

January 2023  
Volume 27 Issue 1

# Coromandel Town Chronicle

FREE  
Community Magazine

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## Summer Fun at Santa Parade

SEE PAGE 4

Mike retires from CILT PG 3

Councillors visit bike park PG 14

Gallery 6 – one year on PG 25



### Haere mai. Welcome to the Coromandel Town Chronicle

View online at

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

Cover picture: Coromandel Boat Hire float at Santa Parade – Indi-Lee broke her ankle, but still managed to make it on the float

The *Coromandel Town Chronicle* is published by Jude Publishing Ltd. It is delivered free to the Coromandel area.

Jude Publishing Ltd, PO Box 148, Coromandel 3543

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

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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.

The Coromandel Town Chronicle is printed with vegetable oil based inks by Print House Ltd, Hamilton. An accredited FSC and PEFC printer.

**Deadline for the next issue is 4pm Tuesday 17 January. Send your articles and advertising to [corochronicle@gmail.com](mailto:corochronicle@gmail.com)**

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ISSN 1178-721X (Print)  
ISSN 1179-4895 (Online)

#### 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

Happy New Year! What a 2022 it has been!

Here are the Chronicle deadline dates for your new 2023 diaries.

Issue	Deadline	Distribution starts
February 2023	4pm, Tuesday 17 January	Saturday 28 January
March 2023	4pm, Tuesday 14 February	Saturday 25 February
April 2023	4pm, Tuesday 21 March	Saturday 1 April
May 2023	4pm, Tuesday 18 April	Saturday 29 April
June 2023	4pm, Tuesday 16 May	Saturday 27 May
July 2023	4pm, Tuesday 20 June	Saturday 1 July
August 2023	4pm, Tuesday 18 July	Saturday 29 July
September 2023	4pm, Tuesday 15 August	Saturday 26 August
October 2023	4pm, Tuesday 19 September	Saturday 30 September
November 2023	4pm, Tuesday 17 October	Saturday 28 October
December 2023	4pm, Tuesday 14 November	Saturday 25 November

I'll be in the UK at the time of the next Chronicle deadline, so contact by email regarding the February issue is best. Please be patient for a response due to time difference.

Have a good summer everyone.

*Debbie*

## Letters

### Where is the bus?

Dear Editor,

As you may know, I have been very keen to see the bus service from Coromandel Town to Thames revived. Now that we don't have a ferry service to Auckland, land-based public transport is an even greater priority and I have been asked when the bus will start by a number of people, including accommodation providers who are already noticing the effect on bookings.

The need, which the community expressed in the past, is still there. There is reason to hope, as with the help of former Waikato Regional Councillor Denis Tegg a regular service between Coromandel Town and Thames has been included in the 2023 Regional Transport Plan.

I do hope this is being actioned but experience tells me that hope is not enough. It is important that our new Community Board members and Regional Councillor are aware of our increasing isolation.

If you care about this, I suggest that you talk to our Community Board members, or tell our new Regional Councillor Warren Maher why this matters to you. Email him on [warren.maher@waikatoregion.govt.nz](mailto:warren.maher@waikatoregion.govt.nz) or find more contact details on the WRC website. Lora Mountjoy, Coromandel Town

### Fire

We would like to thank the Kennedy Bay and Coville fire service. Also Danny Topia, Pat, Craig and Sandra Dudson, Ally Davy, Kate Campbell, Tim (electrician), Alex staying in Westbury house and all others for a great job done by containing the fire only affecting us and also the help and support given to us through our crisis. Thanks to everybody. Rodger and Rita McNeil, Thames

### Cell towers

Dear Debbie,

I think cell phone towers are hideous. However, in order to work properly, they can't be hidden away.

In many cities overseas, cell phone towers are routinely disguised. If Coromandel Town does get a new tower, could one of our local artists be commissioned (by the owners of the tower) to make it blend in better? Perhaps disguise it as a native tree and plant a grove of real trees around it? See photos of some large-scale sculptures in Wellington and Greymouth.

Rosemary Stone, Coromandel Town

Email letters and opinion pieces to the *Coromandel Town Chronicle* [corochronicle@gmail.com](mailto: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.



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## Time to Wind Down

By Mike Noonan

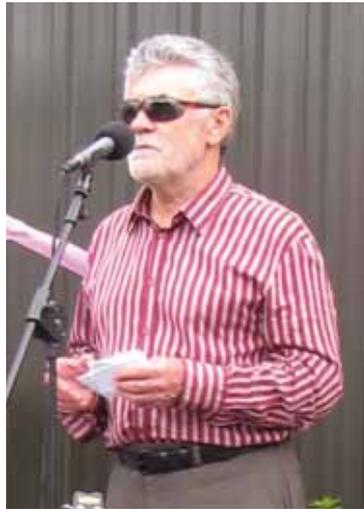
This summer will be the first one in 28 years that hasn't seen me returning to my work at the Coromandel Independent Living Trust (CILT) in the New Year. I have retired and although I will remain on the CILT board, Chris Fulford has joined CILT as general manager. So after all these years I thought I would take the time to reflect on my history with CILT.

I arrived in Coromandel in 1993 with my wife Alison Carter who had friends here. I had previously lived in Sydney and worked in the advertising industry. But a chronic eye disease was robbing me of my sight and I found myself unable to continue such high-pressure work. Shortly after I arrived in Coromandel, Oho Nicholls asked me to help with the Moehau Training Establishment, which was a great introduction to some of the needs of the area. Then, when the old Coromandel Hospital was being closed, the Health Authority conducted a community consultation which included disability. As a result of this, CILT was born. I was a founding trustee and we worked in a small room at the hospital with one contract worth \$27,000 – a contract CILT still holds today.

Having lost my career and my eyesight and with very uncertain prospects I knew all of the fears that having a disability brings. I have always believed that participation, self-expression and work hold the key to a full life. So I was delighted when, in 1997, I found the funding to start CILT's Work-Co-Op (now named Te Mana Tangata), an activities, vocational and supported work programme for people with a disability. CILT was also very lucky to find Jean Ashby to run it, a woman whose dedication to this community is recognised by everyone and who has certainly been a taonga for me over our many years together.

Although I had a firm commitment to training and employment as the way forward for anyone, the difficulty was that Coromandel, as a small community, didn't offer a great deal of employment outside of the mussel industry, hospitality and tourism. So in the late 1990's CILT started to operate more as a community social enterprise and today employs 33 people part-time as well as having 48 volunteers. In addition to social services, we run the Bizarre, the Goldmine, the Kaumatua flats, as well as offering education and transition to work programmes, internet access, transport to hospitals and to Thames, parenting programmes and environmental and arts participation programmes.

We built the Harray Track, and then restored the building in the Samuel James Reserve. We retrofitted the seven bedsits that we had bought from Council and then built seven new one-bedroom kaumatua flats, which took ten years. Our next project was to establish a re-use



Mike Noonan at The Goldmine opening

centre at the Refuse Transfer Station, which involved a change of Council policy and building the Goldmine. Now our biggest and most ambitious project, the Coromandel Hub, is due to open February 2023 after five years of securing the funding. So I feel I have handed over the reins with the organisation in very good shape and with an exciting future ahead of it.



Mike Noonan (right) with Mike Baker (left) at the opening of the Kapanga Kaumatua Flats

Of course, I didn't do it alone. There are so many people that I need to thank. Some have passed away and my gratitude will always lie with the late Airini Tukerangi, our Trust chairman for many years, and her mother Kahu, Mariana Gordon, who worked with us for thirteen years, and also with Maggie Mikaira, Sid Waara and Jo McNeil who were stalwarts at the Work Co-Op.

Thanks also to the CILT Trustees who have offered me generous support: Chairperson Vicki Sephton, Margaret Harrison who has been with the Trust since the early days, David Paitai and Andy Reid, who gave his financial expertise for many years.

I would like to offer a special thank you to Joanne Scott, our financial controller, who for the last twelve years has worked with me on all of our major projects. She and Anna Galvin took on a much larger role in overseeing the completion of the Hub in the last year when my health necessitated me working from home. Thanks also to John Gaffikin-Cowan, my personal support worker, whose help has made it possible for me to work effectively despite my blindness.

I also must offer a big shout-out to the community of the upper Peninsula and to our Community Board. We couldn't have done it without you.

Thank you. Ngā manaakitanga.



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# Santa Parade



Coromandel Playcentre would like to thank the sponsors of Santa Parade 2022: Flooring Xtra Whitianga, The Chopping Block Coromandel, Coromandel 4 Square, Coromandel Plumbing, Coro Fish, Hunt and Dive, James and Turner, Coromandel Garden Centre, Sanfords Coromandel, Salty Towers, Coastal Bins, Coro Boat Hire, Pak 'n Save Thames, Premium Seas, Anchor Lodge, James Drainage, Makumade, Coromandel Unichem Pharmacy, Qizzle, Pepper Tree Restaurant and Bar, Shelly Beach Top 10 Holiday Park, CFM Coromandel, North Island Mussels Ltd, Coromandel Underwater, Perfect Air, Coromandel Area School, Star & Garter, Driiving Creek Railway and everyone who donated on the day. And a massive special thank you to our traffic management volunteers: Hylie, Garry, Cameron, Lani, Jayden, Henny, Mavia, Jes and Chloe.



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## Coromandel Contract Bridge Club

By Judy Bronlund

Wishing you all a fabulous 2023. We do not play Club Bridge in January but we are looking forward to starting our club year in February. Over the years we have had members travel up from Colville and more recently they have come over from Matarangi and Whitianga to play on a Monday evening. Our club would like to recruit a few new members so if you would like to play bridge please make contact and you will be most welcome to join us. We play on Monday evenings at the St John rooms.

Contacts: Jan (07) 866 8341 or 027 478 8930, Judy (07) 866 8637 or 027 517 8306



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## Coromandel Town Information Centre

By Lynne Fenwick

A big thank you to the Coromandel Playcentre for arranging a fantastic Christmas float parade to put us all in the mood for Christmas and the holiday season ahead. Well done.

The new look Information Centre team of staff and volunteers are ready to go for the summer season.

We also want to acknowledge that our local retailers and accommodation providers in town also provide information by suggesting a variety of things for guests and visitors to do. If you need an update on information from us, please call in to the centre, phone us on (07) 866 8598 or check out our website at [www.coromandeltown.nz](http://www.coromandeltown.nz).

On 17 November we held our second annual Art Auction and Exhibition. What a fabulous event this was. We are extremely grateful to the artists in our community who so generously donated pieces of art for our auction and to the community who came along to bid for these items. Thank you all; this is our one and only fundraising event for the year and it is a real team effort for the funding that we desperately require to keep your Information Centre operating. Even Sandra was involved again this year, by bidding for items over the phone (we will go global next year). The artists were also able to have a piece of their art in the weekend exhibition, with several pieces sold on their behalf. To our team of auctioneers, Trevor, Dave and Marsh, you make the evening so much fun for everyone and always manage to get that little bit extra out of the buyers for us.

Happy New Year everyone from the Information Centre Team.

Opening hours for the summer: Monday to Thursday 10am to 4pm, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 9.30am to 4.30pm



## Monday Walkers

By Irene Dunn

2022 was interesting with several new walks explored and new walkers joining our group, though because of Covid and the weather some Monday walks were cancelled. We have covered lots of different areas around the Peninsula, where the bush and views are amazing. We have an encouraging bunch of walkers who make each walk fun and enjoyable. Special thanks to Wally for guiding us on new walks “over the hill”; Natalie for organising walks when I haven’t been available; Pete (who bakes beaut scones) and Peter (who helped with co-ordinates) who both helped out leading walks in their areas.

Our group will go into holiday mode until **Monday 13 February** and we do not have an organised walk on public holidays.

Happy New Year and happy walking – you are welcome to join us any time. Phone Irene to go on the email list for information regarding each walk.

Irene 021 157 8408

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## Coromandel Bowling Club

By Linda Lindsay, Secretary CBC

I hope everyone had a convivial Christmas and celebrated the New Year with family and friends in positivity and joy.

We rounded off the first half of the season with the Pak 'n Save Optional Triples, with teams coming from all other parts of the Peninsula to join the locals in filling the greens. With plenty of great prizes on offer (Xmas hams), the day was fiercely contested, with the top three representing Thames Coast, Mercury Bay and Coromandel Bowling Clubs.

As always our Twilight Bowls Competition was off to a cracking start and well supported by our amazing community of both businesses and local teams.

Despite the vagaries of weather and the cancellation three weeks in a row, the event was closely contested. Thanks to our great community-minded sponsors, the prize table was loaded with goodies eagerly snapped up by every participant. As a Club we just love seeing the greens full with such a range of Coro locals, from 16-year-olds to 80-year-olds, the retirees, the mussel workers, the real estate staff, the Village residents; the list goes on. The sound of laughter and enjoyment echoing around is really why we do it. The January round begins on the 31st and teams will be notified beforehand.

Our Potluck Christmas dinner was an enjoyable event; those members who braved the rain enjoyed a feast of food and lively conversation. "Santa" and his basket of treasures was a lovely touch.

We have had a great turnout for our Friday afternoon "all comers" competition and social hour. If you're free from 3pm onwards on a Friday afternoon join us as a player or supporter for some friendly social interaction. This resumes in January and we look forward to seeing you at the Club again; visitors welcome.



Pak 'n Save Optional Triples

## RSA

By Gary Pettett

We celebrated the end of 2022 sharing a Christmas lunch with over 60 members and friends, who all enjoyed a great afternoon. The RSA supplied the meat, potatoes and kumara and members brought salads and desserts.

We are delighted to announce that our new RNZRSA National President is Sir Wayne (Buck) Shelford. He was born in 1957 in Rotorua and from 1975 to 1985 served in the NZ Navy for ten years. Buck's appointment follows his recent knighthood for services to rugby and the community.

Apart from his great All Blacks career from 1985 and captaincy from 1987-1990, Buck's many community services included working with Murray Deaker for the Foundation for Alcohol and Drug Education (FADE)

Buck intends to travel with the Chief Executive throughout the country in 2023 to meet as many RSA clubs as possible and gain a real understanding of the position that the organisation holds in our communities. There are 182 RSA clubs in New Zealand, so his year will be a very busy one.

Our own Coromandel RSA will be open at the Club in Woollams Avenue every Saturday during the summer from 3pm to 7pm, so all members, families, friends and visitors are welcome to come along for an enjoyable afternoon of companionship and friendliness. We wish everyone in our community a very happy and hospitable 2023.



Twilight Bowls Competition

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## Steady As You Go

Steady As You Go (SAYGo) is a weekly peer-lead group exercise class that builds strength and balance to reduce the risk of falling. It is suitable for seniors or those recovering from injury.



Classes are available country-wide and are attended by hundreds on a regular basis throughout NZ. Coromandel SAYGo is run under the auspices of Age Concern Hauraki/ Coromandel with classes in our region being held in Thames, Ngatea, Paeroa, Waihi, and Coromandel Town. Class leaders are trained volunteers.

SAYGo started in Coro Town on 3 November 2019; "Yes, just before Covid struck," says Vickie the group leader, "and numbers have gradually increased from the original four, who are still attending, up to the 14-20 regulars we have now."

We meet at Coro Gym in Pottery Lane on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am. The Tuesday class is usually fuller than the Thursday class, so if you need more space Thursday is the day for you. The cost is only \$2.

The exercises are simple, achievable and fun. They were designed by a physiotherapist so we know they are effective. No experience is needed; no special clothes are required. All you need is the desire to keep moving as you age.

At the class, you work all of the muscles and joints in your body, from your fingers to your toes, including your knees, shoulders and your eyes. Participants have reported being able to again pick up knitting needles, or the crochet hook. Some can now get under the bar at the Long Bay Motor Camp, others can walk on their tippy toes or get themselves up out of a chair, or off the loo. All have better balance, better dexterity and better body awareness.

The group goes for coffee after class and many good friendships have been made.

We welcome newbies and would love for you to come along and give-it-a-go. There is so much to gain. We will start up again in the New Year on **Tuesday 7 February** at 10am.

Where: Coro Gym on Pottery Lane – parking available. When: Tuesday and Thursday 10am-11am. Cost: \$2 donation

Contact Vickie - M: 027 417 7077; (07) 866 7894  
macrazies@gmail.com



## Beach Break Whangamata

**Saturday 28 January**, Auckland Anniversary Weekend, Williamson Park, Whangamata..

Featuring Shapeshifter, Ocean Alley, My Baby, Masaya and Flaxxies.

This is an R18 event.

Tickets on sale from [www.beachbreak.co.nz](http://www.beachbreak.co.nz)



## Ingrammi Tiles

Ingrammi Tiles was founded in 2003 by Glenda Ingram. Since then, Ingrammi Tiles has become a leading supplier and trusted local tiling expert in the Thames-Coromandel Peninsula for almost 20 years.

In 2021 Kurt Philbin purchased the business from Glenda who wished to retire. Kurt met Glenda when his father Karl was completing renovations on his home in Coromandel. Kurt remembers how impressed he was by the huge variety of tiles and all of the associated tiling products, the passion and the expansive knowledge that Glenda had. Glenda was very happy to pass on those many years of knowledge to Kurt, which spans the design, laying of tiles and pairing the perfect tile to a person.

Kurt found that his own skills for marketing, web design and photography were an excellent fit for the business and the tile industry.

Since taking over, Kurt's first objective was to build a website for the business, and Ingrammi continues to evolve. Kurt has applied all of the very latest innovations in QR codes and web design with the effect of turning the shop into an interactive display, allowing the clients to view fully tiled rooms with the tile they have chosen.

The product range has been further broadened to reflect the very latest in Italian design and the larger format 1200mm x 600mm tiles, with around 50 samples in store.

These innovative solutions spark inspiration in our clients, making the selection process easier for them to visualise a completed project.

Over the last 12 months Kurt has expanded the team, who look forward to meeting you in store to help you design your next project..

All the very best for the New Year from Kurt, Kieran and Akoni.

### January 2023 promotion

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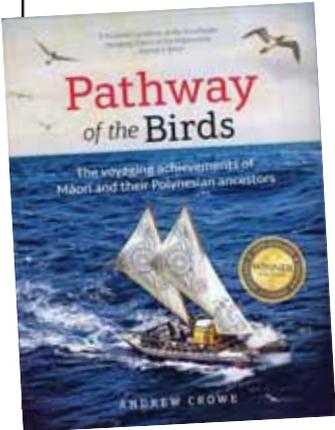
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Moehau ki te Moana presents:  
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 At The Forager's Kitchen in Colville, **Friday 17 February** at 6.30pm, dinner available for purchase, Q&A to follow.  
 This is a free event.

Contact [cass@colvillejunction.co.nz](mailto:cass@colvillejunction.co.nz)



**Test and Tag**

By Logan Nicholls

Earlier this year, I did a course through Hamilton Wintec to gain my NZ Test and Tag certificate. I just want to let people know what it is all about.

Test and Tag is the name given to the process of checking the safety of portable electrical appliances. It involves two parts: first visually inspecting the appliance for any damage, followed by electrically testing it with a Portable Appliance Tester. Once tested, the item is placed with a tag to confirm that it has in fact been tested, along with showing who tested it, the test date and when the next test is due.

The primary reason behind doing testing and tagging is to ensure the safety of the people in the workplace coming into contact with the appliance, while also minimising the risk of an electrical hazard. **Who needs to test and tag?**

Industries such as construction, demolition and mining are required to have their appliances tested and tagged every three months. This is because of the harsh nature of the industry which is likely to damage equipment at a faster rate.

With the exception of these industries, testing and tagging is not a legislative requirement for other workplaces. However, the employer does have a duty of care to ensure the safety of its employees, meaning that if someone was hurt from an appliance that wasn't tested and was unsafe, they could be found liable. Because of this, it's the employer's responsibility to have all portable electrical appliances tested.

Have you considered your workplace kitchen? For people in the hire industry, there are some minimum requirements. Testing and tagging electrical appliances is one useful way to check electrical equipment is safe. What is legally required is that equipment is electrically safe and maintained in a safe condition. Testing and tagging doesn't guarantee future electrical safety, what it does is provide a snapshot of how safe the appliance is at the time of testing. It is up to the person conducting the business or undertaking to decide whether to test and tag.

**Who can test and tag electrical equipment?**

There is a common misconception that you must be an electrician to test and tag. By undertaking a test and tag course, a person acquires the knowledge and skills in learning to use a PAT tester.

**What type of equipment is tested and tagged?**

In short, any device that has a flexible cable, a removable plug and is not low voltage (not exceeding 50V). This includes extension leads, cord sets and portable RCD's.

Generally, electrical appliances can be classed as either: Class I – this is an earthed appliance i.e. kettles, irons and toasters; Class II – double insulated appliances, which are usually identified with a symbol (a square within a square) or with the words "Double Insulated" i.e. most electric drills and hair dryers.

**What is a portable appliance tester?**

A portable appliance tester, also known as a PAT Tester is the main piece of equipment used by someone testing and tagging. It allows you to test an electrical appliance to ensure it's safe, which does so by giving you results on whether it passed or failed the particular tests.

It's worth noting that the majority of defects or faults are usually found during the visual inspection of the electrical appliance, which is conducted before you even use your appliance tester.

So just think about getting your staff kitchen appliances tested, or that beach house appliance or the caravan and boat leads. Anything not fixed – I can test and tag for a small fee.

Contact 021 0832 9729

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This fantastic setting within the Elizabeth Park Village, allows such easy access to the centre of town and the added bonus of farmland at the rear! The well-presented brick & tile home features open-plan living extending to a private deck, 2 brms, bathrm and single garage. **\$650,000**

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- \* Separate garage/studio, carport
- \* Close to beaches & boat ramps
- \* **\$1,100,000**



- \* Just absolutely immaculate!!!
- \* Brick home with double glazing
- \* Superb decking on two sides
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- \* 3 brm home with new bathroom
- \* **\$1,550,000**



- \* Wonderful position in Greenhills
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- \* Double garage; fenced on 3 sides
- \* 704m2 landscaped section
- \* **\$950,000**



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- \* Come and design your new home
- \* **\$640,000**



- \* Designed for those who entertain!
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- \* 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, office
- \* 2<sup>nd</sup> lounge or tv/games room
- \* Car & boat garaging; workshop
- \* Landscaped 1,156m2 section
- \* **\$1,790,000**



- \* Bush retreat at Wyuna Bay
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- \* No Land Covenants registered
- \* Bring the caravan, boat & kids
- \* Beach access walkway along road
- \* **\$447,000**

## Ann's Good News, Naturally

### New Year's Resolution – healthy digestion starting from the top

When it comes to New Year's resolutions, many of us decide to attempt to focus on better eating, better living, to prevent disease and optimise longterm health and wellness.

It makes sense then, to start with your digestive tract, as we know it is the gateway to all of your body systems when it comes to best health potential.

And why not start at the top.

#### Disorders of the mouth

Your mouth, and its mucous membrane lining, tells me lots about your nutritional status and quality of your stomach and digestive tract. Few diseases or conditions manifest primarily in the oral cavity. Many symptoms associated with the mouth, indicate certain nutritional deficiencies, inefficient functioning, or the presence of another gastrointestinal disease, or sometimes, diseases in any of your 10 other body systems.

For example:

- Mouth corners cracking – Malabsorption syndrome, Crohn's disease, alcoholism.
- Gingivitis and periodontal disease – Gums sore, bleeding, burning, specific unusual colours, Crohn's or Coeliac disease? Hypochlorhydria or low stomach acid.
- Tongue issues – white coated or spotty,



burning, swollen, specific colours or inflammation.

- Mouth ulcers – Malnutrition, Crohn's or Coeliac disease, corticosteroid use, mercury poisoning.
- Bad breath – Poor oral hygiene, gum infection, reflux, low stomach acid. Irritable bowel disease.
- White spots – Fungal or yeast infection, any digestive dysfunction, alcoholism, sugar, poor diet
- Dry mouth – Salivary gland issues, cancer, auto immune disorders, stress, hypertension.
- Mouth cancer – Epstein-Barr virus – smoking, alcoholism, malnutrition.
- Teeth grinding – Malabsorption.

For your best longterm health, make your best decisions about what you choose to put in your mouth. Then, the domino effect moving down your digestive tract, and then through into your body systems, will act preventatively against your need for drugs, treatment for the side effects of drugs, or surgery.

#### More good news

- Viral Cold Sores/Herpes – Like any viral infection, sugar, alcohol and a bad diet causing compromised immunity, triggered the virus to come out of dormancy for this 60-year-old man. His lesions cleared up in three weeks after being on his programme.
- Strep Throat, Inflamed Gums – Anti-inflammatory, cleansing and mucous membrane strengthening astringent herbs were used for this teenager's mouth wash with amazing success. Sense of taste and smell has returned too!
- Tonsillitis – This 7-year-old boy also

had a fever, coated tongue, and ear infections. His appetite improved after correcting his sense of taste with a special tonic; comforting chicken soup and his personalised mineral prescription was really appreciated.

- Teeth Amalgam Removal – This 30-year-old lady's overall health improved overnight after this procedure. Lethargy, depression and frequent infections are a thing of the past. The healthy calcium fluoride in her Active Elements personalised mineral prescription is potently medicinal and nourishing to her teeth, nails, bones, hair and skin, as opposed to the toxic sodium fluoride commonly used in toothpaste.

#### Healthy hints for healthy mouths

Engage your brain. Apply your higher intelligence. Choose food wisely.

Chew each mouthful 30 times. There is a sensible practical reason for this.

As you chew, the bitter tastes from foods send messages to your brain to stimulate the essential enzymes and hydrochloric acid in the stomach, to prepare best for the incoming food. Include fermented, raw and bitter foods in your meals, to support this process.

Avoid foods which dumb down your digestive processes, causing longterm indigestion, malabsorption/malnutrition, resulting in preventable modern, Western diseases.

Get your health baseline correct.

\* Live Blood Screening – Tired white blood cells? How is your gut microbiome? Do you have a virus, parasite, yeast infection?

\* Know your mineral status – [www.activeelements.com](http://www.activeelements.com), username 259077, password 579819.

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*Please follow these guidelines to keep everyone safe*

- Keep 30 metres from working mussel barges at all times
- Don't tie-up to a line being worked on
- Never cast your line towards a mussel barge – farmers have been injured from flying hooks and sinkers
- No anchors. Tie-on to a longline buoy or use approved mooring hooks
- Minimise your speed and wake
- Never drive across the lines

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## Chopper Chat

By Nigel Strongman, Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust Trustee

The Auckland Rescue Helicopter were “scrambled” 18 times for missions to the Coromandel Peninsula in November, of which six were to our side of the range.

### Missions For November

2.11.22 – Coromandel – to assist at a boat sinking. Crew were stood down and returned to base.

8.11.22 – Thames – to assist with the interhospital transfer of a female patient in her 80’s suffering a medical complaint. She was flown from Thames Hospital to Auckland City Hospital in a moderate condition.

10.11.22 – Coromandel – to assist a male patient in his 70’s suffering a medical complaint. He was flown to Waikato Hospital in a serious condition.

14.11.22 – Port Jackson – to assist a female patient in her 30’s suffering a medical complaint. She was flown to Waikato Hospital in a serious condition.

16.11.22 – Coromandel – to assist a male patient in his 60’s suffering a medical complaint. He was flown to Waikato Hospital in a serious condition.

20.11.22 – Thames – to assist a female patient in her 20’s in labour. She was flown to Waikato Hospital in a moderate condition.

The Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust (CRHT) partners with the Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust (ARHT) to provide Coromandel Peninsula residents and holiday makers alike, with a dedicated Westpac Rescue Helicopter service during the busiest time of the year.

This year, the two Trusts celebrate 10 years of working together. CRHT was formed in 2012 and have established, with thanks to a generous community, a house and hangar facility for ARHT whilst based in Whitianga. The great news is that ARHT are planning to be there again from Boxing Day over the busy summer period.

“We are delighted to be returning to the Coromandel and thankful for the National Ambulance Sector Office’s (NASO) blessing of this initiative” Northern Rescue Helicopter CEO Craig Gibbons said, “Preparations to make the deployment of our BK-117 chopper



and crew as safe and successful as it has been in the past, have started”.

Under national patient guidelines set by NASO, ARHT is required to have two helicopters and crews available at the Ardmore Base during daylight hours, every day of the year.

2022 is shaping up to be the ninth consecutive year of 1000+ missions for the charity, with 185 missions to the Coromandel Peninsula up until the end of November. If you wish to donate to the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust in support of the Auckland Westpac Rescue Helicopter being based at Whitianga this summer, go to our new website – [www.coromandelrescue.org.nz](http://www.coromandelrescue.org.nz) or contact me for alternative ways of donating. All donations are tax deductible, and a tax donation certificate will be sent if required. All donations are gratefully received.

The Coromandel Peninsula is fortunately situated that in an emergency, helicopters from Whangarei, Auckland, Waikato, and Tauranga can attend. Indeed, the Waikato choppers often fly into Thames to transfer patients, or other parts of the Peninsula, if Auckland is busy. Whangarei were called in about 12 months ago, to attend a motor vehicle incident at Tairua, and also helped in the search for a driver involved in a car versus power pole in Coromandel!

Have a safe and pleasant festive season, and please refrain from becoming a “statistic”!

Contact Nigel Strongman on 022 670 1549

## POETRY SPOT

### Christmas in Antipodea 2011

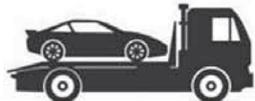
By John Irvine

sore throat  
blocked nose  
headache  
deep coughing  
congestion  
short breath  
cracked voice  
these are our good buddies  
as we sit out on the deck today  
during the Christmas lunch hour

forgone are the fillet steaks  
jacket potatoes  
broccoli  
and sherry-soaked trifle  
instead it’s Waterford crystal  
filled with ice and Baileys  
lame jokes  
and sneezing on the climbing rose

this bottle is mortally wounded  
so I go inside looking for  
another brave soldier  
Herself says ‘What the hell?’  
so we go another round.  
Just another Christmas Day  
in Antipodea

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## Grey Power Coromandel Inc

By Patricia Whimp

A quiet month this month. John and Patrick headed off to the Federation Zone 3 meeting and came back with a report of other associations struggling with lack of committee members and fears of closing, lack of doctors in their town, and housebound members battling to get groceries delivered. From the Coromandel seat, the subject of driving licences was raised for the over 80s having to renew driving licences in person. As you all know, we must drive a minimum of an hour to the closest AA office to have our driver licence updated, where we can have our passport updated online!

On the subject for shopping online, from the desk of Office of Seniors ([www.msd.govt.nz](http://www.msd.govt.nz)), a list of six handy tips has been offered:



- Does the site's name match the goods? If the website's name refers to boats, but it's selling makeup, it's probably fake.
- Check the look and feel on a site. Keep an eye out for inconsistent style and grammar.
- What payment options are available? The website should offer more than one payment option.
- Research the seller or company.
- Check for contact details and return policies.
- Check the WHOIS information and a company's social media presence.

For more detail on these tips, read the #ShopSafeNZ fact sheet on the Netsafe website or call 0508 638 723. Let's be careful while shopping online – there are a lot of rogues out there just looking to take your money off you!

To all of our members, have a Happy New Year and look forward to catching up in February 2023!

Membership for the year April 2022 to March 2023 is \$28 per two members living in same house, and

\$15 per single member. Bank account is 38-9023-0537303-00. Carol Carson, our membership secretary is more than happy to help you. We have had some members who have paid twice for this year, so please check your membership card for which year you are paying.

If you would like to know more, please don't hesitate to contact:

John on 021 139 0189 ([johngaffikin@cowan@hotmail.com](mailto:johngaffikin@cowan@hotmail.com)) or Carol 021 081 66129 ([carolcarson@extra.co.nz](mailto:carolcarson@extra.co.nz)) or myself 0274 985 229 ([patricia@prosystems.co.nz](mailto:patricia@prosystems.co.nz))



## The Chess Club

By Mike Mann

The chess club has met weekly since Covid restrictions were lifted, with four regular members.

Keith from Maatangi has added a dimension to games amid a lot of repartee and conversation.

A planned visit from the Thames Hauraki club lead by Ron Lenning is scheduled for the end of January in the park outside the Information Centre, weather permitting, or at the Citizens' Hall. This event has proved very popular in the community.

New players welcome at all levels.

Contact Bryan 021 215 9446 or Mike 027 304 9252

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## Library News

By Paul Lawrence

Another year end is nearly here, and I can't help wondering where it's all gone.

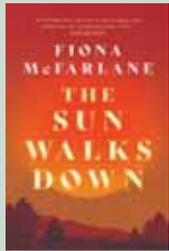
I know some of the time has gone into reading.

As of 9 December, with three weeks still to go in the year, 10,648 books have been issued by your community library. That's an amazing figure which proves that, in spite of television and streaming, there is still a place in our lives for the written word.

By the time this edition of the Chronicle is in your hands Christmas will have been and gone, presents have been opened, and I certainly hope that everyone got what they wanted. Especially if it was a book, obviously.

We have had a number of new books arrive and here are three that have had very good feedback from Coromandel readers.

### *The Sun Walks Down* – by Fiona McFarlane



An Australian born author who teaches creative writing at the University of California.

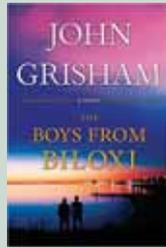
Set in the South Australian town of Fairly in 1883, *The Sun Walks Down* tells the story of six-year-old Denny Wallace who goes missing during a dust storm. As they search the desert and the mountains, all the towns' residents must explore their own relationships with the complex landscape and unsettling

history of the Flinders Ranges.

### *The Boys from Biloxi* – by John Grisham

An author who needs no introduction.

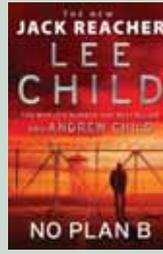
Two boys grow up as friends. One goes to law school to follow in his prosecutor father's footsteps while the other prefers the nightlife



and working in his criminal boss's father's clubs.

The inevitable conclusion must be a courtroom showdown.

### *No Plan B* – Lee Child and Andrew Child



The latest Jack Reacher novel has Reacher witnessing an accident that one witness says is suicide. Reacher disagrees. What he doesn't realise is that this is no random act of violence. It is part of a wider, high-level conspiracy that only Reacher can get to the bottom of.

If you're a Jack Reacher fan, I'm sure you will enjoy this tale.

Just a reminder. The library will close at 12pm **Saturday 24 December** and reopen 10am on

**Wednesday 4 January**. So don't forget to get in early and stock up on those good reads.

Best wishes to all of our readers from the committee and volunteers at the library. We wish you all a joyous season and a safe and prosperous 2023.

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## Coromandel Contract Bridge Club

By Judy Bronlund and Jackie Allen

Welcome to the New Year. I'm sure, like us, you are all looking forward to a more settled 2023.

### Bridge Lessons

Are you a bridge player (past or present)? Would you like to start playing? If so, we would love it if you would consider joining us. We are in the process of planning free Bridge Lessons to be held in February/March. The lessons will suit both new players looking to learn and 'old' players looking to refresh their skills. We anticipate that the lessons will run over a 6-week period, at a time yet to be finalised. If you're keen to learn this challenging international card game, now is your chance, contact one of the people listed below if you would like more information.

### Who We Are

The Coromandel Contract Bridge Club is a small, friendly club that welcomes new members, casual and visiting players. Coromandel is an unaffiliated Club, which means we can keep our annual subscription fees low (\$20 per player for the year) and table money at an affordable \$2 per night. We play on Monday evenings at the St John rooms on Tiki Road. Play starts at 7.00 pm and usually winds up between 9.30 pm and 10 pm depending on the night.

We have a committed core membership which means that we generally play every week (there have been some exceptions over the last couple of years as would be expected). However, like so many clubs of all kinds, we are looking to reinvigorate the Club in 2023 and would welcome new members or some of our past members who may be interested in reviving

their bridge playing days. Our members have a range of experience and skills, and we can offer you both competitive bridge and a supportive environment for beginners. Our members travel from as far as Matarangi and Whitianga on a regular basis – maybe offering an opportunity for car-pooling.

A special message to our existing members. Have a think, is there anyone you have played with in the past that you could talk to and see if they're interested in rekindling their love affair with cards. If so pick up the phone and have a chat, we would love to re-welcome any former members or players.

### Playing Calendar

Our competition calendar starts in mid-February and runs throughout the year until mid-December. We also run a few casual fun nights scattered through-out the year. If you don't have a partner, we will do our best to find someone for you to play with.

If you are interested in joining us as a member or visitor, or would like to enquire about bridge lessons please contact one of the following:

### Contact Details

Partner Convener Jan (07) 866 8341 or 027 478 8930  
 President Judy on (07) 866 8637 or 027 517 8306  
 Treasurer Jackie on 021 061 6876



## SolarZero to supply Coromandel network support to Powerco using virtual power plant technology

Powerco and solarZero have established a partnership for a community-led solution to help keep the lights on across the Coromandel Peninsula.

SolarZero, the country's leading home solar, battery storage and energy services company, and Powerco, the nation's second largest electricity distributor, today announced they are working together to establish a system to provide 1MW of distributed battery network support to the northern part of the Coromandel.

The system is a virtual power plant, made up of a network of hundreds of community-based smart energy storage and solar generation systems on homes across the region.

Using this system, solarZero will provide 1MW of network support to Powerco to help maintain its electricity supply to customers in the north Coromandel during peak consumption times.

Ryno Verster, Powerco General Manager Strategy and Engineering, says Powerco put an industry-wide callout for proposed solutions to provide additional supply to its north Coromandel network, selecting solarZero from this competitive tender process.

"Powerco is committed to decarbonising our network. By partnering with solarZero we've found an innovative way to support Aotearoa's move to a sustainable future while bringing a low-cost option to maintain network reliability to our Coromandel customers," says Ryno.

"With growing numbers of people choosing to live in and visit the Coromandel region, the network is reaching capacity and sometimes needs additional support, particularly if network outages occur during busy holiday periods. We're excited to see how solarZero's solution will help keep the lights on for the community if these events occur."

SolarZero's energy service is the smart new way to power homes. Delivered by solarZero's proprietary platform, the service has a series of powerful features, delivering clean energy produced from rooftop solar panels, backup power from its integrated battery and on-device intelligence which networks homes together as a virtual power plant.

"Innovative, people-powered initiatives like this support New Zealand's transition to a zero carbon economy," said Andrew Booth, CEO of solarZero. "We are proud to have been selected to work alongside Powerco to lead the way together towards 100% clean energy for all."

The partnership is scheduled to begin in 2023 and will run for an initial six-year term.

The partnership follows solarZero's acquisition by a fund managed by BlackRock Alternatives' Climate Infrastructure. BlackRock intends to invest NZD\$100 million of capital over the next three years to accelerate the development of solarZero and its unique battery technology platform.

TCDC councillors, community board members and economic development team visit the bike park



## Ride Coromandel

By Ally Davey

We recently had the chance to host the recently elected TCDC councillors, community board members and economic development team from across the region. After visiting the park a few game councillors took their luck to the trails and gave it all they had to try out the trails. The feedback was very positive with many commenting what a fantastic asset the region now has; it was a pleasure to host them all.

The bike park is once again up for nomination in Outstanding Space Award for the Sport Waikato awards taking place at Claudelands Event Centre on **Thursday 26 January**. Sport Waikato CEO Matthew Cooper recently took on the pump track (and let's just say the pump track might have had the upper hand) when he visited the region to hand over the invitation and finalist announcement.

Keep an eye out on our Facebook and Instagram pages for upcoming events; there is a lot happening in the new year.



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## Museum News

By Raewyn McKinney

I am very pleased to be able to report that progress is being made on the museum's dairy relocation project. By the time this edition of the Coromandel Town Chronicle is published, we expect the Firlawn dairy building to be on the museum site, even if not in its final position. We expect the whole project to be completed by early February. If anyone would like to donate towards this project, our bank account details are: Coromandel School of Mines & Historical Society Inc, BNZ Coromandel 020304031121100. All donations over \$5 are tax deductible; receipts will be sent on request.

In preparation for the repositioning of the jail building, the storage room was recently emptied out. We thank Denise, Murray, Joanna, Susan, Ron and Joan for their help with this work and thank Kelvin for providing a temporary home for the stored items. Thanks also go to Patrick for installing a new display board, and Zephan for disconnecting the power supply to the jail building. Zephan also donated and installed two smoke alarms; we are very grateful to him for his support and assistance.

The museum committee is always looking for ways to advertise the museum to ensure all visitors to the town are aware of the museum and to increase visitor numbers. We were therefore pleased to recently receive a grant to help with promotion of the museum. The committee felt a mural could certainly help with increasing visitor awareness of the museum, and we are thrilled with the outcome of a mural of the Museum and the Stamper Battery on the wall by Weta Café and the Coromandel Town Information Centre. We thank Rebekah Pearson for her great artwork, and thank Paul Barlow for making the work possible. Rebekah has been a great help with promoting the museum and with our fundraising efforts for the dairy project. The T-shirts and aprons made by Rebekah featuring a picture of Helen Clark (the town cat) and the slogan "Helen for Mayor" are now on sale at the museum and all proceeds will go to our building fund.

Another way of promoting the museum has been offered by Radio NZ, who are planning a series about small towns, featuring the museums. The series is planned for every weekday morning throughout January. Our chairperson, Jennie, will be speaking on our behalf and can be heard at 10.45am on **Thursday 5 January**. Mark it on your calendar to listen to the program. We thank Jennie for agreeing to take part in the program and hope it will lead to lots of extra visitors.

Plans are also underway for some new signs about and at the

museum. We hope to have these installed over the summer, so hope everyone will look out for them.

Another promotion we will be running over the summer is our annual Free Entry Day on Waitangi Day, **Monday 6 February**, so make a note of the day. Entry to the museum is free for everyone from 10am to 4pm on this day, so it is the perfect opportunity to bring the family along and check out all of the new developments.

We thank everyone who has generously given of their time so the museum can be open daily throughout the summer. Recently, a group of volunteers, committee members, and members of the Coromandel School of Mines & Historical Society gathered at the top Pub for the annual Christmas Dinner. A great meal and a good night out were enjoyed by all.

The museum will be open daily from 1pm to 4pm starting from Tuesday 27 December



Mural featuring the museum

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**Patchwork & Quilters**

Here are some pictures from our Christmas Party.  
 We welcome new members – please come along any day and see what we do. We meet at the St.John Ambulance rooms on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month. We look forward to seeing you.  
 Contact our President, Fiona Neal 027 373 6991 or Secretary, Sharon Currie 027 299 6695



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## Explaining to kids

A short story by John Irvine

“You OK, girl?”

Mrs Tiffany Patten ran work-worn fingers through her dull grey hair, then wiped her hands on her faded pinafore and watched her daughter whimpering at the barbed wire fence. Angie had been there for three days now. Plucking at her plain cotton floral frock, Angie placed the fingers of her other hand over her mouth and whispered, “Why did he go away?”

They’d had this discussion a hundred times already over the last two years, but whatever Tiffany said did not settle the six-year-old girl.

“He said he’d be back soon, mummy. Aaaaages ago. Why isn’t he back yet?”

Tiffany considered again how else she might explain to her daughter who her father was and what he was doing. She couldn’t think of a way.

“Sweetheart? Come away from the barbed wire, please? You might cut yourself.”

“I like it here. The sharp bits help me think of Daddy.”

The child leaned onto the wire as if to prove her devotion, tears welling in her eyes. A few spots of blood dotted the bodice of her cheap cotton dress. Her mouth was downturned as it always seemed to be these days, but if she was weeping for her father, Tiffany couldn’t hear it.

“Darling, he must have a good reason for not coming home yet. He has an important job with the government that sometimes takes him far away. He’ll be here as soon as he can, I know.”

Angie said nothing. Her mother sighed and went back into the simple dwelling they’d been living in since her military sniper husband had had to go into hiding after assassinating the leader of some unpronounceable country she’d never heard of. They’d barely settled in to their simple quarters when he got another “call to duty” (as he called it).

Tiffany filled the kettle and placed it on the old Aga wood stove. She sighed again. Tiffany was at her wits end about how to deal with Angie. Even she didn’t know where her husband was... never had. It was part of their marriage deal. She didn’t ask, he didn’t tell. But he’d never been away this long before.

“Mummy! Mummy! Daddy’s here. He’s coming!”

Tiffany froze for a second, then raced outside.

“See, mummy? The big car is bringing him home!”

Tiff looked down their dirt road at the solemn black cavalcade of vehicles crawling up their track. Foremost was a long, black-windowed vehicle flying their country’s flag on either fender. Military vehicles of all descriptions made up the escort. Tiffany let her tears go.

“See, mummy! I knew he’d come back!”



# Wild things

PHOTO CREDIT PETE SEPHTON

By Pete Sephton

## Manaaki Whenua

Landcare Research describe this golden coloured insect as a winged weta and although it is related to our NZ weta it is an Aussie import. They were first noticed in 1990 but have not become widespread or threatening to any native species. In fact they are only sporadically found in South Auckland, Auckland, Northland and Coromandel. If you are lucky enough to see one you will notice how similar it is to the NZ bush weta apart from the wings. They grow to 35-40mm and have a powerful bite. Australians call them the King Cricket.



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## A Year of Progress for The Colville Project

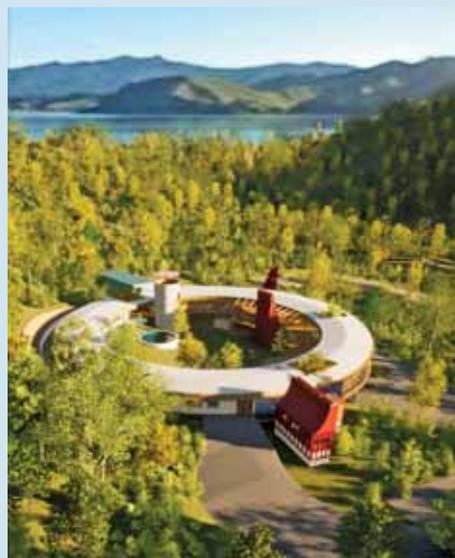
By Nicole Turner



2022 started off with a bang as The Colville Project Trust purchased 35 hectares of land to build the long awaited and much needed Wellbeing and Education Centre that will service the northern Coromandel. Located just 1.4 km north-west of Colville village, it is out of the flood and tsunami zones that affect much of the area.

The Wellbeing and Education Centre will be the new, purpose-built home for a variety of health professionals, the community centre, the op shop plus a number of other community support services. It will be the base for the only GP servicing a 260 sq km area, the rural nursing service plus the ambulance, all of which see demand soaring during the busy summer months.

We ran a tender process and engaged the Wellington based architect firm Gerard Dombroski Workshop. Gerard has experience working on buildings in the Coromandel and was excited to work on a unique community-led project. He has come up with an innovative circular design concept to represent the inclusiveness that we hope all will feel on entering.



Looking forward to 2023, we will be working with Council on resource and building permits before aiming for construction to begin on the site of the Wellbeing and Education Centre in 2024.

We're actively looking for volunteers to help us run fundraising events over the summer as well as participate on our advisory boards. You don't need to be a fulltime local, just full of enthusiasm to help us get the project built!

And of course, we continue to need financial donations to keep the momentum going on our project.

If you'd like to learn more or find out how to donate to The Colville Project, visit [www.thecolvilleproject.nz](http://www.thecolvilleproject.nz)

## Mahamudra Centre Update

By Beth Pearsall



There was recently a community meeting in Colville about the coming changes to the health system and how communities can have more say in how we receive health care services.

It is so exciting to see a shift in thinking towards a more holistic approach to health and wellbeing. We sometimes think of the mind and body as being separate parts of our being. But this is not the case. When we eat well, exercise and get enough sleep, our minds are less anxious, more organised, and able to respond to change in a helpful way. When we care for our body, we care for our mind.

And the same goes that when we care for our mind, we care for our body. We store trauma and emotion (which are thoughts) in our body and it can cause pain and illness. When we practice, we can have control over our thoughts. We can see how our thinking is causing us pain and suffering and learn to create new thoughts which serve us better. This is not always easy but with dedication it gets easier.

We are so blessed to have a space here at Mahamudra to support your mind and your body to be well. We have some phenomenal teachers and practitioners who are offering courses and retreats in our community.

Here are the retreats we have coming up in the next couple of months. There are more in February, too, so check our website for more details: [www.mahamudra.org.nz](http://www.mahamudra.org.nz).

**Thu 5-Sun 15 January** – Lam Rim Course and Retreat – The course will cover many important topics such as: Refuge in Buddha, Dharma, Sangha; rebirth and mental continuity; death; the Four Noble Truths; karma; compassion and bodhicitta.

**Fri 27-Mon 30 January** – Qi Gong for Qi Inspired Living – learn nourishing practices for health, vitality, happiness, joy, connection, well-being and fulfillment.

**Fri 3-Mon 6 February** – Medicine Buddha Retreat - The Medicine or Healing Buddha embodies the healing aspect of the mind; the practice is powerful for healing ourselves and others.

**Thu 9-Sun 12 February** – Summer Glow Retreat with Wild Stillness Retreats – Women's retreat that weaves yoga, meditation, creativity, dance and self-expression into a weekend of connection and celebration.

As always, our centre is open to walk around the Stupa, sit a while in the Gompa, visit our small shop or have a cup of tea.

We are running regular Wednesday Morning Meditation 8.15-8.45am. All welcome!

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**Kath Jones**  
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## Welcome To Our Sales Team!

*Kath is now a Licensed Sales & Marketing Consultant having been front of Office with Harcourts for the past year. Her background latterly working with the fabulous customers at Coromandel 4 Square for 2 1/2 years, helping to support the Community during the Covid lockdown period culminating in her taking on a new challenge with a Career in Real Estate. While in public service for 25 years, working with a diverse range of clients, she developed a focus helping them to achieve the best possible outcome, by creating personal Action Plans. Kath has lived in the Coromandel area for about 9 years. She is Waikato born and bred, married to a local Builder. Spending time with 2 adult sons, their partners, a beautiful baby granddaughter and 3 fur kids is very special to her. To wind down she enjoys playing guitar and developing the family lifestyle block. Recently, she joined up as a Volunteer Rural Fire fighter.*



**We're confident you will receive great service from Kath!**

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## Whiti Beach Meet Supporting Whitianga Lions Club Project Mammogram

By Whitianga Lions Club

There's a deep meaning behind why a 1958 pink Cadillac, dubbed The Survivor, is set to give one lucky person and their partner or friend an experience of a lifetime.

The Whiti Beach Meet in Whitianga on **Sunday 8 January**, is organised by American Street and Custom Club Whitianga. Doug and Denise Campbell's pink Cadillac will be there raising funds for Project Mammogram by offering someone a chance to win a 'cruise' in this beautiful machine to Kuaotunu for lunch at Luke's Kitchen before returning to Whitianga.

Simply drop a donation in the Whitianga Lions Club bucket at Whiti Beach Meet and you're in the draw to win.

Also, half the money raised from the Whiti Beach Meet, after organising costs, will go to Project Mammogram, while the Cancer Society will receive the other half.

Doug is very much in support of Project Mammogram and any fundraiser that helps in fighting cancer, admitting with obvious

emotion that cancer has in recent times cast its shadow over his family and friends.

He wants to focus, though, on living life to the fullest and having a beautiful car that has survived in original condition, never been restored and has been looked after its whole life, means he can treat people to a very special experience.

Brought to New Zealand from



the United States by a friend of the original owner, it went through the compliance process only to be stored and left with the number plates remaining on the back seat. When Doug bought it eight years later, just before Covid, the plates were still sitting on the seat.

It was the fins that won Doug and Denise over. They had a 1970 convertible but longed for a fins car with loads of chrome, not to mention a rather hot feature, the Dagmars.

Doug points to two black pointed mounds on either side of the bumper and explains: "There was a very famous Hollywood actress and her name was Dagmar and they are very much what her chest looked like. Who has a part of a car named after their chest," laughs Doug.

Denise says they are very much looking forward to people coming to Whiti Beach Meet to see the cars.

She says the joy of owning this Cadillac is seeing people's faces. "You're driving along and everyone goes 'oooh', they're happy, they're waving, and they say 'what a neat car'. They just light up."

But if you are going to have a Cadillac it has to be pink, says Doug and he hopes anyone who has ever dreamed of riding in a pink Cadillac will make a donation in the Whitianga Lions Club bucket on the day for a chance to win.

Luke's Kitchen is delighted to be behind the pink Cadillac experience in supporting Project Mammogram and have donated lunch for the winner and their partner or friend and as a thank you to Doug and Denise they will also receive lunch at Luke's Kitchen.

Mike Brown, Whitianga Lions Club's Project Mammogram committee leader says this prize is a generous way of supporting the project and it helps drive home the message that access to early detection for better outcomes is essential for living life to the fullest. "We need to raise \$350,000 for the new 3D Mammogram unit for the Coromandel region, and we're grateful for Doug and Denise and the team at Luke's Kitchen for their support in helping make it happen."

Mark the date: Whiti Beach Meet, **Sunday 8 January**, Buffalo Beach Reserve, 9.30am till 3.30pm – over 150 muscle cars, vendor stalls including food and beverages, live music.



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**Coromandel Lions**

By Mary Farmer, president, and Noeline Martin



Welcome to the new year everyone. I'm hoping you all had a fun time with your nearest and dearest.

It's with great sadness our club had to say goodbye to one of our own. Philip Ross passed away Saturday 10 December. All of the family are in our thoughts. Rest in peace Philip.

Also, it is with much regret that we have just heard of the passing of past president of the Coromandel Lions, Paul Wild. He passed on Monday 12 December in Bulls. The club will be represented at his funeral by Tim and Miriam Moss. Paul was president in 1999. Our thoughts go out to his family at this time.

We have had a busy month, mostly with the run-up to Christmas, as you will see by the photo that Noeline Martin has taken, we drew our raffle and results can be seen below.

The club is grateful to all who donated, helped and made the raffle the success it was.

We are, as I type, getting ready for our Keltic Fair adventure. I hope to see all of you at some stage for a taste of our fritters. We are also hoping to have an Eftpos machine to take your plastic; we have to move with the times. I am hoping it will have been another

fantastic fundraising day for the school and many local groups that work so hard to make sure that everyone who goes will have a fun time.

I hope you stay well and safe. I leave you for now and pass you to Noeline to talk further about the raffle.

Hello everyone, Noeline Martin here.

The Coromandel Lions raffle comprised donations contributed by the following businesses: Coromandel Four Square, Pepper Tree, Star and Garter, Copperworks, Morrisey Automotive Services, Coromandel Pharmacy, James and Turner, Coromandel Coffee Roastery, Level 4 Design, Designer Jewellery, Star Gallery, Umu, Beady Eyes, Pipeline, Coastal Cutters, Fish, Hunt and Dive, Coromandel Liquor, The Bizarre, Coromandel Supersaver.

Other local donations were also added.

Two hampers of equal value were assembled, to the approximate value of \$500 each. The raffle was drawn on 9 December by Justice of the Peace Lynda Walsh, at the home of treasurer Joan Knudsen, and the winners are Gary (sorry no last name given) and Vi Ward. Both have been contacted and are very happy to have been lucky to have won.

The funds raised some \$1012 which will be presented to the Coromandel Museum project.



The drawing of the Coromandel Lions Christmas hamper was by Linda Walsh Justice of the Peace with Lions Joan Knudsen, Sue Hughes and Noeline Martin (pictured are Linda and Noeline)

The Coromandel Lions thank all of the businesses and everyone who gave so generously. I also want to thank my helpers Rick, Ryan and Logan.

Contacts: 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



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## Animal Rescue Thames

By Alice and John Parris

Firstly happy mew year to all. Hopefully this year will be so much kinder on everyone.

Thank you to everyone who supported us through Christmas and we are grateful for the donations of food for the kitties and financial blessings that help us help those in our care.

It's been quieter for us across this festive season but something we know won't last, but the animals in our care we have budgeted for and have funds for at this point.

Internet fundraising and Christmas crafts really hit an all time low and some items failing to get a bid at a dollar so that really says something about the times now.

We are just quietly ticking along and will be reassessing the future for the unit. At this given time we are getting by, just, but managing okay with it all.

Kera is proving to be a little mouser and good at catching them along with Lizzie so we get plenty of presents brought to us whether we like it or not. Kera has odd tastes – attacking the parsley in the pot on bench, giving a nibble, giving a yank till a chunk falls off and spits it out with a screwed up face as the taste was totally not to her furry liking. Attacking it was the fun for her though. She was not happy at all that I deigned to laugh at her. I can see that this particular plant will meet the same fate as the others we have had on bench or window sill. They either get chewed up or they lie in the pots and flatten the plants totally. Such is cats.



Lincoln and cinders are a happy couple taking great pleasure in their roomy abode and neither hate each other and sleep together and they have been seen to play, whacking balls around the unit and bouncing around each other, so they are at least happy, which all the rescue kitties are, happy and comfy.

Kera still remains the only available one for adoption to a very special home. Preferably older couple, no kids and quiet rural area if possible. Delightful girl, wormed, deflead and spayed.

Wanted, donations of kitty kai, tinned, sachets, pet milk, financial blessings.

Financial blessings should be credited to Thames Animal Rescue Team 06 0457 0095150 01 with reference of where you would like us to spend the blessing.

Meow furr now.

Any enquiries to Thames Animal Rescue ph (07) 868 2907, afternoons best

## How smart is your right foot?

This is funny, you have to try this.

This is true – I guess there are some things that the brain can't handle.

1. While sitting in a chair, lift your right foot off the floor and make clockwise circles.

2. Now, while doing this, draw the number "6" in the air with your right hand. Your foot will change direction.

I told you so! And there is absolutely nothing you can do about it! You and I both know how stupid it is – but I expect you'll try it again just to make sure.

## Laziness pays off!

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Turtles do nothing and live for 150 years.

Lesson learned!

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## MP Scott Simpson re-selected as National Party candidate for 2023 election

The National Party has confirmed Scott Simpson as its Coromandel candidate for the 2023 General Election.

“I’ll continue to advocate for our region as I campaign to represent the Coromandel electorate again in 2023,” says Scott.

Scott Simpson was first elected Coromandel MP in 2011. He served as a Minister outside cabinet before the formation of the Labour-led coalition and he is currently the National Party Spokesperson for the Environment and Climate Change, as well as the Associate Spokesperson for Transport.

### Hon Scott Simpson MP For Coromandel

No doubt everyone is enjoying the summer and the chance to spend time with friends and family in the beautiful Coromandel. Our communities really come into their own during the peak tourism season. I’m looking forward to getting around the Peninsula and supporting our wonderful local summertime events.



The Christmas and New Year break is a time to reflect on the past year and prepare for the challenges ahead in 2023. Unfortunately, it looks like we will continue to grapple with a cost-of-living crisis and mortgage holders may be in for a particularly tough time. And in terms of politics, 2023 is going to be jam-packed as we head for a general election and the government attempts to push through the last policies on their agenda.

The general election will be a contest of ideas focused largely on Labour’s lack of delivery over the last six years. Our economy is in poor shape. Government spending is out of control which is contributing to inflation reaching a 30-year record high. There’s also a crimewave sweeping the whole country and our region is impacted as much as any other. People are wanting the practical, sensible, and effective solutions being offered by Chris Luxon and National.

We’re fortunate to live in a functioning democracy. People will have an opportunity to engage during the election campaign and then they can cast their votes. The sense I’m getting is that it’s time to change the government. My National Party colleagues and I will be working hard every day to earn the confidence of voters.

Scott Simpson

MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime

0800 550 330 • [scottsimpson.co.nz](http://scottsimpson.co.nz)  
[mpcoromandel@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:mpcoromandel@parliament.govt.nz)

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## Mana Update

By Jade Ferriere

The New Year brings with it a fresh start and a sense of rejuvenation and rebirth. It is an opportunity to set our intentions for the year ahead and consider ways that we can improve ourselves and the lives of those around us.

Moving beyond the traditional resolutions of get fit, lose weight and make more money, we at Mana are leaning towards an inspired and simple list of loving, giving and living.

Start and end each day with a grateful heart.

Find opportunities to practice kindness.

Live everyday with intention.

There is a lot to be said about keeping it simple, especially considering more than 92% of people’s New Year’s resolutions don’t make it further than two weeks into the year. It is a good time to make changes, and it is also a great time to acknowledge the things you are already doing well and perhaps give them a little more energy and time.

Just as important as setting an intention is having gratitude and the transition of one year to another presents an opportunity to appreciate all the learning and experience that the past year has offered.

We encourage you to take a moment, right now, to think about this past year: what was the greatest lesson you learnt? What are you most thankful for?

And right now, what is working in your life? What qualities would you like to welcome more of? Joy, happiness, clarity, calm, freedom, creativity, relaxation, balance, just to name a few...

Is there something that you are holding onto – an old behaviour, way of thinking, fear, or doubt that is blocking you? Now is the time to let go. Where you’ve been has been important, it has helped shape who you are. But as you welcome in new energy into your life you can let go and trust that where you’re going is important and wonderful, too.

Let go, be free to step forward with new-found awareness and grow.

May the New Year see you loving, giving and living!

UPCOMING RETREATS

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7-13 JAN	Eyebody with Peter Grunwald
13-15 JAN	Relax and Wellness Retreat with Mana Team
20-22 JAN	Mid Summer Relax and Wellness Retreat with the Mana Team
27-29 JAN	Foodie’s Relax and Wellness Retreat with the Mana Team
3-6 FEB	What’s What – An Open Floor Professional Movement Training with Geordie Jahner Ph.D and Andrea Juhan Ph.D
10-12 FEB	Reputed Retreat with Lisa O’Neill

Weekly Open Floor Dance Classes - see online schedule for dates

Mana

# rangatahi OUR CHILDREN

## Coromandel Area School

By Jamie Rose Brown

We hope you have had a wonderful Christmas with your families. See you all in the new year! Have a safe and happy holiday. Below are the term dates for 2023.

### Term One

The school office will be open week of **Tuesday 31 January** for new enrolments and any questions that you may have.

**Friday 3 February** – Years 11-13 course confirmation and mentor time in the morning (buses will run this day for Years 11-13).

**Tuesday 7 February** – All students Years 1-13: we will begin our day with a whole school pōwhiri. The buses will be running on this day.

**Friday 10 February** – Whānau fun day; you are all welcome to attend, nau mai haere mai whānau. We will send more information out about this at the start of the year!

**Thursday 6 April** – Last day of Term One (Easter in the holidays).

All 2023 stationery lists and information can be found on our website: [www.coroarea.school.nz](http://www.coroarea.school.nz).

To keep up-to-date with all of the latest announcements and notices make sure you like us on Facebook and regularly check our website [www.coroarea.school.nz](http://www.coroarea.school.nz).

We look forward to an EPIC 2023.

COROMANDEL  
AREA SCHOOL



## Colville Bay Pre-school

By Esther Powell

Te whare ako o te Uumangawhaa o  
Nga Waka.

Ka whāngai, ka tupu, ka puāwai.

To nurture, to grow, to blossom.

Licensed for up to 20 children, we provide a caring, nurturing environment for children between the ages of 0-6 to play, discover, and connect. Colville Bay Pre-school is nestled between te ngahere o Te Tara-o-te-Ika a Māui, me te Tikapa Moana.

\* 20 free hours for 3-year-olds+ and WINZ subsidies available.

\* Mini-van transport from Coromandel and return for 3-6-year-olds Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday during term time. Limited places available so please get in touch before Term 1, 2023 begins.

This summer we celebrate the 5th birthdays of Skya, Beau and Gala who we farewell to continue their learning journeys at school. We have had so many special moments with these three and like to mention some of their special talents in common: great storytelling, climbing skills, humour and kindness towards their peers. We will really miss you three but wish you the best.

This year has been both challenging and rewarding, navigating through Covid in our community and many changes. We have gained two wonderful kaiako and also had the pleasure of our music specialist Brooke Dennehy returning for regular weekly sessions. Our Christmas party/end of year celebration for the children and whānau was a great success with the sun out for our group photos. Santa, surprises, songs, laughter, shared kai and a welcome get together for our whānau who, coming from four directions on the Coromandel, don't often cross paths!

I am endlessly amazed by our tamariki, such a kind, skillful, quirky bunch we enjoy so much. Our families, staff and wider-community support is outstanding. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou to the many hands turning up to build, maintain and to awhi our community-owned Pre-school, and to those who helped fundraise to make ongoing improvements possible.

If you would like to donate to our charity-registered centre, please contact [admin@colvillebaypreschool.co.nz](mailto:admin@colvillebaypreschool.co.nz).

For further information and enrollments please email Esther seniorteacher@colvillebaypreschool.co.nz. 2391 Colville Road (behind Colville School), [www.colvillebaypreschool.co.nz](http://www.colvillebaypreschool.co.nz), phone 022 645 3272 during open days: Tues- Friday 8.45am-3pm. We are closed over the Christmas/summer break until 24 January



COLVILLE BAY  
PRE-SCHOOL



## Coromandel Youth Group

### Christmas Holidays at Hauraki House

Youth Group provides a variety of activities and play for children 5 to 15yrs. Parents just fill out a membership form and bring children along with a packed lunch or money for snacks. Optional things to bring are togs and towel for water activities and walking shoes for the daily walk to feed chickens and collect eggs.

January School Holiday Times: The first Youth Group session for 2023 is **Wednesday 4 January**. We will be open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 11am-4pm and Sunday 1-4pm throughout January.

For more information call in at Hauraki House, phone us on (07) 866 7061 or send an email to [coromandelyouthgroup@gmail.com](mailto:coromandelyouthgroup@gmail.com).

This programme is made possible with donations and grants from: Lottery Waikato, D.V. Bryant Trust, COGs, Waikato Trust, Aotearoa Gaming Trust, NZ Community Trust, Star & Garter Hotel, The Bizarre, TCDC. Thank you!

# Barry Brickell Play With Clay Day

**HAURAKI HOUSE GROUNDS**  
**Saturday 28th January 2023 • 10am to 3pm**

Come along and have fun with local clay with help from top local clay artists and keep alive the memory of Barry Brickell and his contribution to our town.

Try your hand on a potters wheel, use moulds or free form your ideas.

This is a free event open to everyone and includes live music on the Barry Brickell stage.

Supported by Creative Communities



## Van & School Bus Drivers

Get on Board with Go Bus Transport and come join our great team! We are looking for permanent Part-Time Van and School Bus Drivers in Waihi, Thames, Ngatea, Maramarua, Tairua, Coromandel town and Pauanui to start end of January 2023.

What you need:

- Enjoy being with young people and have their safety and welfare at heart
- Class 1 licence (2 years)
- Class 2 licence (we can help you obtain this)
- P endorsement (we can help you obtain this)
- A responsible and caring approach

If you want to be part of a business that is making a difference in your community then we want to hear from you! Our recruitment process includes a Drug and Alcohol Test and Police Vetting check.

Contact Gary at Go Bus on 027 375 4189 or [Gary.Brown@gobus.co.nz](mailto:Gary.Brown@gobus.co.nz)

Get on board with [gobus.co.nz](http://gobus.co.nz)

# mahi toi ARTS

## Gallery 6

We are celebrating!

Gallery 6 is celebrating its 1st birthday. The idea of one of the artists' partners with a comment "you should", the gallery was created in December 2021 in a vacant tenancy in Coromandel Town. Now a year later it is part of the town fabric. Beautifully presented and a great



Examples of artwork by (L-R) Diann Cade, Fran Campbell, Jan Linklater, Vaughan Udall and Donna Scatchard



L-R Diann Cade, Donna Scatchard, Fran Campbell, Jan Linklater, Vaughan Udall

display space, the principle artists Diann Cade, Jan Linklater, Vaughan Udall, Donna Scatchard and Fran Campbell, all local artists, enjoy sharing their work and meeting the public. While winter has quieter months for visitors, they are looking forward to the summer influx.

As each artist has their own style, this provides a wide range of works, both large and small on display. Ever changing as new works appear and the display is rearranged.

The gallery is attended by the artists each day, enjoying the interaction with the visitors. It is of value to have comments about their work and even greater value when someone says "I love that!" and buy. Again, the artists celebrate!

You will also find ceramics and craft items of other local makers, plus cards, prints and books.

Gallery 6 was created as a pop up gallery in December 2021 and remained open all winter.

The artists personally attend the gallery each day, enjoying the contact with the visitors and sharing what they do.

The artists suggest to take an introductory look at their Facebook page "gallery-6coromandel" then take a ride and a visit! Meet the artists. All part of the Coromandel lifestyle.

Open Thursday to Tuesday 10am-4pm. Closed Wednesday. Gallery 6, 191 Kapanga Road, Coromandel Town

## Sea and Shore: Flow and Motion

The Driving Creek Gallery in Coromandel Town will be home to an exhibition of works from Tairua artist Christina McGrath and Kuaotunu photographer Ian Preece. The exhibition Sea and Shore: Flow and Motion opens on **Friday 30 December** from 4-6pm and runs from **Saturday 31 December to Sunday 15 January**. We are open from 10am to 6pm every day.



Artwork by Christina McGrath

Christina and Ian will be on site during the exhibition. Both artists are featuring new work and all works are for sale. Entry is free.

Ian and Christina worked together on the Creative Coromandel Partner Up programme last year when they decided to pair up and host a joint exhibition.

"As artists we are both passionate about and inspired by nature and in particular the ocean. Our use of media and interpretation of the subject, however is very different, creating an engaging experience. We felt that the commonality and the contrast of our work would be an inspiration to us both and hopefully provide an enhanced experience for our visitors."

"An important point for both of us is to increase the appreciation of our natural world, especially at a time when we are facing increasing threats to that world. To paraphrase David Attenborough, "You cannot value something you haven't experienced and you cannot protect something you don't value."

"We are really pleased to be exhibiting at the Driving Creek Gallery. As a purpose-built gallery, it is an ideal space for running an extended exhibition over a number of weeks."

Christina is a resin and fluid acrylic surf and ocean artist. She adores surfing and the powerful elements that the sea offers. Her work encompasses the artistic and fluid elements of wave formations and shoreline expressions. There is a soulful element in every piece and you can feel and sense the water in her work.

Rich and pure colours shining with resin, polished shades of blues and naturals stand out on her recycled surf boards, wooden tables, big and small rounds and all sizes of framed and natural canvases.

Currently living in Tairua, she integrates her love of nature into her surf retreats, yoga, wellbeing and creativity workshops.

Ian is a photographer of the natural world and primarily the Coromandel. He is based in Kuaotunu and also runs on-location photography workshops. "I'm fascinated by the movement of water and the way that a still, two-dimensional image can convey the perception of depth and movement through the use of tone, colour and contrast. We have a very emotional relationship with the sea. I consider an image successful if it conveys something of that emotion to the viewer."

"In this exhibition I'll be sharing new works taken in the Coromandel, Great Barrier Island and Ohiwa exploring that theme. These works are exhibited on different media as they can highlight different aspects of the image."

Christina will also be running inspired flow yoga for all levels surrounded by the beauty of art and the natural gardens. **Monday 2, Thursday 5, Friday 6, Saturday 7 January**, 9.15-10am. All welcome. Drop in, \$20. Bring your own mat or towel. Some mats provided. Please text with any questions 021 293 5688.

Ian Preece [www.ianpreecephotography.com](http://www.ianpreecephotography.com)  
Christina McGrath [www.swellfitliving.com](http://www.swellfitliving.com)

## 34th Coromandel Christmas Art Exhibition

Runs **Sunday 18 December to Saturday 14 January** at Hauraki House, Coromandel Town. Open 10am until 4pm daily.

**Himalaya shop : Colville**

Hi Everyone, we hope you all had a good Christmas!  
The Himalaya shop will be open 7 days a week during January.  
Our hours are 10 a.m. to between 4 and 5 p.m.  
We still have a good selection of summer clothes and giftware,  
so why not take a drive up the coast and have a browse!  
contact us :A/H 07 8666 865, shop 07 8667 224  
Anette Mobile 021 139 7838, Rob 021 155 8559  
email robnnet@yahoo.com

# mahi toi ARTS continued

## “Womb Women” a representation of the Matriarchal lineage

Art Exhibition by Lisa Corston-Blanche  
 Monday 23 January to  
 Monday 6 February  
 Hauraki House Gallery



Wow so close now! Sitting here writing this article and I am feeling excited and nervous all at once. Only one more week of my hands in the wet clay creating the final few Womb Women, and then a couple of weeks for drying, applying the oxide glaze, firing, creating the internal standing support structures, and any final finishing touches. By the time you read this, fingers crossed, all sculptures, from the largest life-size woman to the smallest woman that nestles into the palm of your hand, will be ready. A total of 750kg of clay and 26 kiln firings have gone into the creation of this exhibition, not to mention the past two years of my life! And so to the exhibition itself...

Gallery hours from **Tuesday 24 January** are 10am to 4pm. Late night viewings TBC. See my website for more info and all event updates.

### Ceremonial opening

**Monday 23 January**, 5.30-7pm, please arrive ready for the ceremony to begin at 5.45pm.

This opening will be different. A blessing ceremony to honour all of the women of our bloodlines. I will speak briefly about the

journey into being of “Womb Women”. The atmosphere will be soft, a quiet space held with a sense of reverence for the work itself. All welcome (no alcohol).

### Social opening and gathering

**Friday 27 January**, 5.30-7.30pm

This is the good ole, light-hearted, traditional “wine and nibbles” social opening. All welcome.

### “Womb Women” – women’s workshop (co-facilitated by Jade Faerie-Air)

**Monday 30 January** (normal gallery viewing will be closed this day), 10am to 2.30pm. Cost \$60 (covers all supplies, materials and firing.)

To register: [www.artworkbylisacorston.co.nz/womens-workshop](http://www.artworkbylisacorston.co.nz/womens-workshop) (spaces are limited).

For centuries women have gathered, sharing what they know of being alive. This time together is an opportunity for being in good and nourishing company with other women. Here is the timetable:

10-11am – Cacao Ceremony – When we sit in a circle and sip cacao, something undeniably mysterious, nourishing, and beautiful unfolds. We drop out of our heads and into our hearts where there is a palpable sense of connectedness. This ceremonial journey is an invitation to attune to the bloodlines of the feminine that weave our lives together.

\*Please note that you do not have to drink



cacao; herbal tea will be available as an alternative.

11am-12noon – Making your own “Womb Women” – Through millennia women have shaped clay. This is an opportunity to shape your own small womb women, perhaps in honour of a special woman, perhaps an honouring of your own lineage. No experience needed, simply bring with you a curiosity and willingness to play and create.

12-12.30pm – lunch. Bring with you a picnic lunch; drink refreshments will be available.

12.30-2.30pm – Women’s Story Sharing – Women gathering to share personal stories sparked by the Womb Women theme. You may wish to share, you may wish to simply listen. This is a time to call in our personal stories, to speak and be heard, without judgment, weaving our own voices into the collective voice of womankind. Every story matters.

### Closing ceremony

**Monday 6 February**, 5.30-6.30pm

I would like to end well, to mark the completion of this exhibition, honouring the two-year creative journey that has birthed “Womb Women” into being.

And then I think I will sleep for a month!

[www.artworkbylisacorston.co.nz](http://www.artworkbylisacorston.co.nz), facebook / Instagram: [wombwomanlineageproject](https://www.facebook.com/wombwomanlineageproject), [info@artworkbylisacorston.co.nz](mailto:info@artworkbylisacorston.co.nz)

ART EXHIBITION | 23RD JAN TO 6TH FEB 2023 | HAURAKI HOUSE, COROMANDEL

# WOMB WOMEN

BY LISA CORSTON

A body of work dedicated to every woman in our female ancestral lines.



@wombwomanlineageproject



[artworkbylisacorston.co.nz](http://artworkbylisacorston.co.nz)



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## Coromandel Art Group

By Val Gray

### Our 20th Anniversary

They say time flies when you are having fun, and the past 20 years for the Coromandel Art Group have certainly flown.

The group started in 2003 when Eva Wickenden and Alan Beaver got together to paint, and were soon joined by others keen to paint with a like-minded group. And so it began... it continued to expand both in numbers and interest over the years.

We have a very comprehensive video, DVD and art book collection available to members. Over the years we have had many workshops with both local tutors and NZ famous tutors, in a variety of media and subject matter. Peter Nicholson, Val Tubman, Barbara von Seida, Murray Stuart, Vaughan Udall, and many more. We were lucky to have Patrick Greene as a member of the group, and his help and knowledge was invaluable.

When the weather permits we meet up and paint out on location. Best of all worlds, painting, good company, scenery and a coffee. Christmas sees us put away our brushes and have a bit of a "knees-up" to wind down ready for Christmas.

Annually we have an exhibition at Hauraki House Gallery where we show our year's work to the public. Always an exciting time, and this year our exhibition will be from **Friday 10-Sunday 26 February**, this time with two evening sessions. Because it is our 20th exhibition it is extra special. So we hope to see you all there. Details in our advertisement in the Chronicle next month.

Our joint painting, pictured in last month's article, is on sale prior to and at the exhibition, for \$650. Contact Lindsay on (07) 866 7799 if you wish to view it.

A huge thank you to all of the locals who, over the years, have supported us in all our endeavours.



Linda and Shirley have always done the beautiful flower arrangements at our exhibitions

## Important news for music and performing arts supporters In Coromandel

By Liz Cameron & Robin Munch

As you may be aware, Creative New Zealand (CNZ) has made a decision to cease the funding AOTNZ has received for 16 years, under the Kahikatea programme. Previously, Creative New Zealand provided funding on a three-yearly basis of \$235,000 per annum. This funding has allowed AOTNZ organisation to operate on a clear financial footing. For the period January to June 2023, CNZ has allocated transitional funding, at a rate of 75% of the previous allocation under the Kahikatea programme, of \$88,000.

AOTNZ is also entitled to, and will, apply to CNZ for additional grant funding, on a biannual basis. We have just been notified that AOTNZ has received some funding and therefore have confirmed three shows for next year! Yay!

They are – the one-woman play *Hanna*, directed by Jennifer Ward-Lealand on **Thursday 2 March**, the NZ String Quartet on **Thursday 25 May**, and Austen Found with Penny Ashton on **Sunday 8 October**. So, all is not lost! AOTNZ can continue bringing great shows to the rural areas!

Robin Munch and I would like to thank all those Coromandel supporters who responded to our call for help earlier this year, and who donated so generously. We will contact you all in the New Year, issue tax receipts to those who requested them, and sort out ticket choices. As Robin explained, the Coromandel Players have taken some large losses on the shows this year, and are loathe to keep on doing so (for your information, most shows cost us more than \$1,250, and rather than increase ticket prices, we will use the donations to cover the shortfall). For those supporters who have yet to donate, and would like to do so, please get in touch with Robin or myself – robinmunch24@gmail.com or lizannever3@gmail.com).

And for those of you who would like to sign the petition calling for a reversal of the Creative NZ decision, here is the link: <https://our.action-station.org.nz/petitions/immediate-reinstatement-of-arts-on-tour-funding>.

Thank you everyone for your continued interest and support. I hope you are enjoying the summer.

## Mercury Bay Art Escape 2023

Mercury Bay Art Escape is all go for the first two weekends in March 2023. After the past hiatus, 41 artists from Tairua to Matarangi are preparing to welcome art lovers to their open studios. With 15 new members, and a variety of new mediums, Mercury Bay Art Escape promises to be an exciting, creative journey for our visitors.

In conjunction with the release of the 2023 Art Guide we are excited to announce the launch of our newly refreshed website with current local art events, information on artists and open studios, workshops and art news in the area.

Collect an Art Guide available from i-Sites, libraries and local cafés or download from our new website [www.mercurybayartescape.com](http://www.mercurybayartescape.com).

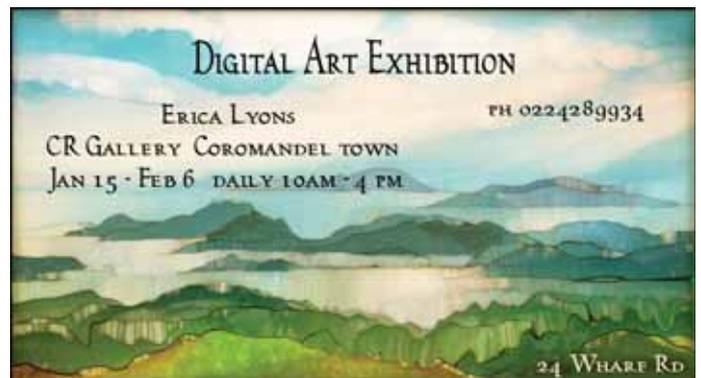
Kicking off with the Gala event at 6pm on **Friday 3 March** at Hot Waves Café in Hot Water Beach, the Art Escape will be opened by treasured New Zealand gardening writer and broadcaster, Lynda Hallinan. Integrating art and nature, Lynda's favourite gardens are those that double as both a work of planted art, and as a space to share and showcase the work of other creative minds.

Tickets to the Gala event can be purchased from our new website or at Hot Waves Café.

To view the Artist's Showcase Exhibition that features one work from each member and group, call in to Hot Waves Café for lunch or brunch from **Sunday 5 March-Tuesday 11 April**. Vote for your favourite artwork and the artist with the most public votes wins the coveted People's Choice Award.

Lock in the first two weekends in March 2023 to escape to Mercury Bay to spend some quality time sharing exciting art, good food, great scenery and wonderful hospitality.

To receive news regarding The Mercury Bay Art Escape 2023 please subscribe to our newsletter on the Contact page of our website [www.mercurybayartescape.com](http://www.mercurybayartescape.com) or follow us on [www.facebook.com/mercurybayartescape/](https://www.facebook.com/mercurybayartescape/) or [www.instagram.com/mercurybayartescape/](https://www.instagram.com/mercurybayartescape/)



# te taiao ENVIRONMENT

## MEG

By Genevieve Morley

### Catch that stoat

Kennedy Bay residents had an eye-opening experience last month when they witnessed a stoat attack a rat in broad daylight and then proceed to have a squeaking loud battle on their roof, with the stoat of course managing to take the rat down. Being nature lovers and concerned for the birds and insects living in their area, they contacted MEG and proceeded to buy a stoat trap and have now joined the nationwide movement of becoming a “backyard trapper”. Their trap is now being loaded with bloody baits and tibbits bought from the butcher in the effort to capture that nasty killer. It’s summer, and the chances of seeing or encountering a stoat are much higher at this time of year. It’s going to be just pure luck for fledglings as they spend a week hanging out on the forest floor being fed by mum and dad while they learn how to fly.

How do you become a good back yard trapper? Start thinking like a hunting stoat. Place traps along rivers, roads and ridges, along fencelines or areas where a stoat can move without being seen. Make sure that your trap box is not wobbly and is set firmly on the ground. Dig around the trap so there is fresh dirt surrounding it. Rabbits dig burrows and have to turn earth to dig them; stoats are attracted to rabbits so the scent of fresh earth is attractive. Fresh rabbit is a great bait too as are eggs and egg mayo. Come on board the growing New Zealand-wide movement and become a backyard trapper. Traps are available to buy from MEG and we are only too happy to support and train you.



A stoat



### Summer Holiday Programme 2023

MEG’s Summer Holiday Programme is back and is running this month. With a diverse range of activities there hopefully will be something for everyone. Collect the Summer Holiday Programme from the Information Centre, Driving Creek Railway or the Colville Store or check out our website or Facebook page. The programme is beautifully illustrated again this year by writer/illustrator Nikki Slade Robinson. We want to say a special thank you to everyone who comes along to the different events. Your support and donations are incredibly appreciated as is the ongoing support from MEG’s sponsors and volunteers!

#### Kiwi avoidance training

One day to get as many dogs kiwi avoidance trained as possible.

On **Saturday 21 January**, MEG is running a special event which has been sponsored by Community Waikato and Four Square Coromandel and will be held at the Coromandel Citizens’ Hall. This fun event is for anyone who loves dogs and wants to learn more about what makes them tick or maybe it’s for those owners who have a dog and want to get some dog training tips. Dog

trainer Tarah from Shine Canine is coming to Coromandel Town to do a workshop on dog training. Immediately following will be pest detection dog handler Richard Johnston who will give a workshop about what he and his dogs do. Bring the family and come and be inspired by the intelligence of dogs. There will be a sausage sizzle and activities for children.

At the same time as this event is happening, Christine Friss from DOC will be holding Kiwi Avoidance training sessions for dogs at the Memorial Forest on Hauraki Road opposite the Bike Park. We have one day to get as many dogs kiwi avoidance trained as possible so tell your friends and be in early to book your spot. Ring the DOC Kauaeranga Visitor Centre on (07) 867 9080 to book your dog in to be trained, and come along to a fantastic workshop to celebrate the dogs in our community.

Have a great month everyone!  
Ngā mihi nui.

Follow us on Facebook @moehauenvironmentgroup, contact us at info@meg.org.nz or make a donation by visiting our website [www.meg.org.nz](http://www.meg.org.nz)

## UCLA Conservation Report

By Reihana Robinson

### Kākā

For those bird lovers worried about possible absence of kākā on the upper Coromandel, put your minds at rest. UCLA reports numerous birds on both sides of the peninsula. Poison free areas are turning up lots of birds disturbing the peace with their cackling guffaws, especially towards sunset.

### Sow Crates of the Sea update

Plans to bring Pare Hauraki Kaimoana’s filthy caged kingfish industry to waters off Coromandel Town are ongoing.

UCLA, along with Waiheke’s environmental activists Protect our Gulf and respected long time conservation group, Forest & Bird, oppose this sea privatisation for many reasons including sea floor contamination to an already deteriorated marine environment, dead zones, threats to wild stock, marine mammals, and seabirds. It is a filthy, unsustainable, unethical business

As one noted ocean ecologist Glenn Edney recently wrote to us:

“I personally am opposed to any cage fin fish aquaculture. For me they are no different than intensive feedlots on the land and have no place in a respectful relationship with te moana... To deprive kingfish of their ability to roam and hunt over large areas is to deny them their birthright and purpose and diminishes both their mauri and mana. When the mauri of one is affected, it affects all others.”

Hearings at Waikato Regional Council are expected in the next few months.

### Dry stock farmers

Shout out to all dry stock UCLA farmers who are hunting, trapping, protecting streams, while feeding the nation.

Happy New Year and hip hip hooray.



Stick insects in love...  
Mother Nature at work

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# Happy New Year

from Thames-Coromandel District Council



News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

January, 2023

## Happy New Year / Ngā mihi o te tau hou

From the Coromandel-Colville Community Board



As we gather for the New Year and summer holidays with friends and family, it's an awesome time to look towards the future as well as remember the past. Let's commit to making our communities a better place to live, for our children to grow up in, and for us to pass on to future generations. From all of our Community Board Members, we wish our residents and visitors a very Happy New Year and a fruitful 2023. For those of you who are



Coromandel Town Christmas Parade.

travelling over the holidays, please drive safely, take your time, and give other road users consideration and care. And to all of our Coromandel-Colville communities, we look forward to working alongside you in 2023. However you choose to celebrate, we wish you all happy holidays.

## A SMARTER WAY TO PAY

A reminder that the new QR payment system has replaced physical ramp permits. Just scan the QR code at the ramp with your smartphone, camera or Google Lens and follow the easy prompts to pay. If you don't have a smartphone, you can still pay in person at our Council offices and participating retail outlets.

[tcdc.govt.nz/boatramps](https://tcdc.govt.nz/boatramps)

## Coromandel-Colville ward visit a big success



Community Board members from Coromandel-Colville joined our district Councillors on 6 December for a tour of the Ward's main projects.

As part of their induction programme, the group spent the day learning about everything from bypasses and bike parks to sustainable Papakainga housing and the town's new community Hub – a project driven by Coromandel Independent Living Trust with land and funding support from our Council.

"It was great to see the dedication of all the people involved in developing these amazing projects and we all gained a valuable insight into key projects on the go for us," says Coromandel-Colville Community Board Chair, Gavin Jeffcoat.

## Are you a Freedom Camper?

Our new Freedom Camping Bylaw came into effect on 5 December 2022. Freedom Camping is allowed in most public areas unless it is prohibited or restricted in our new bylaw, Department of Conservation rules or national legislation.



If you want to freedom camp in our district:

- Look for our signs showing where freedom camping can take place
- Freedom camp only in a certified self-contained vehicle
- Use proper toilet facilities such as public toilets and campervan dump stations
- Leave freedom camping sites on time
- Be a responsible camper and clean up after yourself

We'll have Freedom Camping Ambassadors helping out over summer to make people aware of the rules in local spots. Check out the bylaw for where you can and can't freedom camp locally.

[tcdc.govt.nz/freedomcamping](https://tcdc.govt.nz/freedomcamping)

## Summer Kerbside Collections

Our summer collection schedule runs until Friday 10 February 2023.



### Coromandel Rural North:

**Tuesday** – blue rubbish bags, recycling wheelie bins, glass crates.

**Friday** – blue rubbish bags, glass crates.

### Coromandel Town & Te Kouma:

**Wednesday** – blue rubbish bags, recycling wheelie bins, glass crates.

Material out by 7.30am on collection days please.

[tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside](https://tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside)

For your Refuse Transfer Station hours, check:

[tcdc.govt.nz/rts](https://tcdc.govt.nz/rts)

## Check out changes to our Council services over summer.

We've put everything you need to know about changes to our services on one handy page.

[tcdc.govt.nz/summerinfo](https://tcdc.govt.nz/summerinfo)

[@ThamesCoromandelDistrictCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/ThamesCoromandelDistrictCouncil)

[coromandel\\_tcdc](https://www.instagram.com/coromandel_tcdc)

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# te taiao ENVIRONMENT continued

## Waiaro Sanctuary

By Ruby Smith, Director of Waiaro Sanctuary

We were pleased to see prints of the Waiaro estuary being offered for fundraising in the Coromandel Town Chronicle to support Conservation (CLAIM article, Nov 2022 issue). This estuary is fed with fresh water from the Waiaro Stream and tributaries along with salt water from the Hauraki Gulf and is host to a myriad of creatures including oyster catcher, dotterel and a very significant population of wild pateke (brown teal duck).

Waiaro Sanctuary has been looking after this area for sometime now and has recently introduced Ka Mate rat traps with mouse bars as well as stoat and cat traps. Rats seem to like it down by the river mouth as quite a few have been caught there and we seem to get little re-invasions frequently. The trapping and surveillance seems to be working well as the dotterel and oyster eggs hatched and the chicks seem to be surviving, fingers crossed. Dogs are not as much of a problem here either as they are in other areas as it is well looked after by the locals and more private.

The reason so many wild pateke are present is because the Waiaro Sanctuary has been trapping up the Waiaro Stream and in the surrounding valleys for many years. This has allowed the small remnant population to thrive and lots end up swimming downstream into the estuary which they seem to like as they stay there. This is testimony to the success of our trapping. The ducks here are very shy and not used to boats and people, which tend to startle them Waiaro Sanctuary. Thanks the local farmers for the unlimited access and also the Coromandel Rangers and the local trappers who, with their combined expertise and local knowledge, have helped this happen.

After seeing the estuary prints offered and noticing the large number of brown teal there one morning (over 69 last count), we realised that the protection of the Waiaro Valley and surrounds had also helped this happen. Thank you to all concerned.



The Coromandel Rangers and local trappers having a catch up



Pateke hanging out at the Waiaro Estuary

# BOATIES

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## McGregor Bay Wetlands

By Carol Sutherland

### Wetlands and War

The Dnipro delta was until recently part of the Rewilding Project of Europe. It is a RAMSAR (International Convention on Wetlands) site like Miranda Pukorokoro, but much bigger and contains otters, storks and pelicans. It is also an important site for Eurasian migratory birds. These restoration endeavours have come to a halt due to war. The U.K Independent newspaper recently cited scientists who found many dead dolphins washed up on the Black Sea coast. It is unknown if military sonar was responsible or if there were other possible causes. Coastal areas are always the front line in wars. Deliberately lit wildfires in the National Parks not only destroy forests but add significantly to the carbon emissions. Wars can be a major contributor to climate change, and all of this with Russia's war machine funded by fossil fuel revenue. The term "ecocide" is being used more often as it can be used as a war tactic.

It is natural not to think about the environmental impacts when a country's existence is at stake but internationally there is concern when the risk of nuclear pollution is high on everyone's mind. As if the world didn't have enough environmental problems.

Meanwhile the world's remaining wetlands are doing their thing where they can: storing and filtering water while sucking up carbon, which coastal wetlands do so well. Coastal wetlands were acknowledged at the G20 summit with the planting of mangroves by world leaders, which have to be a first. (Notice they didn't get their feet wet?) Whether in Indonesia, the Dnipro delta or right here, these areas need restoring for they all add up to our planet's health and that's something that isn't bound by borders.

Aotearoa New Zealand is not under military threat and mercifully we don't have to deal with the circumstances others unfortunately face. Our electricity disruption usually involves a fallen tree. We bicker among ourselves over water but surely we can work through this. Thankfully we have the luxury of peace and are better placed to respond to existing environmental challenges.

# hākinakina SPORT

## Coromandel Golf Club

By Malcolm Stone



### Where would we be without them?

Ever since its inception, Coromandel Golf Club has existed and developed wholly due to the stupendous efforts of its member volunteers. Today, as in 1921, the golf course is maintained by an intrepid band of selfless people who give up their time, week in and week out, to provide us with a course rightly regarded as one of the 10 best 9-hole courses in New Zealand. When you stop and think about it, there is an incredible amount of work required to run a golf club: deliberations of the committee; fairway, rough, greens, and tee mowing; course drainage and watering; tending gardens; gorse spraying and tree management; paddock fencing; livestock management; cart shed building; club house upgrading; applying for grant funding; running tournaments; organising sponsors; catering and running the bar; organizing social events, marketing, etc. To show its thanks and appreciation, the club invites all of its volunteers, which is most of the membership, to a day of fun golf and social activity including complimentary food and drinks. This year it was on 20 November – a fantastic day was had by all.

This year, the AGM on 3 December, was preceded by a Special General Meeting to adopt a new constitution as required by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. A huge “thank you” must go to Dave Sampson for the preparation of the draft document (a significant amount of work), presented to the committee for perusal and approval. Our old constitution was in need of updating anyway, but we are now ahead of the game even though there may be a need for some minor alterations once the final rules are established by New Zealand Companies Office in the new year. The new constitution, as approved by the committee, was adopted by the membership and we moved on to the AGM. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing committee members – Paul Lawrence, Glenise Robertson and Richie Neal, for all of their contributions throughout the year and to welcome aboard our new members – Paul Delaney (Secretary), Marilyn MacKenzie (Ladies’ captain), Geoff Horton (Committee Member) and re-invested as Men’s Captain, Ron Brooking. Continuing in their current roles are Peter Richardson (President), Malcolm Stone (Vice President), Allan Rose (Treasurer) and Norm



Eagles Salver winners

Davies (Committee Member).

19 November, the Tom Daniels Shootout was fought for. Each hole, one player who has the highest score on handicap, is eliminated. If there is more than one player with the same score, a chip off ensues – closest to the pin. The overall winner surviving to the bitter end was Craig Kerr.

30 November, the Laurie Olliff Trophy was decided. This competition runs in conjunction with “meat pack” days throughout the year. Overall winner was Wayne Beaver.

3 December – Closing Day for the season and the trophy up for grabs was the Eagles Salver. Men and Ladies were paired up with both scores counting. The winning pair was Ruth and Richie, second place Wayne and Marilyn.

10 December – Christmas tournament. Thankfully, the weather abated long enough to allow the tournament to go ahead in ideal conditions. 38 players competed for numerous prizes, returning to the clubhouse to an amazing spread of food lovingly prepared by our Ladies. They went over and above to retain our reputation for treating our visitors to something really special. Well done the Ladies’ team! Also, totally gobsmacking, was the array of raffle prizes and hams which made the many lucky punters very happy. Special mention should go to Peg McLean for her beautifully decorated golf cart.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. Happy New Year to one and all!

## Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club

By Lorraine

Happy New Year from the CRFC Committee and thanks to everyone who made last year a great one for the fishing club.

Fantastic turn out to our Prizegiving and Christmas party, the food provided by The Pepper Tree and some of the committee was delicious and Santa was such a hit!

We kick the new year off with our Anniversary Weekend Tournament on **Saturday 28 January**.

The club “fish of the month” for members with the prize of \$100 cash is snapper in January and will be kingfish in February. Look forward to seeing you all at the tournament.

## Coromandel Croquet Club

By Raewyn McKinney



Croquet is a wonderful game, which challenges players both mentally and physically. It is also a way to spend a morning out in the fresh air, in great surroundings and in the company of some wonderful people.

If you would like to try the game of croquet, call Lyn on 027 466 2661 for more information.

We meet on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9.30am and provide all of the equipment and a six-week period of coaching before you decide to join. The club is situated in Woollams Ave next to the Bowling Club.



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**ABBY'S HEALING HAVEN.** 021 352 486. Chakra and energy clearing, crystal calibration 90 minutes - \$140, appointments via video link or in person. Organic Ayurvedic facial massage, 30 mins - \$55. Breakthrough Tapping session, 60 mins - \$100, an effective self mastery method for dealing with all stress and anxiety also self sabotaging behaviors. Online or in person. Intuitive Tarot and oracle reading, 45 minutes - \$60. See more at [www.abbyshealinghaven.com](http://www.abbyshealinghaven.com).

**ALL HOUSE AND PROPERTY REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE.** Ph/txt Andy 25 years' experience 022 346 2040.

**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's recycled bicycles & 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](mailto:buddy10@xtra.co.nz).

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

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

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**COROMANDEL GARAGE DOORS.** Ph: Don McLean 022 453 2188. E: [corogaragedoors@gmail.com](mailto:corogaragedoors@gmail.com); W: [www.corogaragedoors.co.nz](http://www.corogaragedoors.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](mailto:dynamictreecare@gmail.com).

**GENERAL HOUSE & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & HANDYMAN SERVICES.** Phone Mike 027 240 9084. Coromandel and surrounding areas.

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

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

**MORTGAGE ADVISER** – Need to chat through your home lending requirement? Available on Zoom, email, phone or FB Messenger to help you when your bank won't answer or they say no. 20 years' banking experience and I provide solutions for first home buyers, property investors, small business owners or clients wanting to refinance. I have over 20 lenders to give you options. Email [Karen.raggett@loanmarket.co.nz](mailto:Karen.raggett@loanmarket.co.nz) or phone 027 534 8975.

**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 and Spa services Coromandel Peninsula. Call the Pool Queen to have your pool clean. Sharleena Tucker 027 316 3384.

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**RANCH SLIDER WON'T SLIDE?** Call Mike Coromandel Glass (07) 866 8869 or 027 661 0190.

**ROOF KING LTD.** New roofs, re-roofs, leaks, spouting, downpipes, and general maintenance. Ph Eli 021 160 6790.

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## FOR SALE

**COROMANDEL FLOWERS.** For all of your fresh flower needs contact Elisabeth 021 211 9556.

**FIREWOOD FOR SALE.** Felled last year. Stored outside. Buyer to collect. Contact Sharon 027 821 1989.

**PURE BRED FULL PEDIGREE GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES FOR SALE.** Females ready for loving forever homes. Microchipped, vaccinated, with a puppy pack. For more information contact Sharon 027 821 1989 [www.kriegerin.co.nz](http://www.kriegerin.co.nz).

## WANTED

**NATIVE WOOD** Bill and Ben, two woodturning men, are looking for wood which they can put on their lathes to turn into bowls and candlesticks. Do you have any pieces of timber you do not need or want? Are you planning on cutting down a tree? We'd be happy to come and remove the stumps, logs, or any larger pieces we could use. Happy to trade and give you back a beautiful turned bowl. Please txt or leave a message 022 101 7411.

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

## WORK WANTED

**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.

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

**TREE SERVICE.** Dismantling or pruning. Free quotes. Call Jeremy Haszard 027 421 0603.

## OTHER

**AGE CONCERN** Falls Prevention Strength and Balance exercise class for seniors. Coromandel Gym, Pottery Lane Tuesday and Thursday, 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  
 Line dancing, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341 ..... 3pm  
 Taichi classes, Colville Hall, Christina 021 113 4768 ..... 4.10pm  
 Bridge, St John rooms ..... 7pm  
 Taizé 4-part harmony singing, Sally 027 302 4245 ..... 7.30pm

## Every Tuesday

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  
 Yoga for everyone, Colville Hall, Kate 021 125 3152 ..... 10am  
 Playcentre, Woollams Ave ..... 10.30am-1pm  
 Na Ihowa Ahau after-school kids club (term time only), Anglican Hall, Anita 027 259 1085 ..... 3.15-4.45pm  
 Yin Yoga with Toni, Waikato Event Center (above swimming pool), \$10-\$20, Toni 020 4076 1526 ..... 5.30-6.45pm

## Every Wednesday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym ..... 8am  
 Meditation at Mahamudra ..... 8.15-8.45am  
 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. Marilyn 027 336 5263 ..... 9.50-11.20am  
 Coromandel Home-school group, Julene 020 4060 8102 ..... 12.30pm  
 Taichi classes, Waikato Events Centre, Christina 021 113 4768 ..... 4pm

## Every Thursday

Coro Walking Group, Lotto Dairy, Ruth (07) 866 7246 ..... 9am  
 Coro Art Group, St Andrew's Church Hall, Lindsay (07) 866 7799 ..... 9am-12pm  
 Tai Chi, Waikato Events Centre (above the swimming pool) ..... 10am  
 Age Concern seniors' exercise class, Coromandel Gym. \$2 Vickie 027 417 7077 ..... 10am  
 Free Guided Meditation, Havalona Pyramid ..... 10-11am  
 Movement for Equanimity (MFE), a well-being fascia movement class, contact Judy 021 0200 7550 ..... 3-4pm  
 Recova 12-step addiction recovery meeting, Elim Church, Liz 027 436 2800 ..... 6.30pm  
 Free drop-in Dharma talk or video at Mahamudra ..... 7-8.30pm

## Every Friday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym ..... 8am  
 Coromandel Homegrown Market ..... 8.30am-12.30pm  
 Community Gardens volunteer day ..... 8.30-11am  
 Yoga for everyone, Anglican Hall, Kate 021 125 3152 ..... 9am  
 Croquet, Woollams Ave, Kaye (07) 866 8968 ..... 9.15am  
 Playcentre, Woollams Ave ..... 9.45am-12.15pm  
 Coromandel Bowling Club social evening at the Club ..... 3.30-7pm  
 Coromandel Tennis Club "club day" ..... 4pm  
 Coromandel Flying Club social gathering, all welcome ..... 5.30pm

## Every Saturday

RSA Coromandel, RSA Club Rooms Woollams Ave. President Kevin Stone (07) 866 7576 ..... 3.30-7pm

## 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. Kath Denize (07) 866 7441, 022 413 6573 ... 1pm  
**2nd Wed** – Car Club meeting at The Club, Bruce 027 249 0878 ..... 4pm  
**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

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.

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## Calendar of events Coromandel Town January 2023

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN

**1** New Year's Day  
34th Coromandel Christmas Art Exhibition continues (see pg 25)  
Sea and Shore exhibition continues (see pg 25)  
High tide 3:07am (2.6m), 3:35pm (2.7m)  
Low tide 9:21am (0.7m), 9:48pm (0.5m)

**2** Public Holiday  
Kaitic Fair in Coromandel Area School Grounds  
Flow Yoga (see pg 25)  
High tide 4:07am (2.5m), 4:30pm (2.6m)  
Low tide 10:21am (0.7m), 10:44pm (0.6m)

**3** Public Holiday observed  
MEG Holiday Programme Seaweed and Seashore Discovery at Long Bay, and Bounty Hunters - DCR (see pg 28)  
RN+TC  
RN  
High tide 5:07am (2.7m), 5:25pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 11:19am (0.7m), 11:39pm (0.6m)

**4** Library reopens for new year (see pg 13)  
First Youth Group session for 2023 (see pg 24)  
MEG Holiday Programme - I Am An Artist - Waikawau (see pg 28)  
RN+TC  
CT  
High tide 6:03am (2.5m), 6:18pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 12:11pm (0.7m)

**5** Lam Rim Course and Retreat starts at Mahamudra (see pg 18)  
Museum Interview RadioNZ (see pg 15)  
MEG Meet a Seabird Minder - Waikawau & Kiwi Night Adventure - Port Charles (see pg 28)  
RN  
High tide 6:55am (2.6m), 7:09pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 12:31am (0.6m), 1pm (0.7m)

**6** MEG Holiday Programme I Am An Artist - Shelly Beach (see pg 28)  
Flow Yoga (see pg 25)  
RN+glass RN  
High tide 7:41am (2.6m), 7:57pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 1:18am (0.6m), 1:45pm (0.7m)

**7** Eyeboddy with Peter Grunwald starts at Mana (see ad pg 23)  
MEG Holiday Programme - Paint a Kiwi Clay Tile Magnet - Port Charles (see pg 28)  
Flow Yoga (see pg 25)  
RN  
High tide 8:24am (2.7m), 8:42pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 2:02am (0.5m), 2:28pm (0.7m)

**8** Whiti Beach Meet in Whitianga (see pg 20)  
High tide 9:04am (2.7m), 9:24pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 2:43am (0.5m), 3:09pm (0.7m)

**9** MEG Holiday Programme - Clay Critters & Bounty Hunters - DCR (see pg 28)  
High tide 9:43am (2.7m), 10:04pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 3:22am (0.5m), 3:49pm (0.7m)

**10** MEG Holiday Programme - Clay Critters & Find that animal - Waikawau (see pg 28)  
RN+TC  
RN  
High tide 10:20am (2.7m), 10:41pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 3:59am (0.5m), 4:28pm (0.7m)

**11** MEG Holiday Programme - Shorebirds: Waders to High Sky Flyers, Workshop - Colville (see pg 28)  
RN+TC  
CT  
High tide 10:57am (2.7m), 11:19pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 4:36am (0.5m), 5:07pm (0.6m)

**12** MEG Holiday Programme - Screen Printing Workshop - Coromandel (see pg 28)  
High tide 11:35am (2.7m), 11:57pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 5:14am (0.5m), 5:47pm (0.5m)

**13** MEG Holiday Programme - Clay Critters - Shelly Beach Top 10 (see pg 28)  
Relax and Wellness Retreat starts at Mana (see ad pg 23)  
RN+glass RN  
High tide 12:14pm (2.6m)  
Low tide 5:53am (0.6m), 6:27pm (0.7m)

**14** 34th Coromandel Christmas Art Exhibition ends (see pg 25)  
MEG Holiday Programme - Bird Rescue, Meet a Gecko - St John Hall. Teach your dog to avoid kiwi - Waikawau (see pg 28)  
RN  
High tide 12:37am (2.5m), 12:56pm (2.6m)  
Low tide 6:56am (0.7m), 1:14pm (0.7m)

**15** Digital Art Exhibition opens at CR Gallery (see ad pg 27)  
MEG Holiday Programme - Movie & Installation at Hauraki House (see pg 28)  
High tide 1:20am (2.5m), 1:40pm (2.6m)  
Low tide 7:22am (0.7m), 7:54pm (0.7m)

**16** High tide 2:08am (2.4m), 2:28pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 8:15am (0.8m), 8:45pm (0.7m)

**17** DEADLINE: Coromandel Town Chronicle February issue  
MEG Holiday Programme - Kiwi Night Adventure - Port Charles (see pg 28)  
RN+TC  
RN  
High tide 3:04am (2.4m), 3:20pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 9:14am (0.8m), 9:41pm (0.6m)

**18** MEG Holiday Programme - I Am An Artist - Waikawau (see pg 28)  
RN+TC  
CT  
High tide 4:07am (2.5m), 4:19pm (2.6m)  
Low tide 10:15am (0.7m), 10:43pm (0.6m)

**19** MEG Holiday Programme - Outdoor Sketching - DCR (see pg 28)  
High tide 5:12am (2.6m), 5:21pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 11:17am (0.7m), 11:45pm (0.5m)

**20** Mid Summer Relax and Wellness Retreat starts at Mana (see ad pg 23)  
MEG Holiday Programme - I Am An Artist - Shelly Beach Top 10 (see pg 28)  
RN+glass RN  
High tide 6:14am (2.7m), 6:26pm (2.7m)  
Low tide 12:16pm (0.6m)

**21** MEG Holiday Programme - Teach your dog to avoid kiwi: Dog Training Workshop: Beginners' Wildlife Photography Session - Coromandel Town (see pg 28)  
RN  
High tide 7:12am (2.9m), 7:28pm (2.8m)  
Low tide 12:45am (0.4m), 1:14pm (0.4m)

**22** High tide 8:07am (3.0m), 8:27pm (2.9m)  
Low tide 1:42am (0.2m), 2:11pm (0.3m)

**23** "Womb Women" a representation of the Matrarchal lineage ceremonial opening (see pg 26)  
High tide 9am (3.1m), 9:22pm (3.0m)  
Low tide 2:36am (0.1m), 3:06pm (0.2m)

**24** MEG Holiday Programme - Clay Critters & Bounty Hunt - Waikawau (see pg 28)  
RN+TC  
RN  
High tide 9:52am (3.2m), 10:15pm (3.0m)  
Low tide 3:28am (0.1m), 4pm (0.2m)

**25** High tide 10:43am (3.2m), 11:07pm (3.0m)  
Low tide 4:19am (0.1m), 4:53pm (0.2m)

**26** High tide 11:35am (3.1m), 11:57pm (2.9m)  
Low tide 5:10am (0.2m), 5:45pm (0.2m)

**27** MEG Holiday Programme - Clay Critters & Bounty Hunt - Shelly Beach Top 10 (see pg 28)  
Qi Gong for Qi Inspired Living starts at Mahamudra (see pg 18)  
RN+glass RN  
High tide 12:26pm (3.0m)  
Low tide 6:01am (0.3m), 6:36pm (0.3m)

**28** Play with Clay Day (see ad pg 24)  
Anniversary/Weekend Fishing Tournament (see pg 31)  
Beach Break Whangarata (see pg 7 & ad pg 12)  
MEG Kiwi Night Adventure - Port Charles (see pg 28)  
RN  
High tide 12:48am (2.8m), 1:17pm (2.9m)  
Low tide 6:54am (0.4m), 7:27pm (0.4m)

**29** MEG Holiday Programme - Raranga Putiputi - Flax Weaving for Beginners - DCR (see pg 28)  
High tide 1:40am (2.7m), 2:09pm (2.7m)  
Low tide 7:50am (0.6m), 8:19pm (0.5m)

**30** Auckland Anniversary Day Public Holiday  
"Womb Women" - women's workshop (see pg 26)  
High tide 2:35am (2.6m), 3:02pm (2.6m)  
Low tide 8:49am (0.7m), 9:13pm (0.6m)

**31** Coromandel Area School office open for new enrolments (see pg 24)  
RN+TC  
RN  
High tide 3:34am (2.5m), 3:56pm (2.5m)  
Low tide 9:49am (0.8m), 10:10pm (0.7m)

**Make sure your event gets listed**  
To get your event listed, email the details, your name and contact phone number to Debbie at corochronicle@gmail.com with the subject "event". Or post to Jude Publishing, PO Box 148, Coromandel. There is limited space available and will be published subject to space availability, with preference to not-for-profit groups.

KEY  
● New moon  
○ Full moon

Tide times and heights from Land Information NZ and are for Coromandel Harbour.  
For tides times: -15min High and -18min Low.

Blue bin bags out

Put recycling out (plastic 1,2 & 5, tins, paper, cardboard)

RN - Rural North CT = Coromandel Town & Te Kouna TC = Thames Coast & Mania  
This schedule is subject to change at short notice due to Covid-19 restrictions

**COROMANDEL RUBBISH & RECYCLE TRANSFER STATION & E-CYCLE HOURS UNTIL 19 FEB**  
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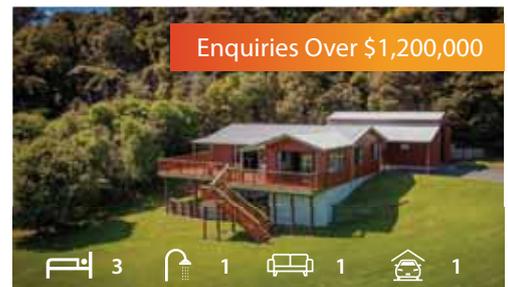
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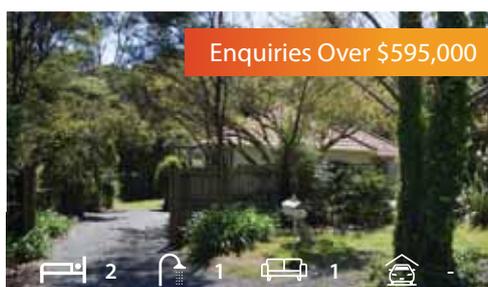
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# Am I eligible for a Warmer Kiwi Homes grant?

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.

Check your Heat Pump installation  
eligibility

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

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