

Coromandel Town Chronicle

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Santa Parade

SEE PAGE 3



Youth mural PG 4



Junior Singles Champ PG 18



Golf winners PG 27



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

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www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz

Cover photo: Santa Parade 2023 – photos
courtesy of Jenna James

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and articles 600 words max.

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..... Editor's comment

Happy New Year!

Thanks for all the support over the year. I was away overseas when the cyclone hit last January, but with the January weather affecting the whole year – surely things can only be better this year. The year of course kicks off with the Keltc Fair on Tuesday 2 January.

Thanks to everyone who has supported and submitted to the Chronicle in 2023. Please continue to send me articles and pictures of what is happening in Coromandel Town and surrounding communities. Find upcoming deadline dates on the Chronicle website: www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz/html/deadlines.html.

All the best,

Debbie

..... Letters

Dear Editor,

I would like to extend my thanks to the Coromandel Community Library (Chronicle Dec 23 issue) for the lovely tribute they paid to my mum, Evelyn Green, who passed away on 28 October 2023 at the age of 99 years (and 9 days!). Mum spent many, many happy hours at the library and certainly missed it when she lost her sight. To have “Evelyns Green’s Childrens’ Corner” is indeed a lasting tribute to her.

Over the years Evelyn was involved in many things, from being co-ordinator for Daffodil Day, the Women’s Section of the RSA, her church – she was chairperson of this, secretary of that and treasurer of something else and she loved it. I recall seeing a photo recently of her with the “Marching Girls”. Our family secretly called her the “Mayoress” as she was involved with so many things.

So to the wonderful people of Coro who were part of Mum’s life over the 40-something years, and especially in the latter years, thank you. Mum got back so much more than she gave and that’s the friendship so many of you shared with her.

Denise Weavers, Gisborne

Dear Readers,

In the December issue of the Chronicle I submitted an advert for an art show with Cindy Alger, Andrew de Boer, Ashley Thor, Genevieve Morley, Tony Calsaferrri, David Broach and myself. In it I falsely claimed that all the above artists were gay or bisexual. I herby admit that it was woefully incorrect and offer my apology to all concerned. I misrepresented them.

Reluctantly, at the committee’s request, I withdrew my works from the exhibition. In fact, I meant only that for an artist to succeed he or she must combine the attributes of strength, power and perseverance of the man, with the sensitivity, courage, and determination of the woman. Think of Michelangelo, Salvador Dali, Kandinsky, da Vinci, Caravaggio, Raoul Dufy, Francis Bacon, David Hockney and others.

Still, I do offer my sincere apologies. Thank you,
Richard Chrisp

P.S. An apology too, to those who had hoped to view my paintings. However, together with Uli’s sculpture, my work is on view at our gallery in Pagitt Street

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

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.



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Santa Parade 2023

Sunday 10 December was the 2023 Santa Parade. There was a great turnout of both floats and audience.

- Prizes were awarded to the following:
 Best Business: Over the Fence
 Best Community Based Float: Grey Power
 Most Creative: Coromandel Garden Centre
 People's Choice: Coro Area School and Coromandel Preschool
 Best Dressed Girl: Amelia and Nana Bev
 Best Dressed Boy: Tangaroa Ngapo-French
 Best Dressed Adult: Ryan Visser

Playcentre would like to give an extra big thank you to their Traffic Management Team of the day. Ryan and Chris from James Drainage and the amazing volunteers – Cameron, Josh, Brayden, Maiva, Maddy, Billy, Christine and Marie – who gave up their time so we could actually have a parade.



PHOTOS BY JENNA JAMES

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Coromandel Home Grown Community Market

By Abby Noire-Gubay

Happy New Year to everyone and many heartfelt thanks for the support and encouragement of our regular Friday homegrown, handmade market. There are only four times a year we have the market on a Saturday. We had a beautiful day for our Christmas Saturday market on 9 December, with many stalls and it was nice to see so many of you there. Our regular Friday market will continue until the end of April, with the exception of Waitangi market, which will be on the Saturday before Waitangi Day, that is **Saturday 3 February**. Waitangi day is on a Tuesday. At Easter we also have a Saturday market on **Saturday 30 March**, the day after Good Friday. Our only other Saturday market is Matariki and the market is otherwise closed for winter. Once again thank you so much for supporting our local market. Wishing peace, blessings and goodwill to all in 2024.

Colville Junction



Beautiful new art in Colville

We are so fortunate to have had funding recently to create beautiful community art in Colville. The Creative Pop-Up has been bustling in the last couple of months.

Youth Mural – radiating its glory at Colville General Store

Created with Caitlin Moloney by the youth of Colville, with its grand display on the community-run Colville General Store. Two weekends were buzzing at the Creative Pop-Up, with youth coming together to design a mural that speaks about what makes Colville home and the different shapes and colors that represent these ideas.

Clay Bead Sculpture installed

A celebration of community spirit! It was a delight creating alongside Kay Ogilvie and the many generations residing in Colville with the preschool, school, community, grandmothers, mothers and daughters all coming together to make a bead. The final creation is over 20m long! The bead sculpture is strung at the Colville Cafe and will eventually be homed at the Colville Project.

A huge thanks to our wonderful local Coromandel artists for sharing their talents and enthusiasm with the Colville community.

We are very grateful to Creative New Zealand for funding the Creative Pop-Up and Coromandel Independent Living Trust for funding Caitlin Moloney through the Ministry of Culture and Heritage CARE fund.

To see more of what’s been happening at the Creative Pop-Up, check out photos on Colville Junction’s Facebook page.



Colville General Store



Creating the mural drawing



Arranging the beads



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“We’ll see you right”

Happy New Year

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council



January 2024

Ngā mihi o te tau hou | Happy New Year

The New Year is here and it's time to relax, recharge our batteries and enjoy the company of whānau and friends.

The Coromandel faced some pretty tough challenges in 2023 in the wake of severe weather, but the re-opening of Tapu-Coroglen Rd and SH25A last month has definitely brought a fresh sense of purpose as we all look forward to the new opportunities of 2024.

If you're visiting us this summer, take care on the roads and drive to conditions. SH25A is still under traffic management at reduced speed over the holidays, and there's lots of local roading repairs still being completed.

A huge thank you to everyone who has played a part in the recovery effort – we couldn't have made it this far without you. From the Coromandel-Colville Community Board, our Council staff, Mayor Len and our elected members, we wish our communities and visitors happy holidays, new beginnings and a prosperous 2024.



Our Council offices will be re-opening to normal hours
Wednesday 3 January 2024.

You can still contact us over this period 24/7
on **07 868 0200** or email –
customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz
tcdc.govt.nz/summerinfo

holidays HAPPY



Check out changes to our Council services over summer

- Dog rules
- Alcohol and fire ban areas
- Building and resource consent timeframes
- Land Information Memorandum timeframes
- Council office hours
- Thames Centennial Pool hours
- District Library hours

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

LONG TERM PLAN JOURNEY PICKS UP PACE

Our Council has been continuing to develop the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan (LTP), with much work being done to prepare a work programme that is both achievable and affordable. The LTP sets out the project priorities and services and how they are funded for the next decade.

In March-April 2024 we'll have proposals for the draft LTP available for public feedback, including the impact of budgets on rates. The final LTP will be adopted by the end of June 2024, just in time for the financial year beginning on 1 July. Keep an eye on [tcdc.govt.nz/LTP-2024-2034](https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/LTP-2024-2034) for further information.

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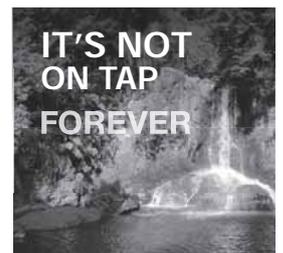
Find out which collection area you're in by using our handy address finder at www.tcdc.govt.nz/summerkerbside where you can also access digital calendars. Or pop in to your local Council office before the break to pick up a summer peak calendar for your area.

Any questions, please phone 07 868 0200 or email us at customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz

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Reducing our need for water restrictions over our longest, driest months starts now.

Breaking bad habits will set us up for success when our water levels dip in the summer sun. Find out more at [tcdc.govt.nz/savewater](https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/savewater) and keep up to date with water restrictions in your area at [tcdc.govt.nz/waterrestrictions](https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/waterrestrictions)



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Coromandel Garden Circle

By Natalie Blasco

Our December meeting fell on the day following the deadline for the January Chronicle, so I will catch up on that meeting in the February Chronicle. And, per our tradition, we won't be meeting in January.

In the meantime, we had a day out in November, when two carloads of our members traveled to a few places in Bombay/Pukekohe. This was all set up by our Trip Planner Extraordinaire, Jeni, who always comes up with great ideas for a day out, or even the occasional overnight trip.

On this occasion we first went to Puriri Lane @ Addenbrooke in



Bombay for Devonshire Tea and a talk on the 20-year history of the property by Jane, who has owned it with her husband Graeme for 11 years. We then had a walk around their stunning gardens, which were being readied for a wedding, and some plants were purchased from their nursery. Plants are typically purchased via their website, but they graciously allowed some of us to obtain new plants.

One other special thing about Addenbrooke is their program for underprivileged schoolchildren, a registered charity called School Start First Impressions. This program serves five-year-old students in South Auckland, North Waikato and Whangarei by providing the essentials they need when they start school, such as personalised backpacks filled with all kinds of useful items, plus clothing and shoes. The money we paid for our morning tea went to supporting the charity.

Next up was a delicious and leisurely lunch at Red Shed Palazzo in Drury, a place only one of us had previously visited.

After lunch we went to Joy Plants in Pukekohe, for more plant purchases from Terry and Lindsay. And finally, to Farrell's Nurseries in Pukekohe for our final bit of plant shopping. One interesting thing we spotted at Farrell's was a swarm of bees who'd taken a fancy to some new plants. So you see, swarming on plants is not just a thing for gardeners!

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 14 February**.

Venue: Joan C's on Long Bay Road

Start time: 1pm; meet in Woollams Ave carpark for carpooling

Activity: Garden Ramble in Coromandel

Arrangement: Valentine's Day

Special: Make It Red

If you are interested in joining or being a speaker, please contact Kath Denize, Convenor, 022 413 6573 or Natalie Blasco, Secretary, (07) 866 7518

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CILT

With 2024 right around the corner, we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you again to everyone who has supported us in 2023. CILT wouldn't be the same without all of our wonderful volunteers and everyone who has generously donated to any of our many projects.

From the entire team at CILT, thank you for all of your support this year and Happy New Year!

Resource Centre Closure

The Resource Centre will be closed from 22 December and will reopen on **Monday 15 January**.

If you are a Community Services Card holder and need a volunteer driver to a hospital appointment in Thames or Hamilton, please contact your GP and they will help you access a driver. If you are travelling to an appointment in your own vehicle and would like to be reimbursed, please get your appointment letter stamped by the medical professional you are seeing and bring it into the Resource Centre on or after 15 January.

Travel Assistance Scheme Update

We have updated our Transport Assistance Scheme requirements to ensure we can provide as much support to our community



Some of our wonderful participants enjoying their Christmas party!

as possible. You will no longer need to be a Community Services or Gold Card holder to qualify for this great opportunity, and instead will only need to be a resident within the Upper Coromandel area (Manaia to Port Jackson and over as far as Whangapoua).

If you need travel assistance that is not already covered by Te Whatu Ora, ACC or Work and Income, please bring proof of your address and your appointment confirmation to the Resource Centre when we reopen in January.

Social Worker Support

If you require emergency support through our Social Services team during the holiday period, please call Jean on 021 503 148.

The Coromandel Foodbank

The Coromandel Foodbank will be open on **Wednesday 27 December** and **Wednesday**

3 January. If you require a food parcel on **Wednesday 10 January**, please call Treena on 027 316 4662.

On behalf of the team at Foodbank and Budget Advisory, we would like to give a big thank you to everyone who has donated, volunteered and contributed throughout the year. It's been a long and at times hard year, but because we have an amazing community and awesome businesses, we have managed to come out the other end. We wish you all a very merry holiday and an amazing start to the year!

Goldmine Hours

Don't forget – The Goldmine Re-Use Centre is open 9.30am to 4.30pm every day this summer! The shop is fully stocked, and there are plenty of bargains to find inside and out. Call in today and see what you can find! Closed New Year's Day.

A Special Thanks

Our Creative Spaces, Artists in the Making and Te Mana Tangata teams had a fantastic combined Christmas party and we would like to thank the following sponsors for helping to make this day a truly special one for our participants: Coromandel Four Square; Driving Creek Railway; Umu Cafe; Top Pub Coromandel; Star Gallery; Coromandel Takeaways; Star and Garter; Caitlin Moloney's Ceramics

Te Mana Tangata will reopen on **Monday 22 January** and we are looking forward to an exciting 2024!

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Library News

By Paul Lawrence

Christmas has been and gone and we are now heading into a new year. I hope everyone got what they wanted under the Christmas tree and 2024 will provide happiness and the fulfillment of expectations.

Just a reminder to check return dates of books taken out. Due to the library being closed over Christmas, books taken out in early December are not due back until **Wednesday 3 January**. Books taken out after 13 December will have a normal three-week loan period.

When the library is closed, remember that books can still be returned through the slot in the door.

Once again I would like to thank our volunteers for the sterling work they do, and the effort put into running our library. We obviously couldn't do it without them. Thanks also to the committee volunteers who put many hours toward administrative work. Much appreciation to all those who donate books for us to sell and fund the purchase of new books. Finally, a special shoutout to all of our members who make our community library a place where we can socialise, enjoy each other's company, meet new people, and have a good chat and a laugh.

Keltic Fair

Remember to pop along to the Keltic Fair on **Tuesday 2 January**. Chill out in the sun, listen to live music, pick up some cool items and eat some yummy food – Coromandel Lions will be there with their mussel fritters as usual.

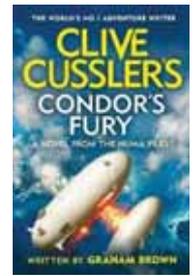
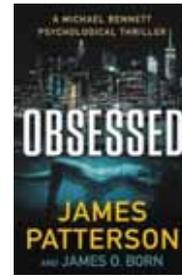
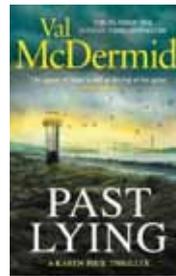
Past Lying by Val McDermid

This is the latest in the Karen Pirie series and a really good read.

An author's manuscript is the blueprint for an actual murder. It is up to DCI Karen Pirie and her team to chase the clues and find out what does it all mean. The author of the manuscript is dead, so what's the connection. Also, Covid is in full swing, which makes investigating more difficult.

Obsessed by James Patterson and James O. Born

Detective Michael Bennett is on a police boat looking for a murder victim. When the body is found, it hits home to Bennett that a pattern is emerging that fits his eldest daughter. Now he must lure the murderer out before he lands closer to home for Bennett.



Condor's Fury by Clive Cussler (A novel from the NUMA files)

A freighter in the Caribbean sends out a distress call that NUMA answers. What they find is a captain dead on the bridge and a crew in hiding, paranoid and ready to fight. It all leads to a cadre of Cuban mercenaries with plans to hijack a nuclear submarine. Danger all the way through.

Taichi for health with Christina

One of the most key principles in taichi is to release all unnecessary muscular tension. Apart from improving physical health, song is the physical precursor to releasing our emotional baggage (song=relaxing).

There is evidence that memories of physical and emotional traumas are embedded in our musculature of our bodies. By maintaining corresponding muscular tensions, we tend to protect ourselves from having these memories flowing into our awareness. These tensions are hidden and we have difficulty in releasing them.

When doing taichi or qigong movements, we gradually release unneeded physical tension by softening and open the body. We allow the memories of these traumas to rise closer to the surface. To the extend, we are successful in releasing our habitual muscular patterns through practicing song, and we are in the process of releasing the corresponding emotional traumas. More important, we are practicing releasing not only our physical tensions, but any unneeded attachment of emotional baggage. By recognising that, song has effects beyond the physical; we can more efficiently utilise its self developmental aspects.

Christina's taichi class runs Tuesday at 5pm (no class in January and restarts in February) at the Waikato Events Centre (above the swimming pool). We have a bunch of lovely, spirited and committed people.

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

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

Barry Brickell Play With Clay Day

HAURAKI HOUSE GROUNDS
Sunday 28th January 2024 • 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.

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Look no further! This superb 1,424m² property is within 700mtrs of the town centre. The 2brm home with decking and carport is complemented by a 51m² garage, a large garden shed, lawns and landscaping. **\$810,000**



A scene of sanctuary... 1.1Ha mostly protected under a QEII National Trust Covenant. Stunning near new home featuring 3 double brms, 2 bathrooms & double garage. Separate 130m² 4 bay shed! **O/O \$2.1M**



Bring on SUMMER! Can you imagine arriving at your holiday home and enjoying a BBQ on the deck after a day's fishing? This 1,406m² section offers an awesome new 2brm home and plenty of parking. **O/O \$750,000**



You may have been watching the progress, now the work is done! New exterior/interior colour schemes, new fixtures/fitings in the bathrooms, new floor coverings. 396m² section with garage and carport. **\$655,000**



SIZE really does matter! This monster home features 2 lounges, a rumpus/games room, 5 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, dble garage and 3 large decks overlooking Wyuna Bay/harbour. WOW!!! **O/O \$1,650,000**



Do you have a passion for weekend fishing trips to Coromandel... well, look no further! The new 'Versatile' garage includes a bathroom and 2 side car/boatports on a flat, well-fenced 998m² section. **O/O \$495,000**



Wonderful 3brm family home, huge deck, large garage and private gardens. **\$895,000**



Well-presented 3brm home on 796m² section, double garage, fenced. **O/O \$820,000**



Set on the outskirts of town. 3brms, 2 garages, private 1,866m² section. **\$800,000**



Stunning new 3brm home... town, harbour, gulf views & privacy. **O/O \$1,950,000**



Beautiful 4 brm Villa on 1 acre, landscaped gardens, in-ground pool. Idyllic! **O/O \$1,400,000**



2,523m² section on Wyuna Bay Peninsula, harbour and gulf views. **\$549,000**



Are you looking for a great little weekender? 2brm bach on 529m² section. **\$539,000**



Would you like to build your new home? 1,022m² section on the edge of town. **\$395,000**



3 brms, open-plan living, 645m² section. Nest or invest (tenanted). **O/O \$600,000**



Great harbour views and room to park the boat. Open-plan, 3brms, decking. **O/O \$950,000**



Set within the 'Elizabeth Park' village. 2brms, space for vege or flower gardens. **\$520,000**



Do you wish to wake to these views? 1.34Ha waterfront section in Tuataewa. **\$925,000**

Ann's Good News, Naturally

Your DNA, genes, and minerals

What is your DNA? Inside every cell of your body, there is a nucleus. In the nucleus is the DNA, which determines all details of who you are – the colour of your hair, eyes and skin, your height, the shape of your nose, and much more. We inherit these genetic traits from our parents at conception.

Today there are weaknesses in DNA which we are born with, which can affect your genetics.

We know that, "Your genetics loads the gun, and your lifestyle pulls the trigger."

So, you can switch your genes on, or off, by what you are doing to, and feeding, your body. Switch your genes on, for your healthiest life, by choosing the right foods and lifestyle. Or pull the trigger and exacerbate your genetic weaknesses. This is called epigenetics.

You can control any genetic predisposition, by identifying your familial nutritional weaknesses. I can help you do just that. My clinical successes have proven to me that ailments perceived to be "in the family forever", can be corrected and blocked from being passed on to the next generation. Prevent asthma, thyroid issues, nervous tension, ADHD, even viral infections and auto immune diseases and more.

So, parents are the genetic engineers of their children.

The science shows us that we need not be subject to our DNA, as it is made up from the food you eat. The outside strands of your DNA are made up of polysaccharides, or good sugars, e.g., from fruits and vegetables.

The inside DNA strands are from protein's building blocks, amino acids, e.g., from nuts, seeds, beans, legumes, fish, eggs. But minerals from vegetables and fruit are the glue that sticks the strands of your DNA together.

Modern farming kills essential microorganisms, producing mineral deficient crops. Over 90% of DNA damage is caused by toxins and mineral deficiency.

How is your mineral status? Take the test. www.activevelments.com, username 259077, password 579819.

Calcium is the king of all minerals and vitamin D,



ideally sunshine exposure, is required to get your calcium into the cells. Calcium phosphorus, calcium fluoride or calcium sulphate – which of these forms are you deficient in? Each calcium form has a specific medicinal role in your body, e.g., calcium fluoride is a tissue strengthener but works better with silica which is a cellular calcium reorganiser.

Calcium is best taken in natural food forms, e.g., leafy green vegetables, sea vegetables, almonds, sardines, spirulina, molasses, broths, and sesame seeds. Absorption of any calcium from modern dairy products is partially blocked by high phosphorus levels, deeming it too acid-forming for your tissues. It's also important for calcium to positively target each body systems cell, and not calcify or narrow your arteries.

How to avoid switching on your bad genes

Avoid stimulants and relaxants such as sugar, coffee, alcohol and drugs. They have no nutritional value.

Processed foods and drinks contain toxic chemicals, flavourings, colourings, preservatives, they also contain no nutritional value. Say no to genetically engineered foods. The fluoride in toothpaste and council water is the very toxic sodium fluoride and should not be ingested – it, too, switches on bad genes.

Boost your best immunity through life to avoid the need for any drugs, vaccines or surgery.

Man must not play God and push nature beyond her limits or to the point of no return.

What happens inside the nucleus of your cell is sacred. Your DNA and mRNA don't need chemicals. They require respect and nurturing with what nature intended for them, to be the best they can, for best and healthiest vitality, longevity and antiaging.

Book now: Ann Kerr-Bell, Natural Medical Centre, "The natural alternative for all of your health requirements"

STOP PRESS New bus trial!

TCDC is trialling a Connector bus service between Thames and Coromandel Town.

The service runs on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday leaving Coromandel Town at 8am and 4.45pm. It leaves Thames at 10am and 3pm. Tickets are \$5 each way (under 14s are free) and users can pay by cash or Eftpos on the day. The trial will run for 13 weeks until **Monday 18 March**.

Bookings are essential. To book, please text your name, the service time and the town you are being picked up from to: Coromandel Taxis text 027 376 4466, Thames Taxis text 027 341 3013.

Coromandel Contract Bridge Club

By Judy Bronlund

Welcome to 2024. Bridge for club members will be the first Monday in February.

Lessons, oops I previously got it wrong, sorry. Lessons will be starting in February. The day and time still to be organised. Jan and Jackie will be contacting folk who have already showed an interest in learning to play bridge. Please do ring either Jan or Jackie if you would also like to join in the 10-lesson sessions. It will be great having more players as in 2023 we have struggled to get more than one table; so different from when I joined as then four tables were the norm. I am looking forward to an upsurge in members.

We meet on Monday evenings at the St John rooms. Visitors are welcome to join us; please make contact before 3pm on the day.

Wishing you all a happy new year.

Contacts Jan (07) 866 8341 or 027 478 8839 Jackie 021 061 6876 Judy 037 517 8306

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Ann Kerr-Bell

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Coromandel Patchwork & Quilters

The Coromandel Patchwork & Quilters Group celebrated their annual Xmas lunch on 3 December. JAK's Cafe provided the catering and the amazing spread of delicious food was enjoyed by all.

This year our group presented a quilt to our Community Library to raffle for fundraising, but Paul, the librarian, decided that it was more appropriate to have it on permanent display in the library. The quilt depicted bookshelves full of books (see image), The project was a joint effort, co-ordinated by Sharon Currie, who did a great job with the final assembly and finishing of the piece.

Our group meetings have now finished for 2023, resuming again in January.

All the very best from our group to you all for the festive season, and may your 2024 be a happy and healthy one.

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 Monday of each month. We look forward to seeing you.

Contact our President, Fiona Neal 027 373 6991 or Secretary, Sharon Currie 027 299 6695



Quilt made for the Community Library

Line Dancing

By Jeni Mudgway

We want to say line dancing is going very well and the demand for a beginners' class has become possible. These will be every Monday and Thursday, 3-3.30pm, before our regular sessions.

Starting on **Monday 5 February**, Anglican Church hall, Tiki Road. \$5 per session. Everyone welcome.

Any queries phone 021 0227 5341



Himalaya shop : Colville

Hi Everyone we hope you have all had a good Christmas. The Himalaya shop will be open 7 days a week during January month. We still have a large selection of summer clothes, throws and home decor items . So ,take a drive up the coast and come and browse. Times are 10 a.m. to around 4 or 5 p.m. You may contact us at the shop 07 8667 224 Anette's mobile 012 139 7838 and Rob 021 155 8559 Or e-mail us at robnnet@yahoo.com

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Big snapper off the rocks!

Devon Newton caught this huge snapper off rocks at Port Jackson. She and Logan only had their boat rods but decided to have a drive up the coast towards Port Jackson. The bait pretty much just hit the water and Devon hooked it up. Logan told her it was probably just a shark so she tightened the drag and pretty much hauled it in the best that she could. It wasn't until they saw it at the rocks that they realised it was a huge snapper. They managed to get it in, take a few quick photos and release it. It was an easy 20-24lb. The best thing is it is back out there to live another day.



Devon with the snapper she caught

Coromandel Town Information Centre

By Lynne, Sue, Carolyn, Viv, Annette and Bronnie



Nga mihi o te tau hou (Happy New Year) and a hearty welcome to Coromandel Town to all of our visitors and holiday makers.

We are especially pleased to see returning Kiwis here to enjoy summer vibes, beaches, walks, fishing, family and a good old Kiwi summer break – feels like a homecoming!

A few attractions (apart from the Information Centre) to visit while you are here: The School of Mines and Historical Museum, Rings Road, is open 1-4pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and from 10am-4pm on Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays in January. Hauraki House exhibits the work of local artists. Driving Creek Railway is open every day. Bookings are essential (we can help with that at the Info Centre). The Waterworks up the 309 Road is a great way to keep the kids occupied. It can take all day, so take along a picnic. Book online or at the Info Centre. A hidden gem up Whangapoua Road is Over the Fence – bask in Bev's passion for her miniature creations – enjoyed by young and old alike. And don't get us started about the fresh kaimoana (seafood) available at all of the eating establishments in town – give yourself a treat while in paradise.

There have been numerous visitors from all over the globe – Germany, France, UK, Netherlands, US and of course our mates from over the ditch, Aussies. Some of the comments and questions we get can make our day:

“In this country, you people put a lot of effort into saving the kiwi, but there are so many dead on the road!” (Hopefully they were mistaking possums for kiwi.)

“Can I really pee in the bush without getting bitten by snakes or spiders?” (Yep, but watch out for the locals!)

“We are driving to Fletcher Bay around the top to Stony Bay; how is the road?” (No you're not.)

Obviously questions about the roads are answered on a daily basis – what's open, are the roads on the other side as winding as the coast road, what does unsealed mean?

Gav and Leanne from Hike & Bike do an awesome northern Coromandel tour – hiking and biking – taking visitors and locals to walk this very special part of the Coromandel. The Coromandel Walkway is partially open – in and out from Fletcher (or from Stony) Bay at the time of submitting this article; come in and get the latest update from the Info Centre.

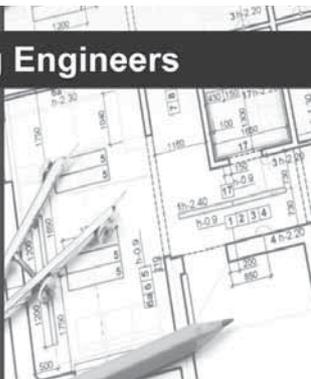
Have a fabulous summer everyone, stay safe, enjoy your time here and look after one another.

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Coromandel now scientifically-proven to be "good for your soul"

To encourage Kiwis to include The Coromandel on their itinerary this summer, Destination Hauraki Coromandel has launched a world-first campaign, backed by science. The Coromandel has always claimed to be good for your soul – but now that claim has been scientifically proven.

The Coromandel Cure research trial, conducted by leading consumer researcher, Dr Karen V. Fernandez PhD, monitored several physical and psychological health measures of participants including heart rate, happiness, sleep and stress levels while in The Coromandel for a 48-hour period.

The results confirmed that even just a short getaway to the region resulted in a significant reduction in stress and anxiety levels (33% decrease), while participants also reported feeling twice as relaxed (101% increase) and more rested (41% increase) after their trip.

Dr Fernandez says the data showed an improvement in stress and anxiety levels, across physical and psychological metrics, and increased feelings of happiness and wellness.

"Results found that participants' self-reported stress levels dropped by a staggering 56%, supported by their physical stress indicators dropping 27% after the trip. The data also showed an overwhelming improvement of feelings of happiness (up 67% and a 65% increase in wellness, showing that even a brief two-night stay to The Coromandel offers a welcome antidote to the ills of the busy life of a city-dweller."

The Coromandel Cure campaign outlines a list of side effects in addition to the health claims which include greater optimism, decreased stress levels, and a renewed appreciation for stars in the night sky, sand between toes and long walks.

According to Becca Goldsworthy who took part in the study, these side effects were accurate.

"This was the best medical test I've ever had. Instead of a study where you're popping pills or sat in a room for observation, I got to experience The Coromandel and enjoy a much-needed break. I didn't actually realise how much I needed it until I saw my results – I'd had an 28% reduction in stress which just goes to show how good for you The Coromandel really is."

Destination Hauraki Coromandel marketing manager Megan Nunn says it's believed to be the first time a destination has used psychological and physical data in this way.

"We always like to do things a bit differently here and while we as locals have experienced the Coromandel Cure, it's great to be able to have data to back it up," said Megan.



Haiku

By John Irvine

in the silence
echoes
of the past

**

speaking in tongues
a serious lesson
in Airportese

**

after she leaves
her essence remains –
long hairs clog the drain

**

she's back:
the toilet seat is down

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- 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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Grey Power Coromandel Inc

By Patricia Whimp

Wahoo! Grey Power Coromandel had success with the Coromandel Christmas Parade by winning the “Best Community Float”.

Thanks to the Grey Power fairies and elves, with their hard work and laughter, the float was dressed with Christmas decorations including a wooden Christmas tree made by one of the members, quirky sayings, tinsel, greenery, balloons, etc. And then the fairies and elves themselves climbed aboard the float, with cocktails, water pistols and sweets



Grey Power Coromandel's winning “Best Community Float” in Santa Parade 2023

(compliments of the CCBA)! Lots of fun for all who participated.

Earlier in the month at our General Meeting, John Gaffikin-Cowan with Barbara as backup, spoke of their amazing 107 days at sea.

Highlights were Komodo dragons, ancient city of Petra, Suez Canal, Iceland, Panama Canal, catching up with family and friends in Ireland. Thank you, John, for stepping up at short notice.

Brian presented John with a thank you gift. The raffles were won by Anne and Wally!

By the time this copy of the Chronicle comes out, we would have celebrated our last coffee morning on 19 December at the Combined Club of Coromandel (Bowling

Club) with a Christmas theme. We asked members attending to bring a \$10 gift wrapped and labelled male or female, to share with the Christmas cheer planned.

If you would



John Gaffikin-Cowan (left) receiving gift from Brian (right)

like to know more about Grey Power Coromandel, please don't hesitate to make contact. We can email membership forms and past newsletters if this would interest you.

President - Bill 021 120 6205 (billchadderton@yahoo.co.nz), Vice-President – Brian Holmes 027 319 0172 or beandgee@hotmail.co.nz, Membership Secretary - Carol 021 0816 6129 (carolcarson@xtra.co.nz) or myself 027 498 5227 (patricia@prosystems.co.nz)

Hotspot – Coromandel Volunteer Fire Brigade

By Rob Chappell

We are now entering summer and still the weather experts are advising a long hot summer is in store. If you want to light a fire the easiest place to contact to see if there is a ban is to go to www.checkitsalright.nz. Write this web address on the wall or put it into your favourites. This website, managed by Fire and Emergency NZ, provides all of the information you will require to see if you can burn or if not, who you need to contact or when the season will be open again. A lot easier than trying to find an answer in other places.

It's the season of the tourist. We are going to be busy, our roads crazy, and the potholes are only getting bigger. Please take care. Remember, you know the road is narrow and winding but most of our visitors do not, so take care, be safe. Have a very merry and prosperous New Year from the members of the Coromandel Volunteer Fire Brigade.

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PHOTO BY ANNA SEPHTON

Wild things

By Pete Sephton

Bar-tailed godwits

The kuaka or bar-tailed godwit is one of the most remarkable migratory birds in the world. Recent studies have shown that they fly from their breeding grounds in Alaska back to Aotearoa nonstop, a journey of 11,000km. The current record for this flight is eleven days, set by a tagged bird a year or so ago. These intrepid birds are also native to Australia and last year one of them set a new record of eleven days for the 13,500km from Alaska to Tasmania.

An estimated 80,000-90,000 kuaka arrive in Aotearoa in spring and are quite widely distributed around our coastlines. Large numbers gather in the Firth of Thames mostly on shores of Miranda but a few stragglers find their way into Coromandel Harbour. During the flight they lose a large amount of their body weight, which they build up to about 600g before they start the long trek. This is rapidly replaced when they land but due to changes to coastlines through all-to-frequent climate change events, some birds arrive home to diminished feeding grounds. They are considered to be at risk so we need to, as much as we can, look after these amazing record holders of the longest nonstop flight by any bird.

Whitianga restaurant rebuilds for summer season

Whitianga restaurateurs Andrew and Rebekah Driscoll, are rebuilding their restaurant Stoked ahead of the busy summer season thanks to an international funding grant.

Stoked Bar and Grill on the Esplanade was significantly affected by Cyclone Gabrielle in early 2023. Not only did it cause damage to the restaurant building, but road closures into Coromandel meant a significant decrease in customers and impacted suppliers being able to reach them.

In mid-2023 the Driscolls were alerted to a new Disaster Relief Fund set up by food delivery service DoorDash. The fund offers \$10,000 grants for selected restaurants across the United States, Puerto Rico, New Zealand, Australia, and Canada affected by natural disasters like fires, floods, and hurricanes.

The Driscolls applied, and in November they were announced as one of 44 restaurants to receive funding – and one of four eateries located in New Zealand.



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Summer is Here

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Sat 6 Apr – Sam & James

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Coromandel Embroidery Guild

By Sharon Currie

It is a quiet time for members of our Embroidery Guild after a busy year of meetings and classes. Meetings start again on **Wednesday 7 February**. Our first class, scheduled for **28/29 February**, is Funky Circles with Jill Wilson. This will be a chance to use a variety of threads to embroider circles. These circles could be made into a door stop, pincushion, bag or a bowl.

It is nice to look back on the year, and the joy of sharing the enduring art of embroidery in its many forms. Our embroidery guild is lucky to have some very talented embroiderers who are always ready to help and share their knowledge. We also have an excellent library for inspiration and help with extending stitch knowledge. Looking forward to another year of companionship and sharing the love of embroidery.

Contact person is Helen Pearce at coromandelembroidery@gmail.com or phone (07) 866 8460



Real Estate Matters

By Glenn Wells, Licensed Agent

Q. Can I get out of my Sale & Purchase agreement? Or just let it run out of time?

A. Short answer. You must make every reasonable effort to satisfy the contract you entered into. You have made an offer, the other party has accepted this in good faith, and has every right to expect you to fulfil your duty to make every effort to satisfy the contract.

If you genuinely realise the following day after signing your agreement that you have made a mistake, or have misgivings, urgently contact your lawyer and the company that wrote the agreement, preferably in writing, and let them know.

If the agreement is Conditional to Finance, this is not a get out of jail condition by just saying, "I can not obtain finance". You may be challenged by the vendors' lawyers. They may request you provide evidence of the bank rejecting your application. This is their right.

Conditional to a Builder's Report? Depending on how the clause is worded, you may well find the vendor may wish to challenge your findings, or reasons.

Using a Due Diligence clause enables the purchaser to look at many issues, and then decide the home is not to their satisfaction.

Having an agreement conditional to your lawyer's approval is generally to the format or manner in which the agreement is written. Lawyers may request a change in wording or use of clauses to legitimise the contract.

Conditional to the sale of a property? You must make a genuine effort to sell the home.

Usually the expectation of this is that a company has been engaged to fully market the home, not just a for sale sign at the boundary and left to chance.

As mentioned earlier, when entering into the agreement, both parties are accepting the other party to make every effort to fulfil the agreement.

You are both taking the other at face value to be negotiating in an honest manner. Is there the notion that one can write up any number of properties to contract in a weekend, then over the next week just cancel them on Finance Condition? I would be very careful and think twice before taking such action. This was a common ploy in the hectic market. But is now seriously shunned by lawyers and courts.

The best practice is to have your lawyer peruse the written proposed Sale & Purchase prior to you signing. This enables your lawyer to ensure your rights are best protected. The salesperson must give you the option to have your lawyer peruse first. They must also ensure they do not mislead you or coerce you into signing something you are not comfortable with. I suggest if you have any hesitation or doubts, you have the proposed agreement forwarded to your lawyer for their input. Then, after discussion with your lawyer, proceed as agreed.

Your lawyer will usually want conditions such as LIM and Builder's Reports and finance inserted regardless, for your protection. Then there may be circumstances of the property that require special due diligence that require more directed clauses. The Sale & Purchase has written into it the right for your lawyer to check the title.

Caution prior to signing is best practice and should be encouraged by all salespeople writing up these very legal documents.

Should you have any concerns or questions you would like answered, contact the writer glenn.wells@harcourts.co.nz or 0800 735 788

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Merry Christmas
Happy New Year

It's the most wonderful time of the year, and we're grateful to have clients and a community as wonderful as you. Wishing you all a safe Christmas & New Year filled with laughter and special moments with loved ones. Happy Holidays!



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Coromandel Bowling Club

By Judy Campbell

The months of November and December saw five weeks of Twilight Bowls completed, the Coromandel Cup and the Pak 'n Save (Hams) Triples tournament competed for, most of our club championship tournaments played, and finally our Christmas Dinner Party. We certainly know how to keep all of our members, both playing and social, busy leading up to Christmas and the New Year!

The Coromandel Cup was won by David Weatherley who was partnered with new member to our club, David Makie. Twelve teams of pairs played for the cup.

Twilight Bowls was thoroughly enjoyed by 32 teams of four, split into 5pm and 6pm sessions. "Plus 2" won the 5pm session, with "Coro Squares" runners up. The 6pm session saw "Tennis" coming in first and "Coro Accounts" runners up in that time slot.

Well done everyone and a huge shoutout to our Twilight Bowls sponsors – Star & Garter, Pepper Tree Restaurant & Bar, ZM Electrical, Perfect Air, Moana NZ, Driving Creek Railway, Trinity Real Estate, Richardson's Real Estate, James & Turner, Coromandel Fish, Dive & Hunt and Coromandel Accounting. Without your support we wouldn't be able to make Twilight Bowls the successful community event that it is.

The Open Optional Triples "Hams" tournament sponsored by Pak 'n Save, was won by a visiting Mercury Bay team, however our Coromandel team of Colin Gawith, Lindsay Nicholls and Jason Donovan came in a close 2nd so got to enjoy some Christmas hams as well.

Our Club Champions so far for the 2023/2024 season are:

Women's Championship Triples – Sue McNeil, Val Arndt & Vi King

Men's Championship Triples – Colin Gawith, Danny Goodall & Jason Donovan

Women's Championship Pairs – Lindsay Nicholls & Pamela Harris

Men's Championship Pairs – Colin Gawith & Danny Goodall

Men's Junior (1-5 Year Bowler)

Championship Pairs – Layke McNeil & Doug Mulholland

Women's Junior (1-5 Year Bowler) Championship Pairs –



Champ Pairs 2023 – Lindsey and Pam



Val Arndt and Judy Campbell (unplayed)

Men's Junior (1-5 Year Bowler) Championship Singles – Layke McNeil

Women's Junior (1-5 Year Bowler) Championship Singles – Val Arndt

There were some seriously good bowls played by all, especially by our Junior (1-5 year bowler)

players, with many supporters kept on the edge of their seats.

Our Men's and Women's Club Championship Singles will be played on the weekend of **23-24 March**, so put that in your diary.

As reported in December's Chronicle, our youngest club member, Layke McNeil, was selected for the Thames Valley Bowls 2023/2024 Men's Junior Rep Team. They recently played for the Geddes Trophy at Katikati and they came 3rd overall. Well done team. We are all very impressed with Layke's bowling achievements.

Our Christmas Dinner Party (Pot Luck) was well attended and enjoyed by all. Aside from great food and company, we had our Christmas knowledge tested with a 20-question quiz put together by our club patron Maureen Kimber and had some fun playing "Corner to Corner" with the "winner takes all" prize going to Reg Wright.

Club days start again on **Thursday 4 January**, an Open Optional Triples tournament sponsored by Twentymans is on **Wednesday 10 January** and Twilight Bowls commences again on **Tuesday 30 January**.

I certainly hope everyone had a lovely Christmas. Maybe your New Year's resolution is to give outdoor bowls a go and if so, you are most welcome to come down to the club and join us on Thursdays (8.30am for 9am start) or Sundays (12.30pm for 1pm start) and to our coaching sessions starting 3pm on Fridays followed by a game or two. Happy New Year everyone from the Coromandel Bowling Club.



Junior Singles Champ – Layke McNeil

RSA

By Gary Pettett

A thought-provoking extract from an article written by Major J.Q. Henriques of the London Regiment in perhaps a more naive, caring era:

"The most famous and humanitarian Christmas act of war was the truce of 1914. Unofficial ceasefires between British and German soldiers took place along parts of the Western front. In the trenches on Christmas morning carols were sung and rations thrown across the opposing lines.

"It was not long before the more adventurous soldiers started to cross into no-man's land and here they exchanged food, tobacco, cigarettes, drink, badges, buttons and caps. Games of football even broke out. The only result of this was a 3-2 victory by the Germans, quoted in several of the soldiers' letters home."

Indeed for the rest of the war there was no major repeat of the 1914 truce. The event therefore acquired semi-mythical status, and has since been celebrated as a rare glimmer of humanity in a brutal conflict.

This heartwarming piece of history prompts us to wish everyone a very happy and compassionate 2024.

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Museum News

By Raewyn McKinney

I trust the new year is treating everyone well, and that we will have lots of fine weather over the summer to encourage many people to travel to Coromandel Town. I remind visitors and locals that a visit to the museum is a great day out, whatever the weather is like.

On behalf of the committee of the Coromandel School of Mines & Historical Society, I thank Lyn Dear for her recent donation of her book “Coromandel Township and some folk who lived there”. Lyn used to live in Coromandel Town, and I am sure her book will prove to be interesting to many of our members, plus visitors who are researching their families.

Of course, if our summer does turn out to be as hot and dry as has been predicted, there is always a worry that there will be fires in the surrounding area. Fires have always been a worry in Coromandel Town, and not just in the winter when open fires were used to heat houses, and candles were used for light.

Here are a couple of items from “Auckland Star” featuring fires in summer:

From 4 January 1898:

“Fire In Coromandel

An Old Landmark Destroyed.

(By Telegraph—Own Correspondent.)

One of the oldest landmarks in Coromandel was removed by fire last night between 9.15 and 10 o’clock, when the Ballarat Hotel, at Driving Creek, was demolished. The fire originated in the back premises, and is ascribed to a defective chimney. The hotel was an old one, having been built thirty years ago at the time of the Tokatea rush. It was owned, by Mrs Doyle, who a couple of years back leased it to Hancock and Co., after carrying on business since 1869. It was later sublet to Mr Patrick O’Brien, the present licensee, who was absent in Auckland at the time of the occurrence. The building was insured in the Norwich Union for £250. The insurances of lessee and licensee (if any) are unknown. A piano and some furniture were saved.”

From 27 January 1900:

“Fire At Coromandel

A five-roomed dwelling and contents situated at Tiki Road, Coromandel, owned and occupied by Win Reddy. were totally destroyed by fire at 10 o’clock this morning. Nothing was saved except a sewing machine. The fire is supposed to have originated in the vicinity of the fireplace. The owners were away at the time. It is understood that there is a small insurance on the building.”

During January, we remember Barry Brickell, who was born in 1935, and died in Coromandel on 23 January 2016. Barry was a potter,

writer, conservationist and was well known throughout New Zealand. He created the Driving Creek Railway on his 22-hectare property, which he had acquired in 1961. By 1973 Barry wanted to expand into a communal pottery establishment, so he purchased another 24-hectare block of hilly, scrub-covered land nearby. He started construction of the 15-inch gauge rail line in 1975, originally mainly using it to transport clay and pine wood fuel to his kiln. Today the railway, pottery and zipline are popular attractions for tourists, and the property also incorporates a Native Forest Restoration Project, to restore the magnificent kauri forests, and a Wildlife Sanctuary whose vision is to provide a vermin-proof wildlife sanctuary for indigenous species.

Waitangi Day, **Tuesday 6 February**, will once again be Open Day at the museum, when entry is free to everyone from 10am to 4pm.

During January the museum is open from 1pm to 4pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and from 10am to 4pm on Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays



Barry Brickell

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Thames Public Art Trust

Interwoven sculpture

By Paul Silvester (Chairperson)

Interwoven is the third of four artworks from the Open Sculpture Competition from 2018 to be installed on the rail trail: The Jandal opened 2018, Poetic Directions opened earlier this year, Interwoven now on site, with Miners' Gates still in store. This sculpture, designed by local artist Chris Budgen, is a memorial to the artist and a gift to the town.

Ngati Maru, TCDC, KiwiRail and Hauraki Rail Trail Trust approved the site at Totara. We have been funded by Thames Community Board, Trust Waikato, Creative NZ and We Care Community Trust. These installations happen because many volunteers, contractors and donors generously give time, skills and money.

We held a celebration on 2 December to open and bless this new artwork. We unveiled the information plaque and handed the maquette back to Saila.

We will develop John McKeowen's "Miners' Gates" further north by Rhodes Park. Cyclists will enjoy the light/shade movement as they ride through the sculpture. We hope to have it completed early in 2024.

In the last few years, the Public Art Trust has achieved some refurbishing of the Underfoot Gallery, reinstated the Michael Smithers "Colour Harmonics" on Bourke St reclamation, placed temporary plinths with David McCracken's "Baron" by the ANZ and Jay Hogan's "Untitled" piece in Campbell St Reserve. These have stimulated a wide range of comment! "Baron" is due for a change as planned.

We believe art enlightens and stimulates the community. Trustees Paul Silvester, Rob Johnston, Bev Groves, Jenny McLeod and John McKeowen wish you a wonderful festive season.

Nga mihi nui.

Pestie Corner

By Amy English,
Peninsula Pest Services



Welcome to 2024 and we hope everyone had a great Christmas holiday! Summer brings out all of the bugs and one of the most detested would have to be the wasp. We were already seeing nests start to establish in the spring with numbers generally peaking from January to March and if we are to have the hot, dry summer as predicted, they could become a real nuisance.

The four most common species we deal with in this area are the German and common wasp (who look very similar to each other) and the Asian and Australian paper wasp (who are also very similar). These are collectively referred to as social wasps and it is really hard to find anything good to say about these insects. All four species are black and yellow, but the paper wasps have skinnier bodies and longer, dangly legs. They eat other native insects, compete with native birds for nectar, fruit and honeydew and as they are all introduced species to New Zealand, they have no natural predators. They can strip wood from your house and fences to make their nests and that's before we even mention their stings, which can be painful and given repeatedly!

The German and common wasps both make nests in the ground, which can grow quite large (up to 3-4 metres across!) if they manage to survive the winter. If you find one of these nests, or think you might have one, give us a call and we can find the entrance and treat it to get rid of the wasps and nest for good.

The paper wasp's nest is one we are all familiar with – small, multi-cell papery nests found hanging from your fence, house or vegetation. Fly spray is very effective on these nests, just give them a good spray in the evening when the wasps are less active, and then return and detach the nest the next day. An exterior insect spray to your property will also help to deter the establishment of paper wasp nests. Until next month... enjoy the sunshine I hope we are having!

Peninsula Pest Services



Contact us for control and prevention of insects, rodents and other pests!

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The Colville Project

A wrap of 2023 Hello 2024.

TCP held our 2022-2023 AGM in November.

Thanks Holly

Snape and Sarah Gibb (Community Waikato) and Larisa Webb (Colville Junction) for your inspirational sharing. It was affirming hearing our visitors position TCP as a beacon for community-led development.

A snapshot of achievements over our annual reporting period includes:

- engaging an architectural team to progress the design for the Wellbeing and Education Centre.
- holding Community Hui where the community met our architect and inputted into the design of the Wellbeing and Education Centre and recreational areas; and the development of the “village” concept and housing aspects.
- drafting TCP Design and Development Principles to guide the project going forward.
- preparing for resource consent (e.g. land surveying, quantity surveying, geotechnical engineering, traffic assessment, town planning).
- growing our team and our relationships with stakeholders and potential partners.
- commissioning an Ecological Assessment and Recommendation Report, completing



initial moth plant control, and preparing for implementation of further pest management (plant and animal).

- developing key Project resources and materials.

We also farewell Jo Herbert. Jo joined TCP’s Board in 2017 and was a co-chair until resigning in October 2023. Jo brought and shared a wealth of knowledge and experience across a range of areas, from strategic planning and policy, to human resources, building relationships, knowledge of lifetime design, and so much more. She has remained a consistently highly valued and appreciated team member. We also acknowledge Jo’s partner Tommy Herbert for his support of Jo’s work with TCP, and the time we have uplifted from their life together. We wish them both all the best for the exciting possibilities their future will bring.

2024 brings some exciting opportunities for our community project. We are currently looking for a funding and a marketing person



Relaxing after our 2023 AGM . Back: Richard Campbell, Isla Campbell, Rick Lambourne. Middle: Stephanie McKee, Bronwyn Blair, Jo Herbert, Sarah Gibb. Front: Janet Palmer, Kate Armstrong

(these can be combined). Please refer to our situations vacant classified advert on page 28.

Finally, huge thanks go out to our funders DV Bryant, Lotteries, COGS, Trust Waikato and NZCGT, and to you the community who continue to back TCP financially and/or in other ways. Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou. Kia pai tō koutou Tau Hou. Happy New Year!

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Mana Update

Greetings Coromandel Community.

Wow, the year has flown by! It has been a busy year full of growth and transformation.

In 2023, we held over 30 community events where the Coromandel community joined us at Mana for community classes, workshops and garden days. We have thoroughly enjoyed having you all. Keep an eye out for more in the New Year.

The Centre will be closed from **18 December to Friday 5 January** for a rest period.

Come for an affordable summer getaway with our Relax and Wellness Weekend on **Friday 12 to Sunday 14 January**, an opportunity to rest and replenish with an optional daily schedule designed to cultivate relaxation and wellbeing. Join us in the New Year!

We're looking to host more workshops and retreats that connect educational teachings, men's, youth or cultural groups. If you know anyone who might like to share their knowledge and offerings, send us an email to be@manaretreat.com. We'd love to hear from you!

Please note that due to our schedule, there will be no Open Floor Dance at Mana in January. But we'll be back in February with more dates scheduled.

We are excited to host a one-day workshop with Master Sunyong on **Wednesday 14 February**, focusing on the art of loving and healing your body through the mindful practices of Qi Gong and K-Meditation. Stay tuned for more information on our website.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing you in 2024.

Arohanui,
The Mana Team.

Contact us: be@manaretreat.com,
www.manaretreat.com, (07) 866 8972

Chopper Chat

By Nigel Strongman, Trustee of the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust



Out of only eight missions to the Peninsula for November, two were to Thames, and the only callout to Coromandel Town was for a patient suffering a medical complaint. Enroute, the crew were stood down and returned to base, whereas, for November 2022, there were 18 missions to the Peninsula.

One would think that with SH25A closed, the chopper would have been used more to save the longer trip to hospital. Strange!

Good news is that there will be a machine and crew at the Whitianga Base from Boxing Day for the summer holiday period.

Farmer Autovillage Coromandel, which is based at Whitianga, has kindly donated a brand-new four-wheel-drive ute for the use of the crew while they are stationed here. Their generosity is very much appreciated.

Please have a safe New Year.

Nigel Strongman, 022 670 1549



Hon Scott Simpson MP For Coromandel

Happy New Year to one and all. I hope that you have a chance to refresh and recharge after an eventful 2023. The last 12 months have been incredibly tough for our region, but I'm optimistic that there are good times ahead.

As usual, we're expecting a huge influx of visitors who are drawn to our region to spend time at the beach or out on the water. The Coromandel is spectacular all year-round, but there's something special about our summers. I'm delighted that our reputation as the place to be over the holidays has not diminished and I can't wait to see everyone enjoying themselves. Long may it continue over the coming months.

In terms of politics, the 54th Parliament has been sworn-in and the new government is getting to work for all New Zealanders. We're working through our 100-day plan, which is focused on easing the cost of living, restoring law and order, and delivering better public services. There's a lot to do, but I'm looking forward to the job ahead.

In the meantime, MPs are taking a break from Parliament over the holidays. I'll be out and about around the electorate. If you see me, don't hesitate to come over and say hello or give me your views on the world.



Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime
0800 550 330 • scottsimpson.co.nz
mpcoromandel@parliament.govt.nz
f [scottsimpsonmp](https://www.facebook.com/scottsimpsonmp)

National
Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.



UPCOMING RETREATS

Book Online - www.manaretreat.com

6-12 JAN	Eyebody with Peter Grunwald
12-14 JAN	Summer Relax and Wellness Weekend with the Mana Team
15-21 JAN	Sufi Retreat with The School of Sufi Teaching New Zealand
23-28 JAN	DUPANZ Retreat
29 JAN - 4 FEB	Our Basic Nature with Caroline Pfohl
9-11 FEB	Repotted Retreat with Lisa O'Neill
14 FEB	Love Heals – A Self Love and Healing Full Day Workshop with Master Sunyong
16-18 FEB	Yummy Yoga Retreat
23-28 FEB	Spiraling In, Spiraling Out with Geordie Jahner
1-3 MARCH	March Relax and Wellness Weekend with the Mana Team
7-11 MARCH	Reiki Retreat with Uli Brell

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Open Floor Dance 6, 13, 20 FEB | 5, 12, 19 MARCH



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rangatahi OUR CHILDREN

Colville School

By Susie Sumner

Whilst looking through the photo highlights for the year it has been incredible looking back at the learning opportunities our tamariki have had. The pictures that stand out are the students learning in the Garden to Table Programme.

Throughout 2023 Colville School students have acquired skills and knowledge developed in the māra kai garden and kīhini kitchen and then shared with their whānau. Throughout this time ripples of positive impact have been generated. Over time, this learning builds community wellbeing and food security. In 2023 we have acknowledged their mahi with our Garden to Table Badge scheme.

In 2024 we will continue to empower our Colville School children to whanake/grow, hauhake/harvest, whakarite/prepare, and whāngai/share fresh and seasonal kai.



Ngā mihi, Colville School would like to thank you for their commitment to Garden to Table for our tamariki. Whether you have donated your time to help us, or kai for us to prepare, bought our cakes or seedlings or granted us access to explore your land, we thank you!

Ngā mihi o te Raumati, best wishes for summer. Thank you from our Colville School Team.



Te Rerenga School

By Mary Kedzlie

It has been another full term at Te Rerenga School.



The annual Halloween Trick or Treat evening was a huge success and the costumes and makeup on both children and adults were pretty impressive! It was wonderful to see the buzz of excitement on all of our children's faces. This was followed by barbecue and raffle fundraiser at the annual Melbourne Cup event held at Pipers. Then, to finish the term there was a glitzy disco at school. Again thank you to the community for supporting these events for the benefit of our local school.

The arrival at school of entries for our annual Lego Masters Competition caused great excitement and the creativity was amazing. The amount of effort that went into making the designs on the theme of our dream school was incredible. We have very creative children at Te Rerenga.

The children also shared their project learning with parents and grandparents at our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) festival. There was a large number of whanau at school to see it all, which again showed the support of our community.

Our year 5-8 students headed off to camp in late November/early December. The Year 7&8 students were based at Hahei for water-based adventures while the Year 5&6 students went to the Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp for land-based action!

Finally, the amazing fundraising efforts over the year have seen the construction late-term of our pump track. This should be ready for use for the start of the school year.

Coromandel Youth Group at Hauraki House

Youth Group is for children 5-15yrs. To play, socialise, create art and crafts or just relax and enjoy the fresh fruit supplied by Countdown.

School holiday times – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 11am-4pm. We will be closed Friday 22 December, reopening **Monday 8 January**. We are open for most of the summer holidays up to **Thursday 25 January**. Bring a packed lunch and togs and a towel for swimming, New attendees must have a membership form filled in by a caregiver.

For more information: call in at Hauraki House, telephone us on (07) 866 7061 during opening hours or email coromandelyouthgroup@gmail.com.

This programme is made possible with kind donations and grants from: Lottery Waikato, COGS, Trust Waikato, D V Bryant Trust, AGT and NZCT. Local supporters: Star & Garter Hotel, CILT and TCDC. Thank you!

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 2024.

Beginning of Term 1 2024 dates

Remember to stay up to date with what is happening by checking our Facebook page regularly and our calendar on the school website.

Teacher-only days – **Wednesday 24, Thursday 25, Friday 26 January**. Office will be open these days for new enrolments
Senior course selection (if this needs to be done) – **Friday 26 January**.

First day Term 1, 2024 – **Tuesday 30 January**.

School closed – **Monday 5 February** (day before Waitangi Day).

School resumes – **Wednesday 7 February**.

All 2024 stationery lists and information can be found on our website www.coroarea.school.nz.

We look forward to an EPIC 2024.

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mahi toi ARTS

Coromandel Christmas Art Exhibition

The Coromandel Christmas Art Exhibition is at Hauraki House, Coromandel Town until **Sunday 14 January**.

Artists exhibiting include: Bronwynne Cornish, Michael Smither, Gian McGregor, Fatu Feu'u, Wailin Elliott, Tom Elliott, Lindsay Garmson, Cindy Alger, Fiona Tunnicliffe, Rod MacLeod, Barbara Von Seida, Mike O'Donnell, Allan Beaver, Peter Sephton, Kim and Kevin Brett, Kay Ogilvie, Tracy Johnson, Ian Webster, Jan Kocian, Iain Crichton, Petra Meyboden, Mary Lee, Andrew van der Putten, Jeannie van der Putten, Raewyn Penrose, Stuart Spackman, Tim Fuller, Annette Kaye, Joanne North, Vaughan Udall, Yvonne Szabo, Pamella Annsouth, Ashley Thor.

Barry Brickell Play With Clay Day

By Pete Sephton

The Anniversary Weekend storm of 2023 forced us to cancel this event last year but we are back! We will be under the marquee again at the Hauraki House grounds on **Sunday 28 January** with tables manned by expert ceramic artists ready to help you and the family come up with your own clay creation, using beautiful clay from Driving Creek Potteries. You can try handbuilding or work on an electric wheel. Who knows, you might discover your next lifetime hobby!

This is a free event open to anyone who wanders in and is open from 10am to 3pm. The volunteer artists who help us make this event such a success will also have some of their work on display in the sales tent.

Coromandel Art Group

by Wendy Moore

Happy New Year!

We are getting organised for our exhibition, which runs from **Friday 19 January until Sunday 11 February** at Hauraki House. You should soon be seeing our flyers out and about as reminders, and you'll see our advertisement in this Chronicle.

The art group's joint painting is finally finished and will be on show and up for sale.

There is quite a diversity of styles and media used this year. Something for everyone to look at and enjoy, we hope.

There will also be a raffle with some great prizes, the money from which goes to support the club, and a selection of cards and prints from some of the artists' current and past paintings.

This would be a great time to come along, see what we do – and maybe make that decision to pick up a paintbrush again?

Our last exhibition was literally washed out with Cyclone Gabrielle, and no one in town, so here's hoping for clear skies and lots of visitors to our little town.

Gallery 6

By Vaughan Udall

A passion for art. It was just over two years ago that the concept of an art gallery in Coromandel Town became a reality.

Diann Cade, a local artist, and her partner Ed Buckett, saw the potential when a retail space became available in town.

Five other artists were contacted, a meeting held and Gallery 6 was created.

The plan was to run for the upcoming holiday season which proved to be so successful that a decision was made to continue as a permanent venue. Little did they know how that would unfold. Waves of Covid, cyclones and road closures affected not just the gallery, but the whole town. Visitors became a trickle and the whole concept looked doomed.

Artists are a passionate lot and it was this passion that helped make the decision to keep going.

With winter over and the trickle becoming a steadier flow, Gallery 6 is looking forward to a busy, creative summer. Chatting with visitors, painting and creating works in the gallery makes a great experience for the artists and everyone who comes.

Artists at the gallery are painters Diann Cade, Fran Campbell, Donna Scatchard, Vaughan Udall and fibre artist Raewyn Penrose.

So if you're visiting Coromandel Town and like art, Gallery 6 is a venue not to be missed.



Annual Exhibition

Coromandel Art Group

19 January - 11 February
2024

Hauraki House Gallery

10am - 4pm
plus 2 evenings Friday 26 Jan and
Friday 9 Feb 'till 8pm

Free Entry

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te taiao ENVIRONMENT

MEG

By Genevieve Morley

A poem from the heart

Tahi, rua, toru kiwi walking in the night. Where they scuffle, find grubs, and sometimes even have a fight.

The adult kiwi call, loud and proud protecting their territory. While the teenage kiwi are silent, sneaking undetected while they look for "their" space before the morning's glory. Meanwhile, we sleep. Kuri in its kennel, tourists in their tents, people in their houses maybe worrying about their rents. The first bird call chimes, the day is not far from its beginning. Juvenile kiwi has to think fast. He has travelled many miles through the night, looking to find that perfect home that's just right. Kiwi thinks, "Why not just here? Here seems just fine. I'll just scratch a little bit under this vine." Little does kiwi know that where he has chosen is actually not the go. It's dangerous as people don't know he is there and maybe don't know enough to care. They don't tie their dogs up when they arrive home, kuri thinks great, I'll go have a roam. Poor kiwi is found within a short time, white fangs coming for him, surely this is not fine. People when you're here, in the real kiwi country, please think about what's fair for our birds, our taonga, our treasures of the night. Think about their plight and what they have to fight. Stoats, weasels, ferrets, cats and rats, dogs, cars, and destroyed habitat. Slow down, think first, have respect and avoid the worst. \$20,000 fine, dog impounded, bubble burst. Share this place with kiwi as well. This is the real kiwi country, let our kiwi live, let them live well.

Protect our Kiwi

Kiwi are nocturnal birds. They share the night with us. We live and holiday in kiwi home territories here on the Peninsula. Conservation groups work hard to create safe environments for kiwi to flourish, and as the number of kiwi increases, so does the chance of encountering them.

It's Real Kiwi Country, which means kiwi walk through places we inhabit, our backyards, they cross the roads, they walk the tracks and



Kiwi and dog footprints on beach

come out of the bush margins. We need to be super vigilant with our pets, after dusk and especially with dogs. We

have two Avoidance Training for Dogs sessions in Waikawau in January – see schedule below. To get your dog kiwi avoidance trained, go to www.kiwiavoidancetraining.nz. It's also important to note that other birds that are vulnerable to dogs are penguins when they come ashore at night. Many penguins in the month of January are in their burrows moulting. Please keep your dogs on lead at the beach and in the bush, and tied up or inside at nighttime.

MEG Summer Holiday Programme

Come along to some of the different activities we have this January! From the popular Clay Critters to Kiwi Night Adventures, we have over twenty activities for children and adults. You can pick up a copy of our newsletter with our Summer Holiday Programme from the Coromandel Town Information Centre or the Colville Store. For more information and to make a booking for the Summer Holiday Programme please ring or text 027 663 3031. Also, for three days in Hauraki House in Coromandel Town from **Monday 15 to Wednesday 17 January**, there will be a display called The Conservation Installation at Hauraki House Gallery in Coromandel Town open 10am-4pm.

Key January dates:

Tuesday 2 – Keltic Fair

Wednesday 3 – Conservation Tour at Driving Creek Railway; Who is MEG in Port Charles

Thursday 4 – Clay Critters at Shelly Beach; Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles

Friday 5 – Beautiful Rat Traps in Waikawau; Test that Water in Waikawau

Saturday 6 – Flipper fun with the Coromandel Dolphins in Coromandel Town; Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles

Tuesday 9 – Alien Invaders in Port Charles

Wednesday 10 – Conservation Dogs in Waikawau

Thursday 11 – Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles

Friday 12 – Clay Critters at Shelly Beach

Saturday 13 – Teach your dog to avoid kiwi in Papa Aroha; Beautiful Rat Traps in Waikawau

Monday 15 – Meet a Gecko in Coromandel Town

Tuesday 16 – Learn art with Emma Evangeline in Coromandel Town; Make Beeswax Wraps in Coromandel Town

Wednesday 17 – Learn Backyard Trapping in Coromandel Town; Beeswax Wraps Workshop in Coromandel Town

Thursday 18 – Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles

Friday 19 – Clay Critters at Shelly Beach

Saturday 20 – Teach your dog to avoid kiwi in Waikawau

Tuesday 23 – Clay Critters at Shelly Beach

Wednesday 24 – Screen Printing in Coromandel Town

Thursday 25 – Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles

Friday 26 – Sanctuary Sketching in Coromandel Town

Check out our programme online at www.meg.org.nz. Follow us on Facebook @moehauenvironmentgroup, contact us at info@meg.org.nz or make a donation by visiting our website www.meg.org.nz

Forest & Bird

By Kate James



Happy New Year! Last year was a busy one for our committee. As the Upper Coromandel branch we work on local environmental issues around Coromandel Town, but we are also involved in wider causes, such as opposing the proposed new mine on Public Conservation Land near Whangamata, lobbying for better protection of the Hauraki Gulf/Tikapa Moana, submitting our views on the Waikato Regional Council Coastal Plan and much more...

We have a strong focus on caring for our local Thames-Coromandel District Council reserves, which has been ongoing for the last few years. We have poured our efforts into funding pest plant and animal control for the Long Bay Kauri Reserve, the Long Bay Esplanade Reserve, and the beachfront reserve and Kauri Reserve at Torehina Bay. We love having these hands-on projects. Thank you to Remnant Restoration, Moehau Environment Group, Waikato Regional Council, Thames-Coromandel District Council, and to everyone who has come and helped to plant trees, weed and release trees, trap pest animals and help look after our amazing native biodiversity. What a wonderful community we live in.

Please get in touch if you are interested in being a member of Forest & Bird, if you want to chat with us about our projects or potential new projects, or just want to know more about what we do.

Email upperCoromandel.Branch@forestandbird.org.nz



Tucks Bay – part of the Long Bay Reserve



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te taiao ENVIRONMENT continued

UCLA

By Reihana Robinson

Year-end review

UCLA members send warm summer greetings to all of our community and holiday visitors. It's been a busy year and, like all things in life, there have been some conservation ups and downs. For those who have not been able to follow events in the local pages, here is a bit of the year in review.

The highlight for UCLA was our collaboration with like-minded environmentalists. UCLA joined forces with the Environmental Defence Society (EDS), Waiheke-based Protect Our Gulf (POG) and other local and regional groups and scientists to fight the introduction of caged finfish factory-farms in the Inner Hauraki Gulf waters, only several kilometers off Coromandel Town.

UCLA was the invited guest presenter at the 2022 AGM of POG, with the prospect of collaborating on other issues of mutual concern going forward.

Unfortunately, after mountains of presentations, submissions, and a stacked-deck hearings process, the controversial aquaculture operation was greenlit. Approval came as no surprise since Waikato Regional Council had been actively promoting the plan for over a decade, with central government backing.

Adverse impacts on the Gulf environment, including threats to marine mammals, native fish stocks, seabirds, amenity values, navigation, and the seabed ecology were

sadly recognized by all parties both for and against. TCDC made a last-minute supportive submission envisaging some employment opportunities.

On the environmental upside, although too late for the Hauraki Gulf, is the successful Ruakaka development of sustainable land-based finfish farming, a production system with far less adverse impact on the environment. While the fish meal required for feed is still sourced at the expense of impoverished coastal South American and African nations, we are led to believe there are alternatives in development.

A major conservation improvement has been the focus by many community members on trapping rather than poison use when it comes to wild animal control. Unfortunately, DOC miserably continues to dump aerial toxin that can kill all oxygen-breathing creatures.

UCLA highly recommends a great Christmas read for discerning secondary students. It is a well-illustrated book by Jim Hilton and Roger Childs – *New Zealand's Changing Biodiversity: Nature Under Pressure* (Tross publisher).

We would like to end with a quote from *Rural Revolt: In Defense of Coromandel's Wild Kingdom: First They Came for the Goats, Don't Fence Us In, Save Our Wild Pigs and Voices of the Coromandel*, to

Editor's comment – This poem (originally published in the December Chronicle) is reprinted at Reihana's request without the full stops that were added to correct grammar. I apologise for accidentally eliminating the word "broken". Here is the poem as Reihana would like it printed:

We want a future

By Reihana Robinson

We want a future
where the sky is overhead
the grass is underfoot and
the river flows from the past to beyond where we can see
We want a future where insects alight on flowers
where the air is sweet and
food grows out of healthy soil
We want a future where discord
is resolved with justice and integrity
We want a future where children
wake with cries of laughter
and only tears when pain is true
and a heart is broken
We want no tears from children
wounded in war

remind readers of the long history of local opposition to the use of cruel toxins to kill wild animals. Here is the Ngati Huarere ki Whangapoua Trust Environmental Management Team stating, "The Ngati Huarere ki Whangapoua Trust endorses the Coromandel-Colville Community Board's opposition to the use of residual poisons on the Coromandel Peninsula. In the Trust's view the use of such poison is not consistent with kaitiakitanga and the Trust holds concerns about the long-term consequences of such poisons. The Trust supports the use of hunting, trapping and cyanide only."

Wishing all a healthy and peaceful New Year.

C.L.A.I.M.

By Kate Donoghue

Ours Not Mine vs Hauraki District Council

A couple of weeks ago a bunch of Forest & Bird and Coromandel Watchdog supporters travelled to the Hamilton High Court for this landmark hearing.

The nub of the issue is whether in law, the Hauraki District Council is able to grant Oceana Gold a lease or licence to occupy part of a paper road at Wharekirauponga near Whangamata. The paper road, which is a public thoroughfare, has been leased to the company by the district council for a 40-year term, for the sum of \$1 per year. The mining company, who are currently mining in Waihi, are planning to get around the obvious objections to mining on Department of Conservation land in a bush covered forest park by tunneling underground, all the way from Waihi. This is a distance of about seven kilometres.

The area is home to the globally significant, critically endangered, special little critter, Archey's frog.

Forest & Bird and Watchdog are supporting this small N.G.O. Ours Not Mines in their bid to persuade the Court that allowing a private, multinational company to use this space for their mining-related activities should not be tolerated. Mining activities are now suspended until the judge's decision is released in the new year. We'll keep you posted.

Renowned New Zealand artist, Stanley Palmer, has donated two beautiful prints, individually signed to fundraise for Ours Not Mines. They are depictions of a small bay north of Colville on the Coromandel Peninsula, Waiaro. You can order these prints at www.oursnotmines.nz/shop.

Driving Creek Conservation Park

By Kate James

Our guiding values are based on the vision of Barry Brickell, the creator of Driving Creek Railway, some fifty years ago, and we thank him for his foresight and his dedication to conservation.

Last year we said goodbye to over 700 pest animals and thousands of pest plants. The amazing Driving Creek Conservation Park field team work to protect the 30ha, QEII-covenanted Driving Creek property as well as over 50ha of neighbouring Public Conservation Land. With almost 450 traps out in the bush and the ongoing efforts of the pest plant experts from Remnant Restoration Ltd, we have seen huge increases in our native fauna and thriving native flora.

This year our annual kiwi listening told us we have at least five individual kiwi in our area, and we hope this means we have kiwi breeding right here in our backyard. With ongoing pest control we have seen kākā, tūi and kererū numbers increasing and survey work has confirmed we also provide safe habitat for two species of our very special native frogs, Archey's and Hochstetter's, as well as the endangered Coromandel striped gecko.

This year we plan to increase pest control farther across Public Conservation Land and we thank the Waikato Regional Council for supporting some of this work. This year we will also continue work to engage with our community to increase the value of conservation efforts. Look out for conservation events coming up at Driving Creek or come in anytime to walk the Nature Trail and go inside the fenced predator proof sanctuary (free of charge).



Our field team in action

hākinakina SPORT

Coromandel Golf Club

By Marilyn MacKenzie

This year's AGM was held on Saturday 2 December. Thank you to members who attended; your support is appreciated.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing committee members – Allan Rose, Malcolm Stone, Ron Brooking, Paul Delany and Norm Davies, for all of their contributions while serving on the committee.

Welcome onboard our new committee members – Richard Neal (Men's Captain), Lynne Fenwick (Ladies' Captain), Craig Kerr (Treasurer), Peter Hunt (Vice President), Ed Buckett and Fiona Neal (Committee Members). Continuing in his current role Peter Richardson (President) and stepping into the position of secretary, Marilyn MacKenzie.

Joan Evans was elected Patron for the club. This is a well-deserved position, having been an active member of the club for 60 years.

18 November – Winner of the Tom Daniels Shootout – Shaun Hovell, Runner Up – Peter Richardson.

29 November – Laurie Olliff Trophy 2023. After 10 rounds over 10 months of competition with the Best 6 rounds going forward: Winner – Ian (Ezy) Kemp. Runner up – Richard Neil. It was a hard-fought competition with only one point separating first and second. Congratulations to you both.

2 December – Closing Day for the season and the trophy up for grabs was the Eagles Salver combined mixed stableford. The winning pair: Eugene Weimer and Ezy Kemp.

9 December – Christmas Tournament. The weather was lovely and the course was in pristine condition, thanks to our green team of volunteers who work tirelessly on the course. At the completion of the competition everyone was back to hole 19 to celebrate the winners and have an amazing meal lovingly prepared by our ladies.

They went above and beyond to retain our reputation for treating our visitors and members to something really special. Well done the ladies' team.

With the prize table full, 35 players competed for an array of wonderful prizes and raffles. Congratulations to all recipients of prizes; well deserved.

Thank you to Richie and Fi Neal for running the tournament along with help from Lynne Fenwick.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. Happy New Year.

Looking forward to seeing members and green fee players out on the course in 2024.



Shaun Hovell, winner of the Tom Daniels Shootout, presented by Ron Brooking, Men's Club Captain



Eugene Weimer and Ezy – Winners of the Eagles Salver Combined Stableford

Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club

Results from our Members' Xmas Competition Juniors

1st Snapper – Ryan Debenham – weighing 1.650kg
1st Kahawai – Ryan Debenham – weighing 1.775kg

1st Yellowtail – Ryan Debenham – weighing 0.240kg

Average weight winner – Heidi Visser 1.195kg
Mystery weight winner – Ryan Debenham 1.650kg

Seniors

1st Snapper – Kathy Boyce – weighing 4.945kg
2nd Snapper – Serge Martel – weighing 4.735kg

3rd Snapper – Tyrone Visser – weighing 3.580kg
1st Kahawai – Glen Debenham – weighing 1.885kg
1st Trevally – Nikki Stephenson – weighing 1.340kg

Average weight winner – Shane Woodcock 2.130kg

Mystery weight winner – Shane Woodcock 2.635kg

There were many kingfish sightings on the day.

Our Xmas prizegiving and Xmas dinner followed and was enjoyed by all. Santa arrived with Xmas gifts for the kids which kept them busy playing together.

Prizegiving results for 2023

Senior Trophies

Snapper – Adrian Bromwich – 7.840kg on 8kg line
Kahawai – Adrian Bromwich – 2.450kg on 6kg line
John Dory – Layke McNeill – 1.900kg on 10kg line
Kingfish – Layke McNeill – 19.90kg on 24kg line
Trevally – Kim Brett – 2.15kg on 6kg line
Gurnard – Kathy Boyce – 0.466kg on 6kg line
Ladies Tournament – Kathy Boyce – 4.495kg
Snapper

Overall Champions

Heaviest overall Men's – Layke McNeill – Kingfish 19.90kg
Heaviest Fish Overall Ladies' – Briar Sturgeon – Kingfish 9.695kg
Meritorious Snapper – Adrian Bromwich – 7.840kg on 8kg line
Meritorious Kingfish – Briar Sturgeon 9.695kg on 10kg line

Junior Trophies

Snapper – Ryan Debenham – 6.040kg on 10kg line
Kahawai – Ryan Debenham – 1.965kg on 10kg line
Trevally – Ryan Debenham – 1.430kg on 10kg line
Heaviest Fish Overall – Snapper – Ryan Debenham 6.040kg

Fish of the Month (FOM) for January is snapper and February is kingfish. FOM for Juniors is January – piper, February – sprat.

Remember to weigh in your catch to be in for the FOM prize. Our weigh masters are Salty Towers or Fish, Dive and Hunt.

Our next tournament is a three-species competition held over two days **Sunday 28 to Monday 29 January** (anniversary weekend).

The date for our "Classy Chicks" tournament is **Saturday 2 March**. The letter "H" is the costume dress-up theme.

To keep up with what we are up to join our Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club group page on Facebook or email us at coromandelfishingclub@gmail.com

Coromandel Croquet Club

By Raewyn McKinney

We hope for a lovely, sunny summer, with settled weather.

Croquet is the ideal game to play on warm summer mornings.

If you are interested in learning about croquet, then call Lyn on 027 466 2661 for more information.

We meet on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9.15am and provide all of the equipment and a six-week period of coaching before you need to commit to joining the club.

The club is situated in Woollams Ave next to the Bowling Club.



Classifieds

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

PROFESSIONALS

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

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 min - \$55. Breakthrough Tapping session, 60 min - \$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.

ACUPUNCTURE AND TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE (TCM) treatments, tailored to meet your specific needs. Effective in addressing a variety of conditions, including: aches and pains, allergies, sleep disorders, digestive upset, headaches and more. Call Alexei today to schedule a consultation: 020 4011 0121.

ALUMINIUM JOINERY MAINTENANCE Locks, handles, hinges, wheels. Call or text Mike, Coromandel Glass 027 661 0190.

BALLET CLASS FOR ADULTS. Venue Coromandel Citizens' Hall, 455 Kapanga Road. Wednesdays, 10am to 11am. \$10. Phone Marilyn Swan 027 336 5263. Registered Teacher and Life Member Royal Academy of Dance. Visitors are welcome.

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

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

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

BUILDER - LICENSED. Prompt and tidy with over 20 years' experience. Ph 027 475 6651.

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CORO WASH & WATERBLAST Exterior waterblasting. Moss, mould and lichen treatment. Ripcord treatment. Houses, fences, roofs, driveways – you name it. Call Wayno today to arrange a free quote 027 336 3919.

COROMANDEL GARAGE DOORS. Ph: Don McLean 022 453 2188. E: corogaragedoors@gmail.com; W: 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 CoroTown. Contact now 027 451 2224 or Email dynamictreecare@gmail.com.

GAIA DECORATORS LTD. Home and garden makeovers. Transformations big and small. Free consultation. Ph Mark 07 866 8157 or 021 295 5532. www.gaiadecorators.co.nz.

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.

GLASS REPAIR Call or text Mike Coromandel Glass 027 661 0190.

HAIRDRESSER. Experienced. 657 Rings Road, town end. Home visits available. Reasonable rate. Phone Deb 0274 541 785

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.

PRETTY FINGERS & TOES. Manicures, pedicures, acrylic and polymer nails, gel polish, OPI polish. Ph/txt or message on Facebook. Adel 021 107 5744.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE. Section clearing. We have tractor/frontend loader, tip trailer, slasher, post banger, log splitter, chainsaw, mowing. Anything considered. Te Kouma, Coromandel Town area. Ph Tony 027 494 7692.

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

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

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

VEHICLE GROOMING Wash and vacuum. Cars and single cab utes \$80. SUV's, double cab utes and vans \$150. Also available: Pre-sale grooms, boats, motorbikes and campervans, Contact Craig Gibbs 027 329 3883 Coromandel Town.

VINYL LAYING. Best price 027 350 9242.

FOR RENT

AIRBNB HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE at Abby's Healing Haven, sleeps five in a separate three-bedroom house, walking distance to Coromandel Town, private, charming cottage with everything provided and a new spa bath on the back deck. Details, photos and AirBnB booking link on www.abbyshealinghaven.com.

CARAVAN for \$90/week in Tuatēawa. Phone 027 211 9772.

FOR SALE

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

SITUATIONS VACANT

THE COLVILLE PROJECT is looking for a Funding Person and a Marketing Person. To apply go to www.thecolvilleproject.nz/vacancies. Complete the Application Cover Sheet and email with your C.V. to admin@thecolvilleproject.nz by Friday 2 February 2024, 4pm. These positions can be combined and as this is a busy time of year, the start date for these positions is negotiable. For more information, please contact Katie at admin@thecolvilleproject.nz.

WANTED

DO YOU HAVE ANY OLD TOILETS SITTING AROUND? Waterworks would love to hear from you. We have collected over 200 now which we have used as quirky flower pots, we still need more to complete the project. We are happy to collect or trade a coffee and pastry if you want to drop it off. Please call 022 101 7411 or email jeff@thewaterworks.co.nz to arrange things.

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 71379am

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

Gold Fit at Coro Gym.....9.30am

Line dancing beginners class, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341 3-3.30pm

Line dancing, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341 ... 3.30-4.15pm

Coro Superstars, a Performing Arts group for 6-13-yr-olds, Anglican Hall, contact Claire 021 653 650..... 5pm

Bridge, St John rooms..... 7pm

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

Every Tuesday

Croquet, Woollams Ave, Lyn 027 466 2661.....9.15am

Coro Walking Group, meet outside The Bizarre, Ruth 027 338 35459am

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

Tai Chi, Waikato Events Centre (above the swimming pool), Christina 021 113 4768 5pm

Every Wednesday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym.....8am

Meditation at Mahamudra..... 8.15-8.45am

Pastel Artists Coromandel, Rose's Studio, contact Allan (07) 866 8053..... 9am-12pm

Gold Fit at Coro Gym.....9.30am

Ballet Class For Adults, Coromandel Citizens' Hall, \$10 per class. Marilyn 027 336 5263..... 10-11am

Coromandel Home-school group, Julene 020 4060 8102 12.30pm

Every Thursday

Coro Walking Group, meet outside The Bizarre, Ruth 027 338 35459am

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

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

Line dancing beginners class, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341 3-3.30pm

Line dancing, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341 .. 3.30-4.15pm

Coromandel Tennis Club "club day" 4.30pm

Yin Yoga with Toni, at the Pyramid, \$10-\$20, Toni 020 4076 1526 .. 5.30-6.45pm

Recova 12-step addiction recovery meeting, 100 Pound St (orange house), Liz 027 436 2800 6-7pm

Free drop-in Dharma talk or video at Mahamudra 7-8.30pm

Every Friday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym.....8am

Coromandel Homegrown Market, Wharf Rd (summer only)..... 8.30am-12.30pm

Community Gardens volunteer day..... 9-12am

Yoga for everyone, Anglican Hall, Kate 021 125 3152.....9am

Croquet, Woollams Ave, Lyn 027 466 2661.....9.15am

Chess Club, Umu, Mike 027 304 9252.....9.30am

Playcentre, Woollams Ave..... 9.45am-12.15pm

Coromandel Bowling Club social evening at the Club 3.30-7pm

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"..... 2pm

Monthly

1st Mon – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms, Sharon Currie 027 299 695 9.30am-3.30pm

3rd Mon – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms, Sharon Currie 027 299 695 9.30am-3.30pm

2nd Tues – Cancer Support Group, St John rooms John Walker 027 482 043510am

1st Wed – Coro Embroiderers' Guild, St John rooms, Helen Pearce (07) 866 8460. 10am-3pm

1st Wed – Lions dinner meeting (winter time), St John rooms. Paul Mackenzie 021 0256 6989 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 (winter time), St John rooms. Paul Mackenzie 021 0256 6989 6pm

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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Coromandel Town Chronicle

Calendar of events Coromandel Town January 2024

**COROMANDEL
RUBBISH AND
RECYCLING TRANSFER
STATION**
Monday to Sunday
8.30am - 5.30pm

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
<p>1</p> <p>Public Holiday Coromandel Christmas Art Exhibition continues (see pg 24)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Public Holiday Katie Fair on school grounds</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Council offices reopen (see pg 5) MEG Conservation Tour at Driving Creek Railway: Who is MEG in Port Charles (see pg 25)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Club days at Coromandel Bowling Club (see pg 18) MEG Clay Critters at Shelly Beach: Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles (see pg 25)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Coromandel Home Grown Community Market (see pg 4) MEG Beautiful Rat Traps in Waiakau: Test that Water in Waiakau (see pg 25)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Eyebody Retreat with Peter Grunwald starts at Mana (see ad pg 14) MEG Flipper fun with the Coromandel Dolphins in Coromandel Town: Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles (see pg 25)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>High tide 3:57am (2.3m), 4:06pm (2.4m) Low tide 10:05am (0.9m), 10:30pm (0.7m)</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Coromandel Youth Group reopens (see pg 25)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>MEG Alien Invaders in Port Charles (see pg 25)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>MEG Conservation Dogs in Waiakau (see pg 25) Coromandel Bowling Club Open Optional Triples tournament (see pg 18)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>MEG Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles (see pg 25)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Coromandel Home Grown Community Market (see pg 4) Eyebody Retreat at Mana (see ad pg 14) Relax and Wellness Weekend starts at Mana (see pg 22) MEG Clay Critters (see pg 25)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>MEG Avoidance Training for Dogs in Papa Aroha: Beautiful Rat Traps in Waiakau (see pg 25) Pow Wow at Star & Garter (see ad pg 15)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Coromandel Christmas Art Exhibition ends (see pg 24)</p>
<p>15</p> <p>CIIT Resource Centre reopens (see pg 7) Suft Retreat starts at Mana (see ad pg 22) MEG The Conservation Installation opens and Meet a Gecko in Coromandel Town (see pg 25)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>DEADLINE: Coromandel Town Chronicle February Issue MEG Learn art with Emma Evangeline in Coromandel Town: Make Beeswax Wraps in Coromandel Town (see pg 25)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>MEG Learn Backyard Trapping in Coromandel Town: Beeswax Wraps Workshop in Coromandel Town (see pg 25)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>MEG Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles (see pg 25)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Coromandel Home Grown Community Market (see pg 4) Coromandel Art Group exhibition starts (see pg 24) MEG Clay Critters, Shelly Beach (see pg 25)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>MEG Teach your dog to avoid kiwi in Waiakau (see pg 25)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>High tide 9:00am (3.1m), 10:30pm (2.9m) Low tide 3:44am (0.2m), 4:16pm (0.3m)</p>
<p>22</p> <p>CIIT Te Mana Tangata reopens (see pg 7)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>MEG Clay Critters at Shelly Beach (see pg 25) DUPANZ Retreat starts at Mana (see ad pg 22)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>MEG Screen Printing in Coromandel Town (see pg 25)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>MEG Kiwi Night Adventure in Port Charles (see pg 25)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Coromandel Home Grown Community Market (see pg 4) MEG Sanctuary Sketching (see pg 25)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>High tide 9:13am (2.7m), 9:36pm (2.6m) Low tide 2:52am (0.5m), 3:22pm (0.6m)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Barry Brickell Play With Clay Day (see pg 24 & ad pg 8) Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club three species competition continues (see pg 27)</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Auckland Anniversary Day public holiday Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club three species competition (see pg 27) Line Dancing beginners class starts (see pg 11)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Coromandel Area School First day Term 1 Coromandel Bowling Club Twilight Bowls restarts (see pg 18)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>High tide 11:43am (2.7m) Low tide 5:23am (0.6m), 5:54pm (0.6m)</p>	<p>Make sure your event gets listed</p> <p>To get your event listed, email the details to Debbie at corochronicale@gmail.com with the subject "event". Published subject to space availability, with preference to not-for-profit groups. Regular meetings aren't included here - please see weekly and monthly meetings on page 29.</p>			

KEY
● New moon
○ Full moon

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

Rubbish and recycle collection for Coromandel Town (CT), Te Kōhuna (TK), Manāia (MN), Coromandel Rural North (RN), and Thames Coast (TC)

Put red lid rubbish bin
and food scrap bin out

Put recycling bin (plastic 1, 2 & 5 tins, paper, card), glass recycling bin and food scrap bin out

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Enquiries Over \$1,300,000

5 2 2 1

Coromandel, 877 Tiki Quarry Road
www.trinitynetwork.co.nz/property/877-tiki-quarry-road-coromandel

New Listing

Enquiries Over \$750,000

- - - -

Coromandel, 1288 Manaia Road
www.trinitynetwork.co.nz/property/1288-manaia-road-coromandel

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Coromandel, 994 Kennedy Bay Road
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Coromandel, 492 Wyuna Bay Road
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