, check out the ad in this Chronicle on page 32. All of the details are there.

Open: Monday-Sunday 10am-3pm. Phone: 07 866 8598 or 027 521 5560.
Email: info@coromandeltown.nz. Website: www.coromandeltown.nz.
Follow us on Facebook: Coromandel Town Information Centre



Road sign magnets

POETRY SPOT

Easter

By Beryl van Donk

I will be remembered,
my hour short and sweet,
I carried the Saviour'
Palms strewn round my feet.

I grew as a tree
and then was cut down
To make a sad cross
in place of a crown.

I've been here forever
a cave dark and wide,
But I held the Saviour.
Yes! It was Jesus who died.

I ponder these happenings,
Was all this for us?
For poor wretched sinners
He was nailed to a cross.

Now let's sing with gladness
for today Jesus lives,
So we'll live forever,
All our sins He forgives.

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Rethink Rubbish Coromandel Town

April Champion

I happened to be at Weta Cafe the other day and Tahira Eynon stopped to say hello. Tahira had ordered a short coffee and had refused a takeaway cup even though she didn't plan to hang around.

At home, all of her household food waste goes into a Bokashi which, in around six weeks, breaks the food down into rich nutrients that feed the garden (see www.bokashi.co.nz).

Tahira is fond of saying, "recycle the recycling". This sees her seeking out items from places like the Goldmine to avoid being a thoughtless consumer.

Well done Tahira. We hope you'll enjoy your Rethink Rubbish reusable cup for takeaways in the future.

We are looking for Rethink Rubbish champions! If you know someone who deserves our award, send your nomination to rethink-rubbishct@gmail.com to go into the draw for one of our reusable cups. And remember, you can now put #5 plastics (but not lids) into your wheelie bin.



Haiku

By John Irvine

triple by-pass surgery
my secret's out –
I have a heart

POETRY
SPOT

Public feedback wanted on new public transport services

By Denis Tegg

In April Waikato Regional Council will seek public feedback on possible new public transport services in Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki districts.

The consultation document will outline possible new services which might include linking Thames with Coromandel, Tairua, Whangamata, Ngatea, Paeroa and Waihi, and a connection to Hamilton through Te Aroha. No decisions have been made.

Thames-Coromandel representative on the Waikato Regional Council, Cr Denis Tegg, was the instigator of the highly successful Thames "Connector" small bus service in the township. Since being elected in 2019 Cr Tegg has actively engaged with local communities and outlined numerous options to community boards and councils for possible new public transport services in

these communities.

"Communities in Thames-Coromandel, and Hauraki are crying out for better public transport, and the pressing need to reduce emissions means we can't afford to put off changes that can be fast-tracked," said Cr Tegg.

"This proposal going out for consultation doesn't just make transport funding more efficient and accessible to more people, including the aged and those with disabilities, it gives us the flexibility to deliver better services too."

Waikato Regional Council will also seek public feedback on a proposal to pick up responsibility for rating for public transport services in the Thames-Coromandel, Hauraki and Matamata-Piako districts.

Currently, Waikato Regional Council only rates Hamilton ratepayers for public transport services. In Thames Coromandel, Hauraki and other districts, the local council is responsible for rating and passing funds through to the regional council.

"This funding arrangement is very slow and cumbersome and makes it harder to provide equitable and regionally consistent service levels." Tegg said.

If given the go-ahead following consultation, the rating for existing and any new public transport services in Thames-Coromandel, Hauraki and Matamata-Piako districts would be collected by the regional council, rather than by district councils, starting from 1 January 2023.

This would be an interim step while the regional council investigates picking up the rating responsibility for all public transport services and infrastructure region-wide.

Watch out at the beginning of April for more details of the public transport consultation and how you can have your say.

Denis Tegg, Thames-Coromandel representative on the Waikato Regional Council 027 210 5344

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Coromandel Grey Power

By John Rabarts

We next meet for our Annual General Meeting on **Thursday 5 May**, St John Rooms, Tiki Road. We gather at 1pm. Members, friends and visitors are all welcome. Our AGM starts at 1.30pm. As happens every year all positions are up for election. These are president, vice president, minute secretary, membership secretary, treasurer, committee members (up to seven) and accounts reviewer. A motion is expected to be put to formalise positions for newsletter editor, and *Coromandel Town Chronicle* article writer (these roles currently filled, by default, by the president).

Grey Power membership is open to anyone over 50 years (not 65 as many think). Or any adult any age can join as an Associate Member to subscribe to discounted Grey Power Electricity and Broadband, Interislander Ferries, Challenge Fuel, Health and Accident Insurance and other advantages. The Grey Power Federation produces a large, glossy newspaper, posted to your home, four times a year, that contains articles and advertising of goods and services suitable to our older age group. Single members pay \$15, two members together \$28 per year.

Over-75 driver licence renewals date was 2 March. The Ministry of Health asked for

advice from Waka Kotahi NZTA as to the possibility of a temporary suspension for the requirement for driver licence holders over the age of 75 to provide medical certificates when renewing their licences during the predicted peak of Omicron. This is to reduce the burden on GP/Primary Care during this time. Waka Kotahi have replied accordingly:

“The issue of requiring a medical certificate to renew at 75 and beyond during the predicted Omicron peak of March 2022, has been addressed through a temporary extension of driver licences and endorsements until 31 May 2022. The extensions are in place to allow people to continue driving while Covid-19 protection framework restrictions limit them from easily renewing their licence or endorsement. The extension does not cover licence holders who need a medical certificate to obtain a new class of licence or endorsement or to those with Type 1 diabetes who require an annual medical clearance.”

Further information is available at: www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-services-update/documents-with-temporary-extensions. – Jo Millar, Chair, Grey Power, Health National Advisory Group.

Grey Power Federation AGM postponed: The board has resolved that the 2022 Annual General Meeting be postponed until **26 to 28 July**.

This is because under our duty of care to protect the well-being of older people, we need to prevent the spread of Covid amongst – our older people. The acting national secretary and the chair of the Federation AGM sub-committee will keep associations informed of the revised information for the July meeting. Please everyone, take care as best you can. – Jan Pentecost, President, Grey Power New Zealand Federation.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy is the president of Ukraine. During his inaugural address in 2019, Zelenskyy told lawmakers: “I do not want my picture in your offices: the president is not an icon, an idol or a portrait. Hang your kids’ photos instead, and look at them each time you are making a decision.” Advice a lot of people could do with reflecting on.

Grey Power Coromandel is a volunteer organisation lobbying government for benefits for seniors over 50. We have four members’ meetings a year. The next meeting is our AGM on **Thursday 5 May**. We have four or more newsletters emailed (or delivered if you have no internet). To join or renew membership (due in March) – contact Carol Carson – ph (07) 866 7172, or president John Rabarts on john.rabarts@gmail.com

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18/04/22 – 24/04/22	8:45am	-	-	-	6:40pm	8:45am	8:45am
25/04/22 – 01/05/22	8:45am	-	-	-	-	-	-

COROMANDEL > TO AUCKLAND - Hannaford's Ferry Terminal

SAILING DATES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
11/04/22 – 17/04/22	-	-	-	-	4:30pm	4:30pm	4:30pm
18/04/22 – 24/04/22	4:30pm	-	-	-	8:45pm*	4:30pm	4:30pm
25/04/22 – 01/05/22	4:30pm	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Direct service to Auckland, will not stop at Rotorua or Waiheke Island (Oraplu Wharf)

TRAVEL INFORMATION

- If friends or whanau are collecting you, we recommend that they pick you up directly at Hannaford's Wharf as capacity is limited on the shuttle bus into Coromandel Town. The shuttle bus meets the ferry and will transfer you to and from Coromandel Town (Samuel James Reserve carpark) and Hannaford's Wharf. There is no additional fare for this service.
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*Child: 5-15yrs inclusive

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Mahamudra Centre

By Beth Pearsall

His holiness the Dalai Lama says, “We can never obtain peace in the outer world until we make peace with ourselves.”



These words feel particularly potent in light of the war in Ukraine. How can we be at peace when we are at war with ourselves? Cultivating inner peace is a powerful practice that benefits all beings. When we see our own minds and know ourselves, we realise that anger and hate are simply emotions that arise from within us; they are not created by anything external. When we take responsibility for our experience, we no longer have to blame or inflict pain on others.

As we celebrate the changing of the season, the shorter days remind us to take time to look within. As the energy of the summer softens, we can be grateful for the long hot days, all of the things we have achieved and turn towards ourselves and offer refuge.

We have a wonderful programme of retreats coming up at Mahamudra this year. We are here to support you and you are welcome to visit us anytime to walk around the Stupa and visit our small shop.

Here’s what we have coming up soon:

- Easter weekend **15-18 April** – Geshe Thupten Wangchen offering teachings on the Heart Sutra and Manjushri. Manjushri is the Buddha personifying supreme wisdom.
- **22-25 April** – Finding Calm in Turbulent Times – Silent Meditation Retreat.

You can find our other upcoming retreats on our website www.mahamudra.org.nz. We are also opening up the centre for venue hire. If you are interested in this, please contact retreat@mahamudra.org.nz

St John Heartbeat

By Abby Morgan, Coromandel St John



Coromandel station urgently needs more Operational Volunteers. If you are 18 years or older, have held a full NZ driver license for at least 12 months, have a clean police and driver record and can commit to ongoing clinical and station training, we would love to hear from you. Working with a dedicated team, learning new skills and giving something back to the community can be incredibly rewarding. We understand that volunteers have other commitments and therefore can accommodate flexible volunteering options. If you are interested, contact the station by phone (07) 866 8279 or email abby.morgan@stjohn.org.nz.

Hall bookings: To book our hall for meetings or events please call the station on (07) 866 8279; leave a message if no one is available to answer and we will call you back or email us at coro.ac@stjohn.org.nz and we will add your booking to the calendar.

Ph: (07) 866 8279 leave a message and we will get back to you.
Email: coro.ac@stjohn.org.nz

Hon Scott Simpson MP For Coromandel



Coromandel’s Cost of Living Crisis

There’s no doubt that living on the Coromandel Peninsula is magnificent but the further north on the Peninsula, the greater the premium paid in terms of the cost of living. We’ve always paid more than urban dwellers for groceries, petrol and the like. The extra cost reflects the higher cost of transport to our part of the country. But in recent weeks that cost of living premium has skyrocketed to the point where some people are telling me they can’t afford the petrol to get them to and from work.

Yes, some of the price increases are due to international factors, but a very large part can be sheeted home to policy decisions made in Wellington. I’m of an age that remembers how painful out of control inflation is to individuals, families, businesses and communities. Right now we have inflation at a 30-year high, with economists predicting it will go higher yet.

So what to do? Well, for starters, better quality spending decisions from Wellington would help. Less taxpayer money going into costly pet projects like a slow train link to Auckland’s airport and more investment in provincial roads like ours would be good.

Governments of whatever political colour always need to remember that every dollar they spend comes either from taxpayers, is borrowed and will need repaying sooner or later or thirdly, and most recently, has been printed by what our Reserve Bank calls “quantitative easing”. Excessive spending, borrowing and or printing leads to inflation and inflation leads to prices going up and up.

It’s people on fixed incomes, those that are retired and families on middle and low incomes that are hurt most by inflation. They are the ones least able to pay for continued increases in what is now clearly a real cost of living crisis right here on the Coromandel Peninsula.

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National
Authorised by Scott Simpson, 614 Pollen St, Thames.

Lions Club

By Mary Farmer, President Coromandel Lions



Hi everyone. There was a slight mishap with last month's news but Debbie has assured me it will be here for your enjoyment – so the first part of this article is what was supposed to go in March issue, the second part is current news for April.

Hi everyone, Mary here stepping in for Kerry while he had some long awaited R+R.

News from the club: our annual BBQ was held at the St John rooms. This is the one dinner when we like to invite all of the wonderful people that give of their time. Alongside the members you make our fundraising projects the success they are. Thank you; you know who you are. Not all could make the evening so please take this as your thank you.

And on the subject of BBQ, who could go past the wonderful food? Members once more showed what great cooks you all are.

And I think Paul McKenzie will be called on again for the first class meat and fish he brought.

No cooking necessary, as we had to change venues only three hours before the event (thanks rain). Paul cooked everything; amazing.

We were able to say thank you to Gilbert James in person for at last he was able to visit our club after many attempts. He is a busy man, and we understand that.

Gilbert gives a great deal to the club. Without him our fritters would be without mussels and our kindling bags would be piles of wood with nowhere to go!

So the tummies and fireplaces of Coromandel thank you.



Our 92-year-old member Cyril Strongman, loading the truck with Rick Ward

On the subject of firewood, we are coming up to our busiest time sawing, splitting and delivering so please, please if any on can give us a couple of hours on a Saturday morning, we'd appreciate it. Tea, coffee and cake will be supplied.

Please contact Rick, Sue or myself for details.

News for April

This last month we as a club have started in earnest to get the firewood supplies up and running and we have started to deliver wood.

So all of you wonderful people who have ordered wood from The Lions club get your wood stores cleared as a blue truck will be bringing your wood soon. We will be delivering in order of the orders placed and will be contacting you as to when it's convenient both for you and us.

We had a great working bee today (12 March).

Lots of wood split, stacked and ready for the fires of Coromandel Town,

Talking of working bees, we are always looking for helpers willing to give 3 or 4 hours. Tea, coffee and some home cooking awaits those who come.

Today we had 16 members and friends, and ages ranging from 21 to, wait for it, 92 years of age. You are a gem Cyril Strongman. You worked nonstop filling the trucks.

So if you would like to join our working bees or have an interest in joining the Lions, give Mary, Sue or Jean a call on the numbers below.

Hope to see you around town. Stay safe and well, oh and warm!

Coromandel Lions Club: Mary Farmer (President) (07) 866 7321 or 027 699 0446, Rick Ward (Project Manager) (07) 866 8271 or 027 352 8664, Jean Smith (Secretary) (07) 866 6670 or 021 208 7576, Sue Hughes (Firewood orders) 07 211 9774 or 021 142 1124



Some of the working bee enjoying a well earned cuppa and cake's

Himalaya shop : Colville

Hi Everyone,

We are a bit uncertain about when we will be open in April month. We will probably only open at the weekends. We also hope to be open over the Easter long weekend, and then quite possibly closed for the winter after Easter. Late season hours are 10 a.m. to around 3p.m.

best to phone and check which days we are open! Anette
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POETRY
SPOT

A Quiet Man in His Cups

By John Irvine
29 May 2006 ©

He never made a fuss
about anything
a WW2 vet
who never talked about it
except now and then
after a few Red Bands
singing the raunchy war songs
in pidgin Italian
with my granddad
I remember all of them
in spite of the years
almost word for word

He was quiet
never raised his voice
came home from work
every night
mostly drunk
and ate his tea
helped me
with my homework
put me to bed
gave me my choice
of comics to read
never criticised
my inevitable
Phantom or Mandrake
decision

He had a small vegie garden
just the basics
carrots cabbages spuds
lots of spuds
and brewed his beer
in the shed
in a hogshead
knocking on the bottle caps
with a hammer
using a watchmaker's delicacy
cooked a scrumptious ham
every Christmas
in mum's copper

He covered my schoolbooks
with off-cut wallpaper
mixing a glue from
flour and water
carefully measuring
the corners
so they were all neat

He let me
bowl him out
in a Lodge cricket match
when I was ten
and gave me a very small
congratulatory beer afterwards
for which mum
sent him to eternal hell

He left
when I was about ten
and my family shut him out
because he chose
to follow his heart
and I was bewildered
by the silence
from everyone

He was there though
when I scored my only ton
in a college cricket match
awkwardly giving me an almost hug
afterwards
and ten shillings
which I gave to my mum
who took it
and never commented

Did my Rites of Passage
with him and his mates
in the Porirua Tavern
on the morning of
my 21st birthday
14th October 1961
I don't think I've ever
been as drunk since
but he got me home
in my own car
suffered considerable
familial abuse
and took the train home.

He's dead now
the old bugger
and I never really had
time to show him
my deep love.

John Irvine
29th May 2006 ©

In search of stories from New Zealand's "Silent Army" during World War II

The silent sacrifice of New Zealand women during World War II and their service in New Zealand and overseas is often overshadowed by that of our war heroes.

"So often we forget the women left behind in New Zealand, while our men and women went to serve overseas. They were the 'Silent Army' who kept the home fires burning, working in roles that were traditionally dominated by men. From manufacturing uniforms, equipment, weaponry, to working in factories, on farms, trams and the railways. They wrote letters and packed parcels for those serving overseas, baked fruitcakes and shortbread, to provide some of the comforts of home." – New Zealand President of the RSA, BJ Clark QSM JP

Historian and author Renée Hollis is searching New Zealand for untold stories from this Silent Army. After the success of her book *Voices of World War II: New Zealanders share their stories* (Exisle Publishing <https://exislepublishing.com/product/voices-of-world-war-ii-flexibound/>) she is now working on a social history project focusing on the experiences of New Zealand women during World War II, immersing herself in letters and diaries from women who helped keep the home fires burning or served overseas.

"I am looking for stories that have never been shared before that will give the reader a real insight into what women's lives were really like during World War II," she said.

Sources could include those who can recall childhood memories of wartime, mothers raising children while their husbands were fighting overseas, volunteers, land girls, women who worked in the factories as well as the Red Cross, the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAACs), the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAFs), the Women's Royal Naval Service (Wrens), etc.

She is also very interested to hear about the experiences of New Zealand women who served overseas as nurses, pilots, ambulance drivers or entertainers, etc.

Letters and diaries must be submitted by 19 June 2022.

Material can be emailed to Renée at newzealandsilentarmy@gmail.com.

Or letters, diaries and photographs can be posted to: Renée Hollis, PO Box 85, Nelson 7040. Please make sure that you include a return address.

Renée understands how precious these items are and will take great care of them. After she has read the material, she will return all items via courier.



Group of WAAC drivers sitting on top of a fuel tanker. Royal New Zealand Air Force Station, Hobsonville



Woman driving a tractor alongside an Avro Anson training plane, during World War II, Alexander Turnbull Library



BUILDING CENTRE
PH: 866 8848
"We'll see you right"

Household organic waste disposal

TCDC are consulting the community consultation to gauge whether people in our district would like organic waste included in Kerbside rubbish and recycling collections. Consultation period ends on **12 April**. Go to www.tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside for more information

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New Listing



Off grid OASIS! An absolute private hideaway of 11.299ha with stream boundary, paddocks for grazing a few animals and, stunning native bush. 3 brm home with great decking and rumpus room. Separate studio and implement shed. **\$PBN**



New Listing

"The Prize" – An exhilarating opportunity to reward yourself with arguably one of the finest cliff-top sections, comprising 5,879m², within magnificent Tuataewa. Phenomenal Pacific Ocean, Mercury Island and coastline views. Outstanding! **\$PBN**

New Listing



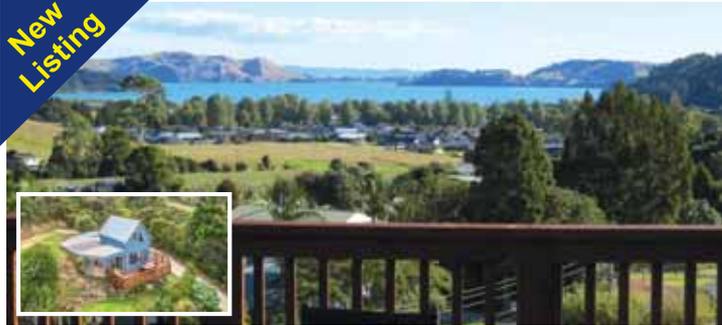
"Pacific Horizon" – Do you desire privacy & seclusion? A spectacular parcel of coastal real estate encompassing 1.34ha. Just imagine designing a home to capture the stunning Pacific Ocean views! Wonderful flora & fauna abounds. **\$PBN**



New Listing

When space counts! This superb 2,301m² property borders a wonderful stream and offers plenty of vehicle/boat parking. 3 brm home with 2 decks, double garage/workshop, plus a separate studio for an artist or teenagers retreat. **\$PBN**

New Listing



Look at those fantastic unobstructed views over town to the harbour beyond. Enjoy a beverage of choice on the deck while the BBQ is cooking the steak. The elevated 2,237m² property features a 'Kiwi' bach with 2 brms and a covered deck. **\$PBN**



New Listing

Two for the price of one! The flat corner section of 776m² is approx 650mtrs from town and features a large early '80's home with an attached studio room, plus a classic 2 brm colonial miner's cottage. Both are currently tenanted. **\$PBN**



A perfect hideaway. 3,741m² section with great privacy, bush and plenty of parking. The home offers 2 lounges, excellent decking, 3 brms & 2 bathrooms. Double bay storage shed. **\$PBN**

More listings urgently required by our great team. Please call 866 8900



Two Railwaymen

An exhibition of work by Barry Brickell and Kelvin Hynes

Two Railwaymen is an exhibition of paintings, drawings and photographs by two of Coromandel's longtime residents. The show will consist of works on paper and paintings on a railway theme by Barry Brickell together with a number of photographs by Kelvin Hynes. These photographs highlight the majestic steam train era, showcasing the engines, railway towns, and national rail network, taken by Kelvin during his long career as an Engine Driver on the New Zealand Railways.

Rod MacLeod worked with Barry on a number of shows at Driving Creek Gallery and he is very happy to be able to curate and present the work of two of Coromandel Town's local heroes. The exhibition will be on at Driving Creek Gallery from 10am-4pm daily over the Easter and Anzac weekend holidays.

Museum News

By Raewyn McKinney

As summer slowly comes to an end, we are pleased to see the weather is still settled, fine, sunny, and warm. After Easter the museum's opening hours will be reduced to weekends only, but that doesn't mean work will come to a stop. On the contrary, behind the scenes we will be busier than ever.

The museum committee has been working on a new project for some months now. Before describing the project, here is some background:

Firlawn House was built in 1871 for Mr Frederick Woollams, who arrived in Coromandel in 1870 and became the Postmaster. The house included a small building which was used as a dairy, for the processing of milk and cheese for the family. In later years, the house was occupied by the Turner family, who used the old dairy building as a summer house. In the late 1970's the dairy building was moved to the new Colonial Cottages Motel and used to house a spa pool.

The present owner of the motel no longer has a use for the dairy building. Obviously, the preferred option would be to return the dairy building to the Firlawn House property. However, following a fire in the early 1990's, Firlawn House has been in a very dilapidated condition, so the dairy building was offered to the museum committee. Both the house and the dairy building are listed with Heritage New Zealand, so the committee were very keen to ensure the preservation of this iconic piece of Coromandel's history. Work commenced to lay the groundwork to enable this move to take place. We are at the point where we have approval from Heritage New Zealand to relocate the building, and permission from Department of Conservation to place it on the historic museum reserve. Thames Coromandel District Council has approved the application for a Resource Consent, so we are nearly there. The plan is to reposition the jail building at the rear of the museum complex and place the dairy building alongside it. Once the buildings are in place, new paths and lighting will enhance the area and it will become a wonderful addition to the museum complex. The museum

holds many exhibits which will be placed in the dairy building to describe life in early Coromandel and the handling and processing of dairy products. These exhibits are of great interest to visitors to the museum and the dairy building is an ideal place to display them and describe their uses.

The members of the museum committee are excited about this plan and are sure these changes to the museum complex will make a visit to the museum even more enjoyable to our many visitors. However, there are still a few more steps to take before the project is completed. We need to find a builder who can undertake the work, and we need to find the money to pay for the work. Currently, we have applications for funding pending with two different organisations which, if successful, will go some way towards paying the costs involved. At this stage we do not have a firm quote, so are not sure exactly what the total cost of the project will be. Progress is being made, and we sincerely thank all those who have assisted us to get to this stage. We welcome suggestions and offers of help from any members of the community who would be able to assist us with completing this project, which will be of great benefit to the community and the museum.

The museum will be open daily from 1-4pm daily until Easter, and then during weekends



GIVE A LITTLE SUNDAYS



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\$1 from every pizza is donated to a local community service.

This month:
Coromandel Youth Group

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Library News

By Robynne Jones, Librarian

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the survey. So far, we have had some very positive feedback, most members agreeing that an increase in the membership fee to \$20 would be reasonable.

Writing competition

Don't forget we are now taking entries for the Writing Competition. You can pick up an entry form from the front counter at the library.

Anyone from the Coromandel Ward can enter, library members and non-members; contributions are welcome from all ages. We have different categories for different age groups and there is also a poetry section. Like last year you can submit your entry online by emailing us at corocommunitylibrary@gmail.com, or hand it to us over the counter. There will be a first and merit prize for each of the categories. This year the categories are:

For Juniors (3yrs to 8yrs) – The topic is “My favourite thing to do is...” – with a drawing if you wish. A story of 10 words or more with your own drawing based on the story.

For Tweeners (9yrs to 13yrs) – The topic is “My best Lockdown experience was...” A story of 50 words or more, max 500 words.

For Young Adults (14yrs to 18yrs) – The topic is “What I think Coromandel will be like in 2035”. A story of 50 words or more, max 500 words.

For Adults – Open Topic. A short story, of 500 words or more, maximum 1,000 words.

A Poem – one entry per person, as per each of the age groups above. Once again, the topic is – “A slice of Coromandel Life”.

The competition closes at 5pm on **Friday 29 April** and the winners will be announced at a celebration at the library on **Saturday 14 May**.

A good use for the online catalogue

If you are not able to come into the library to choose your books, don't forget that you can log in to the TCDC's libraries page at www.tcdc.govt.nz/Our-Services/Library/ and search the catalogue of books that our library and the other libraries in the Thames Coromandel District have on the shelves. On this website you can log in to your library account using your card number and PIN. Once logged in to your account you can review what books you currently have out, renew those books if you need to, search for more books to read, and put them on hold. When the books you have put on hold become available, we text or ring you to let you know and we can make arrangements for them to be picked up. Alternatively, if you know the book you would like, you can email corocommunitylibrary@gmail.com or call us on 021 116 9654 with your selection and we will txt or email you (whatever you prefer) to let you know when they are ready for collection. If you can't remember your PIN, please call us at the library and we can reset it for you.

Members of Coromandel Library also have access to the e-books and e-audio books in this catalogue that are available via the Wheelers e-Platform.

We would also like to say a big thank you to The Bizarre for their kind donation of some shelving that has helped us tidy up the children's' section of the library. There have recently been many new additions to the books in the children's library, in both the juniors and young adult sections, so if you have children, I recommend you come in and have a browse.

“The only thing you have to absolutely know is the location of the library.” – Albert Einstein

Writing
competition
closes Friday
29 April

Coromandel Patchwork and Quilters

By Sharon Currie

On 21 February we held our 35th AGM and now have a new president and treasurer. Fiona Neal has taken on the role of President and Pauline Marr is now treasurer. Thank you for taking on these roles. A big thank you goes to Raewyn Penrose who has been our president for the last four years and to Jill Wilson who has been treasurer. Jill has been on the committee for many years in various roles and we have benefited from her knowledge and expertise. One of the president's jobs is to set a challenge for the year and this year Fiona's challenge is to make a pincushion. Such a useful item to corral all of those pins that still seem to end up on the floor. It will be interesting to see what members come up with. The challenge is due to be handed in in June at our midwinter Christmas lunch. Usually we have a year to come up with an idea; I for one seem to do it at the last minute.

In April Tina is teaching how to make fabric boxes. Time to look in the fabric stash and use up some of that fabric.

Though our patchwork year has gotten off to a fairly quiet start, it has been lovely to catch up and socialise and see what members have been doing since November. Sharing something you are passionate about is very rewarding, especially in these unsettling times.

Feel free to pop in and see what we are stitching. You will find us at the St John rooms in Tiki Rd on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. President Fiona Neal 027 373 6991, Secretary Sharon Currie 027 299 6695



Quilt made by Pam Sowden

TREE WORK

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Mana Update

By Jade Ferriere

It is an inspired time to be in the garden, as the season of abundance begins to wane and we creep, ever so slowly, towards the darkening days of winter. There is potency in the cyclic nature of gardening, especially at this time of harvest followed by the journey of tending to the soil to restore nourishment. Such a tangible way to experience the dual current of receiving and giving that we are so innately interwoven with.

Harvesting the last of our avocados is bittersweet. It is one of our favourite crops and each year we are enjoying more and more fruit filling the trees. Do you have a cherished fruit at this time of the year? If so, do you, like us, tend to find yourself preparing it in the same old way every time?

It is so easy to get caught in a rhythm with things. After all, we are creatures of habit. It came as a surprise when Chef Toni suggested we do something a little different with our last, treasured basket of avocados. In fact, it almost felt a little risky. However, given her success in the Mana kitchen we were both trusting and grateful for the outcome.

This is Toni's recipe for Creamy Dairy-Free Avocado Ice Cream. We suggest you give it a go before you question it.

Creamy Dairy-Free Avocado Ice Cream

1 large avocado, 3 tbsp honey, 250 ml coconut milk (or cream), 1 tsp xanthan gum, pinch salt, 1 drop vanilla essence, 1 tsp cardamom. Blend all together, freeze, stir a few times while freezing, to ensure a smooth consistency. You can add different spices, essences and powders to this mix to create new flavours. Take out of the freezer to sit on the bench for 20 minutes before serving. Makes two servings.

As we celebrate the season of harvest and turn our energies towards cultivating more nutrient-dense soil for our winter veggies, we are pondering what aspects of our lives are caught in the lilt of habit. Perhaps you may join us in this contemplation; in what ways can I welcome a fresh perspective, experience or routine? What aspects of my life are ready to be composted as fuel for new dreams?

Hot Spot – Coromandel Volunteer Fire Brigade

By Rob Chappell

Calls this month: Car vs car Tiki Road, car off road down bank, assist ambulance x 2, coastal campfires, ship on fire at sea, can I light a fire?

Go to www.tcdc.co.nz website and check the fire season. By the time this goes to print the fire season will be reduced to a required fire permit. Online you can enter the address of your fire and sort an approved fire permit. Advise your local brigade of your permit if possible and follow all of the requirements of the permit.

Currently NZ is in the red Covid setting, which does mean some changes to our fire station operation; it does not mean changes to our callout. If you have an emergency, please dial 111 and we will respond ASAP. Covid only means we may respond wearing more protective gear to keep the fire personal as safe as we can, but it does not mean we don't respond.

Our role is to protect our community.

Animal Rescue Thames

By Alice and John Parris, and Kera



Firstly thank mews to those who have donated cat biscuits and wet foods for our rescue kitties, as well as the kind people who have gifted financial blessings – this is truly appreciated.

The dear, wee, sickly neonate kitten, in our care had issues on arrival and despite everything we did she failed to thrive and quietly passed away. It totally devastated us to lose her but we accept that she was more than likely born to a mum cat who has had a second litter and these ones are the hardest in rescue as they are immune compromised in more ways than one. It has honestly never been any easier for us in all of our years of rescue to accept the passing of the ones in care. It always hurts and they always take a part of us with them.

In April we go into our 22nd year of rescue. We have been through so much in these years – not just rescue kitties, the thousands that we have seen over the years, but also the the hundred of thousands of dollars spent on them over these years, some incredible feedback on homed furbabies, and of course that precious dollar that we have scrimped, battled to fundraise and been blessed by some truly awesome people. Without that support we sure wouldn't be here now. One Sunday, doing the shopping, the cats card spat at me, declined, I cut back severely but found out later that the \$85 bill was \$3 more than we had in the account. My own personal credit got that bill; only thing I could do at the time. Fundraising is pitifully slow, but we accept that any funds in are a blessing to the rescue kitties.

Dylan, our shy black and white boy, has taken a massive shine to one male human servant. This has progressed to the extent that Dylan lies in wait for human to arrive, attaches to the highest point of leg and hangs on just to get attention. Personally I find this hilarious, however husband is not amused as bare legs are no match for a determined cat. Lincoln is the other one, smoochy on his terms and swears as good as he can. They are settling well and we enjoy these two delightful boys.

Due to Covid restrictions and new rules for halls and how to host events, our Easter Garage Sale goes into the cancelled basket. More than a few feral words on that one, but we will just carry on with internet fundraising best we can. We hope like heck we can continue the mission of compassion we have provided for 22 years to our community and to the animals in crisis needing our care. We are just coping with caring for what we have currently. All costs of living have gone up and it's starting to bite really hard for us, and no doubt many other charities in our community.

Any financial blessings would be a massive help to us right now; donations of tinned cat food, sardines, salmon, pet milk all appreciated. Credit Thames Animal Rescue Team 06 0457 0095150 01 (reference where you want funds spent – vet/kai/etc.).

Meow furr now.

All enquiries to Animal Rescue Thames ph (07) 868 2907 (afternoons best time), 532 Thames Coast Road, RD5, Thames 3575

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and Events Volunteers page



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Chopper Chat

By Nigel Strongman, Trustee CRHT

I hope this finds you all well and Covid-free. February has been a very quiet month, with only seven missions to the Peninsula, and just two to our side of the hill.

9.2.22 Coromandel – Crew tasked to Coromandel to assist a male patient in his teens. He was flown to Waikato Hospital in a critical condition.

12.2.22 Colville – Crew tasked to Colville to assist a male patient in his 70's suffering a medical complaint. He was flown to Waikato Hospital in a serious condition.

In contrast, March so far has been busy. People must have been waiting for the chopper to return! The helicopter and crew are back at the Whitianga Base and the understanding is that they will be here for the months of March and April. This photo shows the crew training with picking up patients.

Our new fuel tank has been fabricated and is at present in the paint shop. Then it is off to the fitout shop for pump, meter, level gauge, vent, filler, reel and hose with nozzle, etc.,. The foundation is all but designed and should start in a week or so.

A very big thank you goes to the people who donated recently to the cause. The six-coin collection boxes around town yielded nearly \$1,100 over Xmas, with The Bizarre collecting \$514.40 – a great effort!

The new user-friendly website is getting closer; hopefully it will be fully operational by this time next month. This will make donating very much easier, but in the meantime you can donate through internet banking to the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust – 03-1578-0116338-001, with your name and “donation” as a reference; all donations gratefully received. Or phone me and I will collect. A receipt will be issued. Please remember donations are tax deductible and a tax donation certificate will be sent if required.

Have a safe and healthy month.

Nigel Strongman, Ph 022 670 1549



Taichi for health with Christina

The first thing we learn is Master Huang Xingxian and Yek Sing Ong's relaxing exercises to cultivate the awareness and relaxation of the muscles of the body. In our daily life, most people are under some form of stress or physical or emotional imbalance. Taichi is the way of becoming mindful of the stress or imbalance by sensing, discovering and removing the tension and stiffness, hence promoting the smooth flow of our energy and restoring the balance.

New students usually spend 3-6 months on those exercises before learning Zhang Manqing's short form.

Christina's weekly taichi classes in Coromandel Town are on Wednesdays at 4pm at Waikato Event Centre (above swimming pool) and in Colville on Mondays at 1pm or 2pm (mutually convenient time) at Colville Hall. The fee is \$20 for three consecutive sessions; \$10 for casual visit.

Free morning taichi practice outdoors is available (weather permitting) for class members in Coromandel Town at 8.30-9.30am every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Christina, with over 20 years' practice and ongoing learning from world renowned teacher Wee, Kee Jin and true passion dedicated to this healing art, combined with her background of Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture, aims to help people to improve their health and wellbeing.

If you are interested to join the class, please contact Christina on 021 113 4768 or email christinawu121@gmail.com

COROMANDEL

Showroom Customer Service

We are seeking a motivated team player to join our customer services team based in our showroom here in Coromandel Town.

This role is pivotal in helping us deliver exceptional customer service to our customers.

As the first point of contact for customers who come into our store, you will enjoy a huge variety in your role; from dealing with customers face to face in the showroom and occasionally over the phone. Your role is all about maintaining customer loyalty through providing great customer service.

With the potential to learn and progress, your main duties will be to:

- Ensure a high level of customer service is always provided
- Ensuring stock management procedures are followed
- Providing a timely service to customers
- Identifying products quickly and efficiently
- Unloading stock deliveries from couriers
- Preparing customer orders for deliveries or collection
- Processing sales documentation
- Maintaining store/showroom stock levels & product displays

This role will see you demonstrating the below skill set:

- Your initiative as well as your willingness to lend a hand and "get it done"
- A natural desire to build relationships with our customers
- An approachable and helpful attitude
- Knowledge of computer systems & basic operating skills
- Being physically fit for occasional heavy lifting

If you wish to join a fast growing, close-knit team, or to enquire about this position further, please contact Yasmin on 07 866 8848 or email CV and cover letter to yasmin@coroitm.co.nz

Monday Walkers

By Irene Dunn

We've had good weather to be out on the beaches and in the bush this past month with good numbers walking.

Of course, not all things go according to plan, and we were so concerned for one member of our group who slipped and fell on the track just 200 metres past the Trig above Coromandel Town, breaking her ankle. We knew we couldn't carry her down as the terrain was too rough, so we called 111. What an amazing, quick, and efficient service. The Westpac Rescue Helicopter was above us in 20 minutes, and our tramper airlifted up and on her way to Waikato Hospital. I have full admiration for their knowledge, kindness, and expertise in the way they helped our tramper to safety and took her to Waikato Hospital. What would we have done without them?

If you would like to join our happy walking group, contact the number below or be at Woollams Ave car park (north end) at 9am any Monday except public holidays.

Contact Irene 021 157 8408

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CILT

The Bizarre Community Grants Scheme



We have had a fantastic response to the 2022 Bizarre Community Grants Scheme, with a lot of really positive projects seeking funding. We are pleased to be able to support these grassroots community initiatives through proceeds from The Bizarre – Coromandel charity shop, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact of these projects. As this article goes to print we’re still going through the applications, so successful applicants will be announced in the next issue, or you can visit our website or Facebook page for updates. Thank you to those who submitted applications for funding, and thank you to everyone who shops at The Bizarre. Not only do you get quality clothes and other goods at great prices, you are also supporting our community.

The Coromandel Hub

Construction on the Coromandel Hub continues to move forward at a great pace. The roof is on, the cladding is going up and the first fit-out of the electrics is planned for early April. We’re on track for an August or September completion. We’re all getting very excited to move over to this new space, which will enable us to deliver more social and community services and bring positive change to more people across the northern Coromandel.

Seeking Volunteers

Have you ever thought about volunteering for one of our projects? We are always seeking volunteers to join the team, especially at The Goldmine – Coromandel Reuse Centre, and The Bizarre. You’d be joining a great team and we would love to have you on board!

If you are interested in knowing more, then please contact Ange: hr@cilt.org.nz, or call the Resource Centre on the number below.

Covid Responder

We have received funding to be used to support the wellbeing of individuals and whanau who are having to isolate due to Covid-19. If you are isolating due to Covid, you can contact us and we will work with you to support you and your whanau with essential needs through the isolation period. Contact Jean Ashby on 021 503 148.

Nga mihi whanau!

Stay safe and healthy, and if you require support then please do get in touch with us to discuss how we can help.

CILT – Coromandel Independent Living Trust, (07) 866 8358, cilt@cilt.org.nz



New pool and splash zone at Shelly Beach TOP 10

Shelly Beach TOP 10 have our new pool and splash zone open now for our guests to enjoy.

Coromandel Contract Bridge Club

By Judy Bronlund

The March competition was cancelled due to low numbers that were able to play. Hopefully the April competition will go ahead. Please contact Jan if you are able to play. New members are welcome to join us. We meet each Monday evening at the St John rooms.

Contacts Jan (07) 866 8341 or 027 4678 8390, Val (07) 866 8730

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THE CLUB

Coromandel Bowling Club

By Linda Lindsay, Communications

February saw the Bowling Club humming along with events and social activities, keeping our members very busy on and off the greens.

We have just completed yet another very successful Seafood Bowls Tournament. This was a huge undertaking by the Club, as we managed “bubbles” and groups of people, dining outside and scanning passes of everyone. Teams took part from Friday evening through to Sunday evening and were delighted recipients of many meals showcasing our plentiful, local kaimoana. All were impressed with not only the Bowling Club itself, but also the community spirit and involvement from local businesses, which allowed us to run such an event. Many have booked in their teams for next year’s event already. A combined team of B Fisher, M Pene, D Weatherley and T Lucas took out the major prize in Division 1 with only one loss over the weekend, while S O’Hara, Lee McDonald, R Marshall and W Tritt took out Division 2.



The Division 1 Winners of Seafood tournament – Brian Fisher, Mark Pene, David Weatherley and Tony Lucas



Twilight Bowls – winners of the 5pm session – Moana Pearls



Twilight Bowls – winners of the 6pm session – Four Square

Our Twilight Competition finished with some tight games, which saw new winners in both rounds.

The five o’clock round saw the Moana Pearls take away the Pepper Tree Restaurant and Bar vouchers.

The 6pm round was won by the Four Square women, with more vouchers from Pepper Tree gratefully received. They will be put to good use very soon!

That’s Twilight over till November. Time for the amazing volunteers from our Club to put their feet up for a while.

On 17 March the Club held our first Patron’s Cup Competition. In keeping with the St Patrick’s Day theme the appropriate colours were displayed and later that evening there was live music and St Patrick’s Day entertainment.

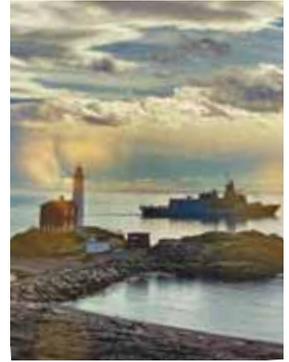
As always, we are incredibly grateful to our local businesses who are so generous with their weekly prizes and final prize givings. However, these events wouldn’t even get off the ground without the same group of Coromandel Bowling Club volunteers who give their time and effort to run them. They have worked amazingly hard in recent weeks.

RSA News

By Pat Williams

Today (11 March) as I pen this contribution it is much cooler, thank goodness.

Over the last months I have mentioned our NZ Naval ship Te Mana, which has been in Canada for months for a Frigate Systems Upgrade and berthed at a place called Esquimalt. Here is, thanks to Sandra at the Information Centre, what I think is a great picture of Te Mana.



Te Mana

Looking for something today I came across a postcard my Dad had sent to his family on 21 November 1918.

He wrote “Things much as usual. Parcel of butter (28/8/18) and tobacco (7/9/18) arrived today in good order. Many thanks. Expect to move up towards Mons or Valenciennes any day now. Have not started work (myself yet). Weather cold. Our Light Railway HQs were at this place one time. Love to all Bert.”

The picture on the front of the postcard is of railway tracks and buildings and the name of the place is Bambecue-LaGare. Look that up in your atlas! I had to do just that and my atlas is so heavy I am quite worn out. My Dad was wounded in France in September 1916 and was sent to a Forces Hospital in England, so this card was sent after he returned to his post. I think I would have gone AWOL!

Once again while looking for something, seems I do this a lot lately, I found this poem which I had cut out of a magazine when my husband had taken a job in Oman. I hated it.

The Poem in the Window

When comes the time which makes my happiness
When sounds the bell which tolls the hour
That moment when I see again the shores of my country
The bosom of my family, which I love, which I bless.

Hopefully Anzac Day will have gone off well weatherwise and Covidwise! Will report on how it went next month. Stick with those horrible masks while out and about. Stay well, be happy.

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Women's Section RSA

We are small by numbers, and things have been quite difficult over the past two years as we all know.

We are again organising the Poppy Day stalls. One site outside the Coromandel Four Square, and the other outside of the Coromandel Pharmacy.

Dates are **Friday 22 April** all day with a half day on the morning of **Saturday 23 April**. We appreciated being supported by these two businesses. We will also have donation boxes at the usual businesses from **Saturday 9 April** and we thank each business for their support. We have traditional poppies as well as the popular knitted poppies. Some of our members are to be thanked for the time spent knitting these.

Our area AGM will be held in Waihi on **Sunday 10 April**, where two of our members will be representing our group.

If you can lend a hand or a couple of hours for the two dates for selling of poppies please let me know, as we do need assistance. If you are interested in joining us, that would be really great.

Contact Loes Beaver, President Women's Section (07) 866 8053



Soup and Sitting at Grace's Place

By Grace

Recently I had a disagreement with my daughter over political views to do with the war. We sorted it by the next day – phew – but it seems ironic yet common for discord elsewhere to spill over into our families and even friendships. I told my daughter I was sorry, for the “blah, blah”, and for multiple difficulties this generation of young adults is facing at this time. All my wishing it were different doesn't help. I told her again how much I love her.

We are experiencing discordant streams of thinking, leading to views that become positions, beliefs. We can see the impact of this, where people are overlooked as individuals, and seen only for the position they take, with simplistic judgements blocking real curiosity or honest seeing. Fear and dismay drain our energy.

I am wondering how concordant energies will enable us to flow together again, for the good of all, and our earth-ship home. I (vaxxed) was speaking with a vax-free friend recently, and she said, “It all flows to the sea”. Yes, it all flows to the sea, and this lifespan is short. There is opportunity to choose to act well now, right now, in friendliness, non-reactivity, not wishing to justify or expound a position. Life as we know it is dancing and unfolding every moment and, however small our impact, we all rock the dance in some way or another.

Let us continue to share food and kindness, continue to share the silence of mindful awareness, listening deeply to the cries of so many all around us, supporting each other in the mystery that is both wonderful and terrifying.

Join us for soup at 6pm and sitting at 7pm, finish by 8.30pm. Wednesday nights **6, 13, 20, 27 April**.

My home is open to any and all, so please stay away if you are unwell or have been in contact with others who are unwell. I'm really happy for people to come at 6pm and slip away at 7pm or 8.30pm. Or come for the sitting at 7pm. Remember, this time is ours. We all connect. This is free for all. Your koha is appreciated if that seems good to you. If you are concerned, call me. Do call if you would like to chat about meditation or finding calm in an anxious time.

To contact me: email annasorensen@doctors.org.uk, mobile 021 135 7056



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- No anchors.** Tie-on to a longline buoy or use approved mooring hooks
- Minimise** your speed and wake
- Never drive across** the lines





Regional Council grants \$200,000 for New Chum Beach purchase

By Denis Tegg, Thames Coromandel representative, Waikato Regional Council

Waikato Regional Council has agreed to a grant of \$200,000 from its Natural Heritage Fund as a contribution to the purchase of a 30-hectare block of magnificent coastal beach and headland at New Chum Beach on the Coromandel Peninsula.

The council has also agreed to consider granting a further \$200,000 to the project in the next funding round in December 2022.

The New Zealand Coastal Trust has purchased the land to protect its incredible natural values and will place the covenant over the land to prevent any development. The Trust, mana whenua, and local groups were able to raise \$275,000 toward the purchase from public fundraising in just one month.

Thames-Coromandel representative on the Regional Council, Denis Tegg, says he is delighted that the council has agreed to this grant. "This land is one of the most loved and appreciated pieces of untouched natural coastal land not only locally but regionally and even nationwide and globally."

"Lonely Planet voted it one of the top 10 unspoiled beaches in the world. Holidaymakers from around the Waikato treasure this place."

"Now, the public will have unrestricted walking access to this amazing environment and have the security that the land will never be developed," said Mr Tegg. "I am proud that the Regional Council has made this substantial contribution, and helped secure this incredible landscape for the public to enjoy".

The land has outstanding natural character and part is a nationally significant natural area. It contains high botanical diversity and has populations of threatened Hochstetter's frog and North Island brown kiwi.

Coromandel Garden Circle

By Patricia Whimp



It was so good to see so many ladies at our Garden Circle this week. We had members that we haven't seen for a while, which was great and two guests from our local town. One member wasn't able to attend as she had the dreaded Covid and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Our meeting started at the Coromandel Combined Club before car pooling to two local gardens. Both gardens were a surprise to me – didn't realise how steep their back yards were! If Rada can create a vege garden on a slope with citrus trees, anyone can! And Sheana's garden was full of painted rocks and pots, lighthouses, and fairies. Pops of colour!

Back at the club, our meeting was very noisy with lots of ringing the bell during our forum discussions. We had a plant that was identified as a buttercup bush – aka a noxious weed! More discussions on the guava moth bug – sprinkle Eco-neem granules around the bottom of the tree before tree flowers. This will help fool the guava moth from finding the feijoa flower.

With the lack of rain, one would think that flowers would be in shortage – but no, we had the biggest collection of Flowers in a Teapot – from 66-year-old wedding gift teapots, teapots from mother-in-law and mothers, The Bizarre shop teapot painted black, everyday used teapots, and an old-fashion catering teapot. The competition was furious – three firsts, four seconds and one third!

Next meeting is on **Wednesday 13 April** at the Coromandel Combined Club at 1pm. Arrangement: Easter Surprise. The Special is: Biggest garden nightmare.

If you are interested in joining, becoming a member or being a speaker for us, please contact Jeni. Convenor – Jeni Mudgway 021 0227 5341, Secretary – Trish Whimp 027 498 5227

CILT – Coromandel Budget and Foodbank

Budget Advice

Our new phone number is now (07) 866 8358, which is the CILT Resource Centre. Same old mobile number 022 018 0849. When you txt we will get back to you ASAP.

Our hours are Tuesday 9.30am-2pm, Wednesday and Thursday 10am-2pm.

We are seeing a range of issues presenting. One that is standing out is for our over 60's age group and access and knowing how to fathom out the internet. So many needs, knowledge, banking and applications are now only accessible on the internet/computer which is leaving many out of resources needed. If you need assistance, come into Tiki House. There are people here who can help. Also, we have access to computers. The Budgeting Service can assist also and help clarify seniors are getting everything they are entitled to.

"The secret to budgeting is that it needs to be honest."

Foodbank

We appreciate the bags people have dropped off for the Foodbank, Thank you very much. The need is constant; we always need them. Another thank you goes out to the community who drop off food parcels to be distributed, and the Hauraki Maori Trust who provide extra food for the Covid response.

For those who would like to donate to the Foodbank, our account number is 02-0304-0002267-012.

Foodbank has had a change of day, which is now Wednesday. Time slots in the pantry will need to be booked by contacting Budget Services prior to midday Tuesday on (07) 866 8358 or 022 018 0849. This is essential so we know numbers and have all the items we need on site. You will need to book in with a budgeting mentor if you will need needing assistance over a couple of weeks.

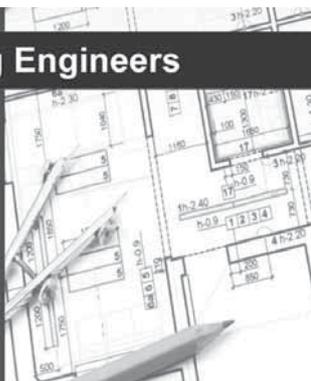


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Coromandel 125 Huihana Lane

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I know... who would have thought all that was still available in Coromandel Town? 2,384m² of grass with covenanted bush at the edges, this large section overlooks the harbour and across to the ranges and it's only a 3 minute drive to town. Concept plans for the house are available for keen purchasers. And they are stunning. There's even a pool! The architect has framed the panoramic views beautifully in each separate part of the house.



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View by appointment, harcourts.co.nz/CO1962

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Caro Reid
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Coromandel 455 Edward Street

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Auction Sold at Auction 15 Jan 2022 at 1.00pm

View by appointment, harcourts.co.nz/CO1958

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This is one of my favourite views around Coro Town and its only about a 12 minute walk to Coro's funky heart. This home and 6,845sqm land is positioned in the hills looking east to the bombshell sunsets... it overlooks the town, the harbour and the surrounding ranges. When you are sitting in the house or on the deck, you are perched amongst the trees....



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Local Winds of Change Are Blowing

Change and empowering local communities are two items already on the table for residents and ratepayers to consider when voting for a new Thames Coromandel Mayor in October.

Mayoral candidate John Freer, if successful, will work with fellow councillors to establish a new way forward for our local council.

Included in the change will be providing more opportunities for local community organisations under his “communities matter” stance.

“We need change for the good. Meeting and talking with members of our various communities, the change aspect comes through loud and clear,” said Freer.

And Freer said it is not just residents who want change but also people who do business in our region, our partners and stakeholders who he said are looking for a proactive

council demonstrating a highly planned, innovative and forward-thinking leadership.

“Then you have government which is threatening to erode the ability for local communities to govern themselves – some may believe this is a good thing – if so go and talk to people from smaller communities who have been absorbed into the Auckland Supercity – you may form a different opinion.

“The way to stop this is by example and by demonstrating we can successfully meet and achieve our obligations.

“I will be presenting a realigned structure for council in coming weeks which I am confident will meet the opportunities available to us. It will fully engage councillors’ governance across all council activities, better engage our local communities with council and incorporate a comprehensive, planned approach across all relevant council activities,” said Freer.

“Council staff are key to this, and they will be required to adopt a process of change and

new ways of going about their business. They will have to deliver the plans and, as one staff member said to me, they must be the enablers.

“I have approached Council’s Acting CEO and requested a meeting with council staff to outline my ideas. They need to know what the potential mayor is thinking, they need to provide feedback, and they must buy into potential new directions. Key to success is a committed, active and trusted relationship between councillors and staff.

“And many of our council staff are residents and ratepayers so they also vote.”

Freer announced his decision to seek election late last year and welcomes the opportunity to meet and address groups over the coming months while also hearing from residents. He encourages everyone to get on the electoral role, including holiday homeowners, and then vote in October.

Authorised by: John Freer, 102 Russell Bruce Place, RD 1 Onemana. Johnfreer07@gmail.com, 0274 839 426

Coromandel Embroiderers’ Guild

By Jill Wilson

The Guild programme for 2022 has started with great enthusiasm and participation from members.

A group of extensions members gathered in February to participate in an informal eco dyeing session, using natural plant dyes and resists. Robyn Lewis joined us to share her knowledge of the process, which was greatly appreciated.

February saw Alysnn Midgelow-Marsden tutoring a workshop titled “The Knowledge of Threading,” which was a great two days

of creativity, stitching, painting with a product that creates a rusting process on the finished pieces and in some cases spreading a “polyfill” layer over items to create texture and interest. This can then be stitched into. This was our third attempt in the past three years to get Alysnn, a well-respected textile artist, from north of Auckland to Coromandel. Third time lucky.



Our 2022 monthly workstream “An Italian Love Affair” was introduced at guild day in March. The intention of this ongoing project is to introduce members to different embroidery techniques originating in Italy. Lee Westfield, a life member of our guild, researched these techniques and has generously shared these projects with us. Our focus this time was on Deruta, where threads are removed from the linen and then a pattern woven back in to create a lace type effect. The project was well received, with 25 members registering to participate, and by the end of the week at least three ladies had completed their samples.

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Ann's Good News, Naturally

How's your liver – really?

Do you suffer-susceptibility to infections, poor sleep, shitty liver, brain fog, sweet tooth, menopause, andropause, allergies, weight gain, large stomach, swollen glands, whites of eyes yellow, unusual rib pains, rectal itching, fatigue /iron deficiency, dilated capillaries on cheeks and nose, cancer, gallstones or gallbladder pain, poor fat absorption, nausea or reactions after eating?

Are your children over-reactive, not thriving, have growing pains?

In fact, do you suffer from anything? Your liver's health affects every cell in your body.

Had lab tests and all well? Be mindful – your liver needs to be 70% unwell before you get positive results for elevated liver enzymes from a lab test result.

Your liver has many roles for your body to be healthy. It's main role in detoxification involves neutralising harmful compounds, such as drugs, vaccine residues, pesticides, hormones and bacterial and viral compounds. Or anything entering your body that is not natural. This involves an enzymatic process divided into two main steps within your liver, Phase 1 and Phase 2 liver detoxifications.

Phase 1 enzymes directly neutralise some of these toxins, but many others are converted into intermediate forms that are then processed by the Phase 2 enzymes.

These intermediate forms are often more toxic than the original substance, so if Phase 2 detoxification systems aren't working properly these "intermediates" linger, causing damage via severe toxic reactions due to a build-up of these toxic intermediate forms.

The greater your fat mass, the more toxic you potentially become.

Good news

By having a Live Blood Screening, you can see whether you do have liver "stress", or liver "damage", as well as other concerning parameters such as nutritional deficiencies, viral or bacterial infection, candida or intestinal permeability (leaky gut).

A Live Blood Screening, before and after treatment, showed all of the following cases did have elevated liver signs when I did their Live Blood Screening in clinic, then improved after treatment.

After an easy to follow, personalised treatment plan, all regained their vitality and full sense of wellness.

- **Hormonal imbalances:** Three teens all with different "types" of premenstrual syndrome (PMS) – Type A – anxiety and insomnia, Type C – Carbohydrate craving and Type P – pimples and oily skin. Their mum was perimenopausal, presenting with Type W – PMS. Because your liver "conjugates" or balances, all four girls bounced back after three months.
- **Abnormal clotting** – This 60-year-old man was very concerned after developing pain in the liver area and mild DVT or blood clots in his legs after a second vaccine. We saw formation of elevated spicules or fibrin in his blood screening specimen, which correlates with elevated liver enzyme profile for AST and ALT. Clot formation and dissolving is largely modulated by protein synthesis and degradation (breakdown) in the liver. If the liver is overloaded with foreign chemicals, it is overloaded (as are all body systems), compromising harmonious, continued, unaffected liver and body efficiency.
- **Gallstones** – This 40-year-old lady began her liver detox programme, after saying no to having gallbladder removal surgery, and is now enjoying all healthy foods, including good fats. Her screening now shows good fat clearance.
- **Skin lipomas/cysts** – This 37-year-old man was waiting to have surgery to remove several fatty lumps from his back. I started him on a personalised liver detox programme, plus Active Elements mineral prescription for correcting his nutritional imbalances and deficiencies. His skin has now healed. He knows too, that his improved food choices will strengthen his core immunity for the coming winter.

Know, nourish and nurture your liver. Simply eat better, drink water, and exercise to sweat and support detox pathways.

www.activeelements.com, username 259077, password: 579819

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Journey to Calm

By Linda Cholmondeley Smith

As we begin to quietly emerge from two years of Covid lockdowns and restrictions, we find ourselves traumatised

in different ways by the many changes, anxieties, stresses and disruptions to our daily life and routines.

Learning or relearning the art of creating calm cultivates a deep sense of inner peace. Breathing meditations help you to relax and by learning to regulate your nervous system, you will discover greater overall calm. It is scientifically proven that calming the limbic brain (your survival centre), will settle the body and bring mental clarity. From this place of greater ease, we can nurture a state of acceptance, or non-resistance, and cultivate a deep state of peace.

Relaxation is a state where the body is led into a state of de-stressing, releasing tension and stress. You can learn to use your breath to calm your nervous system and initiate a relaxation response in your body. This is the first step of letting go of the stress that has built up inside your body

Offered to all is a gift of three meditations that cultivate a deep state of calm.

Each meditation works on a particular aspect of your body that positively impacts your state of being. The meditations deactivate the sympathetic nervous system and activate the parasympathetic nervous system, bringing about a relaxation response.

Through nurturing infinite peace within one's self, an individual evolves into a peaceful person who can bring total presence to every experience of life.

Your peaceful state impacts and makes a difference to your loved ones, colleagues and acquaintances. Your actions and responses are intelligent and thoughtful, leading those around you to feel comfortable and at ease.

Peace is an inner state from which great dynamism in the external world can result. If you move into stressful and negative states, then external life moves into chaos and disorder. That is when problems and challenges grow.

This series of meditations will unclutter your mind and life becomes a beautiful flow as you move away from chaotic states of stress and anxiety and into peace and calm.

We are all in constant interaction with the world around us. It is important that we all interact with it from a peaceful state so that life becomes a beautiful flow of synchronicity.

Zoom ID 856 7529 1902.

Beginning **Saturday 2 April** for three weeks.

Time: 8am (approximately 30 minutes).

Please text me to register on 027 650 4881



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rangatahi OUR CHILDREN

Colville School

By Susie Sumner, Principal

Ā Mātou Kōrero, Our Story at Colville School

Covid challenges are changing the landscape of learning at Colville School. Learning doesn't only happen in the classroom anymore, it goes out the school gate and beyond! We always knew that Colville kids were creative problem solvers and throughout this term the senior students have been learning new skills in different areas of the technologies curriculum.

One of their team challenges this term was to build a halfpipe for marbles (inspired by the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics). The brief was to keep the marbles moving in the half pipe as long as possible. Each team had to collaborate and make choices around materials and structures, refining as they went. The challenge had to be completed within an hour. After the task was completed, playing and experimentation continued for the next couple of weeks and included students from across the school. It has been really exciting to watch the students notice, reflect and wonder what if...?



Students showcased their animation shorts at the Colville School Animation Festival held on Friday 10 March. There was quite a range of topics chosen with some common themes of dragons, volcanoes and magical portals. The students worked collaboratively to write their scripts, create puppets, backgrounds and record a short animated film. We were able to synchronise with one of our youngest filmmakers who was working offsite who shared a live action movie starring a pangolin!

Making and sharing kai is a big part of the Colville School community. Our older students have been designing their own menus. They worked with our kitchen and garden specialists from our Garden to Table programme to make lunch for the whole school. On the menu were wraps, sushi and feijoas freshly picked from our school orchard.



The students followed the whole process from dreaming to making, to serving and tidying up. Some reviews from our staff and students:

"I've never been so full at school since lunch!" – Ava

"You would never get wraps, sushi and feijoas on a plate in a cafe!" – Lockie

"I wish I got to spend more time in the kitchen!" – Anna

Keeping the contexts authentic and working together collaboratively means we can include all of the learners regardless of where they are learning from.

If you want to find out more about learning at Colville School please contact us at principal@colville.school.nz or give us a call on Mob 021 091 20434, Ph (07) 866 6815



Colville Bay Pre-School

Ko Te Uumangawa o nga waka taku whare ako

By Esther Powell

We welcome all children ages 0-6 to our vibrant, community-owned early learning centre on the shores of Tikapa te moana. We're open Tuesday to Friday 8.45am-3pm.

This last month we farewell Nichola Smith (pictured with children at the Colville foreshore), and thank her for all of the awesome mahi she has put in over the years, taking care of our tamariki, our centre, and our staff too. We will miss you heaps but wish you well in your new ventures and we look forward to still seeing you around!

Ka kite for now also to Sebastian, our two-year-old bundle of creativity and energy, who is moving to the east coast. Good luck and have fun!

Our Pre-school minivan service is running Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from Coromandel to Colville Bay Pre-school and return! Thanks to CILT for the van hireage and to our dedicated, qualified teachers who drive the van!

Contact us if you are keen for your 3-5-year-old to hop on board. Pre-school places are currently available.

Easter holidays: we are open for this term break for children aged 2-5 years. Bookings essential!

Job vacancy coming up Term 2, 2022 – An exciting opportunity for a Qualified ECE teacher to join our team. Please contact us for more information.

Hope you and your whaanau are keeping well, and if isolating, able to enjoy that extra time at home with family. Here are some early learning resources to share:

A story for 4-7-year-olds to "help children understand the power of kindness" – www.oatthegoat.co.nz/

If your children are feeling anxious about Covid or other changes in their world, here are some tips – www.education.govt.nz/covid-19/covid-19-and-wellbeing/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-coronavirus/tips-for-teachers-parents-and-caregivers-supporting-toddlers/.

Colville Bay Pre-School, 2391 Colville Bay Road, Coromandel, Ph: 022 645 3272. Email: seniorteacher@colvillebaypreschool.co.nz. Website: www.colvillebaypreschool.co.nz



Coromandel Area School

After a big year of consultation in 2021, we are proud to bring you our 2022 Strategic Plan. We hope that you can hear the community voice coming through. For a full version, with our 2022 Actions, go to our school website www.coroarea.school.nz.



Our Goals

- Kia korero te Tiriti
- Kia mana te Tiriti
- Kia ora te Tiriti
- Partner with our community to build positive school culture
- Enact our school vision and values through our curriculum
- Create an inclusive, safe, and nurturing environment for the whole school community

Our Vision

Kia Tika. Kia Pono. Kia Aroha.

This is an audacious vision where every person is given the room they need to grow with confidence and belief, in harmony with each other, and through being present. These concepts are the building blocks of whanaungatanga and are central to a sense of self and of community, through which we find strength and support. Each concept is separate yet integrates into a whole,

developing, changing, and taking on its own beauty. We will be guided to continue the legacy of tika, pono and aroha.

Our Values

Empower – Whakamana, Protect – Whakaruru, Identity – Whakatū, Connect – Whakawhanaungatanga.

We uplift ourselves and others. We are kind and respectful. We are proud and unique. We share, contribute and engage. “We embody mana.”

New trailer

Coromandel Area School is over the moon about a \$23,395 grant from New Zealand Community Trust (NZCT) for an enclosed trailer for the transportation of sports/event equipment.

School Principal and Tumuaki Koren Hopoi says, “The acquisition and use of this represents a powerful visual communication in terms of the benefits of sport both to the school and the wider community. Engaging in local recreational and sporting activities helps to unite us via a common cause... Locally, we identify many opportunities that we can participate in, making learning relevant, authentic, and engaging. Our unique school environs are spectacular and our increased connectivity with community and the Coromandel region provide a superb foundation for quality school experiences for



The enclosed trailer – purchased with funding from a grant from NZCT

all students and their families. Sport is a huge part of these experiences.”

Rural schools are increasingly challenged with the viability and supply of mainstream sports, recreational activities, and events. Located within a geographically isolated area Coromandel Area School reinforces its’ commitment to developing an inclusive and sustainable sport culture. It aims to continue revitalising and growing school and community sport.

Coromandel Area School successfully embraces these challenges so that young people and the wider community in general can enjoy access to sporting opportunities. The increasing demand for new forms of exercise has created a need for new event management and transportation logistics. The success of this funding application recognises the positive role that sport plays in our community and the vital importance of having the right equipment in order to provide it.

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Interested in selling your property and saving money?

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Contact your local
Coromandel/Whitianga Agent direct

Don McLean 022 451 9511 don.m@arizto.co.nz

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➢ An experienced salesperson	➢ No fixed term contract
➢ Professional photos & video	➢ Marketing across NZ’s top, real estate portals
➢ Online sellers dashboard	➢ Open homes & more...
➢ Floor plan	

Contact your local Coromandel agent direct:

Raewyn Trail - 021 020 1911

rangatahi OUR CHILDREN continued

Te Rerenga School Board of Trustees News



Te Rerenga School Enrolment Scheme

To avoid overcrowding, or the likelihood of overcrowding, the Board of Te Rerenga School has implemented an enrolment scheme that has been developed by the Secretary for Education, effective 16 May. All students who live within the home zone described below shall be eligible to enrol at the school.

Starting at the eastern coast of the Coromandel Peninsula at a point immediately east of (and not including) 1232b Kennedy Bay Road, the zone follows the coast east and south to 470 Kuaotunu Wharekaho Road (SH 25), which is included in the zone.

The zone boundary extends north-west from the coast at Waitaia Bay to 750 Kuaotunu Wharekaho Road (SH 25), which is also included in the zone, but not addresses south of this on Kuaotunu Wharekaho Road (SH 25).

From 750 Kuaotunu Road (SH25) the zone tracks west and south to include addresses on the Te Rerenga-Kuaotunu Road, all Oweria Road addresses, all Opitonui and Wade Road addresses, and crosses Whangapoua Road (SH 25) at the starting point of the Kaipawa Trig Track.

From the starting point of the Kaipawa Trig Track the boundary tracks north and then west through the Whangapoua Forest to the eastern coast of the Coromandel Peninsula at a point immediately east of (and not including) 1232b Kennedy Bay Road, where the zone began.

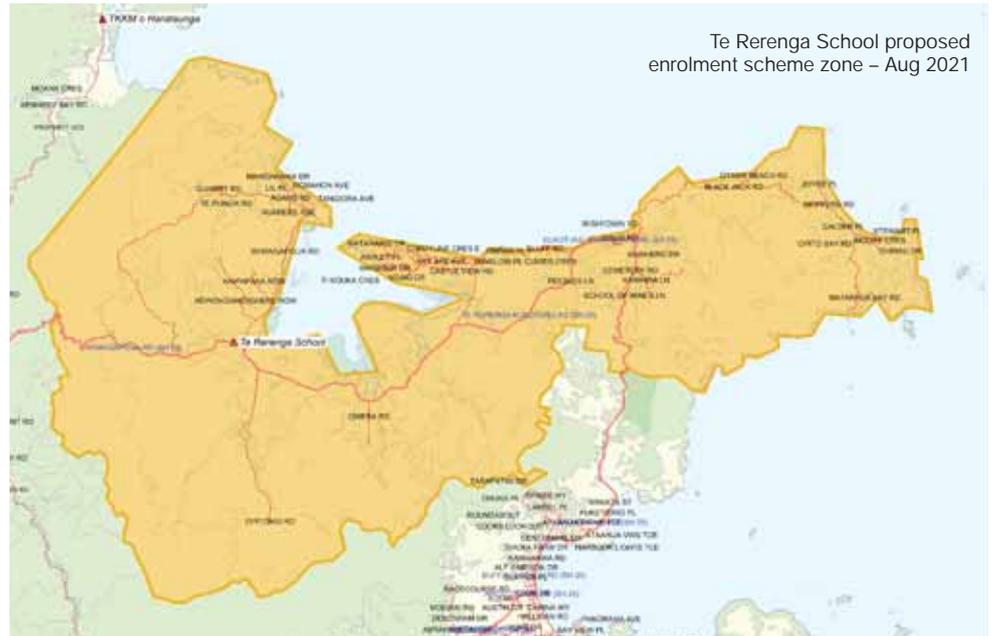
The enrolment of out-of-zone students is governed by the provisions of the Education and Training Act 2020. The enrolment scheme, which includes a precise description of the home zone, may be viewed at the school office.

New Board Chairperson

At the February meeting, Campbell Waugh was elected as the Board Chair. He will be in this role until the 2022 Board of Trustees elections later in the year. We thanked Richard White for his dedicated nine years on the Board, and as chairperson, and also to Shane Simpson for all of his valued service to the school, as both trustees stepped down from the Board.

New classroom approved!

The Board was delighted to inform the community that the Ministry of Education has approved funding for the building of a new classroom. The planning process will start in the coming months as to where the classroom will be sited, considering the current infrastructure of the



Te Rerenga School proposed enrolment scheme zone – Aug 2021

school and the anticipated continued roll growth. However, with the reality of the building process, we are not likely to see this in 2022. Watch this space!

Coromandel Youth Group at Hauraki House

The Star & Garter Hotel has kindly made Youth Group recipient of their Give a Little Pizza Sundays for April, so treat yourself on Sunday, dine in and order delicious pizza for only \$10! Also, a big thank you to Countdown Whitianga for supplying fruit to Youth Group for healthy snacks!

School Term Times: Tues, Thurs & Fri 3pm-5pm, Sunday 1-3pm – please make a gold coin donation.

April School Holiday Times – Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs 11am-4pm, Sunday 1-3pm. \$2/day.

Friday Night Social: 6.30pm-8.30pm for school years 6-10.

Children 5 years and up are welcome to attend, just fill in a membership form. During school holidays, bring your child along with a packed lunch or money for lunch and snacks.

For more information call in at the Youth Rooms or telephone us on (07) 866 7061.

If you would like to donate, please see our Give a Little page <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/coromandel-youth-group> or contact us directly.

This programme is made possible with kind donations received and grants from: Lottery Waikato, COGS, Trust Waikato, D V Bryant Trust, Aotearoa Gaming Trust, Star & Garter Hotel, TCDC Community Grants, Bizarre Community Grants. Thank You!

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HOTEL

\$13 PIZZA
MON-FRI



DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY
STARTING 1 APRIL

\$1 CHICKEN
WINGS

ONLY ORDER IN SIXES
7 DAYS A WEEK

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY
STARTING 1 APRIL

CONDITIONS APPLY



STAR & GARTER
HOTEL

\$16 PASTA
PORK CANNELLONI,
FUNGI PAPPARDELLE,
CHICKEN & BACON PAPPARDELLE

\$20 PORK HOCK,
MASH & CARROTS

\$25 STEAK OF THE DAY,
CHIPS, EGG & ONION GRAVY

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY
7 DAYS A WEEK
STARTING 1 APRIL

CONDITIONS APPLY



STAR & GARTER
HOTEL

BEER DEALS

\$15 1 LTR
JUGS OF BEER

WITH FOOD PURCHASES
GOLDEN, EXPORT, TUI, ORIGINAL

COCKTAILS
STARTING FROM \$12

EVERY THURSDAY FROM 4PM

STARTING 1 APRIL

CONDITIONS APPLY



STAR & GARTER
HOTEL

BELIEVE 
IT OR
NOT

QUIZ

STARTS
WED 11 MAY
AND RUNS FOR
15 WEEKS

FOOD &
DRINK
SPECIALS

SPOT
PRIZES &
RAFFLES

TEAMS OF MAX OF 6, MIN OF 3.
MAX OF 10 TEAMS.
\$40 A TEAM TO ENTER
FOR THE 15 WEEKS.

For more info and to enter phone 07 866 8503

CONDITIONS APPLY

mahi toi ARTS

Pastel Artists Coromandel

By Rosemarie Murphy

We are still managing to hold our weekly pastel meetings on Wednesday mornings in the Aero Club Rooms. Most of us are still working on our homework of birds and feathers from our successful workshop held in Tapu Hall last month. Julie and Michael, international award winners in Pastel Art, were our tutors over the two days. The Tapu Hall is a lovely, big, light space and we all enjoyed the weekend very much. Creative Communities funding of \$300 helped keep costs down, so a big thank you to Thames Coromandel District Council.

Unfortunately, some of our members are moving house, away from the Coromandel, so we have to say goodbye to Chris Tryon and Sheree Arden. They have been a great asset to our group and it has been fun working alongside them. We are sorry to see them go but will keep in touch. Best of luck to them both in their new adventures.

Our group meet from 9.00am to 12noon every Wednesday in the Coromandel Aero Club Rooms on Tiki Road. New members welcome.

Contact: Allan Beaver Ph (07) 866 8053, Saskia Riemersma Ph (07) 866 8829



Coromandel Easter Group

2022 will be the Coromandel Easter Group's 35th exhibition. Only three of the original artists are still with the group – Tom and Wailin Elliott and Jenny Shearer. This year Dr Deirdre Airey (who died in 2002), one of our original members and the sole doctor in Coromandel for many years, will have a display of her tiles based on biblical themes. Some of her tiles are displayed in the Coromandel Library and on the DCR brickwork surround of the Coromandel Pharmacy. Barry Brickell, another of our original group, supplied her with a special DCR clay which he wedged to Deirdre's satisfaction. Other original members were Jenny Shearer's husband David, along with Paul Tobin, Mark Lorimer and Jan White. The group's first three exhibitions were displayed in the Coromandel Council Chambers until a gallery was constructed in the old Coromandel School. This became known as the Hauraki House Gallery which is run successfully by a gallery committee. Over the years we often had guest exhibitors, some from overseas, such as England, Canada, America and Uganda.

Today the Easter Group has invited screen printer Pete Sephton and clay worker Caitlin Maloney to join the present group of Maureen Allison, Tom and Wailin Elliott, Mike O'Donnell, Jenny Shearer and Janet Smith at this year's 2022 exhibition which will open on **Saturday 9 April** and continue until **Monday 18 April**.

Easter Exhibition at the Secret Garden

We are holding an Easter Exhibition at the Secret Garden, 130 Pagitt Street, Coromandel Town on **Saturday 16 to Monday 18 April**, 10am-4pm.

Art sale of Uli Christoffersen's sculptures and Richard Chrisp's paintings. Uli is reluctantly selling her father's paintings.

Contact 027 373 4848

COROMANDEL EASTER EXHIBITION 2022

Displaying work by:

MAUREEN ALLISON
WAILIN ELLIOTT
TOM ELLIOTT
CAITLIN MOLONEY
MIKE O'DONNELL
PETE SEPHTON
JENNY SHEARER
JANET SMITH

and featuring a
DEIDRE AIREY RETROSPECTIVE



**HAURAKI HOUSE
GALLERY, COROMANDEL**
SAT 9TH APRIL - MON 18TH APRIL
10AM - 5PM
OPENING 4PM SATURDAY 9TH APRIL

Coromandel Open Studios



Arts Tour 2022

The Arts Tour Committee has scheduled this year's tour to take place on the first two weekends in October with most of the artists from last year's cancelled event committed to taking part. We are also hoping to attract a few more local artists to join so please use the contact details at the end of this article if you are interested.

Easter Promotion

Also, as a special one-off event to make up for the loss of last year's tour, we are assisting in promoting any of our artists who wish to open their studios over Easter weekend. A list of participating artists will be available online and through local outlets and artists will be provided with flags to make it easier to identify their studios. This is a great opportunity to catch up with local artists' recent artwork and to support the hard hit arts community.

Contacts: charlenescottartist@gmail.com, sephtonpete@gmail.com, k-n-k@xtra.co.nz, raewynpenrose@gmail.com



Albi and the Wolves

Brace yourselves for the next arrivals on the Arts On Tour New Zealand circuit – this is a big one! Albi and the Wolves set fire to stages and fill hearts with hope with their energetic and relatable alternative indie folk songs. Chris Dent, the proud albino frontman Albi, Pascal Roggen and Micheal Young have crafted a stage show that’s brimming with energy and moments to pause for reflection.

The trio has a huge sound that is simply created by an acoustic guitar, electric violin, double bass and their three voices. Since 2014 they have gone from strength to strength touring in Australia, New Zealand and Rarotonga and in 2018 they took home the Best Folk Artist Award at the NZVMA’s. What makes the band special is the sense of community that follows them everywhere they go so whether it’s connection through dance, laughter, or singing, audiences feel radiant after shows and keep coming back for more.

Catch this renowned trio at the Hauraki House Theatre on **Tuesday 3 May** at 7.30pm. Tickets \$25 per person from the Coromandel Town Information Centre. Note, this is a Covid vaccine pass only event and social distancing requirements will apply.

Coromandel Players

By Don Hughes

Brief news but some good news this month.

The good news is that Jim Davis is progressing really well in rehearsal, in bringing Dan Moffat to life again in “The Daylight Atheist”, by Tom Scott.

People who were fortunate enough to see Jim in the first performances two years ago (interrupted by Covid lockdown), were divided in their feelings about Dan. They either loathed Dan completely or had a slight sympathy for him, in the life he had descended into. To find out where your feelings sit you will, of course, have to come along to the Hauraki House Theatre on one of the following days – **Friday 22, Saturday 23, Friday 29 or Saturday 30 April** at 7.30pm.

Watch out for the posters with further details which will be out soon. They will serve as a final reminder to book your seat(s) at the Information Centre and to not miss this play. With regard to which, you can be assured that, with the assistance and care of the staff at the Information Centre, we will be following the rules for seating for whatever Covid stage the country is in at that time in April.

Next month I hope there will be news about a play for the winter months. Something more joyful, playful, some fun amidst the Covid angst perhaps?

Coromandel Art Group

By Val Gray

The year seems to be rushing past at a great rate of knots, and now we are altering our clocks for winter time! An awful thought and all the more reason to get out and paint while the weather allows.

This week we painted out at The Waterworks on the 309 Road. It has been a number of years since we went there, and there have been a lot of changes, but it was still lovely and peaceful.

The children’s play area presented all manner of challenges, and it was a shame there were no children to add to the artistic composition. The stream and rocks are always lovely to draw or paint, and ever changing.

We were looking for inspiration for our club project, and ideas abounded. The day started cloudy, but the sun came out, accentuating the lovely shadows from the trees; such an important part of any painting.

With Covid still making life difficult we haven’t made any plans yet for a workshop this year, but we will get back to normal soon, and even Covid can’t stop you painting.

New members are welcome; please ring our Vice-President Ross Dixon (07) 866 8310 to see where we are up to, as we often paint out at this time of year.



The Waterworks

Art Course

Ever thought you would like to be able to draw and paint?

Then this might be just what you are looking for.

I am running a ten-week course commencing **Tuesday 26 April**.

For more information phone Val (07) 866 8911

TWO RAILWAYMEN

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Easter Weekend Sat. 16th – Mon. 18th
ANZAC Weekend Sat. 23rd – Mon. 25th
@ Driving Creek Gallery - enquiries-021 174 9113

hākinakina SPORT

Coromandel Golf Club

By Malcolm Stone

Etiquette – something we all need reminding about sometimes.

We're a little thin on the ground with results and happenings this month so I thought I would pad it out a little with some thoughts on golf etiquette.

First of all, some results.

Club Stroke Play Championships were played on Feb 12th with the seniors and intermediates playing 36 holes and the Juniors 27 holes. It happened to be a very hot day so everyone did exceptionally well. Winners were – Seniors Bruce Wallace, Intermediates Max McLean and Juniors Paul Lawrence.

Our fully vaxed team of Allan Rose, Norm Gilbert, Kelvin Wirihana and Richard Neal have now played two rounds of Handicap Strokeplay Pennants at Te Aroha and Ngaruawahia and currently lie 3rd. This is an excellent result, especially as our team probably has to travel the furthest of any and we were playing exceptionally strong opposition in hot, dry conditions. Thankfully, the next round will be at home on 20 March. Let's hope the home advantage pays off and we make the top six who go through to the finals. Good luck to them.

Etiquette is not so much a set of rules, more a set of expectations that, if followed, make the game fair and enjoyable for all and allow the game to proceed at a reasonable rate. I think it is fair to say that most golfers enjoy a steady rate of play and if anything happens to slow play down or pressurize one from behind, your rhythm is upset and the chances are you won't play as well. We all need reminding about these expectations from time to time, including me, so here goes.

1. "Driving the cart or walking ahead of the group" – I understand why people would hate this, especially if the cart or trundler is in an area where you might have to worry about hitting it. You're not saving much time by doing it, either. More often than not, you're actually slowing things down whilst being rude.

2. "Get mad about their game" – I've probably been as guilty as anyone of this and I realise that not only does it have a detrimental effect on your own game, it is also embarrassing for the rest of your group and makes them feel uncomfortable, therefore taking the enjoyment out of the round. Don't take yourself too seriously. It's just a game, have fun with it.

3. "Standing over the ball too long" – I'm not the quickest of players, but this does irritate me. Standing over the ball doesn't even help you. Give yourself about five seconds, and go.

4. "Changing into your golf shoes from the back of your car" – Who knew! Apparently, this is a practice frowned upon in many clubs, particularly, I would imagine, more upmarket establishments. Many of us do it – perhaps we should start using the changing rooms?

More next month!



Coromandel Croquet Club

By Kaye Anderson



We are back to autumn now, enjoying the cooler mornings and meeting at 9.15am for a 9.30am start. Now is a great time to try out this delightful game which will stretch you both physically and mentally.

If you're interested, call Kaye on (07) 866 8968 for more information. We meet on Tuesdays and Fridays and provide all of the equipment, plus tuition and a six-week period of coaching before you decide to join the club or not. The club is situated in Woollams Ave next to the Bowling Club.

Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club

The club's "Fish of the Month" competition for the \$100 prize for the Aug 2021-July 2022 current members was kingfish in February and was won by Layke McNeil with an 11.38kg fish.

Fish of the Month for April is gurnard and May will be snapper.

Our "Take a Kid Fishing" – inner harbor tournament is on **Saturday 23 April**, with prizes for all of the kids who enter and a free sausage sizzle, so pop into JAK's Café, Coromandel Fish, Dive & Hunt, Salty Towers or email Coromandelfishingclub@gmail.com to get an entry form.

There are still heaps of decent snapper in close. Hope you all get a chance to get out there while the water is still warm.

Spirit of Coromandel Trust and Ride Coromandel

Maintaining walking tracks for future generations

By Rita Stephenson

Here in Coromandel we are lucky having choices of bush tracks for walking that are close to town and easily accessible. A number of these tracks had been overgrown and completely forgotten about – The Spirit of Coromandel Trust, over years of hard work, has reopened a number of them for all to use. This was all voluntary work.

We need your help to maintain these tracks. We are setting up a database of people who are keen to volunteer and assist with the track work. Once the database is established we will work on a plan/work schedule for each of the tracks.

Just to be clear, you don't need to know how to handle a chainsaw or a weed whacker



(although if you do then that's awesome). We need people to take the cut foliage off the track – this is just as important as the "cutting" of unwanted vegetation. So don't be concerned that you might not be of any use if you don't have those skills; we can find a job for you!

If you can help, please contact Rita Stephenson at arceventsrita@gmail.com or phone 027 210 3734.

Please remember these tracks wouldn't be available if it hadn't been for the hard work of too few people – register with Rita and let's keep them open for our future generations.

Ride Coromandel Bike Park

By Ally Davey

The Waahine on Wheels ladies' mountain biking coaching clinic was held on Saturday 5 March – we had a great attendance to the event with two groups learning basic bike setup, body position, braking and how to navigate over small obstacles. Our youngest rider was 8 years old and it was fantastic to see our young

rangatahi participate with such enthusiasm and passion for learning.

It is hope that there will be future workshops and we encourage as many youth and waahine to join. The next workshop will be on **Saturday 23 April** at the pump track. Keep an eye on the Ride Coromandel Facebook page to register.



OUR COROMANDEL



News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

April 2022

Sugarloaf wharf consent

Proposed – concept design.



Our Council expects a decision soon on whether the redevelopment of Te Ariki Tahī/Sugarloaf Wharf can proceed through the government's resource consent fast track process.

TE KOUMA RD UPGRADE

Preliminary designs are complete for the Te Kouma Road upgrade, and we expect further feedback from Waka Kotahi/NZTA shortly. The draft land purchase agreement and plans are currently with the property owners for comment and we expect to hear back later this month.

Resource consent and archaeological authority applications are underway and we'll apply for these once iwi consultation is complete. Preloading and road construction is planned as two separate contracts. Road construction will follow the preloading settlement and is expected to finish in the 2022/23 construction season. Visit tcdc.govt.nz/tearikitahi

Final reviews of technical reports are taking place, including lighting design, economic impacts, heritage values, land tenure and disposal of dredged material.

Ongoing discussion with Ngaati Whanaunga and Te Kouma residents continues for both the wharf development and upgrade of the local Te Kouma Rd. Visit tcdc.govt.nz/tearikitahi



Coromandel
- Colville
Community Board
UPDATE

A word from our Board Chairperson Peter Pritchard

"It's a busy month ahead with three important public consultations on the go. It's a great chance for all our communities to have a say so please get involved and share your thoughts – we welcome your feedback."
peter.pritchard@council.tcdc.govt.nz



The Board's next meeting is on 29 March 2022, 9am at 355 Kapanga Road. If you wish to speak in the public forum, contact governance.services@tcdc.govt.nz Agendas are published two working days before meetings at tcdc.govt.nz/meetings where you'll also find recordings of each meeting.

Total fire ban lifted

The total fire ban has been lifted, but you'll still need a permit to light an outdoor fire.

Visit checkitsalright.nz for fire safety tips and to apply for a permit.

WHAT'S CHANGING FOR 2022/23?

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FEES AND CHARGES, PROJECTS AND BUDGETS IN OUR PROPOSED ANNUAL PLAN

11 MARCH - 11 APRIL

tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan2022

Proposed Annual Plan

Consultation on the proposals in our draft Annual Plan for the coming financial year (2022/23) runs until Monday 11 April.

Do you support our proposal to change the way we charge for use of our **harbour facilities and boat ramps** to a user-pays-more model?

Provide your feedback on our revised **Matarangi Open Space Land Purchase** plan.

Check out our proposed changes to our **Capital Works Programme**, which are to take account of rising costs and delays due to supply chain issues.

Our consultation document *What's Changing for 2022/23?* is now available to view or download from our website at tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan2022

Visit this page to find out how you can have your say today.

Commercial Operators Consultation

We're wanting to make it easier for commercial operators to apply for licences to operate mobile businesses on our Council reserves, as well as reduce the cost to ratepayers by decreasing administration time and cost to assess these applications. tcdc.govt.nz/commercial-licences

Household organic waste disposal

A consultation will run from 22 March to 12 April to gauge whether people in our district would like organic waste included in Kerbside rubbish and recycling collections. We'll have more information on the options we'd like you to consider and their potential cost before then. Watch this space: tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside

Easter Kerbside Collections

Kerbside rubbish and recycling collections will be one day later after the Easter Monday (18 April) public holiday. Check out your schedule at



tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside

All seven of our Refuse Transfer Stations will be closed Good Friday (15 April) and open to their Sunday hours on Easter Monday. On Anzac Day (Monday 25 April) they are all open from 1pm to 5:30pm. Check the hours and locations:

tcdc.govt.nz/rts



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Phone: 07 868 0200

te taiao ENVIRONMENT

Forest & Bird

By Kate Donoghue


Forest & Bird
 GIVING NATURE A VOICE

**Standing on the
Shoulders of Giants**

At our last Forest & Bird Committee meeting conversation turned to some of the people who, over many years, fought to safeguard Coromandel's environment from the destruction of indiscriminate development and gold mining. We wondered if it was the majesty of the mountains and coast and the charm of our small town that originally drew them here and we also noted that today many of their children are active in environmental issues.

F&B committee member Jill Pierce was a young woman when she came Coromandel in early 1970s and she remembers being lucky enough to be invited to join the newly formed Coromandel Physical Environment Association, a group of locals who were concerned about the loss of heritage buildings in the township and the impact of development on the coast and in some cases the hinterland.

"Back then Coromandel was just a small fishing town with surrounding farms on marginal land. It didn't get electricity until

the 1950s and when I arrived, the road from Thames had only been sealed for a few years. But with the sealed road, more and more people started to discover Coromandel."

Beach subdivisions were starting to carve up the coastline without consideration for the natural landscape values for which the Peninsula was and still is so highly regarded and landowners were bulldozing pā and putting buildings on historic Maori sites.

The Physical Environment Association was spearheaded by Mary Foreman and a small active working committee – Mildred and Walter Scott, Don Hansen, John Fowler, Norman Ogilvie and Jill Pierce.

Attempts were made to preserve the old buildings from gold mining era, which dominated the main street; the Council was encouraged to create a Coastal Zone to safeguard coastal values; and the group challenged environmentally undesirable Council decisions through the Town and Country Planning Tribunal as it was then.

Today there are many sites that we owe to the Physical Environment Association. The main successes of the group were the preservation of the Manaia Kauri and the creation of a sanctuary; the purchase by Lands and Survey of Waikawau Bay as a

public reserve rather than another beach subdivision; the preservation of the pā-dominated headland at Hahei rather than an intensive subdivision.

The Association worked with other groups and outside experts to advance its aims and received support from scientific experts and organisations like the Environmental Defence Society. It shared values with, and preceded, the formation of Coromandel Peninsula Watchdog, the group that has so effectively led the fight against gold mining on the Coromandel.

Today some of the children of the original members of the Physical Environment Association carry on their parents' commitment to the town and its environs. Norman Ogilvie's son Chris, Walter and Mildred Scott's daughter Susan Swan with her tireless work in predator control, Mary Foreman's daughter Jane as the Secretary for the local Forest & Bird Committee and Mary's son David in the fight to maintain the heritage nature of the main street.

The Physical Environment Society members were just a few of the people who worked to protect Coromandel's environment over time and we hope to be able to salute others' efforts in future articles.

**Coromandel
Greens Decry Miner
OceanaGold's Use of
DOC Land**

Green Party Coromandel Co-Convenor, and Coromandel Town resident, Pamela Grealey, is backing calls for an immediate moratorium on mining on conservation land until the government completes its reclassification of conservation stewardship land.



The government has accelerated a review of all stewardship land in

Aotearoa, with a view to reclassifying sites on the basis of their conservation value.

Ms Grealey strongly supports Coromandel Watchdog of Hauraki's call for an immediate moratorium on mining on stewardship land.

"Stewardship land is conservation land. The government must stick to its 2017 commitment to no new mines on public conservation land," Ms Grealey says.

The review should also include areas like Wharekirauponga, near Whangamata, she says.

Mining company OceanaGold said late last month that it expects to lodge a mining permit application in the first half of 2022. Their plan includes extensive tunnelling under conservation land, posing a threat to the native forest ecosystem.

"The Coromandel Greens decry OceanaGold's use of DOC land in this way" says Ms Grealey. "Mining on this site threatens a complex system supporting native flora and fauna, including species like Archey's Frog, one of the world rarest and most endangered amphibians."

"Mining has also proved to be of little benefit to local communities. Waihi remains one of the poorest towns in the Waikato, despite decades of mining. The majority of money earned by OceanaGold goes overseas."

"Carbon emissions from mining must also be taken into account. The risks are real and the government must finally honour its pledge of no new mines on conservation land."

She urges people who love the Coromandel to make their views known to the government.

Submissions to the review of stewardship land closed on 18 March. For more information see www.doc.govt.nz/content/assets/da0356b16be34484924dbbf6a2c2c831/stewardship-land-discussion-document-november-2021.pdf.



Archey's Frog.
Photo by Sara Smerdon

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LAWYERS

BRENDA FLAY, SOLICITOR:

Travels to Coromandel on Tuesdays.

Please phone the Thames Office (868 8680) for appointments.

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THAMES OFFICE: 611 Mackay Street, P.O. Box 31, Thames

PHONE: 868 8680 **EMAIL:** info@purnell.nz

COROMANDEL OFFICE: Tiki House, Tiki Road

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WHITIANGA

COROMANDEL

Upper Coromandel Landcare Association

By Reihana Robinson

UCLA members kaitiaki whenua around Moehau and further south. Those who affiliate to UCLA are opposed to a long-held goal of MEG and DOC and WRC to construct a barrier they call a pest-proof fence that would enclose all who farm, fish, work and holiday above this steel barrier. UCLA oppose the use of 1080 poison and all residual poisons. We support the hunting of wild kai. UCLA is not a registered charity as it does not apply for funding. All conservation work is voluntary.

MEG did not always use inhumane poisons however. In the archives we see MEG's Pete Buddle wrote to DOC's Alistair Fairweather on 24 September 2003 explaining "encapsulated cyanide is the toxin most acceptable to most landowners up here" but the letter continues with a request for information regarding a list of nine poisons including warfarin, Racumin (coumatetralyl) and diphacinone. This means that prior to 2003 MEG was just like UCLA. Only cyanide being used as a poison as it was "most acceptable to most landowners".

What went haywire? All we can find is that money has conditions. MEG has now received millions of tax and ratepayer funds with little accountability. Their first big funding application to the Biodiversity Fund in 2003, added up to \$571,363. The application declared MEG would achieve a "predator-proof fence across the width of the peninsula by 2005/6". By "Year 6" they were to have built "a self-funding infrastructure". So no steel barrier, no self-funding infrastructure – as far as we can ascertain given the ongoing requests for public funding. Was the money returned?

MEG

By Amy Lendrum

Beach cleanups for Sea Week

Locals, along with MEG volunteers, took to the beaches and waterways this month in the rohe. A big effort was made to clean up Coromandel beaches from Long Bay to Port Charles to Waikawau for Sea Week.

Everyone who participated made an important difference to the amount of rubbish on the beaches of the region. Rubbish left on our coastlines, especially plastic pollution, impacts the environment and the health of our wildlife with shorebirds and wetland dwelling species such as the tūturīwhatu, oystercatcher or matuku particularly vulnerable.

Everyone can do their bit by "Taking 3 for the Sea" and removing at least three pieces of rubbish each time you visit a beach or waterway.

Rat numbers kept low by trapping

March was a busy month with the field team completing the first month of trapping in the new MEGa Rat Attack area after a toxin application. We use an initial bait treatment to knock down rat numbers and keep them low and manageable from then on with trapping alone. The results were fantastic for the wildlife in the trapping with a total area of 450 ha now being intensively trapped for rats and only 60 rats caught in 2650 traps. We expect to keep the rats under control thanks to the mahi of our awesome field team.

Rat monitoring results of our existing rat attack area show the numbers of rats are being kept well below the control area by our trapping and routinely score zero on the small mammal indexing scale. Monitoring in the Waikawau wetland also showed low numbers of rats in that area. All around excellent news for our wildlife!

Have a great month everyone!

Contact us at info@meg.org.nz or make a donation by visiting our website www.meg.org.nz



We find we must once again remind all conservationists that we wish to kaitiaki together using humane wild animal control.

As a result of an appearance of pro-poison community members to a recent Coromandel-Colville Community Board meeting, UCLA has heard from supporters far and wide. Locals from Waikawau, Tuatēawa, Port Jackson road, Port Charles, 309, Coromandel Town, and from further afield – Kuaotunu and Great Barrier Island, Northland, Australia and the USA. They share support for both the Coromandel-Colville Community Board and UCLA. We understand that an organisation representing more than 70 residents has sent support to the Chair of the Community Board.

Here as an example from the letter UCLA received from the national science team at SPCA. "SPCA advocates that management activities should only use methods of population control that minimize negative impacts to any animal, are target-specific, and with clear, achievable objectives that are monitored. SPCA opposes the use of methods of population control or management of wild animals that lead to prolonged death and suffering of target or non-target animals."

We now sign off once again with: We share a finite world. Let's try to improve it for the next generation. Kia manawanui.

Waiau Hawk and Morepork Sanctuary

By John Veysey

In the last fifteen years certain enviro-groups have continued to spread poison in our hills and become addicted to it and the funding which comes with it.

They do not know how to trap possums so all of their possum control has been by poisoning, a strategy which poisons the wild pigs, removing one of the Peninsula's staple foods of the last 200 years. No wonder the opposition to this poisoning is strengthening in our ward. No wonder these groups, in their considerable publicity, never mention the poisons they are using.

One of these enviro-groups revealed in the 2020 Chronicles just what it would achieve without the use of poisons:

15000 hectares are "managed" by this group "servicing" 3,170 mustelid traps once a month. There is no possum trapping in place.

During the month of October 2020 their 3,170 traps caught 230 rats and 27 mustelids.

Only one of every 117 traps caught a mustelid – an efficiency rating of less than 1%.

Only one trap in 12 is catching anything at all, yet the traps are not moved about to accommodate demand. They are almost impossible to move about as they come in huge, heavy boxes requiring wide paths to be cut through the bush in order to carry them into position.

Over a period of a year these traps are removing one rat for every 5 hectares and one stoat for every 50 hectares.

A more laborious, ineffectual system of business is hard to imagine. I say "business" because this system is unrecognisable as the "conservation" or "native bird protection" or "habitat restoration" or "biodiversity enhancement" it is purported to be.

This group prepared an area of eastern Moehau for the release of robins by spreading bags full of 1080 through it. One month after the robins had been let loose there was not one robin left in the poisoned area. Future protection for these birds has come in the form of regular aerial 1080 drops over the entire Moehau mountain. Such is the thinking of the poisoners. I'm sure they mean well but clearly they do need help.

By pleading with the CCCB these "wild life controllers" are asking the community as a whole to guide them. We can do that.

We need to remove the use of any residual poisons in the wild. If residual poison were no longer available, members of these groups would be encouraged to learn the art of possum trapping. If the funding were removed they might investigate some of the more efficient and effective ways of controlling predators. Here are just a couple of ways in which we and our community board can help these people and the community around them.

Classifieds

Classifieds cost 30 cents per word – please email your words to corochronicle@gmail.com or call/txt Debbie on 021 235 6648.

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A COROMANDEL PLASTERER. For new homes and all renovation requirements I offer 25+ years' experience for a professional plastering finish. Doug Marsters 022 019 9255.

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ALL HOUSE AND PROPERTY REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE. Ph/txt Andy 25 years experience 022 346 20 40.

BALLET CLASS FOR ADULTS. Venue: Coromandel Citizens' Hall 455 Kapanga Road Wednesdays 9.50am-11.20am \$10. Ph: Marilyn Swan 027 336 5263. Registered Teacher and Life Member Royal Academy of Dance. Visitors Welcome. Covid Protection Framework applies.

BICYCLE REPAIRS, SERVICING AND SALES. Find some of my bikes on my FB page (Miles Watson recycled bicycles and repairs). I can also pick up old bikes and parts from your house. 020 4150 6575.

BRICK AND BLOCK LAYER. Laurie Gordge (07) 866 8200, 027 494 9573, buddy10@xtra.co.nz.

BRICK AND BLOCK LAYING SPECIALISTS. L.B.P. Phone Joel 021 0234 0210.

BROKEN GLASS? Call Mike Coromandel Glass (07) 866 8869 or 027 661 0190.

CARPENTER WANTING WORK. Alterations, new houses, additions, no job too small, licensed building practitioner. Ph 021 675 575.

CHIMNEY SWEEPING & safety inspections, repairs & maintenance, insured.. call Rich Visick 027 424 4217 Thames Coast based but happy to travel.

COLVILLE LAWNS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE. Lawns mowed, edge trimming, chainsaw and scrub bar work, weed control, tree planting, gardening, loads to refuse station. colvillelawns@gmail.com. txt 021 0264 1000. Seamus.

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COROMANDEL GARAGE DOORS. Ph: Don McLean 022 453 2188. E: corogarage-doors@gmail.com; W: www.corogarage-doors.co.nz.

COROMANDEL HONEY LTD. Local beekeepers. Honey for sale and manuka sites wanted. Call Evan on 021 533 826.

COROMANDEL STUMP GRINDING.

Local operator based in Coro town. Contact now 027 451 2224 or Email dynamictreecare@gmail.com.

GIB STOPPER – Richard Field. Local and coastal. Ph 029 778 8645.

GIB STOPPER/PAINTER. Alpha Drywall, Geoff, local 022 027 0290.

NEED A PAINTER? Quality work for a fair price, no bullshit quotes and I can do your garden too. Ring Thomas on 028 400 4120.

POOL QUEEN LTD. Mobile Pool & Spa services Coromandel Peninsula. Call the Pool Queen to have your pool clean. Sharleena Tucker 027 316 3384.

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SOLAR SYSTEM DESIGN & INSTALL. Good Energy your local solar specialists based in Whitianga. Ph Simon 021 242 3394.

STUMPGRINDING. Machine assisted stump removal, all sizes all areas. Ph 021 060 7659.

WINDOW CATCH BROKEN? Call Mike Coromandel Glass (07) 866 8869 or 027 661 0190.

YOGA WITH BECKS Tuesdays at the Anglican Church Hall, 170 Tiki Rd, 5.30pm to 6.45pm, \$10-\$15. Open level, equipment provided, vaccine pass required. Phone 027 407 0079 for more info, www.rebeccaleaker.com.

FOR RENT

A&J'S STORAGE. Totalspan units Ph Judy 021 071 2252.

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD (PINE) FOR SALE. \$150 per trailer load delivered within Coromandel 027 959 9992.

PINE CONES – \$10 per bag 027 959 9992.

WANTED

AUCKLAND COUPLE wanting to retire on the Coromandel are looking for a section preferably with views and access to the coast. Do you have land you may wish to sell privately? Please phone 021 064 6562

VEHICLES WANTED. Cars, trucks, vans, utes, 4X4's. Wanted dead or alive. \$ Top cash paid \$. Phone 0800 505 099.

WANTED ALL LIVESTOCK. We inspect in the paddock. Also we transport every Thursday to Waikato's largest saleyards in Morrinsville. Phone Dave Coatsworth 027 481 7100.

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DYNAMIC TREE CARE. Council approved professional local arborist service for all tree work. Fully qualified, equipped and insured. Health and Safety compliant. Free quotes. Jobs large or small. Stump grinding. Call now (07) 866 8177 or 027 451 2224.

HOME AND OFFICE CLEANING SERVICES AVAILABLE reasonable rates and a reliable, proven service please contact Lynda 027 227 5077.

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SITUATIONS VACANT

CUSTOMER SERVICE CONSULTANT

Are you passionate about the Coromandel? Are you a good listener? Do you enjoy providing creative solutions? The Coromandel Town Information Centre prides itself on making visitors to our region feel welcome. We support local businesses by promoting the upper Coromandel Peninsula and providing free information about their attractions, goods, and services. We have a strong community focus, support community organisations, and help residents find the information they need. We are currently looking for a Customer Service Consultant to work up to 18 hours a week, including during the summer school holidays. The ideal candidate will be outgoing and friendly. They will be self-motivated, flexible, have a great sense of humour and will know how to remain calm under pressure. The role has variety and requires good selling skills. When not busy with customers the successful applicant will assist in delivering initiatives that promote the business and the region. A full position description can be obtained by emailing trustees@coromandeltown.nz. Applicants should email their curriculum vitae and cover letter to trustees@coromandeltown.nz.

GO BUS TRANSPORT have part time van and bus driving positions available for school runs in Coromandel Town and surrounding areas. You will need to be vaccinated and have held a full class one driver licence for at least two years. Full training will be given. Drug and Alcohol testing and police checks apply. If you are interested in joining our growing team, please contact Joanne at Go Bus on 021 747 191 or Joanne.burman@gobus.co.nz for more information.

OTHER

AGE CONCERN Falls Prevention Strength and Balance exercise class for seniors. Coromandel Gym, Pottery Lane Tuesday, 10am, \$2. Vickie (07) 866 7894.

Coromandel Town weekly and monthly meetings

Every Day

Free meditation at Mahamudra (except during silent retreats) 8.30-9am

Every Monday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym 8am

Coromandel Hikers' Group, Hauraki House, Colin & Elspeth (07) 866 7137 9am

Monday Walkers, Woollams Ave car park north end, Irene 021 157 8408 9am

Gold Fit at Coro Gym 9.30am

Coromandel Playgroup, St Andrews Church Hall, Rings Road.

Contact Angee 021 255 0399 9.30am-12.30pm

Taichi classes, Colville Hall, contact Christina on 021 113 4768 4.10pm

Bridge, St John rooms 7pm

Taizé 4-part harmony singing, contact Sally 027 302 4245 7.30pm

Every Tuesday

Community Gardens volunteer day (summer times) 8.30-10.30am

Croquet, Woollams Ave, Kaye (07) 866 8968 9.15am

Coro Walking Group, Lotto Dairy, Ruth (07) 866 7246 9am

Age Concern seniors' exercise class, Coromandel Gym. \$2

Vickie 027 417 7077 10am

Playcentre, Woollams Ave 10.30am-1pm

Yoga with Becks, at the Anglican Church Hall, 170 Tiki Rd, \$10-15.

Contact 027 407 0079 5.30-6.45pm

Coro Motorcycle Club, Star & Garter, John 027 234 1013 7-9pm

Every Wednesday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym 8am

Pastel Artists Coromandel, Coro Aero Club Rooms (07) 866 7220 9am-12pm

Gold Fit at Coro Gym 9.30am

Ballet Class For Adults, Coromandel Citizens' Hall, \$10 per class.

Contact Marilyn 027 336 5263 9.50-11.20am

Wing Chun Kung Fu. Internationally recognised Sifu. Waikato Events Centre. 4pm

Taichi classes, Waikato Events Centre, contact Christina on 021 113 4768 .. 4pm

Every Thursday

Coro Walking Group, Lotto Dairy, Ruth (07) 866 7246 9am

Coro Bowls club day 9.30am

Coro Art Group, St Andrew's Church Hall, Lindsay (07) 866 7799 9am-12pm

Tai Chi, Waikato Events Centre (above the swimming pool) 10am

Free Guided Meditation, Havalona Pyramid 10-11am

Free Drop-in Dharma Talk or Video at Mahamudra 7-8.30pm

Every Friday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym 8am

Croquet, Woollams Ave, Kaye (07) 866 8968 9.15am

Playcentre, Woollams Ave 9.45am-12.15pm

Coromandel Home-school group, Julene (07) 866 8333 10am

Coromandel Tennis Club "club day" 4pm

Coromandel Flying Club social gathering, all welcome 5.30pm

Crystal Sound Energy Healing & Meditation at Havalona Pyramid

opp 195 Driving Creek Road. \$15. Bookings essential 027.258.4726 7-8pm

Every Saturday

RSA Coromandel, RSA Club Rooms Woollams Ave. Courtesy

van available. President Kevin Stone (07) 866 7576 3.30-7pm

Crystal Sound Energy Healing & Meditation at Havalona Pyramid

opp 195 Driving Creek Road. \$15. Bookings essential 027.258.4726 7-8pm

Every Sunday

Anglican Church Service 10am

Coromandel Tennis Club "club day" 1pm

Monthly

1st Mon – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms, Jill (07) 866 7484 9.30am-3.30pm

3rd Mon – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms, Jill (07) 866 7484 9.30am-3.30pm

1st Wed – Coro Embroiderers' Guild, St John rooms, Win McMinn (07) 866 7508 10am-3pm

1st Wed – Lions Dinner meeting, St John rooms. President Mary Farmer (07) 866 7321 or 027 699 0446 6pm

2nd Wed – Garden Circle. Jeni Mudgway 021 0227 5341 1pm

3rd Wed – Lions Business Meeting, St John rooms. President Mary Farmer (07) 866 7321 or 027 699 0446 7pm

Last Thurs – Green Drinks at Star & Garter 5pm

Last Thurs – DCR Music and Art Night 6.30pm

1st & 3rd Sun – Church Service at St Andrew's Church, Rings Road 10am

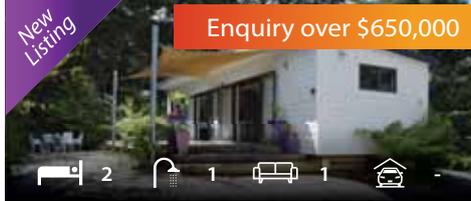
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If your meeting has been omitted, please email Debbie at corochronicle@gmail.com with the subject "meeting" or txt/ph 021 235 6648. Please include contact name and phone number.

**NEW LISTINGS
& BUSINESSES
FOR SALE**

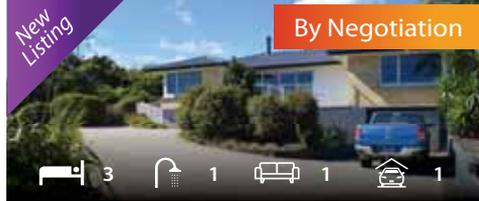
New Listing Enquiry over \$650,000



2 1 1 -

Coromandel, 225a Driving Creek Rd
www.trinitynetwork.co.nz/225a-driving-creek-road-coromandel

New Listing By Negotiation



3 1 1 1

Coromandel, 655 Tiki Road
www.trinitynetwork.co.nz/655-tiki-road-coromandel

New Listing Offers over \$595,000



Coromandel, 3 Puriri Place
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Business For Sale \$101,000 +gst (if any)



Coromandel, 36 Kapanga Road - One Stone BBQ
www.trinitynetwork.co.nz/135-kapanga-road-coromandel

New Listing Enquiries over \$780,000



3 1 1 2

Coromandel, 2135 Rings Road
www.trinitynetwork.co.nz/2135-rings-road-coromandel

Business For Sale Price on Application



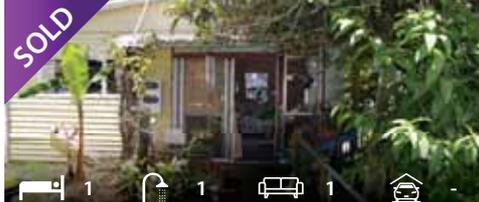
Coromandel, 124 Wharf Road
www.trinitynetwork.co.nz/124-wharf-road-coromandel

Price by Negotiation



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1 1 1 -

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Rob Keatley

M : 0275 777 424

E : rob.keatley@trinitynetwork.co.nz

"I value people, not just transactions"





Am I eligible for a Warmer Kiwi Homes grant?

Warmer Kiwi Homes is a Government programme offering grants covering 80% of the cost of a Heat Pump for the main living area (capped at \$3000), after ceiling and underfloor insulation is done.

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eligibility

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Whitianga